The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1893.

THE CANADA WESTERN.

The Nanaimo Free Press of Thursday contains an article headed the "Canada Western Bonus." In this it is asserted that the promoters of the enterprise will ask the Provincial Government for $8,000,000 cash bonus; and having ventured this statement a number of absurd deductions are made from it. We do not think the warmest advocate of the Canada Western would have the hardihood to suggest that the Province should grant a cash bonus of even half that amount. We can assure our imaginative contemporary that neither Nanaimo nor any other part of this Province will be called upon to sanction such a proposal.

There have been unlooked for delays in perfecting a plan whereby the Province will secure a much needed railway, but these are incident to any scheme of great magnitude. Still, those who have had the matter in charge have made satisfactory progress, and it is understood the details will shortly be communicated to the public. When a proposal for further aid is submitted will be the time to discuss its reasonableness; and until then the Free Press should refrain from misleading its readers with such preposterous assertions as those contained in the article in question.

A SINGULAR SYNDICATE.

We see that the United States Government has assured the Queen Regent of Spain that it has no intention to interfere with the political affairs of St. Domingo in any way. There were rumors that the Americans were again casting longing eyes in the direction of that island with the intention of annexing it before very long. The proceedings of a syndicate of United States citizens gave that rumor some appearance of truth. They have recently completed the purchase of some half a million acres of and on Samana Bay. This is the bay which in President Grant's time the Americans very nearly secured as a naval station. The Harrison Administration had, however, nothing to to do with this last land purchase. The tract was bought by private citizens from private owners, and even the Government of St. Domingo had no hand in the deal. But it appears that the syndicate, in order to be able to enjoy their possessions in peace and to make their investment pay, propose to exercise what are generally considered political functions. They intend to establish a kind of white protectorate over the island. They are to guarantee the interest on the public debt, and in order to be able to do this they intend to collect the revenue by their own agents. They also propose to provide the Government with funds to pay all its legitimate expenses. An end is to be put to picking and stealing by Government officials in St. Domingo and the financial affairs of the Government are to be put on a sound footing. The bargain is no doubt a good one, both for the taxpayers of the island and for the public creditor. But can it be carried out? How are the herd of professional politicians and their hangers-on to live? Will they not as soon as they find the public chest safely padlocked and the keys placed out of their reach, do everything in their power to convince the credulous natives that the white foreigners are their deadly enemies who are plotting to seize their lands and to make slaves of themselves and their children? Their efforts are sure to be to some extent successful and if the members of the syndicate have not a strong force at their back they will be certain to be murdered or driven out of the country.

This American syndicate propose to do for St. Domingo what Great Britain is doing for Egypt. Yet we see that although British occupation has very greatly benefited Egypt, its inhabitants, with the Khedive at their head, would, if they could, drive their English benefactors out of the country. The Egyptians are, we fancy, more intelligent and far less barbarous than are the majority of the natives of St. Domingo. It is just possible that this syndicate consider that they are paving the way for annexation, and perhaps they are, but it will have to be admitted that their enterprise is a very risky one.

THE PREMIER'S DEPARTURE.

The departure of Sir John Thompson for Europe before the conclusion of the session of Parliament is an event peculiarly interesting to the citizens of Victoria. He goes to Paris to perform his duties as one of the arbitrators on the Behring Sea dispute. The arbitrators meet in Paris on the 23rd of the present month. There are seven of them—two British, two American and three from Continental Europe. The British arbitrators are Lord Hannen, a very eminent jurist, and Sir John Thompson. The Americans are Justice Harlem, of the U. S. Supreme Court, and Senator Morgan. The Marquis Venosta has been chosen by the Government of Italy, Baron de Courcel is the choice of the French Government and Judge Cram is the appointee of the King of Sweden.

This Board of Arbitrators is an exceptionally able one. All the gentlemen composing it have been chosen for their ability and their knowledge of international law. The decisions at which they will arrive will, no doubt, be as nearly fair and as closely in accordance with international law, liberally interpreted, as would be given by any seven men who could be chosen. The questions submitted to them are mainly historical, and it does not appear to us that there will be any great difficulty in arriving at just and reasonable conclusions regarding them. The question of law which they will have to decide is the right of a nation to exercise exclusive jurisdiction on the high seas. That question the Americans have already decided against themselves, and it appears now that the Russians have followed suit. Russia, however, is not a party to the arbitration, although it cannot help being affected by its decision. In fact the arbitration will do much to settle some questions of International law for the whole world, as its decisions will be cited whenever and wherever similar questions may hereafter arise. They have five questions to decide. This is how they are stated in a late number of the New York Times, which, we may say, is one of the ablest as well as the most reliable newspapers published in the United States:

They (the arbitrators) are asked to decide, first, what exclusive jurisdiction in Behring Sea and what exclusive rights in the seal fisheries therein were asserted and exercised by Russia prior to the cession of Alaska; second, how far the claims of jurisdiction as to the seal fisheries were recognized and conceded by Great Britain; and, third, whether Behring Sea was included in the phrase "Pacific Ocean" as used in the treaty of 1825 between Russia and Great Britain, and what rights, if any, in Behring Sea were held and exclusively exercised by Russia after that treaty. It is doubtful whether our Government will get much satisfaction or advantage out of the decision of these questions. The claim of Russia to exclusive jurisdiction in Behring Sea was disputed by both the United States and Great Britain, and it is not clear that anything was ever formally concluded with special reference to the seal fisheries. The fourth question is whether the rights of Russia as to jurisdiction and as to the seal fisheries did not pass unimpaired to the United States, under the treaty of cession of 1867, east of the water boundary therein described. There is no doubt that it will be allowed that Russia transferred whatever rights she possessed, but we imagine that our present rights will be determined by general principles of international law as now recognized and established rather than by what Russia claimed in the early part of the century, even if it is shown that Great Britain acquiesced in her claims.

The most important question submitted for decision is whether the United States has "any right, and, if so, what right of protection or property in the fur seals frequenting the islands of the United States in Behring Sea, when such seals are found outside the ordinary three mile limit." The contention in our "case" is that we have such a "property and interest" in the Alaskan seal herd as to justify the employment upon the high seas of such means as may be reasonably necessary to prevent its destruction and to secure the possession and benefit of the same, and that what we have already done for the protection of "such property and interest" was justifiable and stands justified. This is the crucial point of the whole controversy, but we shall be surprised if the contention is allowed by a majority of the Board of Arbitrators. If not, then the really important purpose of the arbitration will come up. The arbitrators will be asked to decide what concurrent regulations between the United States and Great Britain are necessary, and how far they shall extend, for the protection of seals in Behring Sea. The two parties have agreed to abide by the determination upon this point, and to co-operate in securing the adhesion of other powers. This will simply bring the matter back where it was when Secretary Bayard began his negotiations and before it was muddled by Secretary Blaine, with the advantage of a basis of agreement and co-operation laid down by arbitration to which the parties are pledged beforehand.

WISE RETRACTION.

It is very significant that almost the first act of President Cleveland is to withdraw from the Senate the treaty made by the late administration with the Hawaiian Commissioners. This act is characteristic of Mr. Cleveland. He is, beyond doubt, a scrupulously honest man, and he has the courage to carry out what his sense of justice tells him is fair and right. The haste with which President Harrison acted in this Hawaiian business was nothing less than indecent. We are not alone in this opinion. Harper's Weekly, commenting on the secret discussion of diplomatic matters by the Senate, instances this Hawaiian treaty:

It is true, it says, that the text of the treaty and the report of the Secretary of State were made public, but these were only enough to show how utterly indefensible, how really indecent was the haste made by the President and the State Department, followed by the Committee on Foreign Affairs and in effect demanded by the Senate. It is an insult to the people of the Union to assume, as is assumed in this case, that their opinion of a matter of this importance, involving great and possibly irrevocable consequences, is not worth the attention of the Administration and the Senate. To adopt or seek to adopt, a policy so radical and so far-reaching under the cloak of secrecy, is in reality a grave violation of the fundamental principle of representative popular government.

Mr. Cleveland has, however, made up his mind that the annexation of Hawaii, if it is annexed, shall not be effected in a hurry or secretly. He is evidently determined that both the people of the United States and the people of the Islands shall have ample opportunity to say what they think about the matter. From the very first there has been suspicious haste in this Hawaiian business. The revolutionists had hardly made their first move when they invoked the interference of Consul-General Stevens. When everything was perfectly quiet in Honolulu—before its inhabitants even knew that a revolution was in progress, an armed force from an American ship of war was stationed near the public buildings. The revolutionists had hardly time to warm the seats they had taken so unceremoniously when they sent an embassy to Washington to offer the Islands to the United States. Secretary Foster without hesitation received the commissioners with open arms; and, without due deliberation or decent delay, a treaty was drawn up, agreed to by the President, and sent to the Senate for sanction. If the Senate had been in as great a hurry as the Provisional Government of Hawaii and the President, the Hawaiian Islands would have been annexed to the United States without the people of the United States or the people of Hawaii being allowed an opportunity of expressing their opinions and wishes in the matter. This, as the Argonaut put it, was a most "unrepublican" proceeding, and it is now clear that President Cleveland has come to the same conclusion. If the Hawaiian Islands are annexed it will not be until the people who inhabit them have had an opportunity of signifying their desires and of expressing their preference.

A SERIES OF FAILURES.

After many weeks squabbling and intriguing the Legislature of Washington was obliged to adjourn without electing a United States Senator. No candidate could get the majority of the votes of the two bodies of the Legislature in joint session necessary to elect. This mode of election seems as if it were expressly contrived to give political schemers the opportunity for intrigue that they so ardently desire, and to bring about deadlocks. The Republicans blame a "ring" for the undesirable result, but we think that it would be more correct if they laid the miscarriage at the door of their unnecessarily complicated system of election.

Washington is not, however, the only state that has failed to elect a Senator. Wyoming and Montana are in the same plight, and it was thought for a time that there would be a failure to elect in North Dakota. But before the time for adjournment came a compromise was made and William N. Roach, a Democrat, was chosen.

The Governors of Wyoming and Montana have each appointed a Senator, and no doubt the Governor of Washington will appoint one. The Senators so appointed hold office only until the Legislatures of the several States elect men to fill the seats. So these States, which we supposed to be governed by the people, have to fall back in the appointment of men to a most important office on the one-man power. It is questioned, too, whether the Governor of a State has power to appoint a Senator when the Legislature fails to elect one. This is a question which the Senate will have to settle before long.

AN OBJECTOR.

The Vancouver World opposes the erection of new Provincial public buildings in Victoria because, in its opinion, they are "not yet wanted." This is the objection of a certain class in every community to improvements and reforms of all kinds. As soon as a proposal is made to start anything new or to diverge from the beaten path they raise the cry that the change is not wanted, or that the time has not yet arrived in which it ought to be made. We did not think that the Vancouver World belonged to this unenterprising, unprogressive class.

It is well known that the present Provincial buildings are not nearly large enough for the business that is to be done in them. The World tacitly admits that the Department of Lands and Works urgently demands greater accommodation than the present building affords. A building is therefore required immediately for this department. Would our contemporary have the Government run up a shanty big enough for the purpose that might do in a kind of way for a few years, if it did not burn down in the meantime? Or would it have a building in every way fit for the purpose, and creditable to the Province, erected? Common sense dictates that the building should be a suitable one, and one that British Columbians need not be ashamed of. Since this building must be erected without any needless loss of time, would it not be prudent so to design it that it will be part of the parliamentary and departmental buildings of the future?

It will have to be admitted that if the Province goes on progressing even at the rate it has done during the last ten years the present Parliamentary buildings and museum will be not only unworthy the Province but altogether inadequate. Those buildings are at best now only a makeshift. When compared with the public buildings of the other Provinces, they can hardly be called respectable. They cannot last much longer without addition and repairs that will swallow up a great deal of money with the most unsatisfactory results. Would it not then be best, from a merely economic point of view, to commence the erection of the public buildings that British Columbia must in any event soon require, at once? The expense must be incurred, and as the structures are for the future as well as the present, will it not be best to build them on a scale somewhat in keeping with the prospects of the Province? The saving that a few years delay will cause will be insignificant compared with the advantage of having commodious, well-planned buildings, affording ample accommodation for all the departments of the Government.

In its plea for delay our contemporary instances Ontario. The Government of that Province fearing the opposition of the unprogressive people who kept on crying out that new Provincial buildings were not wanted, postponed the erection until the old ramshackle building was a positive disgrace to the Province of Ontario and to the City of Toronto. Every man of intelligence and enterprise who took any pride in the Province and the City was ashamed of the mean, ruinous pile that did duty in Ontario as a Parliament House for years after it ought to have been pulled down or abandoned. Did Ontario save anything by deferring the construction of a Provincial building sufficient for the needs of its Government and creditable to the largest and richest Province of the Dominion? We venture to say that if such a building had been erected, as it ought to have been, ten or twelve years before the Government mustered courage enough to make preparations for the construction of the present edifice, the Province would have saved money. The experience of Ontario, instead of deterring British Columbians from having suitable public buildings in time, should encourage them to proceed with the work before they incurred the reproach of being narrow-minded, penurious and unprogressive. If the Government of Ontario had gone on with the work when it really had a cash surplus in its Treasury, it would have been best for the Province in every way. We are afraid that our contemporary has drawn upon its imagination for the surplus of "many millions" which it says Ontario has in its Treasury. The surplus may still exist, although there are many who doubt it, but wherever it is or whatever form it has taken, it is no longer in the Treasury of the Province.

We are strongly of the opinion that the Maritime Provinces, without a single exception, had public buildings greatly superior to those of British Columbia, long before they were financially in as good a position to build them as this Province is in to incur the expense now proposed. They were fine stone structures of considerable architectural merit and were ornaments to the cities in which they stood, and creditable to the colonies to which they belonged.

There may be something behind the World's opposition to the building of the proposed legislative halls which it finds it politic to keep in the background, for we find it hard to believe that it would oppose such a reasonable and much needed improvement on grounds that are merely obstructive and unprogressive.

AN IMPORTANT WORK.

Mr. A. L. Poudrier Entrusted With the Compilation of Geological Reports.

Carrying Into Effect the Recommendation of the Surveyor-General on the Subject.

In the annual report of the Surveyor-General of the Province for 1892, there were a number of recommendations made as to the future operations and work of the department. One of these was in connection with the geological information about the Province, which, as is well known, is very valuable, having been gathered by the continuous efforts of the Geological Survey branch of the Department of the Interior (Dominion Government), represented by such well known scientific men as Richardson, Dawson, Selwyn, Macoun and McConnell, who have covered the whole Province, and whose labors extend over a period of more than twenty years.

As stated in Mr. Tom Kains' report, this authentic and reliable information has been acquired without any expense to the Province and represents, in field work alone, an outlay of over one hundred thousand dollars, while the additional expense will in all probability run up to more than double or treble that. But while this information is so very valuable to the settler, lumberman, prospector and miner, it is very difficult of access. This for several reasons: In the first place, portions of it are published in each of the twenty voluminous and costly annual reports, which in addition contain a great deal of other matter irrelevant to the Province—in other words, it is so scattered that it is next to impossible for the average inquirer to get at it. Again, a number of the annual reports are either out of print or the supply is exhausted so that it is impossible to obtain them. Complete sets are few and far between. In fact, there is said to be only one set in the Province, although in the Government library and in the Legislature library there are many single copies of various years.

These facts having come to the attention of the department, the desirability of having the reports "compiled," so to speak, was referred to by Mr. Kains, the surveyor-general, in his report as follows:

"In view of the above facts, it has been considered advisable to collect all this scattered information, and after classifying and arranging it in such a manner by the addition of sufficient reliable data as to clearly set forth all the natural productions of each district, with their accessibility, to publish it in convenient form and append a small geologically colored map of the Province, which would greatly explain the text and materially enhance the value of the whole work."

The task of carrying out the indicated plan is no small one. It has been entrusted to Mr. A. L. Poudrier, than whom no more competent man perhaps could have been chosen. He is, in the first place, thoroughly well informed on the subject, being a recognized geologist of high standing. Combined with his knowledge of the subject, he has an intimate personal acquaintance with nearly every section of the Province, and has the additional advantage gained by a systematic study for years of all the reports, not only of Canadian but of American and English geologists, many of whom have written excellent standard works on various features of British Columbia.

Mr. Poudrier has already begun his work but will not complete it for a long time. His plan is to take up first the various districts such as Cassiar, Comox, Cariboo, Kootenay, etc., and to describe them as to topography, timber, and so on. The watersheds, rivers, and basins will be shown and the various locations of minerals. The minerals will afterwards be treated in a separate chapter, they being classified under gold, silver, coal, etc., with particulars as to where they are found, etc., and references as to the districts of which general information is given as above. In this way the volume when completed will be a most valuable guide to the geology of all parts of the Province. It will probably make about 200 to 300 pages with accompanying maps.

NEW YORK, March 10.—Bradstreet's will say to-morrow: "The bad roads throughout Ontario and Quebec have restricted trade and interfered with collections, while the high (winter) transportation rates have still further checked the movement of merchandise. Commercial payments on March 1 were not up to the average, many renewals being asked; but with comparatively few failures. Trade is irregular in the Province of Ontario, and the complaint of the country roads is general. There were forty-eight business failures in Canada this week, compared with forty-three last week and forty in the same week a year ago. The bank clearings at Halifax, Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton aggregate $21,030,000 this week, eight per cent. more than last week and thirteen per cent. more than in the same week a year ago.

OTTAWA LETTER.

Mr. Foster's Strength As a Parliamentary Debater—Prospects of the Bribery Bill.

A Waste of Words In the Senate—Dalton McCarthy's Strategic Resolution.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 4.—Everybody was glad to see the termination of the Budget debate, the notice of which was on the order paper exactly two weeks. During this period over forty speeches were delivered, some excellent; others in regard to which little of a complimentary nature can be said. After all, it seems as if the wisest man in Parliament is he who keeps his mouth shut. Mr. Calvin, as noted in my letter last week, in a "moment of weakness" blurted out that he would vote for Sir Richard Cartwright's amendment because he was not satisfied with the manner in which the Government was dealing with the tariff question. If, however, all that one hears be true, Mr. Calvin since then has expressed his regret for the statement which he made. He listened to Mr. Foster's speech in closing the debate and was convinced thereby, what he had evidently forgotten for the time being, that there are two sides to every question. If he had not made his unfortunate promise a week before to support Sir Richard Cartwright's amendment, Mr. Calvin is since understood to have stated that when the division was called he would have been found in the Ministerial ranks.

Mr. Laurier, undoubtedly, made a very able speech on Tuesday evening. He was not, however, at his best. It seemed to the careful listener that the Opposition leader did not speak with his customary eloquence and that he labored a little. Whether this was due to indisposition or not I cannot say. Some of his own friends state that Mr. Laurier was not feeling well that evening, which would account for his not being up to his usual trim. He made a very strong argument, nevertheless, from the Liberal standpoint, an argument, however, which crumbled away to dust in the hands of Mr. Foster.

It has been my privilege to have listened to some notable speeches in the House during the past ten years, and I am fully in accord with those members who have been here for a like period, that never in the past decade has there been such an able speech delivered as that which Mr. Foster gave to the House this week. It is impossible to adequately describe it in a newspaper letter. Even the printed speech will hardly convey to a close reader its force, its magnificence and its eloquence. One had to hear it to thoroughly appreciate it. Even the Liberal members are now prepared to admit that George Eulas Foster is undoubtedly the ablest debater in Parliament and possibly in the Dominion of Canada. Mr. Foster is not one given to making friends. He is of a quiet, retiring disposition; he finds it difficult to bring himself up or down—which is it?—to the level of "the boys" and has a strong disposition to get to his home as soon as he can when the day's labors have ended, rather than go to the club or any social gathering. When he first entered Parliament he was looked upon with suspicion. He was then known as Professor Foster and had previously obtained an extensive reputation as a platform speaker or lecturer in the cause of prohibition or temperance reform. He brought with him into the House the experience he had gained on a thousand platforms, and although his didactic style was not appreciated at first, ten years' experience in the Commons and the adoption of a somewhat less formal method of speaking has made him the strongest man in debate in Parliament.

It is the general impression that each session for the last three or four years has shown an improvement in Mr. Foster's debating qualities, the culmination being reached, as I have stated, on Tuesday evening last. Everything was favorable to him. The galleries were filled to overflowing; it was the biggest jam that I have seen for many years past, the people being drawn there by the announcement that Mr. Laurier was to speak. Those who were privileged to get into the great chamber heard not only Mr. Laurier but Mr. Foster in reply, and doubtless all those who were present will long remember this duel of words.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.

The bill introduced by Dr. Weldon, the able member for Albert, to punish those who accept bribes, came near being wrecked on Wednesday evening. The opinion of the more intelligent members of the House is in favor of the measure. Dr. Weldon, when he introduced the bill, is acknowledged to have made out a very strong case, but it was hardly thought that such a fate would overtake the measure as that which nearly befell it. The principle of the bill having been endorsed on the second reading, the House went into committee upon it, and it was at this point that the snag was struck. Alderman Jeannotte, who succeeded Senator Desjardins in the representation of Hochelaga, discussed the provisions of the bill in his own language, which he had a perfect right to do, but it was somewhat unfortunate for Dr. Weldon that, although a good French scholar so far as its literature is concerned, like many other English-speaking members of the House, his ear is not well trained to the spoken language, and he did not fully comprehend the drift of Mr. Jeannotte's remarks. In closing his observations the member for Hochelaga moved that the committee rise.

As your readers are doubtless well aware in a case of this kind when no report of the committee's action is made to the Speaker, and when permission is not obtained to "sit again" it simply means that the bill is killed. This is the fate which befell Dr. Weldon's measure on Wednesday evening, as the committee, by a majority of five, rose without reporting. Dr. Weldon naturally was greatly concerned when he discovered what had happened. Next day, however, he had no difficulty in securing an order of the House that the bill be again placed on the orders of the day for consideration by the committee of the whole. The principle of the bill is that a man who sells his vote and who is so proven to have sold it, will be deprived of such vote for a term of years. The bill now stands a fairly good chance of being passed this session.

THE MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION.

Judging from the observations of Sir John Thompson in the House on Thursday, he does not like the innuendo credited by the newspapers to Mr. Tarte, that he (Sir John) is anxious to slip away to England without a discussion on the Manitoba School question taking place and be present in the House. The erratic member for L'Islet mistook his man when he implied cowardice on Sir John Thompson's part. The Premier has never been known to shirk his responsibility on any question with which he has had to deal. It is a matter of history now, how manfully he grappled with the Riel question immediately after he entered Parliament, and the effective reply which he made to Mr. Blake on that occasion will long be remembered by Parliamentarians. Mr. Tarte will find, when he brings up the school question on Monday, that the First Minister is prepared to meet him at every issue.

THE BORE OF PARLIAMENT.

Those familiar with the personnel of both Houses cannot but recognize the vast improvement in the people's representatives that has taken place of late years. The changes in the composition of the Senate have been very numerous within the past half decade, due to the fact that many of those who were appointed to the Upper House at Confederation had run their allotted span, and consequently many dropped off about the same time. This gave an opportunity to Sir John Macdonald to put in men of standing in the community, and unquestionably they are good men. Take for instance such men as George A. Drummond, of Montreal; Mr. Lougheed, of Calgary; Mr. Sanford, of Hamilton; Mr. Perley, of Assiniboia; and a dozen others. The policy adopted by Sir John Macdonald in this respect was followed by his successor, Sir John Abbott, and by Sir John Thompson. Some very able men entered the Senate for the first time this year, among them being Mr. Angers, Mr. Bernier, Dr. Ferguson, of Welland; Mr. Primrose, of Picton; and Mr. Kirchhoffer, of Brandon.

Only in one respect did Sir John Macdonald make a mistake, and that was when he caused Mr. Boulton, of Shell River, Manitoba, to leave his prairie home to become a legislator of Canada. If there be any man in the Upper House more in disrepute among his brother Senators than another, Mr. Boulton is the man. He is an indefatigable worker. He possesses little or no ability, but has the faculty of collecting information which he can reel off by the yard. This week he took up the whole of two afternoons in discussing tariff and trade matters on his motion for the appointment of a select committee to investigate the industrial progress of the country. The Senators were very, very tired of the windy harangue, but there was no means of stopping Mr. Boulton. He was wound up like a clock and must necessarily run down. But, oh! the mutterings and the murmurings, the frowns and manifest displeasure which was evidenced in the Upper House. Mr. Boulton, however, pursued the even tenor of his way and having in his judgment made out a strong case for the appointment of a select committee, very meekly withdrew his motion when Mr. Bowell politely informed him the request would not be granted. If any of your British Columbia readers can suggest a means by which Senator Boulton's flow of eloquence can be stopped, without jeopardizing the constitution or acting contrary to Parliamentary practice and procedure, they will confer a favor on the Senate. Any suggestions on this head will doubtless be thankfully received by Mr. Speaker Ross.

An animated debate is expected on Mr. McCarthy's tariff resolution. Its phraseology has been closely scanned and the general impression is that it has been very carefully worded. It is designed to catch the unwary and bring in all those who hold views either in favor of free trade, tariff reform, or preferential trade. Much curiosity has been aroused as to the course which Mr. McNeill, Col. O'Brien and other members of their way of thinking will take. It is said that the Liberal party will unanimously support the amendment.

EMMANUEL CHURCH.

Arrangements Completed for the Opening Ceremonies This Day Fortnight.

Short History of the Establishment and Growth of the Congregation on Spring Ridge.

The handsome new building of the Emmanuel Baptist church, which was to have been opened to-day, is not yet finally completed, so the formal ceremonies have been postponed for two weeks, and Sunday, March 26, is now set as the day. The dedicatory sermons will be preached by Rev. M. L. Rugg, of Seattle, formerly pastor of the Calvary Baptist church here, and Rev. J. H. Best, of New Westminster. On the following Monday, the 27th, a concert will be given, for which event elaborate preparations are now being made.

Emmanuel Baptist church was started some two and a half years ago, though for some six years or so previous there had been a mission school at Spring Ridge under the control of Calvary Baptist church. The number of adherents of the church had considerably increased and the Sunday school was in a flourishing condition, so it was deemed advisable, for the sake of convenience, to part the bonds between the parent church and its child, and, with best wishes for its welfare and prosperity, Calvary church started the Emmanuel church congregation off on their own account.

There were then twenty-three members on the roll, and as an evidence of how prosperous the new congregation has been it may be stated that the list of members now contains some sixty names, the new church has been built for better accommodation, and the Sunday school is ever increasing in strength and membership.

The present deacons of the church are: Messrs. Thos. Haughton, A. E. Wescott, J. H. Adams, D. P. Pickard, and W. H. Spofford. Mr. B. Howell is clerk. The pastor is Rev. P. H. McEwen, who came here last June and has been eminently successful since then, being much beloved by those amongst whom he labors.

The erection of the new church will afford much greater accommodation for the congregation, which is expected to be much benefited thereby.

ATTEMPTED SCUTTLING.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.—A few days ago the bark Richard III had to put back after being half way to Departure Bay. She was in ballast and sprang a leak. The union members of the crew refused to work double watches, and when the ship put into San Francisco the men were almost in a state of mutiny. The ballast is now being taken out in order to repair the ship, and it is openly asserted by the officers that when the bark is docked it will be found that an auger hole has been drilled in her bottom. In spite of all the efforts to stop the leak the bark continues to make water as rapidly as it can be pumped out.

Preparing for Contingencies—"One question more, said Van Sleeck, after selecting an engagement ring. "Well, sir?" replied the jeweler. "If this engagement should result in marriage," went on Van Sleeck, "I suppose I could have this stone taken out and a genuine diamond of the same size put in?"

HEALTH MATTERS.

Senator Macdonald Draws Attention to the Necessity of Better Protection From Epidemics.

He Is Satisfied That the Government Will Take Every Precaution Against Cholera.

In the Dominion Senate on February 27, Hon. Mr. Ferguson rose to call the attention of the Government to the reports of a renewed outbreak of cholera in Europe and to the fears entertained that there will be an epidemic of cholera both in Europe and America during the coming summer, and inquire of the Government what steps they have taken and intend to take to prevent the introduction of cholera into Canada, and to deal with it if so introduced? He said: "My object in making this inquiry is not only to ascertain what the Government has done, but what they are doing and what they intend to do to defend this country from an invasion of cholera during the ensuing summer. Not only that, but to elicit from the members of this House a discussion from which the Government perhaps may be able to obtain some information, or at all events receive some suggestions that may guide them in what they propose to do." The Senator spoke at considerable length, the matter being discussed among others by the Hon. Messrs. Sullivan, Poirí, McInnes, Almon, Scott, Macdonald, Power and Read.

The following is from the official report of the debates:

Hon. Mr. Macdonald (B.C.)—The hon. member from Niagara, who brought forward this question, deserves the thanks of the House and of the country. We are anxious in British Columbia to know what the Government propose to do, not so much on account of cholera as of smallpox. Every steamer entering our ports now carries one or more cases of smallpox, and it is important that something should be done soon to protect our Province from epidemics. I have no doubt the Minister of Agriculture is aware of the precautions that have been adopted by the steamship companies carrying passengers from Europe to America. All emigrants are detained and housed for a certain number of days and kept under strict medical supervision and examination before the departure of the steamer. At the end of the certain number of days those who are ill and not able to proceed are taken back, and those who are well are forwarded to their destination and again subjected to a very strict examination and perhaps to quarantine as well. I do not know what power our Government could exercise to induce the steamship companies on the Pacific coast to do anything of that kind, but if they are powerless in that way, self-interest might induce the companies to adopt such precautions as I have mentioned, because the loss of time and money by quarantine is very great, and they might avoid it by adopting some such course as I have mentioned.

One of the great dangers lies at our very doors in the case of an epidemic—that is, imperfect sewerage and impure water. It is a lamentable fact that throughout this country all sewers drain into rivers and the masses of the people use the waters of those rivers without boiling or filtering, and take into their systems the germs of diphtheria, typhoid, scarlet fever and other diseases. It is well known that a cholera bacillus carried into a river soon breeds millions of germs and the water becomes contaminated. These are no doubt municipal matters, but the Dominion Government ought to act on the suggestion of the hon. gentleman from Niagara and issue a warning to municipalities and the people about drainage and about the necessity of boiling the water they use, to avoid an epidemic.

There is a very able article in the Forum, by Sir Spencer Wells, dealing with the question of cholera. He mentions one instance which occurred in 1866, showing how the distribution of cholera poison occurred through the contamination of the waters of the river Lea by the discharges from some cholera patients. These patients had arrived at Southampton suffering from cholera in its early or latent stage. They were supposed to have recovered and were allowed to pass on to a cottage. They infected the river first and the district supplied by the water company afterwards, with the result that 16,000 people were attacked with cholera and 6,000 of them died. He also shows that a person who may leave an infected port in good health and cross the Atlantic, may carry the germs of the disease with him and spread it, and yet escape himself. All this goes to show the necessity of strict quarantine, and of fumigating and disinfecting. He says that that is the only remedy. Then he deals with the question of disposing of the bodies of those who die of cholera. He says that the clothing and the bodies should be cremated, that it is the only way to kill the germ. Burying the dead only spreads the disease, as the germ multiplies in the ground and may be dug up again. However, I am satisfied that our Government will take every precaution to prevent the introduction and spread of this dreaded epidemic.

Hon. A. R. Angers, in the course of his reply, said: We intend to give the sick all necessary comfort and to treat the healthy people in no less human a way, and consequently we will erect buildings for the detention of immigrants and passengers who are not infected by the disease, but only suspected, to keep them apart; and such buildings are to be put up at Halifax, St. John, Quebec and British Columbia. In each of these stations the appliances that I have mentioned will also be established. The vote in the Estimates for the putting up of the stations in British Columbia is $62,000, providing for new grounds, water supply, suitable buildings for hospital and detention purposes, and residence for the physician, and another sum of $35,000 for a deep-water wharf, and this will be at William Head, where a vessel can lie at any time without being interferred with by wind or gale, or with the easterly winds that prevail at Albert Head, where a vessel could not lie.

MITCHELL-CORBETT.

BUFFALO, N.Y., March 11.—At a meeting this afternoon of persons interested in bringing the Mitchell-Corbett contest to this city, it was decided to do the bidding for a match with an offer of $40,000, going as high as $75,000 if necessary, though it was thought $60,000 was as high as any club was warranted in offering for a glove contest, even for the championship. The contest, if secured, will come off under the auspices of the Buffalo Athletic club.

BAD BLOOD CURED.

GENTLEMEN,—I have used your Burdock Blood Bitters for bad blood and find it, without exception, the best purifying tonic in use. A short time ago two very large and painful boils came on the back of my neck, B. B. B. completely drove them away.

SAMUEL BLAIN, Toronto Junction.