

PROVINCIAL POLITICS.

Representative Meeting at Ladner's Landing—A Convention to be Held at Surrey.

Parties Discussed—A Strong Feeling Manifested in Favor of the Davis Government.

LADNER'S LANDING, March 24.—(Special.)—A meeting to discuss the political questions of the day, and incidentally to elect delegates to confer with the delegates from Surrey, Langley and the 24 mile belt, as to the proposed political convention; was held in the Town Hall here on Thursday afternoon. Most of the prominent men of the Delta district were present and the meeting was a representative one. On motion of Reeve Ladner, seconded by Clerk Green, Mr. Kirkland, sen., was elected Chairman. The chairman called upon Reeve Ladner for a report of the meeting at Cloverdale, last week. The Reeve stated that, in reply to an invitation, he and ex-Reeve Benson attended a meeting at Cloverdale. At that meeting it was proposed to form a local political organization to select a candidate for the forthcoming election and to aid in the election of a supporter of the Davis Government.

For the purpose of selecting a candidate, it was proposed that Delta should ultimately send five delegates to a convention to be held at Surrey, on the 24 mile belt, two from Mr. Gilchrist tried hard to show that this movement was originated by Victorians and asked Reeve Ladner to explain how it was that he was now a supporter of the Davis Government, when he had previously sat with the Opposition.

Reeve Ladner made a humorous reply in which he said that any man of intelligence changes his opinion sometimes and that after he had seen what the Opposition was like, he became convinced that the present administration was both the better and the wiser. He would not be a blind supporter of any party; but would support the Davis Government in all wise legislation.

Ex-Reeve Benson said that there was no clearly defined political party in the Province. It was just "the ins and the outs." He was in favor of sending a delegation to Surrey, and said that local interests should be paramount. It was a good plan; in fact, the only one by which a good man could be secured. He wished to see the delegation sent with free hands and that they should come back and report to a second public meeting. He was also of the belief that a representative should consult his constituents in all important matters.

Mr. Patterson claimed that the meeting was not a representative one, and Mr. Burr agreed with him. Mr. Arthur made a vigorous speech in defense of the government, saying that they had done well by the district in the past, and that the future of the country was safe in their hands. Delta riding wanted a member who would work for the district, and as the Government would surely be again returned he favored electing a stalwart independent supporter of the Davis Government. The meeting was representative.

Mr. Lucas said that it was evident that two or three Opposition supporters who were present were desirous of making it appear that the meeting was a failure. No doubt they would like to do so; but he was afraid they would be disappointed. It behooved every elector in the riding to do his best to secure the return of a Government supporter. Some remarks made by Mr. Gilchrist, in reference to Reeve Ladner having changed his political belief, only served to bring out in stronger relief the fact that the Reeve was a desirable candidate. He had been intelligent enough to change his mind from conviction, and that was evidence of his sincerity. The speaker said that the mind of an intelligent man shrunk aghast at the bare possibility of a Government coming into power with Mr. Cotton as Premier, and Lord only knows who as Attorney-General. The country had no confidence in the disunited and factional Opposition, and the only salvation for the country was to return the Davis Government.

Ex-Reeve Benson spoke strongly in favor of the principle of a convention, and said that there was no doubt as to the wisdom of holding one. Mr. Hutcherson agreed with the Ex-Reeve as to the desirability of a convention, and claimed that the differences between the Mainland and the Island were not yet all over. He objected to being divided into political matters by the newspapers, and advocated the choice of a thoroughly independent man, one who would be the people's choice. He was not in favor of sending delegates just at present.

Reeve Ladner said that the delegates to the convention would not be pledged to blindly support any candidate, but merely to select the very best man available. Mr. Hutcherson made a motion that no delegates be sent. No one seconding the motion it was dropped.

The Chairman said the importance of this convention could not be over-estimated. The Opposition had no influence, no importance. Mr. Benson was not a leader in any sense of the word, and his party was split up into fragments. If there was any cohesion now, what would there be if they were in power? Which was best, a government by an united party or by factions? He strongly favored the return of a supporter of the Davis government, and, although no prophet, he felt sure they would be re-elected. Unity of effort, combined with patriotism, was needed now, and he strongly supported the idea of sending delegates to the convention at Surrey.

Councillman Arthur said that it was the plain duty of the district to be represented at Surrey, and that no time was as opportune as the present.

Ex-Reeve Benson gave Mr. Beaven a great raking over, and showed that no matter whether in Opposition or in the Government he was always an Island man and never for the Mainland. No one had any confidence either in him or his party.

Mr. Oliver said he was "agin the Government," but as the Opposition was just as bad he favored the idea of a convention. Being asked by Mr. Lucas if it were not better, if both were bad, to favor the one which had the experience, Mr. Oliver did not reply.

Messrs. Benson, McKee, Burr, Ladner and Kirkland were unanimously chosen as delegates to confer with those from Surrey, Langley and the Belt, and to make a report thereon.

After a vote of thanks to the chairman the meeting adjourned until the return of the delegates.

Malaria is one of the most insidious of health destroyers. Hood's Sarsaparilla counteracts its deadly poison and builds up the system.

WOODSTOCK, March 22.—John J. Hall, late president of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, died at 1 o'clock to-day from an attack of inflammation of the lungs.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, March 25.

THE CITY.

Ys Hino, whose defective stovepipe made a blaze in Chinatown a week ago, was fined \$10 and \$4.50 costs by the Police Magistrate yesterday.

A VERY successful exhibition of the capabilities of Taylor's stump-extracting machine was given yesterday on the Gorge road, when several people were present to witness the operations of this agricultural dentist.

At the sale of the Stanley house yesterday, the mortgagee bought it for \$10,000, which is understood to be the amount of the mortgage. It has not yet been decided what policy will be pursued with regard to the business, as the stores are closed.

THE assignees of Green, Worlock & Co. have called a meeting of the creditors of that firm, to be held on Wednesday, 28th inst., at 2 p.m., in the general meeting room of the Board of Trade building. A statement of the firm's assets and liabilities will be submitted for consideration.

LIEUT.-COL. PRIOR, M.P., has sent word from Ottawa that the Royal Marines may be expected to arrive here on Wednesday, and he has requested that the B.C.B.A. band shall play them from the wharf to the barracks. This request has been transmitted to Bandmaster Finn, and the music will no doubt be forthcoming.

MON QUAN, in the course of a heated discussion with Wong Chang on Friday evening, punctuated his arguments by an energetic wave of his heavy tobacco pipe which his fellowcountryman cleverly stopped with his forehead, the result being a copious flow of blood and Mon Quan's appearance in the Police court yesterday with a charge of assault linked to his name. It was \$5 and \$4.50 costs.

Among the fishermen who visited Shawigan lake on Friday was S. Whitaker, who succeeded in hooking no less than three hundred odd of very fine trout. Although he visited a spot which had been without success for a whole hour without getting "a bite," his patience was amply rewarded, for once the fish began to take the bait he caught them as fast as he could hand them in. Mr. Whitaker's was the only good catch made.

A COLORED man named William Brown was found dead in his bed on Friday morning. Brown, who boarded at 23 St. Louis street, did a good day's work on Thursday and retired to bed after eating a hearty supper. Next morning he was found dead in bed, the coroner was informed and examination showed that heart failure was the cause. The fact that Brown carried a box of coal upstairs on his way to bed it is thought may have had the effect of accelerating his death, which apparently took place soon after he lay down to sleep. The verdict brought in at the inquest held yesterday afternoon was in accordance with the facts as stated.

YESTERDAY morning Charlie Williams, a Stivah, was industriously engaged scraping off labels from beer bottles at his shack near Herald street, as well as his own special intelligence would allow, when policeman Palmer and Conlin dropped in and asked him if he could identify a pair of boots and a hat which they produced for his inspection. Charlie wasn't too drunk to know his own property, and did so without hesitation, whereupon he was arrested and locked up for robbing Carter's brewery on Herald street, the night before. It seems that yesterday morning it was discovered that during the night someone had broken through the back door of the brewery and stolen some eight dozen bottles of beer. Inside were found the boots, which the policeman remembered Charlie had worn a few days before when he feigned a torn arm. The batch was found out, and side the brewery. Consequently this visit to Charlie was the result, and a number of the stolen bottles were found in his possession.

THE Good Friday outing of the B. C. B. G. A. proved in every way a success, the day being a delightful one for an outing, and all the attendant circumstances favorable to profitable indulgence in the skirmishing drill. It was nearly 11 o'clock when the battalion marched through the town, the band playing a series of lively quicksteps in admirable style, attracting general attention to the soldiers, who looked very smart and trim and were about 250 strong. The parade was in command of Major P. A. Irving. Arrived at the Oak Bay hotel, the battalion halted and lunched, greatly to the relief of their haversacks.

Then No. 3 Company, in charge of Capt. Smallfield and Lieut. Evans, were told off as a defensive force and given about twenty minutes to take up position, so as to repel the expected attack by No. 1 Company (Capt. Sargison and Lieut. Ross Moore and McCannan), and No. 2 (Major Quinlan and Lieut. Williams and Blanchard). The hotel, the defensive force gradually retreated until McNeill's room was reached. When the engagement terminated, it was found that the commissariat department had been hopelessly distanced, and the battalion marched back to meet the provision train. After the reunion, addresses were given by Col. Peters, who, with Major Irving, had umpired the proceedings; and by Major Dupont who referred to his former connection with the old corps. The manoeuvres were witnessed by a large number of visitors from the city. The battalion marched back in good order, arriving at the drill hall about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

YESTERDAY in the Police court Forrest Angus charged Ald. J. Keith Wilson with having a nuisance in the shape of stable manure on land at the back of his house, on Churchway. The complainant alleged that the smell from this stable prevented people from venturing into his house on Rae street, which are separated from Mr. Wilson's property by a four foot lane. The house, he said, had been rented for one-third of the time before the stable was built. He had put up a high fence on his property so as to cover two windows of Mr. Wilson's house for the purpose of reading Mr. Wilson a lesson, and to preserve his right in the matter. J. W. Carter, a contractor living opposite, and who built Mr. Angus' house and put up the fence was examined, and said the smell was a nuisance, while James Foreman, of Heisterman & Co., the agents for renting Mr. Angus' house, said that the last tenant, who left in December, had not complained of the smell. J. Gerhard Thack, architect, considered the case a nuisance, and so did James Angus, brother of complainant. Sanitary Officer Murray, M. J. Conlin and Sergeant Hawton, all testified to the cleanliness of Mr. Wilson's place, the sanitary inspector stating that he considered the stable cleaner than the average. W. H. Ellis, whose premises adjoin the defendant's, testified that he had not been aware of any nuisance. The case occupied all the forenoon, and finally was adjourned at 3 o'clock for some days to give

Hon. A. N. Richards, who appeared for the plaintiff, time to look up some further authorities. Thornton Fell appeared for the defence.

THE JUBILEE HOSPITAL.

The directors of the Jubilee Hospital and the medical men of the city are being invited by the Mayor to meet the City Council on Monday evening, so that a full and free discussion of the situation may be carried on, with a view to bringing about a better feeling between the parties than appears to exist at present, and to discuss especially the proposed \$35,000 by-law to assist the hospital. His Worship believes that a full and friendly talk over the whole matter will have a good result.

There was a meeting of the City Council yesterday forenoon, when the matter was to have been gone into, but only two medical men—Dr. Ernest Hall and Dr. Fraser—were in attendance. Mayor Teague, Ald. Mann, Humphreys, Dwyer, Harris, Styles, Leitchman and Vigilius were the members of the Council present.

Dr. Hall's view was that if the Jubilee Hospital is to be used as a city institution, some change should be made in the administration. He favored having a visiting staff, but considered the present scheme of the consulting staff an impracticable one. He held that rotation in practice should be given.

Dr. Fraser wanted to see a general meeting of the doctors of the city with the Council. After some discussion the meeting was adjourned until Monday evening was decided upon. This will not, however, be the regular City Council meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, Monday being a statutory holiday.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

Annual Meeting of the Canadian Wheelmen's Association at Toronto.

British Columbia Beats California at Football—Queen's Birthday Race Meeting.

TORONTO, March 24.—(Special.)—At the annual meeting of the Canadian Wheelmen's Association to-day, over fifteen hundred cyclists were represented. The past year was shown to have been the most successful in the history of wheeling in the Dominion. A. T. Lane, Hamilton, was chosen president; J. G. Gould, Toronto, vice-president; H. B. Donley, Toronto, secretary; and C. H. Gibbons, Victoria, chief counsel for the Pacific Coast and B. C. The racing rules were retained as in 1893, with the exception of the prize limit being reduced to \$50 value for amateur events.

The annual race meeting of this year goes to Montreal. It is probable that the 1895 racing season will be in British Columbia, Chief counsel Gibbons, of Victoria, tending an invitation for the two thousand riders of Canada to come with their friends to the capital of his province next year and see what Western hospitality is like. The Canadian Pacific will, if a Western meeting can be arranged, make special inducements to all riders to attend, and a Pacific coast meet would, no doubt, prove a definite can yet be decided. Regarding next year's meet, Victoria has first taken the field, and the cordial feeling of the association for British Columbia's capital was evidenced by the hearty and prolonged cheers with which the invitation was greeted.

FOOTBALL.

BRITISH COLUMBIA WINS. SAN FRANCISCO, March 24.—The international game of Rugby football was played at the Exposition grounds, this afternoon, between California and British Columbia teams, and resulted in a hard earned victory for British Columbia by a score of 5 to 0 nothing.

THE TRIP.

ARRANGEMENTS are already in progress for a race meeting in connection with the Queen's Birthday celebration or possibly the last week in May. It will be under the direction of a number of local horsemen, who have secured the track at the Driving park for the purpose. The programme will be announced before long.

WE PAY MORE.

TO THE EDITOR:—I was pleased to read your remarks in your issue of Friday last on what this Province owes to the Dominion treasury, viz. \$15 per cent. per annum, double that of any other Province in the Federation. But, Mr. Editor, you did not give British Columbia credit for all it contributes to the general purse, while you set forth very clearly the reasons why this Province should be specially considered when the Government are making Dominion appropriations (which, unfortunately, has not been duly done heretofore). There are other reasons why this Province should be dealt with more justly than has been done in the past. Usually other direct and indirect contributions have been overlooked. The following are some of them: It is well known that a large quantity of both English and American goods, upon which duty has been paid in the East, are sold in this Province by Eastern merchants. On liquors and cigars consumed here there are considerable sums paid by Eastern houses by way of internal revenue, all of which the manufacturer receives get the credit for, yet we pay; but this is not all. Ask the merchants how much they buy of articles produced in the Province of Ontario and Quebec, such as hams, bacon, butter, eggs, cheese, and many other lines of groceries too numerous to mention, besides the very large quantities of clothing that are being daily shipped to these parts from Eastern houses, for nothing of the immense quantities of agricultural implements, plus a considerable amount of machinery.

It is simply comical to this, that if we were at the present time paying duty on everything imported into this Province, as we were doing some ten years ago, our contributions to the Dominion coffers would be about as great again as the figures which you mentioned in your article heretofore referred to. It will be, therefore, evident, to any unbiased mind that this particular Province has received but scant justice at the hands of the Dominion Government. Our Eastern brethren get the benefit of our trade without our getting credit for it. It is not fair. The members and allies, evident, while advocating our interests, and facts ought to be meted out to this long-neglected and patient portion of the Dominion.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Hall's Vegetable Stiffian Hair Renewer has restored gray hair to its original color and prevented baldness in thousands of cases. It will do so to you.

THE ARCHER A WRECK.

Found on Her Beam Ends Near Clayoquot—All Hands Thought to be Lost.

Five Men From Victoria Included—Theories as to Cause of Disaster.

Lying on her beam ends, with about forty feet of her keel showing above water, and with nothing left of her once tall and graceful spars and rigging, except twenty-eight feet of the foremast and the stubs of the other masts below deck, is the present suggestive condition of the British bark Archer, which left here on Friday, the 16th inst., for Portland, and now lies in Clayoquot Sound. It was in this condition the vessel was found by some Indians off Clayoquot on Thursday last, and afterwards by P. Jacobson, who has been on the Coast collecting curios, returned to Victoria on the steamer Mandu yesterday at noon. He says regarding the wreck that on noticing the condition of the vessel, he and the fishermen—A. Wallam, L. O. and J. Arnel—hurried out to her, but found that they were not the first who had done so. When they had about reached the wreck two men, presumably fishermen in a small boat were met, who had the vessel's remarks. "We have all that's any good about the wreck—there's no use of you going aboard," or in words to that effect. This salutation, however, did not discourage Mr. Jacobson and party, but rather gave them courage to make their investigation. The party found on examination that everything of value had indeed been taken from cabins, staterooms, trunks, etc., had been out, into and emptied evidently by Indians who are believed to be also responsible for some of the holes in the deck and for the absence of provisions on board. About four hundred tons of gravel ballast which had been placed in the vessel before her departure from Victoria, for stiffening until she could be taken to port, was found by the United Kingdom, no doubt helped to throw her on her beam ends. This Mr. Jacobson's party with much arduous labor shifted back as well as possible into the hold, and by so doing adjusted her nearly a foot and a half. Having done this and cast an anchor overboard, Mr. Jacobson says he was about to send ashore, a distance of upwards of a mile and in which direction the vessel is slowly drifting in calm water, for a number of Indians to help him take the bark into Clayoquot Sound, four miles away, when the Mandu was sighted. Shortly before this a small steamer had come to take charge of the wreck, but Mr. Jacobson had refused to give up his charge to this little craft. When the Mandu came along she towed the bark to a safe anchorage in port, under the arrangement, Mr. Jacobson says that the steamer owners should get whatever compensation the law allowed them.

Regarding the fate of the Archer's crew there is nothing known, but there seems little doubt that they are all drowned. The best theory advanced on the Archer's unfortunate trouble is given in the appended telegram received from operator L. K. Daykin, Carmanah Point, yesterday morning. "Captain Roberts told me that her masts had been cut away, that one boat was still in the water, there was no sign of the crew. I think it must have occurred about 11 a.m. on Sunday, as the wind was a strong south-east gale and at 11 it shifted suddenly to the southwest, blowing a very heavy gale and terrific snow and hail squalls. The heaviest swell from the southwest was running that day that we have had this winter. I think that she was struck by a squall and that her ballast shifted and put her on her beam ends, and they cut away the masts to right her. I am afraid there is no hope for the crew, as we have had very fine and smooth weather since Tuesday, the 27th. Captain Roberts said the hull was as good as ever." Another telegram from Cape Beale, also received yesterday morning, says:

"Indian report the bark Archer having been seen floating about one week ago off Clayoquot and Esquimalt, and that the Clayoquot Indians had boarded her, taking all the provisions and clothing. At that time there was no sign of boat or crew. The Indians think the crew have reached shore somewhere and are safe."

The examination made of the vessel by Mr. Jacobson and party, reveals the fact that three of her lifeboats are missing, two of which are believed to have been smashed or carried overboard, while the third, from the appearance of the davits from which it had been evidently lowered, had seemingly escaped immediate destruction. There was no water inside the vessel, in the hold of the vessel, and from this it is thought that the crew made an effort to reach shore in the small boat. There were in all sixteen members of the crew, including Capt. John Dawson, the vessel's master, first mate, second mate, and a man named Anderson, R. Carmichael, W. Moydon, S. C. Amerson, J. L. Davey and E. J. Shee.

Captain Dawson has for many years been master of the Archer, and consequently has visited Victoria many times, making for himself on each occasion numerous friends. He was about forty-eight years of age and has a wife and two children living in Liverpool. Among his most intimate friends are Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Iredale & Porter, and the former a cousin of the owner of the vessel. First Mate Matson and Second Officer Mansell are also well known here. Mr. Matson has, it is understood, a wife and family in Liverpool, but the next officer is a single man, and lives with his parents in Stafford, England. The men Carmichael, Moydon, Amerson and Davey shipped on the vessel at Victoria, the first named as cook and the others as able seamen. They are all believed to be married men. The last named three left here on the schooner Triumph for the last time early in the year, but deserted their vessel and came to Victoria, shortly afterwards shipping on the Archer. Carmichael was 29 years of age, his home address being in Scotland. Moydon is four years younger and hails from Connecticut.

S. C. Amerson is a Norwegian and 30 years of age, and J. L. Davey has relations living in New York and is in his fifth year. Shee is said to have been one of five apprentices on board the vessel. He is a native of Hull, and was to have been promoted to the position of third mate when he reached Portland. Besides the crew the vessel carried other—Capt. Evans, who was a passenger on board, was from Portland. He belongs to this city and is well known all along the coast. The names of the rest of the crew could not be ascertained yesterday as they are not registered here.

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MARVIN & TILTON, Wharf St., Victoria.

vessel's former crew. There are now in British Columbia, but where is not exactly known. One of the two men was an apprentice named Finnegan, whose father is said to be a prominent engineer in the P. & O. steamship service. His reason for deserting the bark is said to have been the vessel's bad behavior on her way out from England.

The Archer is an iron bark of 765 tons register. Her dimensions are: Length, 189 feet; beam, 32 feet; and depth of hold, 18 feet. She was built in Sunderland in 1876, but was registered in Liverpool, where she was owned by Iredale & Porter, and insured in Lloyd's. She came to Victoria with the general cargo consigned to R. P. Bithel & Co. about two months ago, her voyage out from England being unusually long.

A Sound tug was wired for yesterday, there being no local one available, to proceed to the wreck, which, under the new customs regulations can be legally towed in here by an American steamer. Capt. John Irwin, manager of the C. P. N. Co., was to have left on the steamer Mandu last evening to take charge of the wreck, and it is expected that the question of salvage will finally have to be settled in the law courts. The vessel will however be towed to port at the earliest possible date.

THE QUESTION OF PRUNES.

TO THE EDITOR:—In your issue of March 20th, a letter appears under the heading of "A Question of Prunes," signed by McGill and McDonald attacking me for some remarks made by me at a meeting of the Vancouver and Salt Spring Agricultural Society held at Duncan's Feb. 26th, concerning the so-called Tannant prune. If you will kindly grant me space in your valuable paper I will give the fruitgrowers of B. C. a brief history of the fruit in question as well as Messrs. McGill and McDonald the authority upon which I based my remarks at Duncan.

The fruit originated near Whistoom and is a seedling from a Coe's Golden Drop plum, which was picked from a tree in Mr. J. Bennett's orchard by Mr. Tannant and planted by him on his farm. It has been propagated and sold by Mr. Bennett who is a nurseryman at Whistoom under the name of Forest Queen plum, and has been generally disseminated throughout the Delta and Surrey municipalities. Among others Mr. John Kirkland, president of the Fruit Growers Association of B. C., has a tree which he purchased from Mr. Bennett some twenty years ago. I have had every opportunity of studying the tree in regard to its productivity and have been fully convinced some years previous to the coming of Messrs. McGill and McDonald to this coast that the variety had no commercial value and was not worthy of propagation.

In the fall of 1892 I visited Mr. Bennett at his nursery, near Whistoom. I found him to be a typical Scotchman, and impressed upon me the fact that a man upon whose word the utmost dependence could be placed as well as an enthusiastic fruit-grower.

The following conversation took place between us, of which I made notes: Mr. H.—Are you acquainted with the Tannant prune? Mr. B.—No; but I have heard that the Forest Queen plum is being sold under that name.

Mr. H.—Do you consider that the Forest Queen will make a good prune? Mr. B.—No; nor have I ever claimed it to be such.

Mr. H.—How would you class the Forest Queen as a plum? Mr. B.—Second rate. It not being equal to Bradshaw, Peach Plum, Pond's Seedling, the Yellow and the Red Egg, or Victoria plums.

Mr. H.—Is it a good plum for the home market? Mr. B.—No; ripening as it does at the same time as the Bradshaw, it cannot compete with it on account of its inferior appearance.

Mr. H.—What is your selling price for this variety? Mr. B.—Thirty-five cents each.

After which I asked Mr. Bennett if he was aware that trees of this variety were being sold in British Columbia under the name of the Tannant Prune at one dollar (\$1.00) each, and further explained that I would probably have the foregoing notes published, upon which he agreed, and, moreover, said: "Tell your people that this is no new variety. If they want scions they are as free as the winds that blow."

In November, 1893, I attended a meeting of the Washington State Horticultural board at Whistoom, when I asked the following question: "Would you advise the planting of the Tannant prune in a commercial orchard?" The universal verdict

was no, that where you had one tree that was sufficient. I quote the following from R. M. Palmer, Inspector of Fruit Pests, as reported in the News-Advertiser of March 14:

"Regarding the Tannant prune, which is being largely advertised and sold in this district, he does not consider it suitable for the climate, as it blooms very early and the fruit does not usually set well. The Italian and Bulgarian prunes give better fruit and are reliable bearers. Besides this, they can be purchased for one-fourth the price asked for the Tannant."

I have no apology to offer Messrs. McGill and McDonald for having taken up the question, as I consider that it was one of my duties as Inspector of Fruit Pests to be in a position to give information in regard to such matters.

In reference to the Bulgarian prune I have found it to be a superior fruit in this Province.

Want of time prevents me from enlarging upon this subject, but I believe that I have sufficiently convinced your readers, as well as satisfied Messrs. McGill and McDonald, that I spoke from experience. Thanking you, Mr. Editor, I am, E. H. HORTONSON, Ladner's, March 23, 1894.

TO THE EDITOR:—I notice in your issue of the 20th inst. a somewhat capacious letter entitled "A Question of Prunes." Having had some experience with prunes, of which I have an orchard embracing the following varieties: Silver prune or Coe's Golden Drop, Italian, Bulgarian, German, French (or Petite d'Agne), and Hungarian (or Pond's Seedling), and as the writer referred to calls in question the standing, or value, of the "Bulgarian" prune from a commercial standpoint, I would like to say that of the varieties above mentioned, I regard the Bulgarian as one of my very best. The trees are well shaped, and very hardy. They come into bearing early, and in no fair crop. The fruit is equal to the Italian, which variety in size and appearance it closely resembles, and, in my experience, it has not the tendency to shed its fruit before maturity, as does the Italian.

I have also one tree of the Forest King, or Tannant prune, which I obtained many years ago from Mr. Bennett, of Whistoom. As a cropper, it has been very uncertain, occasionally bearing a fair crop, and at other seasons bearing very shyly, while in some seasons it has been quite barren. It is a variety which I should certainly not select as an ideal one, either from a commercial or from any other standpoint. Apologizing for trespassing upon your valuable space, I am, JOHN KIRKLAND, Hazel Grove, Ladner's, March 24, 1894.

STRAITON, March 22.—William Wady was sentenced here yesterday to five years in the Kingston penitentiary for larceny. There were five different charges against him.

MONTREAL, March 21.—Judge Burbridge, in the Exchequer court yesterday informed a young French Canadian lawyer that he must secure the services of an English counsel, as the court did not understand French. The French papers have protested against Judge Burbridge's action.

WINDSOR, March 22.—Mrs. H. O'Neill, of this place, is one of the four heirs to a vast estate in California. The others are Henry Blythe, of Bay City, Michigan, and Mrs. John O'Neill and Jas. Blythe, of Chatham, Ont. Twenty-five years ago John Blythe died in California and left an estate, valued at \$1,000,000, to two sons, his wife being dead.

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX. A box of BEECHAM'S PILLS constitutes a family medicine chest. It cures Constipation, Biliousness, Headache, Weak Stomach, Loss of Appetite, Indigestion, and all the ailments of the bowels. It is a safe and reliable remedy for all the above complaints. It is sold by all druggists and grocers. For sale by all druggists and grocers.