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ES C. PREVOST, Registrar.

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The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JULY 5TH, 1889.

FIRST PRINCIPLES.

The organ of the Opposition, for a newspaper professing to be Liberal, has very peculiar ideas of the position which government ought to occupy with regard to public opinion. It thinks it singular that we should hold "that the policy of the Government should be the effect of public opinion rather than that public opinion should be the effect of the policy of the Government." We have never said this, but we are quite willing to adopt the view it has attributed to us. We believe that it is the business of the Government of a free country to carry out the well understood wishes of the people. It is not the business of Government to manufacture public opinion, but to be directed and guided by public opinion. The Government in all countries which have, as far as circumstances permit, adopted the British constitution is, after all, nothing more than a committee of the representative body which it appoints to carry out its wishes. Back of the representatives of the people are the people themselves. It was to do the will of the people, to carry out the policy that they approve, that their representatives were elected. When Parliament, or whatever name is given to the representative body, acts independently of the people's opinion, or contrary to the people's opinion, trouble is sure to ensue. This is why statesmen are so careful to find out what are the views of the majority of the people on any question which agitates the public mind. This is why public meetings are held, and this is why the press is free to express opinions on all subjects without regard to the views held, or supposed to be held, by the Government. The respect paid in Great Britain to public opinion sometimes surprises even Canadians. It was only the other day that the Government was obliged to abandon legislation with regard to the bounty-fed sugar because public opinion had expressed itself forcibly against the proposed measure. A British Chancellor of the Exchequer was, not many years ago, induced by an expression of public opinion with regard to his proposal to tax lucifer matches, to score the obnoxious tax out of his budget. The Minister of State who in Great Britain does not watch the course of public opinion and shape legislation in accordance with it, is not fit for his position. If he continues to disregard public opinion, the people will soon show him that the country is to be governed according to their wishes and not according to his, let him be ever so able and ever so experienced. This is the a. b. c. of constitutional government, and we are surprised that our Liberal contemporary has not yet mastered the political alphabet. If the writer of the article under discussion asks one of his intelligent political friends what he thinks of a government that refuses to shape its policy according to public opinion, and if public opinion should be the effect rather than the cause of the government's policy, he will receive some information which may prevent his making in the future such gross blunders as he perpetrated on Wednesday.

The view which we have enunciated is so generally acknowledged that we feel almost ashamed to cite authority to prove its soundness. But lest our contemporary, and those who put their trust in it, should continue to think that governments are justified in adopting a policy without regard to public opinion, we will quote what Todd says on the subject. In his Parliamentary Government, that high authority, whose tendencies are far from being radical, says:

"The policy of an administration charged with the government of the British Empire must indeed of necessity be a reflex of the best informed opinion of the nation. It is declared by the press, the exchange, the market, the club, and society at large. And, after all, it should be remembered that while public opinion in a free state must ultimately determine into whose hands authority shall be entrusted and what shall be the general policy of the government it is chiefly within the walls of Parliament that the contest for power between the rival candidates for office is conducted."

Although we hold that the policy of the Government should always be in accordance with the opinions of the majority of the people we are very far from contending that a public man is bound to change his opinions as often as the majority change theirs, or that he should never advocate a cause which is at the moment unpopular. All that we contend is that the Government for the time being is bound to do what the country approves and to refrain from doing what it disapproves. When a Government finds that the policy which it advocates is opposed to the well understood wishes of the people it must do as Mr. Gladstone's Government did when it found that its policy with respect to Home Rule to Ireland was displeasing to a majority of the people, resign, and give place to men whose views were in accordance with the national will. When Mr. Gladstone was relieved of the responsibilities of office he was perfectly free to do all he could to change public opinion in his favor, no matter if nine-tenths of the people were opposed to the policy he advocated; but as long as he remained a servant of the people he was bound by the constitution to bow to their will. If by his exertions in opposition he effects a change in the public mind, he can then return to office and give effect to the wishes of the majority.

Our contemporary's illustration, which it appears to be quite proud of, is really no illustration at all. The preacher's function is in almost every respect different from the duty of a servant of the people. We do not mean to say that preachers as a class do not respect public opinion, and do not defer to it. We have no doubt that in the case in question the minister was sagacious enough to know that the sentiments he expressed were most acceptable to the large majority of his audience. That this was so the demonstrations made at the time clearly proved.

Our contemporary misrepresents what we said about the "dispassionate spectator." We said that the minister of state should be a dispassionate spectator of a newspaper controversy. The expression had no reference whatever to public opinion or to the policy of the government. This giving language a meaning it was not intended to convey and lugging it into a connexion in which it was not used, is a boys' debating society trick, and one quite unworthy of the organ of the Opposition in this province.

NOT TO BE BULLIED.

Bismarck has been trying to bully plucky little Switzerland, and has found that the people of the mountain republic have lost none of their ancient spirit. German anarchists, socialists, and other troublesome agitators and conspirators, have taken refuge in Switzerland. Bismarck claims the right to follow them into the territory of his neighbor, and to maintain a secret police there to watch over them. He complains that they have been allowed an asylum in Switzerland, and that they are free to form plots there against the German Government. The Swiss Government has replied with courage and dignity. It asserts its right to rule within its own territory as it pleases, and will not permit any foreign power to exercise jurisdiction within its bounds. It admits that it may have been too lax in its supervision over the dangerous characters who have taken refuge in Switzerland, and expresses its willingness to do all that good-neighbourhood requires to prevent there making trouble in the country from which they had fled; but whatever it does will be done of its own motion and without interference from any foreign power. The tone of the Swiss minister, M. Droz, was firm and dignified, and what he said received the warm approval of the whole Federal Council. How Bismarck received this exposition of the policy of the Swiss Government we have not heard, but it is likely that after blustering a while he will acquiesce in the decision arrived at by the Government of Switzerland. When a Franco-German potentate Charles the Bold attempted to bulldoze the people of Switzerland a long time ago, he was taught a lesson that the great powers of Europe have never forgotten. The brave and patriotic mountaineers showed that it was not easy to deprive a people who are bound to remain free of their freedom.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

THE increased postage on drop letters is very unpopular in all parts of the Dominion. It is felt to be an unjust and an unnecessary tax on the business community. The one cent was, it is contended, a paying rate. This is proved by the fact that private concerns in Montreal and Hamilton undertook to deliver letters inside the bounds of those cities at that rate with the certainty that the enterprise would prove remunerative. The parties were not permitted to carry out the experiment for the Postmaster-General instituted proceedings against them and they were obliged to discontinue. But it can easily be seen that if private individuals as a speculation could make money by carrying city letters at a cent apiece it must be greatly more profitable to the post office which could do the work without making any addition of consequence to its staff. We see by the Hamilton Spectator that provided the same number of letters are carried this year as there were last the additional burden on the senders of drop letters will be $110,000. This is a very considerable sum to be paid by a comparatively few persons. It is to be regretted that the Postmaster-General could not see his way to keep the drop letters at the old rate, particularly as it can be proved that whatever it was that caused the post-office deficit it was not the drop letters.

THOSE who have attended the closing exercises of the schools express themselves delighted with what they saw and heard. The pupils acquitted themselves admirably, and the cheerfulness which was combined with perfect good order was very pleasant to witness. Testimony comes from all sides that the schools of Victoria are very well conducted; that the teachers are capable, conscientious and zealous, and that the children are exceptionally well-behaved and studious. The teachers who are doing this good work deserve to be highly esteemed. Their duties are arduous. No one who has not been a teacher can have any idea of how difficult and how wearing are the duties of the teacher of a public school. After doing a term's work conscientiously they need and they deserve their holidays. We hope that both they and the pupils will enjoy them heartily.

A LIKELY STORY!

Some very absurd rumors are raised in the United States, but few are so absurd as that the murder of Dr. Cronin has been instigated by the British ministry. The Bee, of Sacramento, with apparent seriousness, declares that there are circumstances that lead to the suspicion that England is at the bottom of the whole conspiracy. One of the suspicious circumstances is that a detective from Scotland Yard "is mixing himself up with the investigation of the Cronin murder." It does not seem very probable that if England is at the bottom of the conspiracy a London detective would be sent to Chicago to hunt for conspirators and to bring them to justice. We will perhaps hear by and by that the Clan-na-Gael is an English society, and that its members are in the pay of the Times newspaper or the "Bloody Balfour." This being the case the quarrel between Sullivan and Cronin was a mere blind intended to deceive the public and Cronin was murdered in cold blood for no other purpose than to discredit Parnell and to influence the Royal Commissioners against the Home Rule agitators. So simple and so natural a way of accounting for that horrible murder will, no doubt, be most acceptable to the murderers themselves, and those who desire to aid and abet them will do their best to give it currency; but that any one is such a simpleton as to give it a moment's credence is more than we can believe. Here is the sort of stuff that a respectable American journalist expects an intelligent American public to believe:

"It is no light charge to bring against a nation that it is guilty of inciting to criminal conspiracy and murder, but in the case of England the suspicion is entirely justifiable. . . . Assassination is a favorite weapon with the Balfour regime in Ireland. This is the same government which is sending its spies into America with the palpable and malicious purpose, we have no doubt, of disrupting the bond of sympathy that naturally unites the free people of America with the Irish cause. It is more than likely that these alien detectives from Scotland Yard know more than anybody else of how Dr. Cronin came to be murdered and his body disposed in a sewer trap."

This, then, is the whole secret. Balfour wanted to sever the bond of sympathy that exists between the Irish and the American people. To do this he sent out Scotland Yard detectives to murder Dr. Cronin. Balfour, clever as he is, did not hit upon the right plan. If he could by some bold intrigue and the expenditure of British gold deprive the Irish in the United States of their votes, the sympathy between them and the politicians would be very quickly dissipated.

A RUMOR OF WAR.

There is talk of trouble in Europe, but it is not very loud as yet. The Danubian provinces are the cause of contention. Russia is always suspected of having designs on one or other of those provinces, and whenever there is the least disturbance in any of them it is believed that Russia is at the bottom of it. Servia has been in a restless condition for some time. The King and his wife quarrelled. Her leanings towards Russia are supposed to have been the primary cause of the disagreement. King Milan could not get along well with his ministers. He was not popular among his subjects. Russia is suspected of having fomented discontent in Servia, and of trying to make the situation intolerable for its King. At any rate, he found that he could live in it no longer comfortably or safely, so he abdicated. Russia is believed to be the moving spirit in this proceeding—the "deus ex machina." Now that the King is out of the way, and a child is on the Servian throne, it is supposed that Russia is doing what it can in a quiet way to strengthen its hold on the country. This excites the jealousy of Austria, which has, or thinks it has, a deep interest in keeping Servia out of the clutches of Russia. The relations between Austria and Russia are therefore believed to be just now somewhat strained. The two countries are watching each other closely, and with not exactly the most friendly expression of countenance. Any open attempt on the part of Russia to gain a foothold in Servia will be immediately resented by Austria, and if Russia and Austria come to blows it will not be long before Germany and France mingle in the fray. Italy will of course join Austria and Germany against France and Russia. What part Great Britain will take in the contest it is hard to say, but there are those who assert that it will be impossible for her to keep out of the next European war when it comes; and the conviction with many is that it will come before very long. The reason of this opinion being so general is that the great nations of continental Europe are all prepared for war and that instead of appearing less warlike as time goes on they increase their preparations. All the great powers are still spending money in increasing and making more effective their armies and their navies. Great Britain finds it necessary to be on the alert and to take measures to be prepared for invasion. The contagion has extended even to America, for we see the United States constructing a navy and making preparations to defend its coast and harbors. Recent events have convinced the citizens of the Great Republic that they are not so completely isolated as they believed themselves to be some time ago. They see that it is possible for them to be affected by a conflict which, taking its rise in Europe, is not likely to confine itself to that continent, so they wish to be prepared for all contingencies, however remote some may believe them to be.

How Canada will be affected by a great European war, in which Great Britain is one of the belligerents, is a matter of not very pleasant speculation. But as the war cloud is as yet hardly above the horizon and not very dark, Canadians generally do not consider the question as one of pressing importance.

AN IMMENSE TRANSACTION.

The largest mortgage that was ever placed on record was executed in Chicago a few days ago. The Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad gave a mortgage of its whole property to a New York Trust Company to secure a loan of $150,000,000. This is to almost every one a sum unimaginably great. It is only in this age of the world that a private company could negotiate such an immense loan. The security of a nation would be hardly sufficient to warrant such a loan not so very many years ago. Thirty millions of pounds sterling would have been a large loan for a comparatively rich nation to put upon the money markets of the world. Yet we see in this latter end of the nineteenth century this gigantic transaction effected by two private corporations of which, comparatively speaking, only very few have heard.

It would be interesting to know how many people have become indirectly the creditors of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company through this loan. The $150,000,000 is most likely made up of the contributions of many thousands of people. The savings of many hard-working men and women go to swell the amount. All these, very likely without knowing it, have now an interest in the St. Paul and Milwaukee Railroad. If it prospers and the country remains peaceful and well governed they will get their dividends regularly, and their capital can be returned to them when they want it; but if things go wrong with the company, if it is badly managed, and if railway and other property become insecure through bad government, not only the railway magnates but hundreds of thousands of others, in obscure positions, will be the sufferers.

It is the fashion with some people to rail against capital, and to denounce the railway and other monopolies. But close enquiry would show them that the great aggregations of capital which are required for immense enterprises in which men in these days engage, are not furnished by rich men alone. The big corporations which engage in these projects are merely the agents for a vast number of persons, who are comparatively poor, and who depend upon the return they get from the money that they have invested for their maintenance in old age, or for the support of their widows and children when they are gone. The working of the world's great financial machine is most complicated. It has its connections everywhere. It is not limited by the boundaries of nations, nor do its operations affect only one class of men. It is operating everywhere, and men and women of all ranks and conditions feel the effects of its movements. A knowledge of this makes men careful and unwilling to do anything that tends to put this wonderful machine out of order. Foreign war or civil disturbance always does it more or less injury, and causes proportionate loss and suffering. Consequently men of all nations are more peacefully inclined now than they ever were before. If it were not for financial considerations and business interests, the armed nations of Europe would have been at each other's throats long ago, and the tail-twisters of the United States would be able to disturb the peaceful relations that so happily exist between Great Britain and the Great Republic. It is best that this is so. The greater number of those interested in keeping the peace the more likely is it that peace will continue.

There is another aspect of this matter which is worth considering. By far the greater number of those who think about the Milwaukee and St. Paul, or any other great railroad corporation regard it as a combination of very rich men who work the road for the sole purpose of adding to their already vast wealth. The hundreds and thousands of comparatively poor people whose money is used to construct, or improve or extend the railway, but whose names are never before the public, are completely lost sight of. But they are really, according to their means, as deeply interested in the welfare of the monopoly as many of the millionaires. The loss to the man who has a five hundred dollar interest in that one hundred and fifty million dollar loan, would be, probably to him, as great as the loss of one hundred thousand would be to the millionaire. The accumulations of capital are enormously great in these days, but there are very few indeed who understand how the money transactions of the world are managed, or know who own the funds that are used.

A WONDERFUL CHANGE.

The ceremony of unveiling the statue of Giordano Bruno in Rome in the presence of the Syndic of the city, government officials, senators, deputies, scientists and an immense crowd of citizens shows what an immense change has taken place in the beliefs and opinions of the people of Italy. Three hundred years ago this Giordano Bruno was burned as a heretic amidst the execrations of the populace. He was certainly a bold unbeliever. He had been a Dominican friar but he abandoned the order. He made no secret of his unbelief. He denounced the priesthood and ridiculed the Christian religion. He embraced and taught doctrines respecting science and politics which were in that age of the world regarded as dangerous. He became indeed an apostle of the new ideas. He travelled through France and Switzerland "everywhere," his biographer says, "he bent his inexpressible energies to the exposition of the new thoughts which were beginning to effect a revolution in the thinking world. He had drunk deeply of the very spirit of the Renaissance, the determination to open his eyes and see for himself the noble universe unclouded by the mists of authoritative philosophy and church tradition." He was so rash as to visit Venice in 1592. There the officers of the Inquisition apprehended and imprisoned him, and after several years confinement, he was tried, condemned, and delivered over to the secular power to be executed. He was burned at the stake. Since then many of his countrymen have learned to admire him. They look upon him as a martyr to freedom of thought. He asserted his right to think for himself on all subjects. He formed opinions not in conformity with the orthodoxy of the day, and like many other courageous men who tried to throw off the fetters with which it was attempted to bind men's intellects and consciences, he paid for his temerity with his liberty and his life.

But it was impossible to kill thought. Giordano Bruno's opinions lived after his ashes had been scattered to the winds, and his spirit, in spite of fierce persecution and horrible punishments reappeared from time to time in other men. To-day the opinions for which that brave man was persecuted to the death for entertaining and propagating are held without even reproach by men of intelligence in all parts of the world. So greatly has the world changed, that persecuting a man for his opinions is almost everywhere looked upon as cruel folly. In Italy to-day a man holding the views which three hundred years ago were regarded as impious and dangerous to society, may fill the highest offices in the state. The change in the estimate of the same man in the same country in the different ages is indeed wonderful. In 1600 Giordano Bruno was condemned as a wretch so wicked as to be unfit to live. In 1889 a statue to his memory is erected in a place of honor, and he is eulogized as a benefactor of mankind. There are men who deplore and bewail this change. Would they have the world turn backwards? Do they desire a return of the time when men could be punished with imprisonment and death because they, by independent inquiry, arrived at conclusions different from those of the majority of their fellow-countrymen. Would they again bind the consciences and fetter the intellects of men.

A Confectioner's Confidence.

"I can plainly state that I can find nothing better than Haggard's Yellow Oil. I have rheumatism occasionally, and Yellow Oil does me great good. You can use my name if you wish." Yours truly, H. Dickinson, confectioner, St. Thomas, Ont. s-w-f

Picture Pencillings.

Mr. Hazen F. Murray, of Pictou, N. S., writes: "I was affected with dyspepsia and nervous debility, and tried many remedies without avail, but one bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters much improved me and two more made me a well man." s-w-f

JUDGMENT.

Continued from Second Page.

in prospectuses are too numerous to mention. All the text books treat largely on the subject of fraud in equity: e. gr. 1 Sto. Eq. Jur. s., 188, sec 99.

The plaintiff has, however, in his pleadings as re-amended at the last trial alleged, that the company has not only waived irregularities in complying with the 11th condition as to preliminary proofs, &c., but has waived the entire condition itself. The condition being aimed at the suppression of fraud, any waiver of it must be rigorously proved. Here it was contended that waiver must be deemed to have been found by the jury; the defendants, however, contending that waiver is not for the jury but for the judge. The verdict does not expressly deal with the waiver, but the plaintiff relies for proof of waiver upon three circumstances:—

1. The offer to pay $2,500 on the 13th March, in the letter already set out.

2. The negotiations for an abitration.

3. The reply of Gibbon, the insurance clerk, when the statement of particulars of claim were handed in. This was stated by Gilmour, plaintiff's barkeeper, as follows, "Gibbon looked at it (the list of particulars) and said 'all right.' I asked him if that was what he wanted. He said, 'yes.'" This was a very few days, less than fourteen, after the fire.

The principle of all waivers is something like that of estoppel. Where a party having an option has done something indicating the exercise of that option in a particular way, so as that to alter it would injure somebody else, he cannot re-call his option, (per Compton J. in Ward v. Day, 4 B. and S. 366, cited by Mr. Walker.) Gibbon himself says that he told Mr. Gilmour that the statement was all that was wanted for the present, but that he did not say no further proof would be required. In fact could any reasonable man draw such an assurance from the mere answer "all right."' The clerk Gibbon is not alleged to have known anything of the contents of the document, except that he possibly ascertained that it was a list, apparently of furniture. A fraud could not be condoned or waived, unless it, or the circumstances connected with it, were fully known to the party condoning; and there is no proof, nor is it probable, that the Company's agents were at first aware of the greatness of the plaintiff's over-estimate. But beyond all this, and what in my opinion makes the alleged waiver an impossibility, is the fact neither the clerk (who was merely the hand to give and to receive documents, this is probably all he could have meant by "all right.") nor Mr. Turner himself had any power to waive the condition at all.

Mr. Turner's delegation is to adjust and settle all claims, etc., according to the terms endorsed on the policy, but gives him no power to waive those terms. He could therefore bind the company to go to arbitration, for that is one of the endorsements. He could not, if he tried, bind the company to accept an over-statement, for that is precisely against what he is empowered to do, viz., to settle claims according to the endorsed terms. An agent, so long as he operates within his mandate, binds his principal completely; as soon as he steps beyond his mandate, he ceases to be an agent at all; his acts are those of a stranger, and he has no more power than any other stranger to bind his quondam principal.

Where the conditions express a discretion, the agent may exercise it; e.g., here Mr. Turner (not Gibbon, who held no power of attorney, and to whom Mr. Turner could delegate no such power) could have determined whether he should call for further proof beyond the plaintiff's declaration or affirmation. But he had no power to waive the production of that declaration; and though I have just held that the non-production of the declaration is not a bar to the plaintiff's bringing an action, that is not because the company have waived that condition, but because I think the evidence in a trial of an action at law is of a higher nature than a mere declaration, and the greater includes the less. And the fourteen days time limit I think directory and not obligatory.

The plea of waiver, therefore, must be overruled; there are no circumstances from which a jury could be allowed to imply waiver. There is no person in British Columbia who is authorized to waive any condition in the policy.

In all the cases referred to, the court, if dissatisfied with the verdict, have ordered a new trial. That was probably all they had power to do, but that is not within my power. Under the existing practice I have to give effect to the verdict of the jury on a motion for judgment. The verdict is contradictory. According to the first part there perhaps ought to be judgment for the plaintiff for some amount; but the finding "no fraud" is as I have pointed out ambiguous. The latter part of the verdict shows in my opinion quite clearly that there was what used to be called "equitable fraud" in the plaintiff's claim. Even if made without intentional deceit, yet here is a rash misrepresentation of a very considerable overvalue, deliberately adhered to and attempted to be supported by evidence upon oath which two successive juries have utterly disbelieved; evidence which I think, and which the plaintiff must allege, stands in the place of the "declaration" required by the 11th condition. This calls into operation the latter part of the 11th condition, and I think there must be judgment for the defendants.

As to Costs:—Mr. Walker urged that in any event the plaintiff would have to pay no costs, even if he did not get his costs; for he said the whole litigation was caused by the company having alleged fraud as the ground of their refusal, which left the plaintiff no option but to bring this action in order to clear his character. But I think the refusal was occasioned by the plaintiff making a demand which he has not been able to substantiate; and it is a most singular way of clearing his character, that instead of placing himself in the witness-box, pledging his belief at all events to the truth of his claim and challenging cross-examination, the plaintiff has never ventured to present himself before a jury since the commencement of the action, and has answered the interrogatories exhibited to him in a very circuitous and unsatisfactory way.

The costs must, therefore, follow the result.

ALASKA NEWS.

The steamer Santa Cruz arrived at Nanaimo Thursday from Alaska, making the trip in six days.

The Santa Cruz took up some machinery from the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, for a new gold mine which is being opened up near Juneau. Captain Carroll, late commander of the s.s. Idaho, is interested in the mine, which is reported as being very rich.

A cannery on A Pyramid Island, was totally gutted by a fire which destroyed a great quantity of cases and other effects. The company immediately set to work to rebuild the cannery which, it is expected, will be in operation within two weeks.

Fishermen are doing very well, as they are receiving $50 a month and two cents a fish. Some of the lucky ones are making big wages. Carpenters and other tradesmen were, lately, in great demand and consequently received good wages, but as men were shipped from Sound Ports, wages have been brought down to a lower basis.

The weather has lately been very unsettled and rainy.

Many Thanks.

"My age is 58 and for 20 years I have suffered from kidney complaint, rheumatism and lame back, and would have been a dead woman if it had not been for Burdock Blood Bitters, of which two bottles restored me to health and strength." Miss Maggie Hendsby, Half Island Cove, N.S. s-w-f

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

CRICKET.

The following gentlemen will compose the cricket team from Victoria to play against Vancouver on the 1st of July: Messrs. Sinclair, Clinton, J. E. Martin, Martin, Pooley, Drake, Wilson, Scroggs, Sharpe, Ransome and Irving.

LACROSSE.

The Victoria Lacrosse Club will be represented at Vancouver on Dominion Day by the following players: W. H. Cullin, J. Cox, Chas. Rea, Geo. Tite, J. H. Cussack, A. E. Wade, J. C. Cambridge, W. J. Ledingham, Chas. Cullin, D. Shedden, J. Sprinkling, A. E. Renning, J. Patton, D. W. Morrow, W. G. Mackenzie.

HERE AND THERE.

The Kamloops Baseball Club has accepted the invitation to play at Vancouver on Dominion Day, and will meet their old foes, the Amities, of Victoria. The game is looked forward to with the greatest possible interest. Vancouver will be matched with the James Bay team.

John Richardson, late of Illecillewaet, offers to challenge the winner of the coming wrestling match (in the same style) that takes place on the 1st prox., at Hastings between Johnston and Cameron, for the sum of $200 and the championship of British Columbia.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Reciprocity in Lumber Between Canada and the U.S.

Exchange of Money Orders Between the Dominion and Japan.

Tokio and Victoria To Be The Exchange Offices For The Respective Countries.

From our own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, June 27.—The Premier informed THE COLONIST correspondent tonight that the government had made a proposition to the Washington authorities for reciprocity in lumber between the two countries. In other words the Dominion government will remove the import and export duties on lumber of all kinds, provided the United States authorities do the same. Meanwhile, as an earnest of good faith, our government has reduced the export duty on pine logs from three to two dollars per thousand feet board measure, the reduction to take effect on Monday next.

The post office department has concluded a convention with the department of communication of Japan, for the exchange of money orders between the Dominion and Japan, taking effect October 1st next, with the maximum amount of an order at fifty dollars, the commission to be the same as for all other foreign money orders. The amounts of orders to be expressed in Canadian currency in both directions; but on account of the frequent fluctuations in the rate of exchange between the two countries, it has been agreed that all amounts be converted into their proper equivalent by the Japanese officials. Tokio, Japan, and Victoria, B. C., will be the exchange offices for the respective countries.

Sir John and Lady Macdonald leave for River du Loup, on the Lower St. Lawrence, to-morrow. They will remain there for about two months.

A SENSIBLE LETTER.

What an Eminent Methodist Clergyman Says About the Anti-Jesuit Agitation.

The Rev. Dr. Shaw, of the Montreal Wesleyan Theological College, and late president of the Montreal Conference, addressed the following very temperate and eminently sensible letter to the editor of the Montreal Witness:

SIR—At the recent session of the Montreal conference I happened, unexpectedly, to become a little conspicuous in taking exception to some parts of the anti-Jesuit resolutions there submitted. In consequence I have been questioned since on the subject by many friends both here and in the west. May I be permitted, therefore, succinctly to state some of the views which compelled me reluctantly to dissent from my brethren. I do not state these dogmatically, or with any legal authority, but simply as my own thinkings upon the subject, and explaining the position which I took.

1. I do not see how the federal government could do otherwise on constitutional grounds than allow the Jesuits' Estates Act.

2. I believe petitions to the Governor-General are useless, and equally so are petitions to the Queen. The expression seems comforting of laying our grievances "at the foot of the the throne," but what does this mean? Simply transferring the matter from the arena of Canadian politics to that of British politics, and I fancy Lord Salisbury would soon advise Her Majesty that she had better pacify Ireland first before undertaking to meddle in the internal affairs of Quebec. There may, perhaps, be occasion for Imperial interference, but is there a sane man in Canada who believes that Lord Salisbury or any other premier of Great Britain would advise such a course?

3. Judicial settlement by the calm dispassionate judgment of a competent tribunal is very desirable, but what lawyer yet has discovered the method of bringing the matter to an issue, unless Dr. Maclaren may reach this point as an outcome from the Mail suit?

4. I believe that the appeal to the clause in the British North America act protecting the rights of minorities is as groundless in this matter as if made in reference to the miserable License Act we have in this province, or any other legislation affecting equally all classes. Surely it is self-evident that if there is any grievance at all it has been mathematically divided in exact ratio between Roman Catholics and Protestants. What wrong is done to the latter which is not also done to the former? A minority grievance is created only where legislation discriminates against the minority.

5. Complaint is made that $100,000 are to be taken from the Superior Education fund and directed to Roman Catholic diocesan purposes. Granted,—but whose money is it? Why, confessedly, it is a part of the Roman Catholic share. Then surely the grievance is none of our business, no more than is the management of the Fabrique of Notre Dame. The Roman Catholics alone have occasion to complain, and, doubtless, would, only that this appropriation of funds is made, not by the act, not by the government of Quebec, but by the head of their church. His relation to the matter—from one standpoint—I regard not as implying supremacy over our legislation, but as if, although an alien he were the executive officer of a commercial corporation whose regulations gave him control over its funds. A real Protestant grievance would arise if the act provided that of the Protestant portion of the estates $10,000 should be applied, say, to charitable institutions. Against such an alienation we would strongly protest, while we surely ought to let the Catholic committee of the Council of Public Institutions look after its own interests, whatever opinion we may privately entertain as to the wisdom of the distribution made by the Pope.

6. I believe that a quid pro quo should be guaranteed and provided by legislation for superior education in the place of the Jesuits' estates. The premier has twice declared in the legislature that our institutions, Catholic and Protestant, will not suffer in their annual grants because of the Jesuits' Estates Settlement Act. May we not hope that to the reasonable request of the Protestant committee of the Council of public Instruction for such legislation he will accede. The public should know, however, that since confederation the proceeds of these estates have not reached half of the grants made for superior education. If superior education, Catholic and Protestant, only got what the estates yield, it would certainly be badly off.

7. I believe that a calm discussion of these points is infinitely better than the invective and intolerant denunciation with which we have become so familiar the last few months, exposing honest men to ridicule and slander.

8. I believe that "the infamous 188" are not all traitors, nor "the glorious 13" all heroes.

9. I believe a casual advantage will come out of this wide-spread anti-Jesuit agitation, in that when in a few months it is all over, Roman Catholics will think: "If Protestants make so much noise when their case is doubtful, what will they not do if their rights are unquestionably infringed?"

WILLIAM I. SHAW.

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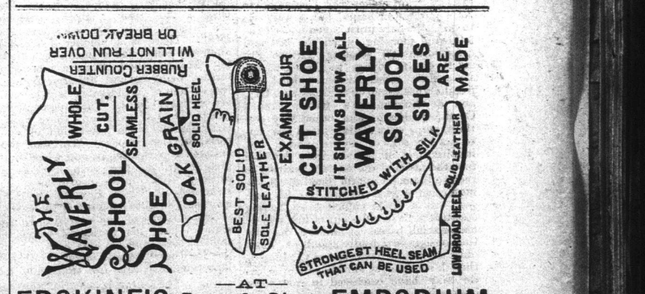

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