

A STRONG PLATFORM.

"The maintenance of a pure and efficient administration of justice." This has been the pride of British Columbia in the past. It is its pride to-day, and we believe that no matter what party is in power there will always be cause for congratulation that the laws are well and purely administered. Nevertheless, it is gratifying for the friends of the government to be able to point out that during the attorney-generalship of Mr. Eberts, when the demands upon the department have been greater than at any

Colonist leaders will not be surprised to learn that Mr. J. P. Booth is practically certain of re-election in North Victoria, for many of them have had a much better opportunity of watching his career in the legislature than most of his constituents have enjoyed, and they have learned to regard him as a very valuable member of that body. Mr. Booth is progressive in his views, but not radical. He combines in a useful measure the spirit of the old-fashioned logician with the modern logician's logic. His work has been marked. His contributions to the debates of the legislature are always to the point and well expressed. He is a good parliamentarian, as has been shown by his short career in the Speaker's chair. While a good party man, Mr. Booth never surrenders his individual independence but is usually able, when he differs from his associates on public questions, to secure a fair hearing for his views. His recent contributions, particularly, demonstrated that what he advocates is not feasible. His own constituents know his usefulness as a local member and it is not for the Colonist to speak of him in that regard, excepting

The reported intention of Mr. Chamberlain to resign from the British cabinet may be premature, but that he may be expected at any time to take a step that will make him a possible successor to Lord Salisbury is quite credible. Great Britain has not in recent years offered a present. The Liberal party was created by Mr. Gladstone and had really no existence apart from him. That great

Circulars and Sestimonials.

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THE THIRD TO CALL.
The South Portland, the next steamer of the Boston and Alaska company's fleet to leave Victoria for St. Michael's, recently arrived on the Sound from New York, having made the trip around the Horn in 75 days. Like the steamship Laurada, an exchange says, she was for several years one of the most successful filibusters that ever dodged the Spanish gunboats off the coast of Cuba, but was more successful from the fact that neither the Spanish or American government knew of half the big cargoes that were successfully landed. The South Portland was built in 1882 at

The sealers Enterprise, Capt. J. Todd, and Zillah May, Capt. S. Balch, cleared yesterday for the Behring sea. They were accompanied by a fleet among the fleet of sealers which sailed yesterday. They were towed out by Co. Grant's new freighter, the Selkirk.

Having secured a crew, the salmon laden ship City of Seattle will tomorrow start on her way to the coast of the Czar. The latter is to leave for Fyra Harbor with a second large load of furs on the 27th inst.

The steamer Barbara Boscowitz, sailing date has been deferred a day, in deference to the heavy snow, and will deliver the shipments of salmon and prairie fruits for the North.

Steamer Maude went out to Telegraph bay for a load of powder yesterday.

complete tranquility reigned. The greatest confidence in the Spanish forces will be with the American soldiers. They were reported to transport off the harbor where is great enthusiasm for troops and volunteers, to fight against the insurrection. Captain-General Blair has decided that there be change of prisoners in the states. At the same time general says he cannot change of Lieut. Hobbs members of the party to Ferrimac into the mountains of Santiago for the reason that his companions and his companions for seeing the references.