

The Colonist.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1895.

AN ANGLOPHOBIST.

The Oregonian is down on the British again. It seriously declares that "it doesn't pretend to like nor admire the spirit that dominates the British people and the British Empire."

What, we wonder, would the American people be like if they were not dominated by "the British spirit." If that spirit had been eliminated from the American masses there would, we are quite sure, be no such nation as the United States of America; no such republic as the "Great Republic."

The Oregonian is fearfully hard on the British oligarchy. But is there not evidence in every state of the union that the Americans have inherited the British pride of birth. Nowhere in Great Britain is a lord more looked up to and run after than in the cities of the United States.

Our Portland contemporary should be careful how it speaks of the British spirit, for if an American pitches into the British too strongly he will be pretty sure to incur the reproach which the proverb attaches to the bird that fouls its own nest.

IMAGINARY FEARS.

Our American neighbors, north and south, are giving themselves a great deal of unnecessary trouble about the boundary line between British Columbia and Alaska. Mr. B. Sinehart and Mr. Otis W. Smith seem to know by intuition what are the desires and intentions of England with regard to the acquisition of territory in Alaska.

The latter able editor has doubtless by some mysterious means been taken into the confidence of the English people, for it is evident that he is a mind-reader on the largest scale. "All England," he declares, "wants a seaport at the entrance to the Yukon country, and she has raised this pretended claim on the southern boundary in the eyes of the world as magnanimous."

People who do not possess preternatural means of gaining information are under the impression that "England" and "All England" know less and care less about the Alaska boundary question than they do about the limits of the spheres of influence in Central Africa. They believe that the very few in England who take any interest in the question at all are quite content to leave this delimitation business in the hands of the men who have been employed to inquire into it professionally.

There are a few British subjects in Canada who take an interest in the Alaska boundary question and know something about it. What they want is nothing more nor less than an honest decision arrived at by competent men. They want nothing for Great Britain, neither island nor harbor nor sea coast, except what she is in justice entitled to.

claims of Americans which are perfectly baseless, and they are not ready to acknowledge a line of delimitation between Alaska and British Columbia which was never surveyed and which has not had any existence except in the imagination of ignorant and greedy adventurers, or on maps drawn at hap-hazard by men who without any knowledge worthy the name, gave place and position to this conjugal boundary line.

AN EFFECTIVE REMEDY.

The evidence in favor of the efficacy of anti-toxine as a remedy for diphtheria is so strong as to be irresistible. It has been shown that the death rate in German and French hospitals where it has been used has largely decreased. And this, too, in the face of the fact that in quite a large proportion of the cases the serum was not applied until it was too late for any remedy to produce a beneficial effect.

Anti-toxine has been used quite extensively in New York during the last nine months and a record has been kept of the results. The following comparative statement has been drawn up by Dr. Wilson, President of the Board of Health:

Table with 4 columns: Nine Months, Cases, Deaths, Mortality Per Cent. Data for 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895.

This is a very favorable showing. A chart accompanying the report shows a rapid decline in the mortality during November and December last, with the introduction of the new remedy, as compared with a sharp increase during the corresponding months of the preceding year, the fall in November and December of 1894 having been from 34 to 24 per cent., while the rise in November and December of 1893 was from 32 to 43 per cent.

If the mortality percentage had been only 19.43 during the four years ending with September, 1894, it is obvious that about 4,000 lives which were lost in those years would have been saved. We think that Dr. Biggs, to whose labors and reports the introduction of the remedy here was chiefly due, and under the direction of whom the city's supply of serum has been prepared; Dr. Park, under whose management the existing system of bacteriological diagnosis has been perfected; and all the other officers connected with the Board of Health, who have by their authority and co-operation joined in supporting and insuring the adoption of the latest methods of detecting and curing this disease, must regard with great satisfaction this clear proof of success.

Dr. William H. Park, at the annual meeting of the New York State Medical Association, said: The mortality from diphtheria in New York city, which for years was thirty-four per cent., and never less than twenty-five per cent., during the last nine months, was only seventeen per cent., and if anti-toxine had been used in all cases the mortality would have been less than ten per cent. It is impossible that medical men of skill and experience should deceive themselves or be deceived by others in a matter of this kind. The observations were, no doubt, made with care, and the record kept was faithful and for all practical purposes sufficiently exact. The decrease in the mortality from diphtheria is most remarkable, and must be very cheering to all who have witnessed and suffered from the ravages of the dreadful disease. It is quite possible that the remedy may have failed in cases where a cure might reasonably have been expected, and that its application in a few cases may have appeared to produce results that could not have been anticipated, but when the great decrease in the mortality of those afflicted with the disease in New York and the number of valuable lives saved by the application of the serum are considered, it is unwise to condemn anti-toxine because it has not been successful in every case. No remedy that has ever been discovered is invariably a sure cure.

A PECULIAR SITUATION.

The position of foreigners in the Transvaal republic is very peculiar. The Boers, though a kindly and hospitable people, are exceedingly narrow-minded. Since the discovery of gold in their country foreigners have rushed into it from all quarters. There are in the little republic to-day some 60,000 adult males who are not admitted into the privileges of citizenship. These are called the uitlanders population. The Boers are jealous of these strangers and they may, perhaps, be a little afraid of them, for they outnumber the adult native population four to one. Estimating the number of native men in the country by the voting lists, which seems to be a fair way, as every male citizen in the country above the age of twenty-one is entitled to vote, the adult males of the native Dutch population number only 15,000.

This is a state of things for which it would, we think, be impossible to find a parallel. In no other country do the alien inhabitants exceed the native population. Singular to say, the foreigners in the Transvaal are peaceable and law-abiding. They take no advantage of their superior numbers to create disturbances or to insist upon rights that are denied them. The Government, it appears, presumes upon the good nature and peaceable disposition of the strangers in a way that is to them both unpleasant and inconvenient. The Government has a railroad of its own, and President Kruger is determined that the uitlanders must use it, although there is another railroad which is shorter and, for some reason, more convenient. "He," the Times says, "has sanctioned the

laying of prohibitive rates upon the railway traffic of the southern line from the point at which the line crosses the Free State frontier into the Transvaal, and he has closed the wagon roads across the frontier in order that goods may not be taken to the border by rail and thence to Johannesburg by wagon service. In other words, he has closed the southwestern frontier to foreign trade. By doing so he hopes to force the whole current of trade to flow through Delagoa, and he has yet apparently to learn that currents of trade are not to be diverted from their accustomed channel as simply as a garden ditch."

It remains to be seen how the mining population will put up with the tyranny of the President. This tyranny is the more inexcusable as the strangers whom he is worrying and ill-using have saved the Republic from bankruptcy and they pay nine-tenths of the taxes. There will no doubt be trouble in the Transvaal if Kruger does not change his policy. It is not likely that the enterprising majority will submit to be worried and robbed by the slow-going, thick-headed minority.

RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS.

The question of religion in the public schools is just now being seriously discussed in both Europe and America. This is not surprising, for the subject is one of great interest and importance. Nearly everyone believes that children should be early and constantly instructed in the truths of religion. Very few parents, no matter what they may be themselves, wish to see their children grow up altogether "godless." The question is, where is religious instruction to be given and who is to impart it? A great many good people say that the school is the proper place in which the elementary truths of religion should be taught, and that the school master or school mistress should be the instructor of religion as well as the other branches of education. They advance many good and strong reasons in support of this position.

There are other people equally good and well-meaning, who say that the advocates of religious teaching in the common schools may be right in the abstract, if the parents were all of the same religion. But this is seldom the case. In almost every school district there are parents of many denominations; if you are to teach religion in the schools, whose religion shall it be? And, they ask, are teachers generally competent to teach religion? Where there is a diversity of denominations the attempt to teach religion in the public schools is pretty sure to cause jealousy and to create strife. If we are to have public schools to whose maintenance all denominations are forced to contribute (and it is admitted in most countries now that the State must educate), it is better to have the education which all are required to pay for altogether secular. The religious education of the children must be looked after by the parents and by the churches. We do not say that this system is perfect, but we believe it to be the most practicable and the best under the circumstances.

The objects aimed by both the advocates of religion in the school and by the upholders of secular public education are good. Both believe that they have the welfare of the community and of the rising generation at heart, and they can surely discuss the subject temperately and rationally without saying hard things of each other or without denouncing or misrepresenting any religious denomination. But it is not a little singular that this very important question is seldom discussed on its merits and in a spirit of Christian charity. For our part we cannot see why the advocates of the two systems cannot respect each other's convictions, and treat each other with courtesy. This, however, by the way.

What is called the separate school system has been established in some mixed communities. In the schools under this system religious instruction is given. The separate schools are generally divided into Protestant and Catholic. There is a public school system for all denominations, but in districts where the Catholics are numerous enough to maintain a school of their own, a separate school is established, maintained by Catholic ratepayers and taught by a Catholic teacher. Religion is taught in all the schools under this system. This is the system which is in operation in Ontario, and it has worked fairly well. There has been some difficulty as to the kind and quality of the religious teaching of the public schools, but the differences have not been serious.

In Quebec the schools are divided into Catholic and Protestant. Religion is taught in all of them. The system there works with tolerable smoothness. In the Eastern Maritime Provinces, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the system of public education may be said to be secular. Religion is not entirely excluded from the public schools, but it forms a very insignificant part of the curriculum. The British Columbia system, as far as the religious element is concerned, very greatly resembles those of the Maritime Provinces of the extreme East. In the Eastern Provinces there was a little friction at first but good sense and moderation prevailed and all denominations as far as education is concerned get along quite harmoniously.

We are not in a position to judge of the results of religious education in the Dominion. Whether the separate schools of Ontario and Quebec have turned out better secular schools than the secular or nearly secular schools of the Maritime Provinces or not, we do not know. But there are no means of finding out. West personal observation—which is not always to be trusted, leads us to conclude that the education they have received in women of any province of the Dominion any better or any worse than the men and women of the other provinces.

ARBITRATION WANTED.

A large number, perhaps the majority, of American newspapers declare that the boundary question between Great Britain and Venezuela should be submitted to arbitration. The British publicist says "there is no question to arbitrate upon. The boundary is on record and we have an unquestioned right to every inch of territory we claim." "But," rejoins the American, "by the Monroe Doctrine the United States claims the right to have a voice in the settlement of all questions as regards territory between an American republic and a European power. We have asserted that right now for over seventy years and we must insist upon it in this instance." Who gave the United States that right? On what does it ground its claim? asks the Britisher. The American will find it difficult to answer these questions to the satisfaction of any reasonable man whose judgment is not biased by partiality to the United States. To say that President Monroe and his cabinet came to the conclusion in 1823 that the time had come to put an end to further colonization of the American continent by European powers, and to make a declaration that any such power that should deprive an American commonwealth of its independence would be regarded as an enemy of the United States, would be no answer; for the question would immediately arise, What right had the United States to interfere with the action of other nations and to constitute itself a protector of independent states without the wish or the consent of those states? Does it not appear reasonable that before the United States takes action on the Monroe Doctrine it be made the subject of arbitration? Are not the nations of Europe and the republics of South and Central America entitled to be consulted as to whether they acquiesce in this claim of the United States to a kind of protectorate over a very large part of both North and South America? Such a claim as is made by the Monroe Doctrine if, one would think, a more fit subject for arbitration than a dispute about a boundary line.

In any case an authoritative interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine seems to be imperatively required. If the construction put upon it by a host of American politicians and journalists is anything like correct the United States can interfere in every dispute, no matter what it may be about, that an American Republic has with Great Britain or any other European nation. If they are right the United States is the greatest intermeddler that ever existed. The Great Republic is not only the protector but the backer of every one of the lesser republics whenever it chooses to pick a quarrel with a foreign country or to repudiate its national obligations.

It is not pretty near time that the world knew what this Monroe Doctrine really means, what authority it has, on what that authority is based and how far it extends? Talk of arbitration! There are many questions involved in this Monroe Doctrine, and very important ones, that greatly need to be arbitrated upon. Our American contemporaries, who are so very sure that the Monroe Doctrine requires Great Britain to submit its dispute with Venezuela to arbitration, should first have the Monroe Doctrine itself made the subject of arbitration. They might, after a decision was arrived at, know what they are talking about when they invoke that mysterious doctrine, which is more than most of them do now.

CHINESE IGNORANCE.

An Englishman, who had enjoyed personal intercourse with the very highest class of the Chinese nobility, the members of the Tung-Hi-Yamen, or Board of Foreign Relations, was not by any means struck with the liberality of their views or the extent of their intelligence. He was, in fact, surprised to find these very high officials, who performed such important duties, so narrow-minded and so ill-informed. He says: I was granted through my stay at Peking the favor of an interview with the Tung-Hi-Yamen—a favor, I believe, never before granted to a foreigner enjoying no official position—and during a couple of hours I had the honor of discussing with their Excellencies some of the burning questions of the day. The strongest impression which I carried away with me was that the whole world of thought in which the Western mind is trained and lives seems to be as alien to the Chinese mind as the language which we speak. The wisdom of their sages, which is the Alpha and Omega of their advanced education, consists of unceasing aphorisms, which have about as much influence on their actions as the excellent maxims which in the days of our youth we have all copied out to improve our calligraphy had in moulding our own character. History, geography, the achievements of modern science, the lessons of political economy, the conditions which govern the policy of Western States, the influence of public opinion, of the Press, of Parliamentary institutions, are words which convey no real meaning to their ears. It is useless to appeal to feelings of honor or of patriotism, which, if they exist at all, take an entirely different and to us inexplicable shape, and it is equally vain to quote the teachings of political history, for outside of their own immediate experience it is a sealed book to them. Their Excellencies talk glibly of the balance of power in Europe, but Austria still seems to be hopelessly mixed up in their minds with Holland, and of the two, the latter at any rate still occupies as a colonial power by far the higher position. An incidental reference to Tunis elicited the fact that they had never realized the existence of such a state, or of an African empire of France, though they had acquired some information with regard to the position of Egypt, apparently from French sources. Nor is it easy to treat questions even of material development with mistakes, one of whom deliberately maintained that China's immunity from railways had been the salvation of Peking during the recent war.

This writer comes to the conclusion that outside its official relations with foreign representatives, the Chinese world knows nothing and wants to know nothing of the Western world. Their hatred of strangers is very visible under the thin veneer of official politeness. "No mandarins," he says, "can frequent a foreigner's house without exposing himself to suspicion and obloquy. The whole atmosphere of Peking is saturated with hatred and contempt of the foreigner, and the street urchins who shout opprobrious epithets and sling mud and stones from a safe distance at him as he passes, merely have the youthful courage of opinion which their elders only venture to betray by a sullen scowl or a muttered imprecation."

So great is the hatred of the Chinese people to strangers that powerful officials are afraid to invite a foreigner inside their houses without cautioning him not to come in a chair or on horseback, but in a closed official palanquin. "No mandarins," he says, "can frequent a foreigner's house without exposing himself to suspicion and obloquy. The whole atmosphere of Peking is saturated with hatred and contempt of the foreigner, and the street urchins who shout opprobrious epithets and sling mud and stones from a safe distance at him as he passes, merely have the youthful courage of opinion which their elders only venture to betray by a sullen scowl or a muttered imprecation."

Advertisement for The Semi-Weekly Colonist. Features a large circular logo with '\$1.50' in the center. Text includes 'THREE MONTHS FOR NOTHING!' and 'FROM NOW UNTIL DECEMBER 31ST, 1896.'

THE PIONEER NEWSPAPER SETS THE PACE.

COMMENCING with this date THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST will be mailed to any address in Canada or the United States for \$1.50 per annum, and as an additional inducement to present subscribers to renew, and to introduce the paper to new readers, THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST will be mailed from now until December 31st, 1896, for the price of one year's subscription—\$1.50—payable invariably in advance.

SUBSCRIBE NOW AND SECURE 15 MONTHS FOR \$1.50.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST is issued on Mondays and Thursdays, in time for all out-going mails, and by this means out-of-town readers will be placed in closer touch with the Capital than was possible under the old method of publishing on Fridays only. The Semi-Weekly Edition is an eight-page six-column paper, and contains the Latest Local, Provincial and Foreign News up to the time of going to press.

THERE IS SOMETHING IN IT FOR EVERYBODY.

The Ladies are not neglected, for Fashion Articles and Illustrations, what is going on in woman's world, and an Entertaining Story, form a part of its contents. It is in the highest sense a CLEAN AND INSTRUCTIVE FAMILY NEWSPAPER, and should be read by everyone in British Columbia.

SUBSCRIBE NOW AND GET THREE MONTHS FOR NOTHING.

CLUB OFFERS

We have the following CASH PREMIUMS to offer to any persons who may choose to turn their spare moments to profitable account by soliciting subscriptions to THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST:

- FOR 5 NEW SUBSCRIBERS... \$2.50 CASH
" 10 " " " " 5.00
" 20 " " " " 10.00
" 50 " " " " 25.00
" 100 " " " " 50.00
" 200 " " " " 100.00

Or 50c. each for 5 subscriptions or over. Anyone sending \$4.50 in cash and the names of three subscribers will receive one year's subscription to THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST FREE.

The above also includes the offer from date up to the 31st December, 1896. Cash in all cases must accompany orders.

ADDRESS—The Colonist Printing & Publishing Co., VICTORIA, B.C.

posing himself to suspicion and obloquy. The whole atmosphere of Peking is saturated with hatred and contempt of the foreigner, and the street urchins who shout opprobrious epithets and sling mud and stones from a safe distance at him as he passes, merely have the youthful courage of opinion which their elders only venture to betray by a sullen scowl or a muttered imprecation. So great is the hatred of the Chinese people to strangers that powerful officials are afraid to invite a foreigner inside their houses without cautioning him not to come in a chair or on horseback, but in a closed official palanquin. "No mandarins," he says, "can frequent a foreigner's house without exposing himself to suspicion and obloquy. The whole atmosphere of Peking is saturated with hatred and contempt of the foreigner, and the street urchins who shout opprobrious epithets and sling mud and stones from a safe distance at him as he passes, merely have the youthful courage of opinion which their elders only venture to betray by a sullen scowl or a muttered imprecation."