The Colonist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 1889

THE AMERICAN TARIFF.

It appears from the President's message that although at the election, a little more than a year ago, the Republican party fought strenuously against tariff reform, public opinion in the United States is so strongly in favor of a reduction of taxation that a revision of the tariff has become a political necessity. The Administration has evidently been forced to adopt the policy that the party which placed it in power condemned. The passage in the message in which changes of the tariff are recommended is exceedingly cautious. The President evidently knew that he was treading on dangerous ground. The subject is discussed with many conditions and qualifications, but the course which the President wishes Congress to pursue, is notwithstanding, indicated with sufficient clearness. He says:

"I recommend a revision of our tariff law, both in its administrative features and in the schedules. . . . . These duties necessarily have relation to other things besides the public revenue. We cannot limit their effects by fixing our eyes on the public treasury alone. They have a direct relation to home production, to work, to wages, and the commercial independence of our country. And the wise and prudent legislator should enlarge the field of his vision to include all of these. The necessary reduction in our public revenues can, I am sure, be made, without making the smaller burden more onerous than the larger, by reason of the disabilities and limitations which the process of reduction puts upon both capital and labor. The free list can be very safely extended by placing thereon articles that do not offer injurious competition to such domestic products as our own labor can supply."

This timid utterance does not point to a sweeping measure of tariff reform, but it is fair to infer from it that it is proposed to lower the duties on some commodities and to make a considerable addition to the free list. The majority of Congress cannot move in any direction without encountering fierce opposition. Every interest in the United States, let it be ever so small or, if fostering it is ever so greatly opposed to the general welfare, considers itself entitled to the protection extended to other interests. As soon, then, as a movement is made to remove the protective duties from any particular industry all connected with that industry, directly or indirectly, will raise a loud outcry and set every influence it can prevail upon or purchase, at work to prevent the proposed change. It is easy to see that the Republican tariff reformers have before them a very difficult and a most unpleasant task. It is not difficult to show that the work is contrary to their principles and to their pledges expressed and implied. They were placed in power for the express purpose of preventing any change in the fiscal policy of the government. Mr. Cleveland in his last message recommended changes in the tariff. He desired Congress to lower the duties on the necessaries of life, and in some instances to take them off altogether, and he advocated the policy of placing the raw material of manufacture on the free list. The Republicans, as a party, opposed these changes, and they made Mr. Cleveland's tariff policy the main issue at the presidential election. They were victorious. And now that they are in power it does seem singular to see the Republican President recommending, in a modified form, the very policy that he was elected to oppose.

But he can hardly help himself. Those who have a thorough knowledge of the composition of the Republican Party in Congress say that a very large majority of its members are in favor of changes in the tariff, more or less extensive. Harper's Weekly, which is very careful as to the statements it makes, says that "among the 166 Republican members of the new House of Representatives 101 favor tariff revision." Tariff revision is the policy of the Democratic Party. It is, therefore, safe to count upon a large majority in the House of Representatives being in favor of the changes in the tariff recommended by President Harrison.

There is, too, in the country a very large party which demands a reduction of the taxes. The Government, the spokesmen of this party contend, has no right to take from the people more money than it needs for the purposes of administration. But it takes from the country every month a very great deal more money than it needs. It takes so much that the Government does not know what to do with it and feels itself obliged to make what the President is compelled to confess is an improper or an impolitic use of the money. This is part of what the President says of the use to which he is forced to put the money which his Government receives as taxes:

"The collection of moneys not needed for public uses imposes an unnecessary burden upon our people, and the presence of so large a surplus in the public vaults is a disturbing element in the conduct of private business. It has called into use expedients for putting it into circulation of very questionable propriety. We should not collect revenue for the purpose of anticipating our bonds beyond the requirements of the sinking fund. But any unappropriated surplus in the treasury should be so used, as there is no other lawful way of returning the money, to circulate the profits realized by the Government offers substantial advantages. The loaning of public funds to the banks without interest upon the security of Government bonds I regard as an unauthorized and dangerous expedient."

When the Head of a Government is thus compelled to condemn his own administrative acts, reform cannot be far off. In this he only voices the conclusion to which intelligent men in all parts of the United States have arrived. The demand for a reduction of taxation is general and it cannot be much longer delayed. The President recommends that the excise duty be taken off tobacco, and he thinks that if the duty on spirits used for manufacturing purposes could be taken off with safety it ought to be done; but he is not as all decided on this point.

From the President's message, then, it is safe to conclude that during the present session of Congress considerable alterations will be made in the United States tariff. How far those alterations will affect Canadians no one can tell, but we think that any changes in the direction of greater liberality cannot but be beneficial to this country.

A BAD PRECEDENT.

It is hard to imagine a case in which a proprietor is injured by having the street running through or in front of his property improved. It is much more reasonable that the proprietor in that case should pay the city than that the city should pay the proprietor. The citizens, as a whole, are of course benefited by having the street in any particular locality well graded, but the advantage which they derive from the improvement is small compared with that enjoyed by the owners of the properties through which the street runs. The practice in some cities is to levy a special rate on the properties fronting the street on which improvements are being made. This principle is a sound one. We are decidedly of opinion that the precedent made in the case of Mrs. McTavish is a bad one. The Corporation will probably after this be pestered with claims for alleged damage done to property situated on streets which are being graded. Nothing is easier than for a property holder to represent that he or she is injured by street improvements which, when all the circumstances are considered, make the property more valuable. The complaints of such persons are often loud and to some they appear plausible. When it is known that the Corporation has given way and paid damages in one case, others who believe that they are quite as well entitled to compensation, will be stimulated to put in their claims. It would be, in our opinion, far better policy for the corporation to take for granted that street improvements add to the value of property in every case, and if any particular proprietor considers himself injured by having a street made better, he should be allowed to substantiate his claim for damages in a court of law. The law expenses would not be very heavy if the case should go against the city, which we are satisfied would be very seldom indeed, and unreasonable owners of property would not be encouraged to prefer claims for damages that are wholly imaginary. We are not fond of litigation, but it appears to us that cases of this kind are likely to be most equitably settled in a court of law.

THE FISHERY QUESTIONS.

Many of our readers will, no doubt, be anxious to know precisely what President Harrison said in his message with respect to the Fishery Question and to the matters in dispute between Great Britain and the United States generally. On these subjects the tone of the message is friendly, and points to an amicable adjustment of all disputes. The President was diplomatically reticent. He did not talk too much, but what he did say was satisfactory to all who desire the continuance of friendly relations between the two countries. He said:

"The questions which have arisen during the past few years between Great Britain and the United States are in abeyance, or in the course of adjustment. On the part of the Government of the Dominion of Canada, an effort has been apparent during the season just ended to administer the laws and regulations applicable to the fisheries with as little occasion for friction as was possible, and the temperate representations of this Government in respect to cases of undue hardship or of harsh interpretation have been, in most cases, met with transitory relief. It is trusted that the attainment of our just rights under existing treaties and in virtue of concurrent legislation of the two contiguous countries, will not be long deferred, and that all existing causes of difference may be equitably adjusted."

This is very good as far as it goes, and shows that the American Government is ready to discuss all matters in dispute between it and Great Britain in a friendly spirit, but British Columbians would liked to have seen something definite in the message on the Behring's Sea question. It is most likely one of the existing causes of difference alluded to which may be "equitably adjusted," but it seems a little singular that there is not one word in the message from beginning to end about the Behring's Sea and the American Government's claim to exclusive jurisdiction over it. There must be some reason for this reticence. There is a paragraph in the document about Alaska and its affairs, but not a syllable about the seal fishing and the doings of the cruiser Rush. The omission of any mention of the renewal of the lease to the Commercial Company is, too, somewhat significant. Matters that appear to us to be of far less national importance than the Behring's Sea difficulty, are mentioned in the message. But the world is left in the dark as to what are the intentions of Mr. Harrison's Administration with regard to that question. Does the American Government intend to insist upon claims that are so unreasonable and so groundless that they are declared to be untenable by patriotic American citizens? Is it its intention to refuse compensation to men who have been seriously injured by the attempt on the part of the United States to enforce a claim that cannot be made good before an impartial tribunal? Does President Harrison's Administration intend to refer the matter of the United States claims to sovereignty over Behring's Sea to a competent court of arbitration, or does it intend to continue to assert its claim to that sovereignty without deigning to give an answer to those who protest against its exercise by the United States? Answers to these questions cannot be found in the President's message. Whether the Behring's Sea dispute is one of those questions between the United States and Great Britain that are "in abeyance," or whether it is among those that are "in course of adjustment," is left to conjecture.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhœa, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind. my31-eod-w

HERBERT SPENCER AND THE SINGLE TAX MEN.

When Mr. John Morley paid a visit to his constituents at Newcastle a few weeks ago, he was subjected to a process known in Scotland as "heckling." A few prominent electors took upon themselves to ask the eminent statesman a number of questions on all sorts of subjects. He was required to give his views on the nationalization of land. His answer did not please some of his catechisers. They declared that his views did not accord with those of Herbert Spencer. When Mr. Morley said that Herbert Spencer had modified his views on that subject his reply was treated by the propounder of the questions as an evasion, and the single tax men maintained that Herbert Spencer is on their side. Henry George and his disciples here do the same thing, and cite his writings in favor of their scheme of spoliation.

Luckily Mr. Spencer is alive and ready to defend his reputation. He saw what had been said about him in Newcastle, and he immediately wrote a letter to the Times in which he repudiated the views attributed to him by Mr. Morley's hecklers. He admits that something which he wrote forty years ago, and which he has since done all he could to suppress, might, if taken by itself, bear something like the interpretation put upon it by the Newcastle politicians, but that while he still adheres to the general principles, he dissented from some of the deductions. He said, too, that his opinions had been made to appear by those who circulated them, widely different from what they really are by the omission of accompanying opinions. But there is one thing which he makes sufficiently clear in his letter, and that is, that he never advocated taking the land from its owners without giving them adequate compensation. To prove this, he quotes the following passage from the work from which the land nationalists take their quotations. Alluding to the business of compensation of land owners, he said it would be a very complicated one—

"One that perhaps cannot be settled in a strictly equitable manner. * * * Most of our present landowners are men who have either mediately or immediately, by their own acts or by the acts of their ancestors, given for their estates an equivalent in honestly earned wealth, believing that they were investing their savings in a legitimate manner. Justly to estimate and liquidate the claims of such is one of the most intricate problems which the state will one day have to solve.

Anything more widely different from Henry George's scheme of wholesale robbery cannot be imagined. Mr. Spencer, who is considered by the world at large almost as profound a thinker as Henry George, is by no means of the opinion that the nationalization of land is a cure for all social ills. He says at the conclusion of his letter to the Times:

"On the other hand, nationalization of land effected after compensation for the artificial value given by cultivation, amounting to the greater part of its value, would entail in the shape of interest on the required purchase money as great a sum as is now paid in rent, and indeed a greater, considering the respective rates of interest on landed property and other property. Add to which, there is no reason to believe that the substituted form of administration would be better than the existing form of administration. The belief that land would be better managed by public officials than it is by private owners is a very wild belief."

It is to be hoped that after this the single tax advocates will not quote Herbert Spencer as being in favor of their very peculiar system. We see that the use they have hitherto made of his name was exceedingly disingenuous, but if, after his repudiation of their principles in the London Times, they continue to claim him as being on their side, they will be most dishonest. From that letter it is evident that whatever Herbert Spencer thinks of private property in land in the abstract he is as much opposed to communistic schemes like that of Henry George as it is possible for an honest man to be.

A PITIFUL CASE.

Every person of common humanity must have read with pain of the manner in which the unfortunate young woman who was lately found on the streets of this city insane, has been treated. We do not wish to convey the slightest reproach to those who had charge of the poor creature. From all that we can learn, the Chief of Police and his men did the best that they could under the circumstances. But the duty that was thrust upon them was one which they ought not to have been called upon to perform. A person who is so unfortunate as to become demented is not a criminal, and it is an outrage that he or she should be treated as such. A virtuous, well educated girl and a stranger becomes insane. Instead of being treated as a patient who has been terribly afflicted through no fault of her own, the police, for want of some proper place to take her to, are obliged to treat her as if she was the most abandoned of her sex. She is taken to the police cells, with no one but men to look after her, and is kept there for days. If she had been a drunken, degraded klootchman she would not have been treated otherwise. Happily the afflicted girl could not realize the position in which she was placed, but no doubt she was unduly excited by what she was compelled to see and hear in that place, and her chances of recovery lessened, if not destroyed altogether. It is a deep reproach to the city that an afflicted person should be treated in this way. The proper place for the poor girl was the hospital where her surroundings would be decent and like what she had been accustomed to, where she could be kept quiet, and where she could be looked after by persons of her own sex. Surely an insane person could be accommodated in one of the hospitals for two or three days until he or she could be examined and sent to the lunatic asylum. Cases of this kind seldom happen, but that is no reason why some kind of provision should not be made for them. Every body must see that the police cells are no place in which an insane young woman should be be kept for days. We trust that the authorities will look into this matter and make some decent provision for the safe-keeping of insane persons who are so unfortunate as to have no friends to look after them. It is unjust and inhuman to treat them as if they were evil-doers.

The ladies of the city should see to it that none of their sex should be placed in such circumstances as this unfortunate stranger. She was a good girl of much more than average intelligence. Her troubles and disappointments were more than she could bear, and her mind gave way. It appears, too, that the tendency to insanity was hereditary. She should not have been taken charge of by the police. Her affliction was no crime.

DISLOYAL TO VICTORIA.

The Times continues to pursue the course with regard to the Order-in-Council in which it set out. It does not concern itself about the interests of Victoria. It can think of nothing but its petty quarrels and the gratification of its personal spleen. It alludes to the COLONIST correspondent as "the Ottawa liar." It could not have chosen a more inappropriate epithet. It would be hard to find on the press of the Dominion a more careful, a more discreet and a more reliable journalist, than the gentleman who acts as correspondent for the COLONIST in Ottawa. Whatever he says may be depended upon as being the truth. He is careful to have the best authority for what he sends over the wires. What he said about the anti-Victorian article that appeared in the Times directly after the promulgation of the Order-in-Council was nothing more than the natural conclusion to which any person who did not understand the very peculiar nature of the Times would come. It is but natural to expect that the Minister when he found that some parties here considered that the enforcement of the Order-in-Council would be injurious to Victoria, would look at the organ of the Opposition to see what it said about the matter. It is the habit of Opposition paper to make the most of any grievance. If injustice is done to those whose interests they are supposed to represent, they are the first to notice it and to find fault with those who inflicted it. So vigilant are they, as a rule, that they see grievances where none exist, and they are wont to misrepresent the influence of acts of the administration, that are not only harmless but beneficial. When, therefore, the Minister of Customs saw that the organ of the Opposition justified the Government in passing the Order, he might readily conclude that the protests from Victoria were made by a few interested persons, and that the community, as a whole, would not be injured if it were continued and rigidly enforced. Our correspondent, therefore, was perfectly right when he said that the Times article was "calculated to induce the department to continue the regulations." It was calculated to have that effect and it is hardly uncharitable to conclude that it was written with the express intention of producing that effect. If the Times wanted to have the order recalled it would have commented on it in a very different spirit.

The truth is that our contemporary was too much delighted to have the opportunity, as it considered, of bringing the Board of Trade into disrepute to give a thought to the injury done to Victoria. The Board had, in its opinion, committed a blunder, and it was bound to make the most of it, no matter how much the merchants of Victoria suffered. The glee with which it noticed an act of the Government which every one could see was calculated to do Victoria a great deal of harm was visible in every line of the article. It believed that it had the chance to be even with some gentleman who by some means or other had incurred its ill-will, and it was determined to do them all the harm in its power. It could not for the sake of the interests of the citizens of Victoria rise above the consideration of its petty spite and its professional jealousy. The difference between our contemporary and ourselves in dealing with this matter of the Order was that we thought of nothing but the interests of Victoria and the Times considered only how it could get even with those whom it disliked. We, regardless of party leanings and what many considered our duty to the Government, said what we believed to be the truth respecting the Order; the Times, although the organ of the Opposition, said nothing about the injury done to Victoria and justified the Government.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

THOSE who read the telegrams sent by the representatives of the city in the Dominion Commons that appeared in our columns yesterday must be convinced that Messrs Prior and Earle have the welfare of the city very much at heart. The language they used was strong and urgent, and must have convinced those to whom the telegrams were sent that Victoria's representatives were not "puppets" with whom the Government could do as they pleased no matter how their constituents were treated. It is easy to see that those messages were sent by men who felt that they were independent and had a right to be heard on any matter in which the interests of their constituents were concerned.

THE Montreal Star, in an article on the Brome election, makes some remarks on partyism and provincial politics which are worth thinking over. Our Montreal contemporary, which is very decidedly conservative in its leanings, says:

"To be a Conservative or Liberal in Dominion politics means something; it means at least that one is either for or against the National Policy. For any English-speaking man to be a Conservative or a Liberal in provincial politics means nothing; unless it means that one is prepared to serve the public in the capacity of a J. P., or as a commissioner to go somewhere and do something. The readiness of some of our English-speaking citizens to get enthusiastic in the interests of a Liberal or a Conservative candidate in a provincial election is simply an illustration of the curious tendency of the average man to allow himself to be dominated by phrases and catch words. To the out-and-out party man the name of his party is as full of comfort as was the blessed word Mesopotamia to the old woman. What on earth of pride, of satisfaction or of hope is to be associated with either the word "Conservative" or the word "Liberal" in connection with Quebec politics would be hard to say."

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

KOOTENAY LAKE MINES.

An Account of Their Development During the Past Year.

Meagre Postal Service Allowed—Handsome Returns Per Ton from Ore Shipments—Need of Railway Communication—The Prospects of the District Most Encouraging.

The following letter has been forwarded for publication by a resident of Kootenay Lake. It gives a large amount of valuable information concerning the progress made in developing the mines, and points out the urgent needs of the district. Railway communication is absolutely required to ensure extensive development, and if the several charters to come before the legislature are granted, this need will be in a fair way of being satisfied. From all that can be learned Kootenay Lake mining district will in the course of a short period become one of the greatest bullion producing centres of the continent:

KOOTENAY LAKE, B. C., November 23rd, 1889.

Possibly a few items respecting affairs in this section of the province will be of interest to your readers, particularly when, in all probability, the mining interes here will in a very short time lead the rest of the province.

POSTAL SERVICE.

The season is now just drawing to a close, and most likely the steamer Galena, which runs from this camp to Bonner's Ferry, will be unable to make more than one or two trips after this. The thanks of the community should be tendered to Dr. Hendryx, manager of the Kootenay Mining and Smelting Co., owners of the above steamer, for establishing thereby easy communication for us with the outside world, and conveying the mails to and from here during the whole summer, free of charge. In glaring contrast with this may be cited the action of Mr. Fletcher, the post office inspector for the province, whose penurious policy has virtually left us without a mail during the winter. Last summer Mr. Fletcher visited Nelson and established a post office at that point; he, however, totally ignored the Hot Springs Camp, which is fully as important a place. The mails were conveyed by steamer from Revelstoke to the mouth of the Kootenay; from thence the mails were sometimes three days in reaching Nelson, a distance of 22 miles. I understand Mr. Fletcher is now calling tenders for carrying a mail from Revelstoke to Nelson during the winter, an absurd move on his part. Every one here is aware of the extreme difficulty of that route during winter, which at times is almost impracticable owing to the river and lakes being only partially closed.

The proper and most feasible winter route is by Bonner's Ferry to the Northern Pacific, which can be reached from here within four days at any time during winter. This lake never freezes, and from its south end, 25 miles through an open country, takes one to the boundary from which place a good wagon road takes one to the Northern Pacific. The mail is carried in winter over this road by sleigh, twice a week. To the shame of the postoffice authorities be it said, that during the whole of last winter the mail was carried from thence to both these camps by private enterprise, and we now are engaged in raising a subscription for doing the same thing the coming winter.

PROGRESS OF THE MINES.

During the past summer several new discoveries have been made in both camps which have proved, so far as developed, to be both rich and extensive. In the Hot Springs camp one of the chief is the "Sky Line," being the most westerly one of this group, and is situated very near the Granite, which bounds this mineral belt, on the west. It lies between a shale hanging wall and lime foot-wall. The ore is principally free milling and can be treated on the spot by the ordinary amalgamation process. The shaft is now down fifty-five feet and drifts are being run from thence in either direction along the vein, which is eight feet wide, mostly high grade ore, containing native silver and black sulphides of silver, samples of which have assayed 16,370 ounces per ton. The work on this mine will be continued during the winter under the superintendence of Mr. A. D. Wheeler, one of the owners.

The Union, a prospect found quite recently by Fitch & Co., is also very promising, the ledge being eight feet wide, all ore, galena and carbonates. Work will probably be continued on this claim during winter.

A short distance south-east of the last a yet more recent discovery has been made by Mr. T. T. McLeod. It is known as the "Neosha." So little development has been performed on it that it would be very difficult to form any any definite opinion, at present, of its value. Judging from appearances, however, it will most likely prove extremely valuable, the ore being remarkably rich, showing native silver in abundance with ruby silver and silver galena.

Among the older claims important facts have been established in attaining depth and getting below the water line and the action of the elements. The ore has proved to be richer and in greater quantities than near the surface.

A noticeable instance of this is in the "Krao," in which a shaft was sunk to a depth of 75 feet during the summer. From the surface to a depth of 30 ft. the galena, a concentrating ore was found to contain 40 to 60 oz. of silver per ton. After that depth the gangue was found to contain copper pyrites, which proved to be rich, containing native silver and some ruby silver. The ledge was found to be twelve feet wide with mineral throughout, and a good strong vein with even indication of going down.

The claims south of this one on the same ledge all show very well, containing mostly high grade ore. They are the Crow Fledgling, Now Then, Crescent and Eden, extending to Coffee Creek, a distance of 7,500 feet. Recent work in the Eden has uncovered a fine body of carbonates. Owing to the want of pumping and hoisting machinery, work on the Krao has been discontinued for the winter, the water being more than could be handled conveniently at the present depth of the shaft.

The Little Donald has been at work during the summer, and has made important developments. The ore is of a high grade, and by sorting can be shipped profitably, even at the present high rates for transportation. This company intend working during the winter, and are erecting a whim for that purpose. The depth of their shaft is about 75 feet, and the very perfect walls are indications of the permanence of this ledge, on which are several other claims, viz., the Maestro and Spokane, also three fractions, all containing the same character of ore.

The "Spokane," owned by the Pacific Bullion Mining Co., of Spokane Falls, have been prosecuting work in their shaft and drifted therefrom, disclosing a fine block of marketable ore. Most likely a tunnel will be driven this winter into the ledge to tap it at a greater depth.

The "Number One," which was lately bonded by some San Francisco mining men, is now at work and the claim will be thoroughly prospected during the winter.

The "Ayeaha," on the north side of Cedar Creek, shows a remarkably fine body of ore. The shaft is six feet wide—all galena and carbonates. This with the adjoining claim, the "Kismet," promises to be among the great claims in this section.

The "Gallagher," with the exception of shipping thirteen tons of carbonates, has not been worked during the summer. The returns from the shipment were 126 oz. silver per ton.

It would lengthen this letter too much to enumerate all the promising prospects which have been found in this vicinity, most of which have had more or less work performed on them, the showings being very encouraging.

On the east side of the lake the Kootenay Milling and Smelting Co., under the superintendence of Dr. Hendryx, have been engaged in running a tunnel from the lake and into the "Blue Bell," having a power Ingersoll drill worked by an air conductor. Very good progress has been made. What is known as ledge No. 1 has been reached. The tunnel will be continued until the second ledge is reached, which at a higher level shows ore 36 feet wide. Mr. A. B. Hendryx, accompanied by Dr. Eberts, have recently paid the mine a visit with the view of determining on the advisability of erecting a smelter on the property. This work will probably be prosecuted in the spring. This work, together with concentrating works and mill, which Messrs. McCrae, Giegerich and Wheeler are desirous of building, will most likely depend on the remission of the duty on mining machinery which is not manufactured in Canada. This duty is certainly a very seasons drawback to the mining interests of the whole of the province. It is strange that the Federal Government cannot take a common-sense view of the situation and see how seriously such a duty interferes with our prosperity.

At the lower camp (Nelson) the Silver King has been prosecuting work vigorously, and have demonstrated that the ore chute is increasing in extent the deeper it is sunk. The grade of the ore appears to be all that can be desired. I have not learned what the return has been from a recent shipment from this mine of 47 tons.

On Eagle Creek the work on the Poor Man gold ledge has been pushed ahead by Messrs. Davenport & Neil. Rich ore is reported in considerable quantities. They have decided to further develop the mine during the winter, and not erect their mill until spring.

White & Buchanan have been at work on their claim, near the "Poor Man," and are getting out rich rock of the same character as the last.

Several other gold finds are reported in that vicinity, and on the heads of Rover and Forty-nine creeks. What their value may be is as yet doubtful, but they are supposed to be good.

ORE SHIPMENTS.

The shipments from the two camps in the last summer are as follows:

	TONS.	SILVER PER TON.
Number One	130	35 oz
Little Donald	66	95 oz
Spokane	14	35 oz
Delta	16	105 oz
Sky Line	12	225 oz
Gallagher	13	126 oz
Krao	11	90 oz
Silver King	60	300 oz

These values do not include the lead, which, of course, will enhance values considerably. This return may appear very small, but when it is considered that the claims are being worked, as yet, only in a small way for development, and that only 10 per cent of it can be shipped owing to the cost of transportation, these figures, after all, are very suggestive. Transportation to the lake is quite expensive, the means being by pack train. This brings us to the vital question on which the fortunes of the camp depend, viz.: transportation. In the first place, wire or other tramways are required to transport the ore from the various claims to the lake. The most feasible scheme for this purpose would be for a company to be formed to build one or two trunk lines of wire trams, with branches wherever required, to extend to the various mines. By charging a reasonable toll an undertaking of this kind would soon be on a paying basis. Of course this would be premature until railways were being constructed to the lake.

NEED OF RAILWAYS.

Re. railways. People here have become thoroughly disgusted with the shuffling policy of the C. P. R., and although, I understand that a party of engineers are surveying a line, for them, from the Columbia to Nelson, very grave doubts are entertained whether they will prosecute the building of that railway within a reasonable time. In any case, the short line proposed will be temporary and soon superseded. Transportation in that way necessitates too frequent handling of ore or other freight. The cost will be far greater than it should be for the successful handling of the bulk of our low grade ores. This line will also connect with steamers from thence to Revelstoke. During several months in the winter these steamers will be unable to run, owing to ice, during which time we will be feeling as isolated as we now are. It follows, therefore, that until the C.P.R. connect this by rail direct with their main line or the short line become a portion of the main line, it will not be a success. Any scheme, therefore, for a railway from this point to the boundary and connecting with American railways should receive favorable consideration from the Government.

Some fears seem to be entertained in other portions of the province that trade will thereby be diverted to the United States. I am convinced this fear is groundless in regard to goods. Most of our ores, however, must at present be worked south of the boundary, and until the C. P. R. and the Revelstoke or other smelters can show that they can handle such ore as cheaply and smelt as successfully as American roads and smelters, they will be unable to obtain the ores from this camp. In the meantime a great injustice will be done us by opposing any charter for railways connecting with American lines. And why should the prosperity of this district be delayed for any benefit of the C. P. R., the Revelstoke smelter or any other corporation which for selfish motives may wish the government to adopt a policy of non-intercourse with foreign countries, and would be as brilliant a line of statesmanship as that in vogue in Japan, thirty years ago.

When smelters on this side are prepared to smelt galena ores and produce lead let the Federal Government protect our mining and smelting industries by imposing a duty on manufactured lead fully equal to that imposed by the United States, thereby raising the price of lead in Canada to the same value as it is in the United States.

POLITICAL.

Among other matters of current report here is that Mr. G. M. Sprost intends to stand for election to the Local House at the next general election. His pretensions in that direction are doomed to end in disappointment. The people here know him too well to dream of selecting him as their representative. Most likely he will have difficulty in securing supporters sufficient to sign his nomination papers.

Mr. Sproat yet claims to be a stipendiary magistrate, and has been acting as such in the Small Debts Court. We supposed that Mr. Tunstall's appointment cancelled all his offices; if not, the Government should attend to the matter immediately and relegate him to the obscurity which he deserves. If he is a stipendiary magistrate, it is not right that he should act as counsel to people who may become involved in any legal disputes, and accept fees for so doing, which he has done in several cases.

We would also like to know how it is that on Mr. Sproat's going out of office all documents connected therewith were not handed over to his successor. Documents filed with him re the obtaining of Crown grants to the Little Donald, several claims belonging to A. D. Wheeler and I. F. Collom, were retained by him, and not given up until Mr. Tunstall applied to him for them a short time ago, and he could give no account of the date of filing or other matters connected with them.

KOOTENAY.

A Cure for Toothache.

Gibbons' Toothache Gum is guaranteed to cure toothache instantly. Prepared by J. A. Gibbons & Co., Toronto, and sold by druggists. Price, 15 cents. july30-12m-w

The City of Kingston.

Captain D. B. Jackson, manager of the Puget Sound and Alaska Steamship Co., returned to Seattle from New York on Wednesday, and told a Post-Intelligencer reporter that the magnificent steamer City of Kingston had sailed from New York on Nov. 23rd for Port Townsend, and that upon her arrival she will be put on the route between Victoria, Port Townsend, Seattle and Tacoma, and will make the round trip daily until the arrival of the City of Seattle, a new steamer which is now under construction. The City of Kingston was finished by the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company one year after they launched the steamer Olympian. The former is a cheaper boat to run, will use less fuel and carry more passengers than the Olympian. She is finished in the highest style and her cabin is a marvel of beauty and comfort for the accommodation of 600 passengers who can be carried each trip if necessary.

A Big Scheme.

Negotiations are now well under way for the incorporation of a British Columbia syndicate, with a large amount of capital, who will provide employment for a large number of Scottish Crofters immediately upon their arrival here. The syndicate intend to equip several sealing and fishing schooners and man them with the hardy Scotchmen, and also employ others in the oil works and at a sawmill soon to be established near Alberni.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitudes of low test short-weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 107 Wall Street, New York. au18-1y

S P Q R

Small Profits Quick Returns!

Now on Show!

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COMPLETE -:- STOCK

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'XMAS NOVELTIES!

Specially Selected From the best English, German and American Manufacturers, for this Trade.

Also, a full line in Hosiery, Gloves, etc., etc.

CALL AND INSPECT

HAMPSON & TERRY,

Cash Dry Goods,

COR. YATES AND BROAD STS.

Open from the 7th until the end of Dec., every Evening until 9 p. m. sep14-1yr-dw

173 Government Street. 173

SUGAR

STILL ANOTHER TUMBLE, AND NO WHINING.

Sugar	13 lbs. for	$1 00	
Oat Meal, Rolled	20 "	"	1 00
Oat Meal, Scanich	10 "	"	45
Corn Meal	10 "	"	40
Flour, Choice, per bbl.			5 50
Sago and Tapioca	10 lbs. for		1 00
Rice	20 "	"	1 00
Beans	20 "	"	1 00
Currants	10 "	"	1 00
Peel, Citron, Lemon & Orange, per lb			30 to 40
Hams, Fidelity, per lb			13
Bacon	per lb		15
Coffee, Choice Mocha and Java,	"		40
" My Own Blend	"		30
Tea, M. M., per 5 lbs			1 50
" My Own Blend, per 5 lbs			2 00
" X. S. per lb			40
T. & B. Tobacco, 5 plugs			1 00
Peas, Beans, Corn and Tomatoes, 7 tins			1 00
Oysters, Salmon, Lobsters, Milk, 5 tins			1 00
Soap, by the arm full			1 00

These are all First Class Goods, And Don't You Forget It.

Before buying elsewhere call and get price list at 173 Government Street. oct27-dw WM. ECKHART.

REMOVAL NOTICE

MESSRS. J. H. TODD & SON

Beg to give notice that they have removed their business to the spacious store of three flats, No. 72 Wharf street, and next to the Hudson's Bay Co.'s Store, on the north.

Having now secured ample room, they purpose to largely increase their stock of General Staple Merchandise, comprising Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Tobaccos, Cigars, Cigarettes, Coal Oil, Canned Salmon (Horseshoe and Beaver Brands), Nails, etc., etc.

N. B.—Just received, a line of splendid Creamery Butter and Cream Cheese.

In thanking their patrons for past favors, they respectfully solicit a continuance thereof, and promise their best endeavors to give the best of goods at the most reasonable rates possible.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 16, 1889. no17-1m-dw

MISCELLANEOUS.

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ARCHER, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhœa, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion, Without injurious medication.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 Murray street, N. Y.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LAND AND INVESTMENT AGENCY, L'd

THOMAS ALLSOP, HENRY S. MASON, CUYLER A. HOLLAND } DIRECTORS.

HEAD OFFICE, 15 Serjeant's Inn, Fleet St, LONDON, ENGLAND.

The business of ALLSOP & MASON has been merged in the above Company and will be carried on by the Company from this date as a general Land Investment and Insurance Agency.

MONEY TO LOAN on Mortgage at Low Rates.

Town Lots and Farming Lands for Sale on easy terms.

Victoria, B. C., May 16th, 1887. e24-tf-dw

MORE-:-NEW-:-GOODS

Ladies' Waukenfausts in several styles and widths. These are exceptionally fine Winter Goods. Inspect for yourselves,

—AT—

ERSKINE'S Boot & Shoe EMPORIUM

132 Government street, corner Johnson. m23-dw-1y

E. G. PRIOR & CO.

Gilpin and Buford Sulky Plows, Prairie Queen Breaking Plows, Essex Centre No. 30 Jointer Plows,

WHIPPLE WHEEL, ACME, AND DISC HARROWS,

Hoosier Seed Drills, Pacific Seeders, Chatham Fanning Mills,

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN CLEANERS.

The Largest Assortment of Plows and Harrows in the Province.

Cor. Government and Johnson Sts, Victoria, B. C. feb-1-dw1y

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT sixty days after date I intend to make application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land situated in East Kootenay District: Commencing at a post on the northwest end of St. Mary's Lake, thence running in a westerly direction about 3 miles, thence south about 3 miles, thence in an easterly direction about 17 miles, thence north 3 miles, more or less, to the point of commencement.

Sgd JAMES BAKER.

Fort Steele, Aug. 10th, 1889. sep18-2m-w

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT I intend to apply to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following tract of land situate in Rupert District, described as follows: Commencing at the southwest corner of the land surveyed for Messrs. Brown & Jenkinson, thence west 160 chains, thence north 320 chains, thence east 160 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence south 160 chains, to the point of commencement, containing 3,760 acres more or less.

sept11-2m-w J. PETERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 160 acres of land, situated at Rivers Inlet, described as follows, viz.: Commencing at a stake on the east side of Killdalla River, Rivers Inlet; thence true east 40 chains; thence true south 40 chains; thence true west 40 chains, more or less, to Killdalla River; thence in a northerly direction along the shore of said river to the place of commencement.

A. S. CAMPBELL.

Victoria, B. C., 7th Oct., 1889. oct1-2m-w

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT 60 days after date we intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 1280 acres of land situate on Graham Island, Queen Charlotte District, on which timber notices have been posted, and described as follows: Commencing at the south-western corner post of the land applied for by Jamie Shields, Robert Grant, W. A. Robertson, and John Grant, thence west 40 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 160 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence west 120 chains to the point of commencement.

WILLIAM WILSON, JOSEPH WILSON.

October 17, 1889. oct18-w-2mo

N