

The Colonist.

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vince wished the act disallowed, it is worse than the other. Such a claim is probably without precedent, and it is difficult to comply without imitation. It is to characterize a request made upon such grounds. Here was an act which the legislature had power to pass, and yet Mr. Maxwell asked for its disallowance because the friends of the government wanted it disallowed. To state this bald proposition is quite sufficient of itself. Mr. Maxwell has attempted to procure the prerogative of the Crown as it never has been prostituted in the history of Canada.

Mr. Morrison and Mr. Bostock would stand in a better light before the people, they would have kept more closely within the political faith of their party, they would have shown a fuller appreciation of the rights of their Province, if they had allowed their "timidity" and "diffidence" to have gained the better of their partisanship. It is bad enough to take a wrong position even if successful; it is ten times worse to take a wrong position and then be sat upon as badly as they were by the Hon. Mr. Davies. It is hardly necessary to add that the presence of these gentlemen and Mr. McInnes that there is a demand in this Province for the repeal of this charter has no foundation except this, that when the Minister of Railways visited Kootenay last fall he was at once surrounded by a lot of people, who called themselves Liberals, but whose politics consisted of opposition to the local government, and who incessantly with tales as to the wrong-headedness of Hon. Mr. Turner and his colleagues in general and the iniquity of Col. Baker and the E. C. Southern in particular. It was their contention that when the Minister got to Victoria a little coterie took up the song here. Their small souls could discover no other way to advance their own interests except by defaming their political opponents.

Mr. Davis said—but we don't know that it makes any difference what Mr. Davis said.

ORIGIN, CHRYSTOMER and the historian Socrates says that the Apostles and their immediate successors did not celebrate Easter, and the first named writer made an argument against such a festival, claiming that to the Christian every day ought to be one of rejoicing over the risen Lord. It is certain, however, that the observance of the day formed a feature of the church at a very early day, for we find a schism in the second century over the proper date. That the Apostles and their immediate successors should not observe festivals is very much what we would expect, for the early church was without political status or social recognition. Later when the new faith became popular and was being accepted by a people, a feature of whose national life was the observance of certain holidays, it was wise policy on the part of the Church to change the significance of the occasions and make them emblematic of the great events in the life of its founder. Thus Yule Tide became Christmas Day and the feast of Ostara, the goddess of Spring became the festival of the Resurrection, its date coinciding very closely with the anniversary of that event. And so came about that the Great Christian festival bears a pagan name.

The historian Socrates says that there is no doubt about Easter being the adaptation of a very ancient festival to the purposes of the church, and modern research has confirmed his view. Thus it has been learned that the ancient Persians observed a day corresponding to to-day. The egg did not play a very prominent part in the festival of Ostara, but fire did, indicating that the worship of Baal survived amidst the Druidical ceremonies which prevailed in Britain and the paganism of Central Europe during the early part of the Christian era. That there should have been a spring festival in the countries of the North is not surprising, for the zone requires no explanation. But we may go further than this and claim that it is perfectly natural that all the mythology of the races inhabiting those climes should be instinct with the idea of man's immortality. The lesson of each year was that after death came life. No matter how pitiless the shroud in which winter wrapped the glories of summer, the spring brought them, that the children of the North refused to believe that death ended all, and should hold that beyond the grave there was a Valhalla, where the souls of the dead lived in perennial pleasure. Hence, when the Christian church seized upon the festival of spring and gave it a new meaning, by making it commemorative of the Resurrection, it was wise in its day and generation, and true at once to the beliefs of the people and to the fundamental fact in Christianity.

No review of the Easter festival is complete without some reference to the event which it commemorates. It is hardly worth while to spend any time in discussing whether or not the gospel account of the incidents, which were crowded into the last week of Christ's life and the days following the Crucifixion, are literally correct. There are enough undisputed facts to set the keenest critic thinking. After a few years of work in the smaller cities and country districts,

Jesus of Nazareth went to Jerusalem, and so great was his fame that multitudes greeted him as he entered the ancient capital, casting their garments and palms on the roadway before him, and testifying to their feelings by shouting "Hosanna." This word is a prayer for salvation. To rightly understand the scene we must take off our Nineteenth Century spectacles and look at it as though we stood in the acclaiming throng. These people were not expecting a Saviour, in the sense that Christ is preached from pulpit to-day. They looked for a deliverer not from the pains of sin, but from the yoke of Rome; they expected not the Kingdom of Heaven, but a restoration to the ancient glories of the Jewish nation. "Hosanna to the Son of David" was an appeal to this marvellous Son of the royal line to place Himself at the head of a great popular movement. Read the story of that eventful week carefully as a matter of history, and you will see that there came to Jesus of Nazareth then an opportunity to strike a blow for the liberty of the people, which would have had behind it all the force of popular enthusiasm. But His mission was a higher one than this and He set the political opportunity wholly aside. Thereupon the people turned against Him. The same men who had cried "Hosanna," a few days later thronged around Pilate exclaiming: "Not this man, but Bar-Abbas." Who was Bar-Abbas? One writer says he was a robber, but another that his offence was sedition. Disappointed in Jesus, the masses clamored for a man who had dared to counsel rebellion. Hence five days after His triumphal entry into the city, He died the most shameful death which the law then inflicted. Humankind speaking no career ever collapsed more ignominiously.

Yet nearly nineteen centuries after this event that Cross is a symbol of faith to hundreds of millions of people. To-day the world will be encircled by songs of rejoicing, because of the resurrection of the Victim of Calvary. Think of the events of that fateful week, the very idealization of failure, as they appeared at the time to be, have been the greatest energizing force that humanity has ever felt. This is an Easter thought which we think worth remembering. The event which the day commemorates was the full spring tide of humanity which, through the centuries which have since elapsed, has been developing into glorious summer, which will ripen the fruit of a Millennial autumn.

THE FEDERAL EXPENDITURE. The very few people who imagined that a Liberal government at Ottawa would inaugurate an era of reduced expenditure may as well make up their minds to be disappointed. There will be some small economies, which will be reached by cutting off a little here and there all along the line of expenditure, but a few substantial reductions, but the aggregate sum to be voted will probably, when the supplementary estimates are in, show no diminution, but a considerable increase upon the expenditure of previous years. To this we are not going to raise any objection. Canada is a growing country and it is impossible to avoid new and large expenditures. The country must progress; fit to stand still is to become stagnant. The only point worth directing attention to in this connection is that the party of extravagance which was hurled against the Conservatives, when they were in power, is completely answered themselves in the policy which the Liberals have already taken occasion to point out when it comes to administering the affairs of this country, after a few weeks' questions have been set aside, there is really no substantial difference and there can be no substantial difference between the two parties. A certain amount of money must be spent every year; it must be spent in certain channels and it must be raised by indirect taxation. Within certain limits any party in power must follow closely in the footsteps of its predecessors. In the long years during which they sat on the left of the Speaker the Liberals in parliament seem to have persuaded themselves to a conclusion the very reverse of this. Since they have got over on to the treasury benches they find it to be one thing to preach economy and another thing to practice it. They are realizing that their predecessors were not such dreadfully extravagant people after all. We suppose as Canada increases in wealth, population and importance broader conceptions of politics will prevail, and that hereafter we shall hear less about party matters, which are magnified for partisan purposes into something very serious. There never was a government yet whose manner of expending the public money could not be varied so as to make the change seem like an economy; but, men and brethren, it comes to about the same thing in the end. The money is spent just the same.

The New Westminster Colonist, a paper with which we do not often find ourselves able to agree, but that is always bright, readable and aggressive, thinks the opposition in the local house have had a long up-hill fight. Our contemporary is mistaken as to the direction. It is a down-hill fight that our opposition friends are urging. Their whole

case is predicated upon the false assumption that the members of the government are willing and deliberately wrong in some of their policy. The result is that every time they take a stand they slip from under them; and they get near the fatal political oblivion which awaits all mere factious opposition.

When Dame Nature constricted Capt. John Irving and Dr. Walker, she had different orders of architecture in mind, and hence it came about that when those gentlemen were summoned from the restaurant to vote on the railway bill the Captain, was, about four of his strides ahead of the Doctor, who was about nine of his paces behind the Captain. Hence, likewise, the member for Cassiar had reached his seat while only that portion of the member for South Nanaimo corresponding to that whereon Businessmen smote Corbett \$15,000 worth protruded through the doorway. Now there are obvious objections to permitting a man constructed on certain lines, of which Mr. Speaker is a bright and strong example, to take advantage of his lateral development. He might thereby be able to be in two places at once, which we have the authority of Sir Boyle Roche for saying "no man can be unless he is a bird." Nevertheless we protest that when a man is physically in evidence, in the legislative chamber and the portion of his anatomy concealed by the door frame is being advanced by its locomotive attachments at their normal speed, he ought not to be debarraged from voting on a question then being put. To hold the contrary is to make the fate of nations depend upon the length of a man's legs, and to place a member who happens to be short and stout at a legal disadvantage when compared with one who is tall, which is contrary to the common law maxim that "Actus Dei non facit injuriam." It is all seriousness, if there is a rule of the house which debars a man from voting on a measure, upon which he has spoken and declared his intention to vote, merely because he is two seconds late in getting to his place, the sooner the rule is altered the better. The imagination of a Shakespeare is not necessary to suggest why a member might be delayed a moment in responding to the division bell.

We find in the Toronto Globe a reference to an opinion attributed to the Col. Quier by the Times of this city. The statement of opinion is that the Col. Quier favors the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway by the government, and the retention of the coal lands by the B. C. Southern railway company. We may inform the Globe that our evening city contemporary is subject to frequent lapses from the path of strict veracity. There are two objections to its statement of the Col. Quier's views. One is that the Col. Quier did not and does not favor the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway by the government, and the other is that the Col. Quier does not favor the retention of the B. C. Southern land grant by that company if it does not build the railway. We would have imagined that the Globe would itself have seen the absurdity of the suggestion that the railway company should be allowed to retain what it has not received, and what it cannot get without building a railway, and yet not be compelled to build the railway.

The Roseland says that horses afflicted with glanders are being brought into that city from the United States. This is a matter calling for the most searching investigation. Glanders is a horrible disease, and may be contracted by man. We suggest to the provincial board of health the imperative necessity for looking into the matter without delay.

The King of Siam is going to visit Queen Victoria. He lives in great state at home, and has declared his intention to travel in the same way. In other words, he says he will go around the world "just as I am."

MR. SMITH'S PROPOSAL. Mr. Smith has a perfect right to move to amend the subsidy bill by diverting the amount set down for the line from Bate Inlet to Quesselle to a line from Ahcroft to Quesselle. He thinks it best to have the road to Cariboo run through his riding. All other considerations fall into insignificance compared with this in Mr. Smith's opinion. When a vote is taken we shall see how sincere some of the opposition are who professed to see in the bill as brought down a plan to play into the hands of the Canadian Pacific. If Mr. Smith's amendment should carry and the bill should become law in that shape, the development of the whole interior would be put in the control of the Canadian Pacific. That company will get the Crow's Nest Pass railway. If it can get a government subsidy for a line into Cariboo, it only needs to secure in some way the Penticton-Boundary subsidy to have a monopoly of transportation in British Columbia. The Colonist is in no sense hostile to the Canadian Pacific, which it recognizes as a great and valuable institution; but it could not view equanimity the consumption of an arrangement which would make it the sole arbiter of the future of Interior British Columbia. This question rises above party politics or sectional prejudices. We do not anticipate that Mr. Smith will succeed in his motion, especially at the Col. Quier's office.

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT. The fountain of animal life is in your nerves. When you are weak your nerves need toning up.

It sends a continuous stream of vital energy into the nervous system for hours at a time.

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT

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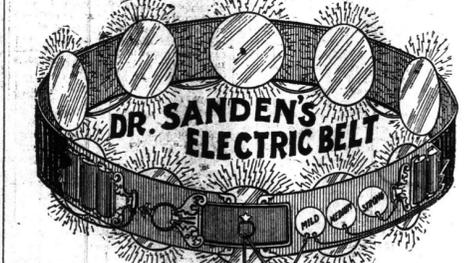


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Be Well, Strong of Nerve and Light of Heart, with Plenty of Vitality to Keep You Well. When You Begin to Fail in Vigor, You Can Regain It by Using This Great Remedy.



It sends a continuous stream of vital energy into the nervous system for hours at a time. The fountain of animal life is in your nerves. When you are weak your nerves need toning up.

TO MEN who have wasted the vigorous energy of youth by excesses or high living; to men who have found the spark of vitality growing fainter, and who have while yet young in years, found the spirit of manly power lessening as if age had come on and brought with it the decay of all physical and vital energies; to such men, and to all men who feel that their vital forces are slow of action and lacking in the fire of youth, Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt is worth its weight in gold.

A means of restoring youthful vigor is priceless. Nothing in this world is worth more to a man who lacks that element, and yet here is a remedy which thousands of men need, and they fail to grasp it because of fear that it might fail.

"The Belt I received from you some time since has proved to be all you recommended it to be, and I take pleasure in recommending it to my friends. I would like to get another for my brother. Please send No. 6 by express, C.O.D. S. J. GARLAND, Pasadena, B. C. March 31, 1897."

"It is hard to believe that Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt will do what it claimed for it until you speak to someone who has tried it. My most intimate friends are using it and being cured. They don't mention it because few men want anyone to know that they are in need of such a remedy. It makes men strong; it removes the effects of early habits, indiscretions, excesses, overwork and all abuse of the laws of Nature. It helps Nature to mend and makes manhood perfect."

The failure of medicine, of quacks, and even of other so-called electric belts, is no argument against Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. No other treatment, no other belt, is in the same class with it. Everything else may fail, and still Dr. Sanden's Belt may cure. It has cured thousands who have tried other remedies without avail.

No man who is weak will make the right effort to regain his power until he tries Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. A fair trial of this great remedy will make it unnecessary to ever use any other.

"The Belt I received from you I must say has done me a great deal of good. I feel stronger to-day than I did three or four years ago. My flesh is firm and strong in increasing. The pain in my chest has not returned since I commenced wearing your Belt, writes James L. Baker, Esq., March 9, 1897."

Be true to Nature; be true to yourself and your friends. Regain your health. Give the color of vigor to your cheeks, the sparkle to your eye. Regain your manhood for good by using the wonderful Electric Belt.

All men who are weak should have Dr. Sanden's celebrated book "Three Classes of Men," which will be sent closely sealed, free, on application.

DR. A. T. SANDEN, 285 Washington Street, PORTLAND, Oregon, Dr. Sanden pays the duty on all goods shipped to this Province.

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THIRTY-NINE

A LAWYER'S

E. A. McGee, of Vancouver Revolver Bullet at His Head. It Was Done With Intent to End His happy Life.

VANCOUVER, April 20. Terrible tragedy occurred to-day. E. A. McGee shot himself in the stomach at 3:30 in the afternoon to show the mechanic night Smith and Wesson.

Mr. Tisdall did, placing a chamber to more effect. Mr. McGee took the loaded quietly out of Mr. Tisdall's quick as a flash stepped at his mouth. The ball of his head and he fell delirious and others were by, but were not quick enough to prevent the fatal shot.

A crowd gathered and struggled to look through the blood-covered face of the suicide. The dead man lived happily until a bitter quarrel was of a separation, and left to live in Portland taking the little child and resigning her position mistress of Hastings.

Grieved very much over and plunged into drinking heavily. The day to-day. As he sobered up, and fell the horror he decided to kill himself. He was a native of Wolfville educated for the bar at A.

THEY HAVE A WATERBURY, April 20. northern New York has remarkably hard freeze for the year. It is feared that the temperature will drop since Monday.

NEW BRUNSWICK, April 20. The highlands of the Hudson are an inch thick with snow. It is feared that the temperature will drop since Monday.

SARASOTA, April 20. struck here and early this morning dropped almost to zero.

NOT SATISFIED WASHINGTON, April 20. W. Foster, former secretary recently selected by Kinley to draw up a plan with Mr. Charles T. Hennessey, for the better administration of the order of the United States, conclude and sign a Great Britain to secure preventing the destruction of herding sea.

status is that of an ornament. He will let his stepmother on a throne in Behring sea islands to make a person of the condition of things not be learned and with Great Britain are the authorities conferred suggest that opposed.

WHAT A NICE EXETER, N. H., April 20. Wentworth, the eight who was arrested Saturday in Exeter jail on the charge of poisoning his mother, Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth, N. H., has stated that he put tea while getting bread his excuse for the act and his stepmother on a throne "giving him a had no ill-feeling toward her."

THE WAVES BEMING, April 20. Emerson dispatch says just twenty inches above a strong southeast wind is again lashing the water. It is feared if this continues the buildings now very slowly.

"SHE BLOW LAK WENNING, April 20. ports from the count Sunday night's gale proportions in several cases a good deal of buildings.

PLENTY MORE QUEBEC, April 18. mass of rock weighing from the cliff down to-day, badly damaged houses.