CHILI'S NEW GOVERNMENT.

European Capitalists Offer to Advance the Junta Half a Million Pounds.

The Itata to be Released and Turned Over to the Congressionists.

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 9.—It is reported that notwithstanding the strict watch kept upon the movements of the Chilian war vessel, President Pinto, which recently appeared off this port, she eluded the vigilance of the authorities and successfully shipped guns, thus accomplishing the object of her visit. Acting upon instructions from the Danish government, the authorities of Copenhagen closely watched the Chilian warship in order to prevent her from shipping arms, ammunition or men from here until her status shall have been clearly established. The Pinto started this morning for Helsingborg, Sweden, on the sound opposite Elsinore.

LONDON, Sept. 9.—It is announced that the provisional government of Chili has temporarily appointed Senor Augustine Ross, Chilian envoy at London. Senor A. Matte is temporarily appointed Chilian envoy at Paris.

Counsel on behalf of the Chilian junta has applied to the high court for an order restraining the owners and officers of the steamer Moselle from parting with possession of the Chilian silver with which she is expected to arrive at Southampton this week, except by depositing the same in the Bank of England. The junta also applies for an order restraining the Platte bank, which made advances against the silver in question, from endorsing bills relating thereto. The judge allowed the notice to be served for next Wednesday. In the meantime a temporary restraining order was granted.

The Times, in its financial article, this morning, says a syndicate of European capitalists has offered to advance the Chilian junta £500,000 with which to meet pressing requirements.

WASHINGTON CITY, Sept. 9.—A cablegram from Admiral Brown, to-day, stated that the Baltimore had arrived safely at Mollendo, Peru, and placed the Chilian refugees on shore.

The Star, this afternoon, prints the statement that the Itata is to be returned to the Chilian government in accordance with the terms of a compromise effected at a conference between ex-Mayor Grace, of New York, and the Chilian congressional representative here on the one hand, and Secretary Tracy and Attorney-General Miller on the other. It is not an unconditional surrender of the vessel and a simple back down on the part of the United States, though it is very generally agreed now that the Itata could not be held by the United States. The terms agreed on are that the Chilian government is to pay the United States a sum equal to the expense incurred in pursuing and capturing the Itata and then the vessel turned over to the new Chilian government.

GOOD TEMPLARISM.

Annual Meeting at Westminster—The Business Disposed of—A Few Statistics.

On Tuesday morning the sixth annual session of the Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Good Templars assembled at Temperance Hall at 9:30 o'clock. G. C. T. Charles Keith occupied the chair, and the following officers were present: G.V. T. Miss Ida F. Burritt, G. Secretary R. W. Allison, Vancouver; G. S. J. Templar Mrs. M. Jenkins, G. Treasurer, Dr. L. Hall, Victoria. The initiation to the degree of the Grand Lodge of 40 delegates and members of subordinate lodges was of an imposing nature. Letters of fraternal greeting, also of regret from absent officers were then read. The lodge voted letters of condolence with Brother Bushnell in his present illness at his home in Seattle, and with Brother Northfield, of Nanaimo, in his misfortune of losing his sight. The following visitors were then announced to the lodge from the State of Washington: H. T. Allen, G. Sec., Tacoma; Charles Cline, G. Coun., Lynden; Miss Kate Hubbard, D. Sec., Puyallup; Miss G. Cotterville, D.V.T., Seattle; Miss Anna Getton, D.C.T., Tacoma; E. M. Allen, Tacoma.

Grand Chief Templar Keith then presented his report, showing a general advance in temperance matters, and that public sentiment in favor of prohibition is taking a long step in the right direction.

The Grand Secretary's report showed the number of lodges at last report to be 29; present number, 31, a net gain of 2. Number of members at last report, 1,197; present number, 1,471; net gain, 274. Total receipts during the year: Supplies, $170.62; tax, $1,051.40; charter fees, $71.45, and literature, $16.04. Total, $1,309.52. Property owned by lodges, reported July 31, 1890, $3,150; July 31, 1891, $6,851; increase, $3,701.

Mrs. Jenkins, Superintendent of Juvenile Templars, reported gratifying results from this new departure in the order. Mrs. H. Jenkins has organized four lodges in the province. She announced that since the preceding evening she had organized in Westminster a Demorest silver medal contest class, the first contest to be held on Friday evening next.

A communication was read from the Board of Aldermen of Westminster, welcoming the Grand Lodge and inviting the delegates to participate in a drive.

At 3 p.m., the lodge was called to order, and, after a telegram had been read from P. G. C. Samuel Gough, of Nanaimo, regretting his enforced absence, the Grand Treasurer's statement was read and passed to the auditors for correction. A discussion took place on the revision of the by-laws and the official organ of the order (The Echo).

In the evening the debate on by-laws was resumed. Dr. Ernest Hall, of Victoria, delivered an eloquent lecture upon "Temperance from a scientific standpoint," pointing out the folly of physicians who prescribe alcoholic liquor, and relating many examples of its deleterious effects upon the patients. The lecturer gave the comparative analysis of patent medicines and strongly drew attention to the very large percentage of alcohol contained in most patent medicines. He said that in Glasgow Infirmary, where water is always used, only 11 per cent. of the patients die, while in other hospitals, where alcoholic liquors are permitted, the percentage was 22.

Mr. Clive, grand councillor of the Grand Lodge of Washington State, delivered a lecture entitled "The Four Corners of the Earth." He said, in the course of his remarks, he knew a spot in the city of Toronto where there were four corners. On one corner stood a magnificent church, which symbolised Salvation; on the opposite corner an educational institution, which could stand for Education; on another was a government building, representing Legislation; on the fourth a saloon, clearly standing for Damnation. He was followed by several other speakers, the greatest enthusiasm being manifested.

The Grand Treasurer's statement, presented yesterday, showed the lodge to be in a flourishing condition, financially and otherwise.

PRESBYTERY OF B. C.

Business Transacted at the Session Held at Westminster.

The Presbytery of Columbia assembled, on Tuesday afternoon, in St. Andrew's Church, the moderator, Rev. W. J. Jaffray, presiding. The following members were also present: Rev. P. McF. McLeod, Rev. W. R. Ross, Rev. Thomas Scouler, Rev. A. Tait, Rev. A. Dunn, Rev. J. M. McLeod, Rev. R. Maxwell, Rev. D. A. McRae, Rev. W. G. Mills, Rev. A. W. Lewis, Rev. Alex. Young, Rev. J. A. McGoun, Rev. T. G. Glassford, Rev. D. McRae. Elders—A. Shaw, G. R. McKay, J. B. Kennedy, J. M. Browning.

Rev. Mr Scouler was elected moderator for the next twelve months.

Rev. Mr. McLeod gave a report of his attendance at the General Assembly held in Toronto, in June last.

A committee was appointed to strike standing committees for the year, and to allocate to the different congregations the amounts granted them.

A petition was presented from West New Westminster Church, asking for a separation from Sapperton, and for leave to moderate in a call to a minister, with stipend of $1,200, and a free manse. Messrs. C. H. Clow and J. B. Kennedy were heard in reference to the matter. Rev. T. Scouler, Rev. Mr. Jaffrey, and Mr. McNab were appointed to visit the congregations interested, and to report to a special meeting of the Presbytery, to be held in St. Andrew's church, Westminster, on Tuesday, 22nd September.

The following were chosen elders for the ensuing year: T. McKee, North Arm; John McNab, St. Andrew's church; D. M. Fraser, Zion church, Vancouver.

Permission was granted to the First Church, Vancouver, to moderate in a call to a minister, whenever they were ready to do so.

Rev. Mr McRae presented the Home Mission report for the past six months.

On Wednesday morning the establishment of new mission fields was taken under consideration and some changes were made in those existing. Mr. Lewis, in addition to his present work, was appointed to the charge of Agassiz, and to assist Rev. Mr. Dunn in the upper part of the field, Chilliwack Centre was added to Rosedalen Island, and the services of Rev. Mr. Mackay, the present missionary, were arranged to be continued during the next six months.

The examinations of Messrs. Mackay and McLeod, students in divinity were satisfactory.

A reference from St. Andrew's church, Victoria, in a case of discipline, was sustained.

It was decided to take necessary steps for the division of the Presbytery into three new Presbyteries, and the formation of a synod to embrace the whole province.

It was arranged that Rev. J. M. McLeod take charge of Mount Pleasant mission until March. Leave was granted the congregation of St. Andrew's church, Nanaimo, to dispose of the present church property, with the view of building a new church, so as to provide for increasing congregations. Provision was made for the supply of services during the winter at Alberni, North Bend and Kettle river districts. Rev. Mr. McElmon's appointment to the charge of Surrey and Mud Bay was confirmed, and an application for a grant from the church and manse building fund was strongly recommended to the board.

Satisfactory reports were presented from the various mission fields and other business was disposed of.

The next ordinary meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's church, Vancouver, on the second Tuesday in December at 3 p.m. The Presbytery than adjourned.

DUNCAN'S DOINGS.

Excitement on the Supposed Discovery of Coal on Mr. Holmes' Property.

The weather has changed during the past week. On Monday, we were visited by a heavy rain, which lasted for several hours, and we have had rain again to-day (Wednesday).

The supposed discovery of coal by an eastern prospector, on the property of Mr. Holmes, has been the cause of some little excitement here during the past few days. As this property is within a mile of Duncan's, if it proves to be of value, it will make considerable stir in this already busy place.

Mr. James Evans and party are again at work on Front street, and expect to have it open for traffic very shortly. This will be a great advantage to those residing along this street, as at present they have only an inconvenient way of getting about. Our new shoemaker, Mr. Fairburn, has arrived and started business at the old stand. He has been kept very busy since his arrival, and he is thus led to think that he has "struck the right place."

Mr. Daley, the popular proprietor of the Quamichan Hotel, finds his guests very numerous, and is contemplating the enlargement of his already large establishment by *going higher*, i. e., by the erection of another story to the present building.

The Harvest Home is fixed for Thursday, the 17th inst. There will be Divine service in the Quamichan church, which will be nicely decorated for the occasion, and a tea on the adjoining parsonage grounds in the afternoon.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Hugh Drummon was found dead near his home, on the Maple Bay road. He had been to this place with a load of lambs and was returning with the wagon. By some unfortunate circumstance he must have fallen from the wagon, and thus met his death. The deceased, who was an old pioneer and settler in the Maple Bay district, is well-known and much respected in this locality, and all will regret his untimely death. The funeral is fixed for Friday, and it is hoped that a large number of friends will attend.

— ERRATIC.

The Tacoma Exposition.

TACOMA, Wn., Sept. 10.—The Western Washington Industrial Exposition opens, this evening, under the most favorable auspices. The whole State has contributed to the exhibit, and the city is filled with visitors from all parts of the State.

A Capsized Schooner.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 10.—The tug Sea Witch towed the capsized schooner, Rose Sparks, into port, to-day. It appears that the heavy deck-load of bark which the schooner carried was largely responsible for the disaster, rendering the vessel top-heavy and unable to resist the heavy swells.

VICTORIA'S BIG HOTEL.

A Site Selected and Approved of—Subscription List Opened and Liberally Signed.

The Canada Western Hotel Scheme to Be Adopted and Carried Out.

A large and influentially attended meeting of those interested in the project of establishing a first-class hotel in this city was held in the Board of Trade rooms, yesterday afternoon. Despite the inclemency of the weather the following, among others, were present: Messrs. R. P. Rithet, F. S. Barnard, M. P., Hon. Theodore Davie, L. Goodacre, Robt. Ward, Mayor Grant, C. F. Jones, Wm. Templeman, Capt. Wm. Dewer, C. D. Mason, Jacob Sehl, L. Erb, A. W. Vowell, Ald. Holland, Ald. Coughlan, W. P. Sayward, sr., Joseph Trutch, W. R. Wilson, Foster Macgurn, W. H. Danby, D. R. Ker, Joshua Davies, Robt. Irving, sr., F. Elworthy, A. C. Flumerfelt, A. W. More, A. J. McLellan, W. R. Wilson, Joseph Heywood, Fred'k. Fell, J. H. Todd, T. Futcher, Jos. Loewen, Jas. Mitchell, Ald. H. A. Munn, Beaumont Boggs, A. G. Sargison, Geo. Byrnes, T. S. Milligan, Ald. C. E. Renouf, T. J. Trutch, H. D. Helmcken, E. M. Johnson.

The project is one which has occupied public attention for years past; the want of a really first-class hotel being admitted on all sides. Not that there are not in Victoria several first-class hotels, but there are none of them as commodious as might be desired, or possessing the attractions and surroundings which the tourist naturally looks for. In many cities less pretentious than this, the class of hotels existing prove a source of attraction, with their palatial accommodation, splendid grounds, boating and driving facilities, and everything calculated to make the tourist happy. Our best hotels are in the heart of the city, and possess none of these inducements. The climate of Victoria and its beautiful scenery point to it as a most desirable resort for those in search of health, recreation or pleasure, and to provide such hotel accommodation as will meet these ends, is the task which is now undertaken. Some eighteen months ago the erection of such an establishment was undertaken, a site was selected, plans and specifications procured and the foundation for the building absolutely prepared. But the stock was not as liberally subscribed for as was anticipated, and for the time being the project fell through. The matter is now revived, and to give it practical form yesterday's meeting was called.

Mr. T. B. Hall, President of the Board of Trade, took the chair, and called upon Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt to read the report of the special committee, appointed to select a site, etc. Mr. Flumerfelt read the following:

Your committee appointed to enquire into the most suitable site and cost of erecting a first-class hotel in Victoria, beg to report: That we have given this matter our best and serious consideration; that in starting in on our labors we found considerable difference of opinion existing amongst us as to the various sites proposed, and after discussing the matter at three meetings, and from personal inspection, we have come to the unanimous conclusion that the site of the Canada Western Hotel, Government street and James Bay, is the cheapest property offered, and the most suitable for our hotel. The following observations will explain why we have so decided:

1. Its nearness to all car lines; close proximity to the Park, easy access to steamers, both inner and outer wharves; its freedom from dust; and good drainage.

2. The view is good, and from the upper portion of the building would be as fine as could possibly be obtained in the city.

3. The plans, by well known, reliable architects, provide 187 rooms, which we think ample accommodation for the requirements.

4. Much of the preliminary work has been done, which would effect a great saving in time in completing the building.

5. From all we can gather this site would be the most profitable one.

6. A good revenue can at once be derived from the stores, provided in the plans, which would be a strong argument in favor of this site. We therefore recommend that the C. W. scheme be taken up by this meeting. We submit the following as an estimate of the money required to complete the proposed hotel.

Capital stock of C.W.	$200,000
Of which has been subscribed	$110,000
50 p. c. of this has been paid	55,000
50 per cent. to be called	55,000
Balance of stock not issued	90,000
Total	$200,000

Estimated amount required to complete the building	$330,000
Land (cost)	$ 87,500
Building 187 rooms	200,000
Excavation, plans, etc.	26,285
Furnishing	50,000
Superintendence	5,000
Clork of Works, incidental, etc.	11,215
Total	$330,000

ESTIMATED REVENUE.

Seven stores at $900 per annum	$ 6,300
Bar at $850 per m ath	7,800
Cigar stand and barber's shop	1,000
Amount to be earned (net) by hotel proper to pay 8 per cent. on total capital	11,300
Interest on $330,000 at 8 per cent	26,400

These figures the committee think quite within the mark, as the hotel would only have to earn $1,000 per month in addition to income from stores to be a profitable investment.

You will observe by the above figures that if the C. W. stock is taken up $130,000 in round numbers must be provided to complete the building and the furnishing. We have looked into the act under which this company is incorporated, and we believe that the borrowing powers are equal to the paid up capital. We propose that if the necessary amount can be obtained by subscriptions to have the capital stock increased. Failing this we are confident that no difficulty would be experienced in borrowing upon favorable terms the amount needed to complete the hotel. We suggest that not less than $1,000 worth of shares be issued to any one person. Those who cannot take this amount can assist the enterprise by voting free taxation and water for say 20 years. As this enterprise is inaugurated from patriotic motives only, for the benefit of Victoria city and her citizens, we strongly urge the citizens to take immediate action as we are of opinion, from the numerous expressions to the committee, that many of our capitalists are ready to materially aid in bringing about the very worthy object for which you are called together, to-day. In conclusion we would point out the great urgency of this question, and we sincerely trust that ere the year 1892 closes, we shall be able to look with pride upon a building, which will not only afford the desired accommodations, but be a credit and an ornament to our beautiful city. All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. C. FLUMERFELT, Chairman.
R. IRVING,
GEO. BYRNES,
D. R. KER,
W. P. SAYWARD,
WM. WILSON.

Mr. Ward—Can you tell us, Mr. Chairman, whether the present directors of the Canada Western Hotel Co. can increase the issue of their stock under their arrangements? I understand that Mr. Redon holds $35,000 of the stock, and that unless we buy him out our project may be blocked. I am given to understand that he can outvote the other shareholders. At a meeting of directors, I suppose they would have the power to issue more stock. If that is the case we can keep Mr. Redon in our company with his $35,000 worth of stock. I don't know how the matter stands, or whether Mr. Redon can stop the further issue if he likes. As a shareholder I am at a loss to know how matters stand, as I never attended any of the meetings, nor never received a notice of them.

The Chairman—Perhaps Mr. Johnson would answer that question.

Mr. Johnson—He holds $35,000 of the stock, but as far as I understand that was to be bought up by this new company.

Mr. Ward—That does not answer my question. I am not personally acquainted with the termo of the charter of the Canada Western, but it seems to me that the board of directors have the power to issue further stock if they so desire. We have already disposed of some $70,000 worth of stock.

Mr. Johnson—Mr. Redon is no obstructionist in this matter. In fact he has done all in his power to carry this project through.

Mr. Ward—I have been connected with the Canada Western ever since its inception, and I asked Mr. Redon, with thh object of having matters straightened out, to call a meeting of the shareholders. He said he would, but I have heard nothing about it since. I told him it was said that he was blocking the project, and that a meeting of the shareholders would be a good thing. He undertook to call the meeting, and declared that he would help in every way he could. If there was a meeting held I heard nothing about it.

Mr. Johnson—I can only say that you got notice of every meeting which was held. I say that Mr. Redon is no obstructionist in this matter. I hold his stock, and am authorized to sell it at par.

Mr. Rithet—What we want to get at is, can we issue more stock? Can you answer yes or no? The question asked is: Can we issue more stock, irrespective of Mr. Redon?

Mr. Johnson—I don't think so. I believe Mr. Redon can call a meeting of his directors and stop it. I am under orders to issue no more stock until instructed to do so.

Mr. Rithet—Why is the subscription list of that company closed?

Mr. Johnson—Because we could not get in more money. I can issue no more stock.

Mr. Rithet—And Mr. Redon is president of that company!

Mr. Erb asked if the directors of the company were prepared to pass a resolution for the issue of more stock?

Mr. Johnson said he could not answer the question.

Mr. Ward believed the directors had the power to do so, if they wished to exercise it.

Mr. Johnson suggested that Mr. Redon could call a meeting of his shareholders and pass or reject such a resolution.

Mr. Barnard disagreed with this view. If Mr. Redon called such a meeting there should be a quorum present, and the necessary legal routine would have to be observed. It was not a question of Mr. Redon's stock alone. They had the benefit of that gentleman's $30,000 and $30,000 more to be called in from him.

Mr. Todd, as a director of the Canada Western, said they had done their best to get parties to take stock in the company, and failed to raise the necessary amount. It was new to him that any resolution had been passed to prevent more stock from being issued. He did not believe that Mr. Redon opposed the project, as he seemed always anxious to push it on, and when he come forward with the offer to sell the stock at what it cost him, he was acting very liberally.

Mr. Johnson offered to hand over his stock free to any person who would take it.

Mr. Todd—And I'll give 50 per cent of my stock to any person who will undertake to build the hotel.

Mr. Ward—If we go to that company and say that we want to take more stock, will it be issued?

Mr. Johnson replied that he would sell no further stock unless authorized so to do by the directors.

Mr. Barnard suggested that the Canada Western Co. should be asked to convene a meeting, and say if they were prepared to issue more stock.

The suggestion was favorably received.

Mr. Barnard moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. Todd, in seconding the resolution, complimented the committee on their selection of site, and the good work done by them.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr Byrnes expressed an opinion that if Mr. Redon wished to do so he could block the whole thing. That gentleman held $500 more than half the entire stock subscribed, and therefore had a controlling interest. He was anxious to withdraw from the company, as he was at present enlarging the Driard considerably.

Mr. Flumerfelt said that he was aware that Mr. Redon was anxious to withdraw from the company.

Mr. McGovern thought that it was but natural that Mr. Redon should be anxious to get out. He looked upon this new project as a rival of the Driard, and in fairness should have his money refunded. Mr. McGovern favored the issuance of $50 or $100 shares so that everybody could subscribe.

Mr. Ward pointed out that Mr. Redon subscribed to the stock of the Canada Western expecting to be appointed its manager. That gentleman was now enlarging the Driard, and wanted to take his money out of the company.

After some further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Ward seconded by Mayor Grant:

That the directors of the Canada Western Hotel be requested to pass a resolution to issue further stock in the capital of the company to the full extent of the authorized capital, and that subscriptions be at once initiated for taking up the issue in order that the recommendation of the committee be carried out.

A subscription list was opened and some $28,000 subscribed, after which the meeting adjourned.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS.

TO THE EDITOR:—Will you kindly inform me when the Civil Service exams are held, and where? Also what are the subjects we have to pass in for British Columbia?

Yours truly,
ESQUIMAULT.

[The date of the examination is advertised from Ottawa, and the examiner announces the subjects.—ED.]

MINERS GRIEVANCES,

The Payment of Assessments to the Wellington Strikers Under Discussion.

Joint Committees to Draft a Report and Present It to a Mass Meeting.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

NANAIMO, Sept. 12.—Owing to extremely wet weather, the meeting of the miners was held this evening in the Institute Hall. At the beginning the attendance was small, but gradually swelled to several hundreds. R. Bates, the chairman, said the committees of last week had not been vested with power and could do nothing. The object of the meeting was to have a committee appointed with full powers to effect a settlement, the same as that of the union, without which it would be of little or no use. Whatever the committees decided on, both parties must be bound by. The difficulty must be settled. From what he could see, the union would insist on the payment of one month's assessment, with a promise to pay all due if so decided on.

Thomas Miles said about forty men had been thrown out of work. They should be first reinstated and then the committee could fairly discuss the business. He was prepared to entrust the matter fully to the committee, and if not settled by them, to have it arbitrated. It having been pointed out that so long as the resolution to pay no more assessments had not been rescinded, it was impossible for the committee to arrive at a settlement.

R. Carr opposed a rescindment, which would be an acknowledgement that this section was wrong and the others right.

Mr. Carmichael said the men would be fools to surrender. They should have no more to do with Tully Boyce and his crowd, but should sue them for having caused the discharge of the men.

John Ducca said if it was resolved that the back assessment should be paid, he thought those objecting should pay.

Mr. Ramsay held that this faction had been wrong in not showing previously by their votes what they wished done with this question, instead of dropping off from the Union. They should appoint a committee vested with full power.

John Gamble never could understand why the miners had given Tully Boyce the power to control their destinies. He now said you all know nothing; while he had and his supporters had gigantic ability, those who opposed them were fools. He would not agree to Tully Boyce, or any one else, saying they would rule or would drive those, who would not submit, out of existence. He did not calculate to ask Tully Boyce for the power or right to live. He would not allow Boyce to choose him for his victim. The chairman remarked that any number of men were paying the assessment for fear of having to quit work. Were a committee given full power and their report submitted to a mass meeting and decided by secret ballot, the result might turn out favorably.

A member—This is not an assessment, that the men are paying, but it is a pension.

D. R. Edwards—There is any quantity of dissatisfaction. It is not to be settled by bucking against one another. Any one might have seen that the committees would be fruitless. On the day of the picnic on the Green it had been resolved to pay the assessment. But to have done so was wrong. He and others were not present to outvote it. Every man should have been there to express his opinion to get rid of that assessment. A mass meeting should be called, and a secret ballot taken of the question. As to the arrears, there were many who could not pay, and those who would enforce them had no manhood.

Peter High held that the strike should be declared off. The meeting was composed of union men. If not so, what were they? They were not blacklegs.

R. Piper held that it would be fruitless to have a committee, as on last Saturday night; the members would only spit fire at each other. The best thing to do was to let the matter settle itself and try to get the men reinstated in work.

James Hanlan urged the appointment of a committee, as suggested, and the holding of a mass meeting, when a decision could be reached by secret ballot.

Mr. Ramsay thought that a committee, as suggested, should be authorized and empowered, and that a vote should be taken of all miners, whether or not they were in good standing in union. It was no use appointing, as had been suggested, a committee to wait on Mr. Robins and ask him to settle matters. If the union did not do so, what cared Mr. Robins.

A. McKennell urged that a committee should go to Mr. Robins and ask him to reinstate the men. If Mr. Robins refused to deal with a committee of this meeting future action could then be resolved on.

A discussion having arisen regarding the point that the resolution to pay no more assessments, passed at the previous meeting, prevented giving all power to a committee, Walter Ross said that the union had given their committee full power. It would be in the interest of the men and of peace and harmony to have the motion rescinded. Essex Lewis protested against any rescindment, saying that he had been thrown out of work. If he had to starve, he would starve.

Thos. Whitehow was another on the list. He wanted no rescindment.

Walter Ross said that it was an outrage that in a civilized community men should be turned out to starve, because they differed in opinion with other people. Mr. Robins could, according to the agreement, only treat with a committee of the Miners and Mine Laborers' Union. It was the Union which caused the men to be discharged, and it was for it to reinstate them.

A member—With a secret ballot, we have a majority vote.

R. Carr, J. Carmichael, J. Hanlan, Dr. Edwards, Thos. Miles and others favored giving full powers to a committee. It was pointed out that if the committees did not agree, it was very easy to submit the issue to arbitration by men from Winnipeg, Seattle, San Francisco, Vancouver, or any other place selected and this would no doubt be agreed to.

The committee appointed last week was finally reappointed by a large vote, and vested with full powers to treat with the union committee, the report to be presented to a mass meeting. Several members declared that whatever was the outcome they would pay no more assessments.

What Say They?

IN POPULARILY increasing. In reliability the standard. In merit the first. In fact, the best remedy for all summer complaints, diarrhœa, dysentery, cramps, colic, cholera infantum, etc., is Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. All medicine dealers sell it.

BRITISH COLUMBIANS DEFAMED,

A Clerical Crank's Opinion of His Countrymen—Some Awful Tough Yarns.

The following letter appeared in a late issue of the Presbyterian Witness, published in Halifax, N.S. The writer of it is styled Rev. A. W. Lewis:

Much has been written about the wealth and the beauties of British Columbia. It is true that its mountains afford the most sublime scenery and contain mines of great wealth, its valleys are "well watered, even as the garden of the Lord;" but the archfiend has usurped this fair domain, and west of the Rocky Mountains, wherever man is found, the land is covered with the marks of the "cloven hoof."

In the forests of B. C. a somewhat beautiful plant abounds that cruelly deceives the unwary stranger. Its nature is well expressed by the vulgar name of "Devil-club." It grows luxuriantly, reaching the height of 10 or 15 feet. Its palmate leaves of nine lobes are often two feet across. Its foliage is surmounted by a cone of yellow blooms succeeded by tempting red berries. Let all beware. Touch it not, its stem is covered with most venomous prickles. If its bark is bruised or stem cut the odor strongly suggests its evil nature. In this shrub behold this much-lauded province. Thousands of unwary immigrants have grasped its tempting treasures and, to-day, their souls are festering with its poison. Indifference, drunkenness, immorality, infidelity have entered into their very hearts and turned this garden of the Lord into a valley of death.

It takes a new-comer some time to get beneath the surface and see the true nature of life beyond the Rockies. There is a charm that blinds and an under current at first not felt. I had been told that west of the Rocky Mountains the Sabbath loses its sacredness and men are buried in the world and self; but I thought that in this quiet country place where the great majority had lately come from Ontario and Nova Scotia we would not be affected by the miasma. After seven months of experience vain hopes are rent in twain. The very air seems infected. The germs of "*freethinking*" and "*free-living*" enter and permeate human kind.

The currents that have now for half a dozen years been hurrying to the west along the C.P.R. and Great Northern have been carrying the foam that has arisen on the waters of Eastern Canada and the United States. This refuse has mingled with the corrupt sediment of the gold mines. The workers of gold mines are not as a rule men of principle, especially in the wild west. In B. C. the evil of the worst class of whites has united with all that is degraded in the pagan blacks. This is the sediment. Those who flee from the justice of "Uncle Sam" cross the boundary line to B. C., and sometimes, by putting on "the livery of heaven to serve the devil in," besmirch even the church of God. The sons of Belial of Eastern Canada leave their consciences at home and come to the far west and lay their head on the lap of profligacy. This is the foam—the offscouring of creation which pours over the Rocky mountains to mingle with the evil already here and produce a cesspool of iniquity that must satisfy even the malice of Satan.

The government nobly supports schools wherever there is an average of ten scholars. Hundreds of teachers come from the East, chiefly young men. This work of training the young and moulding their lives for time and eternity is one of the very noblest and most sacred. It makes one's heart sick to think of the instructors of the rising generation in B. C. Thank God for some teachers of Christian principles and exemplary life; but there are so many, alas! who are not even respectable or decent. The little boys and girls are placed under the care of infidelity and drunkenness. The whiskey bottle is seen under the teacher's desk, and the teacher himself even in school hours lies in a drunken stupor. Delicate ears must listen to scoffs at all things pure and holy. Opening lives are blasted by this burning breath right from the pit. Oh that God's people would cry out to God for help against the mighty! What do we see? The parents often as bad as the teachers, the trustees in league with them. Parents who have Christian schools for their children ought to thank God that they are not raising a family in British Columbia.

It seems as if Satan was not satisfied to enter into this holy place and pollute the minds of the innocent school, he glides into Holy of holies of the Gospel ministry. I am not aware that any ordained minister of evangelical churches has been accused of immorality; but some of the lay element are not above suspicion. When Satan cannot make a preacher of the Gospel a fly in the sacred ointment he tries to lead him to choose one for a life-long partner; and in this he is far more successful. The church to-day weeps over the unwise choice of her leaders; and they through life cry out "who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" As far as I know our ministers of the Presbytery of Columbia, they are earnest workmen who need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. As much cannot be said of the ritualists. To the sorrow even of their own people all the men in "holy orders" in the Church of England in B.C. are high church—very high. They carry their guns on Sabbath and into the places of worship. They take off their belt of cartridges and put them by the guns in view of all the people. They don the gown and as ordained ambassadors of Christ tell the young men to keep the Sabbath by hunting and fishing. The fruit of the "cloven hoof" is thus seen not only in the pew but even in the pulpit.

Perhaps the most heartrending fact which forces itself upon every Christian, and especially upon every minister, is the frightful contagion of the leprosy of sin. There are many true and noble men and women coming among the evil, and yet so few retain their purity of life and belief. Especially young men seem unable to resist the tide of irreligion and skepticism. Those who come from Christian homes, giving promise of true lives of great usefulness, become careless and reckless, rejoicing in what before they came to B. C. would bring to their face the blush of shame even at the thought of it. They lose faith in many of the truths of the Bible, and at last cast away the sheet anchor of the soul. No one should come beyond the great mountain range which divides the North-West from the West unless "rooted and grounded in the love" of God. Even then they should not come alone, but have a companion true and tried like-minded with themselves. I do not limit the power of God; but, "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God."

Manitoba and the Northwest are very different from B. C. There the people are sober and church going, much as they are in Ontario and Nova Scotia. A young man last Sabbath, told me he was going back home to Manitoba as soon as he was through with the job on hand. "It is very cold there in winter, but the air is dry and the people are so good. You don't see anything like this"—referring to a game of baseball played near the school house during the service.

This picture of B. C. is dark. It is no wonder the sky weeps so much. Yet there is light and promise of more. The stores in the cities are as a rule closed on Sabbath. Law is also making life safe. The Gospel—ah! there our hope lies—is being proclaimed nearly everywhere. Only a small proportion attend places of divine service as yet, but the number is increasing. The leaven of God's truth is being felt in this great mass of worldliness and vice. Many are needed to take the leaven and plant it in outlying districts still destitute. But the want of B. C. is an abundant outpouring of the spirit of all grace. For this let all the children of God cry night and day.—"Thy kingdom come in B. C."

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