

The Colonist

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1892

LIBERIA.

Very little has been heard of Liberia of late years. Whether the experiment of sending negroes from America to Africa has proved a failure or a success is not generally known. At first it was predicted that the civilized colored man when freed from the restraints of civilization and taken from its elevating and refining influences, would relapse into barbarism; that instead of the American negro civilizing and Christianizing the African heathen, the African heathen would barbarize and paganize the American negro. But we are glad to find that this prediction has not proved true. The Republic of Liberia is not a very brilliant success, but it has not turned out to be a disastrous failure, or anything near it. The settlement was founded by the American Colonization Society, in 1820. A tract of land was purchased on the west coast of Africa, and a number of liberated slaves were settled upon it. These colonists were, as a rule, very much superior to the ordinary plantation hand, both in intelligence and morals. They had been freed because their masters esteemed them highly, and wanted to place them where they would better their condition, and found a colony which would, in time, be a refuge for the slaves of the United States. There was, seventy years ago, no prospect of the abolition of slavery on this continent. Slavery was considered by many good people in the young Republic almost, if not altogether, a divine institution. It had come to stay, and those who attempted to disturb the minds of either the blacks or the whites on the subject, were regarded as the enemies of society, who should be silenced and punished. The only hope, then, for the American negro in those days, was that the men of his race should form a civilized and christian commonwealth on the African continent, to which some of them might emigrate after they had by one means and another regained their freedom. The infant community had many difficulties to encounter. The first settlers were reinforced by accessions from Maryland and from Pennsylvania, but its growth was slow. In 1841, twenty years after the colony was founded, the civilized population numbered 5,000. Their native neighbors greatly outnumbered them. It appears that the civilized negroes got on tolerably well with their uncivilized countrymen. They were free negroes, to the credit be it said, did what they could to discourage slavery and the slave trade, and Liberia became a refuge for the slaves of the neighboring country. The Liberians, too, exhibited a capacity for self-government, that to many was unexpected. They managed the affairs of their little commonwealth with considerable skill. The Colonization Society left them pretty much to themselves, having only an agent and a vice-agent in the country. In the early days of the settlement an ordinance was made and enforced, that no white man should be allowed to take up his residence in the colony. But this law was afterwards repealed. The colony had difficulties with foreigners. They would not recognize the authority of its rulers. The refused to pay a customs duty of six per cent. which had been levied on foreign imports. A British ship was seized for refusing to pay this tax, and was rescued by force. Liberia was looked upon as a dependency of the United States, but the protection and support it received from its stepmother was not by any means freely or generously accorded. In August, 1847, Liberia became an independent republic, and Great Britain was the first nation to acknowledge its independence. Other nations followed so good an example, so Liberia quietly took her humble place in the family of nations. Her progress since then has been steady. Her population kept on increasing, and she has increased her territory. The population is now estimated at from 18,000 to 20,000 civilized negroes and over 100,000 natives who are only partially civilized. Liberia has 700 miles of sea coast, and its territory is in extent about 35,000 square miles. The country is considered the hottest on the globe, and much of the soil is fertile. Near the sea the country is low but it rises inland it becomes high. The native products consist chiefly of palm oil, camwood, ivory and gold dust. The soil is rich and produces rice, sugar-cane, coconuts, indigo, cotton, ginger, and many kinds of grain. Altogether Liberia is a goodly land, and the lines of the Liberians seem to be laid in pleasant places. Whether there is room in it for a much larger population our authority does not say. But we are led to conclude if the colored people of the United States should take it into their heads to emigrate in large numbers to Liberia, they could, without much difficulty, settle comfortably within its borders or in its immediate neighborhood. They would find there a fertile soil and a congenial climate, and they would be the equals in every respect of the best of their neighbors and the superiors of very many of them. This would be much more pleasant than being looked upon as an inferior race and treated wherever they went with indignity. If the country is as good as it is described, emigration to Liberia would form the easiest and the pleasantest solution of the race problem of the United States.

VENEZUELA.

The contest in Venezuela still continues. If all the accounts we read are true, or nearly true, the condition of Dictator Palacio must be a very unpleasant one. We are told that his troops are beaten in almost every encounter with the revolutionists. A large number of engagements are described in over three columns of telegrams in the New York Weekly Herald of the 15th inst., and in only one of them were the Dictator's troops said to be successful. In all the others they were badly beaten. His soldiers, too, are described as deserting in platoons. He has found that no dependence can be placed upon them. When driven into a corner or shut up in a fortress they fight fiercely enough, but whenever the opportunity is all favorable they join the revolutionists. It is reported that Palacio is short of cash. He has not money enough to pay his soldiers and his drafts on firms in New York and elsewhere come back protested. The banks of Venezuela have cut off his credit and consequently his checks for the payment of troops and civil servants are not honored. To make matters worse Palacio has a misunderstanding with the clergy and he has quarreled with the editors of the newspapers. He has sent word to the Archbishop that if the priests do not cease using their influence against him he will decree a dissolution of Church and State. Religious people are afraid that he will be as good as his word, and that if the clergy do not quietly submit to his rule he will even go so far as to imprison the Archbishop. The Dictator does not believe in the liberty of the press. He banishes and imprisons the editors who have the audacity to criticize any of his acts, and he suppresses their newspapers. It is said that as many as one hundred newspapers have been suppressed, and their editors exiled or imprisoned. The post office, too, is not regarded as sacred. In order to find out what is going on, and who are for him and who against him Palacio causes the letters to be opened and if the captain of a foreign vessel is discovered taking charge of mail that were not passed through the post-office he is heavily fined. Yet in spite of all this tyranny the revolutionists are making headway against the Government. They have armies in the field and they are plentifully supplied with arms and ammunition from abroad. The people of the country are well affected to the "rebels," and they consequently find little difficulty in getting the supplies they need. Take it altogether, the accounts show Palacio to be in a very bad way. It is, in fact, hard to understand how a leader who has sustained so many defeats, and who is so greatly disliked by all classes in the country, can manage to keep the field at all. Yet he does in spite of a hundred disasters, and in the face of a legion of enemies, show a bold front to the revolutionary leaders. That he is able to do this leads us to suspect that the accounts we have read of his unpopularity and of his defeats are just a little exaggerated.

A MUCH NEEDED LAW.

The misunderstanding with Italy on account of the men who were murdered at New Orleans has caused Senator Dolph to introduce a bill the object of which is to give to the Federal courts and authorities jurisdiction of crimes committed against aliens in any State of the Union. It will be remembered that when the government of Italy demanded that justice be done to the perpetrators of the crime, and that the families of the victims be indemnified for the injury done them, the Secretary of State was obliged to reply that the Federal Government had no authority in the State of Louisiana either to cause the perpetrators of the crime to be tried or to order the families of the victims to be indemnified. It was found, to the surprise of many, that the State was for these purposes quite as independent of the Government of the Republic of which it formed an integral part, as if it had been part of the foreign nation. Italy could not hold Louisiana responsible, neither could the Government of the United States. Foreign Governments in their intercourse with the United States deal only with the Federal Government. The State Governments are not recognized by foreign nations. States are to them nothing more than municipalities, as well as an anomalous state of things. The Federal Government is responsible for the way in which aliens are treated in the different States, but it has no authority to save them from injury, or to have justice done them when they are injured. Senator Dolph's bill is intended to do away with this peculiar state of things. "If it becomes law," the New York Herald states, "when any foreign subject is the victim of mob violence, the leaders or the participants in the lawlessness may be arrested by a United States marshal, indicted by a federal grand jury, tried in a federal court, and, if convicted, punished by federal law. With such a law on the statute book the President or Secretary of State can give satisfactory assurance to the complaining foreign nation that the perpetrators of the alleged wrong will be brought to justice."

THE CONVENTION.

The New York Herald, in the last week of May, telegraphed to the delegates at large, in every state, for information respecting the nominees, coinage and the tariff. It tabulates the substance of the replies it received, and this is the general result: Harrison, 366; Blaine, 265; Alger, 28; McKinley, 1; doubtful, 238. This makes 898 in all. For free coinage, there were 73; against it, 825. For a high tariff, 898; against high tariff, not one. When this information was collected, it was not known whether or not Mr. Blaine would be in the field. If the answers had been delayed until after the date of the publication of Mr. Blaine's letter of resignation, the result would, no doubt, have been very different.

HARRISON NOMINATED.

The nomination of President Harrison will be a surprise to very many, both in the United States and Canada. It was believed, that although many of the delegates were instructed to vote for Mr. Harrison, a sufficient number was left free to give Mr. Blaine a good majority. This evidently was Mr. Blaine's own impression. It turns out, however, that he, as well as a great many others, greatly overrated his strength in the convention. The result at Minneapolis will be a terrible disappointment to the bosses of the Eastern States. They were almost to a man opposed to the nomination of President Harrison. They have for some time been intriguing against him, and it appears they were confident that they had succeeded in putting him out of the way, politically. Their signal defeat yesterday will be a lesson to them, and will show them that they are not such great men in the Union as they are in their respective States. It will now be seen whether they will, when the election comes, work heartily and honestly with their party to secure the election of the Republican candidate. American bosses do queer things some times, and it is within the bounds of possibility that some of the disgruntled politicians will exert themselves quietly but effectively to bring about the defeat of the man who has beaten and humiliated them at Minneapolis. It now remains to be considered whether the Republican party is in a better position to contest the election that is to come off in November, for having preferred Harrison to Blaine. It was, before the convention was held, the general opinion that Blaine would make a much stronger candidate than Harrison. The proceedings at the convention, and its result, may modify that opinion considerably. The Democrats may now see that the President is much more highly esteemed by his party, at any rate, than they believed.

A GREAT DEPENDS, OF COURSE, UPON THE MEN WHOSE OPPOSE MR. HARRISON.

It is generally admitted that Mr. Cleveland is much the stronger man that the Democrats can select. Big Mr. Cleveland has in his view many more and powerful enemies. Will they meet the fate at Chicago which the Republican bosses did yesterday at Minneapolis? The prospect is that they will. It may be, however, that they will take warning and not begin a fight which may end in their utter discomfiture. If Cleveland is nominated at Chicago, the presidential contest will be an exceedingly interesting one. The issue will then be one of principle. The men in such a contest will not count for much. Harrison will represent high protection, and Cleveland tariff reform. All less important issues will, we think, be eliminated. The silver question, which was prominent at one time, is evidently avoided as dangerous by both parties. What will the Democrats do at Chicago? is now the most important question in American politics.

"INS" AND "OUTS."

The struggle just ended in Minneapolis, seemed to be, to a very great extent, a fight between the ins and the outs. President Harrison was supported by the whole legion of office-holders, and Mr. Blaine had, on his side, the noble army of office-seekers. There is evidently a big split in the Republican party, and those who are hungering and thirsting for office appear bound to take advantage of the division and, if possible, to make it wider. It does seem singular to see office-holders, great and small, taking an active part in a contest of this kind. The men in office appear to feel that it is their duty as well as their interest to stand by President Harrison. It is said that a very large proportion of the delegates who cheer for Harrison, and who will vote for Harrison, are office-holders. Take from the President the support of the men in office, it is alleged, and he would be, in the convention, nowhere. On the other hand, it is said that if the sore-heads were eliminated from Blaine's following he would be in an insignificant minority. The Blaine camp is a regular cave of Adullam for the disappointed, the discontented, and the slighted among the Republicans. This may be true to a very considerable extent, but it is evident to the most superficial observer that James G. Blaine has a high place in the esteem of the rank and file of the Republican Party. One's respect for Republican institutions does not increase when he gets a new view of a presidential election. The tricks and intrigues lead the disinterested observer to conclude that neither the merits of the candidates nor even the partialities of the people have much to do with the choice of a President. If he turns out to be a good man it is as much a matter of chance as of just claims selection. As for the best man being elected, that appears to depend upon mere luck as much as it would be if the political leaders agreed to select their nominee by a cast of dice.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CHANGE.

The statement of the United States Secretary of the Treasury shows that for the eleven months of the fiscal year, which will close on the 30th of June, the expenditure of the Government will have exceeded its receipts by \$6,793,851. But this, it is contended, is not a complete statement, and does not show the actual state of the country's finances. When everything is considered, the deficit, it is contended, instead of being nearly seven millions, is

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\$62,000,000. If a frank statement were made, and a full and true account rendered, intelligent critics say that the deficit at the end of the current fiscal year will be about \$80,000,000. The Government, they say, will at the end of the year, have spent \$425,000,000, while its income has been at the outside, \$345,000,000. It is something new for the United States to have to admit a deficit. While Mr. Cleveland was President, surprises kept piling up at such a rate, that it became a very serious question with the Government as to how it should do with its money. It paid all its debts as they became due, and then it commenced buying its own bonds before they had matured. And, even after doing this, large sums were left in the Treasury. The Republicans have changed all that. They spend all the money as it comes in, and in this, the third year of their administration, they are under the unpleasant necessity of deploring a serious deficit.

AN ATROCIOUS BLUNDER.

The mistakes which some of the San Francisco newspapers make about Canadian affairs are simply amazing. It is evident that some of their editorial writers do not even take the trouble to read the Canadian newspapers, but comment seriously upon the street gossip of ill-informed quidnuncs. The Call of the 5th inst. bases an article on the statement that "The Canadian Minister of Customs is now in Washington with a view to an arrangement of some kind of a reciprocity treaty with the United States." Taking this assertion, which does not contain a single word of truth, for its text, it discusses reciprocity and the desires of the people of Canada to become annexed to the United States. When the Call finds out that the Minister of Customs has not been in Washington but that he has been attending to his parliamentary and departmental duties in Ottawa, it ought to acknowledge its error, and tell its readers that it made a blunder which a journalist of the lowest intelligence and the least desire for accuracy would be ashamed to commit.

THE GOSIP WHICH THE WRITER MAY HAVE HEARD AT THIRD OR FOURTH HAND MUST HAVE BEEN A DISTORTED ACCOUNT OF THE REPORT THAT TWO CANADIAN MINISTERS WENT TO WASHINGTON—THE HON. MR. FOSTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, AND THE HON. MR. BOWELL, MINISTER OF MILITIA—to discuss with the United States authorities the difficult and complicated question of canal tolls. That their mission was for this specific purpose, every one in Canada knew. The names of the ministers, and when they went to Washington for, were published in all the Canadian newspapers, and it is really extraordinary how the Call managed to make so egregious a blunder about so simple a matter.

Our San Francisco contemporary should endeavor to find out the state of public opinion in Canada on reciprocity with the United States, and on annexation, before it undertakes to enlighten its readers on those subjects. If it made anything like an intelligent or an impartial enquiry, it would find that the subjects of Queen Victoria, in Canada, are not pining to become citizens of the United States, and that, although Canadians, are quite willing to enter into closer trade relations with their neighbors, they shun the idea of obtaining reciprocity at the cost of their allegiance to Great Britain, or of their self-respect as a people.

VICTORIA'S FRIEND.

The Vancouver World has a very peculiar way of showing its regard for Victoria in Canada. A few days ago it published a letter purporting to be from Victoria, in which it was said that the smallpox was prevalent in this city to quite an alarming extent, and telling its editor if he wished to know more about the "leathsome disease," to address Dr. Milne, "our health officer."

It might have occurred to an editor who wished well to Victoria, and who really desired to know the truth about a matter of such importance, to act on his correspondent's suggestion before he published her letter. But the editor of the World published the letter without an hour's delay.

When we did what the editor of the World was advised to do, and published a letter from Dr. Milne, the neighboring editor did not notice that letter in any way. Dr. Milne's letter contained the truth, as he knew it, about the smallpox in Victoria, but the editor of the World evidently did not want his readers to know that truth. On the contrary, on the day in which Dr. Milne's letter was published, and after the editor of the World had seen it, he published a letter dated from Victoria, evidently intended to confirm the false report of his lady correspondent.

Up to this date, no allusion whatever has been made to Dr. Milne's letter in the Vancouver World, and it has not been published a sentence to inform its readers that the report it circulated, with regard to the smallpox in Victoria, was false and exaggerated. A friend and well-wisher of Victoria would not have acted in this way. On the contrary, it is exactly the course which a malicious and small-minded enemy would have pursued. If Victoria has not been injured by the reports which the World has circulated about the prevalence in it of the smallpox, no credit is due to the World. It has done what it could to make the public believe that it is a dangerous place to visit. If it had taken the means pointed out by its own correspondent to ascertain the truth, it would have found out that the most timid of Victoria's citizens had never, at any time, any reason to feel alarmed about the spread of the smallpox on this side of the Gulf.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

It would be doing Mr. J. R. Rathorn an injustice to conclude that there was any trifling disingenuousness connected with his con-

dition for assault, in the Police Court, yesterday. In working up a case with which he had no personal connection at all, he was so rash and thoughtless as to do an illegal act. He entered a house in opposition to the will of its owner. He committed no act of violence. He hurt no one. He did little more, as far as we can learn, than to push past the woman who denied him entrance to the house. In this he exceeded his duty, and did what was wrong and unlawful, and it was for this he was punished. We do not for a moment justify his act, and we do not complain of the severity of his punishment, but we do wish the public to understand that his offense had no necessary connection with the immorality which we have considered in our duty to expose.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Pacific Coast Defense.

(WASHINGTON, D. C., June 9.—Senator Blackburn, to-day, introduced a bill authorizing the Secretary of War to contract for 50 mortars, similar to those now being built under contract for the United States, and 50 mortar carriages of such a type as he may deem best, all of which are to be completed within eight months from the date of the contract, and to be used only on the Pacific coast. The bill appropriates \$1,200,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to carry out its provisions.

Interview With Blaine in Boston.

BOSTON, June 8.—A small army of newspaper men besieged ex-Secretary Blaine, to-day, but he refused to see any of them until this evening, when he accorded an interview to a representative of the Boston Post. Being asked the reason for his resignation from the cabinet, the ex-secretary said: "I shall have to refer you to the other side for an answer to that question." By the other side do you mean Harrison?" was asked. "Certainly," was replied, but no further connection with that subject could be elicited from him. The secretary also told the Post representative that he had received no word from Minneapolis, to-day, except the regular bulletins, neither had he seen any newspaper published in that city. In reply to further questions, he declined to state whether he would accept the nomination for the Presidency if tendered him.

Sherman as an Alternative.

NEW YORK, June 8.—Murat Halstead in his Minneapolis special to the Telegram says: "It has been conjectured that if the friends of Blaine should find reason to believe that the administration people are resolved to take the chances of transferring their votes to a new man and utilizing the force of public sentiment, that personal animosity must stand in the way of Republican safety. The answer would be John Sherman for President, giving the Pacific Slope and Rocky Mountain states the name of the vice-president. At first glance this seems a very unattractive proposition, but to accomplish that result practically may be found in two states, New York and Ohio."

Wholesale Grocers and the Sugar Trust.

NEW YORK, June 8.—Wholesale grocers from all the large Eastern cities are arriving to attend the conference to-morrow to secure from the sugar trust the adoption of a uniform basis upon which the sugar trust is to establish a "limited price" from which a rebate of 2 cent per pound is to be returned to the consumer. The sugar trust is to be paid for each day by all the refiners of the trust, and telegraphic advices of the daily market for such jobbing order; equalization of prices between the refiners, and a thorough system of scheduling or freight allowances to retailers. A letter from President Havenberg of the trust says, the trust is disposed to co-operate with grocers to the extent of their fair compensation, and saying that they must first agree on a plan with wholesale dealers to maintain prices.

All Quiet in Hawaii.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 9.—The steamer Monowai arrived from Sydney via Honolulu, this evening. All was quiet in the Hawaiian Kingdom when the steamer left San Francisco and other points en route. Wilcox, Ashford and others arrested last month for treason against the Government, was in progress.

Large Estate.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 9.—The will of Dr. Washington M. Byer, who died in this city on June 14, was filed for probate this afternoon. The estate is valued at about \$1,500,000 and consists mostly of real estate in San Francisco and other counties. One third of the whole estate is left to San Francisco charities in equal proportions with the exception of \$50,000 bequeathed to his nephews and other relatives. The balance of the estate is given to the widow and son.

Blaine's Denial.

NEW YORK, June 9.—To-day's World publishes the following letter: "Will you publish, in your columns, that I am utterly false that I, or any one for me, ever paid, or offered to pay, Mr. Nevins Blaine, or any one for her, one cent, or any other sum, for any letters she holds? I have denied the fact of the subject, directly or indirectly, except in the newspapers. Respectfully, J. G. BLAINE."

The Sun on the Situation.

NEW YORK, June 10.—The Sun, to-morrow, will say: "The situation in sixty words of New York will decide the Presidential election in 1892 as in 1882. The way to win the battle for the Democracy is to nominate a candidate who can carry New York against Harrison. Cleveland has tried it; he failed. The preliminary examination of Governor, pulled more votes in New York State than Benjamin Harrison running for President—Enough said." In another paragraph the Sun will say: "The Secretary of State, Hon. Chanamoy Mitchell Dewey, of New York; for Minister to Russia, Hon. John Chalfant New, of Indiana. New has earned it with Dewey; he played for high stakes and won, and the luxury of their luck is that they will not have to await the uncertainties of November."

The Result of a Clebsburn.

HARTFORD, Vt., June 10.—A freight train on the Milwaukee & St. Paul road was wrecked here, last night. Engineer Fahl, Fireman Reed and Brakeman Roach were killed. A cloudburst flooded the track and upset the engine. The train went into the river, and the bodies are under the wreck.

POOR SALE—30 acres of land, two miles from Shelburne Lake. Apply to E. Harris, Cobble Hill.

THE CITY FATHERS

Hold Their Third Meeting for the Week and Adjourn Till To-day.

The Victoria and Sidney Railway By-Law Discussed at Length—Exemption or Bonus.

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held, last night, His Worship Mayor Beaven presiding. There were also present: Ald. Hunter, Lovell, Munn, Bragg, Baker, Styles, McKillochan and Humber. The City Clerk proceeded to read the correspondence. A letter was received from Ottawa acknowledging the receipt of the petition in favor of extending clemency to Samuel Greer, but stating that His Excellency the Governor-General did not think the case one in which he could interfere. The communication was read. A letter was filed from Hon. J. H. Turner, chairman of the Sewerage Commission, very unexpected. The outlet from Contractor McBean. Mr. Turner pointed out "that there is but little doubt that the contractor, from the causes mentioned therein, has suffered a considerable and possibly some loss. The question, however, which Mr. McBean asks, viz., whether the Council intend to terminate the contract when the appropriation is expended, or to provide further funds for the prosecution of the work, is one which your honorable body alone can answer." The Commission very ungraciously, the outlet in question in this matter."

ALD. LOVELL—I understood from Mr. McBean's letter, presented at last meeting, that he could not proceed with the work unless he got a further monetary consideration.

THE MAYOR—I did not read it that way. ALD. MCKILLOCHAN moved that the communication be received, and the Sewerage Commissioners informed that steps are being taken to float a loan for sewerage purposes.

The motion was seconded by Ald. Bragg. ALD. HUNTER—I don't think that that fills the bill. What Mr. McKillochan wants to know, is whether he shall proceed with the work after the present appropriation is exhausted. If you look at the contract, you will find, I think, that we can put an end to his contract on a ten days' notice. If the Council wish to put an end to the contract, give him notice; if you want him to go on with the work, tell him so. I don't see that we are justified in asking him to go on with the work, when we have where the money to pay him is to come from.

ALD. LOVELL—There is a good deal of the sewerage work yet incomplete. If they wish to foot away the sewerage work, let the work incomplete, it will be thrown on our hands, an unfinished job. I don't think the work is going on at all satisfactorily. I have some objection to the contract, but I made long ago. I am afraid, as things are going, the snow will fly before it is done.

ALD. STYLES also thought the sewerage work very unsatisfactory. The outlet had not been completed, and where excavations had been made the streets were left in a disgraceful condition. At present there is no prospect of the outlet being completed, and no means of testing the sewers. He thought the contractor should be called upon to complete some at least of the work now in hand.

ALD. HUNTER pointed out that what the corporation wished to know was whether the Council wanted him to proceed after the present appropriation is exhausted. He did not think Mr. McKillochan had any right to ask the Council what they intended to do. Let him finish the work now in hand.

The motion, having been fully discussed, was put and carried.

The chairman of the Sewerage Commission wrote acknowledging the receipt of an opinion from Messrs. Eberts & Taylor on the question of sewerage pipes, recommending that the Council issue instructions to the sanitary engineer to accept or reject the pipes of the Eberts & Taylor, as he might deem expedient.

On motion of ALD. MCKILLOCHAN the communication was laid over for further consideration.

The Finance committee reported in favor of voting \$40 to the Public Library, out of the \$50 donated for that purpose by Mr. R. P. Ricketts.

ALD. HUNTER contended that once money was handed in to the treasury it became part of the public revenue, and he wished to know on what authority the public revenue could be called upon in excess of the sum voted for library purposes.

ALD. MURN pointed out that this was a special donation for library purposes, and it would be a breach of confidence to put it to any other use.

ALD. MCKILLOCHAN thought the recommendation should come from the Finance committee and not from the Finance committee.

The report was adopted.

The Finance committee recommended the payment of \$168.75, expenses incurred in the case of Earle vs. the Corporation.

ALD. BAKER—I thought there was an error of the Council to appeal this case.

THE MAYOR—I was also under that impression.

ALD. LOVELL said that he knew nothing of the appeal.

THE MAYOR said that he had seen a letter to or from Messrs. Eberts and Taylor, stating that unless the amount were paid by eleven o'clock this morning an execution would issue. He enquired into the subject and ascertained from a clerk in Messrs. Eberts & Taylor's office that for some reason the appeal had not been entered.

ALD. BAKER moved, seconded by the Mayor, that the City Barriers be again instructed to appeal the case.

ALD. STYLES thought it very unsatisfactory that the instructions of the City Council were not carried out, or at least that the barriers did not notify the Council of the reasons for not making the appeal.

It was finally decided to give instructions

that the appeal be proceeded with if not too late—if too late that the amount be paid. The Finance committee further recommended the payment of accounts totalling \$324.25, which were ordered.

The Fire Warden recommended that, as it was necessary that the city be divided into three districts, they be authorized to purchase additional wire for same.

ALD. MURN having assured the Board that there were funds on hand, the report was adopted.

The City Barriers wrote giving an opinion as to the erection of a crematory at the cemetery. It was that no such structure could be legally put there, except for the cremation of dead bodies.

VICTORIA AND SIDNEY RAILWAY BY-LAW. The Council went into Committee of the Whole on the Victoria and Sidney Railway By-law, which was set down for its third reading.

The first six clauses of the by-law went through without opposition. On clause seven there was considerable discussion as to the number of guaranties that should guarantee the bonds of the company.

ALD. MCKILLOCHAN moved that the guaranties be for 15 years. The line, if it would pay, ought to pay within a time.

ALD. MURN pointed out that the other line was given 25 years of a guarantee. Why not do the same in this case?

ALD. HUNTER questioned years is quite enough. If the road will ever pay it will pay before then.

ALD. HUNTER did not think the time opportune for the Council to guarantee the payment of \$9,000 a year. The railway might pay, and the city might not be called upon to subsidize it. The streets of the city were in a bad state, and there was no money on hand for the extension of the water works, bridges were rotting, the sewerage system was incomplete, and with all these facts staring them in the face, it was not a time to give such a guarantee.

ALD. HUNTER said he was in favor of giving the extension of the water works, bridges were rotting, the sewerage system was incomplete, and with all these facts staring them in the face, it was not a time to give such a guarantee.

THE MAYOR—If the guarantee is given, there was no reason why the guaranties should be limited to fifteen years. The company should be given a chance to raise the money.

ALD. HUNTER—If the cutting down of the guaranties to fifteen years will hamper the company, I will go in for giving 25 years.

ALD. STYLES thought the ratemakers would want a fifteen years'