

THE VICTORIA TIMES TWICE-A-WEEK. Issued Every Tuesday and Friday. PRICE, \$2 per annum, in advance. Single Copies, 5c.

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TIMES P. & P. CO., VICTORIA, B. C. WM. TEMPLEMAN, Manager.

THE BYE-ELECTIONS.

Mr. Willoughby, the Conservative candidate in Cardwell, is said to have changed his position in regard to remedial legislation and to be ready to give unreserved support to the government respecting the Manitoba policy. The announcement is probably correct, for a few days ago Sir Mackenzie Bowell said in conversation with a reporter: "I have most positive assurance that the Conservative candidate in Cardwell will support the policy of the government." The means by which Mr. Willoughby's conversion was brought about may or may not have been pressure from Quebec, as reported; that is a point of minor importance compared with the conversion itself. What effect will the change have on Mr. Willoughby's chances of election? It is hard to say, but Mr. Willoughby and the government must feel themselves secure in that regard, and the issue must be left for the election to decide. As matters now stand, the government has "straight" candidates in the two bye-elections for which the dates have been fixed. Mr. McGillivray, in North Ontario, has not ventured to declare flatly that he will support remedial legislation, but his utterances have been fairly taken to mean that he will do what the government wants him to do, if elected. The ministers say that they are satisfied with their two candidates and confident they will be returned. Under such circumstances it might be expected that the concoction of "reports" relative to the Manitoba government's attitude would cease. A few days ago the Times hazarded the guess that these reports were invented for the purpose of being used in the bye-elections, and since that time the Winnipeg Tribune has come out with an authoritative and emphatic statement that they have no foundation whatever. In another issue the Tribune says: "In the face of so much talk in the east about compromise, all designed to influence the bye-election now being fought in North Ontario, some timid people were disposed to fancy that 'here might be some slight intimation on the part of the local government to make a compromise. The declaration in the Tribune Thursday evening, coming directly from the ministers, will be generally regarded as highly satisfactory. Whatever a small handful of wire-pulling and spineless citizens may think or say the great bulk, at least 95 per cent., of the people of the province believe that our position is just, and that it should be maintained to the end." Premier Greenway is also reported as saying he did not know of any such negotiations as were reported to be proceeding, and he supposed the persistent rumors were invented for use in the elections. If the government people are so sure of winning, why should they make use of flimsy dodges like this?

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Cleveland does not appear to have pleased a great number of the Washington politicians by his message to congress, but will probably not feel any great disappointment on that account, for he has never shown any great desire to cultivate the favorable opinion of the politicians. It is not easy to find any good foundation for criticisms adverse to the message in so far as it deals with domestic affairs. The President has clearly pointed out the weakness in the country's currency system and the method of supplying a remedy. So long as the greenbacks, the gold reserve and the silver certificates maintain their present relative positions, so long will there be danger of financial disturbance and consequent distress. The retirement of the treasury paper obligations by means of gold bonds, and the substitution of bank notes based on these bonds, would certainly appear to promise the stability so much desired. Free traders are reported as dissatisfied with Mr. Cleveland's failure to offer the proper remarks on his pet subject, but there does not appear to be good cause for their objection. These two sentences at least indicated his views on the question of trade restriction: "The close rivalries of competing industries, the influence of the delusive doctrine that the internal development of a nation is promoted and its wealth increased by a policy which, undertaking to reserve its home markets for the exclusive use of its own producers, necessarily obstructs their course in foreign markets and prevents free access to the products of the world, the desire to retain trade in the time worn rules regardless of the inexorable laws of new needs and changed conditions of demand and supply, and our halting tardiness in inviting a free exchange of commodities and by this means impeding our foot in the external markets naturally open to us, have created a situation somewhat injurious to American export interests, not only in Germany, where

they are perhaps most noticeable, but in adjacent countries." "It is not to be forgotten that international trade cannot be one-sided. Its currents are alternating and its movements should be reciprocal. Without this, it almost necessarily degenerates into a device to gain advantage or a contrivance to secure benefits with only the semblance of a return."

If the United States will not buy abroad neither can it sell abroad, is the shortest possible summary of the President's trade views. The President is said also to have failed to please by his remarks on foreign relations, particularly in regard to the Venezuela question. The extreme jingoism would probably be dissatisfied with anything he could have said in this line. As a matter of fact he appears to have gone out of his way to please them, and his position with regard to Venezuela is the only absurdity he committed. His assumption that the dispute is in consequence of an attempt to "enlarge the area of British Guiana" is a piece of stupidity of which one would hardly have expected the President to be guilty. Of course Mr. Cleveland took the usual Washington view of Behring Sea matters, but he had the courage and fairness to point out where congress erred in respect of the proposed compensation for seizures. He might have added that the evident unwillingness of the politicians to do justice in this matter is not likely to induce Canada to consent to any new restrictions or regulations.

TAKING OUR FISH.

The published statements of Mr. John Flewin, of Port Simpson, an official of the provincial government, in respect of the increasing numbers of American fishermen who annually resort to Canadian waters, between Queen Charlotte Islands and the Mainland, to catch halibut, ought to have some effect on the government. Mr. Flewin, speaking from a personal knowledge of the facts, says that in 1888 six American schooners loaded fish between Edye Passage and Rose Spit, and that the number has constantly increased until this year, when fifteen schooners—American editors would, if the position were reversed, call them "poachers"—loaded cargoes of halibut for Seattle and San Francisco. In addition to this, the American fishermen are said to carry on an illicit trade with the Canadian Indians, and to destroy as many fish as they carry away with them.

In harmony with the Dominion policy of neglect of British Columbia interests, the Ottawa authorities are probably ignorant of the great sea-wealth of the Canadian Pacific coast, and consequently take no steps to preserve it for our own people. The greatest vigilance is maintained on the Atlantic coast and on the lakes, and when American vessels are caught trespassing, or Canadians transgress the regulations, they are instantly seized and either confiscated or fined. But there is an Eastern policy and a Western policy in the fishery business, as in everything else, and the latter seems to be about as much in the interest of Canada as a whole as though British Columbia were a foreign country.

And yet this grievance could be very easily removed and at a very small cost to the country. The government steamer Quadra is not fully occupied save for a few months in the summer, and goes out of commission every winter. Her crew is now about being discharged because there is nothing to do. Were Captain Walbran vested with authority to visit the fishing grounds periodically during the season, illegal fishing and trading would quickly cease, and it would not, we think, be found necessary to resort to harsh measures to enforce a proper observance of international obligations. The men engaged in this trade take our fish simply because they think we do not value them and because of the immunity they have enjoyed in the past they do not look for any opposition from our government. They only need to be told that they are trespassing, and that a continuation of the offence will get them into trouble, to induce them to give up their dangerous undertaking. This the Quadra could do without any great additional cost to the country. Our fishing grounds are believed to be very valuable, and some day soon, when our seafaring population has doubled, they will furnish profitable occupation for Canadian fishermen. Let them, then, be guarded in the meantime, and especially against our very good friends the Americans, who rarely miss an opportunity to enforce international law when unfortunate Canadians are the trespassers.

A FOOLISH PROPOSAL.

The city council should have no hesitation in throwing out the absurd petition asking that the office of chief of the fire department should be made elective. A very inconsiderable proportion of the community is asking for the change, as shown by the signatures to the petition. It would be strange, indeed, if any large number of the citizens should be found endorsing so fantastic a proposition. What reason, based on public benefit, is advanced for making a change? None, apparently, and of course there cannot be any, for the present system secures as good and efficient service as can reasonably be hoped for. Not one out of ten responsible ratepayers will be found to say that the results of the elective system would be nearly so satisfactory. We do not believe there is another city in Canada that would for a moment entertain the idea of elective fire chiefs, and it is hard to see why it should be

even discussed in earnest here. There is much to be said against the proposal and nothing in its favor, unless the personal feelings of some of the agitators are to be deemed worthy of consultation.

SHUFFLING WALLACE.

Mr. McGillivray, Conservative candidate in North Ontario, will not say what stand he intends to take on the Manitoba school question if elected to parliament. His excuse is that he does not know what the Dominion government and Premier Greenway will do, and he wants to find that out before he makes known his own position. Controller Wallace tells the people of North Ontario that Mr. McGillivray is taking the proper stand, and that they should elect him. All the while the government's intention is plain enough. It was thus announced by Mr. Foster, leader of the house of commons, on July 8th, and his declaration has been more than once repeated: "A session of the present parliament will be called together, to meet not later than the first Thursday of January next. If by that time the Manitoba government fails to make a satisfactory arrangement to remedy the grievance of the minority, the Dominion government will be prepared at the next session of parliament, to be called as above stated, to introduce and press to a conclusion such legislation as will afford an adequate measure of relief to the said minority, based upon the lines of the judgment of the Privy Council and the remedial order of the 21st of March, 1895." Conservative papers, though they accuse Mr. Laurier of "indefiniteness," have not a word of censure for the ridiculous shuffling of Messrs. McGillivray and Wallace. The Orangemen, however, do not seem to be so complaisant. William Fitzgerald, of Toronto, Grand Master of the True Blues, said in an interview:

"I am more than surprised at Clarke Wallace's action, for I was firmly convinced that for once we had a leader in the Orange Association who would stand for principles before party, but I have to acknowledge my disappointment, as to my way of thinking, N. G. Wallace has shown himself to be a politician before an Orangeman, and once more the Association is stultified. "How he can possibly reconcile his present attitude in endeavoring to elect a man who will not lodge himself in the remedial legislation with his own past utterances and the action taken by the Supreme Grand Lodge at Halifax, is more than I can understand; and as he is fully aware that he is going against the strong convictions of over ninety per cent. of the membership, he should naturally expect his resignation. But that is something under the present circumstances we need not look for. He will do nothing to hurt the government."

THE NEW YORK EVENING POST thus cavalierly banter the "Monroe Doctrine" men: "France has a boundary dispute with Brazil similar to that of England with Venezuela, and French publicists are naturally inclined to discuss what they call 'la doctrine de Monroe.' They know that Monroe is the great American god Terminus, who presides over boundaries, and that he must especially be placated when, as is the case in French Guiana, gold mines are said to exist in the disputed territory. But we are sorry to see that French jurists do not take Lodge's reverent view of the Monroe doctrine. One of them, writing in the Debats, affirms that 'it simply does not exist from the point of view of international law, or, rather, it exists only so far as it agrees with international law, but is justly ignored when it conflicts therewith.' He adds that 'it is merely an interesting historic document, of which some of the assertions 'cannot be sustained.' That is enough. We may not know what the Monroe doctrine is, but we will sustain it in the teeth of the world. Wait till congress proceeds that joint resolution affirming the Monroe doctrine, which some of its leading intellects are now framing. Then this flippant Frenchman will see how proudly our country will rank itself alongside the old Scotch-woman who admitted that she did not know what the Solemn League and Covenant was, but defiantly exclaimed, 'I'll maintain it.'"

J. M. Kellie, M. P., writes to the Kootenay Mail as follows on the subject of claim jumping: "In Trail Creek district, I am credibly informed, claim jumping is rampant, and serious injury is the result. Claim jumping in any form or upon any technicality is a standing menace to the interest of any mining community, and must be stamped out by the strongest legislation. Any free miner who would be intentionally guilty of placing a blanket location on a claim held by another free miner should be deprived of all mining privileges, and a further punishment inflicted of being sent to jail as a common felon. We are now entering a period of great mining development, and if we allow the pernicious system of claim jumping to become prevalent bloodshed will ensue, the investment of capital will be retarded, and serious consequences to the prosperity of the province will be the result. Claim jumping in Trail Creek seems to have gained a considerable hold upon the most trivial and frivolous of technicalities. I have the greatest confidence in the judges of our supreme court, and feel assured they will give the most liberal interpretation to the mining laws and give the original claim holder ample protection. A stringent legislation on the lines I have above indicated will forever put an end to claim jumping in the province and do away with expensive litigation." Mr. Kellie may apparently be counted on to propose such legislation as he hints at when the legislature next meets, and it is to be hoped the house will support him unanimously.

Dudley—What are you going to be when you grow up, Bobby? Bobby—I'm going to be a man. What are you going to be?

THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS in Seattle has decreased from 12,043 in November, 1894, to 5905 in Nov., 1895.

MONTEAL WITNESS:—The dates have been fixed for the coming session of the Dominion parliament and for the Cardwell election, but not yet for the other four elections, which the government is far more doubtful about carrying than even those of North Ontario and Cardwell. Why should the election in West Huron, which was the first constituency vacated, be postponed, while that in North Ontario, the last to be vacated, is rushed on? There is only one answer—West Huron gave a majority of only 16 for the government in the last election, while North Ontario gave 254. The government manipulates the elections to suit its own convenience. In England bye-elections are regulated by legal machinery, over which the government has no control. The hardened shamelessness of the Dominion government in gerrymandering the constituencies and manipulating the elections in order to secure an iniquitous advantage is a disgrace to the Dominion.

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In the Vancouver World appears the following in regard to the mining case at Vernon:—

"F. S. Barnard, M. P., was asked by a World representative to-day for an explanation regarding the mining claims, said to have been jumped by him and others, which are located on his ranch near Vernon. He stated that he offered to give back the claims to the original holders, and merely wished the locators to comply with the law, and secure him against damages to his property. He claims it as his right to know that his stock and fences are not interfered with. Furthermore, the locators should have obtained the right of entry from him before locating the claims or proceeding to work. The mining regulations provide that locators before recording their claim must deposit a bond with the government or the owner of the property upon which prospecting is being carried on guaranteeing the owner against loss or injury in consequence of their operations. Mr. Barnard, as was his right, merely insisted upon the law being complied with."

It was certainly within Mr. Barnard's right to insist on the locators complying with the law and to secure the prescribed protection for his property interests. But was it necessary for him to go about this in the way he adopted?

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VICTORIA MARKETS.

Doings in Marine Circles During the Past Twenty-Four Hours.

There are but few changes to report in the markets this week. The Ogilvie Milling Co. reduced prices on Monday, and Hungarian flour is now retailed for \$5.10. The Brackman & Ker Milling Co. also announce a reduction to the trade on all grades of oatmeal, which will shortly affect the retail prices.

Table of market prices for various goods including Flour, Oatmeal, Corn, Potatoes, etc.

COUNTY COURT.

Several Interesting Cases Before Mr. Justice Drake.

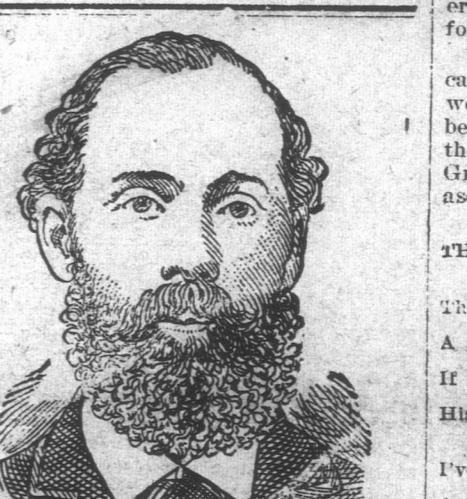
The December sittings of the county court commenced to-day. There were several interesting cases. One arose over the ownership of a rather handsome-looking Irish setter. Mrs. C. Cox was the plaintiff and contended that the dog was hers and she had raised it from a pup. Mr. Hutcheson, the defendant, claimed just as emphatically that he had raised it. The dog was brought into court, an endeavor being made in that way to prove the ownership. But he was a very poor witness. Although he seemed to have a preference for the lady, he would go to Mr. Hutcheson when called, and also paid an occasional visit to Deputy Sheriff Siddall, in whose charge he had been since the writ was taken out. Mr. Justice Drake was unable to decide the case to-day.

Another case was to decide a point as to whether a blacksmith was liable for damages when an accident occurred to a horse which had been left in his shop. Some time ago a horse belonging to Erskine, Wall & Co. was left at the shop of Ledingham Bros. After it had been shod it was tied in a shed, where it was to be left until the driver called for it. Before the driver called the horse became restless, and getting entangled in the rope, broke its leg. The court decided that Messrs. Ledingham had used ordinary care, and were therefore not liable for damages.

HER ENGLISH HUSBAND LIVED.

Mrs. Florence O'Connor Loses Her Second Love.

New York, Dec. 5.—Judge Bookstaver, in the court of common pleas, granted a decree of annulment of his marriage with Florence O'Connor to William F. O'Connor, on the ground that when he married her she had a husband living from whom she had not been divorced. Mrs. O'Connor is an actress, and since she came here from England has been known on the stage as Florence Brandon. Mrs. O'Connor believed her English husband to be dead at the time of her marriage to O'Connor in 1891.



Purified Blood.

Had an operation in the following case. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures which no other will. It makes pure blood. "A year ago my father, William Thomsen, was taken suddenly ill with inflammation of the bladder. He suffered a great deal and was very low for some time. At last the doctor said he would not get well unless an operation was performed. At this time we read about Hood's Sarsaparilla and decided to try it. Before he used a bottle of it his appetite had come back to him, whereas before he could eat but little. When he had taken three bottles of the medicine he was as well as ever." FRANCIS J. THOMPSON, Peninsula Lake, Ontario. Remember.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the Only True Blood Purifier. Prominently in the public eye today. Hood's Pills cure all liver, bilious, and blood diseases. Sold everywhere.

ALONG THE WHARVES.

Doings in Marine Circles During the Past Twenty-Four Hours.

The steamer Boscowitz leaves for the north to-night with a full cargo of freight and a number of passengers. Two scow loads of coal for Sprat & Macaulay were brought down by the tug Vanhooker from Nanaimo last evening.

The steamer Danube is transferring the salmon brought down from the northern canneries to the bark Ardmore at Turner, Beeton & Co.'s wharf. The Danube will make any more trips north this season.

The ship Flery Cross, which put into Montevideo on August 31, while on her way from Cardiff with coal for the navy, has been chartered to take a cargo of coal to the United Kingdom. Her coal cargo was sold by auction on October 25th.

Having been delayed on the Sound carrying freight, the steamer Rosalia left several hours late in arriving this morning. She left again shortly after noon. The company says it is not the Schone's latest cut, but it is expected that they will do so to-morrow.

The sealing schooner Geneva began signing her hunters and crew to-day. She will leave for the Japanese coast about Christmas. The Geneva is the first vessel to secure white hunters for the next season. The arrangements made with the hunters have not been made public.

CANCELLED STAMP THEFTS.

One of the Culprits Arrested Makes an Interesting Confession.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Wm. Washington, the negro arrested for complicity in the treasury cancelled stamp thefts last week, made a confession which shows that the thefts have gone on for months. The stamps, he says, were not taken from documents at the treasury building but the papers were taken away in small quantities to different houses, where young girls were employed at from 40 to 50 cents a day to remove such of the stamps and signatures as seemed valuable, and then burnt the papers. It is estimated that Washington and Edwards, who was arrested some days ago, together have obtained from the room of the treasury about 25,000 old papers and destroyed a considerable number of them after removing the stamps. About 18,000 stamps have been recovered by the department.

THE INSURANCE FRAUDS.

Companies Will Spare No Expense to Punish the Swindlers.

Toronto, Dec. 4.—The acquittal of the Hyams twins on the charge of murdering Willie Wells has aroused the insurance companies, and they intend making it exceedingly interesting for the prisoners on the charge now pending of defrauding the insurance companies. So many alleged attempts to defraud insurance companies have been recently discovered that the companies are determined to spare no expense in order to convict the "guilty parties." As a result, the representatives of several companies it was decided to place unlimited funds at the disposal of the crown to aid in bringing to light all the facts connected with the recent frauds, and B. B. Osler will be retained to prosecute. Those especially to be inquired into are the Hyams twins, charged with conspiracy to insure and murder Martha Wells; George Alger, of Pickering, charged with attempting to defraud the Equitable Life and Home Life assurance, and the Urings, of Elgin county, charged with firing their store with the object of swindling insurance companies holding risks on their premises.

THE PRAYERS FOR INGERSOLL.

Have Had No Effect Yet—He Suggests Prayers For Cleveland.

Minneapolis, Dec. 5.—Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll lectured this evening at Ottumwa, Ia. The colonel was interviewed on the three thousand prayers offered for him on Thanksgiving day. He was not visibly disturbed by the prayers which the Christian Endeavorers of that nation are causing to be made for his salvation. When asked if he believed in the efficacy of these petitions, he said: "Oh, we will have to wait and see what will be done. If these prayers are effective, then the Endeavorers ought to go after Grover Cleveland. His message reads as though he needed it."

THE S. CLAUS COMPANY. (UNLIMITED)—A SUGGESTION.

These days of corporations it would truly seem to be a splendid plan if Santa Claus would look about and see if he could not incorporate himself and so expand his usefulness to cover every corner of the land.

I've noticed, as I've looked about on Christmas days gone by, a lot of little children who have failed to catch his eye. Who when the Yule was its height had not a single toy. Oh, lit of peppermint to fill their little souls with joy.

And there have been some persons who have ventured to remark that they had not the slightest recollection of having seen a person of his kind. There'd be some signs of presents in the hovels of the poor.

Which is a point he'll have to meet with many of that sort. If ever he shall find himself hauled up before the court. But I, who've always always found him most attentive to me, am sure he does exist and works most faithfully. But certain to am I that in these Christ-mas days of late He's found his work unaltered, for his stock is going far too great. And hence I think that he'd do well to form a company, and everywhere throughout the land to place an agency. And all who love him for his labors in the days now past Can put their names down in his books—The stock should go right to the top. It doesn't seem that it could meet with failure, just because They must be few who would not take stock in old Santa Claus. Carlyle Smith in Harper's.