

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1892.

PERSISTENT AND PRESUMPTUOUS.

The anti-vaccinationists in this city are very persistent, and let us add not a little presumptuous. They will have the last word no matter what may be the consequence. This might be all right if they were competent to discuss the question. But we, for our part, do not consider them at all competent. They are, in fact, exceedingly incompetent.

The question of the virtue of vaccination is a scientific one. It is also one that has been very thoroughly discussed by scientific men of many countries. After all these years of observation and discussion by men who have had the very best opportunities of getting a knowledge of the facts connected with the subject the great majority of the medical faculty have come to the conclusion that vaccination is a safeguard against smallpox. The medical men of Great Britain, of France, of Germany, of the United States, of Austria, of Switzerland are, considering the peculiarities of the human mind, as near as it is possible unanimous on the subject. The dissenters are comparatively very few, and they are not by any means eminent.

Besides the medical men, whose business it is to find out all about vaccination, the most intelligent men and women of all these countries are believers in the efficacy of the process. They have been vaccinated themselves, and they consider it their duty to have all those over whom they have authority vaccinated also. The consensus of opinion on this subject among those who are best able to form an opinion on its merits is almost complete.

This, too, is not a matter of mere speculation about which the wisest and most learned men can only guess. It is a matter of fact and experience, which can be clearly proved by evidence, such evidence as is accepted in a court of law by men who are dealing with events that have happened and with things that have been seen.

To believe that our correspondent, Mr. Greig, and other anti-vaccinationists are not medical men, and who can have devoted but very small part of their time comparatively to the study of vaccination, are right, and that the vast majority of medical men and the intelligent classes of our own and other countries are wrong, is to do what sane men would not think of doing with respect to any other subject, scientific or mechanical. And it is not very presumptuous in these gentlemen setting up the opinions which they have formed with their limited opportunities of observation and study, against the conclusions that able and honest men have arrived at after long observation, many experiments and careful thought?

Mr. Greig, who is a man of intelligence, would not do this with respect to engineering or blacksmithing or watchmaking. He would not undertake to dictate to an intelligent engineer or blacksmith or watchmaker how he should do his work, and attempt to lead others to believe that he knows more about the mechanic's business by simply looking on a little while and reading scraps out of a few books than he who has spent half a life time in learning his trade, and who has had a wide experience of it in all its branches. If the unskilled man who undertakes to dictate to a simple mechanic is ridiculously presumptuous, is not the layman who attempts to question the conclusions of the professors of a difficult and complex science, like that of medicine, greatly more presumptuous. Is not his case one of those which the poet had in his mind when he wrote:

"A little learning is a dangerous thing,"

It is, we frankly confess, incomprehensible to us, how a mere layman can take upon himself to lay down the law in a matter in which the health and even the lives of thousands are involved. And it is almost equally incomprehensible how persons of any intelligence would pay the least attention to his anti-vaccination doctrines. As we all know, there are many subjects on which the great majority of men and women must walk by faith and not by sight. They must of necessity depend upon the skill of experts—those who have made such subjects a special study. Vaccination is one of these subjects, and a little inquiry will convince anyone that the great majority of those who have had the best opportunities of studying it and seeing how its works are believed in its virtues. Why then should intelligent people pay any attention to the talk of men who have not had the opportunity of qualifying themselves to be competent to come to an intelligent decision in the matter.

Mr. Greig's letter shows us that he is not disposed to discuss the subject fairly. He says that the figures given by the London Standard "are interesting but no more. Because only the experience of a single year, 1890, in Germany is given." When we turned to the extract from the Standard we were surprised to find that the experience of five years, 1888-90, is given and that conclusions drawn from the statistics of England, Switzerland, Belgium, France, Austria, Italy, Spain and Russia are adduced. If this is Mr. Greig's usual way of dealing with the evidence that comes under his observation, we are fully warranted in believing that his decisions are not only worthless, but a great deal worse than worthless.

THE EXPORT OF GOLD.

There has been lately a large export of gold from the United States. As much as four and a half millions of dollars was sent out of the country in one week not long ago. This has caused some timid people to feel alarmed, but those best qualified to judge say that there is nothing to be afraid of. The gold, they say, will all come back again in the regular course of trade, perhaps with

large additions. There are, however, conservative financiers who hold that the United States Government had better be careful, for its position as regards the currency is rather a ticklish one. The New York Times says:

When Secretary Sherman on the 1st of January, 1879, began the redemption in coin of legal tender notes of the United States he had \$130,000,000 of gold at his command, which was within a fraction of 40 per cent. of the maximum demand. Secretary Feter has barely one hundred millions against notes and certificates which he is bound to keep at par with gold, amounting in round numbers to \$800,000,000, or less than 13 per cent., and the reserve, relative to the obligations, is dwindling day by day and must go on dwindling.

It is not surprising that under these circumstances investors feel a little shy, for if any national crisis occurred that would cause a run on the Treasury the Government would be in an unfortunate situation. It is true there is not much fear of the confidence in the credit of the United States Government being shaken. Business men both in the United States and in foreign countries place the greatest reliance upon it. Its credit never stood higher, but being under an obligation to redeem with gold \$800,000,000 of paper with only one hundred millions gold in its vaults it is no wonder that very cautious investors feel nervous when they see the gold going out of the country. Under wise and firm management, the Times believes that the credit of the country will remain sound, but will the course of the Government be wise and firm? This is doubted.

A FRENCH BOODLER.

Dr. Cornelius Herz, one of the most notorious of the French boodlers, is well known to the people of the Pacific Coast. He resided in San Francisco for some time, and robbed nearly every one who had business relations with him. One of his victims describes him as a smooth-tongued, oily villain. He pretended to be a doctor, but when the law was passed requiring every medical man to produce a diploma from a college of some repute, he found it convenient to take a trip to Chicago. When he came back after a not very lengthened stay, he had the required "sheepskin." How he procured it no one seems to know. It was evident that he knew nothing about medicine. After a while he set up as an electrical doctor, but, an electrician with whom he had dealings soon found that he did not know a positive from a negative pole. This man describes him as "a rank charlatan"; but if he did not know anything about electricity he discovered a way to cheat his partner out of \$13,000. He ruined another partner, Dr. Stout, and he robbed a retired brewer by the name of Lyons out of \$100,000. Milton S. Latham, the millionaire, was one of his dupes. Lyons and some others whom he had robbed followed him to Paris, but it does not seem that he could be prevailed upon to make restitution to more than one or two of them.

Baron Reinach found in this man a serviceable tool; an immense sum of money passed through his hands. Some of it was to bribe members of the Legislature and others, but it is evident that a very great deal stuck to his own fingers. The Panama Canal fraud was a bonanza to a man like Herz, and it is evident that he made a good use of his opportunities.

TEN PER CENT. ON TEA.

It is through ignorance or design that the American newspapers and American politicians so persistently and grossly misrepresent the relations between Canada and the United States? Even the President himself in his message misconceived the object and the effect of the duty of ten per cent. imposed on tea imported into Canada from the United States. A telegram from Washington that appeared in the Colonist of Sunday last gave the mistaken and distorted view of the tea duty taken by many Americans. That telegram, after repeating what ought to be the exploded story of the C. P. R. enjoying privileges in carrying American freight to and through American territory, denied to American railways, goes on to say:

Enjoying this superiority over the American roads, the C. P. R. has caused to be put in the Canadian tariff a discriminating duty of ten per cent. on all coffee and tea imported into Canada from the United States. From all other countries except the United States coffee and tea come into Canada free. The effect has been to divert the traffic from American ports and have imported into Canada from the U. S. R. from Vancouver, where it is landed from China and elsewhere.

The writer then goes on to say that it was proposed to suspend the action of the law which permits Canadian railways to carry American goods in bond. "Should this be done," he proceeds, "it would, in the opinion of the Treasury Department officials, put a stop to discrimination against American railroads and be a retaliatory measure against Canada for her unfriendliness to the United States."

The writer, and all who express themselves as he does, do not know that the Canadian ten per cent. duty on tea is not a discrimination against American railroads. There is no duty in Canada on tea taken to an American port from China or elsewhere and conveyed by an American railroad to Canadian territory. Tea, say, landed at San Francisco and conveyed by the American roads to Toronto, is on precisely the same footing as tea landed at Vancouver and carried by the C. P. R. to the same city. China, Japan or India tea imported direct from those countries pays no duty in Canada no matter what railways carry it to the Canadian cities where it is sold. So the discrimination is not against American railroads. It was imposed to encourage a direct tea trade be-

tween Canada and the tea-growing countries. There is, however, a discrimination. The ten per cent. duty is levied on tea purchased in the United States and then imported into Canada. The discrimination, whether wise or unwise, is not against American railroads, but against American middlemen.

A superficial reader of the Canadian tariff might be led to make the mistake into which President Harrison fell, but those acquainted with the trade between the two countries know that "Tea from the United States 10 per cent." is interpreted to mean tea purchased in the United States. There is the less excuse for this mistake as the matter has been settled by the Exchequer Court of Canada in the way we have shown.

LOST IN THE WOODS.

A Young Victoriano Supposed to Have Met Death by Exposure and Starvation.

Little Hope Held Out of Finding Him Alive—The Circumstances.

About a week or ten days ago a small party of Victoria boys left here on a shooting expedition. They went up to the valley of the Quichian river, about 40 miles north of Nanaimo, and making camp there were shooting in the neighborhood.

A week ago last Sunday, one of the party, Stark Miller, whose father, Byron Miller, lives at 128 Yates street, shot at a wolf and wounded it in the leg, but not badly enough to prevent it running away at a lively gait. The young man called out to the party that he was going after it, and followed his game into the brush. Nothing has been seen or heard of him since.

When young Miller did not return on Sunday, the others of the party went up the river and on the heights and fired off their rifles repeatedly, hoping in this way to give some signal to their missing friend. They listened at night for a reply, but none came. That night it rained very heavily, making the low ground muddy and wet, and completely cutting off any traces that there might have been in the brush.

Next day—Monday—the search was continued, but with no better success. On Monday evening snow commenced falling, and finding the boy alive, as the break in the country was very difficult, the party decided to wait until the snow melted. They then sent word to Nanaimo and Victoria and continued the search.

On Monday morning the father, Byron Miller, applied to the superintendent of Provincial police, Mr. F. S. Hussey, for assistance, having determined as soon as he got word of his son's loss to head a search party himself. He left for Nanaimo on Monday morning, having been provided with letters to the authorities there which will have enabled him to get whatever assistance is necessary.

Not very much hope is held out, however, of finding the boy alive, as the break in the locality is very thick and the undergrowth heavy. When young Miller left his companions, he had only a Marlin rifle, some fifteen rounds of ammunition and a few matches, and the chances seem to be terribly against his escaping from a death from exposure and starvation.

BACK FROM ALASKA.

Captain William Moore Speaks of a Country With Immense Possibilities.

Capt. William Moore, the pioneer of Alaska steam navigation, has just returned from a trip to that far-off region, and is more than ever convinced of the great future in store for that country. The Captain left Victoria in May last with the Garrett's party to the Yukon, and after a North country, with the object of reporting as to its resources, etc. He was seen by a Colonist reporter last night, and in a brief interview stated that miners were flocking to the action about the Yukon, and were so numerous that they were over the success attending their labors.

"Some time ago," said the Captain, "they contented themselves with working along the bars of the river, not venturing into the country. Since they have been able to wash their stuff, last year, however, no less than nine gold lodes were discovered. Glacier Creek, Miller's Creek and Red Rock Creek, flowing into Sixty-mile river, and the Canyon, August, Terry Woods, Squaw, Davies and Packer creeks, flowing into Forty-mile river. These discoveries have given miners great heart, as there are none of these lodes that will not pay from one to five ounces per day, per man.

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Christmas numbers of English and American Illustrated Papers, Magazines and Christmas Annals have arrived, and early orders are solicited to prevent disappointments. Also on hand a most abundant stock of Juvenile Poets, Christmas Cards and Gift-books, as well as Lett's and Canadian Office and Pocket Diaries, Illustrated Almanacs, etc., etc. T. N. HIBBERD & Co. dec3-41w

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Assessment of Timber Lands—Victoria Talent Pleases a Vancouver Audience.

Christmas Cheer for Poor Boys—An Interesting Lecture by The Business Record.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER, B.C., Dec. 27.—The Finance Committee has again refused the application of R. D. Pitt for compensation for a lost at a fire four years ago last winter. A member of the Finance Committee says the application has been practically handed down from council to council, and has been filed over fifteen times, as evidence is invariably forthcoming—sufficiently strong to influence the aldermen—that Mr. Pitt was not helping but obstructing the firemen and their work when run over by the cart. Mr. Pitt says he will instruct his lawyers in Victoria to sue the city if his continued applications are ignored. He will make a personal appeal on Monday night.

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the Consumers Cordage Co. Seldom or never is a writ issued in the name of two separate legal firms, but here the injunction taken out by Yates, Jay & Russell for the Cordage Co., will be allowed to drop, and Hon. Theodore Davis, acting for the Bank, and whose interest is not at one with those of the plaintiff company, will appear to carry through the case. Legal gentlemen expect some nice points in law to come up when the case goes to trial.

This question with many of the merchants in Vancouver elicited the fact that the volume of business for the month of December, 1892, surpasses that of previous years. In many instances the receipts have been doubled, while in some few instances the marking down process kept the net profits down below those of December, 1891.

Through the exertions of the churches and the Vancouver World, there was not a poor child in Vancouver who was not made happy on Christmas day.

WESTMINSTER. NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 27.—Christmas day passed off very quietly and without any unusual event to mark the occurrence. The Provincial jail, asylum and penitentiary inmates all had an extra feast. The weather was very unpleasant.

A man named McCrohan was held up by foot-pads and robbed of all he had on Sunday morning. Chief Ackerman, of the fire department, was presented with a handsome silver service on Christmas day by the firemen.

At the request of many friends N. C. Schott has been asked to take the field as a candidate for reeve of the Burnaby municipality for next year.

The new Masonic Temple here was dedicated with imposing ceremonies this evening by Grand Master Downie and officers of the Grand Lodge. The installation of Union and King Solomon lodges officers followed, and then the usual St. John's day banquet took place. Over two hundred Masons were present.

The Christmas tree and the Christmas tree entertainment at Westham Island on Friday evening, when all the children in the settlement were made happy by gifts from a big Christmas tree. Over \$400 worth of presents were distributed to the youngsters.

NANAIMO. NANAIMO, Dec. 27.—As Captain Freeman of the ship Glory of the Seas was examining his rifle, yesterday, he discovered that some one had plugged it with three corks jammed down into the barrel. Had the Captain fired it, the result might have been disastrous.

A party of ladies and gentlemen went out shooting yesterday on Newcastle Island. One of the ladies, Miss Downie, secured a fine specimen of the Canada goose.

The steamship Wellington made the quickest trip from San Francisco to Departure Bay last week; time, 69½ hours from dock to dock.

John Newton, a miner, whilst walking along No. 1 level of the Esplanade shaft, was knocked down by an electric motor, seriously injuring his back.

J. Mahner & Co.'s wholesale liquor store was broken into last night and a quantity of liquor stolen.

Arrived, ship Occidental. Sailed, ship India.

No news has yet been received of the missing ship Miller.

DUNCAN'S. DUNCAN'S, Dec. 27.—The Christmas tree and entertainment at the Sabbath school passed off very pleasantly, though the severe weather prevented many friends from attending.

The judge of the court of revision and appeal for Cowichan district, Mr. Sydney Aspland, sat at the court house to hear appeals against assessments. The only case of importance was that of the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Co. objecting to the taxation of timber lands held by the company under agreements of purchase from the Island Railway Co. The appeal was dismissed.

Nat. Zeiner, James McLeod and party held a successful hunt in the neighborhood of the big slide, Cowichan Lake road, a fine black bear and several deer falling to their rifles.

The Cowichan Pleasant Evenings society's regular entertainment and subsequent dance took place at the Agricultural Hall a few days ago.

The closing exercises of the Duncan's school were held last night, when the school was taken over by the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Co. objecting to the taxation of timber lands held by the company under agreements of purchase from the Island Railway Co. The appeal was dismissed.

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on behalf of her fellow scholars, presented her with a plush covered photograph album as a keepsake containing the names of all the children, asking them not to accept it because of its value but as coming from loving and sincere hearts, and more as a desire to convey their deeper regard for her. Mrs. Patterson feelingly acknowledged both the gift and the interest shown by her kindness and sympathy that evening, and expressed her delight in knowing that in the discharge of her duties she has met with the good-will and friendly feeling of one and all. The watch, which was supplied by Salmon Davidson Bros., Victoria, was beautifully engraved and enclosed in an ivoryasket bearing the inscription: "Presented to Mrs. Patterson by her many island friends, December 22, 1892."

CHERMAINUS. CHERMAINUS, Dec. 26.—Mr. Hewitson leaves on Saturday for Hamilton, Ont., where he intends making a business course. He is a most esteemed young man of superior abilities and, no doubt, will be successful. During his five years' residence here he has made many sincere friends.

The semi-annual public school examinations were held in the three schools of this neighborhood on Thursday. Select recitations, dialogues and music were rendered by the pupils. At the close, speeches were given by the trustees and others, all of whom expressed themselves well satisfied as to the progress made during the past term.

The Christmas tree in preparation for the past few weeks in connection with the Sunday school took place on Christmas Eve in the school room, which was appropriately decorated for the occasion. A programme was quite attractively rendered, and which Santa Claus, appearing on the scene in a very mysterious way, distributed the handsome gifts. Among those highly favored was Mr. Telford, who received a beautiful writing case from the pupils of his school. All were present with their presents and the proceedings of the evening. The meeting was brought to a close by singing the Doxology.

KAMLOOPS. From the Island Sentinel.) E. A. Nash, Dominion Land Agent at Kamloops, reports that there have been an increased number of entries granted since the lands were restored to homesteading. The rule by Mr. Nash, in favor of Enderby not long ago resulted in a solution of several questions which had been long pending.

The Hospital bill which the ladies of Kamloops organized, shows the splendid financial result of \$207.45 net proceeds, the highest sum yet realized by any single effort in behalf of the hospital.

J. Hepburn, manager of the Victoria Hydraulic Mining Company at the Forks of the Quennelle, reports that his company has been taking work on Spanish Lake, and have laid about eight miles of flume, the pipe being from four feet at the inlet to 17½ inches at the outlet. Work has been suspended on account of frost and snow. From 35 to 40 men have been employed during the open season, but when all the machinery is running they will not need so many. On the south side of the Forks another hydraulic company is at work, who have spent from \$7,000 to \$8,000 on their claim.

The river is now closed by west wind and ice jags caused by it making crossing by the ferry impossible.

Jas. Robertson was struck by an engine in the yard at North Bend station at 11:15 p.m. on Monday, and died two hours afterwards. He was 46 years of age; he was formerly a constable at Glasgow, Scotland.

Messrs. Wood & Tunstall are in correspondence with Montana parties concerning the sale of the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Co. objecting to the taxation of timber lands held by the company under agreements of purchase from the Island Railway Co. The appeal was dismissed.

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The Cowichan Pleasant Evenings society's regular entertainment and subsequent dance took place at the Agricultural Hall a few days ago.

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