The Colonist.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1897.

Published Every Monday and Thursday by The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited Liability.

W. H. ELLIS, Manager. A. G. SARGISON, Secretary.

TERMS:

THE DAILY COLONIST.

Published Every Day except Monday

Per year, postage free to any part of Canada.....$10 00
Parts of a year at the same rate.
Per week, if delivered..... 20

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.

Per year, postage free to any part of the Dominion or the United States..... $1 50
Six months..... 75

Subscriptions in all cases are payable strictly in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES.

REGULAR COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING, as distinguished from everything of a transient character—that is to say, advertising referring to regular Mercantile and Manufacturing Business, Government and Land Notices—published at the following rates, per line, solid nonpareil, the duration of publication to be specified at the time of ordering advertisements:

More than one fortnight and not more than one month, 50 cents.

More than one week and not more than one fortnight, 40 cents.

Not more than one week, 30 cents.

No advertisement under this classification inserted for less than $2.50, and accepted other than for every-day insertion.

Theatrical advertisements, 10 cents per line each insertion.

Advertisements unaccompanied by specific instructions inserted till ordered out.

Advertisements discontinued before expiration of special period will be charged as if continued for full term.

Liberal allowance on yearly and half-yearly contracts.

WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS—Ten cents a line solid nonpareil, each insertion. No advertisement inserted for less than $2.

TRANSIENT ADVERTISING—Per line solid nonpareil: First insertion, 10 cents; each subsequent consecutive insertion, 5 cents. Advertisements not inserted every day, 10 cents per line each insertion. No advertisement inserted for less than $1.50.

Births, Marriages and Deaths, $1.00; funeral notices, 50 cents extra.

Where cuts are inserted they must be ALL METAL—not mounted on wood.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

In a very few days the municipal voters of Victoria will be called upon to choose the men to whose care for the next twelve months it is their good will and pleasure to confide the municipal concerns of the city. Under ordinary circumstances it would be needless to say that the trust is a most important one, but, at the present time, there are special reasons which will at once suggest themselves on account of which the twelve months upon which we are entering will be of special moment to the citizens. But few candidates are already in the field for the representation of the various wards, a fact which our readers generally will be surprised to notice in view of the comparative unfortunate experiences of recent years of men whose capacity was to talk at council meetings of what should be or should have been done, and to attempt to shoulder off upon one another or upon officials of the different departments responsibilities which devolved upon them when they took the oaths of office and assumed their seats at the Council Board.

There has been a great deal of talk in some quarters of running municipal and provincial matters on the lines of Dominion politics; but what should the purely administrative business of our city and province have to do with the general concerns of a country like Canada, the different sections of which have special interests that are peculiarly their own? To speak of the city of Victoria, it may be said that the matters with which the City Council has to do only indirectly affect the rest of the Confederation, although it is true that its prosperity or the reverse in its measure adds to or detracts from the general result. But, as regards the city itself, the Board of Aldermen are in a degree the heads of a family, whose well-being it is for them to advance and safeguard in every legitimate way. This surely does not bring in what are termed Dominion politics. In Provincial matters it has, moreover, been proved that the provinces which are the best regulated and the most prosperous are those whose legislators attend to their own peculiar concerns and leave the leaders at Ottawa to do their fighting on their own lines and within their own ground.

No matter who they are, we want the best available men at the City Council Board. We have, it is true, or ought to have, as the practical heads of the departments men who understand their business or profession, and over them unless the citizens are content that they should carry on matters as they please, we require men of common sense and business ability—not talking machines whose self-constituted mission is to make the worst appear the better cause. In considering municipal concerns the citizens have not alone to remember past experiences, and the amount of money which, in some directions, has been absolutely wasted because the men who controled the expenditure either did not appreciate the conditions and blundered through ignorance, or were utterly unfitted for the responsible positions in which they had been placed, and through influences altogether outside of those by which, as we believe, should have obtained, determined the results.

Then, if we look to the future, we cannot fail to see that the conditions of Victoria have materially changed within the last few years, and we have to provide for the requirements of a city vastly different from that which its founders contemplated. It may be said that the conditions which have to be dealt with are in some respects peculiar; we have to make what in many respects will be a new Victoria, and the taxpayers cannot afford costly experiments by men who are not equal to the situation.

Many good citizens to whom the people would gladly have entrusted the city destinies, have been, and are, unwilling to come to the front and in the new deal, which it is expected election day will inaugurate, we want, as we have before said, our best men to do the best work they can in behalf of their fellows and of their own individual interests. The consideration of every member of the Council Board during the year ought to be "how best can I benefit the community even if it requires the sinking of my own individuality." The taxpayers should remember that they pay their money to have the city run right, and should put the men in charge, as aldermen or mayor, whom they would select to entrust their money to for private investment.

THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

If the Conservatives had sought for some way to secure support and endorsation for the National Policy and for the tariff by which its objects are reached, they could not have found a method more likely to attain their purpose than the commission, composed of members of the present Liberal Government, which is now travelling through the different provinces; ostensibly, to obtain the fullest information from persons engaged in various lines of industry; really, to find a plausible excuse for not making such changes and reductions in the present scale of duties as would leave the country without the revenue requisite for the public service.

We observe that Sir Oliver Mowat since the sitting at Hamilton when, overcome with *ennui* at the monotony of the proceedings, he took a nap, has been present at but few sessions. It would have been an occasion of peculiar interest had he been at the sitting held in Ottawa on Monday last. Then the Hon. E. H. Bronson, a member of the Hon. Mr. Hardy's cabinet, as he was also of that of Sir Oliver Mowat, gave testimony against reducing the duties on pork and other commodities produced in Canada. Although Mr. Bronson is engaged largely in the lumber business and the cheapening of the price of pork—an article largely consumed in the lumber camps—would indirectly benefit the Canadian lumberman in his competition with his rival across the boundary, he was opposed to putting pork on the free list, because it would injure Canadian farmers. Yet Mr. Bronson is a sturdy Liberal; has been since 1890 a member of the Liberal Government of Ontario, and Free Trade was inscribed on the banner under which Mr. Laurier led his party in the last campaign.

So far there has been no substantial support given to radical changes in the tariff in any of the numerous places at which the Tariff Commission has held its sittings. Even Hon. Mr. Fisher, the Minister of Agriculture, was betrayed into an admission of surprise at Toronto, at the fact that in the heart of what he described as the finest farming country in the Dominion, there was practically no demand from the agriculturists for reductions in the tariff, much less for the abandonment of the policy of Protection. Perhaps, if Mr. Fisher had recalled to mind the striking object lesson which the farmers have recently had presented to them in the fact that they were getting six or seven cents a bushel more for their wheat than their American rivals, his surprise would have disappeared.

THE THREE R'S.

Attention has lately been directed to the schools of New York. The teachers, it is said, are underpaid and the school curriculum is too long. The children are compelled to study too many subjects and there is not time to learn any of them thoroughly. There are sixteen or seventeen subjects on the course of studies for the common schools, and all the children are expected to study them all whether or not they intend to go to college. In spite, or more likely, because of the multiplicity of studies, children of fourteen or fifteen years of age often leave school without being able to write a letter properly or to read intelligently an ordinary newspaper or magazine article.

It would be better both for scholars and teachers if they confined their attention to a thorough mastery of the three R's and spent on them the attention and intellectual force that are now dissipated by a variety of subjects which it is impossible to study properly in the short time that can be devoted to each, and many of which, even if thoroughly learned, would not be of as much use to the future citizen as the ability to spell and write well, to read so as to make the author's thought one's own, and to understand the principles and applications of the rules of arithmetic. The New York Advertiser, writing on this subject, says:

Would it not be better to leave out some of these studies altogether and concentrate time and energy upon those which will be of most importance to the pupil in his future life and work? Few educators realize how much is meant by a firm hold upon the three "R.'s;" how much mental discipline is involved and what a great degree of culture is implied in these apparently simple accomplishments.

The tendency to unduly lengthen the common school curriculum is not confined to New York, for there are very few school systems that do not require both teachers and children to undertake more work than they can accomplish without overloading the memory, starving the imagination and neglecting the reasoning powers.

THE SULTAN.

It was recently announced that the Powers of Europe have agreed to put a stop to the crimes and atrocities that have made Turkey a byword and a reproach among the nations. The wheels of European diplomacy have moved with exasperating slowness. The delay has been hard to bear even by those, who, separated by oceans and continents, read tales of atrocities whose commission they were powerless to prevent. It is difficult even to imagine how the wretched Armenians felt when they saw that the promises of intervention, instead of bettering their condition only induced their persecutors to hasten on the work of extermination. It has been said, and no doubt with some degree of truth, that the Christian subjects of Turkey in many instances, by their seditions and rebellious conduct drew down upon themselves the punishment of the ruling power. But the extent and the character of the chastisement points irresistibly to the cruelty of the government which made obedience impossible and submission intolerable. Blazing villages, ruined homesteads, slaughtered children and cruelties of which it is "a shame even to speak," are not methods that would need to be resorted to by a nation whose laws and administration were in any degree just and righteous. The truth is that Turkey preserves in the nineteenth century the spirit of the dark ages. Its people are as cruel, as licentious, though not as chivalrous as when centuries ago the Christianity of Europe vainly attempted to drive them from the country that to-day they have shown themselves so unfit to rule.

Whether the diplomacy of the ambassadors can accomplish what the armies of the Crusaders failed to do remains to be seen. But the Powers have spoken, it is to be hoped, definitely, as well for their own honor as for the cause of humanity. On the 28th of December the ambassadors of Great Britain, Russia, France, Italy, Germany and Austria had an audience with the Sultan, at which they warned him that if the affairs of the Turkish Empire were not better administered, European control of the affairs of the Sublime Porte would become inevitable. The Sultan, who has for the last twenty years been keeping his throne by working upon the mutual jealousies of the great Powers, seems now, indeed, as if he had some hope of defying them, for he declared that he might be the last of the Caliphs, but he would not become a second Khedive. If he persists in his resolution to exert his despotic powers to the injury of his subjects, it is not at all likely that he will be allowed to defy the Powers, and it is scarcely likely they will turn back till humanity and justice have some influence in the government of the Sultan's subjects. Whether the reformation can be accomplished without bloodshed is a question which is not at this moment easily answered. The Turks have before now shown themselves good soldiers. But it does not appear likely that, brave as they may be, they will be mad enough to throw themselves against the combined forces of Europe.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

THE cotton states of the Mississippi valley have been the strong advocates of free trade and the determined opponents of the high protective tariff of the United States. But the opinions of the cotton growers have changed. They want to be protected against Egyptian cotton. Last year 43,000,000 pounds of this cotton was consumed by the American mills, and there is danger that the Southern planters will not be able to compete with the Egyptian growers who have the advantage of cheap labor. They want a duty of three cents a pound on the imported article. It makes a great difference to the advocates of the theory of free trade when they experience the difficulties of its practice.

ALTHOUGH in many respects British subjects, as a whole, would regret if, as the Westminster Gazette reports, is Her Majesty's determination, she should abdicate in commemoration of the fact that she has enjoyed the longest reign in English history, they would have no fears regarding the constitutional and beneficent rule of the heir apparent, the Prince of Wales. For years His Royal Highness has been the Queen's representative at most of the more important public functions, and personally is one of the most popular men in Great Britain. Indeed, as he once said to a United States reporter who was discussing with him certain stories regarding a possible British republic the Prince remarked that even should the conditions at home be changed he would run for the presidency. "And," said the reporter—an observation which was generally endorsed when spoken of—"you would be certain of election."

DR. B. H. JOHNSTONE, a scientist of Washington, is, it is announced, about to build a laboratory at Niagara Falls in order to use the current to crystalize pure carbon into diamonds of great size. The diamonds heretofore manufactured were fused by using the impure carbon of commerce, whereas it is the intention under the new method to use the pure carbon found in mines all over the country. Real diamonds are, it is said, merely the crystalization of the pure carbon by a process which is supposed to have occupied millions of years. Dr. Johnstone says he will require a power of at least six thousand volts of electricity to crystalize the pure carbon that is found plentifully in coal and other mines. This carbon, with the aid of the immense power of electricity which he proposes to utilize, the Doctor confidently expects to be able within a few days to turn into diamonds from the size of a pea to that of the great Kohinoor, the largest stone belonging to Great Britain. The history of this gem for five hundred years is matter of history, it having been in the hands of many royal dynasties in the East. From the diamond mines of South Africa about seventy-five million dollars worth of gems have, it is said, been obtained, while Golconda, India, has the reputation of having produced some of the most valuable of this description of precious stones. However, if this scientist of the United States is successful in his operations, real diamonds will no longer continue to be the highest unit of value and the most treasured thing in the smallest form known to man.

B. C. SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

[From the News-Advertiser.]

"Give them more rope and they will hang themselves," is a proverb, the shrewness of which has been fully exemplified during the past few days in the case of those, who, for reasons of their own, have been trying to extricate themselves from the embarrassing position in which the Hon. Mr. Blair, relying upon information furnished by these same people, had placed them. We have left them free to say all that they chose and the tangle into which they have got themselves is a striking illustration of the danger which attends those who pronounce an opinion on a subject of which they are almost entirely ignorant. Having blundered egregiously in the statement made to Mr. Blair, they have followed it up by a series of further blunders in the attempt to justify or explain away the first error.

Although the number of separate acts passed at different sessions of the legislature and extending over no less than three parliaments, may make the matter appear involved and complicated to those who have not the patience and assiduity requisite to thoroughly understand it, it is really very simple and clear. Briefly stated the matter is as follows: In the session of 1888 an act was passed incorporating a company to build a railway between the Crow's Nest Pass to the Lower Kootenay river. At the same session an act was also passed giving the company a right of way through the crown lands and such ground as might be required for terminal and other purposes. The railway was then designated as the "Crow's Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway Company." Construction had to be commenced within a certain period. In 1890 the period for construction was extended and an act passed making a grant of land to the company along the line of its road—that is between the Pass and the Lower Kootenay river. As the line ran so close to the boundary that it would be impossible for the company to secure its full grant along the line of route, it was authorized to make up any deficiency from a belt of land near the Pass, the limits of which were specifically defined.

In 1891 another act was passed changing the name of the company to that of the British Columbia Southern Railway Company and authorizing the company to build to the Columbia river in the neighborhood of Fort Sheppard and also a branch to Nelson. It was also authorized to extend its line by a convenient route to Hope, thence to the Fraser river to New Westminster and Burrard Inlet. It was, however, provided that nothing in that act should be construed to increase "the rights, powers and privileges" given to the Crow's Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway Company under "the Railway Aid Act, 1890," "or to extend the aid granted by the said act to the lines authorized to be constructed by this act." That is to say, the extensions westward to the Coast, and southward to Nelson and Fort Sheppard, carried no land grant with them.

In 1893 another act was passed making certain changes, immaterial to the matter now under discussion, and extending the time for the construction of the various parts of the line. In this act first appears the schedule dividing the line into the three sections, the reference to which in subsequent acts has been the cause of the confusion into which the blind guides of Mr. Blair have fallen. Section "c" in the schedule comprised the Western section to the coast. At the same session another act was passed in reference to the original land grant, and more clearly defining how it shall apply to sections "a" and "b." There being no land grant to section "c," the coast section, no reference was made to it.

In 1894 another amending act was passed which was practically a new incorporation of the company, the whole of the former acts of 1888, 1890, 1891 and 1893 being repealed with the exception of one clause in the act of 1888 which gave exemption for three years from provincial and municipal taxation to the property of the company. There was no material change made in the provisions of the act of 1894 from those contained in the four previous acts which it repealed.

At the same session another act was passed in reference to the land grant, and therein occurs the detail which has been the innocent cause of all this hubbub and excitement. The preamble plainly sets out the provisions of the previous acts relating to the land grant, the details of which we have already given, and recites that it is advisable to continue the existing land grant to the said railway. Then it continues, inter alia, after referring to the land grant authorized by the "Railway Aid Act, 1890," and the amendment of 1893, that the grant made thereby "is hereby extended and applied to the several sections of said railway as described in subsections 'a,' 'b,' and 'c' of section 8 of the British Columbia Southern Railway Act, 1894."

Now had the foregoing clause stated simply that the grant made by the acts of 1890 and 1893 "is hereby extended to sec 'c'"—the section to the Coast—it would clearly have been an additional land grant, which, with that previously given to sections "a" and "b," would have given the company a land grant for the whole length of its line. But the draughtsman could not have had this in his mind, because in the preamble he sets out that it is "the existing land grant"—that for section "a" and "b"—which "it is advisable to continue." Then in the clause which has caused the commotion, the language employed shows conclusively, we think, that no extension of the original grant was intended, because it says that "the grant made is hereby extended and applied," not merely to section "c," but to the sections to which it was originally given. How can a thing be extended to that which it already covers? The clause read in that way has no meaning, or, if one can be found, it is an absurd one.

But the meaning of that clause can be construed in a manner which is not only intelligible but one which, read with the preamble, shows clearly the reason for the language used. That is that "the existing land grant" which appertained to the original Crow's Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway should be extended and applied to the railway which was comprised in the three sections which formed afterwards the British Columbia Southern Railway.

Besides the support given to this view by the only intelligent construction which can be given to the phraseology of the act, there are other and outside circumstances which go to confirm it. In the original land grant, both the Legislature and the Company were agreed that in case the land along the line had already been selected by other companies, or from other causes, was not available, tracts of land in other parts should be given as an equivalent. But no provision of the sort appears in regard to the grant on section "c," which these clever critics assert the company has secured. Yet such a provision is more necessary on section "c," than on sections "a" and "b," because for a considerable stretch of country it would run through lands which belong to the Dominion, and from which the Province could make no grant. Furthermore, the legislature, at the last session, gave a land grant to the Columbia and Western Railway, which practically covers for a long distance the lands which it is pretended were granted to the British Columbia Southern railway. As yet the latter company never made any objection or protested against such spoliation!

Now, we observe that the parties who have got into such a tangle over the statements which they made to Mr. Blair, are attempting to escape criticism by blaming both sides of the House for careless legislation. Evidently, having had a gentle hint from the government that their share of government pap, which is their chief source of subsistence, may be withdrawn if they continue making such reckless statements, they are now turning their attention to the opposition in the present and preceding parliaments. Here, unluckily for themselves, they have struck a nasty snag, because the report of the proceedings shows that two members of the opposition on one occasion—Messrs. Semlin and Cotton—and Mr. Beaven on another, raised the question as to whether the wording was explicit and clear enough in its intention not to extend the land grant. The Attorney-General replied that it was, and Colonel Baker said that the company did not ask for any grant beyond that originally granted. Yet if these clumsy schemers are correct in their statements, the present Chief Justice and the Provincial Secretary deliberately stated in the house what was not true. We think the wholesome dread which such people have of the law of libel, will cause them to hesitate before they repeat these charges, and we think that the result of all this scheming to prejudice Mr. Blair and the Dominion government against the B. C. Southern railway will be realized by them as having so miscarried, that in the words of the immortal Dogberry, they will exclaim: "Write me down an ass!"

M'KINLEY'S FINANCIAL POLICY.

The result of a recent interview on the financial question by E. V. Smalley, the well known newspaper correspondent, with the President-elect, published in the New York Post, is as follows:

1. An immediate revision of the tariff on moderate protection lines. No extremely high duties that might foster trusts or defeat the purpose of obtaining adequate revenue to pay the expenses of the government.

2. The restoration of the reciprocity treaties of the Harrison administration.

3. The maintenance of all kinds of money at a parity with gold.

4. Efforts towards international bimetallism, in fulfillment of the pledge of the St. Louis platform.

5. Gradual retirement of the greenbacks, as soon as the government has a surplus of revenue to apply to this purpose, and some other form of currency, bank or metallic, can be substituted for them. No new issue of bonds will be favored for the purpose of taking up the greenbacks. Possibly some plan may be suggested for a virtual retirement of a considerable part of the greenbacks and treasury notes by their use as a part of the bank reserves; this with a view of strengthening the gold basis of the currency.

6. An enlargement of the national banking system to enable independent banks or branches of city banks to be carried on in small towns. This might lower the interest rate in the country districts and tend to lessen the present centripetal tendency of money toward the large cities.

7. Economy in government expenditures to correspond with the economies enforced in all other lines of business by the condition of the times.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Jan. 7.—The Macdonald election trial closed as predicted. Judgment was given to void the election, but the proceedings on the judgment are stayed until the appeal to the Supreme court on the preliminary objections is disposed of, thereby withholding their lordships report to the speaker till after such appeal is heard. No order was made as to costs. Meanwhile Mr. Boyd keeps the seat.

Chafed Skin, Piles, Scalds, Cuts, Chilblains, Chapped Hands, Sore Eyes, Sunburn, Earache, Neuralgic and Rheumatic Pains, Throat Colds and Skin Ailments are quickly relieved by the use of

CALVERT'S

CARBOLIC • OINTMENT.

Large Pots 1/1½ each (English Rate.)

Editor "Household Words" says: "We are constantly appealed to for remedies which can safely be used in domestic practice for such ills as skin eruptions, burns, scalds, inflamed eyes, rheumatic and neuralgic pains, as well as colds on the chest. In all such cases, and, indeed, in a host of others, we have found CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT invaluable."

F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER.

Awarded 75 Gold and Silver Medals, &c,

AGENTS:

Langley & Henderson Bros., Victoria, B.C.

Our Christmas Prices.

35 PER CENT. OFF FORMER RATES.

2-oz. Solid Silver Cased Waltham or Elgin Watches	$ 7.00
3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Waltham Watches	$10.00
3-oz. Solid Silver Cased P. S. Bartlett, 15 jewels	$12.50
3-oz. Solid Silver Cased P. S. Bartlett, fine nickel movment	$15.00
3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Appleton, Tracy & Co.	$16.50
3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Crescent St., 17 jewels	$27.50
3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Elgin Watch Co., 17 jewels	$22.00

All stem-wind. The three last named are adjusted to climate and position, and warranted 20 years.

TO BRITISH COLUMBIANS.

r customers will see that prices with us are a clear come-down of 25 to 30 per cent. Any of the above goods will be sent on approval to would-be purchasers.

Gold Chains, Pins, Brooches, Rings, Diamonds, Rubys, Emeralds, Saphires, Opals, Pearls, Settings.

Ladies' Solid Gold, 14-karat, Waltham or Elgin Watches, from $25.00

Ladies' Gold Filled, with jewelled Waltham or Elgin Movements, from $10.00

S. A. Stoddart

WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,

68 Yates St. - - - - Victoria, B.C.

de3-tf

NOTICE.

STOCK CERTIFICATES
STOCK LEDGERS,
STOCK JOURNALS,
MINERS' PAY SHEETS,
MINERS' CASH ABSTRACTS
MINING REPORTS,
MINING MAPS AND PLANS
SEALS.

LITHOGRAPHED LETTER PRESS

WRITE FOR SAMPLES AND PRICES TO

THE COLONIST,

VICTORIA

WHAT BETTER CAN YOU DRINK THAN

JOHN JAMESON

& SONS' (DUBLIN)

"OWN CASED" Very Old

BLACK BOTTLE

WHISKY.

Please see you get it with

Metal Capsules (BLUE ..... One Star
(PINK ..... Two Star
(GOLD ..... Three Star

OF ALL DEALERS.

Sole Export Bottling Agents to J. J. & S.—

C. DAY & CO., LONDON

mr15

STATE ORE Established 1880. P. S. BAILY, Prest. JOS. MONNING, Sec. Sampling Works.

A general Ore Market. Largest Works in Colorado. Modern Mills and Machinery at Denver, Idaho Springs and Black Hawk. Ore Sold on Competitive Bids. Write for our refesence book. Address STATE ORE SAMPLING CO, Denver, Colo. Gold bullion bought.

B.C. STEAM DYE WORKS, 141 Yates Street, Victoria. Ladies and gent's garments and household furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new. se10-1ydaw

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair,

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

MOST PERFECT MADE.

A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.

40 YEARS THE STANDARD.