

these corporations want to earn interest on their watered stocks at the expense of the public. But it is believed that before another year rolls around coal prices will have taken another tumble of at least 50 cents a ton." The *Coal Trade Journal* of Wednesday last reports a quiet market for last week, much depression locally, and a distrust among buyers of any intention on the part of the producer to carry out the agreement made three months ago. "As compared with a year ago," says that paper, "there is a falling off of seventy cents per ton on the Stove size. Will the Western Anthracite Committee make the promised advance in prices for August deliveries? is the absorbing question for the meeting to be held next week. We make the tonnage last week 606,022 tons, and a total of 16,171,440 tons, as compared with 731,179 and 14,613,019 last year. The committee having the matter in charge at the meeting held in Philadelphia yesterday, made the August tonnage 2,500,000 tons. The allotment for July is also to be strictly adhered to, and an advance of a quarter of a dollar per ton for August is likely. The quota for September might also be put at the same amount, and there would then be an opportunity for a further advance in prices."

—At a meeting of grain dealers held in Boston a short time ago, strong protests were made against short weights and measures in cars of grain arriving from the west. The remedy suggested is to oblige railway companies to conform to the same rules as vessel owners and give receipts for the quantity received. The *Chicago Tribune* thus points out the difficulty in doing so, it says: "More than one reason exists for unwillingness on the part of railway men to give the receipt asked for. The facilities for weighing are not the same, except to a limited extent, with cars as with vessels, and the liability to loss, both by leakage and by petty stealing, while the grain is en route, is greater. The loss is in process of diminution by a tighter building of cars and locking them while in transit. The trouble complained of is chiefly experienced with grain that is received direct from country points. It results from the effort to avoid payment of the cost of insuring quality and quantity which is offered by the system of handling in Chicago. The arrangements of the trade in that city include an efficient inspection by disinterested parties and correct weighing either in elevator or by men whose sole business it is to transfer from the cars of one line to those of another. If shippers, through parsimony, or others, through ignorance, choose to buy their grain in the West without availing themselves of the facilities that have been provided there expressly for their accommodation, they must take the consequences, and may find that in doing so they have chosen the worse horn of the dilemma. He is a poor business man who expects to get for nothing that for which his rivals in trade are willing to pay."

ROYALTY AND VICE-ROYALTY ON "THE COLONIES."

On the 29th June, a banquet was given by the Lord Mayor of London to the Prince of Wales and some 200 distinguished gentlemen, many of whom were representatives of the Colonies and India.

The Prince of Wales, who on rising was received with loud and prolonged applause, said: My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,—Allow me to tender you my most sincere thanks for the kind, the far too flattering, way in which the toast of my health has been proposed and received by you. Of the many occasions,

gentlemen, that I have had the privilege of being present at gatherings at the Mansion House under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, I can assure you that none have given me greater pleasure or satisfaction than the gathering on this occasion. I am proud to think that in toasting my name you have toasted it in my capacity of Executive President of the Royal Commission of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. When I give you thanks for proposing this toast, I answer not only for myself, but for the Royal Commissioners, for those gentlemen of different part of the Queen's great Colonial and Indian Empire who have given me their valuable assistance, and if I had not had it the Exhibition would not have been the success which I am inclined to believe it now is. Gentlemen, I believe that this Colonial and Indian Exhibition will mark an epoch in the reign of the Queen. In the first place, it will give to all classes of her subjects an idea of what our Colonial and Indian Empire is. I do not say that in these days of advancing education the greater part of the Queen's subjects do not know a great deal more about our Colonies and India than we are at all aware of. But in the industries and beautiful works of art which have been brought before us from these distant climes, I feel sure that the interest which I am certain is never latent in any portion of Great Britain and Ireland will be increased by the Exhibition, which is now, I am happy to say, in full swing. I shall feel it the greatest pride of my life if I in any way, holding that high post of your Executive President, should have done anything to knit together more closely the bonds of friendship and brotherhood—the bonds of friendship and brotherhood between the Queen's Colonial and Indian Empire and the Mother Country. I feel convinced that this Exhibition, this national Exhibition, is not likely to be forgotten, and most sincere do I hope that some means may be found by which a permanent Colonial Museum may be formed in this country; that the interest which is so great at this moment may not diminish, and that year by year our countrymen at home may be able to know what their countrymen many and many thousand miles away can produce.

The Marquis of Lorne said he felt it a great honor to be called upon to respond to that toast. Two or three years ago he might have answered as a colonial to the toast, (the toast of The Colonies and India,) but two or three years made a wonderful difference in the life of a young nation. The Colonies of this country might be divided not only into Crown Colonies and Colonies possessing institutions of their own, but also into those of the vertebrate and invertebrate class. A few years ago though he would not have ventured to say so in Canada, that Colony might have been described as being in an invertebrate condition. But since that time a great railway had been stretched from sea to sea, and he was

quite sure that if His Royal Highness should again visit Canada and extend his journeys beyond Toronto and Montreal to Winnipeg and the North, he would find that enormous advances had been made. In the great undertaking to which he had referred the Canadians felt that they had been engaged, not only in a great national, but a great Imperial work, which would strengthen the defences and confirm the unity of the Empire of which they formed so great and loyal a portion.

—Crookedness has its differentiations. "What did he speculate in?" is asked when a Cashier skips to Canada. "Who was the woman?" is the query when a merchant takes sudden flight for parts unknown.

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