

A MEMORABLE DAY.

(From Friday's Daily Edition.)

Yesterday will long be remembered by the people of Victoria. There never was anything like it here before, and there could not have been anywhere a more enthusiastic demonstration of loyalty and patriotic pride. The remarkable thing about it all was the marvellous way in which the affair was got up. It was in the highest degree a representative gathering. If a committee had planned the matter for a month they could not have done it better. But that is the way with Victoria. It does things by a rule of its own, and needs no one to direct it. There is no use in writing anything about it, and the capacity of a type-setting machine is so limited that it is impossible to express in print an atmosphere enlivened with loyal enthusiasm. The feeling which inspired every heart was derived from a variety of causes, but we think that chief among them were a sense of profound gratitude that the heroic Ladysmith garrison had been secured, pride in the achievement of our arms and intense satisfaction at the high position gained by the Canadians now at the front, for side by side in every one's thought with the relief of Ladysmith was the gallant deed of the Royal Canadians at Paardeberg.

MR. MARTIN'S POLICY.

(From Friday's Daily Edition.)

In the brief reference to the platform enunciated by Mr. Joseph Martin in yesterday's Colonist the statement was made that nothing which had appeared in that issue was to be construed as an endorsement or confirmation of the policy of the new government which was reserved for future treatment. No other reference was possible owing to the late hour at which Mr. Martin's statement was received. The platform contains a number of important features, which called for greater consideration than could be given them on such short notice. We had already indicated the general lines upon which the Colonist believed the business of the country should be carried on, the salient features of any plan which it could endorse, and had declared that "the people of British Columbia will not tolerate for an instant any government which does not present for their endorsement a sober, conservative, yet progressive policy." This is where the Colonist stood yesterday morning. It is where it has stood all through this political controversy. It is where it stands today, and standing there it is proud of its record, which is known to all men and by its indications, its political beliefs and the loyalty which it feels to the best interests of the province, to declare itself uncompromisingly opposed to the platform laid down by the new premier. There may be a minor matter or two in Mr. Martin's pronouncement to which we do not take exception, as for example the assertion of provincial rights and the amendments to the license law. The Colonist has always been a strenuous supporter of provincial rights and has no objections to make to the amendments to the license law. Neither does it see any objection to the disposal of the Deadman's Island question, if there is such a question, through the instrumentality of the courts. We do not see where else it can properly be disposed of. But these things, all of the way, we must condemn the platform as incendiary and as calculated to prolong what we described yesterday "as a feeling of unrest."

The platform promises legislative experiments of a most dangerous kind. It proposes that the province shall adopt the experiment of the government ownership of railways, and by borrowing money at a cheap rate go into active competition with enterprises which have to earn dividends for their owners and pay a higher percentage upon their bonds. This is of itself sufficient to condemn the platform and call for the prompt defeat of the ministers who are responsible for it. How long does anyone suppose that our 3 per cent. bonds can be floated at anything like a reasonable figure, if we enter into the money market with the avowed purpose of antagonizing every railway enterprise in the province? We venture to say that not a financial house in London can be induced to take up such a loan and that, if any could be, the general public would refuse to invest. British Columbia cannot afford to play with its credit. We do not say that speculators might not take our three per cents. at a large discount, knowing that the money was to be employed in this way; but we maintain that the immediate effect of the approval by the people of British Columbia of such a revolutionary platform would be to array against the province all the great financial interests in the money centres of the world and that the price of our bonds would immediately fall. A part of this scheme is to secure from the Dominion the same subsidies for railways constructed by the province as are given to lines built by private companies. If anyone in point of fact indulges in such a hope, he must be sanguine to the verge of folly. On the general proposition of the government ownership of railways, we shall have more to say at a later day. At present it will be sufficient to state that as we have always opposed it as a visionary, costly and impractical notion, as applied to British Columbia under existing conditions, so we are opposed to it now.

The declaration in the platform about borrowing money for roads, trails and bridges may mean anything at all. We

have always held that such a policy was a sound one, but we dissent from the idea that moneys borrowed for this purpose should be repaid or the interest upon them should be met by special taxation, or the imposition of tolls upon persons using these necessary public works. The opening of the province by roads, trails and bridges is for the benefit of the whole people, and the burden should fall proportionately upon all, just as the burden of other public expenditures does. The additional revenue resulting from the increase of revenue caused by the influx of population, induced by such public works, will more than make up for any charges upon the treasury in the way of interest and sinking fund. If it does not, then the only proper conclusion is that the expenditure in such improvements is progressing too rapidly.

The determination of the new government to insist that the eight-hour law shall remain intact upon the statute book must in the light of what has occurred during the last year, and in view of the conditions now existing in Kootenay, be considered as wholly unwelcome. To suggest that the important interests involved in the metalliferous mines should be left to wait upon the action of an incendiary government along the lines of conciliation is full of danger and cannot be endorsed by those who have the welfare of the province at heart.

The declaration that the government will stand firmly by the legislation of 1898, except the alien exclusion law, requires a greater consideration than can be given it in this article. We favor the repeal of the specified law, but must ask to be excused this morning from saying anything as regard to the other acts of the session of 1898 in detail. We are inclined to regard this paragraph in the platform as simply a declaration by Mr. Martin that in politics he is "sewer clean."

We are told that a railway bridge is to be erected over the Fraser at New Westminster as a means of inducing the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific to run trains into Vancouver. If these great companies wish to run trains into Vancouver, the lack of a bridge will not stop them. They expand almost monthly in single improvements far more money than such a bridge would cost, and there now stands upon the statute book a provision for assistance to such a bridge which these companies might long ago have availed themselves of if they wanted to. That the Colonist is in favor of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay and a ferry connection with Victoria need not be repeated here; but we are opposed to its now.

This covers all the points in Mr. Martin's manifesto. There is one thing about that document for which we are pleased. It presents clear cut issues. It lays down a platform upon which people cannot hesitate about taking sides. Those who believe trying in this province experiments in legislation such as have driven capital out of New Zealand and as have been espoused by the discredited Populist party in the U. S., those who are indifferent as to whether the province receives a new impetus in progress and development, those who favor demagoguery instead of statesmanship in politics will find in this platform much that is exactly to their liking. On the other hand all those who desire to see established conditions restored in British Columbia, all who believe that the investment of capital should be encouraged, all who believe that the province should be made an attractive home for those who depend on manual labor, all who wish to see the provincial credit sustained abroad, and in short, all who desire to see the unrest now prevailing allayed, will, we believe, unite with the Colonist in giving it their most strenuous opposition.

In conclusion we wish to ask that all those, who realize the critical nature of the existing political conditions and the harm that will result from the commitment of the province to such a platform as that laid down by Mr. Martin, to unite in forming a new political party, having no other object than the advancement of the best interests of British Columbia and the overthrow of all legislative measures of those who seek to bring into effect a policy fraught with incalculable evil.

THE WAR.

After an investment which lasted 118 days, Ladysmith was relieved. Most of the comments upon this overlook the highly important consideration that it marks the failure of the greatest effort of the Boer forces. Joubert retired from the Tugela weaker in men, morale and munitions of war by reason of his long and stubborn resistance to Buller's advance. If the republic possessed limitless resources, he might have been justified in wasting so much of his strength in what must have proved under any conceivable circumstances only an incident of the campaign. If he had been able to compel White to surrender, the only effect would have been that Great Britain would have launched a still stronger force upon the republics. The true policy for the Boers had pursued was to have retired long ago from our territory and concentrated all their forces at Pretoria. If they had done this they might have held our troops at bay for a long time, and while in the end we would be victorious just the same, they might have appealed with more chance of success not to the sympathy of the one man in the legislature who had absolute no following. This led members to say that we must say our hands were

would not do so until the independence of the republics becomes a memory. Too much praise cannot be given to Gen. White for his heroic resistance. It is hardly possible for us at a distance to appreciate the trials which the heroic garrison and population of the beleaguered town have had to endure. To so judiciously conserve all the material at his command that nothing, neither of life nor of material, should be wasted, to know within what limits to keep his attacks upon the besiegers, to adequately gauge the degree of defence necessary to meet their assaults, to keep up the spirits and health of so many people on short allowance of food, to be able to wait day after day, week after week and month after month for that relief, which was so near and yet so far, was a test of leadership such as falls to the lot of few men. Gen. White has stood it nobly.

As to Gen. Buller, greater time will be necessary to enable us to form a correct idea of the qualities displayed by him during the eventful weeks spent along the Tugela. We have yet to hear his own story of what he did and why he did it. He succeeded, and success is all we are thinking about just now. No one doubts his courage or his indomitable perseverance. No one begrudges him all the glory attaching to the relief of the besieged city. No one belittles the tremendous task which he was set to overcome. But some things remain to be explained. Why has it thought necessary to fight the battle at Colenso? How is the Spion Kop incident to be understood? These are questions to which answers will be expected by the British people. His explanation of them will be received by a friendly public, which will wait patiently until the return of peace enables him to make it.

Great interest now centres upon the course which the enemy will take. Natural ones would expect them to concentrate to reach Roberts. How many available men they have is purely a matter of surmise. Outside of their own official circles it is not known how many they had in the first place or what their losses in battle and from disease have been. Probably not even their own commanding officers know how many of their men have been dispersed. Then there is the question of munitions of war. This must be growing very serious, and will become more so as time passes.

LET US REASON TOGETHER.

It is timely to review the political events which have led up to the existing situation and induced the very painful incident of Thursday in the legislature. For this purpose it is necessary to make some reference to the events attending the dismissal of the Turner ministry. We pointed out at the time that the dismissal of that ministry, while strictly within the constitutional powers of the Lieutenant-Governor, was based on unconstitutional grounds. An act which is perfectly constitutional in itself may be rendered unconstitutional by the circumstances surrounding it. This was the case with the dismissal referred to. The Colonist pointed out at this time and dwelt very strongly and frequently upon the contention that the action of His Honor in that matter, followed up, as it was, by complete failure of his new ministers to accept the responsibility of it, state the reasons for it and justify them to the legislature, would have the effect of removing from the office of lieutenant-governor that "dignity which both hedge about a king," and would result in making that official's personality an element in our provincial politics. For taking this position the Colonist was roundly assailed by the whole provincial press supporting the Semlin government. Its arguments were not met, but puny shafts of ridicule and their feeble attempts at drawing across the scent characterized the efforts to reply. The result has been precisely as we predicted, and we have the very men who profited by the act of the Lieutenant-Governor in 1898 leading the way in the most remarkable demonstration against the representative of the crown, personally ever seen in a province of Canada.

We have said that the dismissal of the Turner ministry was a constitutional act rendered unconstitutional by the circumstances surrounding it; but the dismissal of the Semlin government was of quite a different character. That was a perfectly constitutional act done for perfectly constitutional reasons. There are some things in the letter of dismissal which we think might well have been omitted from it, for they do not strengthen it in any way; but there are in this document two perfectly valid reasons why Mr. Semlin and his colleagues should have been removed from office. These are the failure of the late premier to fill up his cabinet, which was in direct defiance of the Constitution Act, and the determination of the government to hold to office after an adverse vote of the legislature following two months of profitless session of the assembly.

As we are discussing the constitutional question involved, we think it right to say here, to avoid being misunderstood, that having acted in strict accordance with constitutional usage, the Lieutenant-Governor made a very grave error in calling Mr. Martin to the premiership. If he had felt anxious to select a new minister from the regular opposition, he ought, we submit, to have gone outside of the house altogether, as he had a perfect right to do. If he had taken this course, we think there would have been a disposition on the part of the members generally to have quietly awaited events. Instead of this he chose the one man in the legislature who had absolutely no following. This led members to think that His Honor was en-

deavoring to carry out some preconceived plan rather than to serve the best interests of the country, and was the real cause of Thursday's painful demonstration. A majority of the members of the legislature regarded the choice of Mr. Martin as a direct affront and chose their own way of resenting it.

Returning now to the constitutional aspect of the case, we find that the Lieutenant-Governor, having dismissed his ministry while the house was in session, was bound to communicate to the house his reasons for so doing. To decline or neglect to do so would be a grave breach of constitutional usage, and would be to put a slight upon the house that no representative body of free men could tolerate for a moment. At this stage of the case His Honor was badly treated by his dismissed ministry and badly advised by his new premier. The letter of dismissal closes with a paragraph which permitted us to give His Honor to lay it before the house. We submit that Mr. Semlin was in duty bound, by reason of the position which he had just vacated and also by reason of the fact that had lately been the leader of the house, forthwith to place that letter before the members. If he had done so, the house would have seen on Tuesday that the government had been dismissed because it had not accepted the dismissal of the house given on the previous Friday, but had endeavored by intrigue to continue in power. Instead of taking this, the only honorable course, the dismissed ministry prepared a motion asking the house to express confidence in it and declare that the dismissal was wrong. No member of the government ventured to move this resolution itself, but a gentleman was found who was ready to do so. Almost immediately one of the members called upon Mr. Semlin to read the letter of dismissal, but met with no response. If the letter had been read, as it ought to have been, a very different face would have been put upon the situation.

But if Mr. Semlin failed in his duty to the Lieutenant-Governor and to the house by temporarily suppressing the letter of dismissal, Mr. Martin exhibited little political sagacity in allowing Tuesday's session to pass without himself placing the letter before the house. He had a perfect right to do so, seeing that he was in a position to announce that he had been requested to accept the task of forming a ministry and had done so. While he had not at that time actually accepted an office, and therefore had not been sworn in and was a member of the legislature entitled to take part in its proceedings, he was nevertheless the minister. He was not a member of the Executive Council, but he was His Honor's adviser, and as such it was within his power to bring down to the house the reasons why the late ministry had been dismissed. He seemed to think that he had no right to do this, for he said there was no way in which he could do so without bringing down the house with the house except through Mr. Semlin, a proposition in constitutional law which we utterly deny. Being first minister and a member of the house, it was only Mr. Martin's right, but his bounden duty to submit the letter of dismissal of the house after Mr. Semlin had declined to do so. Instead of realizing his constitutional standing, he actually sat in his place and heard the Speaker say that in his opinion the dismissed ministry had no power to bring down the house. Mr. Semlin's failure to produce the letter of dismissal was a grave act of disloyalty to the house. Mr. Martin's failure to lay it before the members was a constitutional error, indicating lack of appreciation of the responsibility of his new position. Therefore we say that in respect to this letter the Lieutenant-Governor personally into the very midst of a hot political crisis, a position which he never should occupy and never would have occupied if he had been surrounded by advisers who paid some regard to the constitutional usages established by centuries of experience.

We think the above considerations show the imperative necessity of returning in British Columbia at once to constitutional government. The office of lieutenant-governor must be kept out of politics. It must be kept so completely out of politics that it can never be suggested that Government House is the centre of political intrigue. Rightly or wrongly it does not matter in one sense, but the people believe that this condition has been violated in British Columbia during the last year or two. The press has contained direct allegations to that effect and more or less covert insinuations to the same purpose have been made in the house. We are unable to see into the Lieutenant-Governor's mind and heart, and know what has been passing therein; but no matter what he may have in point of fact wished or intended, indeed admitting that he was sincerely animated by a desire to promote only the best interests of the province, and was not attempting to advance the personal ambition of any person or persons, the fact remains that grave errors have been made regarding the reasons for his exercise of the prerogative on at least two occasions. It is with this we are dealing and not with the truth or falsity of the allegations, when we say that anything so unseemly can be avoided if the constitution is always strictly observed. His Honor misconceived his constitutional position in 1898 and the result was the installation into office of a ministry which openly defied the constitution. Therein lay the seed of all

the difficulties and embarrassments which have since arisen. Severely criticized because he exercised the prerogative without waiting for the verdict of the house in 1898, he finds himself commended for acting upon the verdict of the house in 1900. And in both cases he had no ministry to stand between him and public opinion. It was Mr. Semlin's duty to have promptly and fully accepted the whole responsibility for the dismissal of the first named year, and it was Mr. Martin's duty to have done likewise for the recent dismissal. The failure of both to do so has placed the Lieutenant-Governor in an unprecedented position before the public.

Some Colonist readers have said that we make too much of constitutional questions. We hardly think any one will say so again. We plead with readers to examine into this matter. The heat of the controversy has had time to subside a little. Let us not be led away from the true issue into personal considerations. At the most a lieutenant-governor's term of office is not long; but the principles upon which constitutional government is founded are herewith eternal. They cannot be overthrown. In every British subject there abides the divine right of rebellion, and how thin the partition is which restrains it from exhibiting itself need hardly be suggested after what we have seen during the last day or two.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

The remark of the Colonist that Mr. Martin was the minister although he had not been sworn in a member of the Executive Council has led several readers to ask for an explanation. In reply we may say that what is called "The Constitution Act" does not give British Columbia Responsible Government. That statute is only a plan by which the affairs of the province can be carried on. Responsible government was not the creation of a statute but the establishment of a principle.

In Crown Colonies the executive functions are vested directly in the representative of the sovereign, who may appoint and dismiss his subordinate officers at pleasure and quite without regard to what the legislative body may say or do about it. Our Constitution Act is quite compatible with the conduct of affairs under a crown colony regime, that is with the exercise by the representative of the crown of his personal control under the direction of the Colonial office of that of the federal government. Responsible government is not a rule, it is a principle. It is not merely that the crown can do nothing of itself but only through a minister, for this has been a constitutional principle in England for many centuries, but that the minister must be responsible to the legislature. It is not necessary that the minister shall hold a seat in the legislative body by reason of the fact that he knows, Lord Salisbury is the Queen's minister, and he sits in the house of Lords. Yet Great Britain has responsible government. Sir Mackenzie Bowell was Premier of Canada and occupied a seat in the Senate. There is nothing inconsistent with the principles of responsible government for the crown to select his first minister from outside parliament altogether, but usage from time immemorial has required that the minister shall secure a place in parliament. If he is a member of the House of Lords that is sufficient. If he is a Commoner he must be elected to a seat in the Commons. There are ancient precedents where a minister has been created a peer immediately upon his selection by the sovereign. This immemorial custom establishes the law, and it is because of it that, while the Constitution Act does not require ministers to secure seats in the legislature, they must do so, or the lieutenant-governor must find other advisers.

Let us apply these abstract principles to the concrete case now presented to the people of this province. Lieutenant-Governor McInnes can do no act without a minister. Physical conditions make it impossible that distinct acts can be done simultaneously by the representative of the crown in his representative capacity. Thus he could not call in Mr. Martin and dismiss Mr. Semlin simultaneously, that is in the same instant of time. The exact order of events is not material, for they all relate to each other and form a single act. Whether Mr. Martin advised the dismissal of Mr. Semlin and indicted the letter of dismissal, or was only called in after the letter was written is quite immaterial. The conclusion of the Lieutenant-Governor to dismiss Mr. Semlin, the writing of the letter of dismissal and the sending for Mr. Martin form one act, and Mr. Martin must accept the responsibility for them and adopt them just as if they were done by his direct advice. And this must be the case because, by our theory of government, the representative of the crown can only act through a responsible minister. As has been said by one writer on the subject, a sovereign with a strong personality may be able to impose his views upon the minister, or a minister may compel the sovereign to subordinate his views to him; but no matter which is the case, it is the minister who acts and who is responsible.

The personal prerogative was exhausted when the Lieutenant-Governor called in Mr. Martin. The affairs of British Columbia then passed into Mr. Martin's hands. He was still a member of the legislature. He had not resigned, and his seat had not become vacant, because he had not yet recommended his own appointment to a position in the Executive Council. "The Constitution Act" vests the appointment of members of the

Executive Council in the lieutenant-governor. Other things in the act are directed to be done by the lieutenant-governor-in-council, but not this, and for obvious reasons enough. For how can the lieutenant-governor-in-council do an act when there is no council? But while the act says these appointments shall be made by the lieutenant-governor, and says nothing about ministerial advice in connection therewith, the principle of responsible government comes in and says that His Honor must make these appointments on the advice of a responsible minister. Therefore, Mr. Martin is appointed attorney-general by his own advice, not by the Lieutenant-Governor of his mere motion and on his own responsibility.

Hence when Mr. Martin came down from Government House after having been requested by the Lieutenant-Governor to give the advice of a responsible minister, he was prime minister. When he entered the legislature on Tuesday afternoon, he entered it as prime minister, and he was greatly in error in not immediately so declaring. There is no potency in forms, and so it would have been quite immaterial what words he adopted for that purpose, but he might have well arisen immediately after prayer and said: "I have the honor to inform the house that I have been invited by the Lieutenant-Governor to undertake the formation of a cabinet and have accepted the responsibility, and I am charged by His Honor to lay before you the reasons why the late ministry has been dismissed." After the letter had been read, he could very properly have moved that the house adjourn, and if on that motion the property of the dismissal, has been questioned he could have then and there defended it. If anyone had seen fit to challenge a vote on the adjournment and it had been decided in the negative, it would have made no particular difference to Mr. Martin, for he would have only had to do what he did, that is, advise His Honor to prorogue the house and follow this up with a dissolution as he doubtless intends to do if he forms a full ministry. If this course had been taken the legislature would have broken up under very different circumstances, for the house would have felt that it had been properly treated and the prorogation would have passed off with no unpleasant incident.

We think we have made it abundantly clear that Lieutenant-Governor McInnes ought not to be held personally responsible for the lack of information before the house on Tuesday, and that the whole unfortunate affair of Thursday resulted from a disregard of the fundamental principle of responsible government, not by him, but by his minister. We have dealt with this matter at length in this and the previous issue of this paper, but we feel it to be of very great importance. We have discussed it without warmth, or without appeals to prejudice on the one side or sympathy on the other. A great principle underlies it all, and the several parties to the incident must be judged according as to how their conduct squares with that principle.

The British meeting held in Seattle a few days ago, a report of which we print elsewhere, was a very interesting incident, and doubtless appeals more to the sympathy of the reputable citizens of that city than the frothy pro-Boer oratory lately heard there.

In the last Illustrated London News there is a spirited picture of the Canadian artillery entraining at Ottawa for South Africa. The picture represents the snow as deep on the ground, and beneath it are these familiar lines:  
From Greenland's icy mountains,  
From India's coral strand,  
Where Africa's sunny fountains  
Roll down their golden sand;  
From many an ancient river,  
From many a palmy plain  
They came to us to deliver  
Their land from error's chain.

We outlined yesterday the precedent established by the events of the last few days. To-day we have to add to it that the house by an almost unanimous vote declared that the new premier does not possess its confidence, and the members retired in a body when the Lieutenant-Governor came down to prorogue the house, for the purpose of showing that they disapproved of the course taken by His Honor. Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the propriety of such a withdrawal, it must be conceded that anything done by the representatives of a free people to signify their displeasure of the acts of the representative of the crown establishes a precedent that can never be ignored.

It seems like a very extraordinary thing that in forming a government Mr. Martin has had to go to outside of the legislature for every one of his colleagues. We do not think that anything cannot expect to be sustained by the contrary. We do not suppose that ever before such a thing occurred. It is certainly astonishing that not a man out of the other thirty-seven who occupy seats in the house with him could be persuaded to accept office in his cabinet. This is not because he is not a gentleman of recognized ability, but because he is regarded with distrust by public men of all parties. We think that the verdict of the people will be that the Lieutenant-Governor has made a very first mistake in the selection of his first ministry.

Shortly after the dismissal of Mr. Turner, who is as good a Conservative as there is in Canada, a Conservative convention met in Vancouver and so far from any sympathy being expressed for him or condemnation of the Lieutenant-Governor being suggested, there was a very noticeable disposition to chuckle over the incident. Mr. Eberts went to the convention ready to tell the story,

and was not even asked to speak. But now that Mr. Semlin has been dismissed, we are urged by some of our Vancouver Conservative friends to sink all other issues and start out on a campaign of revenge. Why this difference?

Only one other paper in Canada, a Montreal daily, besides the Colonist announced in its regular edition this morning the relief of Ladysmith. As a "scooper" the Colonist can pat itself on the back.

It is not yet announced when the house is to be dissolved, but there can hardly be any room for doubt that it will soon be. None of the members of the new government, with the exception of the premier, held a seat in the house, and as each of them must find a constituency and it is not likely that any members will obligingly resign to make room for them, an early election is inevitable.

When Lieutenant-Governor McInnes entered the house on Thursday the Speaker was in the chair and the mace was on the table. The members would have been absolutely within their unquestioned constitutional rights if they had remained in their seats and shouted "Privilege" until His Honor withdrew. They missed a golden opportunity by withdrawing and leaving him in possession. For a precedent we must go back to the days of Cromwell. When he entered the House of Commons the members cried "Privilege" and pointed to the mace upon the table. Cromwell answered, "Take away that bauble," and one of his soldiers did so, whereupon Cromwell said: "Get ye gone; ye are no longer a parliament." We doubt if the Lieutenant-Governor would have directed Lieutenant-Col. Gregory to remove the mace or been quite so peremptory in his dismissal.

A paragraph in the Times imputes to Mr. Heilmcken what would have been a shabby trick on the Lieutenant-Governor and the Premier, in securing delay in His Honor's entry to prorogue the legislature, on the plea of presenting a patriotic resolution, and conniving at use of this opportunity for presenting the motion of no confidence in Mr. Martin. Mr. Heilmcken states that there is no warrant whatever for such an imputation, and that he knew nothing of the Premier's resolution until he heard it read in the house. Upon being told that His Honor could not delay his entry without the consent of the Premier, he had seen Mr. Martin and explained that he wanted a few minutes after prayers to present a resolution on the relief of Ladysmith, and the Premier after a little persuasion proceeded to arrange the matter with the Lieutenant-Governor, and did so. Mr. Heilmcken stood up to move the resolution as soon as prayers were over, but Mr. Prentice rose simultaneously and the Speaker, seeing first the member nearest to him, the mischief was done. Mr. Heilmcken says he has no reason to believe that Mr. Prentice knew of the arrangement he had made, and that there was no trickery of any kind in connection with the affair.

CLEOPATRA'S DREAM.

Lo! by Nile's languid waters  
Fades the dreamy summer day  
Where, on a couch of gold and crimson,  
Egypt's royal daughter lay—  
Beside her, in a slumber, lay  
Cast their lengthening shadows now,  
And the lotus-laden zephyrs  
Lightly kiss her queenly brow.  
Soft, the evening steals upon her,  
As behind the curtain'd west  
Sinks the Day God in his splendor—  
Folds his woody arms and nest,  
Drowsy shapes of dusky Egypt  
Homeward, slow, their burdens bear,  
While the lotus-blossoms lay challenge  
Falls upon the quivering air.  
Dreams she of her Roman lover—  
He who cast a Roman away—  
And her brow grows fevered, and  
Round and rich in queenly beauty,  
Wildly cleave the slumberous air.  
Beads of perspiration gather  
On her matchless woman's brow,  
While her parted lips in anguish  
Tell of heart pangs none may know.  
Sure, some vision, dire and dreadful,  
Falls upon her eyes and brain,  
Piercing in her brain's centre  
The memory of her Roman lover.  
Like a sea, her full-orbed bosom  
Swells and falls with pent-up ire;  
Then her spirit breaks its thralldom  
And she shrieks in wild despair:  
"Chairman, quick, unloose my girdle,  
Haste me to the Nile, I bid thee!  
Ho! slaves, bring my royal galley,  
Let us hence from Egypt fly.  
Ah, for vengeance on the traitor,  
And upon his Roman bride;  
Let him never dare—ah, Chairman,  
Stand you closely by my side."  
"Do I dream? Is this my palace—  
Yon moon-smithy-flooding Nile?  
Ah, I see—O great Oedipus,  
How I thank thee for thy smile!  
Oh, I've had such fearful visions  
Of yon Antony, traitor;  
With his fearful weight of worr  
And his fearful weight of worr  
"But 'tis over, I am free—  
On that brink of fate stand I,  
What prophetic bird of evil  
Hovers o'er this sacred land?  
What if true should come my warning,  
And no more my love returns!  
Ah, the thought my heart's blood freezes,  
While my brain with madness burns!"  
Then she listens, gazing outward,  
Towards a dim fantasy,  
And her face grows pale and stern,  
Bears its burdens to the sea,  
And she catches from his whispers  
Echoing words in her soul,  
That her reign of love is ended,  
And her life is near its goal.

—J. J. O'Brien.

Evangelist in  
More Tro

Rotten-Egged in an  
Town Because of His  
Statements.

A Faith-Healer Who  
Trouble in Victoria  
Eastern Canada.

Evangelist Eugene Brooks, w  
ing his visit to Victoria in Aug  
gained unenviable notoriety in  
tion with his faith-healing wo  
been here for some time. He  
will be seen from the following  
appeared in the Paisley Adv  
February 22:

"Last Thursday evening Ev  
Eugene Brooks of Zion Tal  
(John Alexander Dowie, genera  
seer) began a series of meetings  
pagate the doctrine of faith  
and incidentally to induce his c  
to take stock in the New Zion  
is to be built on the shore of  
Michigan, and which is expected  
promoters to depopulate Chicago  
don and all the great commerc  
Elder Brooks has a strong  
accent and has fairly good deliv  
"There were very few out on  
day night, but those who were p  
reported that he was not very  
in his language, and on Sunday  
noon and evening there were a  
many present to listen to him.  
He began by abusing clergymen  
church members, mentioning p  
ticularly a Presbyterian minister who  
claimed had spread such infam  
about Mr. Leggett. Everyone kn  
referred to Rev. Mr. McKenzie, w  
a sermon had expressed sym  
the condition in which he had  
get on his return from Dowie's  
cure establishment in Chicago. I  
well known fact that he was n  
not been improved by a visit to  
Tabernacle, and consequently  
Brooks' statements were not ve  
that the biggest rowdy present at  
Thursday night meeting was on  
Crosley and Hunter's converts.  
church, he said, was a first cl  
sisters and men who paid fifty c  
the dollar, and the biggest rowdi  
then in Victoria was a first cl  
Baptists and Methodists. His  
treatment, he said, was not from  
rough element, but from church  
members. Elder Brooks was a  
tortionist, for he twisted himse  
all kinds of shapes as he depicted  
ners standing up to the scene.  
"The Lord gave, the Lord hath  
away, blest be the name of the L  
He said that Job was a d-b-lie  
that Job lied when he said it  
minister who repeated it was l  
Further, that Job was not the  
good man who was first made  
responsible for sickness and d  
He said he was going to make it  
the audience who were not ve  
have to carry away his wounde  
then three ladies got up to leave  
hall, and Brooks shouted: "There's  
devil calling out his rounds!"  
"That his views on the South Af  
agree with the New York Y  
and Bryan was a first class  
Boer said the war in South Africa  
the devil's protracted meeting and  
contingent was going out to fight  
the devil. This displease  
an unsympathetic Yankee arose  
very bitter feeling towards him.  
Brooks must have been an  
swearer in his day, for common  
pressions with him were d-b-lie,  
and d-b-lie."  
"The people of this town ston  
sented his disloyal and un-Christi  
utterances, and on Monday the boy  
terminated to stop his lecture. He  
sisted in his abusive language. A  
hour of meeting drew near the  
clouded their pockets with silver  
potatoes and awaited death, for  
They had not long to wait, for  
the opening prayer Brooks, who se  
to have got onto the back of the  
you dirty devils, come on with you  
ten eggs; we are ready and we  
have been in a state of pen  
I understand how to handle the  
Then pandemonium reigned.  
continued, and Elder B  
started for the back door, and  
went: "Let the audience face this  
and I'll talk to these devils." B  
didn't. The audience, however, s  
Brooks got it where the chicken g  
lay.  
Egg shampoos were the ord  
day, and Brooks beat a re  
After having whipped the eggs  
mounted the platform and gave  
churches and newspapers credit  
riot, but he got no credit. He  
was drowned in the uproar th  
loved. When order was again re  
and the members dispersed, he ap  
to Dowie's followers to remain fir  
the egg riot could not compar  
three dollars.  
"Brooks had only himself to  
blame the riot. Had he pronounced  
religious beliefs, and let alone  
and respectable citizens alone, as  
on Tuesday night, there would  
been no trouble. Even some of his  
followers were not in sympathy  
some of his remarks on Sunday.  
are not in sympathy with disor  
meetings of any kind, and would  
rest that those who do not appr  
Dowie style of conducting meetin  
main at home, or be orderly if th  
end."

A KLONDIKER'S MISFORT  
Loses Large Sum of Money on  
of the Celebration.

(From Sunday's Daily Edition)  
In the police court yesterday m  
before Magistrate Hall, Albert Pe  
was charged with the theft of \$45  
a watch and chain from George  
who hails from Seattle. Accord  
Hill's story he came over from S  
on March 1 and assisted in the  
ation at the news of the relief of  
smith. On the evening of the 3  
in company with accused, he  
tired in Pearson room at the  
Hotel. Awakening in the morn  
found that he had been robbed  
watch and chain. He was  
The case was adjourned until t  
row in order to allow accused an  
study to engage counsel.  
George Johnson, charged with c  
ness, was remanded until to-m  
The case of Harper, charged  
being in possession of a set of  
mactical instruments, was reman  
Mr. Maxwell Muir, was reman  
week. Accused is mentally  
sick and will probably be sent  
asylum.