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John J. Uhlman, Brooklyn, N.S., writes: "Twelve years ago, I was afflicted with a severe bronchial trouble, pronounced by a skilful physician to be very dangerous, and liable to terminate in Pneumonia. After using one bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, I found great relief, and an occasional use of it since that time has, I think, extended my life ten years at least." Mrs. V. M. Thebaud, Montreal, Canada, writes: "Last spring my daughter was attacked by membraneous croup, or diphtheria. The doctor prescribed Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, which cured her of the diphtheria. Being still very weak and sick, she began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which restored her to vigorous health."

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OULD RESPECTFULLY CALL THE ATTENtion of Wholesale and Retail buyers to the ock, being in lieu of my usual Fall Stock, being Spring Stock, he will offer such inducement ll fair purchasers that will make it an object ny of their consideration, before buying elsewhere of his Fall Stock of
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OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I HAVE made application for a licence to cut Timber on of land containing 1000 acres and bounded as RE:—Commencing at the intersection of the Ba- lk and Nanaimo Railway line with the Nanaimo- tary line of the railway land belt, near Niagara ; thence along said boundary line, South- 10 W., a distance of 220 chains to Waugh's ; thence down Waugh's Creek to the Esquimalt Nanaimo Railway crossing; and thence along railway to the point of commencement.
JOSEPH HUNTER.
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LIVERPOOL BRANCH.
E OFFICES OF THIS BRANCH OF THE Imperial Federation League are now open at AGO BUILDINGS, STANLEY ST., LIVERPOOL. dentists passing through Liverpool are requested to make use of the rooms of the branch for pondence and other purposes.
publications of the League may be seen there al Colonial papers received are filed for reference.
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Weekly British Colonist.

TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR. } VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1886. { VOLUME XXVIII NO 9.

Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1886.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND INTENDING SUBSCRIBERS.

IN ORDERING THE WEEKLY COLONIST, TO INSURE DELIVERY, YOU SHOULD ENCLOSE THE AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTION IN POSTAGE STAMPS. MONEY ORDERS, COIN OR BANK BILLS. NO PAPERS LEAVE THIS OFFICE UNLESS THE SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN FIRST PAID, AND NO NOTICE IS TAKEN OF ANY ORDER THAT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE MONEY.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Persons residing at a distance from Victoria, who may desire to insert a notice of Birth, Marriage or Death in *The Colonist*, must enclose with each notice TWO DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS in P. O. Stamps, money order, bills or coin, to ensure insertion.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL EDITION FOR SOUTH SAANICH, LAKE, METCHOSIN, SOOKE, COMOX AND OTHER DISTRICTS NOT REACHED BY THE DAY'S MAIL IS PRINTED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AND DESPATCHED THROUGH THE POST-OFFICE.

Local and Provincial News.

(From the Daily Colonist, Feb. 20.)

COAL MINERS OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY STRIKE.

All the Mines Shut Down.

(Exclusive to The Colonist.)

SEATTLE, Feb. 19.—A general strike exists among the coal miners of this region in consequence of which the Carbon Hill, Newcastle, Cedar Mountain, Tacoma and South Prairie mines have already suspended operations, to be followed by the suspension of the Black Diamond and Franklin mines in a day or two. All the mines in the territory will then be shut down and a thousand men thrown out of employment. These mines in 1885 produced four hundred and twelve thousand tons of coal.

The Marquis of Queensberry.

The "noble markis" who lately paid a visit to this province seems to have the faculty of making himself conspicuous. He was recently, on account of his atheistical opinions and his obtrusive association with Mr. Bradlaugh, deprived by his peers of the distinction of sitting in the house of lords as a Scotch representative peer, but came down to Thursday's ceremony successfully passed the unbroken line of police, and entered in dignity at the peers' entrance of the house of lords. The announcement of his name to the officers who guarded the august portal served as a passport for his admission into the palace, but when he reached the golden gate his lordship was stopped by the doorkeeper. This official, to whom one would naturally be slow in attributing ingenuity, told the marquis that as a Scotch peer he was not entitled to admission, but that if he insisted upon entering must go through the indignominious ceremony of doffing his robes. Lord Queensberry, in the days when a representative character attached to his person, was the happy possessor of such an article of adornment, and, accompanied by the messenger, he retired to the robing room to get decorated in his scarlet and ermine. He had scarcely entered the room ere the story, when the messenger closed the door, turned the key, and having thus imprisoned the marquis, kept him there until the ceremony was over and the Queen had departed.

Funeral.

The funeral of the late John Chislett Richards, son of the Hon. A. N. Richards, took place from the family residence, Erin Hall, at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, proceeding to Christ church cathedral, where a large congregation had assembled to pay their last respects to the memory of the deceased. Bishop Hills officiated by Rev. Mr. Beanlands, officiated, and during the conduct of the service the choir sang the hymns, "Jesus, lover of my Soul" and "Abide with Me." At the close the casket was carried from the church by the following pallbearers, the organ playing the "Dead March in Saul" Wm. Ward, jr., Lindley Crease, Edward Wootton, Harry Barnard, W. McLean, W. Wilson, jr., H. Loewen, C. Goode and W. Charles, jr. A large number of carriages followed the remains to the grave. Deceased was stricken in the flower of youth, his age being but nineteen years.

Personal.

At the Occidental: S. L. Wright, Seattle; M. Hutchinson and wife, Jas. Hutchinson, George Hutchinson and Phil. Walker, Toronto.

A telegram from San Francisco to day announces the death at that place this morning of J. J. Chapman, formerly chief engineer of the tug Tacoma.

Miss Jennie Reiffarth, a talented actress, well and favorably known to Victorians, is a member of the Alice Harrison company, now at The Victoria.

Mr. E. C. Baker, M. P., left for Ottawa yesterday via the Northern Pacific.

Marine.

British bark Harvest Home has gone to an anchorage at mouth of James Bay to await a charter.

The bark Nanaimo will go to Moodyville and load lumber for China.

The bark Nellie May is at Moodyville and will load lumber for Tasmania.

The British bark George is loading at Hongkong for Victoria.

The bark Nicoya sailed on December 19th from Hongkong for Victoria.

The ship Spartan, with Chinese for Hongkong from Victoria, arrived on December 18th.

The new schooner W. S. Bowen, built last year by the Hall Brothers, of Port Blakely, recently arrived in San Francisco from Honolulu, making the passage in twelve days. As she was becalmed thirty six hours after making the Farallones, she made the actual run from land to land in 10½ days—one of the best on record.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—Arrived Schooner Marion, Tacoma.

Cleared—British steamer Barnard Castle, Nanaimo.

Supreme Court.

(Before the Full Bench.)

February 18th, 1886.

Regina vs. Sproule—Hearing was given yesterday to an application by prisoner's counsel, on a writ of error, for a new trial. The case was partly heard and adjourned until this (Saturday) morning at 10:30 o'clock.

CHINESE LICENSE TAX.—The second reading of a bill to amend the Chinese regulation act, 1884, by repealing clause 14 relating to the imposition of a tax of $15 on all mining licenses issued to Chinese, will be moved by Mr. Allen, M. P. P., in the house on Monday next.

NEWSPAPER SUSPENDED.—The Portland Standard has suspended, its owners having tired of losing money. It owes $11,000.

Supreme Court.

(Before Mr. Justice Gray.)

THURSDAY, 11th Feb., 1886.

Jacob Sehl vs. Thos. Basil Humphreys.—This was an application by Mr. Walls on behalf of the defendant to set aside a writ of execution against his goods and chattels at the suit of plaintiff for $217.76, and $15.30 taxed costs, with interest on the total amount of $233.06, at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, on a judgment in the above cause entered up on the 29th December 1880.

On the back of the execution there is a memorandum from the plaintiff's attorney of moneys paid therein to the amount of $63.14, but with the calculation of interest at the above rate, after crediting the payments included in the same endorsement, leaves the amount, notwithstanding such payments, still due largely in excess of the original debt, costs and judgment, about $300.

Mr. Walls cites the Imperial act, 1st and 2nd Victoria, c. 110, sec. 17, fixing rate of interest on judgments at 4 per cent.

It is proved that the judgment in this instance was by default, without trial by jury or assessment of damages, or allowance of interest by any court or judge.

The precedent for the *fi fa* dated 4th Feb., 1886, signed by Robt E. Jackson, plaintiff's attorney, is produced by the registrar of the court to levy for $217.76 and $15.30 costs and interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, thereon from 29th Dec., 1880, by virtue of which precipe the registrar sealed the writ.

Mr. Helmcken appeared for the plaintiff.

Judge—In British Columbia the law as to interest in absence of any specific agreement relating thereto, is regulated by "The Interest Ordinance of 1867," which says: "In all cases of demands either at law or equity, in which the parties shall have made no express stipulation for interest after any definite rate (in which in England it would be lawful for the court or jury to allow interest) it shall be lawful for the jury—or when the court alone has to decide the facts without a jury—for the court to allow such rate of interest as may be proved just and reasonable, and in cases when not so proved, such rate of interest as may appear just, but not exceeding one per cent. per mensem, to be reckoned from the time at which interest would be calculated in England."

In this case there was no allowance of interest by any jury or by any court or any judge, or any proof of any agreement for interest, or any rate, or any proof of what would be just or reasonable. No man can be judge on his own case, nor can he depute his attorney to be his judge where the interests of another are concerned. By what possible authority then was the sheriff under this execution directed to levy 12 per cent. per annum, the highest limit to which a judge under any circumstances and after due consideration of the case could possibly go?

It is said that it has been the general practice among all the attornies here to issue executions in this way—including interest.

No practice can be good or legal which is directly contrary to the law and positive statute of the land. Had the defendant brought into court the balance due after crediting the payments endorsed on the back of the execution from Drake to Jackson's office, I should have allowed him his costs and set aside the writ. As he still owes a large portion of the debt I cannot allow him costs against the plaintiff, who, he is still indebted, and I will not set aside the execution, but I will order the amount endorsed to be levied to be reduced by the payment proved, $63.14, leaving a balance of $169.92, on which sum last named sum I shall allow interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum from this date. Previous to this date there has been no authority for interest at all. Let the execution be amended accordingly.

What Some People Say

That at Salt Lake Abram H. Cannon took the witness stand in his unlawful cohabitation case. When asked if two women were his wives, and he had lived with them, he replied: "They are, thank God! I have lived with them as charged." Prompt conviction followed.

That the French government has decided to transform the Gras rifle into a repeating weapon at a cost of 25f. per rifle.

That James McDonald, the Scotch giant, has just died in the City of London infirmary. He was a native of Aberdeenshire, stood seven feet two inches high, and at the time of his death was fifty-five years of age.

That one hundred million marks will be provided to defray the expenses of colonizing Prussian Poland with Germans, to take the place of the exiled Poles.

That an international committee at Nice has prepared a memorial to Prince Charles III. of Monaco, urging the abolition of gambling at Monte Carlo. This memorial includes the names of all who have committed suicide through disappointment at play since 1878. The list is explicit as to names and dates, and contains, for the eight years, 1820 persons.

That in the chamber of deputies to day Basley, a new workingman deputy, defended the striking iron miners at Decazeville, for breaking into the residence of Superintendent Watrain and trampling him to death. Basley spoke with great violence. He delivered a socialistic harangue, dwelling on the hardships which the miners were compelled to endure, and declared that under all the circumstances of the case, the killing of Watrain was "a popular act of justice." The president repeatedly called Basley to order.

That the Times announces with gusto that its weekly edition is "plumb full." A cursory perusal of some of the items would lead one to suppose that this condition had extended to the whole of its staff.

That nearly three years have elapsed since Gambetta's remains were consigned to the grave at Nice, but nothing has yet been done to give even a decent appearance to his last resting place. An old friend of the departed statesman, who visited the cemetery on the anniversary of his death in order to strew flowers on his tomb, gives a melancholy account of the state of neglect into which it has been allowed to fall. He says it is only a temporary scaffolding—a pyramid of wood covered with wreaths and offerings. The barrier which surrounds it is half rotten. The great tribune, apparently, is forgotten already.

That the St. Paul Pioneer Press tells of a little girl, an attendant of one of the Sunday schools in that city, who recently went out with her mother to spend the day. "An elderly lady, a visitor likewise, asked her what church she attended. 'I don't know exactly,' replied the little girl; 'I'm not a Methodist, and I'm not a Baptist. I guess I must be an advertisement.'"

That Great Britain has expended nearly $90,000,000 in permanent fortifications of new type in the last twenty years. France has devoted nearly as much to the same object, while Germany, with a shorter coast line than Massachusetts, and having only six or seven important harbors to defend, has planted $47,000,000 in her new system of coast defence since the close of the Franco-German war.

CHEAP TRAVEL.

The Transcontinental Railway Association Breaks Up.

A General Cut in Overland Rates.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Transcontinental Railway Association is a thing of the past. Representatives of the lines in the association permitted it to fall to pieces late this afternoon. Though they have argued with each other every day for over a week they were unable to agree upon terms of a pool. After the break up all the delegates were reticent as to cause of the disagreement. It is understood, however, that the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe road had demanded certain concessions to which the Union Pacific refused to agree. This was denied by General Agent Cannon, who said all the representatives were dissatisfied, and were unwilling to accept the terms of agreement proposed by the committee appointed to prepare such.

"Is there no prospect of reorganization?" was asked him.

"Decidedly not at present," was the reply. "The organization has gone to smash. I cannot tell what the effect will be, and can give no details of our meetings."

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 18.—As a result of the dissolution of the Transcontinental Association orders were received at the Central Pacific office to-day to reduce fares on their line. The reduction applies to all classes of fare, and ranges from $18 to $34 on each fare. It is believed other roads will follow the action of the Central Pacific, and a general war in rates is anticipated.

THE REDUCTION FROM ONE-THIRD TO ONE-HALF.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—The Times says: All the warring railroad men sent long telegrams to their colleagues in the west as soon as they came to their speedy adjournment yesterday afternoon. For the most part they ordered or advised immediate cuts in passenger fares of from 33 to 50 per cent. on the present figures. Each of the representatives declared that the directors of his company were ready for war, and would see to it that it was pushed vigorously.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Following the dissolution of the Transcontinental Association, the Union Pacific railway to-day promptly reduced passenger rates from the Missouri river to the Pacific coast on a third to one-half, making the schedule as follows: First-class, unlimited, Omaha to San Francisco, $60; old rate, $84. First-class, limited, $50; old rate, $73. Second-class, 25; old rate, $45. The Burlington and Missouri River, for the Denver and Rio Grande, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, for its line, at once met the cut, but no move has yet been made by the Northern Pacific. Freights are in a demoralized condition—20 to 30 per cent. off.

(Exclusive to The Colonist.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—Among the different agents of the roads formerly connected with the transcontinental pool, there was a great bustle and excitement this morning. None hardly knew what they stood, and all were eager to know what the other agents were doing in the way of cutting rates, and had men engaged in going around to the offices ascertaining what tickets were selling for. The little game was dropped upon and ticket agents grew reticent, and it was only upon the appearance of men who appeared to be bona fide inquirers for tickets that the agents unbosomed themselves. The publication in the papers of war rates led to an unprecedented inquiry as to the cost of tickets to various points east, and various agents were busy answering inquiries. There is, however, little purchasing of tickets, as there is a general belief that rates will go still lower. The lowest rates quoted to-day are as follows: To New York, first-class, $70, or $60 for limited ticket. To Chicago, $55, first-class, $65. For an unlimited ticket to New York, third-class, $40; to Chicago, third-class, $40.

An Unworkable Cabinet.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—Both houses of parliament were crowded this afternoon. Lord Hartington sat behind the treasury bench and was loudly cheered by the conservatives. The crowd outside the parliament buildings, which usually gives an enthusiastic reception to the prime minister, only faintly cheered Mr. Gladstone on his arrival. There is a general feeling of discontent over the meagreness of the government's statements regarding its postponed Irish measures. The fact that the government made no announcement of its programme for the introduction of bills affecting Ireland is taken as an indication that the cabinet is still undecided what course it shall pursue.

In the house of lords the Marquis of Salisbury said he would wait to see what changes six weeks would bring about in the policy of the government. His remarks were greeted with cheers. The tories vainly tried to goad Lord Rosebery, foreign secretary, to speak on the situation in the east which is very critical.

In the house of commons Mr. Gladstone said the desire of the government was to propose to the house measures of a positive and substantial character dealing with Ireland, respecting social order, questions of land and of the future government of Ireland, including the method for such government. He said that further statement on the subject would be made on the 22nd of March.

The house resumed the debate on the address in reply to the Queen's speech. Lord Randolph Churchill and the rank and file of the tories abused and worried Mr. Gladstone and provoked from the prime minister a dignified speech in which he said that he knew the government had a severe and difficult task which it would endeavor to perform resolutely and as speedily as possible. Lord Salisbury, commenting on this afternoon's announcement in the house of commons and house of lords by Mr. Gladstone and Lord Granville respectively, complained that the government is treating parliament and powerful interests with singular levity.

Mr. Chamberlain denies that there is any dispute or difference of opinion concerning the government's policy towards Ireland between himself and his colleagues in the cabinet.

Death of John B. Gough.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 18.—John B. Gough died at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

[John B. Gough was born at Sandgate, England, Aug. 22nd, 1817. He came to America in 1827, and soon after became a book-binder's apprentice in New York. He became intemperate, and was accustomed to sing and recite in grog shops, where his power of mimicry and action made him a favorite. He fell into great poverty, but in 1840 took the temperance pledge and soon began to lecture on temperance both in America and England. In time he added other subjects and became a very popular orator. His autobiography was published in 1846 and a volume of his orations in 1854.]

FOURTH PARLIAMENT.

FOURTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, Feb. 19, 1886.

Speaker took the chair at 2 p. m. Prayers by the Rev. Mr. Fraser.

PETITION.

Mr. Martin presented a petition from the residents of Kamloops respecting the practice of dentistry.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Report concerning a bill entitled an act to amend or repeal 41 Vic. chap. 6, relative to Mesqui dyking act, was received.

A bill relating to the leasing of a portion of Findlay creek to certain persons was introduced by Mr. Galbraith, and read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Duck presented a return under the Chinese regulation act, 1884, up to Dec. 31, 1885.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said that at the request of a number of members who wished to attend the funeral of the late Mr. John C. Richards, he would move that the house at its rising stand adjourned until Monday next. Seconded by Mr. Beaven.

House adjourned till 2 p. m. on Monday next.

MOTION.

Mr. Orr—That a select committee be appointed to prepare a bill to amend an act to consolidate and amend the laws relating to gold and other minerals, other than coal.

Mr. Cunningham—Whereas, the several provinces of the Dominion of Canada are united together not only by a band of iron but by stronger ties of common British brotherhood, and whatever effects the tranquility of one inevitably affects the whole confederation, and whereas, during the early part of last year certain half-breeds and Indians of the northwest territory led by Louis Riel did raise the standard of rebellion and plunder and murder peaceful inhabitants: Resolved, That this house takes the earliest opportunity of marking its admiration of and tendering the thanks of British Columbia to the officers and brave Canadian boys of the militia force who so promptly responded to their country's call and amid so much hardship and difficulty marched to the front and gallantly stamped out the rebellion, and this house also desires to express its heartfelt sympathy to the wounded and the relatives of the brave ones who fell while fighting so nobly for their Queen and country.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

The Meeting Last Night in Harmony Hall.

The meeting called for last evening in Harmony Hall was attended by a large number of representative working men of the city. The early portion of the evening was spent in registering those who have qualified and desired their names placed on the voters' list, and, altogether, about seventy-five applications were made out.

Shortly after 8 o'clock the chairman, Mr. Duval, called upon

Mr. R. T. Williams, who explained that the object of the meeting was to aid in securing as large a registration of votes as possible for the ensuing election, and read the qualifications necessary as provided by statute. He showed diagrams of how ballots should be marked so that there should be no spoiled ballots at the elections, such as had been the case to a large extent in former elections.

Mr. A. Robertson said the only leaven the workingman had was the ballot, and he hoped that the workmen of this city would be keen to see that they had their votes registered.

Mr. Duval said that during the last legislature the Esquimalt waterworks company had secured a charter to construct water-works at Thetis lake, and one section of the act provided that no Chinese be employed. He understood that during the whole summer 400 Chinese had been employed and only one white man. The matter was to be investigated, and he thought it would be proved that the charter was forfeited.

Mayor Fell said that there were troublous times ahead, and he believed that was such men as he saw before him who were to successfully grapple with them. He said that private bills were being put through the house for the purpose of robbing the community. Members were in the habit of trying to get their names on committees when such bills were being submitted, because there were twenty dollar-pieces in it. Mr. Fell characterized the members of the house as no credit to the country, to the electors, or to themselves. He also referred to the last school election, which he characterized as fraudulent in every particular, and that the present board were not legally sitting as school trustees. He thought the medical and dental bills sought to be passed through the house were dangerous and with the intent to create a monopoly of filling and pulling teeth and killing people. Legalized murderers he called those who pretended to cure. He thought this world would not be right until doctors, lawyers and parsons were swept away. He thought if people would follow nature's law they would never need a doctor—if they would leave off drinking whiskey, smoking bad tobacco and generally being intemperate, doctors would not be needed. He did not think medical or dental bills should pass and would recommend that a public meeting be called to protest against them. He would call their attention again to the necessity of being careful in marking ballots.

Mr. Cramer referred to the Chinese question and thought that the evil could be overcome in a lawful and peaceable manner, and referred to the way such was being done in other places.

Mr. John McCllmont in an able and earnest manner spoke strongly against the protection of the professions and manufacturers to the detriment of the workingman, nine-tenths of the population, for whom no protective laws were ever passed. This speaker's remarks were received with much favor.

Mr. Duval gave an account, from a private source, of the recent Seattle riot, stating that it was caused by a desire of capital to defeat labor, and that bloodshed was made for the purpose of giving a point against the working classes, sending it abroad to the world that they had made an attack on the militia, when the reverse was truly the case.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Robbery at Glasgow House

On Sunday evening a Chinaman offered about twenty-eight yards of dress goods for sale at Aaronson's pawn-brokery. Aaronson requested him to wait and dispatched a messenger to the barracks for a constable. The Chinaman bolted; but yesterday afternoon he returned and demanded the goods. When arrested by Officer Shepherd the Chinaman took him to a cabin in Chinatown, where about $50 worth more of goods were recovered; and four inmates were arrested. The goods formed part of the Glasgow House robbery some weeks since.

The Weather.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—8 p. m.—Indications for Oregon and Washington Territory for the succeeding 32 hours: Continued warm and fair weather, except in the vicinity of Puget Sound, where there will be occasional light local rains.

HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY.

Important Calculations About the Road—R. R. McLennan Talks to a Reporter.

(The Manitoban.)

"Have you anything new to tell me about the Hudson's Bay Railway today?" asked a reporter of Mr. R. R. McLennan, of the firm of McLennan & Grant, who have undertaken to build the Hudson's Bay Railway from Lake Winnipeg to Hudson's Bay.

"Nothing very special," replied the good natured agent, "only I know that every man in this country is anxious to have the road built."

"What do you think of the chances of its being built?"

"I think they are good, or I would not be here looking after it, and spending time and money over the project."

"Do you think the line will pay when built?"

"It cannot help but pay, and it must be built, as the country cannot do without this railway, as it is the natural outlet for all this great northwestern country as far south east as St. Paul. Winnipeg is 1,266 miles nearer Liverpool via Hudson's Bay than via New York; Regina, 1,600 miles nearer than via New York; St. Paul, 800 miles nearer via Hudson's Bay than via New York, so that the traffic run over this road could not be enormous. Just takes the wheat produced in Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest alone. Say that there are 50,000 farmers in five years from this date in this country, and they have an average of 50 acres under wheat and an average of 25 bushels per acre. This would make 62,500,000 bushels. Now, suppose that making a safe calculation there would be 40,000,000 bushels surplus. This would take about 15 trains every working day in the year to export it. Let us say that farmers would get ten cents more per bushel for the surplus wheat than they do at present. In five years from this date 40,000,000 bushels at ten cents would be $4,000,000 per year. In four years sufficient money would be saved by the new outlet to pay for the building of the road from Winnipeg to the Hudson Bay, fully equipped, and in working order and a road in every respect equal to the Canadian Pacific Railway."

"What is your opinion of the navigation of the bay and straits?"

"Navigation in the Hudson Bay and Straits exists for five months in the year, I fully believe, judging from every information I could pick up for the last ten years, from men who have passed winters there. We also know that the bay has been explored by small vessels that were not fit for that purpose. When there are large vessels suitable for that trade they can overcome difficulties that appear now to stand in the way; and I am fully satisfied there are five months' navigation. I would not, however, be at all surprised if parties that find it to their interests, would not report too favorably of the practicability of the navigation."

"Do you think the money can be raised in England to carry out the work?"

"Yes, I feel satisfied that the money will be raised and without any trouble either."

"Why do you think so?"

"Because I occupy a position in connection with the scheme which enables me to make such a confident prediction. My position is such, however, that for prudential reasons I am unable to speak."

"Can you give me any information as to the character of the country and the probable cost of the work?"

"Yes, I could give you a great deal of information about both subjects, but the contract is not signed yet, although in rapid course of preparation, and it compromise me if I were to tell all I know now. You see it cost me a great deal to obtain all the knowledge I have of the route; and until I am in a safe position to talk I do not think it would be advisable for me to do so, although I am pestered to death with questions in connection with the scheme. However, I will promise to give you the benefit of my knowledge in these respects at the earliest possible moment."

"How do you think the road, when built, will affect the C. P. R?"

"I think it would be a benefit to that corporation. The traffic in grain, cattle, flour, etc., coming from Minnesota, Dakota, and Montana, carried over all lines of railway north of St. Paul would find its way to a large portion of the main line of the C. P. R., and all its branches south of the main line. A few years ago some of the wise and unenterprising men and journals of the Dominion, that never could see any good in the country, prophesied that the C. P. R. would not do enough business to pay for axle grease; and that it would cost the Dominion several millions of dollars a year to run it. Now the road is paying well; its stocks are going up, and in a few years it will be the best paying road in the country. The Hudson's Bay Railway Company, with a country like this to back it up, can't help but be a paying road."

RELEASE OF MR. STEAD.—Mr. Stead, editor of the Pall Mall Gazette, lately imprisoned on account of his publications alleging terrible abuses of women and children in England, was released from Holloway gaol yesterday morning. In the evening a great meeting to welcome him was held at Exeter hall, which was packed to its utmost capacity. Rev. H. P. Hughes proposed a resolution welcoming Mr. Stead and pledging those present to carry on his work. This was adopted with acclamation. Two testimonials were then presented to Mr. Stead—one a Bible from the Young Men's Christian Association, of Exeter hall, and the other a purse containing the sum of 27,000 pennies, subscribed for, as Mrs. Ormiston Chant stated, by the same number of women, high and low, throughout England, together with an illuminated address. Mr. Stead, who was received with acclamation, began his address with prayer. He spoke for upwards of an hour in defence of his conduct, and appealed to all who had taken an interest in his case and in the cause of social purity to carry on the banner he had striven to uphold.—*London Times, Jan. 19.*

IMPERIAL FEDERATION LEAGUE.—A number of gentlemen of this city have formed the nucleus of an Imperial Federation League, and have secured a large number of names as members. A meeting will be held shortly.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

Discussion Among Liberal Leaders.

(Special Correspondence of The Colonist.)

LONDON, Jan. 30.

The thoughts of those connected with parliament have been turned from Ireland to the new rules, which the government have made public. They constitute by far the most comprehensive code of procedure that has ever been authoritatively submitted to the house. They will recast the entire business, and in a very business-like manner. They alter the hour when the house has to assemble, and the season of the year when it has to be in session. Instead of meeting at 4 o'clock, and sitting on till two, three, and sometimes four the next morning, the house is in future to meet at two, adjourn at seven, re-assemble at nine, and rise at midnight. This is for four days of the week. On the Wednesday it will sit, as usual from twelve till six. This is a most sensible arrangement. At present, the house does not get fairly to work till half-past four. It is in full operation until about seven, at which time the members go to dinner; and for nearly three hours afterwards little useful business is done. Debates that are practically exhausted are often kept going during this interval just because prominent men don't care to speak while the benches are empty. By the new arrangement a legitimate dinner hour will be provided every night, and the officers of the house, as well as the members, will have an opportunity of eating their meal in reasonable comfort. The proposal to close all important discussions at midnight is equally, if not more, commendable. Half an hour is to be allowed to wind up the proceedings, and no business is to be taken after half past twelve; so that, even on great division nights, members may, without any great effort, be able to reach their homes before one o'clock. This is a pretty late hour, but the change will be a great improvement on the system that now prevails. The house is not to be kept in session during the hottest months of the year. Parliament is to rise by the latter end of June or the beginning of July, and re-assemble in October. Only those who have to live through the summer months in London, and do duty in the stuffy, relaxing atmosphere of the palace at Westminster, can realize the advantages of the alteration. But the changes in the hours and seasons that the house will sit are not all. The principle of devolution is to be carried much further than Mr. Gladstone's rules carried it. All public bills that have been read a second time are to be referred to a select committee for the settlement of details. The changes, when they are put into practical operation will largely increase the working power of parliament, they will in no sense curtail the liberty of discussion, and they will greatly add to the comfort of both members and officials. Some 200 notices of bills and motions have been given by private members; and if Ireland, as a matter of course, has the first place among the subjects, beer is not far off from having the second. Several members of the new house threaten independent action against

THE ADULTERATION OF BEER.

It is high time, too, seeing that Spiers and Pond are spending their thimbleful for two pence on the ground that they cannot give more pure beer for the money. The time was when beer was composed of nothing but malt, hops, and pure water. But now there is the chemical mystery in addition, which causes every glass drunk to tickle the throat for two more. The ministerial crisis has, however, taken a precedence of the four winds of heaven. Mr. Jesse Collings having placed the government in a minority on a side issue concerning the agricultural laborer, Mr. Goschen spoke in favor of the government, and was succeeded by Mr. Bradlaugh, who spoke in favor of the amendment. After him came in rapid succession Mr. Long, Mr. J. Balfour, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, and the Marquis of Hartington, who closed the debate. Mr. Chamberlain taunted Mr. Goschen with inconsistency, and chancellor of the exchequer, in turn, charged the member for Birmingham with

INVOKING HIS VIEWS

on Mr. Gladstone. The Marquis of Hartington, in announcing his intention to vote with the government, made a most significant speech, which was listened to with interest by members in all parts of the house. If Mr. Goschen's remarks made it plain that there is a division among the liberal leaders, the observations of Lord Hartington made it even more so. The division resulted in the

DEFEAT OF THE MINISTERS;

329 supporting the amendment and 250 voting against it. After this vote the ministry resigned. Mr. Gladstone is now engaged in forming a cabinet. When Her Majesty opened parliament we had an opportunity not only of seeing our sovereign, but also of inspecting the handsomest frock coat which the nation, as a nation, possesses. Lord Wolseley's administration has rather reduced the brilliancy of the British soldier's dress. Tommy Atkins in grey, or green, or blotting paper, has become less likely to be shot by an enemy with a good aim and a vindictive nature. Life insurance companies would deal with him on easier terms. But the bandsmen of our Household cavalry retain their

UNRIVALLED SPLENDOR OF COSTUME.

Germany and France may beat them in music—I think Germany would and France would not—but no country in Europe can beat them in coats. These garments cost the nation £32 18s. 4d. apiece. I am told that they are remarkably cheap at the price, and that the outfitter is nearly ruined by the contract.

It is to be sincerely hoped that the exertions the Beaumont trustees are making to raise the "twenty thousand pounds more," which will enable them to begin their undertaking of a people's palace in the east end, will result in the provision of some institution which really has a hold on the population there. To learn—and it is a fact—that on a recent student's day at the Bethnal Green museum, the number of visitors was three, is painfully discouraging to those who thought a museum was the thing. The Beaumont trustees propose to establish a sort of

GYMNASIUM FOR MIND AND BODY,

and they have received a few very munificent subscriptions—i. e., £2,500 from Lord Rosebery, £1,000 from the Duke of Westminster, £250 from Truman, Hanbury, and Buxton, and large sums from city companies, in addition to £20,000 from the drapers; but as yet their scheme hangs fire. Numerous advertisements having been issued in the form of fictitious telegrams, and so many complaints having been received on the subject, the postmaster-general has issued a notification stating that he thinks it right to call attention to the fact that the printing or circulation of fictitious telegram forms or envelopes, or of any document or form which is an imitation of the post office form, is an infringement of the 6th section of the postoffice protection act of 1884, and that any person acting in contravention of that section is liable to prosecution. The champion of the temperance party,

SIR WILFRID LAWSON,

is stated to be in very poor health. Under the advice of his physician, he will shortly leave England for Egypt. Prior to this, however, he is to preside at a breakfast to be attended by between three and four hundred members of parliament interested in temperance legislation.

A TRIPLE MURDER.

Three Men Murdered in Four Minutes in Sicily.

ROME, Feb. 1.—From Sicily comes a horrible story of a series of murders, in which two families apparently attempted to exterminate each other. At Portempedocle, near Girgenti, two butchers, father and son, of the name of Indelicato, not long since took two brothers, named Alfonso and Giovanni Cannetoni into partnership, to enable them the better to compete with a rival establishment. At first there was a great show of friendship between the partners, but before long the Cannetonis began to raid on lamb's carcases separately on their own account, and disagreements arose which ultimately led to a collision between Baldassare Indelicato and Alfonso Cannetoni. They drew their butcher's knives from their belts, each other. Alfonso aimed a well-directed blow at Baldassare. He parried it with his left arm, which was cut to the bone, and at the same instant drove his knife into the heart of Alfonso, who fell dead on the spot. At that moment a young son of Alfonso, aged nineteen, came up with a bludgeon to his father's assistance. Baldassare struck him to the ground, and then cut his throat across "as he would have slaughtered a sheep."