The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1891.

NOT JUST YET.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press pathetically asks: What will become of Canada? We beg to assure our Minnesota contemporary that Canada is all right. Its people are just now mourning the loss of an eminent statesman, in whom they had great faith and to whom they were deeply attached, but, though their grief is profound, they have lost neither heart nor hope. Canadians are a self-reliant people, and they believe in their country. They will, no doubt, miss Sir John Macdonald for a while, but they will go on working out their destiny as energetically and as hopefully as ever.

The Pioneer Press thinks that Canada is in a bad way, and that its prospects are not good. Our contemporary believes that it needs reciprocity with the United States, but this reciprocity it is not likely to get, so the only cure for it is annexation. If Canada joins the United States its prosperity will be assured. It will have the market of the sixty-five millions, and will go ahead like a house on fire. This is what it says:

It will soon be clear to the Canadians that there is but one way out of the difficulties of their situation, and that is the broad and open way of annexation. . . . When it becomes apparent, as it soon must, to our Canadian neighbors, that the only way to make their country great and prosperous is to give it a partnership in the greatness and prosperity of the United States, the movement for annexation, supported by all substantial considerations of self interest, whatever other obstacles it may meet with, is not likely to find any formidable barrier in the attachment of the Canadian people to the British Crown."

If our American contemporary had had its eyes open during the last Canadian general election, it would have seen that the attachment of the Canadian people to the British Crown is still very strong indeed. So strong is it, that every Canadian public man, no matter in what Province he may live, knows that it is as much as his political life is worth openly to advocate annexation. There was in the last Parliament one, and only one, avowed annexationist. He was, at the general elections, relegated to private life by electors who are attached to the British Crown, and that too, when the question at issue was unrestricted reciprocity, pure and simple. Our neighbor will find out, by and by, that what it considers "substantial considerations of self-interest" have not such great weight with the people of Canada as it imagines. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that what Canadians regard as substantial considerations of self-interest are not exactly what the Pioneer Press looks upon as considerations of that character.

Canadians are an observant people, and they sometimes do a little thinking on their own account. A good many of them, too, read American newspapers. They find it difficult to reconcile the very fine stories they hear about the greatness and prosperity of the United States with the accounts they read in the American newspapers of the depopulation of New England States, the conditions of whose existence are very much like those of their own, and with the pitiful stories they read of the distress that exists among the farming population of the Western and South-western States. If the United States is as prosperous, and as great as the annexationists tell us, and if the market of sixty-five millions is so advantageous to its farmers, why are their farms, and their chattels, mortgaged for all they are worth, and for more, in many cases, than they can bring in the market, and why do not the farmers of the Eastern States stay on the land and raise crops to sell in this fine market? There must, they conclude, be in that great and prosperous country a screw loose somewhere, or the farmers would not find it necessary to combine to get relief from the State, and would not listen to what the Pioneer Press denounces as wild and mischievous schemes to extricate them from the slough of debt and embarrassment in which they have sunk. Canada is certainly not an Arcadia or an El Dorado, but none of it is in as bad a condition as the orators and advocates of the Farmers' Alliance declare that a very large part of the "great and prosperous" country, which the Pioneer Press wants us to join to get out of our difficulties, is in. It does appear to many thoughtful Canadian farmers that for them to join the United States would be indeed jumping out of the frying pan into the fire. It would be well for the Pioneer Press to give Canadians a reason for the existence of the Farmers' Alliance, to show why it is that so many farms in the Eastern States have been abandoned by their cultivators, and to account for the thousands of unemployed persons and of the many other thousands who are working for starvation wages in the cities of its "great and prosperous country" before it invites Canadians to join the United States.

THE PREMIERSHIP.

The Toronto Globe seems to think that, because the Province of Ontario is not to give Canada its next Premier, it will occupy a position of secondary importance in Dominion affairs. We cannot see how the circumstance of the Premier being the representative of a Province can alter its position, relative to the other Provinces, in the least. The rank of a Province in the Confederation depends upon something much more substantial than its giving the Dominion its Premier. We do not see that Nova Scotia's position will be, in the slightest degree, altered, if Sir John Thompson or Sir Charles Tupper become the First Minister. Is it to be supposed that Ontario's position will then be secondary to that of Nova Scotia? The idea is absurd. It is evident that the question of the premiership cannot be settled on sectional grounds. In fact, sectionalism should not enter into its consideration at all. The Premier should be the best man for the place, no matter where he comes from.

If British Columbia sent to Parliament a man of commanding talent,—a man born to be a leader,—does any one imagine that the accident of his residing in a distant and thinly peopled province would disqualify him from taking his proper place? Small politicians might possibly try to force him to take a subordinate position, but, if he was the man we assume him to be, he would get to the top in spite of all that the lilliputian politicians could do to keep him down. The right man should be put in the right place, regardless of where he comes from; and it is certain, that, with respect to the Premiership, the right man will, in the long run, get there by virtue of a force which small men will not be able to withstand.

As to the Premier's province getting more than its due share of the good things that are going, the testimony of the Globe itself proves that there is little danger of its being unduly favored. The Globe's complaint has been all along that the Premier's province has been neglected, while provinces more needy and more importunate have been favored. Ontario, it complains, has been made the "milch cow" for the smaller and poorer provinces. Ontario's representatives and Ontario's press have growled and grumbled because Quebec got more than its fair share of the offices and appropriations. To be a French Canadian, they declared, was the best qualification for office, and little places in Quebec were able to get more public money expended in them than places in Ontario of more than twice their importance. Indeed, to judge from the Globe's lamentations, it was unfortunate for Ontario that the Premier was one of its representatives, for he appeared to act as if he considered the claims of every other province preferable to those of the one in which his constituency was situated.

The Globe's grievance is obviously a manufactured one. It seems determined, in the present crisis, to create trouble. It appears to think that to appeal to sectional jealousy and suspicion is the most effective way to create difficulties for the next administration, and it is bound to get in its work early. But we do not think that its success of late years in manufacturing grievances and in stirring up strife has been so great that the party in power need be at all alarmed at its attempt to make mischief just now. The Globe's influence has become a tradition, and there does not seem much chance of its soon again becoming a reality.

ABSURD MISCONSTRUCTION.

The editor of the Vancouver News-Advertiser seems bound to show the whole world that he has not the least regard for truth or fairness, and that he has not the slightest respect for the intelligence of his readers. He has written nearly two columns to prove that the Premier, when he said that the Government would not send the troops to Wellington if it could, and could not if it would, "tacitly approved the action." We wonder what the editor means by "approve." To tell a man that you would not do what he asks if you could, is certainly a very queer way of showing approval of his request. Most persons who understand English and have any feeling at all would look upon it as the most direct and emphatic form of denial and disapproval that could be devised, and they would regard it as very blunt, if not offensive as well. To say plainly, "I won't," is harsh enough, but to say "I would not if I could," is to add something more than harshness to the refusal. The man who could construe such a rebuff as that into tacit approval would regard a kicking as a compliment.

It is utterly disgusting to see a newspaper that ought to be respectable resorting to such absurd dishonesty to make capital against a political opponent. We are not at all surprised to learn that the News-Advertiser is discredited by men of principle and intelligence in Vancouver, and that its editor has lost the political support which he, through the influence of friends who had formed a mistaken estimate of his ability, received at the last general election. The public are not so densely stupid and unappreciative as the editor of the News-Advertiser seems to believe.

LOYAL AND TRUE.

Sir William Gordon-Cumming's now celebrated case affords another instance of the loyalty of woman. When the jury had decided against him, when he had lost the favor of the Prince, for whose sake he had been ready to sacrifice so much, when he was a disgraced man, and nothing but ruin and misery stared him in the face, the woman to whom he was engaged stood by him, and insisted upon sharing his lot, whatever it might be. As he was to be driven out of society, and to be shunned by the men and women, who, but a few short weeks before, considered it an honor to be noticed by him, the faithful and courageous woman to whom he was betrothed was ready, for his sake, to sacrifice, what must have been to her, one of the principal charms of life—association, on terms of equality, with the highest in the land. Miss Garner, no doubt, knew what she was giving up, and how different her life will be as the wife of a disgraced and dishonored man to what it would have been if her lover had remained what he appeared to be when he won her affections. When she promised to marry him, she had a right to expect, when she became his wife, high position, an honored name and all the pleasures and gratifications which are to be derived from moving in Society's most select circle. But the result shows that she sacrificed all this to be the comforter and the consoler of the man she loved. It is more than likely that, throwing aside all affectation of coyness, she insisted upon being married to him at the earliest possible moment after the conclusion of the trial which sealed his fate. Her ready and, no doubt, cheerful sacrifice shows that the poet's panegyric did not depict woman as she ought to be, but woman as she is:

> "O Woman! in our hours of ease,
> Uncertain, coy and hard to please,
> And variable as the shade
> By the light quivering aspen made;
> When pain and anguish wring the brow
> A ministering angel thou!"

Sir Charles Dilke in similar circumstances, found that the woman, who betrothed herself to him, when he was honored and apparently on the high-road to fame and the most exalted position, did not desert him when he was disgraced and the brilliant career on which he had entered closed apparently forever. She, like Miss Garner, hastened to fulfil her engagement to her ruined lover, hoping to sustain and cheer him in the dreary future that was before him. And nobly and successfully she has done what she saw to be her duty. Who does not hope that Lady William Gordon Cumming's loyalty will also have its reward?

RECIPROCITY NEGOTIATIONS.

The correspondence relative to the reciprocity negotiations between the Dominion Government and the Government of the United States that took place early this spring is very interesting. It shows that the Dominion Government, at any rate, was most desirous to enter into a reciprocity trade arrangement, and that, if very little was done towards accomplishing that end, the fault was not that of the Dominion Government or its representative, Sir Charles Tupper. We may say here that the negotiations did not fail, they were merely postponed, at the instance of President Harrison, until the 12th of October next.

The correspondence consists chiefly of a long letter from Sir Charles Tupper to Sir John Macdonald, in which Sir Charles states, with great minuteness, all that took place while he was in Washington. He was at some pains to convince Mr. Blaine that the Dominion Government was always in favor of entering into close trade relations with the United States, and that the party in power in Ottawa is now, and always was, in favor of reciprocity. Here is part of what Sir Charles Tupper said to Mr. Secretary Blaine on the subject:

"I then told Mr. Blaine that I wished to remove the idea, if he entertained it, which had been promulgated in Canada and the United States, that the present Government of the Dominion was not warmly in favor of the most friendly relations with the United States. In an article which I had recently sent, over my own signature, to the North American Review, I had undertaken to give conclusive evidence upon that point and that I could only refer him to the fact that when Sir John Macdonald, who was one of Her Majesty's joint High Commissioners, submitted to Parliament for approval the Alabama treaty, which settled, also, questions between Canada and the United States then pending, he was fiercely denounced by the leaders and press of the Liberal party for having basely sacrificed the interests of Canada in his endeavors to promote the friendly relations between Canada and the United States. I added that I had experienced the same treatment from the same party when I submitted for the approval of Parliament the treaty of Washington of 1888. I was then charged by the leaders and press of that party with having conceded everything to the United States and obtained nothing in return, so great was my anxiety to remove all cause of discussion between the two countries."

Sir Charles Tupper was most desirous to remove from Mr. Blaine's mind the impression that Canadians, as a whole, are opposed to a reasonable measure of reciprocity.

"I said," he continues, "that Canada was most anxious to have the freest and most friendly trade intercourse with the United States, consistent with the interests of both countries, and that I should regret very much if Canada and the large number of Canadians in the United States were driven to the conclusion that they could only look to one party in the United States for freer commercial intercourse between the two countries."

And further on in his report of the same conversation the High Commissioner wrote:

"I went on to say that the Government of Sir John Macdonald and the party which sustained him, had the strongest desire to promote reciprocal trade between the two countries, and their hopes in that direction were greatly strengthened by the decided measures which Mr. Blaine had taken to promote reciprocal trade with other countries, and that I could not see why he could not, with great advantage to the United States as well as to Canada, extend to the north the same policy he had pursued with other countries to the south, whose trade was much smaller than that between the Dominion and the United States. I said that the fact that he had expressed his readiness to receive the representations that Canada wished to make would show that he was quite open to consider that question. I was further strengthened in these views, I added, by the disposition that he had shown to make arrangements with the colony of Newfoundland."

Some of our readers may think that Sir Charles Tupper showed a little too much eagerness to enter into new trade arrangements with the United States, and that it would have been better policy to have appeared, if not indifferent as to what action the American government might take, at least less anxious that his advances should be favourably received. There may be something in this, but the earnestness evinced by Sir Charles admitting it to be, to a certain extent, undue, shows the injustice of the accusation of the opponents of the government that neither it nor the party which supports it is in favor of any liberal or indeed possible measure of reciprocity. If Sir Charles Tupper had been taken at his word, and if the negotiations had proceeded as they were begun on his part, the Dominion would soon have been committed to a trade arrangement with the United States as liberal as any reasonable Canadian, whether Liberal or Conservative, could wish. As it is, Sir Charles' words are on record and they commit him, if ever he has the power and the opportunity of giving effect to what he said, to a policy of close trade intercourse with the United States.

We are quite sure that what Sir Charles Tupper said during that interview with Mr. Secretary Blaine meets with the approbation of at least five out of six of the inhabitants of the Dominion. The number of Canadians who do not believe in a liberal measure of reciprocity with the United States is very few indeed. And those few take a narrow view of their own interests. The majority of the people of the Dominion are opposed to any trade arrangement with the Great Republic which will deprive them of their fiscal independence, and which will involve discrimination against Great Britain. But a reciprocity treaty which leaves them free, as regards the imposition of taxes, and is not unjust to the Mother Country, can hardly be too liberal to please the majority of Canadians.

The concluding paragraph of Sir Charles Tupper's letter shows that the postponement of the negotiations will not be productive of much inconvenience. He says:

"You have, of course, since learned that the date of the proposed meeting at Washing has been fixed for October 12 next. This, at first sight, would seem to involve a long delay, but as the session of the Parliament would preclude any meeting before the first of July, and as the hot weather at Washington obliges those who can do so to go to the seaside during the summer months, October is really as early a period as it was practicable to arrange. Sir John Thompson, Mr. Foster and myself left immediately for New York, and they returned to Ottawa and I sailed for England on Wednesday, the 8th inst.

"I may add that, after carefully thinking over all that has occurred, I consider there is good reason to hope that a fair arrangement may be made with the Government of the United States in relation to the important questions contained in Lord Stanley's despatch to Lord Knutsford of the 13th December, 1890."

If, then, the negotiators make good use of their time when they do meet, the business will be as well advanced when Congress assembles as if they had been dawdling over their draft treaty during the summer months.

A LYING ILLUSTRATION.

A late number of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper shows how impudently journalists in the United States deceive their readers. One of the most prominent illustrations is one purporting to show how the "Canadian poachers" do their work in Behring's Sea. A number of sealers, armed with clubs and boat hooks, are on fields of ice knocking the seals on the head, which are so numerous as almost to cover the surface. The sealing ships, at some distance from the shore, resemble the schooners engaged in the business about as closely as they do H.M.S. Warspite. The picture is a most eggregious lie told in a very effective manner. There is nothing true about it.

The sealers, to begin with, do not kill the seals on the ice. They hunt them on the high seas. The vessels that have been seized were taken when they were fifty, sixty and a hundred miles from land. The picture is, of course, a fancy one, the artist depending altogether upon his imagination, but it does represent, with some degree of accuracy, not seal hunting by British sealers, but seal killing by the employes of the North American Commercial Co. Those men land on the breeding islands and they club the seals while they are enjoying themselves on shore. We have heard that their practices are very destructive, but it is not safe to believe a tithe of what we hear or see on this subject.

The Americans, who see this picture in Frank Leslie, will get the impression that the British Columbia sealers, besides being poachers, are a murderous lot, to kill indiscriminately the seals which during the breeding season seek the seclusion of the Pribyloff Islands. They will have no suspicion that an unprincipled journalist, probably in the interests of the real seal murderers, has been practising upon their ignorance.

If British sealers were caught killing seals on American Territory, in the way depicted in the illustrated paper, they would render themselves liable to severe punishment, and there is not a subject of Queen Victoria, in either Europe or America, who would say one word in their behalf.

FACTIOUS AND UNFAIR.

It is greatly to be regretted that the Times has not learned to distinguish between factious and fair opposition to the Government. Fair opposition is legitimate and necessary, factious opposition is unfair and, not only unnecessary, but detrimental to the public welfare.

Its article, in Friday's issue, on the School Trustees is an instance of factious opposition of the meanest and most mischievous kind. The amended School Act is now the law of the land. Nothing that the Times can say will have the effect of modifying its provisions in the least. It is in the interest of all that the public schools of the city be kept in an effective condition, and it is the duty of all good citizens and all public journals to do what in them lies to promote the welfare of the schools. Those who throw obstacles in the way of the operation of the law and who endeavor to bring into disrepute the men whose duty it is to put it in force do what they can to impair the usefulness of the schools. They are, therefore, doing what is most injurious to the cause of education, and to the present and future welfare of the children. To disparage and calumniate the gentlemen, who have consented to act as trustees, is a work which no newspaper, which has the good of the city at heart, would engage in. Those gentlemen undertake to perform arduous, delicate, and at times difficult duties, gratuitously. They can have no other object in accepting the office of Trustee than to serve their fellow-citizens. For the Times to attack and vilify them, before they have entered upon their duties, before it is known whether they can do their work well or not, must appear to every right-minded man as a most unfair and a most reprehensible use of the power of the press.

The gentlemen whom the Times goes out of its way to traduce, merely because they have consented to act as trustees, are Messrs. John Jessop, Thos. McConnon, and Henry F. Heisterman. They are all of them men of unimpeachable character, and are peculiarly fitted by their experience and intelligence to perform the duties of the office which they have accepted. Mr. Jessop is an old resident of Victoria. He was for seven years superintendent of education for the Province. He is, besides, a trained teacher, holding a First Class certificate from the Toronto Normal School. It would be hard indeed to find a man in the city better qualified to take a part in the superintendence and management of the city schools than Mr. John Jessop. Mr. McConnon is a comparative stranger to many of the citizens, not having been a resident of the city more than three or four years. Those who have the privilege of his acquaintance, know him to be a most estimable man. He, too, has been engaged in the work of education. He is a good scholar, exceedingly intelligent and a public-spirited citizen. It must be admitted that he is eminently qualified for the position.

Mr. Heisterman is well known and highly respected in the city. He has, besides, considerable experience in the work which he has so kindly undertaken to do. He is a busy man, but having consented to devote part of his valuable time to the service of his fellow citizens, he deserves something better than abuse from the Times newspaper. It will have to be admitted that the Government have made a very judicious selection. Its appointees are all good men, and there is every reason to expect that they will do their work, as school trustees, well. They are entitled to the respect and consideration of their fellow-citizens, and ought to be judged fairly and according to their merits. We do not suppose that any of them asks either favor or indulgence at the hands of their fellow-citizens. But it is their right to have fair play, and we are sure that, notwithstanding the attempt of the Times to prejudice the community against them, they will be kindly and courteously treated by their fellow-citizens, and, as school officials, judged according to their merits.

We trust that the Corporation will exercise as much care and show as good judgment in selecting the majority of the new Board of Trustees as the Government has done. If they do, the city schools will be under the management of careful and competent men, who will deserve the confidence of the citizens.

We do trust that in the future politics, or what some people regard as politics, will be rigidly excluded from the management of the city's schools. Let the interests of education be the only thing considered by the Government, by the Corporation, by the citizens and by the Board of Trustees, and Victoria's schools will not only be kept up to their present high standard of efficiency, but will be improved and will keep pace with the progress of education in the most advanced parts of the world. It is not difficult, under the system which is about to be established in this province, to keep politics out of educational affairs. It has been done elsewhere, and it can be done here. The factious and mischievous course upon which the Times has entered with regard to school matters does not promise well for the welfare of the city schools, but we are pretty sure that sensible and public-spirited citizens of all shades of politics will act in such a way as to convince our contemporary that nothing is to be gained by wantonly attacking the school authorities and by meddling and muddling in school affairs generally.

BACCARAT.

The following description of the now famous game of Baccarat is clipped from the "Speaker" (London) of May 2nd:—

"Professor Hoffmann is of opinion that there is perhaps no game of chance which lends itself so completely to the skill of the card-sharper as 'Baccarat,' a form of gambling which is arousing just now, for obvious reasons, a good deal of public curiosity. The game is of French origin, and came into vogue in circles where high play prevails towards the close of the reign of Louis Philippe. It closely resembles, in many respects, Vingt-un, but money passes from hand to hand at baccarat more briskly, and the risks are far greater. The stakes are made before the cards are dealt, and, except on the part of the banker, there is hardly any scope for personal judgment. "The object of the game is to hold such cards as shall together amount to the point of nine. The cards from ace to nine count each according to the number of its pips. Court cards are equivalent to tens, and ten at this game is baccarat—a synonym for zero." There are two kinds of the game, known respectively as Baccarat Chemin de Fer, and Baccarat Banque, the latter being the method chiefly played. The tricks of the baccarat table, according to Professor Hoffman, are legion, but the game itself is so stupid that it is difficult to account for its attraction, except as a possible means of acquiring money without working for it. This little book exposes the tricks of card-sharpers who have studied the art of cheating at baccarat, and it places the reader in a position to estimate, to some degree, "the enormous amount of dishonest ingenuity" which is displayed by unscrupulous players at this particular game."

The New Air Ship.

THE new air ship travels 200 miles an hour good time, but none too quick if one wanted Hagyard's Yellow Oil. This peerless, pain-soothing remedy is a prompt and pleasant cure for sore throat, croup, colds, rheumatism, pains in the chest and back neuralgia. For external and internal use. Price 25c.

A BAD ADVOCATE.

The Vancouver World has, in the weakest kind of way, taken up the cudgels for the majority of the University Convocation. It does not try to defend the action of the mainland members, or give any reason for their boycotting the Island of Vancouver graduates. It simply abuses the COLONIST, and sneers at Dr. Milne. It does indicate, in the vaguest manner, that the mainland majority propose to stand upon their dignity, but it seems to us that their footing will be exceedingly insecure. It also finds fault with the course pursued by the Island members of Convocation, who attended the recent meeting at Victoria, asserting that they "endeavored, by every means in their power, to thwart the wishes of the majority throughout the province." Would it not have been better for the World, since it said so much, to have been a little more explicit? How could the Island members, present, thwart the wishes of the majority throughout the Province? Does our contemporary, by the word Province, mean the mainland? It seems to us that any effort to thwart the wishes of the majority of the mainland members would have been futile, for, if we are rightly informed, the whole business of electing the Senate was settled before Convocation met in Victoria. All that could be done at the Capital was to go through the form of election. Its result could not be affected by any amount of thwarting on the part of the boycotted Islanders.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

The arrangement made at Ottawa is exactly what many who understand the situation anticipated. The Hon. J. J. C. Abbott has undertaken the task of forming a Government, and its other members retain their portfolios. There will be no stoppage of the governmental machinery. Matters will go on as usual until the prorogation of Parliament, after which the Government will most probably be reorganized. It is not likely that the Opposition will have recourse to any factious measures, and it would gain nothing either in Parliament or in the country if it attempted to do so. The Government commands a good working majority, which, under the present condition of things, is quite as likely to increase as to decrease. The country is in sympathy with the Government, and the electors would be sure to resent any attempt on the part of the Liberals to take an unfair advantage of the new Administration. Every patriotic Canadian, whether he is Conservative or Liberal, sees that it is of the highest importance that the Dominion should for the next few months be tranquil. Any unnecessary agitation just now might create mischief that could not be readily repaired. Faction must not be given its opportunity. The agitator must be made to feel that any action on his part at this crisis is inopportune, and that if he tries to make mischief he will be opposed and denounced by the majority of both the great parties. There is, we think, patriotism enough both in Parliament and in the country to refrain from party warfare when a truce is urgently required to promote the general welfare.

The probability is, then, that by the consent of all nothing will be done during the remainder of the session but such business as cannot be safely allowed to lie over. The supplies will be voted and the budget considered. It is not likely that any change of importance will be made in the tariff. Matters will be left as much as possible as they were when Sir John died until the Government is reconstructed and Parliament meets again.

It may be thought that it is too much to expect that the Opposition will exercise forbearance during the present crisis, and consent to remain inactive, in order to give the Government time for re-arrangement and consolidation. It may be said that now is its chance. The Government's weakness is its opportunity, and that the Opposition would be foolish to give the Conservative Administration time to gather strength and to reform its ranks. But Mr. Laurier may be sagacious enough to see that to push the new Government too hard would be very bad policy, that he is not prepared to take advantage of any temporary success he might gain, and that there are sundry difficult questions awaiting settlement which it would be wise to allow the Conservative Government to deal with. He may conclude that a waiting game is the right one for his party to play, and he may see that, while playing it, he will get credit for moderation and magnanimity, which may stand him in good stead at some future time.

It is rash even to surmise what is to be the policy of the Conservative party. But people will go on guessing, no matter how unprofitable the amusement may be. Our guess is that the present arrangement is a provisional one, that when matters have settled down a little Sir Charles Tupper will be called upon to form a government, that he will succeed, and that, under his leadership, the Conservative party will remain in power during the life of the present Parliament. Sir Charles Tupper is a strong man, and the government that he leads will be strong.

HORRIBLY MUTILATED.

Body of a Child Disfigured After Jack the Ripper's Style.

LEEDS, Eng., June 10.—Barbara Waterhouse, the 5-year-old daughter of a quarryman, disappeared mysteriously last Saturday.

At midnight, last night, the police discovered a body in a bundle in the street close to the town hall.

It proved to be that of the missing girl. It was horribly mutilated. The legs and arms had been almost severed by the gashes.

The body had been cut open and the intestines protruded. The clothing had evidently been replaced after the murder.

"SO ENGLISH, YOU KNOW."

TO THE EDITOR:—In an interview with Mr. Trout, editor of the Monetary Times, of Toronto, published in your paper, I see that that gentleman, during his two or three days' visit to this province, has learned enough to venture an opinion on the physical and business characteristics of Victoria's population. We are so English, you know; we all turn up the bottom of our "trousers" when it is raining in London, deah boy; and are so deuced slow and all that sort of thing, compared with the Canucks in Toronto and Montreal.

One would imagine that Mr. Trout would have fished around a little while longer before venturing the opinions that he does. Halifax resembles Victoria, indeed; well about as much as Toronto does. Halifax is built on a steep hillside, Toronto over a swamp, and Victoria is neither flat nor perpendicular. Victoria, in its people, is certainly more cosmopolitan than any other city in Canada. We have representatives here from almost every part of the world. The English do not predominate; in fact, I think that the Eastern Canadian element outnumbers that from any other section. We are neither slow nor unenterprising; and, although Mr. Trout is editor of Toronto's leading financial paper, it will perhaps be a surprise to him to be told that the "slow" people of Victoria do business on such an excellent basis that they are all making money, living in reasonable comfort, and paying their debts, in strong contrast to many business houses in Ontario.

If the editor of the Monetary Times publishes opinions in his financial sheet on as slender inquiry into the condition of things as he has done here I would not like to take them as an indication of the soundness or unsoundness of business. The fact of the matter is that Mr. Trout has come to Victoria prepared to denounce everything as wrong which does not come up to the preconceived notions he has of how business should be transacted. There are many others like him who think affairs in this part of Canada are all upside down because they do not agree with the local condition of things existing in the section in which they have previously resided. If they would only stay long enough with us they would discover that people here are quite as clever and enterprising in business, and live out their allotted space in as reasonable a sand perhaps more sensible way than those very astute people who reside in Toronto, and who are not "so English, you know."

WOOLLY WEST.

B. C. R. A.

The Annual Matches to Take Place at Goldstream, Commencing July 29th—Those who will be Entitled to Compete.

A meeting of the council of the Provincial Rifle Association was held at the Secretary's office, on Friday last, to consider the arrangements necessary for the carrying on of the annual prize meeting of the Association.

It was decided that the shooting should take place on the Goldstream rifle range, on Wednesday, the 29th of July next, and three following days. A committee was appointed to draw up a prize list, to be submitted to the council for final decision. The prize list will be as interesting as former years, and will embrace a few new features.

The question of the number and manner of selection of the teams to represent the Province at the annual meeting of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association at Ottawa, in September next, was discussed, and it was decided that the team should consist of eight members, with an officer in charge, and who should leave, if possible, at least fourteen days before the matches at Ottawa begin, so that time might be afforded to recuperate from the fatigues of the long journey, and an opportunity given those members of the team who care to take part in the Province of Ontario Rifle association matches in Toronto. The team will be chosen from all members of the active militia of the district who attend the Goldstream meeting in July, so that the best shots in the province may be secured, and will be in charge of a popular officer of the B.C. Garrison artillery.

The question of efficiency was brought up, and it was decided by the council that the certificates of the commanding officer that a competitor is a *bona fide* member of the corps to which he belongs, and had signed the service roll previous to the 1st of July next, and had performed the annual drill of 1890-91, should entitle a competitor to be classed as efficient.

A few slight repairs to the target trench will place the range at Goldstream in first-class order for shooting, and the range committee will see that every facility is provided for the large number of competitors expected to attend.

THE CARIBOO STAGE ROBBERY.

Conviction and Sentence of Rowland, the Accused.

Martin Van Buren Rowland was found guilty last Tuesday, at the assizes at Clinton, of receiving stolen property, and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. He is the man arrested for the robbery of the Cariboo stage, on the 14th of last July.

The crown had a great number of witnesses present, but none of them could swear to the prisoner's identity. The evidence upon which he was convicted was entirely circumstantial, but very convincing. The gold found in his possession, and which he claimed he had washed out from a claim on Scotty Creek, was declared by experts to be of the character of gold found on the Fraser, Cottonwood and other camps, and entirely dissimilar to the gold obtained on Scotty Creek. Miners testified that Rowland's sluices were so poorly constructed that it was impossible for him to have saved the gold that the prisoner claimed he had panned out. Other experts testified that no color could be obtained from the claim. Rowland was ably defended by J. Campbell and William Whittaker, while the prosecution was conducted by S. Perry Mills.

DEATH AND STARVATION.

La Grippe Devastating Magdalen Islands—Fishing Suspended—Scarcity of Food.

HALIFAX, June 13.—A despatch received here this evening says La Grippe is spreading with alarming rapidity on the Magdalen Islands. Five members of one family have succumbed to the disease. Fishing is practically suspended. During the past ten days fifty persons have died from the disease and hundreds of others are down with it. Unless an abatement in the disease comes soon, starvation will have to be met by many on the island. The sick are unable to procure the necessary medicine to relieve their sufferings, and in some of the fishermen's homes the inmates have been put on short allowances of food.

A young man in Vancouver has got into a scrape for smashing several costly plate glass windows, while on a drunken spree.