

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

Our politicians will do well to be prepared within the next few weeks to consider the qualifications necessary, or such as they would wish to see possessed and enjoyed by the representatives for the city of Victoria. We do not allude to the property qualification, but to those requirements of skill and ability for business and experience in public affairs which are essential to the proper fulfilment of such a charge as representing the interests of the people in the House of Assembly, and legislating for the government of this colony.

A very good maxim was laid down by a statesman who, in the latter part of the first half of the present century, carried more weight in the House of Commons by the mere force of his sound reasoning than any statesman of the present day. It was, that no man was fit to be entrusted with the affairs of others, who had not successfully managed his own business. The responsibility of representing the interests of a mercantile community, like that of this city, in an Assembly where all the laws affecting property in the Colony are passed and enacted, is very great, and the electors must bear in mind that their responsibilities, although divided, are substantially and collectively similar to those of their representatives. If a mistake be made in selecting a fit and proper person to represent a constituency, much evil is inflicted upon the public for the period for which Parliament may happen to be sitting. At a general election there are the different qualifications of the different representatives to consider, and it becomes necessary to regulate individual votes, as to give to the best man that come forward seats in the House. When a single member is to be elected it is somewhat different; after a House has been sitting for some time, the electors have some knowledge of the position of parties in the House, and of the men who form those parties, and it is incumbent upon them to consider carefully between the candidates that may show themselves in the field, and those who might be induced to offer themselves, who are likely to be the best members of a previously constituted House. This will be the case at present in Victoria when we are called upon to exercise our right of voting on the return of a single member to Parliament. We must consider, not the peculiar views of the man, but the measures that he is likely to support and the place he is likely to occupy amongst his colleagues.

We have no decided division of parties by which we can hope to test any particular candidate, but we have been able, during the present session, to observe the votes and leanings of our different members; and it will be for the electors of Victoria, when they are called upon to send a new member to the House, to choose a man who will not only be fitted to discharge his duty to his constituents as an individual member, but also as an integral part of that body of gentlemen who now constitute a branch of our legislature. One man in his own individual capacity may be better than another for any particular post, but when he has to act with other parties, the electors have to take into consideration other qualifications, in order to make the whole parliament as effectual as it can be for legislative purposes. Above all things, however, it is desirable to exercise due caution, and not to promise hastily or pledge in any way a vote to any party or person until it is known from amongst whom the choice has to be made. We do not wish at present to enlarge upon the particular qualifications which a member for Victoria ought to possess; we shall doubtless have many opportunities of doing so before the election and for the City of Victoria takes place.

THE "SANGSTER" COMPANY.—Considerable excitement was occasioned in town yesterday by the result of an assay of some quartz brought down by Mr. Oliver, the superintendent of the Sangster Mine. The rock was taken from a vein about one mile and a quarter from the rich copper lode already discovered, and according to Messrs. Gumbiner and Co. will yield at the rate of \$1,350 to the ton of gold. Samples of the same rock in a crushed state have, by the order of the president, been given to Mottler and Co. for assay, and a similar lot will be sent up by the first boat to the Government Office at New Westminster. The officers of this enterprising company deserve credit for the steps they have taken to obtain corroborative evidence of the richness of the quartz, which, if it should turn out anything like what is represented, will inaugurate a new era in the prosperity of the colony. We understand that the Sangster Mining Company have a reserve for four months, to pre-empt minerals on the island, which is supposed to be about 40 miles in circumference. Its situation is about 10 miles N.E. of Nanaimo.

DISCOVERIES AT COWICHAN.—Mr. John Barrow, a settler in the above district, informs us that the samples of coal brought to this city by Mr. Samuel Harris, are from a vein found by him some months ago, and located for a company in Victoria. Our informant further states that the specimens of gold exhibited from the same quarter are nothing more than splinter.

COMMITTEE ON CROWN LANDS.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13.  
The Committee met this morning at 11 o'clock. The Hon. Tronoe was examined by the Committee.

By the Chair.—Had been in the colony since July 1858. Had been in the employment of the Colonial Government in grading Wharf and Yates street; knew the piece of land at the foot of Johnson street between S. Price's Warehouse and the end of the old bridge. Had macadamized it as the construction of Johnson street (showing it on the official map.) Had graded Wharf street to the intersection of Johnson street, then continued the installing to the end of the bridge.

By Mr. DeCrom.—Followed the beaten road with the metal keeping to its width to the end of the bridge. That portion of the road was not quite straight. My intention was to run the drain from the corner of Johnson and Wharf street to the water, along the line of the street, but finding a rock in the way, the draining was carried across the lot between Price's Warehouse and the south side of the bridge.

By the Chair.—Did you not consider that piece of ground between the warehouse and the street as part of the street? Ans.—I did not. Ques.—Why? Ans.—I was not pointed out as such. Mr. DeCrom.—The Hon. Mr. Tronoe was not in the colony when the drainage was carried out. Mr. DeCrom.—I was not in the colony when the drainage was carried out. Mr. DeCrom.—I was not in the colony when the drainage was carried out.

By Mr. Duncan.—Was the line of the drain to run in accordance with the south side of Johnson street and thence into the harbor? Ans.—It was, on the south side of the bridge; but in consequence of rock being in the way, it was taken to the water in a box sewer.

Mr. Tronoe was here dismissed by the committee. Mr. Homfray re-examined. By the Chair.—Have you any further statements to make? Ans.—I have. (Mr. Homfray gave in the following written statement corroborating it by reference to his diary and also the minute book of the Philharmonic Society, also the correspondence between Mr. Pemberton and Consul Booker, of San Francisco, with certified copy of Mr. Booker's letter.)

If the Committee will allow me, I will make a statement in refutation of the assertions made by Mr. Pease at his last examination. I will state that I have not been in the colony since the 1st of January, 1863. I was in the colony from the 1st of January, 1862, to the 1st of January, 1863. I was in the colony from the 1st of January, 1862, to the 1st of January, 1863. I was in the colony from the 1st of January, 1862, to the 1st of January, 1863.

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who has been acting as his assistant, whom he would still like to have associated with him. I can recommend Mr. Homfray strongly to your good offices, having known him for several years.

I am, My Dear Sir,  
Yours very truly,  
WILLIAM LANE BOOKER.

J. D. PEMBERTON, Esq.,  
Surveyor-General, Victoria, V.I.  
When Mr. Pemberton denied having written such a letter on my arrival here, I immediately wrote to Mr. Booker for a copy of Mr. Pemberton's letter. The following is a copy of Mr. Booker's reply, accompanying Mr. Pemberton's letter:

My Dear Sir.—I have had your letter of the 4th, and am sorry to find that you have been unable to come to terms with Mr. Pemberton; I am not so much surprised that the salary proposed should be only \$100 per month (everything in the island having heretofore been so different from what it is in California) as I am that you should have failed to meet with a cordial reception. Mr. Pemberton cannot think you do not come fully up to the qualifications of a properly educated surveyor, and he is not at all surprised that you should have failed to meet with a cordial reception. I do not see that I can aid you in any way, and I yet hope your services may be made available. When Mr. Pemberton says "good-bye to myself," that I had no authority to place matter in the light I did, you can refute, having a better knowledge of the facts than I have. I will not say that I have not been in the colony since the 1st of January, 1863. I was in the colony from the 1st of January, 1862, to the 1st of January, 1863. I was in the colony from the 1st of January, 1862, to the 1st of January, 1863.

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difference between you marked on the house, amounting to nearly three feet! Ans.—It was merely a private mark.  
The committee here adjourned till to-morrow (Thursday).

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S  
**Chlorodyne.**  
CHOLERA, DYSENTERY, DIARRHŒA, CRAMP, AGUE, FEVER, RHEUMATISM, CONSUMPTION, ASTHMA, COUGH, &c.

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or G. MASON, at the Identical,  
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