and matcher, single surface
ine, four cross-cut and rip
saw for splitting lumber up
hes in width. A first-class
ys all material to the second
equipped with all kinds of
machinery; a few of which
below: band saw, shap-
pointer, mortiser, sash sticker,
hine, boring machine, door
paper machine and door

ather for March, 1891.

ESQUIMALT, B. C., April 2nd.
Pressure—The mean atmos-
reduced to sea level was 30.050
eatest pressure (30.391) occurred
31st, and the least (29.573) at 9
h, giving a monthly range of

—The mean temperature was
3 lower than the average, and
than in 1890 The highest tem-
occurred on the 14th, and the
the 3rd, giving a monthly range
armest day was the 14th, mean
and the coldest was the 3rd,
ure, 31.1.
he mean humidity was 83.
The mean amount of cloud was
re 6 cloudy days, 22 partially
ar days.
Rain—Rain fell on 20 days to
inches. Snow and sleet fell on
th of 1½ inch, making a total
2.31 inches.
otal miles in wind was 6,213, be-
velocity without regard to
miles per hour. Most winds
24 miles, mean velocity of 30 1
Least windy day the 13th, 79
elocity of 3 3 miles per hour.
y in one hour 47 miles, from
e 21st.
t, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 10th, 11th, 12th,

—On 21st.
22nd.
nats—On 7th.
ing—On 13th.
E. BAYNES REED,
Observer.

d Vancouver Island R. R.

of Messrs. F. Bourchier, R.
nd A. L. Belyea, of Victoria,
ial Parliament, sets forth that
erest of the public that a line
onstructed and operated from
nainmo, in the province of
bia, to some point on the
uver Island; that it is their
apply for authority to con-
, and maintain such railway,
iew of the provincial impor-
roposed railway in opening up
ried resources of the north-
ncouver Island, consisting of
er, and agricultural lands,
ave to bring in a bill to in-
mpany to construct and oper-
ed railway, with all powers,
vileges necessary to carry out
ing, notwithstanding that the
y the Standing Orders has
y add that they are impelled
petition at this late day in
proposed connection, at an
he Island of Vancouver with
stem of the United States, by
way ferry across the Straits
Fuca, and the great impor-
ly extension of railways on
and.

She is a Clipper."

's Bay company steamer Cale-
vill p y between Fort Simpson
on the Skeena river, will
trip on Tuesday. The vessel
nnder the direct supervision
Odin, and will, in all prob-
ur to be the fastest boat ever
province. The captain says
nt the Gertrude, the fastest
navigated Northern waters.
s a fire box boiler, five feet
d twenty feet over all. She
heel, 16½ feet in diameter,
ucket, and her engines are six
ith two 16 inch cylinders.
m stem to stern is 100 feet,
dimensions are: Beam 24½
feet. A steam capstan and
ch cylinders, with seven inch
used in climbing riffles, and
th this extra power, that she
any current that she may en-
Caledonia is the first steamer
apt to go through Cater Lass
Caledonia will leave about
for the North, and will de-
o the Hudson's Bay company
her route. Captain F. Odin,
loy of the C.P.N. Co., and
in G. Odin, has arrived from
take charge of the new

PERSONALS.

of Portland, is in town.
t, of Calgary, is in town.
, of Winnipeg, is in town.
et, of New York, is in town.
, of Duluth, is at the Driard.
, of San Francisco, is in town.
Winnipeg, is at the Driard.
bins of Nanaimo, is in the
der, of Calgary, is a guest at
rant returned from Portland
ent over to the mainland this
, of Portland, is staying at
nau, of Seattle, is a guest at
ood, of Seattle, is at the
, of Spokane Falls, is a guest
tal.
, of Vancouver, is staying
tal.
, of New Westminster, is
Oriental.
on and J. H. Todd were
nder's passengers last night.
of Gest, McLennan & Reid,
inent legal firm of Fairhaven,
s enjoying a brief holiday
cares, in this city.
la, one of the most success-
inent business men of St.
t., spent yesterday in Vic-
ust arrived from California.
o-day.
y, of the legal firm of Bel-
, will remain at Washington,
after the argument of the
rd" case before the Supreme
United States, on the 13th

ckwith, agent for Shorey &
ed from a trip through the
He says that he found no-
so generally prosperous as
adians living in Denver re-
that those in Canada did
n they were well off, when
l annexation.

al Disasters in Europe.

ril 3.—The Chronicle's Rome
says the failure of four more
kers is announced. In a
el in regard to the affairs of
irm of Prior, Woolen & Co.,
uts of this city, it is shown
bilities are £561,469, and the
5. The firm was a partner in
Healey, Woolen & Co., of San
it is estimated that its share
company amounts to £60,000.

B. C. BOARD OF TRADE.

Largely Attended Meeting of the Board of Trade, But Very Little Done.

An Annual Banquet Decided Upon—Points of Order at Great Length.

For half an hour or more, at the quarterly meeting of the B. C. Board of Trade, yesterday, points of order, questions of privilege, motions, ammendments, and amendments to amendments filled the air. The difficulty arose out of a misunderstanding as to when a new member might take his seat, and exercise his right to take part in the debates and vote. One portion of the meeting asserted strongly that, having been elected in the usual way, any new member might at once qualify, by sending his dues to the secretary, and thereby secure all the rights of membership. The contra argument was that such a method of admitting members was capable of gross abuse by anyone anxious to further private ends; If they wished to carry any particular resolution through the Board, all they would have to do would be to "run in" new members and pack the meeting. Their contention was that no member could take his seat at the meeting at which he was elected, but would first require to be formally notified, by the secretary, of his election. The president ruled that there was at present nothing in the rules to prevent a member taking his seat at the meeting of his election; and later in the day a committee was appointed to suggest such amendments to the rules governing debate, and the rules applying to the admission of members, as might be considered expedient and necessary.

The meeting was opened sharp at 3 o'clock, with the president, Robert Ward, in the chair, and the following members in attendance: T. Lubbe, Major Nicholles, Munroe Miller, A. C. Flumerfelt, R. T. Wiliams, W. F. Bullen, D. R. Ker, T. B. Hall, W. H. Bone, Col. E. G. Prior, M.P., E. B. Marvin, E. E. Blackwood, J. A. T. Caton, A. J. McLellan, W. J. Macaulay, E. A. McQuade, T. C. Sorby, B. Van Volkenburg, H. E. Croasdaile, R. Erskine, W. H. Ellis, W. Munsie, F. J. Claxton, A. B. Gray, B. Boggs, Major Dupont, H. F. Heisterman, Thos. Earle, M.P., W. Jensen, L. Goodacre, J. C. Bales, Joshua Davies, C. Wilson, John Irving, Wm. Templemen, C. Spring, J. E. Crane, A. W. Jones, W. Monteith, C. Hayward, F. G. Richards, jr., Wm. Wilson, M. H. Cowan, M. Moss, G. Leiser, G. H. Barns, Joshua Holland and John Grant.

There was but one communication in the hands of the secretary, a letter from S. J. Pitts, resigning his membership in the Board, as his intention was to shortly leave for England. Accepted, with regret.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

U. S. Consul Levi W. Myers, being present, and, it was understood, being anxious to address the Board upon the subject of provincial representation at the great World's fair, in Chicago two years hence, he was introduced by the president. The consul said that he had very little information, either new or of interest, to give upon the subject of the fair. At that exposition, he felt confident that British Columbia, Vancouver Island, and Victoria would be honorably and creditably represented. As Speaker Reed had said, not long ago, "half of the effort of life is to get a hearing." At this greatest exposition of the century, British Columbia would certainly want to be heard. She would want to embrace the opportunity to let the world know the richness of her resources and of her capabilities. Victoria had been considering how best to extensively advertise herself. Could she do better than prepare a grand exhibition for the World's fair, where it would be sure to command attention? Canada had received, through the home government, a special invitation to take part in the exposition at Chicago, and the wealth of the mines, forests, farms and fisheries of the most western province of the Dominion would not be the least valuable or the least worthy contributions to the great show. The preparations for the fair of '93 were being made on a gigantic scale; the exposition grounds were to be four times as great in area as the grounds for the Paris exposition of 1889 One building alone was to cover 31 acres, and no expense would be spared in any detail. The United States felt that Canada was with them on this occasion—it was America's exhibition. The Consul was sure that Victoria would make a fine display; one that would do herself much good. There would be no state fairs in 1893, all the states concentrating their energies upon making the country's exposition a success, and each state having a special day set apart for it. Nor would Canada be forgotton; there would be a Canadian day, as much honored as any other. Mr. Dunsmuir, so he had heard, was excavating an extra large piece of coal, already, to be shown, intending to construct a coal pyramid in the British Columbia court, some of the blocks being 12 or 14 feet square. That pyramid would be an exhibition in itself, and one of which every British Columbian should feel proud. He was satisfied from what he had, himself, seen, that British Columbia could astonish the world with her vegetables, as well as her coal, timber, ores, and fish; and his object in now addressing the board, was to impress upon the members the necessity of moving in the matter of preparation for the fair.

Loud applause marked the conclusion of the consul's remarks, and then President Ward thanked him for the trouble he had taken in attending, and the interest he had manifested in the city and province. He suggested that the board communicate with the Provincial Government on the subject.

On motion of Messrs. Hall and Prior, it was resolved that the board communicate with the Provincial Government, asking their co-operation in arranging for the representation of the province at the World's Fair, to be held in Chicago in 1893.

The formal thanks of the Board was then tendered to Consul Myers, upon motion of Mr. Thos. Earle, seconded by Mr. W. F. Bullen.

ADVERTISING VICTORIA.

The Advertising committee appointed by the council of the Board reported that after many interviews with the Printing committee of the Corporation, the civic authorities had decided to carry out the advertising of Victoria by means of a volume, similar to Tacoma Illustrated, without the assistance of the Board, and had already donated $2,000. The committee had arrived at the conclusion that it would be more advantageous for the Board to cause the city to be advertised through one of the monthly magazines published by, or with the assistance of, the Northern Pacific, notably the Northwestern Magazine, whose circulation was 35,000. This form of advertisement should be supplemented by pamphlets of statistics of the city and district.

After a few minutes' consideration, the report was referred to the Council of the Board.

AUDITORS AND NEW MEMBERS.

Upon nomination of the President and Vice-President, Messrs. M. T. Johnson, E. A. McQuade and A. C. Flumerfelt were named as auditors for the year.

The admission of new members was next proceeded with, the following being unanimously accepted by the Board: E. V. Bodwell, A. L. Belyea, H. Carmichael, A. St. G. Flint, W. C. Haywood, Jas. Hutcheson, Joseph Hunter, P. Æ. Irving, Robert Irving, Robert Jamieson, T. S. Milligan, R. P. McLennan, Thomas Norgusy, T. G. Rayner, C. E. Renouf, N. P. Snowden, A. G. Sargison, John Teague, sr., B. Williams, M. W. Waitt and H. C. Beeton.

The president informed the Board that, owing to the strong and persistent representation on the subject, the matter of improving the beacons and buoys on the Northern Coast had at last been taken up by the Dominion government.

RAILWAY CONNECTION.

MR. W. F. BULLEN moved, seconded by Mr. A. B Gray: "That this board learns with satisfaction that negotiations have been in progress, and are now pending, for the purpose of giving to Victoria direct railway communication over the Northern Pacific railway system, thereby opening up to commerce the adjacent districts of Vancouver Island, and placing Victoria in direct communication with the trade centres of the continent; Now therefore be it resolved—That this board urges upon its members the importance of forwarding in every way the most momentous project, for the advancement and material welfare of Victoria and the province of British Columbia."

While the seconder of the resolution was on his feet, the debate on the right of newly elected members was introduced, and for the next half hour it held full sway, the widest latitude being given to those taking part in the discussion. It was finally thought best to adjourn the consideration of the important resolution, until the new members might properly take part in the debate and vote. The matter, accordingly, will be taken up on Friday next.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

MR. JOSHUA DAVIES gave notice that at the next general meeting he will move the following amendments to the by-laws:

Quorums at general meetings—Section No. 2. Strike out the word "seven," and insert eleven in lieu thereof.

Entrance fees—Section No. 12. Strike out section No. 12, and insert in lieu thereof: "After the Annual General Meeting, to be held in July, 1891, any person desirous of joining the Board of Trade shall pay an entrance fee of thirty dollars ($30.00) in addition to his annual subscription.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. J. Davies and Mr. Flumerfelt, and carried: "The increased membership of the Board necessitating amendments and additions to the present by-laws, by which it is governed; particularly relating to quorums at quarterly general meetings; notice of motion at quarterly general meetings; attendance at meetings of council; and the appointment of standing committees with the duties of each intelligently defined;

Be it therefore resolved,—That a committee of seven, to include the president and vice-president, be elected to draw up said amendments and additions to the by-laws as may be considered advisable, and that same be presented at next annual general meeting of the board."

The committee was named to consist of Messrs. M. T. Johnson, H. E. Croasdaile, Joshua Davies, Chas. Wilson and A. C. Flumerfelt, with the president and vice-president.

BOARD BANQUET.

Mr. G. Leiser moved, believing that the interests of the Board would be advanced by the mutual intercourse occasioned by the holding of a regular annual banquet, "that the Board's next annual banquet be held on Thursday, the 16th day of April, 1891, and that a committee of five, to include the president and vice-president, be appointed to carry out the details." There was, he said, hardly a Board of Trade, of any importance, on the continent that did not have their annual banquet. It was good as a method of advertising: For the banquet proposed in the resolution, it was not intended to take one cent from the funds of the Board, the necessary cash would be secured from the merchants, who were quite ready and willing to contribute. He had named April 16th, as Messrs. Prior and Earle would then be leaving for Ottawa, and it would be a good time to have a farewell chat with them. A banquet, if held in July, would be but poorly attended.

The president, Mr. Earle, and Mr. Chas. Wilson preferred some other date, and the resolution finally passed, the date being left blank, and the president, vice-president, Messrs. Leiser, Bullen, Ker, Davies and Nicholles forming the committee.

The Board then adjourned.

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT "TRUTH."

Toronto TRUTH has many thousands of testimonials in its possession speaking in the very highest terms of the prizes won. We wish we could give them all, but we have only space for a couple of recent ones.

WON THE PIANO.—Miss Bella Archer, daughter of our Reeve, Mr. J. W. Archer, has been successful in winning the $600 prize piano offered by S. Frank Wilson, Toronto, in a Bible competition. Miss Bella has been very successful in former competitions of this kind, and is entitled to the hearty congratulations of her friends.—Collingwood Enterprise, Jan. 15th, 1891.

ST. THOMAS, Feb. 16th, 1891.

I take much pleasure and delight in acknowledging receipt of the handsome square piano offered as first prize in "TRUTH'S Bible Competition, No. 21." I also thank you exceedingly for the promptitude with which you answered my letter by forwarding it to me on the following day. I had really not expected it for some weeks Several persons of musical talent have already examined it and all pronounce it a first-class, genuine piano, both in tone and finish, and say it is in every respect what you claim it to be. I will be pleased at any time to exhibit it to anyone who may wish to know the fairness and honesty of the competition. I have no doubt but that you will receive many of my friends' names as subscribers to your valuable paper, which is well worth the money as a household friend. Again thanking you for your valuable reward.—MRS. GEO. SHAW

mr13-eosat&eowkly

Mr. Charles Davis is about to start a parcel express delivery business in this city. There is no doubt but that success will follow his energies.

Mr. U. S Consul Meyers has recently been called upon to register a more than ordinarily large number of property transactions in real estate at Port Angeles, Port Crescent and other points at the North of the Sound.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FORTY-EIGHTH DAY.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. After prayer by Rev. W. D. Barber,

MR BAKER presented the report of the select committee on the Grobman land reclamation affair, submitting the evidence and asking that it be printed.

MR. BROWN presented a petition from J. D. Montgomery and others, in favor of female franchise.

MR. KITCHEN introduced a bill to declare valid certain by-laws passed by the municipal council of the municipality of Surrey.

HON. MR. BEAVEN objected that this was a private bill and could not be brought in in this way.

MR. HUNTER advocated the giving of the utmost latitude to bills of this kind. There were no municipal councils which wilfully transgressed the law, but owing to the convolutions of the municipal law it was very difficult to abide by it.

MR. KITCHEN explained at length the circumstances of the case.

The bill was read a first time.

THE SUPPLIES.

The House then considered the report of the Committee of Supply and concurred in the estimates and supplementary estimates, which were, on motion of Hon. Mr. Turner, agreed to.

THE ASSESSMENT BILL.

HON. MR. TURNER moved the adoption of the report of the Committee of the House on the Assessment bill.

An amendment, offered by Mr. Kitchen, to sub-section seven of section two, in connection with exemptions upon improvements, was rejected.

The effect of the amendment was that a man must make improvements to the extent of $5 per acre west of the Cascades, and $2.50 east of the Cascades by the time he has been on land for four years or be subjected to the wild land tax. If less than four years, half that amount of improvements should release him from the wild land tax.

On motion of MR. HALL, section two was made to read: "But improvements upon any part of land owned by any person shall be deemed to be improvements upon the immediately adjoining land of such person to the extent of six hundred and forty acres in like manner as if such improvements had been equally distributed over the whole of the said immediately adjoining land of such person not exceeding in the whole six hundred and forty acres, except where the lands adjoining such improved lands are suitable only for pastoral purposes, and where the business of farming and stock-raising are jointly operated, in which case the value of the improvements shall apply towards exempting from the wild land tax such adjoining pastoral lands."

MR. KITCHEN moved to strike out the clause exempting the property of charitable institutions.

This was supported, among others, by Hon. Mr. Beaven, who held that charitable and religious institutions should hold their land like other people. He would support a provision to exempt all improvements, but was not prepared to tax one set of individuals and allow others to go free.

HON. MR. TURNER pointed out that at present these institutions were altogether exempt from taxation. The present bill proposed to tax them for their property outside of the buildings and improvements.

The amendment was adopted.

MR. SWORD moved "that the amount of mortgages assessed on any property be deducted from the assessed value of such property."

The amendment was, after discussion, rejected.

MR. KITCHEN moved to insert the following as clause 14: "It shall be the duty of all assessors in assessing real property to assess the value of land separately from all improvements thereon, and to state in separate columns the assessed value of the land, and of the improvements, and for the purposes of this section "land" shall mean the land itself with all things therein and thereunder, and all trees indigenous to the soil or underwood growing upon the land, and all mines (other than gold mines), minerals (other than gold), quarries, and fossils in and under the land, except mines belonging to Her Majesty; and "improvements" shall mean all buildings, structures, or other things erected upon or affixed to the land, or improvements made to the land, and all machinery or other things affixed to any building on the land so as to form in law part of the realty."

After remarks from Messrs. Cotton and Brown, who supported Mr. Kitchen's proposal,

HON. MR. TURNER held that it would be a matter of too great difficulty to carry out the amendment. The books and forms would require to be altered, and the government could not take the matter in hand this year. The government desired to obtain some idea of the value of property, and in the meantime would secure all they could from the government agents, which could be laid before the House next session.

HON. MR. BEAVEN believed that it would be of great advantage to carry out the idea of the resolution. The amendment was in the right direction.

The amendment lost.

After further discussion the report was adopted. Third reading next sitting.

EXPLANATION.

HON. MR. VERNON rose to correct a misapprehension which might arise out of the reference in the COLONIST to the subject of "Artesian Well Boring." Instead of the machinery being able to go down 1,400 feet only, it could reach 5,000 feet, but the casing would go down only 1,400 feet. Besides, instead of working two shifts or 16 hours, work would go on the whole 24.

PRIVILEGE.

HON. MR. BEAVEN rose to a question of privilege to correct an inaccuracy as to his remarks on the report on the McNamee matter as published in the DAILY COLONIST. He could not blame the reporter because he knew it to be difficult to take in the points He had been accidentally reported on this important matter, and it became necessary for him to explain what he had said. He had intended to say that the Government had no official knowledge as to who were the local contractors. It knew that there were some local contractors, but the Government had dealt with Mr. McNamee direct. He fancied that the remarks of the Attorney-General had been mixed up with his own. He (Mr. Beaven) had never said that the first contract was only a temporary one, something to which effect he believed had been said by the Attorney-General When the papers came down he should be prepared to deal with the matter.

HON. MR. DAVIE said that when he saw the paper he at once perceived that the report had been mixed up.

SUPREME COURT BILL.

The report of the committee of the House on the Supreme Court Bill was adopted; third reading next sitting.

REVENUE TAX BILL.

The House again went into committee on the Revenue Tax Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair, and, subsequently, reported the bill complete with amendments.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

HON. MR. DAVIE presented a message from His Honor, transmitting bills to recompense the members of the Mining commission; to authorize the creation and issue of unscribed stock and for other purposes, and to provide for a loan of £700,000 sterling, and for consolidating the public debt. The message will come up on Monday.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

MR. SEMLIN—In Committee of the Whole on bill to incorporate the Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen Coal and Railway, to move the following amendment to Mr. Martin's amendment, "And thence to the town of Kamloops, and also full power and authority to construct, complete, lease, purchase and operate a railway from a point at or near Spence's Bridge, to a point at or near the Western extremity of Nicola Lake. Provided, that the power hereby conferred on the company to build that portion of their line lying between Spence's Bridge and the junction of the Coldwater River, shall not be exercised until three years after the passage of this Act, unless in the meantime the Nicola Valley R.R. company elect not to proceed with the construction of their railway.

AN IMPERIAL ZOLLVEREIN.

The following thoughtful and well written letter appeared in the London Times of March 13, a copy of which has been sent to us by a friendly hand. It is with great pleasure that we give it a place in the columns of THE COLONIST:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR,—In a short letter to the Times (March 10) Sir Thomas Farrer, who undertakes to speak on behalf of "the great majority of the people of Great Britain and Ireland," throws down the gauntlet to all who venture to think that the policy of free imports adopted by this country 40 odd years ago is not the only and is not necessarily the final solution of all economic problems. He asks somewhat defiantly whether any one will condescend to tell him "what we are to gain." The answer is, in one word, Empire. The British dominions throughout the world at the present time—including recent acquisitions of territory in Africa—cover an area of upwards of 10,000,000 square miles. Is this magnificent and unparalleled domain to be consolidated and unified, or is it to be disintegrated and broken up? Is the United Kingdom to retain its present position as the commercial centre of this world-wide dominion, or is it going to allow one member at a time to be attacked, crippled, or alienated until the whole present fabric crumbles to pieces?

Professor Seeley speaks of three powerful forces—community of race, of religion, and of language—which make for unity. Those who advocate some form of Imperial Zollverein would add to these a fourth and more potent force—community of interest. Nor is this any longer a purely theoretical question. The difficulty in a very practical form has already cropped up in more than one of the colonies, and the recent elections in Canada have, as a matter of fact, been fought on this issue.

This is one of the questions involved in the new Imperialism, which is beginning to make its voice heard here as well as in the colonies, and which has recently been very happily described by Mr. Charles G. Robertson in one of the magazines for this month.

Sir Thomas Farrer, however, and those who agree with him in his views, probably think little, and perhaps care less, for Empire. He and they ask their question "What shall we gain?" in a much more limited and materialistic sense. "In what way and to what extent shall we be the richer should such changes as are suggested be made?" Is it possible, then, on this narrower basis to demonstrate that some form of Imperial Zollverein will soon be, if it is not already, the more profitable path for the United Kingdom to choose? It will hardly be denied that the difficulty, already becoming a formidable one, which the manufacturer in Great Britain has to face, is not the difficulty of getting sufficient quantities of raw material at a low price, nor is it the difficulty of having to seek for capital and labor wherewith to work up such material, but is the difficulty of finding for such manufactured goods a market that is at once large and profitable. The colonies take of British manufactured goods in spite of their tariffs, which are with them necessary revenue-raising devices, from £2 in Canada and the Cape to upwards of £8 in Australia and New Zealand per head of population. Would not, then, any measure which (other things being equal) tended to stimulate the prosperity or to increase the population of these colonies be a direct pecuniary benefit to the manufacturers of the "mother country?"

"But," exclaim the opponents, "other things are not equal!" "Look at the price demanded!" "You propose a tax on corn!" And hands are at once uplifted in holy horror, and the trembling politician sees terrifying visions of an agitation from Land's End to John O'Groat's, with a "dear loaf" and "a tax on the people's food" as the party cries. What does this amount to? Sir Thomas Farrer says that if small such a tax will have no effect, and that if large it will ruin the "toiling millions." These statements are incompatible, and both are open to question. A "dear loaf" sounds very formidable; but is it seriously contended that a domain of 10,000,000 square miles in extent, with vast areas of wheat-producing territory, developed and undeveloped, is incapable of raising sufficient corn to partially supply the inhabitants of one small corner of 120,000 square miles? "To tax the people's food" would be very lamentable; but can it be proved that the "toiling millions" would pay the tax, or is Lord Dunraven right when he endeavors to show that under certain circumstances such toll would be paid by the producers? From an economic point of view, the problem seems to be as follows:—Given a limited market, capable only of a well-ascertained consumption, and an unlimited source of possible supply, will the cutting off of a limited area from that source of supply increase the cost of the article in question to the consumer?

But, Sir, this letter has already far outrun the limits intended. It is hoped that it may serve to suggest to some of your readers that history did not begin in 1846, and that an experience of less than 50 years of an economic experiment (which even in that limited time has notably failed to verify many of the results confidently predicted by its originators) is hardly a sufficient basis to dogmatize on.

Your obedient servant,
RANKINE DAWSON.

A Great Blessing.

SIRS—I have taken three bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters and find it a good medicine for constipation and poor appetite. I will continue taking it as it is a great blessing and I feel a great change in my health since taking it. MRS. J. V. GREEN
5 Sydenham Street,
Toronto, Ont.

ODD OLD MEXICO.

An American's Observations on Greasers'dom.

A Country Whose Militia Is Composed of Convicts from the Prisons—Some Peculiarities of the People.

If there is one thing of which Mexico is more prolific than revolutions it is peculiarities. The peculiarities of that country are many and astonishing, not that I viewed this people from a narrow standpoint, says a writer in the Chicago Times, much as the average English tourist views America, for we Americans are too familiar with representatives of every clime and nation to be guilty of such insular prejudice, but the American dweller in Mexico will find the peculiarities of that Nation too marked to be overlooked. For instance, what would any civilized people on earth other than the Mexican think if their persons and property were placed under the guardianship of convicts? Yet such is the case there. Police duty throughout the country districts and in large cities like Chihuahua is performed by the soldiers of the regular army, said army being recruited from the convicts of each State. Complaint as to their inefficiency or dishonesty, however, is rarely heard, though it is an open secret in Mexico that a small bribe to the "officer" is sufficient to secure immunity from arrest, but this fact, so far from being made a ground for complaint, seems rather a source of congratulation than otherwise. How far we are in advance of this system of recruiting the ranks of the police, especially in Chicago, it is difficult to say; there may be some who would extend to us the advice about not throwing stones; however, be it said to the everlasting credit of the Mexicans that their police are natives of the country in which they wield the baton.

From the police one naturally turns, especially in this case, to the criminal. In Mexico the burglar is positively unknown. The houses, constructed as they are, in view of uprisings, revolutions, etc., present to the would-be-burglar but a small chance of success. What with blank walls, barricaded windows, and solid wooden doors, the dweller within the average adobe is prepared at nightfall to withstand the siege of a regiment.

The phase of robbery most popular in Mexico is of the Dick Turpin pattern. Dick, however, from all accounts, usually gives voice to that time-honored command: "Your money, or your life," whereas, the Mexican brigand invariably demands your money and your life, and no amount of plunder, pleading, nor promises will avail to save the latter should the opportunity be favorable to the robber for taking it. The cause of this is simply that the laws of the country provide that the highway robber, if captured, shall suffer death, thus furnishing the incentive for his invariable bloody accompaniment to his original crime, that he may forever silence the witness of the deed.

The Mexican is the only natural-born bred-in-the-bone socialist in the world. He has never read up on the subject; he never hears our long-haired ranters vociferating about the beauties of their system, nevertheless he is the ideal socialist, and, although he is not up to the average in arithmetic, he knows the rule of division to a nicety. The average Mexican will share his blanket and his last loaf or penny with you, should you need it, but if you have any thing you are expected to be fully as liberal; if you don't, he compels your liberality by taking your possessions away from you forcibly. In short, if you have not, he gives; if you have, he takes, whether or no.

One side of this characteristic of the Mexicans is best exemplified by their proceedings in the event of the marriage of one of their daughters to an American. The Mexican, bear in mind, is possessed of the ineradicable idea that Americans are all rolling in wealth. This idea is a source of never-ceasing envy on the part of one sex and satisfaction to the other. When an American marries a Mexican girl her whole family, her sisters, cousins, aunts, etc., and all their sisters, cousins, aunts, etc., for a hundred miles around are invited to the wedding. This includes every blood relation to the very remotest. They not only come, which is bad, but they stay, which is worse. There they camp, and until every ounce of food and every dollar in sight is gone there they continue to camp, and should the luckless bridegroom have employment they stay still longer, encouraged in the most natural and artless manner by their very hospitable relative, the bride. The feelings of the groom under such circumstances can be imagined, but a protest only meets with tears from the bride and indignant astonishment from the guests, before which the bridegroom generally succumbs. It is apparent that the Mexican merely gauges the hospitality and charity of others by his own, and wants to be done by as he does to others.

The Age of Associations.

Mons. Argellio, of the Paris Perfecture of Police, calls attention to the remarkable degree in which the division of labor principle is being applied to the operations of the criminal classes. There are associations of professional horse-thieves and mutual aid societies of professional burglars, and division of labor has resulted in producing several extremely deceptive counterfeit treasury notes. One specially clever hundred francs bill was ascertained to have been the work of five confederates—one paper-maker, one art-printer and three expert engravers.

Royal Widows in Europe.

Almost every country in Europe possesses an illustrious widow, from Victoria in England to the young Duchess of Aosta, in Italy; Empress Frederick, in Germany; Christiana, in Spain; Charlotte, wife of Maximilian, Emperor of Mexico, who is melancholy mad in the Chateau of Conchont; Princess Stephanie Archduchess of Austria, and Natalie, worse than widowed ex-Queen of Servia, and the unhappy, heart-broken Eugenie, ex-Empress of the French.

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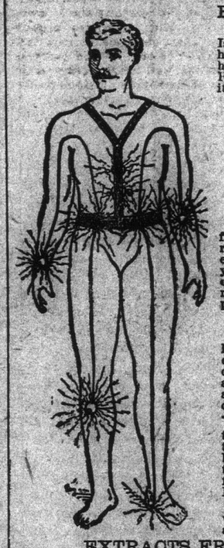

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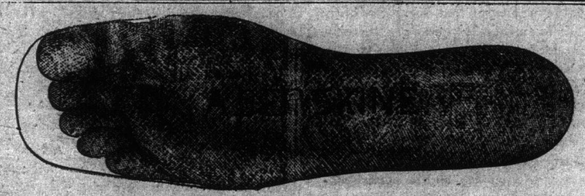

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