

The Colonist

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1894.

A PLBA FOR MBROY.

Our lively contemporary, the Daily Columbian, should, for the credit of the journalism of the Province, put some restraint upon itself. It may think that its antics are funny, but they are not. They are only painfully silly. Who in the world is such an idiot as to laugh to see the words "Wiggledy Wiggles!" at the head of an article? Are there two persons in the whole of New Westminster district so feeble-minded and so dead to all sense of humor as to see anything funny in this senseless combination of vowels and consonants? We think it would be difficult to find even one. On the contrary, there must be many who feel fit to weep when they witness such a painful and at the same time such an ineffectual attempt to be facetious. The paragraphs that are under this delectable head are duller, more dreary and more ear-compelling than even the title itself. The strain and the struggle to be smart are so visible in every phrase and every line that a man or woman must have the temperament and the intelligence of a Siwash to read it without getting nervous enough to howl or to swear. The man of ordinary intelligence who is doomed by fate to read such smart passages as the following every day must soon be a candidate for a cell in the lunatic asylum:

The "pillory" editor of the local wiggler ought to "get the sack." He must have been on a jam lately for he has been neglecting his business in a scandalous fashion. He is supposed to stand outside the wiggler cavern for an hour every morning in gala costume, and let the sympathetic passer-by count the welts that he got on his devoted back the day before. But he hasn't been half doing it.

That is as much as we can stand. Will not the Columbian in mercy stay its hand? What have the good people of New Westminster done that they should be tortured in this fashion?

BRAWLING PATRIOTS.

On the Queen's Birthday some drunken idiots who were celebrating the day at St. Thomas, Ont., in their idiotic way took it into their heads to tear down the American flag that were displayed from the windows of the American Consulate. If the bores had been as intelligent as Canadians ought to be in these days, they would have known that the American Consul made the display out of respect to the Queen of Great Britain. It was at first reported that the men who committed this offense against national good manners were members of a volunteer corps that were paying the city a visit. But it turns out that they had nothing to do with it.

We are a little surprised that some American newspapers magnified this senseless act of two or three boobies on a spree into a national outrage. The men who did this were almost, if not altogether, as great fools as were the St. Thomas revellers. They ought to know that no intelligent Canadian would think of insulting the flag of the United States. They see that sort of thing done on their own side of the line too often not to know how it is regarded by citizens making any pretensions to respectability. There is not a Fourth of July on which some brainless United States citizen does not take it into his empty head to treat with indignity the flag of Great Britain. Sometimes a crowd of anti-British asses think that they make a praiseworthy display of their patriotism when they demand that a Union Jack, displayed by some British subject, be hauled down. The reward that these rowdies get for their exuberant patriotism is the contempt of their right-thinking fellow-citizens. The day, we believe, has gone by in which the senseless act of foolish men can create ill-feeling on either side of the border. The general opinion is that the men who get into a fit of patriotic fury at a harmless display of hunting to a good deal of trouble to advertise themselves as fools.

TREASONABLE FRAUDS.

Revelations that have been made in the United States lately show how hard it is for the Government to get honest work done. Every one sees how important it is to have the plates of which the armor of ships of war are made, as sound and as strong as it is possible to make them. When the Government gave the contract for armor plates to a firm bearing a high character for both integrity and skill, and offered a premium for plates of extraordinary resisting power, it might be supposed that, with the ordinary safeguards, it had done all that could be expected to do to get the work performed honestly and faithfully. But neither the character of the firm nor the care of the officials was a sufficient safeguard against fraud as wicked as can well be imagined. The plates on which the safety of the United States might depend and the lives of thousands of gallant sailors ostentatiously would depend, were bad and unreliable from various causes. It was said at first that the members of the firm of Carnegie & Co. knew nothing of the frauds. When a few of them were discovered of comparatively little importance the firm was fined \$140,000. This fine was paid. But it now appears that other and worse frauds were perpetrated on the Government. The charge is that the Government has been systematically and constantly swindled by this firm or its workmen.

Armor has been imposed upon the Government and placed upon the vessels—battle ships and coast-defenders—that is worthless. Plates supposed to be the best resist any but the projectiles of the highest power guns, are full of holes. One accuser says

that the plates on the Monterey were not raised ordinary fire, and that round shot would crumble them. It is alleged that in one of the plates of this coast-defender there is a blow-hole four feet deep, which was plugged for the purpose of deceiving the inspectors. It is charged that the bolts by which the plates are fastened to the frame are so defective in make, in material and in size, that the plates on the ship are insecure.

These accusations have not yet been proved, and it is said that they have been made with a vindictive purpose by men whom the firm have offended. The whole matter will, no doubt, be carefully inquired into, and it is to be hoped that the guilty parties will be punished according to their deserts. It is hard to imagine a greater offense against the state and against society than that of which the men who passed off defective armor plates on the United States Government have been guilty.

AN INTERESTING CASE.

The case of the Right Hon. Mr. Mundella shows how jealous the people of Great Britain are of the reputation of their public men. They will not allow a man, no matter how useful he may be or how great his ability, on whose integrity there is even the shadow of a suspicion, to remain in public life.

Mr. Mundella is an able man and his private character is without a stain. He was President of the Board of Trade and he was also a director of the New Zealand Loan Company. It does not appear that he took an active part in the business of that company. The impression one gets from reading the account of the way in which the Loan Company did its business is that his sole connection with it was to allow his name to appear on the list of directors. But his name must have been a tower of strength to the Company, as it had the effect of causing investors to put their faith in it, and to entrust it with their money.

Well, this very respectable company, which had on its directors a Cabinet Minister and other men of high station, did its business in a very peculiar way. It deceived the shareholders, leading them to believe that the Company's bonds were good security for their money, and when the delusive nature of the documents was shown to the Company by its legal adviser a slight change was made in their wording, which did not make them better in any respect. Such was the nature of the dealings of the Company that the London Times stigmatizes them as a "gigantic system of continued and complicated dishonesty." It says further: "Here we have a Board composed in part at least of honorable men, yet collectively doing year after year the most dishonorable things."

In course of time this very respectable company that did its business in such a dishonest way came to grief and an investigation was made into its affairs. "The Official Receiver," says the Times, "made a report after a long delay on which the judge commented with great severity, showing that the directors collectively had been responsible for practices of a most reprehensible character—for false representations to the public, for deception and concealment practised towards shareholders, for cooked balance sheets, for the distribution of profits that had no existence, and finally for transactions of the most suspicious character with themselves as directors of other companies. An examination followed, by which the conclusions of the expert were fully corroborated and considerably amplified, and the next step to consider and determine was whether it is possible to bring home to the persons concerned their personal share of responsibility for the wrong that has been done by them collectively."

Then the connection of Mr. Mundella, President of the Board of Trade, with this really Company, came to be talked about. How far was he responsible for the wrongdoing of his co-directors and the officials of the Company? Should he not have known something about their fraudulent practices, and knowing what they were should he not have exposed them and denounced the wrong-doers? Could he be excused for knowing nothing about the frauds that had been perpetrated on the shareholders and on the public? Having accepted a seat on the board of directors, was it not his duty to know all about the financial standing of the company and how its business was conducted? Questions such as these were asked and the answers were so unsatisfactory that Mr. Mundella's resignation of his seat in the Cabinet was loudly demanded. Mr. Mundella for a time disregarded the demand, but it is not safe in England for a public man to hold public opinion in contempt or to act as if he did. After some hesitation, which his opponents say was not creditable to him, Mr. Mundella resigned.

It must be remembered that the people of England did not consider that he was an active participant in the guilt of the men who had ruined the company and cheated the shareholders. He is still believed to be an honest man, but the people of England feel that they cannot afford to have among their rulers a man who was in any way mixed up in such frauds as those of which the New Zealand Loan Company have been found guilty. The Times takes this view of the position of a public man:

"Those responsible for the government of the country are bound to do all that lies in their power to put down the practices of coining their confidence into money under conditions which secure practical impunity for very gross betrayal of the trust of shareholders and investors. Any man may sell his name for what he can get, but no man ought to be allowed to sell that portion of the country's good name which is confided to his keeping when he takes office, or even when he takes a seat in Parliament. The Evening Standard also insists strongly on the necessity of representative men being

of unquestioned integrity. It says: "In former days public opinion was not so exacting as it is now in questions of this nature. Yet it has always been thought impossible that any statesman should continue to hold a responsible office to whom any kind of suspicion could justly attach." These are wise words, and they show what a nation jealous of its honor requires of its representative men.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

Mr. Corbould took a step in the right direction when he reminded the Dominion Government that it is its duty to help those who have been seriously injured by the overflowing of the Fraser. As inhabitants of the Dominion and as taxpayers these unfortunate people have a claim on the Federal Government. If consideration is to mean anything it should mean that the inhabitants of any of the Provinces have a right to look to the Federal Government for assistance when they are overwhelmed by any great, unforeseen and unpreventable disaster. Neither foresight nor prudence on the part of the inhabitants of the valley of the Fraser could have averted the misfortune that has come upon them. The sufferers from the flood have a peculiar claim on the Federal Government, for they are all settlers on the Railway Belt, which is the property of the Dominion. The improvements which the settlers have made have added to the value of that belt, and the more they prosper the more desirable and the more valuable will the adjacent lands become.

The Dominion Government has a direct and an immediate interest in the well being of the inhabitants of the valley of the Fraser, and so has the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. It is to their interest not only that the settlers who have been driven from their farms by the floods should be as soon as possible back on the land again, but that every means that human skill and foresight can devise, be used to prevent a recurrence of this year's disaster. Sir William Van Horne no doubt sees very clearly that such things must be done, and that too before long, to make such losses as the railway has suffered by the present flood impossible. Any feasible plan that may be devised to protect the lands bordering the river from being flooded will no doubt have the countenance and the assistance of the powerful corporation whose affairs he directs. The head of such a corporation, like the Government of a nation, must look to the future. A from-hand-to-mouth policy is an exceedingly imprudent one as far as its interests are concerned. He must, if it is within the bounds of possibility, make the safety of the railway and its structures in that valley permanent. It is safe, then, to calculate upon a powerful combination whose duty and whose interest it will be to make both agriculture and travel in the district now flooded secure. It is to be hoped that means will be taken with the least possible delay to attain that object.

A GOOD ARTICLE.

The eighth of the London Times' Canadian series of articles appears in its issue of the 10th ult. It is on British Columbia. The writer is evidently well acquainted with the Province, and gives a fairly accurate account of its present condition, and forms, as we think, a correct estimate of its resources. He admires its scenery, and he has a good word to say for its climate. He does not fall into the error of representing the Province as a paradise for the poor immigrant without a shilling, but rather goes to the opposite extreme.

"No province of Canada," he says, "so little admits of indiscriminate immigration. The good farming land is limited in quantity, and, compared with that of other provinces, expensive. The vast deep sea fisheries of the coast, on account of their distance from markets, can only be developed by degrees, or else by some great organization of collecting and distributing engines involving the use of capital. In short the capacity of British Columbia to receive immigrants is strictly dependent on the previous influx of capital, which courageously and intelligently applied to the development of the resources of the country will gradually draw in its train the skilled and general labor required for its operations. Laborers should not go to the Province on the mere chance of finding employment as they may without excessive risk go to some parts of Canada. If it is clearly understood that men of capital, energy and common sense in business are to be attracted to something in the hope of affording to the country an affluence to wait, study the country and watch for opportunities, the openings are varied and most promising."

All this is to a certain extent true enough. But there are many men in this Province, now in good circumstances, who come to it without a dollar that could be called capital. These men had a hard time of it. They were often compelled to rough it and to do without many of the comforts and even some of what are considered by many the necessities of life. But they persevered in spite of all hardships and all discouragements, and at last their opportunity came and they secured an independence. The poor man who has courage and who is ready to turn his hand to anything that he may find to do can still work his way to comfort if not to affluence in British Columbia. A little money or even a good deal of it is very far from being a drawback if a man knows or learns how to use it. This, as the Times correspondent suggests, is a secret which some Americans have discovered, for he says, speaking of the late mineral discoveries: "American, much more than British capital, is at present seizing the opportunities offered by the Kootenay silver deposits. The truth is that much experience in Nevada and Montana has made the American an expert beyond all others in silver and in the methods of dealing with it. Besides, he goes to new fields of enterprise not merely to invest his money but to look personally after his investments, as the British capitalist seldom does."

The article, as the reader sees, is written in a lively style, and is likely to leave a good

impression of British Columbia on the minds of the class of men who are most needed in the Province. We may add that the writer does not, as is now the fashion with some who profess to give the world information about British Columbia, ignore its capital. He does something like justice to Victoria.

YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS.

We are not surprised that the judge who presided at the trial of the boys arraigned for burning Judge Drake's barn felt grieved that there was no other way of punishing them than by sending them to the common jail. Such punishment is not calculated to reform the lads, and reform rather than punishment is in their case what is required. It is very seldom indeed that a boy is irremediably vicious at fourteen. Good companionship, kind treatment, and constant and congenial employment for mind and body, do wonders for boys of that age who have been led astray by bad company or who have been placed in circumstances unfavorable to the healthy development of their moral nature. But these good things are not at the command of the judge. He is therefore often compelled to pronounce a sentence the effect of which he has reason to fear will not only destroy the lad's chance of turning over a new leaf, but which will have the effect of hardening him and of strengthening the evil tendencies of his nature. In such cases both judges and juries should have the sympathy of all right-thinking people. They must do their duty as the law directs, although their doing it in that way is not good for either the young offender or for society.

We feel very much inclined to believe that first offences of boys, say under eighteen, even when they are more than usually grave, should not be punished at all, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, and as little publicity should be given to the offence as possible. The law should give the boy a stern warning and so should his parents or guardians. Punishment for second offences should be light and such as not to destroy the boy's self-respect or to place him in contact with hardened criminals. He should, we think, have a second chance. Here, again, parents or guardians should be reminded of their responsibility, and if it should be found that they had been lax in the performance of their duties, a way might be devised of inducing them to be more careful.

We are strongly inclined to believe if youthful offenders were treated in this way, or in a way something like this, the aggregate of crime in the country would be diminished, and that many who under present treatment would become part of the criminal class would prove useful members of society. Almost every one has known instances in which conscientious but injudicious severity has destroyed the self-respect of youthful offenders, made them reckless and ruined their lives.

It is hard to find language sufficiently strong to characterize the law which compels a merciful and sagacious judge to sentence youths whose characters are far from being formed, to associate in the common jail with offenders more or less hardened. The chances are ten to one that they come out of it, even after a short term of imprisonment, graduates in vice and crime.

COMMON SENSE TRIUMPHANT.

The Republicans have gained a decided victory in the State of Oregon; Penney, the irrespressible, has been repressed by the people. The Populists have been beaten horse, foot, and artillery. Quite a number of counties are still to be heard from, but enough is known to make it certain that there has been a victory for common sense and respect for law in Oregon. The Democrats of the State, or rather some of them, entered into a shameful alliance with the supporters of Penney for the sake of defeating the Republicans and to gain some political advantages for themselves. It was a shameful alliance, for the Democrats do not believe in Populist principles or Populist methods. The strongest opponents of Populism in the States are the best men of the Democratic party. They see that if Penney were to get the upper hand even for a short time, injury irreparable, would be done to the country. They therefore consider it their duty to oppose and discountenance that party in every legitimate way possible. But the Democrats of Oregon who aided and abetted Penney were willing to sacrifice the interests of the people of the State in order to gain what at best would be a paltry and very questionable advantage. Penney has lost his chance of becoming United States Senator. His long-cherished demagoguery and his ostentatious insolence have not enabled him to reach the goal of his ambition. He deserves the defeat he has suffered and worse.

The Why and Wherefore.

There is nothing marvellous in the fact that Hood's Sarsaparilla should cure so many diseases. When you remember that a majority of the disorders "dash in their" are due to impure or poisonous condition of the blood, and that Hood's Sarsaparilla is an effective and radical blood purifier, the whole thing is explained. Besides its blood purifying qualities, Hood's Sarsaparilla also contains the best known vegetable stomachic, digestive, kidney remedial and liver invigorant, and is thus an excellent specific for all disorders of these organs, as well as for low condition of the system, or that tired feeling.



For Infants, for Hotels and for Household Use, is the most economical and most satisfactory milk in the market. See that you get the "Reindeer" Brand



She has a quicker eye to the beautiful than most men. She says we have the smartest things in Oxford Shoes ever shown in Victoria. We have them in both black and tan. See them.

A. B. ERSKINE, (CORNER GOVERNMENT AND JOHNSON STREETS.)

HON. MR. VERNON.

The Commissioner of Lands and Works Addresses His Constituents on the Issues.

Debt and Revenue of the Province—How the Country is Being Developed.

(From the Vernon News.) In a recent issue the COLONIST briefly referred to a highly successful meeting held at Vernon on the 26th ult., at which the Minister of Lands and Works was accorded a most hearty reception and in response delivered a very telling speech. The following extended report of the proceedings is taken from the Vernon News:

Mr. P. Ellison was voted to the chair, and in a few preliminary remarks, in which he referred to the past services of Hon. Mr. Vernon and spoke in congratulatory terms of the flattering reception with which the government candidate had met since his election as Commissioner of Lands and Works. Mr. Vernon, in his opening remarks, spoke feelingly of the cordial, and in many cases, unsolicited support which had been promised him in all parts of the riding, and stated that he felt it due to the citizens of the town which he was proud to say bears his name, to make his first public address in their hearing. He would doubtless have an opportunity later on of meeting his constituents, but at present would confine himself, after again thanking his old friends who had so enthusiastically rallied to his support, and the many new ones whom he had recently gained, for their kind assurance of assistance by a brief review of the political issues of the day. He stated that he entertained nothing but the kindest thoughts towards Mr. Donald Graham, the opposition candidate, who, for the past sixteen years had accorded the government support, and now, for reasons unknown to him, was opposing the government. Immediately plunging into the questions at issue, he stated that the policy of the government had ever been to spare no means to open up and

DEVELOP THE RESOURCES of the province. What the policy of the opposition might be he had never been able to discover, beyond a system of carping, fault-finding, insinuations and innuendoes which they were never able to substantiate. Our limited space renders it impossible to give more than a brief synopsis of the masterly and lucid speech which followed, during which every question which the opposition had endeavored to bring up against the policy of the administration was considered and in every case their stock arguments completely refuted. Mr. Vernon spoke for about two hours and a half, and though the evening was warm and some of the statistics into which he entered were of necessity rather a dry character, he held the attention of the large audience until the close, and from the frequent bursts of applause it could easily be seen that every point which he made struck home. Speaking of the conservative policy of the government, he went on to say that during the past four years they had borrowed a million dollars, which had been used in

OPENING UP THE VARIOUS SECTIONS of the province, during that time 3,300 prescriptive claims had been taken, and it was fair to assume that each was worth to the country \$1,000, which would give a tax of \$5 each, or mean an increase in the wealth of the province of \$3,300,000; 850 settlers had in that period taken pre-emptions in 10 sections, and by virtue of this policy the revenue has expanded, and our credit in London is now second on the list of colonial securities; notwithstanding the great general financial depression our securities have gone up from 89 to 92 and the taxation has not been raised. The revenue in 1890 was \$855,000, and since then it had increased by \$225,000 in spite of a falling off in land sales due to the change in the rate. In seven years the country had doubled its revenue. This riding contributed about \$28,000 to the revenue, of which \$16,000 was in land sales, leaving an actual taxation of \$12,000. During the present year there was being expended in the neighborhood of \$50,000 in the riding, including \$30,000 on the Boundary Creek road, \$4,000 for Deep Creek road, and \$10,000 for other roads and repairs throughout the district. Since 1880 there had been erected in the province 110 school houses, 10 mills, 12 court houses, and over 800,000 acres of land had been surveyed. In the face of this it is thought that the government could claim that they had something to show for their expenditures. Other figures were given showing the relative position of the

DEBT AND REVENUE since 1890, which gave the net debt after deducting the country's assets as \$672,000 in 1890, and \$1,694,000 in 1894, an increase of one million borrowed, and during that period the revenue had expanded by \$225,000, and two millions had been expended in developing and building up the province.

He next mentioned the fact that he had been informed that certain parties were endeavoring to drag into the contest Dominion issues, and vigorously protested against such a line of conduct on either side. The sore subject of the Parliament buildings was next brought forward and the position of the govern-

THE FLOOD CH

Relief for the Distressed plied for in the H Commons.

Latest Reports From the Region Contain But Encouragement

Eastern Mails Now For San Francisco—The Venice.

OTTAWA, via Seattle, June 5.—In the House of Commons Mr. Corbould called attention to that had overtaken the Fraser river. He felt quite sure that every member had counts of the flood with sorrowful in question was one of the farming sections—perhaps, British Columbia—where 2,000 happy homes, and now everything possessed has been swept away sheet of water. Many lives have been lost. It was impossible to present many. A trail 70 miles long wide had been swept by the

If it was not mistaken, after fire that took place at St. John's, five years ago, the Government a considerable sum of money for those who had lost their property. Some thing had been done after Cornwall, and he hoped, therefore Government would now come to the aid of the settlers on the Fraser river a sufficient sum of money to pay their immediate wants at any rate. Sir John Thompson believed, as voiced by Mr. Corbould, that it was in every member's duty to answer to the request for want of as to the amount of the disbursement, and that such information forthcoming in a few days, when Government would be in a position to come to a decision.

Hon. Mr. Laurier said he would the same time to have the Government consider the claims of the sufferers similar disaster in Portneuf County.

The Flood is Stayed.

WESTMINSTER, June 5.—(Special.)—Water rose one and a half inches today's mark at high tide this morning, and most people thought the rise. At 9 o'clock the Rithet arrived down from Kat bringing the very welcome news water there had fallen six inches twenty-four hours ending at 5 o'clock this morning. The flood was a relief, and the impression prevailed among the farmers that the worst of the flood and that by Saturday night the have fallen several feet.

A special from Yale at 3:20 this says the water has fallen eight since yesterday noon and was still falling this afternoon. 200 feet of South Arm bridge, between Victoria and Vancouver, was carried away. Brodie's cannery, on Deas Island, to be completely wrecked. The rounding the island has given way, water to wash on a lot of piling about fifty feet from the bank of the river. Nothing can be done to damage.

The flooded condition of the street West end last night proved a great nuisance. The electric power was cut off by the flood at 9 o'clock light had to be extinguished.

Last night Government Agent received a dispatch which stated that a steamer and scow be sent to Mission to save cattle. The steamer Bled engaged and left for Mission this morning. The Government has sent a steamer to collect the tickets east and there is no express trains arriving or departing for several days longer. The road between Yale and Kamloops is reported to be in a worse condition than ever, and some points are said to have occurred on which left Kamloops on Saturday Sunday.

There will be a special meeting City Council to-morrow evening to the advisability of forming a relief for the sufferers by the flood.

The Hooping Hoop.

WELLINGTON, June 5.—(Special.)—The event of the day was the raising of a relief fund for the sufferers on the Fraser. Mr. A. Sharp was elected chairman, Mr. Matthews secretary, and Mr. Willamitee was appointed to canvass the miners for subscriptions.

At Kaslo.

KASLO, June 1.—(Special.)—The portion of the town is flooded out number of houses had to be vacated small steamer Idaho steamed quite tance up on Second street from the

The Water Falling.

VANCOUVER, June 5.—(Special.)—Water has fallen at Yale 18 inches inches at Ruby creek, at Mission June inches.

Misery loving company, the C.P.E. to comfort them the knowledge their competitors to the south of the day are meeting with reverse exact to those which have paralyzed the Canadian line during the past few passengers who left here for the Northern Pacific and Great Northern several days ago, have returned home will either continue their journeys to San Francisco or remain in Victoria more direct communication with the Washington state having secured there in no hope of getting through on any of the northern lines for some time. For eastern points from Victoria and over are now being forwarded by California, the post office authorities adopted this circuitous route as the one upon which reliance can be placed. This action may be traced to the fact that the recommendation of the Trade's recommendation and the action taken thereon by Victoria's representatives in the House of Commons. On the 30th, the position of affairs was explained Messrs. Prior and Earle in the fol-