The Colonist.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1898.

THE NEW CABINET.

The people of British Columbia will not view with much satisfaction the results of Mr. Semlin's effort at cabinet making, which displays many signs of weakness. He has hived the offices in a comparatively small section of the province, but perhaps the weakest feature of all consists in the fact that he has admitted into his government a gentleman, who he himself said could not be taken into any government without in a short time becoming premier. He has not a majority of the members-elect behind him. He has sought to avoid as much as possible a verdict of the people upon his action by taking two members of his cabinet from one constituency. He has ignored a very large section, that is comparatively speaking, of the men who supported him when in opposition. That his cabinet is a mere temporary makeshift is apparent upon the face of it. If a session of the legislature were called at an early day, Mr. Semlin could not organize the house. If it is deferred until after the protests have been determined, he will find himself in even a worse predicament.

In accepting office, Mr. Semlin has assumed the gravest responsibility that any British Columbia premier has taken in recent years. He challenges the verdict of the people upon a question which goes to the very foundation of responsible government. We say to the people of the province that this question is the only one worthy of a moment's consideration at this time. Do the people of this province govern it, or is the Lieutenant-Governor vested with greater powers than the sovereign of Great Britain has dared to exercise in more than sixty years? Is the verdict of the people of no avail in determining who shall administer the affairs of the country? Attempts will be made to obscure this great issue by the discussion of minor matters, but this trick must not be allowed to succeed. If what the Lieutenant-Governor has done receives the sanction of the popular verdict expressed either in the house or at the polls, we may as well bid a long farewell to our fancied freedom.

In this connection we desire to say, in the most positive language that we can employ, that the whole of the correspondence between the Lieutenant-Governor and his late advisers and any other information in the possession of Mr. Turner and his colleagues, bearing upon their dismissal, must be made public. At such a crisis as this there must be no stickling about formalities, or official etiquette, to use Mr. Beaven's phrase. When responsible government is at stake, there is no time to discuss the particular color of the tape with which official documents should be tied or in what particular way their contents should be made known. Mr. Turner and his colleagues owe it to themselves and to the friends who have supported them—nay more, they owe it to the people of the province irrespective of politics, to make public immediately everything casting any light upon this unprecedented situation. We understand that it is the intention of Mr. Turner to give something to the public very soon, but we desire to impress upon him in this manner the necessity for so doing, so that every one will know that the demand has been made that he shall tell everything, giving to the press all the correspondence and any additional particulars he may possess.

The importance of making the fullest possible statement becomes more manifest in view of the observations made by Mr. Beaven and printed in the Times of last evening. We are here told that the reasons were "of a cumulative character," and it is stated specially that the Attorney-General submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor a view of the revenue law, which would make an important check upon expenditure by statute a dead letter. Mr. Beaven also says that it was evident that the relations between the Lieutenant-Governor and the Turner administration were of a character that could not have continued, and in the published letter from His Honor to Mr. Beaven, the former says that he has deeply felt the need of advisers in whom he can place full confidence. We shall not anticipate any statement which Mr. Turner shall make by saying anything further upon these points than that the Attorney-General denies having ever suggested to the Lieutenant-Governor any line of action not in perfect harmony with the revenue law, or calculated in any way to defeat the safeguards thrown by it around public expenditures.

We feel, however, that it would not be right to close this article without a word of comment upon the letter from the Lieutenant-Governor to Mr. Beaven. His Honor in this letter has clearly taken a position entirely out of keeping with the principles of responsible government. He has undertaken to form his own conclusions as to the result of the elections, and that too at a time when all the elections had not been held. He has undertaken to assume the right to have advisers who would suit his views, quite irrespective of whether they suit the views of the people or the legislature elect, for in view of the result of the elections, mark you, he calls upon a gentleman whom the voters had rejected, and he does it because he wanted some one whose recommendations he could unhesitatingly approve, although one half the constituencies had expressed confidence in Mr. Turner. This is worthy of the German Kaiser; but is certainly not the position which ought to be taken by the representative of a constitutional sovereign in a British country. For this remarkable letter of the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Semlin has assumed the full responsibility, and he must answer for it to the house and to the country. There are other matters in connection with the action of the Lieutenant-Governor which will be proper for discussion, when the whole subject has been laid before the public in such a shape that there will be no dispute as to the facts. At present we content ourselves with saying that his course appeared unjustifiable enough before the publication of his letter to Mr. Beaven, but is ten-fold more unjustifiable now. Our information is that when the whole case is published, his action will be seen to have been of the most arbitrary and unwarranted character.

Pending the publication of the statement, which we confidently expect from Mr. Turner immediately, we ask all those who have, with the Colonist, stood by that gentleman in fighting what we believed was the battle of British Columbia, to stand by him now and be prepared to make a fight to the bitter end for responsible government. We make this appeal with the less hesitation, because our knowledge of what has transpired renders us confident that when the whole story is told, the people of British Columbia will by an enormous majority hurl from power Mr. Semlin, or any one else, who undertakes to champion the astounding course which the Lieutenant-Governor has seen fit to take.

INEXCUSABLE NEGLECT.

The thing which lies nearest British Columbians, in connection with the administration of affairs by the Laurier cabinet during the last year, is Yukon transportation. It comes home to us as nothing else does, for it affects our prosperity as individuals. Looking back to January and February last, and comparing the conditions existing then with what we have at present, the contrast is so great and startling that it is almost impossible to realize that the future looked then as bright as it did. There is no necessity for going over the story of how the plan to build a railway to Teslin lake was thwarted, or to discuss the action of the Senate in regard thereto. It is the duty of a government to meet unexpected emergencies, when they arise, and the rejection of the Yukon railway bill in no way altered the character of the emergency, which the government itself admitted had arisen. But nothing was done. Thousands of people were on their way into the Yukon; there was every prospect of a large population having to spend the winter there without adequate supplies; every condition existed which had led the government to make the extraordinary contract with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann and induced the people of the Coast, almost without exception, to support them in so doing, although its terms could hardly be justified; and yet the government stood supinely by and did nothing. Never was there a case of such gross neglect. Never was such a blow struck at the prosperity of a large portion of the Dominion.

Rumor has assigned several reasons for this action. One is that the government thought the time had come to join issue with the Senate. Another is that it was the opinion of some of Mr. Sifton's colleagues that he had been taking just a little too much upon himself, with the result that there was a lack of harmony in the cabinet itself on the question. But be the reason whatever it may have been, the government, though claiming the existence of a grave emergency, did nothing to meet it, although it was evident to every one that the way was open for a line of action that would suit the exigencies of the case. The result has been a great loss of prestige and of business to Canada. Thousands upon thousands of dollars have been lost to the people of British Columbia by the utterly inexcusable neglect of the government, and it is more than doubtful if the ground lost can ever be regained. Meanwhile the ministers seem to be taking a vacation with a unanimity which is refreshing. They are enjoying the attractions of Great Britain; they are rusticating in Manitoba; they are enjoying the summer sunshine of Quebec. The name of Klondike is becoming a stench in the nostrils of the people, because of the complaints of maladministration and worse which every mail brings to the Coast. The business of the Canadian Yukon is going to American cities. Indeed, if it were not for the energy of the company organized by Mr. Rattenbury, Victoria and Vancouver would have no more of the Yukon business than they have of that of Johannesburg. If this gross neglect hurts these cities only, there would be cause enough for complaint; but it reaches out far more widely. It harms the whole of Canada. The Laurier ministry had an exceptionally favorable opportunity in the Yukon to exhibit statesmanlike grasp of a situation, and has made a most miserable failure of it. Such opportunities so rarely come to a government that the failure is monumental.

THE ONLY WAY OUT.

Never since British Columbia was a province was there a time when there was need of greater harmony and better statemanship than now, and never was there worse political confusion. It is a hackneyed phrase, but a true one, that the eyes of the world are upon the province. Its great resources command attention to an unprecedented degree, and almost daily new evidence is given of its imperial possibilities. The news printed on Sunday is likely to be only the beginning of demonstrations of what wealth the province contains. At such an hour we need a strong government and a progressive legislature. We need to have in power men who command confidence at home and abroad. We need united counsels. We need a leader who appreciates the requirements of the province and will be sufficiently progressive and fearless to endeavor to meet them. Instead of this we have political chaos. We have ahead a period of which no one can foresee the outcome. The elections left Mr. Turner with at least half the house at his back and with a reasonable prospect of a working majority. He was undoubtedly able to carry on the affairs of the province; but these have been put in the hands of a gentleman who cannot claim enough supporters to be able to organize the house. If Mr. Semlin had a public record which showed him to be equal to the emergency with which he is confronted, if there were any other man in the opposition ranks to whom the people of the province could turn with confidence, the outlook would not be so gloomy. But everyone knows that Mr. Semlin, with all his many amiable qualities, is not the man for the crisis. Everyone knows that there is not a man in the party with which he is identified to whom the country will turn with any feeling of safety. There is only one party leader in British Columbia to-day who has any reasonable claim to possess the necessary ability and experience to guide the province out of the crisis, only one who can be said to have the confidence of the majority of the people, only one who can meet the legislature with any hope of escaping defeat, only one who is possessed of political standing outside of the province, and that man is John Herbert Turner, who by the arbitrary act of the Lieutenant-Governor has been removed from the post which he was so well calculated to fill.

The Lieutenant-Governor has brought the province into political chaos, and we do not believe he has found the way out. The Colonist showed him the way last week when it told him that he would lose less dignity by retracing his steps than by going forward. He declined to take that step then. Whether he will soon have an opportunity again of taking it we do not know; but if he does and fails to utilize it he will incur a responsibility before the bar of public opinion that no man can afford to assume. Mr. Turner can get together a strong cabinet. Mr. Semlin cannot. That gentleman has been able to present him the names of a cabinet, which may be able to carry on affairs until the house meets; but in that event several by-elections will be held, even if a general election is not found necessary. Thus, with Mr. Semlin in the premiership, the situation will remain confused for months to come, and that, too, at this very critical hour in the history of the province. When we ought to be thinking out how to best advance the material interests of British Columbia, when we ought to be striving to secure the trade of our own country which our neighbors are taking from us, when we ought to be building up our credit in the money market of the world, we will be torn by political dissensions, and all because the Lieutenant-Governor was not content to leave the politics of the province to regulate themselves. It is immaterial what he had in view in taking the step he did. The result is the same no matter what the object may have been.

We repeat that the only way out of the present confusion is in asking Mr. Turner to take the premiership again, if an opportunity offers of doing so. Whether or not it is likely to offer, and whether or not, if he does, the Lieutenant-Governor will accept it, we do not know; but in the interests of the province it is to be hoped that he will.

AN OPPOSITION CRITIC.

(Westminster Columbian.)

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor must have been studying, in his elegant leisure, some erudite works on "How Not to Do It." Here he had, by his own account, a government beaten at the polls, and beaten, as everybody knows, by a straight opposition party of nineteen, whereas the government only secured fifteen avowed supporters in the elections, leaving four to come under the heads of "independent" or "doubtful." The nineteen straight oppositionists, who ran on a definite record and platform, also had a large majority of the popular vote. His Honor, for cause, doubtless, summarily dismissed the government thus beaten by this solid opposition party, and calls upon—a leading member, the recognised leader, of the victorious opposition party, to form a government? Oh, no! His Honor's researches into political lore taught him deeper wisdom than that! He called upon a man who had nothing to do with the defeat of the government, who ran as an "independent," and whose chosen and would-be first lieutenant, apparently, turns out to be another "independent" (who happens to be His Honor's son), who wanted to run in several constituencies at the late elections, but couldn't get a nomination! And there you are!

THAT RECOGNIZED LEADER.

(Vancouver Province.)

In the absence of a definite and direct statement from Mr. Semlin, the Province finds it difficult to believe that he has undertaken the task of forming a government because his doing so would involve a distinct breach of faith with the members of the opposition party, of such gravity that it could hardly be excused by the party or forgiven by the country. If Mr. Semlin's acceptance of the premiership is purely tentative, then there is nothing more to be said; but if he has not put it distinctly and clearly upon that basis he has been untrue to himself and to his friends. For Mr. Semlin's own sake the Province hopes he has done nothing that may cause him unending regret or that may lead to the permanent injury of the party with which he has so long been identified. To undertake the formation of a permanent government for the reason that the party has not yet determined that Mr. Semlin is to be its leader. At the opposition convention held here a few weeks ago, the question was left in abeyance, at the request of Mr. Semlin himself and of Mr. Cotton, until another meeting to be held on the 26th of August when it was hoped that all the members of the party would be able to be present and a definite conclusion reached. On account of the urgency created by the dismissal of the Turner government, Mr. Semlin undertook to notify the members of the party that the meeting would be held a week earlier, and there the matter rests. In the face of this position of affairs, Mr. Semlin's definite assumption of office would be a most unjustifiable proceeding and its inevitable result to him would be the loss of the confidence of both the party and the country. Mr. Semlin cannot go back on the understanding that has been arrived at. He must keep faith with his friends or his friends are not likely to keep faith with him.

Yet if Mr. Semlin has not assumed this extraordinary attitude, his attempt to organize a government is impossible to understand. Last evening he telegraphed to Mr. Joseph Martin asking Mr. Martin to accept the attorney-generalship. Mr. Martin promptly and properly replied that he could not do so, because it would involve a distinct breach of trust with the members of the party who had yet to make their choice of a leader. What has happened since the Province does not know. At this writing no further word has come from Mr. Semlin, and it is impossible to say definitely whether he has decided to proceed with his task or to ask the Lieutenant-Governor's permission to let the formation of a ministry stand over until the opposition caucus has been held and a leader selected. The moment that is done, matters will at once adjust themselves satisfactorily, but if Mr. Semlin attempts to proceed on other than these regular constitutional lines, he is morally certain to lose the allegiance of many who have been counted as amongst his warmest friends.

THE GOVERNOR THREATENED.

(From the Kamloops Sentinel.)

The political situation is still unsatisfactory. Mr. Beaven cannot form a government, but, apparently, does not like to say so. None of the opposition leaders will have anything to do with him, and he cannot very well call upon the supporters of the late government, though a despatch received this morning indicates that he will go to this length rather than lose the opportunity of obtaining office. Neither Lieutenant-Governor McInnes nor Mr. Beaven occupies a creditable position in the business. His Honor has undoubtedly made a mess of things. He has presumed too much, and, we fancy, will have reason to regret his ill-advised courses. Mr. Beaven should have known enough to decline the Lieutenant-Governor's proposition. He must surely recognize by now that he is a back number in politics. He has no influence and only a handful of followers of the mossback stripe in Victoria. Mr. Beaven's proper and dignified course would have been to advise the Lieutenant-Governor to call upon Mr. Semlin, the official head of the opposition.

THE INTERIOR FOR SEMLIN.

(Ashcroft Mining Journal.)

C. A. Semlin, M.P.P. the leader of the opposition party, went down to Victoria on political business the fore part of the week.

Mr. Semlin's old friends and supporters without, so far as we have heard, a dissenting voice, say emphatically that he has for years headed the fight against the government, that it is under his leadership the past government met defeat, and that Mr. Semlin is entitled to be recognized as the leader of the party and should have been called upon to form a government. Any other course especially such a course as has been taken by the Lieutenant-Governor, meets with the emphatic disapproval of the people of this section, and if the wishes of Mr. Semlin's friends and supporters count with him he will accept nothing less than he is by right entitled to, viz: the premiership of the province.

This article is written simply to voice the sentiment of the community where Mr. Semlin has so long resided, and those whom he has so long represented in parliament, and as above stated so far as we have heard an opinion expressed by anyone in Mr. Semlin's district, the sentiment is unanimous that no new man and no defeated candidate must take precedence over him.

MARTIN'S WINNIPEG FRIEND.

(Winnipeg Daily Tribune.)

The proper thing for His Honor to do now is to end the Beaven farce and send for Mr. Martin or Mr. Semlin. Perhaps it would be as well to invite them both to a conference and they might arrange between themselves which should lead. Mr. Martin has unquestionably the ability to lead, and to lead well. If British Columbia secures him as her premier her people will have great reason to be thankful, for he will straighten out all tangles in quicker time than any living Canadian, and he will give the province an administration of which she will have reason to be proud. Whatever all the B. C. politicians may think of the matter now, if Mr. Martin is given the lead, they will soon acknowledge that the right thing has been done. Manitoba will rejoice to be able to congratulate her sister province on securing so able and honest a premier as Mr. Joseph Martin. He has brains and honesty, and these are the two great essentials in these degenerate days.

A GREAT STRETCH.

(From the East Kootenay Miner.)

The manner in which the crisis was precipitated and the further fact that the reports from Cassiar give another seat to the government—the final being 19 seats each—has certainly left room for criticism on the action taken by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. The drastic manner in which Mr. Turner has been treated is certainly a stretch, and an almighty big one, of the constitution and the power vested in the Lieutenant-Governor.

Had the Turner ministry been defeated at the polls and Mr. Turner declined to resign, it would then have been the duty of the Lieutenant-Governor to dismiss him; but if Mr. Turner agreed to call the legislature together immediately and abide by the vote of its members, the course would have been quite proper. What actually took place will be known in a few days.

NO OTHER WAY.

(From the Westminster Columbian.)

We have condemned, and must continue to condemn, the action of the Lieut.-Governor in calling upon Mr. Beaven to form a cabinet. So far, we have refused also to say a word in approval of the manner of his dismissal of Mr. Turner, holding that it appeared premature, on the face of things, to say the least of it. But to-day we find a statement in one of the government organs, which, if it means anything, must be held to justify the Lieut.-Governor's action so far as the summary dismissal of the Turner ministry is concerned.

That statement is that Mr. Turner had in store for the meeting of the house a surprise which would "raise the hair" of the country, so to speak. This, taken in connection with the context, can only mean one thing—namely, that Mr. Turner was arranging to buy up certain of the members elected as oppositionists, and hoped to succeed. It is known that he failed in a first attempt of the sort, which lends color to the organ's statement.

Now, if the Lieut.-Governor knew that such a design was entertained—that Mr. Turner's government was actually trying to set aside the verdict of the people by bribery—and the government's own organs say that the attempt was to be made, and that success was hoped for—then the prompt dismissal of Mr. Turner's government was abundantly justified.

It rests with the organs to show that a different interpretation can be put upon their words, or else to hold their peace about the punishment which has visited their master's sins.

MOUNT SICKER MINES.

The Superintendent of the Lenora Gives an Interesting Account of the Progress of the Work.

"I trust you will pardon me for this intrusion on your space," says Superintendent Harry Smith, of the Lenora mine, in a letter to the Colonist. "Yet as a constant reader of your paper I thought you would not hesitate to publish a few facts that may be of interest to all British Columbians and more especially the business men of Victoria. The 1st of April, 1896, I first set foot on Mount Sicker, and from that time to the present day I have constantly been prospecting in the adjacent hills; the most of the time has, however, been spent on Mount Sicker.

First.—I conclude from my explorations that a very large mineral belt exists from Esquimalt to Chemainus, and traverses almost the entire length of the Island. I have travelled over a portion of this ground from Duncan to Alberni and in almost every creek and gulch that I have been I have found float or traces of valuable minerals. This certainly indicates that valuable ore bodies exist and from what I have seen I conclude by drawing comparisons with other places that to-day the Island is one of the best places for honest investment there is in the British Northwest.

Second.—As to myself, the 30th day of April, 1897, I discovered what is now known as the Lenora mine. I say mine for the following reasons: The surface exposures are in one place 43 feet, in another 30 feet, another 28 feet and traced into the Tyee claim 10 feet wide, covering a length of over 800 feet. The Lenora mine now has actually between 1,000 and 1,500 tons of ore on the dump, which assays prove to be worth from $25 to $30 per ton. The actual amount of work done is 370 feet of tunnel and and an upraise of 100 feet which has to be driven for ventilation. Two hundred and thirty feet of the tunnel has been driven in solid ore and two crosscuts 80 feet apart show two parallel ore bodies, one 12 feet and the other 6 feet between walls, the ledges being 30 feet apart.

"A shaft is now being sunk in the tunnel and is down 15 feet below the tunnel level. It is to be continued to the 200 feet level, when drifts will be run as above. The main tunnel has ties and rails (wooden) well laid its entire length, and is equipped with my own patent dump car, with a capacity of one and a half tons. Two men handle the car and are kept busy every day handling the ore from the four shifts. Wheels and axles were made for me at the Alibon Iron Works.

"Since February 5, 1898, I have had men working night and day for the last two months and a half double shifts have been working with an average pay roll of between $600 and $700. My supplies have been purchased of well known firms in Victoria, which added to the pay roll, makes a neat little sum of several thousand dollars, all of which has been distributed here through the efforts of myself, my working partner, H. W. Buzzard, and our principal, Mr. F. J. Smith, of Glasgow, Scotland.

"Some of British Columbia's most reliable mineralogists have pronounced this property one of the best in British Columbia. My principal, Mr. F. J. Smith, has authorized me to build a wagon road of four miles in length to connect with the municipal road at Westholme station, which I have already started to do. I shall employ a force of 25 or 30 men and hope to complete the same in sixty days. The road built will run through several adjoining properties on which work has already been done and will be of benefit to nearly every property on the mountain. Three surveys were made of different routes, of which this is the easiest grade. I state these simple facts for the benefit of those who may be interested in this part of the island's resources."

Provincial

The following officers have been appointed to the British Columbia rifle corps, Rossland rifle company: To be captain, Peter McLaren Forin; to be lieutenant, Kenneth Lumsden Burnet, retired list; to be second lieutenant provisionally, John Louis Graham Abbott. Nelson rifle company—To be captain, Lieutenant Arthur Edward Hodgkins, reserve of officers; to be lieutenant, Henry Edward McDonnell; to be second lieutenant provisionally, William Alfred Galliether. Kamloops rifle company—To be second lieutenants provisionally, Edward A. Nash, John R. Vicars, and Cecil W. Ward.

Alfred Woodhouse, M. E., has been instrumental in closing a deal whereby a 500-ton smelter may be built at Grand Forks in the near future. The new smelter company is a London syndicate. Ex-Mayor Manly has donated 1,000 acres of land to the smelter company. The smelter company has also taken a 90 days' option on the water power up the North Fork. To show good faith on their part, the smelter company has put up a guarantee of $200 in cash that it will carry out its agreement.

DROWNED AT TRAIL.

Harold E. Robertson, a banker of Trail, was drowned in the Columbia shortly before noon on Thursday last, by the capsizing of a canoe in which he was boating. W. J. Devitt, the provincial policeman at Trail, who was with him at the time, made a magnificent effort to save his companion, and at the risk of his own life, he thrice dragged Mr. Robertson upon the capsized boat, but the unfortunate man lost his hold finally and sunk never to rise again. Mr. Devitt finally succeeded in reaching land about half a mile below the scene of the disaster. The Rossland Miner says: "Rev. H. Irwin, who came up from Trail last evening, brought particulars of the catastrophe. Mr. Robertson and Mr. Devitt had started out for a few minutes' sport on the water in the latter's canoe, a Peterboro 15-footer, and after paddling up to the smelter they started down stream past town. The Columbia past Trail speeds along at the rate of about 10 miles per hour, and the two were travelling at almost that rate when, as they reached a point opposite the Columbia & Western station, they were engulfed in a huge rip, which, rising straight up, filled the boat and threw the two boatmen into the water. Mr. Robertson, being unable to swim, was helpless and lost his head completely. Mr. Devitt, himself a splendid swimmer, seized his companion and managed to draw him over the canoe, but the helpless man lost his hold and fell again into the water. With cheery words of encouragement, Mr. Devitt dragged him upon the boat again and again, but in each case Mr. Robertson lost his hold and fell into the river. The last time he sank out of sight, and his body, carried swiftly down the stream, has not been recovered. The frightful accident was witnessed by perhaps a hundred people, who, however, could do nothing, as no boats were available. Mr. Robertson was a Nova Scotian, and had been in Trail for a year past as manager of the Bealey company's business, and later as an owner of that institution. He leaves a young wife and little daughter only a few months old. The splendid and heroic conduct of Mr. Devitt is everywhere spoken of in the highest terms of praise, although Mr. Devitt is heart-broken at the calamity.

SENSATIONAL SUICIDE.

E. C. Rumsey, one of the employees of the Butte mills, near Sheep Creek station, at the international boundary line, ended a fortnight's debauch by cutting his throat last Thursday morning in the bunk-house at the mill. His manner of doing away with himself was carried out with such deliberation and forethought as is rarely seen. Rumsey, who, according to his own account, was a Texan by birth, had been around the camp doing odd jobs for the past two or three years. For some time past he had been working at the mills, but about two weeks ago he came to town and started in on a prolonged spree. It ended finally by his going into what amounted to delirium tremens, and it was in this shape that he returned to the mill on Tuesday last. His appearance caused no little apprehension among his partners, and they set out to watch him, in order to prevent his doing any damage. Rumsey labored under the hallucination that somebody was after him, and the fear haunted him so that he ran away in the middle of the night and took refuge in the forest. When he returned in the morning he was in a frightful condition, as his clothes had been torn into shreds by the brush through which he had travelled, while his body was literally scratched all over. Rumsey, who was in a very morose mood, went at once into the bunk-house, the door of which he locked, so as to keep the rest of the crew outside. Robert Miller, the proprietor of the mills, fearing that Rumsey was up to some mischief, detailed two men to watch him, and at the same time he telegraphed to Officer Hooson to come down and take the fellow in custody, as he gave every appearance of being quite crazed with the liquor he had been consuming. While waiting for the arrival of the officer, the two watchmen took things easy outside of the cabin where Rumsey was confined, as they had no idea that he would do himself any damage. They were much mistaken in this, however, for when Officer Hooson arrived and broke in the door of the bunk-house, Rumsey was lying in a bed with his throat horribly gashed, while the floor was covered with blood. Rumsey's body was still warm, but he was dead.

From the surroundings, he had evidently taken his time in killing himself. The door was barred, and all around were strewn picks, axes and similar weapons of defence, with which he seemingly meant to defend himself in case his imaginary foes made any effort to capture him. Having made himself secure in this matter, he then drank a pint of benzine, after which he secured a razor, and, taking a small mirror in his hand, he gashed his throat from ear to ear. The wound, while it was very painful, was seemingly not fatal, for judging from the blood on the floor, he had then walked over to another corner where the light was good, and here he made a second slash at his neck. An immense pool of blood on the floor at this point bore record to the damage which he must have inflicted on himself there. Weakened, doubtless, by the loss of blood which must have taken place by this time, Rumsey then dragged himself over to a bunk, and hanging his head over the side, he made a few final and desperate cuts, with the result that in a few moments he was dead.

BARKERVILLE.

The Flynn Brothers' hydraulic claim on Mosquito creek has had a successful season. This mine is one of value but the water privilege is limited. Only about 28 or 30 days' water each season as a rule is obtained for hydraulicing. The usual output is from $5,000 to $8,000 and the expense of operating is of course small.

The mine owned and operated by Paulson and partners, the Black Jack, is making a great record this season, as 60 colors to the pan being obtained. Work will be pushed throughout the fall and winter energetically, and it is the belief of those interested in the property that the successful issue of this work will open up a vast tract of the old channel of Lightning creek, from which so many millions were taken out in the seventies. Major H. W. Moore, of Baltimore, is the managing director, and the work is being done by Charles Ramos, a man thoroughly familiar with this class of work in Cariboo.

Mr. Bremner and associates have secured the Eleven of England group of mines on Lightning creek and also have located some claims above. They are now getting in heavy machinery to open up the ground. The company have large means and are going on in a business-like way to develop and reopen the fabulously rich ground around Stanley. It is understood that a shaft will be started on the Eleven of England ground, and the heavy machinery installed immediately.

With two companies with apparently large capital behind them operating on Lightning creek we may look forward with confidence to a return of old time prosperity, as in mining in Lightning creek it is only necessary to so operate and the partners are known to be working very rich ground. They have been operating this mine with varying success for many years and have this year struck the best gravel ever found in the claim. They are reported as taking out as high as sixty ounces per day.

Work at Dragon creek on the mine owned by Gust Lange and partners has been pushed this season and a good output is assured.

H. Thompson, who is interested with English capitalists and others in the Slough creek, Willow river and other mines, arrived here this week direct from England. It is expected that operations on a large scale will be undertaken on these valuable holdings. Mr. Thompson is a mining man of wide reputation in Australia and other fields, and was for some years president of the board of mines in the Coolgardie district, Australia.

Work on Lightning creek on the drainage tunnel is progressing very favorably with a force of about 15 men. About 800 feet of the drain is now finished and well timbered throughout, the inner end of the drain being about 13 feet from the surface. Good prospects are already found in the gravel, as high as to extract the gold economically. The fact of the gold being in the ground is not questioned by anyone familiar with Cariboo mines.—Ashcroft Mining Journal.

900 DROPS
CASTORIA
A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of
INFANTS CHILDREN
Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.
Recipe of Old Dr SAMUEL PITCHER
Pumpkin Seed - Alx Senna - Rochelle Salts - Anise Seed - Peppermint - Bi Carbonate Soda - Worm Seed - Clarified Sugar - Wintergreen Flavor.
A perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP.
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35 DOSES – 35 CENTS
EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE —OF— Chas. H. Fletcher. IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA

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