

The Colonist.

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1896.

MODERN MARTYRS.

It is generally supposed that there are no martyrs in these days. It is believed that men in the nineteenth century are too highly civilized, too tolerant and too humane to torture men and women, and to put them to death, for no other crime than that they are faithful to their religion and refuse to renounce it at the bidding of those who rule over them. Such diabolical tyranny could, it is thought by many, only exist in the dark ages of the world's history when the great mass of the people were sunk in ignorance and superstition, when cruelty and barbarity reigned in the high places of the earth and in the low, and men had not learned to respect each others' opinions and convictions.

Recent events that have taken place in our own day and almost under our own eyes have proved that those who are too highly civilized are shallow optimists, who do not know that there are millions upon millions in our own day upon whom the refining and elevating influences that have been at work for centuries have made no perceptible impression. The outrages that have been committed, and are still being committed, in Armenia, have been a revelation to the great mass of Christian men and women in Europe and America. Very many of the Christians of our time are inclined to believe that the constancy, the fortitude and the true heroism that were so often exhibited by the early Christians, under the most trying circumstances, are not now to be found on the earth—that Christians living at ease and sunk in worldliness would not stand the test of cruel persecutions; that they would not for the sake of their religion sacrifice all they hold dear and even life itself. The spirit of the martyrs, many are tempted to say, has departed from the churches.

But the way in which the Armenians have borne the savage persecution of the Turks has proved that there are Christians in these days as ready to bear witness to what they believe to be the truth and to endure the greatest sufferings and losses rather than deny their Saviour, as there were in the early days of Christianity. And the Armenians, as far as we can learn, are not, when free from persecution, more pious or more ready to make sacrifices for the sake of their religion than are the Christians of other churches and other races. But that there have been and are men and women among them who have met the most cruel and the most trying persecution in the spirit and with the heroism that we so greatly revered in the early Christians, cannot be denied.

A late issue of the New York Independent contains a list of twenty-one martyrs who endured persecution with a courage and a nobility of soul that must compel the admiration, and much more than the admiration, of all believers and unbelievers alike—who love and appreciate what is best and highest and most to be revered in human nature. Speaking of the twenty-one modern martyrs, the Independent says:

Each one of them was offered his life if he would renounce Christ and accept Islam; but they counted not their lives dear unto them. But those twenty-one names were as names of saints such as must go into the martyrology of the country. The fruits of our American missions in Turkey. They are the best men, the most highly educated men, among their people; their natural leaders. Every one was put to death for refusing to become a Mohammedan. In every case the offer of life on these terms was made; in several cases time was allowed for consideration of the proposal; faith in each faith in Jesus Christ was the sole crime charged against the victim.

We cannot refrain from reproducing part of the account of the martyrdom of one of these saints, Aboshe of Kutturbul, as it appears in the letter of the Independent's Armenian correspondent. Aboshe had escaped from the massacre of the previous evening and had spent the night in a tree and afterwards took refuge in a deserted bath:

"Tuesday," the narrative proceeds, "a roaming band of Kurds went through the village to see if anything was still left to plunder, and finally, coming to the bath, they began to abuse some of the pastor's congregation who had gathered there, as it was a more protected place than most. The pastor, overhearing them, went out to try to persuade them to cease from further barbarities toward those who had suffered so much. Perceiving that he was a 'spiritual head,' as the clergy are called, the Kurds at once called on him to renounce his faith and embrace Islam. He fixed a steady gaze on them but said nothing. 'Ha!' said one, 'see how the hafr (infidel) still holds stoutly to his faith.' Another said to him: 'Just raise one finger (this is accepted as a sign of assent) and you will not be harmed. Instantly he calmly replied, 'I shall never raise my finger.' Immediately a Kurd near him made a thrust at him with a straight dagger, while another, a little further away, put a bullet through him right in the presence of his flock. His firm faith and his bold confession of it in the presence of death was the weightiest sermon they had ever heard from his lips."

This is how one of the fifty thousand martyrs of Armenia met his death. The horrors that attended the martyrdom of some of them—tender, innocent women—are unutterable, and the sufferings which endure cause them to envy those whose days of trial are ended.

MISSED THE MARK.

In an article headed, "Questions for the Colonist," the Times says: "But if it was well to propose such a 'lift' for the C. P. R. Crow's Nest project, why should not similar assistance to the British Pacific be perfectly in order? Did Col. Prior, who poses as a Cabinet Minister, bring the claims of the latter enterprise before the Government when they were considering the Crow's Nest proposal?" In what follows our unscrupulous contemporary something more than insinuates that Col. Prior did not, for selfish reasons, do anything towards advancing the interests of the British Pacific.

In the next issue the Times returns to the subject, of course in the hope of damaging Col. Prior's prospects of being elected, and asks: "Did the Dominion Government ever entertain the idea of helping the British Pacific in the same way as it proposed to help the Crow's Nest road? Did Col. Prior ever urge such action upon the Government of which he is supposed to be an active member?" No doubt the Times had not the remotest suspicion that it could be shown that Col. Prior has kept the interests of Victoria in his mind and that he was doing what he could to procure assistance for the British Pacific. But we have good reasons for knowing that this was the case. We have it on authority which has invariably proved reliable that Col. Prior has done even more for the British Pacific than he has done for the Crow's Nest railway. The Times will find out before the election campaign is over that its mean efforts to injure Col. Prior will do that gentleman good rather than harm. We venture to predict that the day is not far distant when the electors of Victoria will be well pleased with what Col. Prior has done in the matter of the British Pacific railway, and that the promoters of that enterprise will be, as they have always been, among the warmest supporters of the Conservative candidates. It is not necessary to say any more at present than to assure the Times that its attempt to injure Col. Prior in this matter will prove one of the most notable failures it has ever made.

MUNICIPAL OBSTRUCTIONISTS.

Alderman Marchant and Alderman Macmillan have, perhaps without knowing it, given the electors of Victoria districts a valuable object lesson. These two intolerant and domineering members of the City Council have shown what obstruction really means. The majority of the Council would not be dictated to by this minority of two. Since the minority could not have their own way they were determined that no business should be done, and they set about, by an abuse of the rules of discussion, bullying the majority. They would be as much in the right morally and their course would be more manly if they armed themselves with bludgeons and told the majority plainly that they would never allow the Council to proceed, unless the majority gave in and acted as they wished.

Who are these two councillors that they should try to coerce the majority? They have just the same rights as any other two councillors, and they have no more than two votes. When they try by a contemptible trick to make those two votes equal to six or seven they do what every honest and fair-minded man sees is tyrannical and unfair. Whether they were right or wrong in their contention makes not the slightest difference. The majority of the council have a right to manage its affairs, and if they make a mistake they must bear the responsibility. By resorting to the trick of obstruction Messrs. Marchant and Macmillan have shown that they are not to be trusted with power.

It can easily be seen if such conduct as theirs should become general, deliberative bodies would be turned into perfect bear gardens and parliamentary government would be impossible. What Aldermen Marchant and Macmillan have done on a small scale in a little theatre, the obstructionist faction in Ottawa have done on a larger scale and in a wider field. The conduct of both minorities was tricky and unmanly and opposed to good and orderly government, and should be discontinued in every way by all lovers of constitutional government, let them belong to what party they may.

THE BULWAGOY DEFEAT.

The news from Bulwagoi is necessarily meagre and is not, we think, to be implicitly relied upon. A sortie—a rush out and a rush back—can easily be distorted into a defeat. It was not to be expected that a little band of three hundred could put an army of thousands to flight. That any of these returned to tell the tale is perhaps the most wonderful part of the story. It is folly to condemn the act of the beleaguered force at this distance and without any information as to its condition that can be relied upon. But on the face of it the sortie seems to be a most foolhardy movement, a needless sacrifice of life. It does not seem as if the garrison were reduced to the last extremity, and that the men had the alternative of being killed with their arms in their hands fighting or dying by inches like rats in a trap. Provisions are not plentiful in Bulwagoi and ammunition is said to be scarce, but the mad attack on the Zulus has not bettered the condition of the garrison or

the non-combatants within the fortifications in the least, and, in the nature of things, it could not be expected to have had that result. But it is useless to speculate on the matter. It is just possible that the accounts that have reached us are gross exaggerations and that when the truth is known it will be found that the public have been needlessly alarmed.

GUN MAKING.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—"It is not generally known," said an officer of the ordnance department of the army to-day, "that the United States is preparing to build at the army gun factory in Watervliet, New York, the biggest gun for coast defence purposes that has ever been produced by any nation up to the present time, of the calibre of the navy ordnance foundry in the city of Washington than of the army gun shop at Watervliet. But in some respects the New York foundry is far in advance of the Washington City concern in the way of modern appliances for the manufacture of ordnance. The fortifications bill which has just passed the house contains provisions which insure the continuous employment of all the skilled mechanics in the Watervliet arsenal for a year at least, and besides this the house has provided for the making of one gun of 16-inch calibre. It is almost beyond conception to realize what the gun will do in the way of defense. The carrying capacity of heavy rifled steel ordnance is figured upon the basis of one mile to an inch of calibre. With the proper elevation this 16-inch gun would send a shot weighing more than 1,200 pounds a distance of sixteen miles, using a charge of about 600 or 700 pounds of prismatic powder.

"These numerous engines of war will be very expensive playthings, and when completed will probably be mounted in the vicinity of New York, but it is doubtful if it will ever be used. No vessel yet built carries sufficient armor to resist the impact of the shell which would be hurled by this great cannon. Of course there has been no test of the penetrating power of such a shell, but estimating from what smaller weapons of like construction have done in the past it is safe to say that this great mass of iron would pierce an enemy with terrific force, caused by the explosion of 800 pounds of powder, would pierce at least 20 inches of the finest armor plate that has ever yet been invented at a distance of a mile. This gun will be an experiment—an expensive one, it is true—but should it prove what its designers expect, it will probably be followed by others of like character. And with a dozen such guns mounted along the Atlantic coast, the power would be such as to risk its finest vessels within the range of our forts."

ARRIVED AT KODIAK.

SEATTLE, April 25.—The schooner *Erland* has arrived at Kodiak, and a letter from one of the passengers has been received by John Pacey, who has an interest in the vessel. The schooner sailed from this port for Cook Inlet March 4, with several passengers and considerable merchandise aboard. Those who were aboard the schooner were George Blanchard and T. S. Branham. The other four passengers were from Tacoma. The letter is dated from Ozink, March 29, and says:

"We arrived at Kodiak on March 10, after an uneventful trip of thirteen days. We made remarkably good time during the first part of our voyage, but on March 13 the wind became very light. Otherwise we could have made the trip within ten days. We were the first to arrive at Kodiak this season, and were received with great honors. The past winter has been a very severe one, and great quantities of snow and ice are everywhere in sight. We are unable to gain any positive information regarding the condition of the ice in Turnagain Arm, but the natives are all of the opinion that on account of the severity of the past season the ice in the straits between the Sound and the bay will be impossible to reach Six-Mile creek before the middle of May. The weather is very pleasant and not colder than in Seattle when he left. We have been in port for the past week waiting for a favorable wind to sail up the inlet. The wind has been blowing a perfect gale, but we expect to sail for Keri tomorrow."

DOMINION POLITICS.

MONTREAL, April 25.—(Special)—Hon. Mr. Chapleau's health will not, it is said, permit his entry into the Federal cabinet just now. A dispatch was received last night from the great French-Canadian orator, in Atlantic City, saying that under no consideration could he at present take part in active politics. It is understood his impaired health is all that prevents Mr. Chapleau from accepting the position of Minister of Finance.

At last night's Liberal meeting Hon. Mr. Laurier, after discussing the proceedings of last session, said regarding the school question: "There were two factions in the government. First, the members were against giving justice to the Catholic minority in Manitoba and half in favor of it. But no government, whether a Bowell government, a Tupper government or a Laurier government, could settle this question in any way other than that he had marked out, namely, by pursuing a policy of conciliation. He would settle it by appealing to the sense of justice which was in the hearts of all men and by appealing to such men as Hon. Mr. Harcourt, who that night was present as the representative of the government of Sir Oliver Mowat, the champion of the Catholic minority in Ontario, and by appealing to the sense of justice of the Protestant majority of the Canadian people."

HE WANTS OTHERS TO KNOW.

DEAR EDITOR: Please state in your valued journal, that if any sufferer from the Tumor of Energy and Ambition, Lost Manhood, etc., will write me in confidence, I will inform him by sealed letter, free of charge, how to obtain a perfect cure. I know how to sympathize with these sufferers and am willing to do so. I will not ask them to promise everyone absolute secrecy and as I do not, of course, wish to expose myself either, I don't give any name, but will be glad to get well, send stamp and address simply: P. O. Box 388, London, Ont.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Nanaimo's Proposed Military Camp—Milk Testing—Horticultural Show at Vancouver.

The Westminster Bridge—Spring Assizes—Home Life in Japan—Mining Matters.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, April 25.—J. Woods has been appointed manager of the Moodyville lumber mills at a salary of \$800 a month.

A Vancouver show will be held by the Vancouver Horticultural Society in the middle of July. Mrs. Sakuria and friends illustrated home life in Japan to a Vancouver audience last night. The proceeds of the entertainment are to be devoted to Christian work in Japan.

WESTMINSTER.

WESTMINSTER, April 25.—A meeting is being arranged between the city council and representatives of the board of trade to discuss bridge matters with Mr. C. H. Wilkinson, who will further explain his proposition already before the public regarding the Fraser river bridge and the Steveston railroad.

The spring assizes open here on Tuesday next. The docket contains no cases of special interest. Ward delegates for the Liberal convention on Tuesday next were chosen last night.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, April 25.—Capt. Dillon has received official information from the militia headquarters that the department cannot at present recommend any increase in the strength of the Fifth regiment of Canadian artillery. This definitely settles the formation of any company for Wellington.

A series of special meetings will be held in the Baptist church, commencing Monday evening, extending over two or three weeks time.

At the annual meeting of the Nanaimo Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society the following officers were elected: President, M. Bate, esq. (re-elected); vice-president, Mrs. Heyland; secretary, G. D. Barlow; business manager, W. K. Leighton; stage managers, A. A. Davis and Mrs. Dr. Davis; musical director, N. G. Foster; pianist, Mrs. Kitchin; property man, A. A. Davis; auditors, A. E. Plant and Mr. Honeyman.

On Wednesday evening at Comox Frank Monaco's little girl's second finger on her left hand came between a block of wood and an axe in the hands of her brother. The finger was means amputated.

The milk testing appliances, by means of which the medical health officer will, for the future, detect adulteration and tabulate the per centage of butter fat contained in milk sold to local consumers, have at length arrived.

At Thursday's meeting of the rifle association, it was stated that in the event of successful arrangements being made for an interurban street car competition in connection with the celebration of the 24th, there would be no difficulty in obtaining an appropriation of \$75 from the sports committee. Several speakers thought that the association should receive at least \$100.

A. R. Johnston has been appointed to the position of police and license commissioner.

The fire department have erected a building in one night on the site of the old fire hall. The piece of land is claimed to have been given to the department by the late John Hirst, but the necessary deeds were not made out, so that when the fire on Commercial street took place the old hall was burned down and then those interested entertained the idea that they would recover this piece of land, which had become valuable, and so fenced it in.

There was a fairly satisfactory attendance at Thursday night's meeting for the purpose of discussing the proposed formation of a militia company in this city, and it was unanimously resolved that a petition be drawn up and signed by a committee of those who were willing to form a company, asking permission to form said company, and that this petition be forwarded to the Major-General commanding. 2nd Regt. The petition will be circulated throughout the city for signatures, calling attention to the defenceless state of the city, the importance of its situation, etc., and the necessity for an efficient militia company. Hon. C. H. Barker, T. W. Haslam and Geo. Pittendrigh were appointed to interview persons considered suitable to officer the company.

MIDWAY.

(From the Advance.)

One has been shown in the Skylark which, it is said, will run 1,200 ounces to the ton.

The ledge of the North Star, Long Lake, is widening and the ore continues to get richer.

A large vein of ore, assaying \$23 to the ton, has been struck on the Volcanic, North fork of Kettle river.

Fifteen men are shortly to be put on the Morrison Detonated camp.

Recently at the Lake View claims seven sticks of giant powder exploded, but without serious results, although a full box of powder was in the immediate vicinity.

Gold Commissioner Lambley on the 17th inst., on application of Robert Clark, ordered the ejectment of E. J. Hickey from the Seattle mineral claim. He said it was a deliberate case of claim jumping.

LAKE CRESCENT TROUT.

PORT ANGELES, April 24.—Prof. Jordan of the Stanford University of California is greatly interested in the monster trout caught last year by Admiral Beardslee on the occasion of his visit to Lake Crescent. A number of these large trout have since been caught and forwarded to Prof. Jordan, and after an examination he has pronounced them to be an entirely new species. Those trout which local fishermen have called bluebacks the professor has suggested should be called Beardslees, and another variety, similar to the rainbow trout, he calls Crescents.

Remember these Directions for using Cottolene

For shortening never use more than two-thirds as much Cottolene as you would of lard. When frying with Cottolene always put it in a cold pan, heating it with the pan. Cottolene produces the best results when very hot, but as it reaches the cooking point much sooner than lard, care should be taken not to let it burn. When taken out of the pan, it will be perfectly brown and in half a minute. Follow these directions in using Cottolene and lard will never again be permitted in your kitchen or in your food. Genuine Cottolene is sold everywhere in tins with trade-marks—"Cottolene" and "steer's head in cotton-plant wreath"—on every tin.

THE N. E. FAIRBANK COMPANY, Wellington & Ann Sts., Montreal.

A WEIGHTY QUESTION

These days is how to make both ends meet. We will help you answer the question by quoting a few snaps:

California Roll Butter, 35c.
California Square Butter, 35c.
2 dozen Island Eggs, 35c.
Gal. Keg Mixed Pickles, 65c.
English Ale (Imported), 10c. pint.
19 lbs. Granulated Sugar, \$1.
10 lbs. American Rolled Oats, 25c.
Our Blend Tea still 20c.

Just received: A shipment of Pure Maple Syrup and Maple Sugar and Fromage De Brie and Neuchâtel Cheese.

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

THE KOOTENAY COUNTRY.

(From the Spokane Spokesman-Review.)

D. C. Corbin has returned from the East, where he has been for several weeks on business connected with his many interests in Washington and British Columbia. He said:

"I have all along intended to build the Red Mountain railway, and now I shall build it. The conditions now will warrant it. Up to last year the conditions were different, but now I am sure that the road is here, and am prepared to go ahead and build it this summer. In a day or so I shall go over the line, and when I return shall make the start, and it is safe to say the road will be completed to Roseland in less than a month. The road will follow closely up the north fork of Sheep creek, making one detour in order to get a good grade."

"Will you bridge the Columbia," was asked.

"Yes; that is part of the scheme to go through to Roseland without transferring. The bridge will cross the Columbia near Northport. How soon the work will be commenced on the bridge I cannot say exactly."

"Will you inaugurate daily service from Spokane to Nelson?"

"Some time before the middle of May."

The steamer *Nelson* will make a trip to Bonner's Ferry to Kaelo on Monday, leaving on the arrival of the east-bound Great Northern train. No schedule for running boats on the Kootenay from Bonner's Ferry has yet been established, but as soon as the new boat *Kakonee* is completed, regular trips will probably be made. The new boat is a beauty, and is built to maintain a speed of 18 miles an hour. The significance of the name *Kakonee* is red fish, and was suggested by Mr. Mara, M.P., president of the company.

The Kootenay Reclamation Company, controlled by an English syndicate, has now ready 3,000 acres of land upon which it has fixed a price of \$50 an acre; \$300,000 has already been spent by the company in reclaiming the lands. G. W. Alexander is manager for the company. Desirable emigrants are coming over from England, none of whom have less than \$2,500. On the reclaimed land there is an experimental station or farm, the product of which was shipped to England to show the capabilities of the soil, every foot of which can be cultivated.

SHAKESPEARE'S ANNIVERSARY.

BIRMINGHAM, April 23.—At the luncheon in celebration of Shakespeare's birthday held here to-day the Mayor, who responded to Lord Leigh's toast of "The President of the United States," spoke of the deep affection of the English people for Lincoln and Garfield and called for three cheers for President Cleveland. The Mayor's call received a warm response from all present. There is a term of deeper significance which are our brethren.

Every inch of space in the corridor in which hung the portraits of Edwin Booth, presented by the Players' Club of New York, was occupied, and the theatre itself later was packed. The stage was elaborately decorated with flowers and floral seats running from right to left covered with crimson cloth. The portrait of Edwin Booth was surmounted by a laurel wreath and stood upon an ebony easel on the front of the stage.

Mr. Edgar Flower, who presided, announced Mr. Parker, who, in presenting the portrait of Edwin Booth to the Memorial Theatre and Museum, said in part: "By the authority conferred upon me, and in the name of the Players' Club, with the good will of everyone of its members, the best wishes of the profession which the players club represents, and with the knowledge that the American people will endorse this act, I have great pleasure in presenting to the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre and Museum this excellent portrait of a man who in lands unknown to take more dramatic of all times, has illustrated his loftiest creation."

Mr. Parker then outlined the Players' Club, its formation and its work; referred to a number of the prominent people connected with it, and to Rev. Dr. Houghton of the Little Church Round the Corner, his remarks being listened to with the greatest interest. Mr. Park's remarks were warmly ap-

plauded. When the Mayor rose and drew aside the cloth covering of the portrait and when Mr. Parker first announced its presentation, the scene was a most impressive one. The chairman said that the gift was received in the name of Shakespeare's American admirers, and added another link to the good-will between the two countries, which "are the same in art and literature."

BEHRING SEA CLAIMS.

(From the New York Times.)

The ratification of the treaty providing for a commission to determine the claims of Canadian sealers against the United States on account of the seizure of vessels in Behring sea promises to put an end to that part of the old controversy. It could have been ended with less trouble, and probably with less expense, by carrying out the agreement of 1894 between the State department and the British minister for the payment of a lump sum, but Congress, in its assumed wisdom, refused to appropriate the money.

There has been some misconception on this subject on both sides of the Atlantic, and it may be well to recall the facts. This matter was not settled by the Paris Arbitration Tribunal in 1893, but the determination of the main question as to jurisdiction left no doubt of the responsibility of the United States government for the losses. There was a "special finding" upon facts agreed upon by the agents of the two governments as to the seizure of fourteen vessels and the driving of three others out of Behring Sea by our revenue cutters, but the question of the value of these and whether any of them were owned by citizens of the United States was withdrawn from the arbitration without any prejudice to our right to raise it in subsequent negotiations.

In 1894 Secretary Gresham and Minister Pauncefote undertook, by amicable argument, to provide for a settlement of these claims in the speediest and easiest way. After a careful examination of the claims in the light of all the circumstances and of the Paris decision, they agreed upon the payment by the United States Government, subject to the approval of Congress, of \$425,000 to the British Government, which, subject to the approval of Parliament, should accept it and itself satisfy the demands of the Canadian sealers.

There has never been any reason to regard this as anything but a wise and prudent, as well as a friendly, way of disposing of the claims. It would have avoided the delay, the trouble, expense and uncertainty, and the attendant ill-feeling, of further negotiations and of litigation before a commission. But Congress would not vote the money, and indulged instead in a long and unending and ill-natured discussion. There was nothing left for a patient administration but to take up negotiations anew for a commission to award damages. The result was the treaty which the senate has just ratified.

The British government is to appoint one commissioner and the United States government one, and, unless they can agree, a third is to be named by the republic of Switzerland, and sessions will be held at Vancouver, British Columbia, and at San Francisco, Cal., to receive statements and listen to evidence and argument and to award damages. It will take much time, involve much expense, and vindictive nothing but the obstinate folly of congress.

VENEZUELAN ARBITRATION.

LONDON, April 25.—The Times says: "It is assumed that the Marquis of Salisbury rejected the Washington proposals in regard to Venezuela. The Marquis of Salisbury certainly did not accept the proposals as they stood; but it was not imagined that the action taken in regard to them should possibly be regarded as a rejection. The difficulty was in regard to the definition of the settled districts, and the Marquis of Salisbury's efforts to protect British subjects did not promise to be successful, and accordingly he attempted to solve the problem of Venezuelan arbitration by solving the problem of general arbitration." The Times' statement that the Uruman incident is settled is classed as being premature, although it is said there is every prospect of its ultimate satisfactory settlement.

CHATHAM, April 25.—Rev. J. H. Best, of Vancouver, has accepted a call to the William Street Baptist church.

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