## The Colonist.

THE LEGISLATURE OPENED.

Notwithstanding more or less rain, the opening proceedings yesterday passed off in very good style, and the day, that has been looked forward to with much interest, has passed into provincial history. There is not much more to be said about it than to tell the story, and this our reporters have done with their usual accuracy and graphic style.

From a political point of view some thing may be added to what the Colon-18T said yesterday in anticipation of the mit from any one. The object of that say that our Western cities are as safe as speech. The people of the province will paper is to oppose everything Canadian any others. appreciate the decision of the govern- and to seek to create the impression that ment to ask the house to aid in securing everything in Canada is as corrupt as an all-Canadian route to the Yukon in the political ring whose dirty work the the most expeditious manner possible. Post-Intelligencer has always so gladly We submit that this is a matter which done. rises far above political partizanship. It will be a most unfortunate thing for the business interest of the province if

rapid. We assume that any measure the invariable rule in such cases; small decreases. but even those who take such for years to come any changes in repreyears ago and the house will be asked to It would be very unwise policy to underlation, and new districts are coming to being satisfactorily provided for. the front. Under these circumstances we suggest that only such changes in representation should be made as are rendered imperative from time to time by changing conditions. It is quite too soon to say what the normal number of to do is to see that those localities, which are without as large a voice in public affairs as their population and import-

though anything which the government with perfect truth, that while the richest mines of silver, gold and copper may some time become exhausted, the dairies of British Columbia will contribute their products to its wealth as long as the laden with moisture.

SEATTLE OPPOSES IT.

ness. The reason of this is obvious. A as near it as he can be anywhere. of their officers, and that the proper circulation with the falsehood. the world for the Canadian government in regard to Seattle, which is said to be order that Mr. Charlton's pure soul may great interest to the whole province.

goods passing through Canada on the St. gel. We mention this not because we the people bound for the Golden North office and the mechanical department, legislative needs of the district and prov think that any such action is at all likely have more or less of this. Ordinarily are vessels of wrath ordained for destruction. This was a most commendable to be necessary, but simply to show that Seattle is a very orderly city, outside of a tion anyhow, and a little Sunday work step and well worth imitation. In his the matter is not all on one side.

In opposing the railway the Post-Intelligencer revives the exploded false-

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The revenue for the fiscal year ended anything shall happen to prevent the June 30th, 1897, shows the total receipts building of this railway at the earliest to have been \$1,383,046.24 against \$989,possible day, and for this reason we be- 765.22 during the previous year, not inlieve that when the government brings cluding in the latter amount the sum of down its measure the members of the \$166,313.76 withdrawn from sinking of preposterous nonsense and even worse.

house, irrespective of party, will exhibit funds during that year. The chief ina disposition to deal with it on its merits. Creases are in the following items: Land p.m. on Saturday he would see the men in the business offices of the morning while the Seattle merchant knows that the massive marble pedestals on either with the government in its views as to 787; timber royalty and licenses, papers go home to remain there, as far he will only get the outfitting trade this side, which support nothing. The wood the necessity of something being done to \$24,117.87; free miners' certificates, as their work is concerned, until Monopen with transportation facilities every \$111,728; general mining receipts, day morning. At midnight he would shines, the Victoria merchant knows a very fine thing, looks cheap by compart of the province where development is \$80.765.43; licenses, \$15,072.35; fines in progressor is likely to take place in the \$5.156.82; registry fees, \$27,040.near future. Without such facilities the 73: revenue tax, \$5,454; real property to them until Monday noon. At 3 a.m. he is desirous of seeing that his customers is a set of heavy curtains behind advance of the country will necessarily tax, \$12,624.39; personal property tax, on Sunday he would see the compositors get the sort of treatment that will bring the chair, draped so that their folds will be slow. With them it is bound to be \$24,744; wild land tax, \$5,388.37; income go home, not to come back to their them back again. tax, \$2,406.77; printing office, \$14,887.- cases until 7 p.m. on Monday. At that may be introduced for this purpose 98; mineral tax, \$29,481.95, miscel- 5 a.m. he would see the pressmen go under the notice of the Colonist to-day. thing like this would rest the eye after will be met by the cry from certain quarlaneous, \$8,213.52. There are some other home, and if the carriers did not lag on A man from one of the United States gazing around the really magnificent will be need by the cry from certain quarlaneous, \$8,213.52. There are some other home, and if the carriers did not lag on A man from one of the United States walls, and give a sense of completeness, ters that it is in the interests of mon- increases. Survey fees, rents, probate their routes, they would all be home be- cities went into one of our large estabopoly and a sacrifice of the people's in- fees, succession duty, sale of government fore 6:30 a.m., or before anyone else lishments and asked for prices. They terests. This seems unfortunately to be property and one or two others show was stirring except the milkman. He were given and he was told in a general

sentation that may be proposed must be bridges and wharves from \$238,225.14 to Sunday, which will make it obli-

make others this year. We do not ex- factory and will bear a more minute an- telegraphers extra work on Sunday, and, pect that these changes will be radical. alysis on a future occasion. It demon- we can add from experience, will cause strates that the finances of the province take a radical system of redistri- are in an extremely healthy condition; bution under present conditions. The that the burden of taxation is readily offices after church to see that their serprovince is rapidly increasing in populate, and that the several services are mons have been correctly reported. We

THE LAW-ABIDING WEST.

circulation, we find a statement made by a Shanghai correspondent to the effect they are either as ignorant as horses about the facts of the whole matter or representatives constituting the legislature shall be, or how they shall be distributed throughout the province. All out hindrance. The Realm prints this that any government ought to undertake without comment, and we suppose believes it to be true. That it is a gross libel upon the city need not be told to Mr. Charlton has said that it is not impression exists in certain quarters to warmly. What Mr. Charlton proposes but this is not true of Canada, and it is of a Monday paper, in order that those does not go around looking for trouble, it will be an outrage if this is to be interis as safe in one of the coast cities as he fered with in order that the shadow of a

the trade of the Yukon. The arrange- are as well administered in Canada as in right, even if all the work done on it ments at Wrangel are very simple, and any part of the world. We think it only were done on Sunday. Is not this the Mr. R. Cunningham, who is in the will not afford the least embarrass- fair that our British contemporaries acme of hypocrisy? Will Mr. Charlton city, gives the Colonist the very interment to Canadian trade. All that should make this important fact widely venture to say that it is any more moral esting information that four men from cluded. the United States government ask, known. The whole West has been in- to read a Saturday night paper on Sun- Massachusetts are now on their way is that the goods, while in ter- jured by the blood and thunder stories day than one printed on Sunday morn- from Alice Arm to the Stikine. They is that the goods, while in ter- juried by the blood and untitled about it, and it is ing? If not, will be propose to follow have a guide with them who was sent kine-Teslin railway under the Begg

port charges shall be paid upon them. We have spoken above of the orderly his Saturday night paper on Sunday? gress. As they have been gone nearly a There is not the least reason to suppose condition of Western cities. Judging What about the immoral effect upon the month and no word has come from them, mable. from its own papers it seems as if the men who have to read papers, write ar- the inference is that they have succeeded

penetrate voluntarily. If a man goes case. What does he think he is trying the district for better means of transporinto Seattle, or for that matter any to do? hood about Sir Charles Tupper having other Western town, and looks for obtained a license to sell 50,000 gallons pleasure on the borderland of the world of whiskey in the Yukon district. It of crime, he has only himself to blame makes no difference to the Seattle paper if his experience is costly; but that that this story has been denied upon the would be equally true of any other city best of authority, or that it has been in the world. We are speaking of the shown that no one can get such a per- well-behaved man or woman when we

MR. CHARLTON'S HOBBY.

Canada needs an association for the introduction of common sense into the heads of certain people, and its first act working of the system under which Sunday newspapers are printed. We would then have some hope that he would go home convinced that his fad is a piece

see the members of the editorial staff that he will continue to supply the parison with the heavy stone surround begin to leave their desks, not to return northern trade year after year, and hence ing it. What seems to be needed would see a system under which every way what he ought to buy. Then the spoke yesterday of ware houses over-The net expenditure for the year was man connected with getting out a news- merchant said to him that, as he did not topping the dome on the parliament position will find themselves \$1,569,071.63, against \$1,614,723.62, a de- paper has Sunday to himself, and em- know himself what he needed, it might building. Every one who read the senobliged to concede action along such crease of \$45,651.99. There is a de- ploys it as other people employ their be well for him to make some inquiries tence knew it was merely a hasty exa line to be imperative upon any gov- crease of about \$3,000 in the item for Sundays. For this very satisfactory con- before placing his order. To this the pression, and these who saw the Coloernment that may be in power. If by any accident Hon. Mr. Turner and his colleagues should go out of office to-mor
who have the first the pression, and these who saw the Colobuild debt. The civil salary list is a plan that will compel the men in the colleagues should go out of office to-mor
vious year. The administration of business office to come down at least as merchant. He said to the Colonist that thought. Now we find the Times taking row, their successors would be compelled justice cost about \$1,800 more than early as noon on Sunday, which will he had no idea what he wanted. The it up quite seriously and pretending that by the force of public opinion, by the in the year ending June 30, 1896. force the editorial staff to get to work at Seattle compliment would not fit his case. exigencies of the public welfare, to em- The chief decreases are in public the same hour, which will take the combark upon just such a course as that fore- works and buildings, where the cut is positors from their homes or from their shadowed in the fourth paragraph of the from \$84,252.13 to \$39,354.13, and the churches all Sunday evening, which will speech. In regard to redistribution we new parliament building reduced from make it necessary for merchants and thing it must be taken for granted that \$257,903.33 to \$180,395.77. There is an others having advertising to look after increase in the item roads, streets, to come out for that purpose on only temporary. We had some changes \$276,081.68. There is more than a gatory on some citizens to devote part eight years ago; we had others four \$10,000 reduction on account of surveys. of their time on Sunday to giving re-This showing is, we think, very satis- porters information, which will give the some people who preach against Sabbath desecration to call around at newspaper tell Mr. Charlton and every one else who talks about preventing Sabbath desecration by stopping the printing of a Sunday morning newspaper and sub-In the Realm, a London paper of wide stituting one on Monday morning, that

Victorians, for we all are well aware the question of Sunday labor that dis- had taken the trouble to look the matter that characters of the class mentioned turbs his soul, but the immoral tendency up in the public accounts or other deance entitle them to, receive such measure of justice as can be given.

The Conversion of the class mentioned turbs his soul, but the immerate enterty up in the public accounts or other devery clear that a place will ultimately partmental reports. Very many comhave to be found for them on the floor of plaints are made as to wasted time, but The Colonist is specially pleased to Great Britain many people who are as Sunday papers which he proposes to it is such things as are now referred to see the reference in the Speech to the dirying interests of the province, for it Victoria as the editor of the Realm and morning dailies. We tell him that But we may be asked if we would prehas been foremost in urging these upon his Shanghai correspondent, we desire when he says the influence of these vent members from asking questions or the attention of the government. It be- to say, in the hope that some of our papers is immoral either on Sunday or moving for returns. By no means. lieves that the importance of dairy- British contemporaries will reproduce any other day, he is a slanderer of peoing in British Columbia can hardly the statement, that Victoria is present as himself, be over-estimated. The market is exbe over-estimated. The market is extensive and is certain to grow
the American continent. There is himself, if the sense of shame can penthe statement, that victoria is supersimply asking the minister having in order to save his political neck.

Simply asking the minister having very rapidly. Our province is splen-very little lawlessness here. Our etrate through his Pharisaical garb of which they relate. Of course this way didly adapted for the prosecution of this police system is excellent, and serious sanctity. We speak somewhat warmly of getting information does not make so and explain what this combination is, crimes are very rare. We know that the on this matter, because we feel very much of a show in the newspapers or on how a combination can be hatched and can do to promote it will be of scarcely the effect that the further you come is an outrage. The Sunday paper in mal notice, but it accomplishes the purless importance than the subjects above referred to. Indeed, this may be said West the more lawlessness you will find; British Columbia was established in lieu pose fully, if what the member wants is not entirely true of the United States. employed in morning newspaper offices show of being busy, the present plan is A man who minds his own business, and might not have to work on Sunday, and much the better. would be in any other place in the world remote Sunday newspaper may not on the part of reporters present because of the same population. Especially is come between Mr. Charlton and his conthis true of British Columbia. Even in templations. We tell Mr. Charlton provision made for their accommodation The other subjects in the speech seem our newest mining camps law is well more, namely, that if he does away with at the opening ceremonies of the legislaadministered and as fully respected as the Sunday paper he is going to deprive ture. It seems a very extraordinary in the oldest communities of the East. people of reading matter for that day, thing that the men upon whom the very SEATTLE OPPOSES IT.

In the cities there is a somewhat freer and therefore compel them to great majority of the people of the prov-select something else, and it is a very ince depend for information as to what Stikine-Teslin route for all they are spicuous than they are usually in East- easy thing to find literature for Sun- was transacted on that historical occaworth, and are representing that the ern localities; but the man who attends day reading that will be far more sion should not have been accorded a worth, and are representing that the oth localistics, but the measure is safe in injurious to the morals of a community little more consideration, and this is the measure is safe to pass both branches proposed ranged cannot be built and to his own analysis by periodic sate in injurious to the more remarkable in view of the of Parliament. What seems to trouble Mr. Charlton and fact that Mr. Speaker, who assumed full railway from Glenora or some other The reason of this is that the laws are people of his stamp is that the paper charge of the arrangements in the legissuitable point on the Stikine means the well administered in this part of Canada. bears date on Sunday. If it were dated lative chamber, ought to know what the surremacy of British Columbia cities in And to this we may add that the laws on Saturday or Monday, it would be all representatives of the press require.

to place portcharges upon United States just at present overrun with criminals of have the news fresh on Monday morning?

A DISTINCTION AND

being mistreated." This is what the wants of the district was stated to be a handed compliment to our enterprising district be not renewed when it expires neighbors. The way people who buy in and that in the event of redistribution Victoria state the case is that if a man Alberni and the West Coast should be comes to Victoria and does not know what he needs he will not be mistreated. Mr. Huff received the thanks of the Seattle boasts that it will take no advanafter being organized ought to be to pay tage of the man who has his eye teeth Mr. Charlton's passage out to Victoria in cut. Victoria claims that the merest order that he may see for himself the twro in the business can count upon be-

ing fairly treated here. play upon words, and that it is perfectly with the remainder of the room. The true that the average man, desiring to architectural climax of the room ought buy an outfit, is safer in the hands of to be at that point, and it is not. In fact This is what he would find: At 10 Victoria merchants than in those of the there is no climax to the room. The year and is making hay while the sun work directly behind the chair, though

A BAD PRACTICE.

The session has opened with the customary string of notices of questions and motions. There is room for a great deal of reform here. Speaking generally and without reference to any of the notices put on the paper on Thursday we may say that the records of the legislature show that questions are asked andreturns are moved for, which, so far as the public know, serve no earthly purpose whatever except to convey the impression that the gentleman asking or moving for them is really very busy in looking after the public interests. This sort of thing takes

time last session questions were put which the members asking them could Canadian route in just the same. have answered for themselves if they

the journals, as the plan of giving a for-

THERE was much complaint yesterday

claring that no one shall presume to read they will send him a report of their pro-

MR. HUFF. M.P.P., took occasion, bea low grade. But this is only because Has he no sympathy for these? Apparent- fore coming to Victoria to attend to his ohn and the St. Lawrence heavy this class of vagabonds tollow closely in ly not. Perhaps he thinks that newspaper legislative duties, to call together his enough to secure fair charges at Wran- the wake of men with money, and all men, including all those in the business constituents at Alberni and review the certain area into which no stranger need can hardly make any difference in their speech Mr. Huff dwelt upon the needs of tation, a subject which comes very close to the people there, for the first resolution adopted was one demanding more A DIFFERENCE. satisfactory steamer connection with Victoria, The administration of the "If a man comes to Seattle and knows wild-land tax appears not to have been what he wants he need have no fear of acceptable to the meeting. One of the Seattle Times quotes an intending Yudrainage system. The meeting asked koner as saying. It is decidedly a left- that the water charter in force in the given a member distinct from Cowichan meeting for his faithful services as

> THE legislative chamber looks unfinished, and we think the reason is that We believe this is more than a mere the Speaker's dais is out of harmony have a massive look and thus be in keep-A very good illustration of this came ing with the pillars and pedestals. Some which is very lacking now.

THE Times is a funny creature. I it really expects that in ten years there will be warehouses in Victoria overtopping the statue of Vancouver. The penalty of the assumption of infallibility is to be made a laughing stock.

SENOR DE LOME Wrote a rather disre spectful letter in re President McKinley, and being the representative of the court of Spain at Washington, has had to resign. The observations of the Senor were compliments compared with some of the things that Mr. McKinley's own him; but it makes all the difference in the world who says things sometimes.

THERE is considerable speculation as to what Hon. David Mills meant when up the time of the house, costs he said the government is in possession money and gives the permanent em- of information that will lead the Senate ployees of the government much un- to pass the Stikine-Teslin contract. It necessary trouble. In many cases re- is thought that fear exists of a moveturns are asked for and the propriety of ment by the Americans in the Klondike granting them is a subject of debate, al- to take possession of the country. We though the house already has the in- are not so sure that the Americans have viewsare not worth serious consideration, formation in its possession. Time after any particular desire to see the region change hands. But we want an all-

> In regard to the accommodation of reporters in the legislative chamber, it is porters. There is no real objection to their being given seats there, and there are precedents for it.

> THE Kootenay Mail says it knows of a how after anything is hatched it can save anyone's political neck.

THERE is a growing opinion on the Coast that the settlement of the Alaskan boundary should be hurried on as rapidly as possibly. We understand the delay is all on the side of the United States, which is not unnatural, for they are in possession now of all they can hope to get under the most strained construction of the treaty.

THE announcement that the Liberal caucus has decided to stand by the Mackenzie-Mann contract puts the project on pretty safe footing so far as the House of Commons is concerned. A private despatch from Ottawa states that

THE Times expects to see the dome on the parliament buildings overtopped by warehouses. This would be a very undesirable state of things. Warehouses of that height would be a decided

THE Toronto Globe save that Messrs Mackenzie & Mann will build the Stiritory over which it exercises jurisdiction that the truth should receive equal up his bill, if it passes, by another deby Mr. Cunningham on condition that charter is involved in litigation, we doubt this very much.

IT was a graceful act on the part of His Excellency the Governor-General that these charges will be unreasonable. It is some papers to send a message of congratulation to little are, it will be the easiest thing in statement must be temporarily qualified. ticles or set them in type on Sunday in in getting through. This is a matter of to send a message of congratulation to





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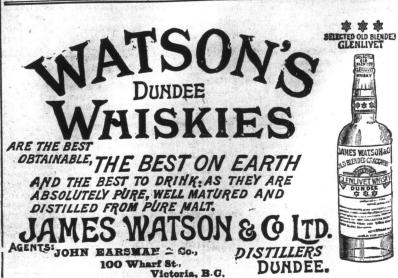
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A TOO FRANK

Spain's Representa ton Makes a Vivi of McKi

"A Coarse and Low

WASHINGTON, Feb. tion in the morning pa ported to be an autogr by Senor Dupuy de L minister, to his friend izing the President wit dom, and which cause official circles at Wash be followed by Ministe turn from the United outset there was a disp tion the authenticity of as bit by bit the circum accumulated, until it nounced officially that clined to deny the auth ter, all doubt disappear question that remaine line of action to be purs ted States towards the The writing of the let

tionably an offence agair of the diplomatic relati offences have been re United States as in oth sufficient grounds for the the official status of th As soon as the letter a press the state departme gan an effort to settle i and when it had learned be developed on the point told that the minister his told that the minister hiddeny writing it, the consinext step began. Assis Day, after consultation we dent on the subject, spent framing a message to minister Woodford at Mac The official statement of message was accompanied

message was accompanied tion to indicate its content the department merely press the following statem ter de Lome does not den letter. This department h cated with General Wood subject. Until that co reaches Spain it would be in any manner state the comessage to General Woodf the department relueed to to this meagre announcem to this meagre announcem stated without question i Woodford was directed to before the Spanish governm with the statement that in with the statement that in minister's refusal to deny ship of the letter the Spa ment is looked to with c deal with the case prop amounts to an invitation t minister, presuming that he not already taken steps to veition

not already taken steps to v sition.

The letter containing the President McKinley was Senor de Lome evidently it bears no date. It was Don Jose Canalejas, editor o de Madrid at Havana. The made public by the agents of junta in New York, who come of their agents in Harisk of his life, succeded in from the editor's private. from the editor's private The objectionable paragraph

the objectionable paragraph ter are as follows:

"The situation here conchanged. Everything depolitical and military situation the prologue of this second warfare will end the day that cabinet shall be appointed, lieves in the orac of this. lieves, in the eyes of this copart of the responsibility of happen there, and they muresponsibility upon the Cu

they believe to be so immacr "The message (the Presi sage to congress) has undece surgents, who expected som and has paralyzed the acti gress; but I consider it ba-the natural and inevitable with which he repeats all th-and public opinion of Spain Weyler, it shows once more Kinley is, weak and catering ble, and besides a low politic sires to leave the door open t stand well with the jingoes of "Nevertheless, as a mate only depends on ourselves will prove bad and adverse tirely agree with you without success nothing will be a there, and without military success there is here always

the insurgents will be encound by the government, at least the public opinion.
"It would be most imports "It would be most imports should agitate the question cial relations, even though it only for effect, and that you here a man of importance in I might use him to make a among the senators and othe sition to the junta and win or

ANOTHER RULER DO The President of Guatemala

But Affairs Go On as Washington, Feb. 9.—8 Arriaga, the Guatemalan min United States, this afternoon an official cablegram from of foreign affairs of Guatema ing the assassination of Pro-rios and the succession to the of the first vice-president, trada Cabrera. No details wh

The despatch came from City, the capital, where Pre rios has lived and the governments are carried on. I entire calm prevailed. This ance, coupled with the imm ance, coupled with the imm cession of the first vice-presicordance with the constitution of the country, is a source tion to the officials of the legation here. The new properties a man of proficuate mala and is one of the by the congress to fill the process of a vacancy.