The Colonist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1894.

A POLITICAL ROMANCER.

The organ of the Opposition is both irritable and unreasonable. It is angry because a delegation has been sent from Chilliwack to look after the interests of that part of the New Westminster District, and it arrogates to itself the attribute of omniscience when it asserts without qualification that "the Premier and a few of the faithful have simply planned the delegation scheme for effect." This is an instance of one of the peculiar habits of our contemporary. It states one of its own imaginings for a fact and then makes its fiction the text of a scorching criticism on the offenders of its own creation. As a grievance manufacturer and political romancer the Times is hard to beat. But it should be careful that its romances should have the appearance of truth. When it makes a positive assertion respecting a matter about which it cannot possibly know anything, there must be some of its readers sharp enough to see that it would be utter folly to place the slightest reliance on its statements. The simple truth is that the Premier had no more to do with getting up the Chilliwack delegation than had Sir John Thompson or Mr. Laurier. This is of course not news to the Times romancer.

THE CIPHERER'S DEFENDER.

The Times ought to know that it is foolish as well as illogical to produce incidental and indirect as well as irrelevant evidence in support of a position, when positive and direct testimony is obtainable. In its zeal to back up Mr. Kitchen's figures it quotes part of the reports of election speeches to convince its readers that Mr. Charles Wilson did not run his election in Victoria as a supporter of the Government when Mr. Wilson's declaration of his intentions and principles over his own signature could be found with far less labor and could be much more conveniently cited. In that declaration Mr. Wilson avowed himself "an independent supporter of the Government," and there is not a single word in the report quoted by the Times withdrawing or contradicting that avowal. There can be no question that Mr. Kitchen appropriated what did not belong to him or his party when he added the votes cast for Mr. Wilson to those cast for the opponents of the Government. "Convey, the wise it call. Steal? foh! a fico for the phrase."

Our contemporary is as weak in grammar as it is in logic. It was the Government as it then existed which was attacked by the petitioning separatists; and it was the Government as it then existed that defended itself against accusations and allegations of the petitioners. We are pretty sure that the Opposition are by this time ready to pronounce Mr. Kitchen as a political arithmetician a failure of the flattest kind.

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES.

The electors in many of the constituencies of the Province are considering who shall represent them in the next Legislative Assembly. It is to be hoped that they will not choose rashly or on purely personal grounds. The electors should be careful that the man who represents them in the Legislature should be a credit to their sagacity. It sometimes happens that the disinterested observer wonders what in the world the electors saw in an occupant of one of the chairs of the Legislative chamber to choose him as their representative. It would appear that he was chosen for his unfitness rather than for his fitness to perform the duties of a legislator. It might be supposed that any man of ordinary discernment might see that he would prove a failure.

A man to be selected for a place requiring for the performance of its duties some knowledge of affairs, fair business capacity, the ability to express his ideas in decent English, and the exercise of sound common sense, should certainly be known to possess those qualifications in a fair degree before the electors would think of sending him to the legislature. But it often happens that hardly a thought is given to the candidate's ability to do the work of a legislator. He is chosen through some influence or on account of some preference that has as little as possible to do with either his moral or his intellectual qualifications for the very important position he is ambitious to occupy.

We are very far from thinking that it requires brilliant talents, highly cultivated, to make a good representative of a district. It may happen that a clever and well-educated man may be wanting in those qualities that are necessary to make him a useful member of the Legislature. He may be a man of fads and crotchets who can never be "broken in" to work with other men. He may be so wise a man in his own conceit and may set so high a value upon his own opinions that it would be utterly impossible for him to make the compromises which the members of deliberative bodies must agree to before they can do business. A man who is not ready to "give and take" has no business to be in the Legislative Assembly.

It is necessary that a representative of the people should speak fairly well. But a chatterer or a "blatherskite" is about the worst man that a constituency can choose. A man who is perpetually talking, who will speak on every subject, whether he understands it or not, soon gets to have no influence in the House. He is regarded as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal, and when he has anything to say that is really worth hearing—which, to tell the truth, is not often—he is not listened to.

The bore who, when he is wound up, talks and talks and talks, in a dull, monotonous way until every one of his hearers becomes uneasy and disgusted, is almost as great a nuisance as the empty-headed blatherskite. Men who are addicted to the habit of prosing are generally loose thinkers who do not often throw light on the subject under discussion. They are drags on the transaction of business and are altogether out of place among practical men. The people should keep both the chatterers and the bores out of the Legislative Assembly.

The men who make their mark in legislative bodies, and the men who are useful to their constituents and the country, are those who know how to work and who are willing to work. Good talking is required in such bodies, but good working is much more effective. The man who is known to be a good worker and who is reliable is far preferable as a representative to the mere talker, let his character be ever so good in other respects. Yet it is the talkers who make the most show and attract the most attention at public meetings and other gatherings. But the electors should not allow themselves to place too high an estimate on the mere ability to talk. They should be always on the look-out for the men who prefer acting to talking.

It seems to us that experience is not always sufficiently considered by electors when they are seeking a man to represent them. Yet experience in doing public business, like experience in all other kinds of work, goes for a great deal. Other things being equal, it is always safer to choose the man who has had experience than the man who has had none. It follows from this that the member who has served a constituency satisfactorily should have the preference over the new and inexperienced candidate. It is always good policy to encourage diligent and faithful service. The district that is continually on the look out for a new man is very seldom indeed well represented. It, however, sometimes happens that a representative outlives his usefulness, or that his principles are not in accordance with those of the majority of the constituency. In such a case a change is necessary, but ordinarily, if a member has done his duty fairly well and if the constituency approve of his principles it is in their interest and in the interest of the whole Province to re-elect him.

It has always seemed to us to be regretted that personal likes and dislikes and considerations outside a man's fitness to do the work of a member of the Legislature should have so much to do as they have had with the selection of a candidate and the election of a member. The man who has the good of the Province and the constituency at heart will give his voice and his vote for the man whom he believes to be the most capable, no matter what his personal feeling towards him may be. It should always be remembered that the man who is elected to the Legislature and who does his duty faithfully makes every voter in the city or district he represents his debtor. The elector who votes for a capable man is acting in his own interest. He does not confer a favor on the man whom he chooses to look after his interests in the Legislature; the obligation is rather the other way.

THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE.

The Montreal Star is one of the papers of Eastern Canada which sees that Independence is for Canada an impossibility. Deprived of British protection, Canada, from its geographical position, would be at the mercy of the United States. Five or six millions of people thinly scattered over a wide extent of territory would never be able to hold their own against a neighbor seventy or eighty millions strong. It would not be safe for Canadians to depend upon the moderation and the forbearance of the American people. Having a giant's strength they would not, if Canadians obstinately refused to be annexed, scruple to use it like a giant. We see what odium President Cleveland has incurred because he has refused to countenance the attempts of American citizens to procure the annexation of Hawaii. If Canada were cut loose from Great Britain the annexationists would be perpetually busy in Canada and if Canadians repelled their advances and rejected their offers pretexts would soon be found to accomplish by unfriendly means what could not be brought about by persistent wooing. The Star then is right when it says that annexation or British connection is the only alternative open to the people of Canada. It prefers the continuation of British connection for the following reasons, among others:

Having thus narrowed the choice to British connection and annexation, our path is soon taken. There is not even an alluring glamor in the direction of political absorption and national extinction. British connection means the perpetration of the name, the identity, and the practical independence of Canada. American connection means the submersion of the Canadian name, the division and destruction of the Canadian identity and the degradation of Canadian practical autonomy to the doubtful plan of "States rights." The Maritime provinces would become a still farther isolated Maine; Quebec, a Louisiana; Ontario, a Michigan; and the limitless west, the plunder of New York and Chicago speculators.

The advantages of British connection to Canada are written in italics upon our history. There would often have been no Canada without British connection. Then had existence been vouchsafed us, we must again and again have submitted to tyrannous injustice at the hands of our neighbors, had we not had British power behind us to ensure respect for our rights. . . . . The far-away fear that British connection may drag us into a European war, one of these days, is not half so real a thing as the surety that this connection perpetually saves us from the incalculable humiliation and wrong of a lost war, without even the satisfaction of fighting and losing it. Then the fear of being meddled with during an European war is very unsubstantial so long as Britain commands the ocean. An enemy that must cross the seas to strike us, has the British fleet to conquer first.

Canada's status as an almost wholly independent nation, or as an integral part of the British Empire, would be far preferable to its losing its individuality by being absorbed by the United States. Commercially, too, it would be better off under British connection than by being brought under the American commercial and financial systems. The late depression—if it is late—in the United States has convinced many Canadians that complete commercial union with the United States is not by any means desirable. Besides, there are sentimental objections to desertion of Great Britain and union with the United States, which are, perhaps, all the stronger for being sentimental. As the Star very truly says: "British connection is the steadfast desire of every race and creed that goes to make up the population of Canada; and there is not the faintest use for any campaigners from the outside to try and cloud the clear knowledge of what is best for us."

A PITIFUL EXHIBITION.

There has been lately a pitiful exhibition of the weakness of human nature in Nova Scotia. That Province has had since it was a self-governing colony a Legislative Council. But in Nova Scotia, as it has done in all the other provinces, it has outlived its usefulness, and the Government very properly determined to abolish it. But the Council could not be legislated out of existence except with its own consent. Mr. Fielding, the Premier of the Province, thought he had hit upon a plan to secure the abolition of the Council. There were vacancies in the body which he found it necessary to fill. But before a councillor was appointed the Premier wrote to the proposed appointee telling him that the Government had resolved to abolish the Council, and that the vacant seat was at his disposal if he would promise to vote for a measure abolishing it when in the opinion of the Government the time had come that that branch of the Legislature should cease to exist. All the gentlemen written to gave in writing the promise required. Mr. Fielding, after he had, as he believed, secured a good majority in the Council to vote for its abolition, brought in a bill for that purpose. It was carried in the House of Assembly without any difficulty, but the Council rejected it by a majority of fourteen to five. Of this majority of fourteen seven at least were pledged in writing to vote for the abolition of the Council. There can be no mistake about the matter, for the letter sent to the men previous to their appointment and their replies are published in the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick papers. Two at least of the Councillors who refused to carry out their written pledge were at one time members of the Dominion Parliament. These were Mr. Goudge, who represented Hants from 1873 to 1878, and Col. Ray, who was four times elected to the House of Commons. It is just possible that these Councillors have something to say in justification of their conduct, but we have not seen one word that has been written in their defence.

THURSDAY'S DEBATE.

It is not creditable to the Province that the Leader of the Opposition could be induced to base a motion of want of confidence on the subject matter of a private document furtively obtained. It is generally supposed that the man who occupies so prominent and so important a position as that of Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition in any of the provinces of the Dominion should have the instincts of a gentleman, that he should be able to distinguish instantly between what is honorable and what is dishonorable, and that he would scorn himself to do anything unworthy a man in his position or to countenance it in others. To appropriate a private document belonging to another, and to use it in an attempt to injure an opponent, is considered by gentlemen about the meanest and most dishonest act that a man could commit. So abhorrent is such an act to the principles and the instincts of honorable men that there are very many who would consider it less disgraceful to be a party to a crime than to be directly concerned in so base and disreputable a transaction. Mr. Beaven's hatred of his political opponents must be so intense and so bitter as to blind him to the dishonorableness of the course he has taken in this matter, or he is so eager to obtain what appears to him to be an advantage over a political opponent that he has become perfectly reckless as to the means he takes to secure it. Mr. Kitchen and Mr. Cotton in making use of the prospectus which fell by accident into their hands to injure Col. Baker, and through him the Government of the Province, only acted after their kind, but better things might have been expected of Mr. Beaven.

It is surprising to see a man supposed to be intelligent and well versed in the minutiæ of political propriety, making it an offence for a member of a Government to allow his name and office to be mentioned in a business document. He ought to have known, as was clearly shown by the Premier in the debate, that this is done to a greater or less extent by nearly every prominent public man on both sides of politics in Great Britain. Many of these gentlemen are connected with commercial enterprises of one kind and another, and they do not object to have their titles and offices mentioned in connection with their names. The late Hon. Alexander Mackenzie was as punctilious a man in all matters of business as was to be found on this continent, yet his name and position in the Government were used in connection with the presidency of an insurance company. Mr. Beaven surely does not expect the people of this Province to believe that he knows better than Sir John Macdonald, Premier of the Dominion, did what is right and proper for a member of a government to do in such a matter? Yet Sir John was elected managing director of a life insurance company, and his name and titles were printed in full on the documents of the concern. When all this is known, it is perfectly astonishing that Mr. Beaven should attempt to construe into a serious offence against official propriety an act with which no well-informed man, either in Great Britain or the Dominion of Canada, thinks of finding fault. Yet this perfectly innocent act is, by Mr. Beaven and the members of the Opposition, regarded as deserving of the censure of the Legislature. A more deplorable instance than this of ignorance combined with blind partisanship in a political party, could not, we are perfectly sure, be found in the history of any colony. The people of the Province are to be congratulated that the motion of censure, based upon such trivial grounds, was rejected by a large majority. If by any chance it had passed, British Columbia would have been disgraced in the eyes of intelligent men everywhere.

It should not be forgotten that the transaction about which the Opposition made such an ado was a private one in every sense. The public interests ware not affected by it in any way. In fact, it the Cranbrook estate had been sold, and if British capital had been brought here to develop its mineral and its agricultural capabilities, the Province would have been benefited, and that not in a slight degree.

The animus of the Opposition in thus interfering in the private affairs of a member of the Government cannot be concealed. No hypocritical professions of zeal in the public welfare can blind the country to the fact that they were moved, as Mr. Pooley well remarked, by envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness.

The Opposition's personal attacks are revealing the true character of its members. The attack on the Executive Council's Report, which was directed against the Attorney-General, shows that as a body they are silly and narrow-minded. The attack upon Col. Baker proves to a demonstration that they are both ignorant and malignant, and have no true conception of their duty as legislators.

AN EXCELLENT SPEECH.

The Nor' Wester, Mr. Luxton's newspaper, which made its appearance on the 3rd inst., contains a full report of the speech which the Hon. Mr. Daly delivered, or attempted to deliver, at the Toronto Board of Trade banquet. The speech is, from beginning to end, an excellent one, and one which it might be thought an audience of intelligent Canadian business men would be delighted to hear. It is easily seen that there is too much sense in it and that it contains too many facts to please thoughtless revellers who met merely to compliment each other and to have a good time; but that serious business men of the East to whom the progress and development of the West and Northwest are of the greatest importance, should rudely interrupt the speaker and refuse to hear him out, is more than we can understand. Mr. Daly was their guest, he was asked to make the Northwest the subject of his speech, and the least his entertainers could do was to listen attentively and respectfully to what he had to say. That it was well worth hearing is made abundantly clear by the following passage which we quote, not because it is better than other parts of the speech, but because it treats of the Province in which the great majority of our readers are most deeply interested:

The building of the Canadian Pacific Railway has opened up and is developing the resources of the great Province of British Columbia and exhibiting the richness it possesses in mine, field, forest and stream. These alone await capital and industry for development, and I predict for this Province a great future. British Columbia contains a superficial area of 500,000 square miles, and is 700 miles from north to south and 500 miles from east to west. Amidst the fastnesses of the Rockies and Selkirks and along the numerous rivers and creeks of the mainland are minerals of every description and kind—gold, silver, lead, copper, iron, galena, platinum, plumbago, mica, slate and other minerals distributed over a great area. The coal deposits upon the island of Vancouver are the richest on the Pacific Coast—they are being rapidly developed and have a very large output, the demand from San Francisco being very great. With the exception of coal, the mining industries of British Columbia are practically inexhaustible. Extensive mills have been erected throughout the Province. So far, the lumbering to a great extent has been confined to the vicinity of the salt water. Douglas fir, spruce, red and yellow cedar, hemlock, yellow cypress, white pine, oak, and many other kinds of timber are widely distributed. The Douglas fir and cedar reach gigantic proportions. There are many thousands of miles of arable land suited to the production of every cereal, fruit, vegetable, plant and flower, so diverse are the soils and climatic influences. There are large areas of grazing lands known as the open bunch-grass country, admirably adapted for stock raising. Both on the mainland and on the island the grass lands are suited for dairy cattle; and as there is an unlimited market for butter, cheese, eggs and other farm products, mixed farming pays well. I saw on a farm on the island the twenty-seventh successive annual crop of timothy, which was being cut while we were there, and yielding two tons to the acre. The price obtained at the nearest railway station, nine miles off, was $16 per ton. All this will give an idea of the richness of the soil. The fishing resources of British Columbia are not second to the fisheries on the Atlantic coast, and in some respects ahead of and richer than the latter. The land-locked and quiet bays and inlets, together with rivers and streams, teem with valuable food fish of every variety known in the north temperate zone, such as the salmon and cod, halibut, sturgeon, herring and others, besides shell fish. The black cod is considered one of the most delicious of deep water fish.

The cities of Victoria and Nanaimo on the island, and of Vancouver and New Westminster on the mainland, are as progressive as any in Canada, and contain magnificent buildings of all descriptions. It is only a matter of a few years when with an ever increasing population and the opening up and development of its great resources, British Columbia will become a hive of industry and one of, if not, the richest and most prosperous provinces in our fair Dominion.

And in conclusion I would like to say that in my opinion there is nothing going on in Canada today which is more likely to bring about that Canadian national feeling or sentiment which we all desire to see in our fair land than the commingling together in our Northwest and British Columbia of the representatives from each of the older provinces who are living side by side in every town and village, and are cultivating and farming the land in every settlement. Meeting as strangers in this far off country, they have become brothers united in the common cause of building up and developing its magnificent resources. It is their's to possess and occupy in right of their common citizenship, and as natives of the older Canada, whose statesmen had the foresight and sagacity to acquire it. This good land is for the use and benefit of future generations of Canadians, an heritage that we and our children's children can possess, in which every Canadian of every degree can live, work and prosper, governed by the laws of the country which gave him birth, and beneath the folds of that flag all true Canadians love so well.

LABOR AND CAPITAL.

To the Editor:—In discussing the relations of Labor and Capital it is necessary to remember that there are two standpoints from which the matter can be viewed: First the ethical or moral; second the political or practical. Mr. Macdonald seems to me to confound the two, hence confusion of argument. Mr. Macdonald admits that Lincoln is right in saying that "Labor is prior to capital," and also that "Capital is created by labor," but he maintains that President Lincoln is wrong in stating that "Labor is independent of capital." He, however, qualifies his position by inserting the three little words, "in these days," thereby moving the argument from the first to the second standpoint. If it is admitted that labor is prior to and the creator of capital, then assuredly it must be independent of it in the abstract. The power which creates must surely be independent of the thing which is created by it. To assume otherwise is to maintain that the creator is dependent upon the thing created, which is absurd. This is arguing from the first standpoint; now, on the other hand, from the second standpoint, every thinker will admit that "in these days," i.e., under our present unjust and imperfect social and political conditions the natural relative position of labor and capital has been reversed and labor has not only ceased to be independent of capital but has been enslaved by it. Labor to-day is the abject slave of the capitalist.

If Mr. Macdonald supposed me to hold that under present conditions labor was independent of capital, I can quite excuse him for calling me irrational and fanatical; such a contention would indeed be absurd. Nor did President Lincoln convey the idea that under unjust conditions and institutions labor would continue independent in his message to Congress in 1861, for he pointed out that in the countries of the Old World labor had already been enslaved by the capitalist. He saw the same evil looming in the future of this continent and cautioned the free workers of America against falling into such a pitable condition, concluding with those ever memorable words. "Labor is prior to and independent of capital—capital is only the fruit of labor and never could have existed if labor had not first existed, etc."

Unfortunately the American people disregarded the wise caution of their great countryman and the American working classes of to-day, are but little better off than those of England, Germany or Russia and as absolutely the wage slaves of the landlords and capitalists as the negroes were the chattel slaves of the Southern planters. Could the great soul of Abraham Lincoln live with us now he would doubtless be found fighting as bravely for the emancipation of the wage slaves of to-day as he did for the poor chattel slaves of his own time.

Doubtless, as Mr. Macdonald says, there are few among the workers who would not willingly change places with the capitalist—it is only natural; but how much nobler and wiser is it to strive after a condition of affairs in which our social institutions would not invert the order of natural law, but be in conformity with it. That a small portion of the human race live in luxury and wealth, while the toiling masses struggle with one another in a competition for the wages of semi-starvation is the truth we are face to face with. How to remedy this state of affairs is the problem we have to solve. Capitalistic industry will never solve it. As Carl Marx says: "The capitalistic frame will be burst; the death knell of capitalistic private property is sounded; the appropriators of the wealth earned by the workers will be expropriated. There will arise an amalgamation of free labor which will collectively own the earth and the means of production created by labor."

To assume, as Senator Macdonald does, that the capitalist is a sort of reservoir who conserves the waters of wealth "to dispense it afterwards wisely and usefully," is an assumption the exact opposite of the proven truth, and totally untenable. Monopolies of all sorts are the basic source of all the misery, and land monopoly is the ground-work of all other monopolies. The principle of Single Tax will destroy land monopoly. Is it not worth while trying, especially as wherever it has been but partially adopted the result has been peace and prosperity? Senator Macdonald says "neither position touches him personally," but he must be touched with compassion for suffering humanity.

William Berridge.

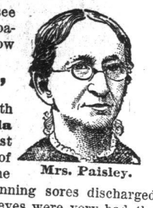
Washington, Feb. 6.—The President has sent to the Senate a treaty negotiated with the representatives of the Government of Great Britain for extension of the time for making the survey of the boundary line between Alaska and the British possessions. The original treaty providing for a joint commission for this work was negotiated and ratified during the summer of 1892, and commissioners were appointed on behalf of the two governments. In accordance with the terms of the treaty the commission was to make a survey of the territory adjacent to that part of the boundary line of the United States and Canada and dividing Alaska from the Northwest territory from latitude 54 5 degrees north to a point where the boundary line enters the 141st degree longitude west. The purpose of the survey is to set at rest some questions of dispute going back of the time of ownership of Alaska by Russia and involving a conflict in claims made by the two countries to land along the sea coast opposite the Channel islands. Under the terms of the treaty this commission was to complete the work within the period of two years, which would expire this fall. It has been found impracticable to accomplish this, and the present treaty extends the time for another year.

Paris, Feb. 8.—The governor of Senegal has telegraphed that the French flying column that recently took possession of Timbucto has been surprised by the Touraregs and annihilated near that place. No details have been received. A cabinet council that lasted for a long time was held at the Palais d'Elysee this afternoon.

Whenever I see Hood's Sarsaparilla now I want to bow and say

'Thank You'

I was badly affected with **Eczema** and **Scrofula Sores**, covering almost the whole of one side of my face, nearly to the top of my head. Running sores discharged from both ears. My eyes were very bad, the **eyelids so sore** it was painful opening or closing them. For nearly a year I was deaf. I went to the hospital and had an operation performed for the removal of a cataract from one eye. One day my sister brought me



Mrs. Paisley.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

which I took, and gradually began to feel better and stronger, and slowly the sores on my eyes and in my ears healed. I can now hear and see as well as ever." Mrs. Amanda Paisley, 176 Lander Street, Newburgh, N. Y.

Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills, jaundice, sick headache, biliousness, sour stomach, nausea.

BUSINESS REVIEW.

New York, Feb. 9.—Bradstreet's tomorrow says: "The moderate improvement in trade, beginning last month, had not an opportunity to show itself in increased railway earnings. There are forty odd resumptions of important industrial establishments this week, contrasted with the announcement of the shutting down of only six similar concerns. An easier wool market at home, emphasized by a weaker market at London, may be contrasted with the fair jobbing movement in general dry goods amongst leading houses at Eastern centres, which report the volume of trade for January fair, notwithstanding that sales were in small lots. The export of wheat from both Coasts, (flour included), amounted to 2,678,000 bushels, a moderate gain over last week, when the total was 2,083,000 bushels, but a much smaller total than one year ago or two years ago, when the aggregates were respectively 23,391,000 and 3,361,000 bushels. During the first five weeks of the years 1892, the total stocks of available wheat here and in Canada east of the Rockies declined about 2,700,000 bushels net. In a like portion of 1893, they increased net about 1,700,000 bushels, but this year there is a net decrease of more than 600,000 bushels. The bank clearings amount to $888,000,000 in seventy-four cities throughout the country, an increase of 15 per cent. on the preceding week, but a decrease as compared with the like week last year of 38 per cent. This indicates a distinct improvement when contrasted with the comparisons of the preceding weeks' totals and those in the corresponding weeks of last year. The exports of domestic merchandise and products in the calendar year 1893 fell away 7.4 per cent. in value from 1892 and 10.7 per cent. from 1891. The imports, free and dutiable, decreased 6.5 per cent. in 1893 from 1892, but only 3 per cent. last year, as contrasted with 1891. There are 336 business failures in the United States this week against 340 last week, 223 in the same week a year ago. The New York stock market is without apparent buying power, values being maintained by the indisposition of holders to sell, and the existence of a large short interest. Silver has followed the course of the London market, the price of bars falling to 63 cents, the lowest figure on record. While business is quiet throughout Nova Scotia, Halifax telegraphs that the outlook is for a fair spring trade. Toronto reports only a limited volume of business, with iron prices irregular, and hog product prices lower. Montreal advises that the volume of business has declined since the first of the year, but claims that the province of Quebec is as well situated financially as any other in the Dominion because remittances from neighboring points to Montreal are fair, but slower from points in Western Ontario and Manitoba. The bank clearings at Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax amount to $16,544,000, 4 per cent. more than last week, but 17 per cent. less than in the like week last year. There are 56 buisness failures reported from Canada this week against 44 last week, 45 in the corresponding week last year, and 65 two years ago.

BRAZILIAN MATTERS.

Buenos Ayres, Feb. 8.—The insurgent cruiser Aquidaban and another warship left the harbor to-day, it is supposed, to intercept President Peixoto's new squadron and demand its surrender.

Advices from Rio de Janeiro say a plot has been discovered to assassinate President Peixoto. Many persons have been arrested charged with being in the plot and several of them have been shot. The insurgents in Rio Grande do Sul are reported to be approaching Porto Alegre, the capital of the State.

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 8.—Hon. Thomas L. Thompson, U. S. Minister, and Rear-Admiral Benham, commander of the U. S. fleet, and staff, called upon President Peixoto, at the palace, this afternoon. Peixoto, who made a favorable impression on his visitors, was invited to visit the American fleet.

Manuel Victorine Pereira, of Bahia, has been named as a candidate for the Vice-Presidency in the election on March 1. Like Dr. Prudente de Moares, the nominee for the Presidency, Pereira is a civilian. Both were nominated by twenty Senators under the chairmanship of Thomas Delfino. President Peixoto approves of these nominations.

Paris, Feb. 8.—A dispatch from Valparaiso, says that several Balmacedists have been arrested at Santiago, and that the state of siege has been proclaimed in the city. Le Debats says the majority of the powers have decided to decline to recognize the Brazilian insurgents as beligerents.

London, Feb. 8.—The steamer Magdalena, from Rio Janeiro, January 24, has arrived here. It is learned that a meeting was held on January 23 on board the American flagship San Francisco, between Rear-Admiral Benham, the American commander; Admiral da Gama, commanding the insurgents forces at Rio, and President Peixoto. Previous to the meeting Admiral da Gama insisted that his official rank should be recognized, but waived the right of being saluted on being met. At the meeting Admiral da Gama set forth his terms for a settlement, in effect that a civilian president of Brazil should be elected, and that the members of the army should not vote on the election. To the terms President Peixoto refused to agree. The advices further show that the insurgents aim to capture Santos, the Government's base of supplies for Rio Janeiro.

Bowmanville, Feb. 7.—The Patrons of Durham have nominated C. J. Thornton of the township of Clarke for the Legislature.

Chatham, Feb. 7.—The Patrons of Kent have nominated T. L. Pardof of the township of Raleigh for the Legislature.

THE INDIAN RE

Suggestion by the Li ernor for the Re-Op Negotiations fo

The Superintendent Ge That the Songhees Tr Be Moved.

The correspondence on the Indian reserve at Victoria, j the Legislature shows that authorities are alive to the in transfer of the Indians and ar operate in any feasible schem which may be brought forw turn commences with the cor 1891, but the later series of l present position of the matter

On the 10th February, 1893, Council forwarded to the Li ernor the resolution then just Legislature, with the request t transmit it to the Secretary Canada. This His Honor did with the following letter, date ary, 1893:

THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR TO

"I have the honor to trans herewith, copy of a report of of my executive council, approv tne 10th inst., embodying the the legislative assembly respe moval of the Songhees tribe o some suitable locality. This ve has, I am aware, been on mo occasion brought to the notice minion government, but on acc being able to obtain a surren Indians interested in the res been impossible to take any st at a satisfactory solution of Should, however, your governm that I should personally intere an endeavor to bring about a this reserve, I shall be glad to structions to that effect, and s to make suggestions as to the d the property, which occupies, aware, a somewhat different po other reserves in the province."

OTTAWA TO THE LIEUT.-GOV

In reply to the above, a repo mittee of the Privy Council dated 21st October, 1893, was fo the Under Secretary of State October, to Lieut.-Governor De reads thus:

"The committee have had un eration a despatch dated the 1 ary, 1893, from His Honor the Governor of British Columbia, t a report of a committee of hi council embodying a resolution o lative assembly, respecting the the Songhees tribe of Indians fro serve, which is within the limits of Victoria, to a more suitable resolution in question urges that steps may be necessary be take upon the Dominion government bility of removing the Songhee and His Honor intimates in his that should your Excellency's g desire him to personally interest an endeavor to bring about a su the Songhees reserve, he would be receive instructions to that effec sequently to make suggestions as position of the property.

"The Superintendent-General Agairs, to whom the matter was reports that he fully concurs in that it is highly desirable that the Indians should be moved to a mor locality, and that he would be gl himself of the proffered services of the Lieutenant-Governor of Britis bia in negotiating for a surrender Indians, who of late years have their aversion to removing from serve.

"The Minister is of opinion fore entering with the government Columbia upon joint negotiations Songhees Indians for the surrende reserve, it would be better for yo lency in council to have before yo gestions which His Honor offers t to the disposition of the said res surrendered, and recommends the fied copy of this minute, if approv warded to His Honor the Lieutena nor of British Columbia in answ dispatch above referred to."

The above was duly approve Governor-General before transm Victoria.

SUGGESTION FROM THE LIEUT.-G

In sending the letter from th authorities to the provincial go His Honor, writing on the 31st 1894, said:

"I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the Hono Secretary of State, with a copy of in council received last October, the absence of Mr. Vowell I plac side, to consult with him before fo it to you with any suggestions.

"As I see the matter has been ferred to in the house I now fo and would suggest that a joint m myself, a committee of the execut cil, and Mr. Vowell (the provincia tendent) might be held to discuss ter, and endeavor to arrive at som standing by which negotiations ma opened with the Songhees Indian surrender af their property."

SEVERE GALES.

London, Feb. 12.—Severe gales vailed throughout Great Britain urday, and much damage has been property and shipping. Several v ashore off Margate and Yarmou steamer Resolven, bound for Ca been wrecked. The crew was res number of casualties are reported f ous parts of England, the result of of buildings, such as church sp chimneys, having been blown do roof of a house at Ironbridge, Sh fell in, crushing the occupants of beneath it. The wall of a factory ham was blown down, crushing th tages. Nearly all the inmates were but none were killed.

The Prince of Wales' yacht, the nia, which is to sail in the regatta was compelled by stress of weathe into Plymouth Sound. In Hartlep chimney crashed through the roof o ing, killing two children. The par badly injured.

Two girls were killed in bed in hampton by a chimney falling A train of cars was overturned ne verhampton and twenty persons jured.

New York, Feb. 12.—The city is covered with a mantle of snow inches thick. Travel of all kinds i impeded, and none but those who pelled to venture on the st so. The mercury is down to degrees and the wind is