

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

An important decision was recently given by Chief Justice Andrews, of the Court of Appeals in the State of New York, which may be of interest here. In it creditors are directed how to protect themselves when the sheriff has possession of their goods. He says that when after a failure the sheriff has taken possession of the goods of the assigning firm on confessed judgments and attachments other creditors cannot by writs of replevin obtain possession of the goods they have sold to the firm. To reimburse themselves the creditors who have judgments in their favor must sue the sheriff. According to a well-known American legal light, "the decision will prevent fraud. It does not prevent creditors who were defrauded from obtaining from the sheriff the value of their goods, but will prevent creditors seizing goods which they did not sell and which belonged to other creditors. He says he has known creditors to obtain a writ of replevin when the sheriff was in possession and then seize any goods valued at the amount of their claim. He cites one instance where a creditor under a writ of replevin seized a roll of blue silk as his goods, when in reality he had sold red silk to the insolvent firm."

B. C. MINING PROSPECTS.

Almost every day there comes to hand most encouraging news as to the mining outlook in the Province. There appears to be a big thing for somebody in the Alberni district, no matter how the legal point at issue may be decided, for it can hardly be expected that, even should the issues be decided against the Province and in favor of the E. & N. Railway Company, the latter will desire to lock up all the mineral that awaits development. Should, indeed, the decision be otherwise there is sure to be a large influx of miners and a great amount of mineral development.

The entire Kootenay country is described by those who have reason to form correct conclusions as being on the eve of a lively rush into it both of capital and labor, while many lines of railway are contemplated to connect with the steamer and railway lines already in operation. In fact there are said to be waiting for the miner millions of tons of the richest ore the Northwest has ever produced.

Then, as concerns Golden Cariboo, gentlemen just down from there aver that its days of glorious prosperity years ago are as nothing compared to those that are now approaching. Indeed, it is said that in two propositions alone—the Horse Fly and the South Fork—there have been such showings as have never before been seen. There are already en route to them over a million pounds of freight—machinery, piping and supplies.

It is expected that this season two hundred men will be employed on the Horse Fly and from 75 to 100 on the South Fork. These are hydraulic mines, and from them with pick and shovel alone four Chinamen within the last five years took out from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Among those who are interested in these two propositions are Messrs. Abbott, Shaughnessy, Brown and

B. C. CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the customs returns for the four ports of the Province of British Columbia for the month of January, 1893:

IMPORTS.

	VICTORIA	VANCOUVER	WESTM'N'R	NANAIMO	TOTAL
Dutiable Goods.	\$131,558 00	\$ 57,165 00	\$ 46,181 00	\$ 11,177 00	\$246,081 00
Free Goods.....	26,515 00	32,751 00	36,937 00	1,079 00	97,882 00
Total Imports ..	\$158,073 00	\$ 89,916 00	\$ 83,118 00	\$ 12,856 00	\$343,963 00

REVENUE.

Duty Collected.....	\$ 52,545 15	\$ 17,625 66	\$ 14,761 96	\$ 4,318 69	\$ 89,251 46
Other Revenue.....	4,273 02	3,117 30	132 20	510 70	8,033 23
Total Collections.....	\$ 56,818 17	\$ 20,742 96	\$ 14,894 15	\$ 4,829 45	\$ 97,284 74

EXPORTS.

The Mine.....	\$ 18,163 00		\$ 3,970 00	\$203,835 00	\$225,968 00
The Fisheries.....	169 00	\$ 3,746 00	326,152 00		330,067 00
The Forest.....	435 00	15,917 00			16,382 00
Animals and their produce.....	1,618 00	3,787 00	2,090 00	25 00	7,520 00
Agricultural.....	6 00	6 00			12 00
Manufactures.....	2,712 00	2,992 00	2,208 00	96 00	8,008 00
Miscellaneous.....	70,413 00				70,413 00
Total Exports.....	\$ 93,516 00	\$ 26,478 00	\$331,510 00	\$203,956 00	\$558,460 00

*\$70,100 gold coin and \$156 silver coin.

Hodson of the C. P. R., and as every one knows what they undertake is business. Then from the mines on the Yukon in Canadian territory comes such news as has induced the Provincial Legislature to resolve to memorialize the Dominion to secure bonding privileges over the U. S. territory which has to be traversed. All this means development in other ways, and if only a small proportion of what is now promised is assured then may we be well satisfied with the prospect that lies almost immediately before us.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

THE Toronto *Empire* says: "The rich govern the poor in the United States. For that reason they will not consent to the income tax. Instead, they ask the Government to increase the deficit for the poor man to pay when times improve. It is the wage-earners who have always supplied the revenues of the republic, and apparently it has been determined that they shall continue to do so."

FROM the report of the Public Accounts' committee, of the Provincial Legislature, we learn that the total of inscribed stock issued under the loan act of 1891 is \$1,955,010.75. The amount of the old debentures converted is \$734,775, for which 3 per cent stock to the amount of \$985,010 has been substituted. In regard to the loan of 1893 for the new parliament buildings, the total was \$599,945, and the charges for floating are \$77,862.62, leaving net proceeds of \$522,082.38.

IN London, there is a scheme on foot to establish an "Old Maids' Insurance Society." The idea is not to guarantee husbands to the policy holders but to secure to them annuities should they reach the age of forty without having abandoned single blessedness. The moment a policy holder marries, whether before or after the age of forty, she forfeits all claim to benefits, the premiums she has paid going to swell the general fund for the benefit of

the unmarried, who, in this way, are enabled to make provision for the remaining years of their unmarried life, their chances of being removed from the shelf become more remote as the years roll along.

WE have received the first number of the *Nor'wester*, a new daily paper published at Winnipeg by that veteran journalist, Mr. W. F. Luxton. The *Nor'wester* is an eight-page, five-column paper, printed from clear type, and contains a large amount of interesting local news and other matter. Editorially, the paper speaks out straight in the interests of the Northwest, and no doubt it will be regarded as a reliable authority on all matters affecting that district, as was the *Free Press* under Mr. Luxton's management. British Columbians desiring to keep posted on Manitoba cannot do better than subscribe for the *Daily Nor'wester*, which is only \$6 per year.

WE observe in a contemporary an interesting article entitled "What Good Roads Mean." Among other advantages enumerated are the possibility which they afford of reaching the best markets at any season of the year, the reduction of the wear and tear on wagons and carriages, the reduction in the expense of keeping horses in working condition, and, among other important considerations, an increase in the value of productive lands from 5 to 25 per cent. There are many people who however pleased they are to have the comforts and facilities afforded by good roads when they are directly benefitted by them, still object to the cost which their construction and maintenance entail. Roads and their expense and the alleged favoritism that is displayed in allotting them to certain localities are the subject of constant discussions in the Legislature, and though this session other matters have absorbed the attention of the members, there can be no doubt that, before prorogation, there will be considerable controversy as to the motives that influenced the Government in selecting the localities to be benefitted during last season.