Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST, 1888.

VICTORIA'S FUTURE.

Last week in writing on this subject, we stated that it is the people who make the city, not the city the people, and we now ask what hopes may be drawn with regard to our future from the character of our population. The new cities around us have sprung into existence with the rapidity of Jonah's gourd, and for this reason their population is much more homogeneous than ours. The citizens of Vancouver, for instance, are all newcomers, and every man, woman and child in the place has a personal interest in the city's progress. They have invested all their money in it, if they had any to invest, and are bound to make money out of it if they had none to begin with. On the other hand we have two classes of people among us, those who consider Victoria belongs to them because of their long residence here, and those who belong to Victoria because the place has attracted them from its business prospects, its climate, or its beauty. Now, the first class referred to are for the most part comfortably situated as far as money is concerned, and are quite content that Victoria should continue "as it was in the beginning," who have no need to worry themselves about its growth or prosperity and who look only at the cost of the modern improvements which may be proposed. A few years ago they even resented somewhat any increase of the population, especially from the East, but they seem now to have wakened up to the discovery that wisdom comes from the east, though it seldom remains there. This portion of our people, however, form a splendid foundation for our future progress, because they are well-to-do, conservative and cautious. No new-fashioned boom, such as has brought ruin to thousands in the new centres can effect this city much as long as we have this solid and substantial phalanx to resist its approach. But this class are already in the minority and their value to us is greatly enhanced on that account. The new element is pouring in upon us in an ever-increasing stream and the old inhabitants are being thinned out by increasing years. The good, however, they have accomplished will live after them and prove of great importance in the onward march of our city. With regard to the second-class, those who have come among us since Confederation, and who have cast in their lot with us for better or for worse, we need only say that they will compare to advantage with those who within the last few years have settled in other places on this coast. Many of our most enterprising merchants, professional men, ministers, doctors, teachers, mechanics, etc., are comparatively new comers, and we have every reason to congratulate ourselves in having attracted to our city such a band of fellow citizens. This class, as a matter of course, increases every year and their growth is the sure augury of the future prosperity of Victoria. What we need now is simply the complete welding of these two elements and that welding process is going on every day. Why should we not stand shoulder to shoulder in seeking the growth of Victoria, and why should we not only warmly welcome new comers but take every means in our power to induce those who have money or, what is of more value, brains to cast in their lot among us? We heard the other day of a gentleman who was looking for a sphere of usefulness in this city and who was seized upon by a Vancouver man who promised to find him employment at once if he would go over to that city with his family. We, as a rule, have allowed new comers to shift for themselves, or have actually discouraged their remaining among us, whereas in Vancouver every citizen they can add to the population is considered of importance and is treated with the utmost respect and consideration. On the whole, we believe no more intelligent, cultured, sensible people are to be found in the Dominion than in Victoria, and if they will but work together for its growth and advancement no city on the Pacific coast will outstrip it in the race. We are always glad to notice any display of public spirit on the part of our Board of Trade or Board of Aldermen. We believe the Board of Trade to be a most important body. Much of the recent prosperity of eastern cities in Canada has been owing to the vigor of these boards of business men, who have the city's interest at heart, and we venture to hope that our Board here will grow into a more powerful lever in helping forward our city. Let them speak out and public opinion will soon ripen into public action.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

The resignation of Sir Charles Tupper from the Dominion Cabinet and his return to London as High Commissioner, where in the past he has been so useful to Canada, caused a vacancy in the portfolio of Minister of Finance which has been filled by the promotion of Hon. George E. Foster, whose conduct of the Marine and Fisheries' Department has been so admirable. Sir Charles' successor represents King's County, N.B., in the Commons and is yet but a young man, having been born in 1847. He graduated at the University of New Brunswick in June, 1868, and afterwards visited Europe where he spent some time at the Universities of Edinburgh and Heidelberg. He held the professorship of classics in the University of New Brunswick from September, 1872, until January, 1879, to the entire satisfaction as well of the Senate and Faculty as of the Undergraduates. The Alumni have always held in high regard Professor Foster's labors in the class-room and on the public platform, for whether as a scholar or lecturer he never failed to bring to any subject he touched all the graces of a highly cultured mind. His record as a temperance worker is well known; he has been consistent in his advocacy of legislation in that regard, and much of his success is undoubtedly due to his championship of so good a cause. He was first returned to Parliament at the general elections of 1882, defeating Col. Domville, a prominent Liberal-Conservative, one of the most popular men in the county, and who had been its representative in Parliament since 1872. He resigned, and was re-elected in the same year, and was sworn of the Privy Council in December, 1885. He was re-elected on his appointment to office and again at the last general elections. The Minister has always favored a civil service system which shall, so far as consistent with the peculiar circumstances of our country conform to the system in vogue in Great Britain; a moderate protective tariff, such as shall maintain our markets for our own manufactures, and at the same time not conduce to the formation of exclusive monopolies; a wise economy in the administration of the finances of the country over whose management he has been called upon to rule, and an enlightened, progressive and comprehensive general policy, such as that which has characterized the present Liberal-Conservative government. Hon. Mr. Foster visited this province with Hon. Mr. Bowell in 1886 and, it will be remembered, lectured in the Pandora street Methodist church in this city, charming all who were privileged to hear him. A Canadian born and bred, a typical son of this land of illimitable possibilities, he has risen from small beginnings to one of the highest positions in the gift of the Crown. He has virtually "risen from the ranks," and his example is one which might be set before every young man in this goodly land. Having discharged the duties of the department of Marine and Fisheries with eminent success, and with a natural aptitude for figures, we prophesy for him a distinguished career in the responsible office to which he has just been called. His retirement from the department of Marine and Fisheries has been followed by the appointment to that portfolio of Mr. C. H. Tupper, member for Pictou, N. S. A better selection could not have been made. "Charley" Tupper is a chip off the old block—a clear-headed, able young man, for he is not yet thirty-three years of age, an eloquent speaker and a clever lawyer. Personally he is a prince of good fellows, and is extremely popular on both sides of the house. He is a McGill and Harvard man, and was first returned to parliament in 1882 and again at the last general elections. The only portfolio now vacant in the cabinet is that of the Interior Department, and it is probable that it will be filled at an early date. Thus reconstructed the government of Sir John A. Macdonald will continue to advance the best interests of Canada in a progressive and statesmanlike manner.

THE SOOKE IRON MINES.

Although nothing definite was done at the special meeting of the Board of Aldermen last night, it is very evident that that body is willing to do all in its power to secure the establishment of smelting furnaces in this city or at some point on the Island. The Board will, we believe, be supported by the people in any reasonable arrangement they may make. A feeling seems to be growing that we have in the past been very backward in taking advantage of offers such as that which is now before us. The system of bonusing works which are destined to build up, in some degree, a city or country, is one which has been fostered by most cities, as well in Eastern Canada as in the United States. It is only right that an investment such as that which it is proposed to make on this Island should be heartily welcomed and aided. The purchase of the Sooke Iron Mines for the purpose of working them as extensively as possible is a move in the right direction. If, as Mr. McIntosh says, fine Bessemer steel can be manufactured from the Sooke ore, the boon to this portion of the province through the establishment of works such as he intends to construct, can hardly be over-estimated. When Mr. McIntosh returns with some well-defined scheme, we have every confidence he will be met in a friendly way, and that the taxpayers will back up by their votes any proposition which may be laid before them with a view to having the furnaces located here. The local government may be depended upon to meet the Board in a liberal spirit and to grant such privileges as lie within its power. We are glad to know that the Sooke iron mines are in a fair way for development and congratulate the people of that portion of the Island on the prospects before them for an increased measure of prosperity through the influx of capital into their midst. We trust that the example which the Board intends to set in this instance will be followed in future—that investment will be courted not repelled, so that our fair city and Island may advance. Mr. McIntosh can assure his associates that any *reasonable* proposition they may make will be accepted by the Board and ratified by the people.

DONNELLY AND SHAKESPEARE.

Not much has been heard lately of Ignatius Donnelly and his cipher, but the more recent English journals that have reached this side of the Atlantic, tell that he is lecturing in England. It seems that there is a Bacon society in Westminster, and before that body and a numerous audience, Mr. Donnelly held forth for two hours on his Bacon-Shakespeare theory. Mr. Donnelly flattered his audience that they held their residence at the headquarters of the world's literary activity, and where public opinion was formulated for the 120,000,000 or more of the English-speaking world. He confessed, too, that he was speaking "in the face of a mighty prejudice," in fact that he was talking "against a broad blank wall of national superstition," which confession was not so flattering to his auditory. Having made this introduction, and further premised that we now know more of Shakespeare than was known fifty years ago or even in Shakespeare's own time, he proceeded to show, as far as he could, that it was impossible for Shakespeare, "the horse-holder, the call boy, the servitor, and afterwards the poor actor at London theatres," to have written the immortal dramas that bear his name. Shakspeare was not a lawyer; how could he then have evinced the deep knowledge of law and jurisprudence which the plays evinced? To Mr. Donnelly's mind Shakspeare was a fraud, and of course the one marvellous man of the time, Francis Bacon, was the real poet and dramatist whose honors the former had fraudulently carried all these centuries. He repeated that we have not a scrap a paper with Shakspeare's name written by himself upon it save his will. He held it impossible that the greatest man and author the world ever saw should have left so few visible remains of his handwriting. Then he expounded the mysterious cipher which he claims to have discovered, and exhibited "diagrams," we are told, to illustrate his discovery. He concluded with a passage which brought forth cheers from his auditory:—

In conclusion, he said that when Shakspeare was hurled down, Francis Bacon would be put in his place—Francis Bacon, who, apart from that particular claim, was the greatest intellect of the human race, the most gigantic intellect of the human species. If they could weld the plays of Shakspeare to the genius of Bacon, Englishmen might challenge the world to produce his like or his equal.

There is not much that is new in this, save that Donnelly is still striving to make converts to his theory, has taken to the platform and has been able to secure an audience. It is safe to say that Shakespeare will neither be dethroned nor Bacon raised to his place by Ignatius Donnelly. The world will rest satisfied that Bacon could not, with all his acknowledged ability and knowledge, have written the works which bear the name of Shakespeare. A greater than Bacon held the pen, a broader, wiser, brighter, more comprehensive, and more versatile than even he whom Pope characterized as "the wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind." In fact the world will not accept upon any testimony that can be offered, a belief that any other than Shakespeare wrote these great dramas that bear his name.

EMIN BEY.

Whatever of recent news we have had of Emin Bey has been, as far as he was personally concerned, quite in harmony with what had long been known to be his highest and, till victory crowned his efforts, his only ambition. His desire was to do away with what he considered the curse of Africa—a curse from which it would never be freed without European help. If he was anxious concerning his own safety, it was because he felt—and the experiences of some foregoing years tended to confirm the feeling—that, if he were made away with, there might be no one to take up and carry on his work. In the throng and bustle of the busy world it is not usual for even men of great eminence and influence to think that, if they were taken away, no worthy successor would supply their places. It is entirely different, however, with men circumstanced as Gordon, Emin Bey, Livingstone and Stanley have been, for, in the case of each of those distinguished men, there were moments when everything depended on a little further extension of their lease of life. Gordon's brooding fear was unhappily fulfilled just at the crisis when his life was more than ever valuable to his country and his kind. The task which, years before that final catastrophe, he had undertaken in Central Africa, in which Emin Bey was one of his most trusted lieutenants, was a task for which few men are qualified. There are men who can learn strange languages and who readily win the confidence of savage tribes and obtain the mastery over them. Such men may be clever diplomatists, or good soldiers or able administrators. But to perform the task which Gordon set himself, something more was needed. Especially was there required some share of that enthusiasm of humanity which cannot be feigned and which has always wrought marvels. Only that intense sympathy with the human race, which is so rare as to be deemed almost divine, could induce a cultured and accomplished man to bury himself for years among savages, with only a rare chance of seeing a white face or hearing civilized speech, and abundant chances of being starved or murdered, or succumbing to disease, and all for the benefiting poor, ignorant people who could but faintly appreciate such self-sacrifice. Yet, but for such men, Africa would still be a dark continent in a sense of which the school boy of the present has happily no notion. It was the suppression of the slave trade which prompted the most earnest and fruitful share of that exploration which raised the veil of mystery from the Nile, the Congo, and the vast lakes of interior Africa. It is noteworthy indeed, that almost all the persons, whether professed missionaries, men of science, explorers or administrators, who had any hand in laying Africa's case before the world, were men of deep religious sentiment, and men who had the sense of duty and of justice very largely developed. There were, doubtless, foreigners of another class in Africa at the same time, and on the slavery question there seems to have been some inconsistent, if not actually crooked, dealing. It is some satisfaction, however, that sad though Gordon's fate was as the close of such a career, his life, even to those among whom, and for whom, it was sacrificed, was not without lasting good fruit. When he went to Central Africa in 1874, it is said that seven-eighths of the population were slaves. The country swarmed with slave-hunters and slave-dealers, and the local governors, appointed by the Khedive, looked upon it simply as one of their prerogatives to grow rich by the traffic. The condition of the people was terrible. They were so accustomed to be lied to and threatened and ill-treated, that even when free they were miserable. They saw an enemy in every new comer. They could not even trust their own kindred, since so pervading was the poverty that even the bread of thraldom seemed preferable to starvation. The question was whether to sell or be sold. If kindliness prompted hesitation, hesitation might be ruinous. Thus every household was full of possible foes, and the only way to escape from treachery was to practice it. Gordon changed all that. He put a stop to anarchy and oppression. He won the love and respect of the natives by acting as their friend. He enabled them to live without fear of seizure and showed himself a terror to evil-doers. Slaves he set free. Those who had been in the service of the slave-dealers, he made soldiers of. The robber pashas he turned out of office and sent about their business. But a king arose in Egypt who knew not Gordon, and Gordon was recalled. In the day of need he went back—to die. Had his reforms been maintained and persevered in the Mahdi would have remained unknown. But, after all, Gordon did not live and did not die in vain. His example lives to inspirit brave and good men to continue his work until it is finished. Than the story of Emin Bey's government of the Equatorial province during the last ten years there is nothing more creditable in modern history. It is to be hoped that the tidings which soon may be expected of Stanley and him will dispel the gloom of suspense only broken by vague and unsatisfactory rumors.

BANQUETTING LANSDOWNE.

The farewell banquet to the Governor-General on the evening of the 15th instant at the Russell House, Ottawa, was one of the most magnificent successes ever held in that city. The Mayor presided, having His Excellency immediately on his right and Sir John Macdonald on his left. The Cabinet was largely represented, as was the House generally, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Opposition, and Sir Richard Cartwright, occupying prominent positions. A more brilliant company was never before seen gathered together around the social board in Canada. The speech of the evening, was, of course, that of the guest, who made a lengthy address, which, so far as we can judge from the newspaper reports of it, must have been as able as eloquent. We cannot do more this morning than present our readers with his concluding remarks, which presented in brief metre a truly poetic picture of his feelings towards Canada during the years he has acted as the Queen's representative:

Mr. Mayor, I will close what I have to say with a confession. I spent three-quarters of an hour last night in endeavoring to compose a peroration for this speech, but I could not hit upon anything quite to my liking. I have often noticed that a speaker will make you a speech transparent in its sincerity and devoid of affectation until he arrives at his concluding passage. I felt that to-night anything of a conventional kind would jar with my own feelings to such an extent that I consigned my peroration to the fire-place, where it ended, as most perorations do, in smoke. (Laughter and applause.) Under these distressing circumstances, I am going to ask your permission to read to you in lieu of a peroration one or two sentences from a document discovered at Government House in an apartment which will, I understand, shortly be occupied by Lord Stanley of Preston. It is evidently a fragment or a series of fragments of a diary, and you may be able to aid me with a conjecture as to the authorship. The first entry is dated towards the close of 1883. It runs as follows: "In for five years of expatriation; almost wish I had stuck to North Wiltshire; must make the best of it." (Laughter.) The next entry is in 1884. "We are making the best of it, and find it very far from unpleasant; the five years will pass quickly." Then comes a note in the following year: "Time passes very quickly and pleasantly. I take back what I wrote about expatriation." (Loud laughter.) After this comes the following in 1886: "Time positively flying; we are beginning to feel quite at home here; not quite sure that we shall not have to make it six years instead of five." (Renewed laughter.) Then, sir, there comes in 1887 an entry occasioned evidently by some event which exercised a very great effect on the mind of the writer: "These Canadians are splendid fellows, and have stood by us nobly. We have quite made up our minds to make it six years." (Great applause.) Last of all comes an entry written in rather shaky characters and running thus: "Why could not D. remain where he was? It goes to our heart to leave this country and its kind-hearted people. I trust they will remember us—we shall not forget them—while we live." And, Mr. Mayor, take my word for it, we shall not. (Tremendous cheers.)

Sir John Macdonald, Sir Hector Langevin, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright spoke in reply to the toast of the "Queen's Privy Council in Canada." Subsequently His Excellency and Lady Lansdowne held a reception in the large drawing room, which was attended by the youth and beauty of the Capital. Lord and Lansdowne deserved well the tribute paid them by the citizens of Ottawa, which was made, too, to take a largely Canadian hue from the fact that the representatives of the people from the Atlantic to the Pacific should in it. We can quite believe that the feelings of those who were privileged to do honor to one who has endeared himself to all classes and creeds in this broad Dominion, and whose life has been graced by a sweet lady who has done so much in her exalted position to set a good example to the women of Canada, could be summed up in the words of the Scottish song:—

"Better lo'ed ye canna be,
Will ye na come back again?"

DESPONDENT GRITS.

In their excess of rejoicing because one or two Grit members who were unseated for corrupt practices have succeeded in retaining their constituencies, our Grit friends bear witness to the deplorable condition to which they are now reduced. Drowning men grasp at straws; starving men have been known to chew their shoe strings, or even the shoes themselves in search of sustenance; thirsty men imbibe the most nauseous potations. Some men are thrown into an ecstacy of delight when they find that fortune has favored them beyond their deserts. Two or three Grit corruptionists have recently escaped. The notorious Pat Purcell and his still more disreputable *confrere* H. H. Cook, through the interpretation in their favor of certain legal technicalities, notwithstanding the fact that their guilt had already been made apparent to the court, have evaded the law and go to swell the Grit majority. Two or three less fortunate of the corruptionists who were unseated have retained a majority in their constituencies: and in consequence loud hallelujahs of praise are shouted across the continent. There could be no more satisfactory evidence forthcoming of the deep despondency of our disappointed opponents, except it be the plain unvarnished record of the result of the bye-elections which have been held since February, 1887:

GRIT VICTORIES.	GOVERNMENT VICTORIES.
Prince Edward,	Restigouche,
Missisquoi,	Charlevoix,
L'Assomption,	Renfrew, S.
Kent,	Colchester,
Russell,	Cumberland,
Yarmouth,	Haldimand,
Dorchester,	Victoria, N. S.,
Bruce.	Shelburne,
	Northumberland, E.
	Halton,
	Middlesex, W.
	Hastings, W.
	Queen's, N. B.,
	Victoria, B.C.,
	Carleton, Ont.,
	Digby.

The government have won sixteen splendid victories, of which five, namely, Charlevoix, South Renfrew, Shelburne, Northumberland East and Halton were constituencies which have been redeemed since February from the errors of Gritism. Giving the Opposition the benefit of one more or less doubtful seat, they have succeeded in re-electing eight members, while they have not won a single seat from the government. And what is more to the point, even while they have retained these constituencies, they have been driving two of their members out of their party for refusing to submit to the dictation of Sir Richard Cartwright rather than heed the dictates of their own consciences. No wonder that Gritism is whistling painfully in order to keep up its waning courage.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

As will be noted by our special dispatches from Ottawa the *modus vivendi* provided for by the Fisheries treaty has gone into force, and Collectors of Customs have been notified to issue licenses to American fishermen applying therefor.

THE Manitoba Conservatives intend to have a fight all along the line in the approaching general elections. Every constituency will see a standard-bearer in the field. That is right. If the stalwarts do their duty they will make it hot for Mr. Greenway. They should spare no pains to secure a victory.

PREMIER MOWAT has sailed for Great Britain to "lay the Quebec Inter-provincial Resolutions at the foot of the Throne," we suppose. But where are Mercier, and Fielding and Blair? The "little tyrant" will, however, send in a lengthy enough bill to the Ontario Legislature to console him for the absence of his "pards."

THE union of the two royal cousins in the chapel of Charlottenburg on Thursday promises to be an auspicious one. It is another link in the long chain that binds Germany to England. Prince Henry of Prussia and the Princess Irene, of Hesse-Darmstadt, have been happier in their fortunes than that love-lorn couple, the Princess Victoria and Prince Alexander of Battenburg. These may, however, be depended upon to reach the goal of their ambition ultimately, that grim monster Bismarck to the contrary notwithstanding.

IT WILL soon be found whether or not the phonograph is required by the necessities of modern civilization. Edison has perfected his wonderful invention, and a factory is about to be erected from which the world can get all the phonographs it wants. A series of experiments has shown that the instrument can reproduce sounds of all kinds with wonderful accuracy. Not only does it repeat the words of the message delivered into it, but it reproduces the intonation of the sender's voice, and all his peculiarities of speech. It was thought that the instrument would never be anything more than a kind of scientific toy, but it is now believed it can be made of great use. Printers have already set up "matter" from the phonograph's dictation, and it is expected that it will in many cases supersede the work of the stenographer.

HON. JOHN NORQUAY has come out of the fight in the Manitoba Legislature with flying colors. The charge of malfeasance of office brought by the premier, Hon. Mr. Greenway, was challenged by Mr. Norquay, who demanded that a commission be appointed to enquire into the wrongdoings alleged against him. On this occasion he is reported to have made the most brilliant speech ever heard in the legislature, and so enthused the galleries that they could not resist applauding him to the echo. He hurled back at his accusers the false statements they had made concerning him, fairly scarrified one honorable member who had referred to him as an "Indian," and, like a lion at bay, made such a vigorous defence of his political conduct as to even win the praises of his opponents. The Premier finally announced that the charges would not be pressed and, with this ample apology, Mr. Norquay again "bobs up serenely." Those who were led to believe from partisan statements that Mr. Norquay's usefulness had gone, simply because he was subjected to the foulest calumny and bitterest abuse, will now have reason to change their minds and to conclude that a man must always be considered innocent until he is proved guilty. John Norquay is yet a living force in the prairie province.

PRESS COMMENTS.

(Inland Sentinel.)

In British Columbia Sir Matthew Bigbie has won the laurels. The libel case of Dunsmuir *vs.* Cotton came up before him on Monday, and on learning that it had been settled he undertook to give journalists a lecture on general principles. What motive prompted a man occupying such an honorable and important position to deliver such a ridiculous and unwarrantable attack on newspapers in general, it is hard to understand. No stranger would ever suppose from reading the remarks that they were made by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

He went back fifty years to find illustrations that "journals and newspapers are generally conducted by persons of scanty education and a vulgar turn of mind." He quoted from Dickens' novels to strengthen his statement that editors are "anxious to throw and pelt perfect mud." He told a silly little anecdote with the intention apparently, of proving that "ninety-nine out of every hundred believe what they see in the papers and nothing else," no matter whether there is room for doubt or not. The attack was entirely uncalled for and the intemperate and ill-mannered language employed towards journalists must greatly pain the friends of the man who used it.

Newspaper men can afford to pay such a censor. As a class they have won the highest praise, warmest commendation and strongest endorsation from eminent members of every profession, men of world-wide celebrity, competent to judge the matter. Sir Matthew is fifty years behind the newspapers of the present day.

(Seattle Times.)

The chief justice, however, in ordering judgment entered, went away beyond the limits of ordinary duty and courtesy, to criticise and condemn the journalistic profession. In his remarks which occupy a column in the Victoria COLONIST, he took occasion to declare that "journals and newspapers are conducted by persons of scanty education and a vulgar turn of mind," and "the chances are ninety-nine to one against there being any accuracy in their statements or anything of the kind." These quotations are but samples of the diatribe uttered by the chief justice of the supreme court of British Columbia against journalism in general, part of which are memorized extracts from a publication entitled "Letters on Democracy in the United States," published more than fifty years ago.

The press of British Columbia should administer such a flagellation to this self-constituted and arrogant censor as he will remember. It once was the fashion to attack the press in this country in a strain somewhat similar. It is even now occasionally attempted, but only by the fool and egotist. The intelligence and best judgment of the age, however, know and recognize that the press, as a whole, is honestly and intelligently conducted, that its motives are patriotic and its tendency is toward a higher plane of popular morals and a wider diffusion of necessary and beneficial public instruction. Assaults on it are puerile and impotent exhibitions of an intolerancy, which has no place in our free institutions, and is neither supported by facts nor the best judgment of intelligent, self-governing citizens. The press has its faults. It has many matters to discuss, much advice to give, a continuous succession of facts to chronicle. It would be miraculous if it were not sometimes in error, but the fact remains that a free press, guarded by law and amenable to law for malicious injury inflicted, is the most important factor in the progress of to-day, the rallying point for assault upon wrong, the citadel of defence against it.

"THE MISSIONARIES AND THE INDIANS."

TO THE EDITOR: As a rule, what the Indians believe or say is the result of what they have been taught, their tutors being in the main missionaries or professional preachers. These are answerable for the teaching and the practices resulting therefrom. Missionaries are servants hired and paid to do certain things for certain societies—in the case of the Wesleyans to make Wesleyans, in the case of the Church of England to make churchmen, in fact they are agents sent out to make proselytes, and with this view to tame natural man. The societies who send out these missionaries are supported by public subscriptions, and so they may be said to be servants of the public, and in British Columbia servants of the British, for British purposes, whether civil or religious. Their time and labor belong to those who pay them, but it is found that they use both for trading on their own private account and make themselves profit thereby. Take Mr. Green, a Wesleyan missionary and a fire-eater, both civil and religious, as our example. The Indians have been encouraged to believe that British Columbia belongs to them until it has been purchased from them; secondly, that if they allow government agents to be placed among them on their reserves, they will be degraded and virtually be deprived of their liberty and self control. Apparently this teaching has an object, viz., that the Indians (body and soul) may be kept under the sole control and government of the missionaries—for God and mammon—for religion and trading. In fact the Indians north now are virtually the subjects of the missionaries, and of course the latter wish to keep them so. They want to be the "chiefs." With this end in view their idea is to keep them isolated from outside interference and particularly from contact with white men, and, above all, from other traders, whether in goods or religion. The missionaries, true to their instincts, see that when Indian agents of good character and standing, are placed among the Indians, their (the missionaries) exclusive power and authority in civil and legal matters will be diminished and the Indians will indeed be free, as well civilly as religiously. They will escape from a theocracy and the house of Levi and the sons of Eli, to a constitutional government. At present the missionaries call councils, at which the missionaries preside and direct the nature of the proceedings. Under Indian agents they, as by law established, elect municipal councillmen of their own for village purposes, the subjects for their consideration and action being a written and defined municipal law. The Indian agent does not preside at these councils, but it is his duty to explain the laws and to assist them to understand what may be difficult to them. Judging from the florid accounts of missionaries, they must be now fit for this purpose, although in days gone by the contrary may have been the case. Under the law of Canada the Indians are free men, may enjoy the privileges of white men with three exceptions, viz.; they do not pay any direct taxes to the state; they are not allowed to take, use, give or have in their possession any spirits or spirituous liquors; and they cannot vote at the elections of members of the legislature; this latter, however, is only true of the majority, for some have votes for this purpose. They can pre-empt land by applying to the government; they can purchase land and hold it in the same manner as white men, in fact they can do almost anything a white man is allowed to do! They are all equal before the law, but this is not harshly meted out in the case of Indians. The Indians are well off. They are able to do work. They earn from one to two dollars per day, and by their labor are well, too well clothed, well housed and have learned civilized necessities and luxuries. They, in some cases, pay two or three hundred dollars for marble monuments to their dead relatives, furnish their homes with manufactured furniture, crockery and so forth. In fact they are as well off as most people and support themselves—barter and trade—a good deal of the latter enjoyed by missionaries. There can be no doubt that the policy of the government is intended to, and will benefit the *aborigines*—and undergoes alterations as the natives advance—but the missionaries set their faces against the policy of the government, because they fancy it does not suit their purposes; and hence their opposition to Indian agents. Nearly the whole trouble in the north arises chiefly from the desire and the intention of the missionaries to keep the Indians under their subjection, in opposition to governmental freedom. The question now is almost narrowed to one—the law of the land *versus* the law of the missionaries—freedom under the law or serfdom under the missionaries. To attempt to make this trouble appear by sectarian people a religious trouble is only throwing dust in people's eyes. No doubt sectarian differences do exist among the Indians. Is it not the same with white men, and do not the latter consider religious freedom one of the brightest of their privileges? It is Protestantism. In conclusion, let me sincerely say that missionaries have done a great deal of good, and that the various proselytizing societies have done much good in sending them, although the societies and subscribers have been sometimes considerably cheated. The time, however, has come when law, freedom and order must be enjoyed by all in British Columbia.

I am neither a Methodist nor a Churchman, but one who loves JUSTICE.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

Michael Ott was found drowned in the canal at Brantford.

Jas. O'Neil, Kinross, a farmer, suicided by cutting his throat.

The Leonard block, Napanee, was damaged by fire to the extent of $2,500.

North York reformers nominated E. J. Davis for the local legislature.

The Shoeblacking and Glue companies' factory, Toronto, has been burned.

John Loughane, railroad crossing watcher, London, was acquitted of the charge of manslaughter.

A new office of commissioner of forestry has been created and Morgan of Essex appointed at $2,000 a year.

James McCabe, a teamster, was killed in Cozzen's lumber yard, Sarnia, through a team running away and throwing him from the wagon.

Richard Patterson, quarry-man, while intoxicated fell asleep on the Canadian Pacific track at Credit Forks and was killed by a freight train.

P. C. Pattingill, manager of the international grain and stock exchange, at Glenloe, has been arrested charged with the embezzlement of $500.

The Governor-General gave his messenger Smith an elegant walking cane and Percy Sherwood, chief of Dominion police, a scarf pin set in precious stones.

Fifteen shops and all the buildings in the Beattie block, Wallaceburg, were burned Friday night. Only four shops and one residence remains. A lamp explosion was the cause.

The Toronto coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Tom Buckley for the murder of Bertha Robinson *alias* Usher, who was found with her neck broken at the bottom of the stairs in a house of ill-fame.

Henry Taylor, ex-president of the Ontario Investment Association, was acquitted at London on two charges of misappropriating funds belonging to that institution. He remains in jail on a *capias*.

John Carroll was tried at London for the murder of his cousin's wife, Mrs. Charles Carroll, in Caradoc township, and acquitted, but was immediately bound over to answer another charge of being accessory to the woman's murder.

Sarah Ramsay was cleaning the windows of Jardine & Co.'s shop, Toronto, when her clothes caught fire from a gas stove. Before assistance reached her, her garments were burned off her back. She cannot recover.

At an enthusiastic meeting in Smith's Falls the scheme of connecting Kingston and Smith's Falls by railway was unanimously endorsed. The ratepayers of the townships through which the line will run are also favorable.

The schooner William Elgin, which left Oswego Saturday afternoon last, for Deseronto with coal, sprang a leak, and despite the efforts of the crew to keep her afloat by working, she sank in mid-lake and is a total loss. The crew had a narrow escape. They were rescued by the Ocean Wave, nearly perished with cold.

Chaley Phair, jockey and trainer, Toronto, has been arrested on the charge of maiming the colt, Harry Cooper, favorite for the Queen's plate race on the 24th. Phair is training the second favorite for the same race, Fred Henry, and it is alleged that while intoxicated he entered the colt's stall and kicked it on its forelegs, disabling it. Punishment for this offence is very heavy.

In a discourse on temperance, Rev. Mr. Herridge, of St. Andrew's church, the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, of Ottawa, said intemperance in liquor was not the greatest evil of our time, for the hidden vices were much more prevalent. He maintained the right of individual liberty, and held that there was no Biblical warrant for imposing total abstinence on anyone. At the same time he condemned intemperance in the use of liquor.

QUEBEC.

W. C. Phelan, a Bostonian, who was arrested, extradited and sent to Sing Sing for five years five years ago, through the instrumentality of Detective Fahey, has arrived at Montreal. He says he is the victim of a conspiracy, of which Fahey was the head; that he is innocent of the charge of forgery, which was trumped up against him, and will proceed against the parties who caused his arrest.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Hills A. Willing, Shediac Cape, suicided by cutting his throat with a scythe; despondency.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Capt. Jas. Seboyer, of Dublin Shore, Lunenburg, sustained probably fatal injuries through falling from the top of a fence on to an axe he was carrying. His liver and lungs were penetrated and the intestines protruded.

MANITOBA.

The conservatives are going to run Beverley Robertson, Ald. Hutchins and G. R. Crowe in South, Centre and North Winnipeg respectively.

Fire destroyed two of the best blocks in Portage la Prairie, including the Lorne House. The damage is placed at $20,000, with about $8,000 insurance.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

The Minister of Justice has refused to exercise the executive clemency towards Gaddy and Racette, the murderers of McLeish. Consequently the two men will swing at Regina on the date fixed.

The Alaska Commercial Co., in a lengthy reply to Governor Swineford's charges denies them all.

A Pennsylvania railway train at Pittsburg struck a buggy containing Richard N. Ray and Thos. Chidlaw, killing both.

At Barnesville, Ohio, a forty-year-old negro was discovered outraging a little girl. At night a mob took him to the outskirts of the town and unmercifully beat him. They then returned him to prison.

HOW MEN DIE.

If we know all the methods of approach adopted by an enemy we are the better enabled to ward off the danger and postpone the moment when surrender becomes inevitable. In many instances the inherent strength of the body suffices to enable it to oppose the tendency toward death. Many however have lost these forces to such an extent that there is little or no help. In other cases a little aid to the weakened Lungs will make all the difference between sudden death and many years of useful life. Upon the first symptoms of a Cough, Cold, or any trouble of the Throat or Lungs, give that old and well-known remedy—Boschee's German Syrup, a careful trial. It will prove what thousands say of it to be, the "benefactor of any home."

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

LITTLE PHIL DYING.

General Sheridan's Brilliant Career Ending—His Heart Affected.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—General Sheridan is not so well this morning. It is stated that the attack on Monday evening was due to heart failure, and there was a slight recurrence of that trouble this morning. At 3:45 o'clock Colonel Sheridan said that there had been no perceptible change in the General's condition.

General Sheridan is a very sick man, and his physicians are in constant attendance upon him. His trouble is a valvular affection of the heart and he had several alarming sinking spells, from which he rallied with difficulty, the last being most severe of all. The failure of the heart's action has brought him near to death's door several times, and fear is expressed that a recurrence of the trouble may take him away suddenly at any moment.

CONSULTATION OF PHYSICIANS.

A consultation was held to-night. At its conclusion the following statement, which is concurred in by all the physicians, was given to the press: "At 8:30 p. m. a consultation was held by Doctors Mathews, Yarrow, and O'Reilley. The patient was sitting up. His voice was strong. He was bright, cheerful and hopeful. The œdema of the legs was diminished. His pulse was 115, his normal pulse being at the rate of 106, firm and regular. The heart's sounds are clearer. His perspiration is 30, regular and he has no nausea, and has taken sufficient nourishment. His tongue is clearer and his condition in general is improved since the morning's visit." The house was then closed and no further information in regard to the patient will be given until to-morrow morning.

LATER AND BETTER NEWS.

At 11 o'clock Dr. Yarrow said to a reporter: "I felt quite uneasy this morning about General Sheridan, but when I saw him in the afternoon I noticed a change for the better. He was additionally improved to-night when I left him. He is cheerful, and I feel assured that the danger point is passed."

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS.

Branches to be Established in Victoria, Westminster and Vancouver.

Mr. W. H. Harrington, assistant superintendant of the Dominion Postal savings bank department, will remain in the city several days for the purpose of introducing the post office savings bank system in the Victoria post office. The regulations of this system are similar to those in the Dominion savings bank. Each depositor is allowed to bank $300 yearly up to the sum of $1,000, bearing interest at 4 per cent. The management of the department is in the hands of the postmaster, and is carried out by the regular staff. It is not intended to discontinue the Dominion savings banks, though the latter are being thinned out wherever practicable, the new system being a much better one.

Mr. Harrington will spend a fortnight in Westminster for the purpose of establishing a post office bank there, and for consolidating the present Dominion savings bank. The latter has in the past been in the hands of Collector Clute, but in future the banking system will be managed by the postmaster, Mr. E. Brown.

A post office bank will be established at Vancouver, and at other points in the province which may be recommended by Inspector Fletcher.

NINE DOCTORS FAILED.

Three Most Remarkable Cures—How They Were Done by an Advertising Doctor.

A CARD TO THE PUBLIC: I feel that I would not be doing my duty to womankind if I did not let them know how badly afflicted I have been and how and where to be cured. Ten years ago I was taken with painful menstruation, and I have been that way since that time, accompanied with womb trouble in every conceivable way. About three months ago the climax came, and I was prostrated with pain through the heart, chest and lungs, and confined to my bed from excessive hemorrhage or flowing. After nine doctors of different schools of practice gave me up, I applied to Dr. Darrin, and he has cured me so I can walk from my residence to his office. I am overjoyed with the result of the cure. MRS. E. A. AHLF.

The following tribute to the gift and skill of Drs. Darrin is a remarkable instance of a generous impulse worked out against powerful professional prejudice, and is worthy of record:

CARD TO THE PUBLIC—I have for the past two years been afflicted with chronic pericarditis, accompanied with great pain around the heart all that time, with excessive circulation, sleepless nights, fear and distress. I was unable to attend to the duties of my profession. I had exhausted my knowledge of medicine, as also that of my colleagues, and found no relief until coming under the electro-magnetic treatment of Drs. Darrin. A little more than a