

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, March 22

WHY A CHANGE?

On Friday, Jan. 27, 1893, the Colonist said:—"Our readers, when they peruse our Ottawa correspondent's letter, will be surprised to learn how much more the officials of the department of marine and fisheries know about Victoria and its institutions than do its oldest and most intelligent inhabitants. The officials are right, of course. Who ever knew of one of them to be either ignorant or mistaken? Were they not credited for the express purpose of laying down the law to outsiders and enlightening them about their own affairs, and do they not fulfill the end of their being?" The Ottawa correspondent's letter here referred to quotes Minister Tupper as saying:—

"So far as the expenditure of public money is concerned, I know no part of Canada which has received more attention in this respect in proportion to its population than British Columbia. Personally I am not induced by hard criticism to favor expenditure; neither will I be the more disinclined to do my duty to that important portion of the country on that account; but it is regrettable, according to my own experience, that the greater the effort I make to keep pace with the growth and importance of the commerce of Victoria, and the larger the appropriations for that purpose, the more angry becomes the criticism of the government's policy and of this department in particular."

Why a change, indeed? This exhibition of Tupperian blandness ought to convince any person that Victoria is bound to support the government.

ANOTHER REASON WHY.

The Independence of Parliament Act, section 10, to which members must subscribe under oath, reads:

"No person, directly or indirectly, alone or with any other, by himself or by the interposition of any trustee or third party, holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing any contract or agreement, expressed or implied, with or for the government of Canada on behalf of the Crown, or with or for any of the officers of the government of Canada, for which any public money of Canada is to be paid, shall be eligible as a member of the House of Commons, or shall sit or vote in the said house."

Mr. Turcotte, the member for Montmoroni, Quebec, subscribed to the above. He is an active ally of Sir Adolphe Caron (the man who tried to "do" the post office clerks out of their wages) and at the time of his election was engaged in the grocery business with a Mr. Provost. The firm at that time held a contract with the government in the name of Provost for the supply of the militia at the citadel of Quebec with groceries and provisions, and up to the dissolution of the firm on the 2nd of February, 1893, they received from the government cheques amounting to \$4,112.85. This sum was all paid over to Mr. Turcotte, M. P., for his private benefit. After the dissolution of the firm Mr. Turcotte continued in the grocery business and supplied the militia department with goods. For these he received all the payment for his own benefit, although the cheques, as before, continued to be issued in Provost's name and were endorsed by him to Mr. Turcotte, M. P. This was a gross violation of the act; yet when Mr. Edgar, M. P., moved a resolution on July 13th, 1894, declaring that Turcotte had forfeited his seat the government majority voted down the motion. The Montreal Star (Independent Conservative), said: "If the Conservative party can only live by such means it is time for decent men to wash their hands of the government." Four Conservative members refused to swallow the dose; but Messrs. PRIOR and EARLE voted with the "gang."

BRITISH FREE TRADE.

The Canadian protectionist is a not inapt imitator of those who on the other side of the line advocate the interests of the American mill owners. Thus we find Conservatives professing now to have found an ideal policy in "reciprocity," and to regard with abhorrence what they are pleased to term "British free trade," a phrase conveniently borrowed from the followers of that renowned Napoleonic leader, Major MacKinley. On this side of the line, to be sure, the phrase loses half its significance. Here it merely means what its adapters are pleased to term a jug-handled trade policy; there the very word "British," and the amount of scorn the average MacKinleyite manages to inject into the pronunciation of it makes it do the service to the "trooly lol!" protectionist, which the Conservative places on the worn shoulders of that much abused appellation, "Grit."

It has not only been in the columns of the Colonist that this same "British free trade" has been loaded down with the burden of divers offenses, neither can our contemporary claim, to originate the argument that it is responsible for the

decline of agriculture in Great Britain. The changes on that theme have indeed been rung with great persistency and effect in congress, in the press, and on the stump during more than one recent election campaign in the land of the free.

Nothing, however, could very well be more disingenuous than to attempt to saddle on British free trade any reverses which may have overtaken British agriculture. Indeed, agricultural depression in England is so plainly traceable to other causes that it is surprising that even a protectionist advocate could overlook or disregard them. For since England has adopted free trade the natural grain fields of the world have been brought under cultivation. In the United States, in Canada, in Australia, in the Argentine Republic, in Africa and in India areas of imperial extent and of unsurpassed fertility have been made to yield the very products at a minimum of cost which the British farmer cultivated. The methods of the cultivation of the soil have been completely revolutionized, and by the aid of labor-saving machinery one person can now do the work which within the memory of men now living it took ten men to do. The improvement in shipbuilding has made the ocean a mere ferry and the cost of land carriages has been reduced to an extent which to the most enlightened of statesmen in Cobden's time would have seemed incredible. It would indeed be nothing short of a marvel if the English farmer who had to pay a great price or a high rent for his holding could compete with those who in Manitoba, in Minnesota and the Dakotas cultivated the rich lands with which a paternal government endowed them. That he has been able to do so with even partial success is due largely to the fact that a wise trade policy has enabled him to buy every necessity in the cheapest markets without placing a grievous tax on his industry to enrich those engaged in manufacturing in the empire. The argument of the Protectionist has until recently been that while free trade was undoubtedly the best possible of policies for Great Britain, different conditions on this side of the Atlantic demanded the adoption of a different course. There is indeed some reason in the contention. But to lay the blame of agriculture depression in England on its trade policy is neither sensible nor honest.

WHERE THEY HAVE FAILED.

As for ministers, give them credit freely for such ability as they possess, but don't take them at their own valuation, or that put upon them by a subsidized press, and don't make the mistake of supposing that capacity for tall talk of necessity involves capacity for clear thinking. For gerrymandering a province, for debauching a constituency, or for squeezing contributions out of protected monopolies, I will grant you these gentlemen are unrivalled. But they go no further. Failure is writ large on every enterprise they have attempted, every promise they have ever made.

They have not settled the Northwest. They have not stopped the exodus. They have not got reciprocity. They have not lowered your taxes. They have not kept up prices.

They have not, in a word, redeemed one single, solitary pledge, or filled one single expectation they have raised, and they come before you now having taken all possible pains to avoid giving you any definite information on the floor of parliament as to how they propose to provide for the huge deficit they have created, or to say what their policy will be as to divers important questions now awaiting settlement.—Sir Richard Cartwright at Sarnia.

BEATEN BEFORE THE BATTLE.

Had Sir William Cornelius Van Horne been at the meeting called by his supporters and adherents at the A. O. U. W. hall last night he would have quickly interpreted, without exercising his subtle powers of mind-reading, the handwriting upon the wall. The characters are no longer mystical and illegible. The mute eloquence of the empty chairs, the absence of enthusiasm and utter lack of that spontaneity of feeling, which, when present, augur so much for success, clearly indicate a complete and ignominious defeat for McKinleyism whenever the "big injuns" of the tribe at Ottawa summon the courage to take the warpath. There were 473 persons present, and of these quite a few were in sympathy with the Opposition and recognize the necessity for a change. In point of numbers, enthusiasm and confidence the Conservative convention compares most miserably with that of the Liberals, and the advantage which the latter carries in the comparison indicates unmistakably the result on election day. A great many of those who were present at the Conservative convention last evening felt keenly the poverty of their political situation, as shown by despondent remarks let drop now and then. The feeling of depression might not have been so marked

if there had not been such strenuous efforts made to gather a bigger crowd than the Liberals had. When the untiring efforts and captivating inducements of the party "rustlers" and "heelers" could result only in a gathering of some 350 less than their opponents, the case of the Dominion government's friends in this city is easily seen to be absolutely hopeless. There is good cause for the dejected and dispirited aspect of the few who would like to see Messrs. Prior and Earle re-elected.

PROTECTING THE FARMER.

It is not a little strange that only in free trade England can the Colonist find evidence of agricultural depression. In the United States the farmers enjoy every blessing which can possibly flow from high taxes. If protection is such a splendid thing for the farmer we should find evidence of it in those states in which the agriculturist is protected from the devastations of an unrestricted importation. The wheat of the American farmer has abundant protection; his oats, his corn, his rye and his barley ripen under the sunshine of high duties. He enjoys protection against foreign hay and foreign straw; against Canadian eggs and Ontario cheese. In that land where the trade winds are tempered by taxes to yield protection even to the shorn lambs we should find agricultural wealth increasing with greatest rapidity, and the farmer most prosperous and contented. Now we suggest to the Colonist, if it is really anxious to find out in what way protection or free trade affect the farmer, that it should make at least a diligent enquiry in the land of our neighbors over the line as it does in that country of which it talks so much and really knows so little on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean.

How is the farmer prospering in Dakota for instance? Is he as well off as his Canadian neighbor in Manitoba, who is less thoroughly "protected"? What does he hear about agricultural conditions in Minnesota, in Iowa or in that most highly favored of agricultural regions, Nebraska? In Illinois, in Ohio, and in many other states the very richest of agricultural lands enjoy what advantages accrue from the immediate neighborhood of manufacturing centres, and it is there if anywhere that the American farmer should reap every advantage protection can bestow. In such a country, with a policy so favoring the enrichment of the tiller of the soil, agricultural wealth should increase by leaps and bounds and the farmer of all persons in the community should be the most prosperous. Let our esteemed contemporary diligently enquire into his condition. If it cares to do this it may be surprised to discover that agriculture has been practically abandoned in the eastern states, and that the west is covered over with mortgages; that instead of the farming community increasing in wealth and prosperity the agricultural wealth to-day bears a small proportion to the entire wealth of the country than it did fifty, twenty, or ten years ago. He will find this, the greatest agricultural country on the face of the earth, whose every product is protected by a tax, the country which to-day is suffering from a period of hard times more and greater hardships than are felt in any other land—that its cities are crowded with paupers and the country itself overrun with tramps.

The Colonist this morning read us a very pretty lecture on editorial candor. In the discussion on the effects of protection or free trade on the farmer let it practice to some extent the journalistic maxims it is so ready to lay down for the guidance of others.

WHY A CHANGE?

On August 3 the Colonist, then in an independent mood, gave reasons for a change of government in the following words: "It is singular that the government should insist upon a regulation which the great majority of those engaged in the fisheries consider altogether unnecessary. * * * They (the canners) are, as a class, intelligent as well as enterprising men, and are always ready to adopt any measure that is really calculated to preserve the salmon, but they do resent meddlesome interference which effects no good object but which hampers them in their operations and puts them to unnecessary expense. * * * It is unhappily the opinion of very many engaged in the fishery and more or less interested in it, that it has progressed not so much because of the aid which has been given by the Dominion government as in spite of the obstacles which that government has placed in its way."

The fishing industry is probably the most important in the province. That it has progressed "in spite of the obstacles" which the government has placed in its way, for the Colonist asserts, is remarkable, for the "obstacles" have been many and great. Those "obstacles" are still being placed in the way of the industry, and at the present moment several of the Fraser river canners are being harassed and persecuted by the government. The position has not materially changed since the day the Colonist editor felt so much disgusted with his friends as to give the above reason for a change of government.

HOUNCE AND BUNCOMBE.

At the A. O. U. W. hall last night Col. Prior said that statistics showed a marvellous prosperity. Saving bank deposits, bank circulation, imports and exports, railway (C. P. R.) and steamboats (C. P. R.) and the postoffice (unhappy reference) business were simply booming, all showing a marvellous increase. It must be comforting to the estimated 2500 unemployed men in Victoria to learn that the deposits in the savings banks show a "marvellous increase." It must, also, be gratifying to the farmers to hear that the C. P. R. railway is doing a rushing business fetching in Manitoba eggs (20 cents a dozen) and butter (20 cents a pound) while the steamers working in connection with this grasping octopus are subsidized to carry agricultural products from Australia. The postoffice clerks will be glad to learn that the postoffice receipts have also "marvellously increased," since it may assure them of the permanency of their \$20.10 per month and \$10 extra. The owners of the 450 empty houses in this city will be tickled to death to hear that bank circulations have "marvellously increased"; and the merchants and business men generally, who do not appear to sufficiently appreciate the prevailing "boom," owe a debt of gratitude to Col. Prior for the remarkable and indeed dazzling prosperity in our midst.

We have discovered a good running mate for Mr. Tracey. A gentleman who signs himself "A Rancher" writes to the Vernon News a letter on protection and free trade, in which the following passage occurs:—

"You will be told of free trade England being so rich and influential. But Great Britain is not free trade altogether, as she guards her manufactures very securely, allowing no manufactured goods to enter her ports, but they allow and encourage the importation of raw material in order to encourage the manufacturer. The only part of her free trade policy is the free importation of wheat and beef, which is causing considerable distress among her laborious class and threatening to cause considerable complications, and has been the means of stopping numberless farms in England from being worked or even let to tenants at any rent whatever."

Tracey! Tracey! Look to your laurels!

Whatever cause for comfort the Colonist may find in its exulting declaration that the vicious combination between the government and the C.P.R. is in no danger of being disturbed, it is quite certain that the feeling will not be shared by the electors of this city; therefore it is difficult to see what the "organ" and the "party" expect to gain by crowing so confidently over Sir Donald Smith's decision to accept the Conservative nomination for the St. Antoine district of Montreal. Such an announcement can only result in pointing out more strongly than ever the vital necessity of a change, and increasing the determination of the people of this city to assist in obtaining it.

On Thursday the Times said: "It appears that a vigorous effort is being made to prejudice the farmers of the upper country against Mr. Bostock and Liberalism by shouting that under Liberal rule they will be subject to ruinous competition from outside agricultural regions." In the News-Advertiser this sentence is twisted to appear as follows: "But having reached this conclusion, our erratic contemporary destroys the pretty romance it has built up, by the statement that there is a very strong opposition to the Liberal candidate among the agriculturists, because they believe that Liberal success would mean for them ruinous competition from the farmers of other countries." The Vancouver Tory organ professes to be honest above all its journalistic brethren, but we fear it is in reality as crooked as the Colonist.

Supporters of the government in New Brunswick have the ugliest census facts to face. In the ten years 1881-1891 the population of St. John city and county fell off 3392, Carleton county decreased 833, Albert decreased 1358, Charlotte 2335, King's (which Minister Foster represented) 2527; Queen's 1865 and Sunbury 892. The population of York, where the finance minister is now seeking refuge, rose from 30,397 to 30,978, the magnificent increase of 582 in ten years. The National Policy did wonders for York.

The following telegram is being industriously circulated by the government organs:

"Montreal, March 10.—With reference to Sir Donald Smith's candidature it may be said that Sir Donald was personally averse to continue in parliament, but after a conference with Sir McKenzie Bowell and others, he has decided to accede to the general demand."

If the proceedings of the "conference" were published in detail it would no doubt make interesting reading.

The marked success of the Young Liberal Club is at once a gratifying index of the political situation and a potent aid to the opposition cause in this city. It is rather curious that the Colonist has not yet discovered the existence of this

promising organization of young men. Our neighbor holds up the English newspapers as models for Canadians to copy; and we should like to see the name of any English journal so silly as to suppose that it could crush out an opposition political club by refusing to mention it.

Halifax Recorder:—How much is the merchant making to-day? How much is the manufacturer outside of a combination making to-day? Are our farmers making headway or leeway? Can all those that want work in this country of limitless resources and vast areas get work? It was the boast of the N. P. supporters in 1880 that no man who was willing to work need want under the N. P.; is that true to-day?

The Colonist's prediction that the C. P. R. would be found supporting the government is likely to prove true. Our special dispatch from Ottawa says that Sir William Van Horne held a consultation with Premier Bowell this morning and that subsequently he conferred with Sir Hibbert Tupper. The subject discussed was very probably the elections, and the assistance to be given by the railroad company.

IN THE DISTRICT OF ALBERNI

Liberals Organize and Elect Delegates to the Nanaimo Convention.

Work Among the Quartz and Placer Mines—Ranchers Busy Sowing.

Alberni, March 18.—Considerable excitement is being caused here by the recent rich finds of gold quartz, some of the specimens that have been brought in being wonderfully good. The weather for the past month has been everything that could be desired and the miners and prospectors have been taking every advantage of it, several claims having been recently recorded. Sam Darr's claim, the Alberni, is turning out very satisfactory. He is at present sinking a shaft alongside the vein. W. H. Campbell has one of the finest prospects in the district, the average assay being over \$500 per ton in gold. The road to China creek is being pushed through as rapidly as possible and it is expected that it will be ready to haul lumber over in about ten days. M. M. Sarault's mill has a large order of timber for the China creek placer mines all ready for delivery as soon as the road is ready. It is reported that the Golden Eagle is to be started again and considerable money spent in developing it. Mr. Jones returned from his claim the other day and is very well pleased at the way it is showing up. Mr. Taylor of Victoria, and Mr. Wilkes, were in on a flying trip last week. Gleason and Campbell intend going ahead with their placer mine this spring on Mineral creek.

The ranchers are very busy now getting their seed in, considerable wheat and oats being in already.

The road meeting was held on the 10th and the foremen for the previous year were elected again, their work having been very satisfactory to the settlers. At the same meeting a committee was appointed to act in conjunction with the government agent to attend to matters appertaining to the construction of the new public wharf.

The Liberals held a meeting here and it was unanimously agreed to send out two delegates to the Nanaimo Liberal convention. It was very gratifying to those present to find so many Liberals in the settlement and it was determined to start a Liberal association.

It is expected that the paper mill will start up again very shortly.

Mr. Alexander Watson is starting up a blacksmith shop which will be a great convenience to the settlers and miners.

NANAIMO NEWS.

Definitely Announced That Haslam Will Seek Re-Election.

Nanaimo, March 19.—It is now definitely announced that A. Haslam, M. P., will seek re-election. Mr. Haslam, it will be remembered, was elected by acclamation owing to the belief of the Liberals that a general election was not far distant. Mr. Haslam will find that the honor will not be again conferred so easily, if at all.

Mrs. C. N. Young died at Departure Bay on Sunday evening of apoplexy after a short illness. Deceased was well known in this city and district, having been a resident for 25 years. The funeral takes place to-morrow.

Word was received in the city last evening that the Plaster trial had been postponed until the midsummer assize.

Montreal, October 24, 1877.

Messrs. DICK & CO., City.
Dear Sirs:—I used a box of your purifier and found it an excellent article. My horse improved so much in appearance, that I have since sold him to American buyers, making a first class sale. I also had a horse that got badly sprained in the knee. A Veterinary surgeon told me to try Dick's Blisters, which I did; and the result was that, in less than ten days, I was driving him as well as ever.

Yours truly, THOS. McLEAY.

Catarrah Believed in 10 to 20 Minutes.—One short puff of the breath through the Blower supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrh Powder, dissolves this powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use, it relieves instantly, and permanently cures Catarrh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sore Throat, Tonsillitis and Deafness. 50 cents. At Geo. Morrison's.

NEWS OF THE

The Continuation of the Trial of the Brothers.

Coal Miners at Spring same Work Under Agreement.

Toronto, March 19.—The trial of the Hyams brothers of H. C. Wells was today afternoon. Messrs. Goach, counsel for the prisoners, arrived from New York. John Thompson, deputy weight was on the bench. He was a sailor and had repaired the water. Undertaker Humphreys at considerable length the scene and injuries to the deceased.

Quebec, March 19.—The Smiths reported to have been in a shanty along the Saguenay, are believed to be the John Smith of the military arrest at the citadel.

Montreal, March 19.—Traffic for the week ending \$271,000; same week last \$271,000.

Kingston, March 19.—Of Queen's university, recent theft of books, have been suspended for the present term, and the rest of the year.

Richmond, Ont., March 19.—While Richard Fitch and his son-in-law, William, were engaged in felling woods, Fitch was struck by a falling tree. He lived when death seemed imminent. He has resumed work at the old agreement against struck on Saturday.

Yarmouth, N. S., March 19.—Globe Hotel was unroofed yesterday.

Hamilton, March 18.—Bishop preaching yesterday, spoke the school question, holding Catholic church has new with other denominations and should get the government right to educate children.

Cornwall, March 18.—Frank Easterbrook was charged with shooting the is now on and will probably weeks.

Winnipeg, March 18.—Langton has, on appeal, a decree absolute in divorce against her husband in court. Her application of was refused on the ground that defendant was both B and should seek a remedy in court. She now secures, their child. The husband, dent of Vancouver.

Premier Greenway is expected again to be heard pleading the case in the legislature.

A gentleman from L. says that settlers living are being troubled again. Toronto, March 18.—The B. B. Osler's eloquence again be heard pleading the case in the legislature.

Montreal, March 18.—C. receipts for week ending March 27, 1895. In the same week they were \$319,000. Mile

Ex-Senator Warner N. York, is in Montreal for discussing with Canadian ship canal scheme to connect New York with the Great Lakes. The proposition, as if the wheel Minnesota and the Dakota Canadian Northwest are getting successfully with Russia they must have the che freight to the seaboard. I think that such a canal would be a great benefit.

The Gazette has cut its three to two cents, owing to the price of the paper.

Ottawa, March 18.—The has received no information from the Canadian copyright act. Chief Justice Strong and Carthy had a row in the court on Saturday. Mr. McCar would be compelled to bring ruling before a higher tribunal. Sir Henry Strong's warmth that he would not by any person.

SIR CHARLES WILSON

What he Learned Regarding And Southern Pacific.

London, March 20.—The Gazette publishes an interview with Charles Rivers Wilson, who visited the United States in of the English share-holder of the Pacific. He declares that the Pacific is a practical and considers it really depends of the next congress whether the government will exact its "protection." Sir Charles is prepared to accept the plan and to forego the company could manage to means of a second charge.

As regards the Southern son says if the English would register their shares they would control the plan. He thought, they would consider Cleveland's second bond issue a perfect gem could not conceive of the redeeming the bonds in its