MR. MARTIN'S CHALLENGE.

Every white working man and woman

in British Columbia was directly and personally insulted when Hon, George B. Martin, chief commissioner of lands and works, (member of Hon. Mr. Turner's unique cabinet of ministerial curios -now on view daily, free of charge, at the large annex to the provincial museum, James Bay,) said from his place in the house that he considered a Chinaman at fifteen dollars a month the superior of any Canadian; reiterated the monstrous statement when challenged by his own leader, and gave it all the emphasis necessary to show that he was in dead earnest about it and meant his words should be recorded. It now remains for the various labor organizations in British Columbia to consider most earnestly at their next meeting what action shall be taken to mark the strong feeling of white labor in regard to Hon. Mr. Martin's statements. We shall go farther, and say that the labor organizations owe it to themselves and the white people of this province as a bounden duty to pass resolutions condemning in the strongest terms the pro- Mining, Trading & Transportation Cor-Chinese minister and urging upon all poration (hereinafter to be referred to white electors (there may be yellow ones, for the sake of breath and space as the seeing Messrs. Martin and Hunter are men of considerable influence), the duty bare by the Ottawa Free Press last Satand the necessity of ridding British Co, Jurday night. The Free Press had the lumbia politics of such a man as Hon; audacity to publish a list of the salaried Mr. Martin. So long as Hon. Mr. Martin is allowed to hold office in any cabinet in this province, so long must the province submit to those humiliating spectacles and speeches which have disgraced the present session of the legislative assembly. Why, the honorable gentleman had to be awakened from a profound slumber the other day when a member of the Opposition wished to question him! In ancient times the people believed that men were governed by good or evil spirits; we do not know what kind of spirits govern Hor. Mr. Martin. but we only hope it is not the raw. Against Hon. Mr. Martin personally we have nothing (at present) to urge; we believe he is a very agreeable companion, and what is known generally as "a good fellow;" but Hon. Mr. Martin, minister demanded "immediate retraction and of the crown, is another fellow alto- apology." The choleric old knight, who gether. The electors of North Yale should not send him back here again unless they actually wish to see the house turned into a bear-garden and the province described in the world's press as a unique relic of the rough-and-ready. But the electors of North Yale may take it from the Times that even if they do send Hon. Mr. Martin here again and the Turner government should, by some wrathful dispensation of providence be sustained, Hon. Mr. Martin will be "let out" at the earliest opportunity. The Turner government, ludicrous as it may sound, are not proud of their rough, diamond, and want to get rid of him. And he ought to be glad to get rid of them; for at any rate, his blunders and faults are those of a many not those of a tea-lopping old wife scared of her own shadow.

## THE REDISTRIBUTION BILL.

tion bill is all that it should be, and that the changes made therein in the representation of different portions of the province are such as will commend themselves to "the people most directly interested." If by the term "the people most directly interested" the Colonist means the members of the cabinet who formed the celebrated gerrymandering bill, no exception can be taken to the assertion. If, however, the Colonist pretends to speak for the people of Southwest Koo- is not all beer and skittles directing even tenay, a most emphatic denial must be returned. The cabinet's treatment of poration, and the Colonist is all the betthe people of Southwest Kootenay, as ter to be heart-whole and fancy-free contrasted with its treatment of the peo- after its recent experiences. ple of Cassiar, is a brutal insult to the intelligence of the people of Kootenay, and to the people of the whole province. It is a plain statement to the people of Southern Kootenay that since they cannot be trusted to return government sup- acteristic explosion of the chief commisporters, they shall not receive their due representation in the house. By the bill day, when certain hints and innuendoes as it was submitted to the house an ad- were thrown out about the antecedents ditional member was given to the district and reputation of "the man who writes of Cassiar, while the claims of the dis- those articles for the Times," some pritrict of Southwest Kootenay were ignor- vate inquiries as to the antecedents and ed. The government cannot plead ignorance in this matter. Before the redistribution bill was passed the government had figures before it showing the relative voting strength of the several districts. For the district of Cassian, the tecedents and reputation of the hon, the latest information that the government chief commissioner of lands and works confessed to have was that in the Skeena division there were 199 names upon the voters' list, and 97 applications to be placed upon the same. There were no returns whatever from the Stikine district. Yet the government decided that Cassiar should receive an additional member. For the riding of Southwest show him to be at least blue-blooded; but ing Hood's Sarsaparilla. Then you Kootenay, at present represented by J. even the little "the man" has learned in Fred Hume, the government's return this brief space goes to confirm his susshowed that there were on the voters' piclon that the hon, the attorney-generlist 1,383 names and 484 additional applications, or 1,867 names in all, as against 296 for the district of Cassiar. so slightingly and with so evident an in-Yet the government refused the application of the south riding of Kootenay for bumptions personage who masquerades additional representation, and actually under the high and mighty title of atincreased the voting strength of the old torney general is a plebeian of the plebedistrict by altering its boundaries.

last general election. In Cassiar, out and, not to higgle over trifles, his intelof a total of 206 names upon the voters' list, the successful government candidate well to put in that "advisedly." Better secured 102, as against 45 votes cast for advised had he held his tongue. The let-

emed visited and

for the government cardidate. These It is this: figures show that Messrs, Turner, Pooley "As a practical profession the & Co. considered it very safe to give Cassiar an additional member, even though it was not merited, and rather dangerous to their hopes to recognize the latest trustworthy information for South Kootenay is to the effect that there are at present 1,800 names upon the voters' ity, and operate as exceptions." list and 800 more applications to be placed upon the same, indicating a voting strength for the district of 2,600. These voters will be represented by one memto be heard from, will have two mem- in the house that "if the antecedents of

Has the Colonist the hardihood to say that this is fair or will commend itself to "the people most directly interested" in Kootenay?

## WHIRROO!

the semi-private affairs of the Klondike corporation), having been ruthlessly laid officials of the hereinbefore mentioned in somewhat generous fashion; a trifle actually receive. The Free Press magnaminously allows Sir Charles Tupper \$18,000 a year; Hon. Mr. Dewdney and a certain engineer, not named, \$12,000 each, and Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper and Editor C. H. Lugrin, "the disappointed man," as Senator W J Macdonald calls him, \$6,000 each. These mouth water, but, unfortunately, "they are somewhat fairy-talish. Sir Charles Tupper, with characteristic moderation and politeness, stamps the Free Press' generous pay list, so far as it concerns him, as "false and libellous," and has is not to be trifled with by anybody "iusiae or outside the house," is good mentioned by the Free Press are correspondingly exaggerated. It seems the gentlemen mentioned were paid merely for services rendered. Now, the point here is: Services of value to the company Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Hibbert, Hon. Mr. Dewdney, Hon. Mr. Peters and the engineer undoubtedly could render the delicious and popular delicacies known as puffs? If so, the company has shown a Colonist's daily bill of fare for many weeks back has been sumptuously rich | dle and go" should be the marching tone in plain puffs, fancy puffs, flake-pastry The Colonist in this morning's issue puffs, shortcake puffs and pretty nearly professes to believe that the redistribuall the puffs known to the most ingenious puffer a-puffing. Yea, until the boarders began to loathe the toothsome and succulent puff as the foolish wagerer loathes his quail on toast ten days before the expiration of the period during which he must face 'em or lose his money. But, then, it may not have been for the corporation seems to have been disappointed with the arrangement-hence more than one "disappointed man." It a powerful and prosperous Klondike cor-

THOSE QUEER MINISTERS.

Having set on foot since the astonishing outburst of the premier and the attorney-general, (not to mention the charsioner of lands and works); last Thursreputation of the the hon, the premier and the hon. the attorney-general, "the man who writes those articles for the 'Times" has some rather amusing information to impart. We should say that the private inquiry into the anwas abruptly abandoned at an early stage of the investigation for good cause. "The man" set out on the enquiry be-'ieving that the hon, the attorney-gen- By nourishing eral would not surely be such an ass as to talk loftily, and superciliously in the house about antecedents unless he were your system prepared to have his own antecedents with blood made pure by takal's extraordinary remarks were nothing more than a piece of priggish "bluff." "The man't of whose character he spoke tent to damage, now knows that this readily resist scrofulous tendencies ians, and just as common a man as The reason for this action can be found the plainest in the community; "the in a reference to the votes cast in the man's" social inferior by many notches; lectual inferior by the whole gamut of comparison. The attorney-general did not a rival government candidate. In the ter of "Junius," (68th) to Lord Manssouth riding of West Kootenay, outsof field contains a paragraph that always 925 voters on the list, the Opposition can- rises in "the man's" mind when the at

Drivers C resides about bear in

of law requires but a moderate portion of abilities. The learning of a pleader usually upon a level with his integrity. The indiscriminate defence of right and wrong contracts the understanding while corrupts the heart. Subtlety is soon just claims of South Kootenay. The mistaken for wisdom, and impunity for injustice does not end here, since the virtue. If there be any instance on record, as some there are undoubtedly, of genius and morality united in a lawyer, they are distinguished by their singular It will be astonishing to "the man" to

learn that our precious attorney-general is one of those exceptions. As for the premier his reputation is

ber, while the 296 voters of Cassiar, any plain man can look upon with satiswith the small voting district of Stikine faction, but when he alleged in his place does not depart from his usual style of the Times were looked into they would There is a "hot time" in the east over that the reports of Premier Turner's re- American citizen, a man who by solemn premier's attack on his character. Plain shouted at a member of the opposition:

"That's a lie!" writes those articles for the Times" to corporation, giving the various salaries say those things outside the house, if the hon, gentleman will be pleased to menhigher than the distinguished recipients tion place, date, weapons, etc., "the man" will show the utmost alacrity in meeting the hon. C. C. "The man" would respectfully suggest small gloves Queensberry rules, small ring, to a finish and that Hon, Mr. C. E. Pooley, president of the council, who invited Mr. F. C. Cotton, at the beginning of the session, to step outside and have his head punched, be engaged as time-keeper for salaries are enough to make any man's Hon. Mr. Martin. "The man" can assure the hon, member for North Yale that all the "hot times" he ever saw will give him the shivers to contemplate by comparison with the meeting he has

so genteelly proposed. But, poking aside, is it not a disgraceful thing that ministers of the crown can use such language in the house tocan use such language in the house to-wards anybody? Think of a premier bawling across the floor: "That's a lie?" A president of the council roaring: "I'd WASHINGTON. SO HELP ME GOD. enough to state that he gets only \$1,500 like to hear the hon, member say that as salary, and that the other salaries outside the house." A chief commissioner of lands and works shouting: "It defy him to say that outside the house." "Rats!" and "I take it all back!"" An attorney-general "advisedly" aspersing the character of a person of whom Indeed it is time for a change here; a ministry like that is a disgrace to Canhis services were to be not wholly un- stupidity in excelsis; of which the poet connected with the manufacture of those | Schiller sings: "Against stupidity the very gods fight unvictorious;" and Carlyle says: "There is about it (stupidity) singular want of appreciation whis skill an opulence of mucky stagnancy; an inexhaustibility; a calm infinitude which and assiduity as a pastry-baker; for the will baffle even the gods." But the electors should not let it baffle them, "Bun-

> of the reformers in June. THAT CASSIAR MEMBER.

Examiners of the new redistribution bill just submitted by the government will find the more they look into the provision for another member in Cassiar district, the less they will like the proposition. It is an extremely fishy piece of business, and comes as near to being a direct insult to the people of the puffs, but just for moral influence. But province as anything the Turner government has done. But let us look into the matter for a moment. Here is the huge district of Cassiar, a large part of it yet unexplored; scantily populated, with scargely enough population indeed to warrant one member. It has prospects, of course, of important accessions to its population owing to the rich mineral discoveries made there recently, but this is altogether speculative. The government, to meet those conditions, has proyoters can be taken up from, say, Vicforia or Vancouver, landed at some point in Cassiar where they can record their votes-and be all taken back again! It sounds a little like a piece out of one of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operas; nevertheless it is a fact. Nothing of which we have read or ever heard as to the odd methods in politics put in practice someno special heading, as in the other cases

## every part of Health

will have nerve, mental, bodily and

In the Spring digestive strength. Then you need not fear disease, because your system will and attacks of illness. Then you will

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didate received 401, as against 258 votes torney-general puts himself in evidence. to draw attention to the Cassiar section, press must be introduced here; there are and the principle of the judge The government have given three signal abuses to be dealt with which no other instances lately of their sheer incapacity style will suit; public men are forgetting for office this comic-opera redistribu- their duty and their pledges to the people tion bill; the failure to secure Dominion and they must be reminded of them in government aid to repair the river bank accents far removed from the lisping at Revelstoke and their mysterious re-fusal to accept the splendid offer of the of the "silly season" journalist. In Dominion government to remove the Songhees Indian reserve. Heaven help British Columbia if that ministry be returned to power.

THE LAST SHOT.

It is a pity the editor of the Colonist does not yet realise that the public of Victoria are tired of hearing about his good and his antecedents are such as personal affairs and those of the editor of the Times. The editor of the Colonist writing this morning in making a propothe man who writes those articles for sition entirely consonant with his wellknown principles. We have not the show nothing to his credit," (vide press slightest intention of following him reports), the honorable the premier and through the column-long freshet of unfinance minister of British Columbia, restrained virulence and personal spite John Herbert Turner, fied. "The man with which he disgraces the once-respectwho writes those articles for the Times" able Colonist. But we should like to has taken the trouble to assure himself point out briefly the absurdity of an marks were substantially correct, before oath and declaration, about two years affixing the foregoing criticism to the ago, deliberately renounced his allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen; pubspeaking cannot be offensive to a prem- lished in the columns of an American ier who, from his seat in the house, newspaper a Jong article in which he conclusively proved that he had not a drop of British blood in his veins and As for the chief commissioner of lands had no desire to be known as anything and works' challenge to the "man who but an American citizen, of American descent and filled with American sentiments; duly hating and despising the authority of the Queen of Great Britain and all British unstitutions—the absurdity, we say, of such a man attempting to

> chide a British subject. That there may be no misunderstanding as to the stupendous character of this man's impudence here is the declaration he made:

DECLARATION OF INTENTION.

United States of America, State of Washington. IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LEWIS COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON: I, Charles H. Lugrin, a native of New Brunswick, do declare on oath that it is bora fide my intention to BECOME A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to all and any foreign prince, potentate, state and sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to VICTORIA, QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND TREallegiance and

CHARLES H. LUGRIN. Any man who could stomach that declaration and sign it "so help me God." ought to hold his insolent tongue forever under the British flag. This censorious person, be it farther noted, calmly swallowed all these renunciations and declarhe knows absolutely nothing; and all be- ations when popular indignation made cause of perfectly legitimate criticism. Seattle too hot to hold him, and he had to come over into the shelter of the dominions of the gracious lady whom he company, but what did the services of Mr. Lugrin consist of? Would it be dastardly and impertinent to inquire if which afflicts the Turner ministry is dastardly and impertinent to inquire if the services of which afflicts the Turner ministry is constitutes patriotism and honor.

In the structure of the services of ministry like that is a disgrace to Cantal ministry l So it will be noted, that the editor of the colonist can speak from experience of popular wrath directed against himself; and he has, from this safe shelter lost no opportunity to revile and defame his deserted country, the United States. The Seattle Times, his former charge, has seattle Times, his former charge, has a clided otherwise, and that although our ample improvements were to be taxed as a before, yet that the owner should be decided. Colonist can speak from experience of ultra-British newspaper"; onlookers see more clearly how the game goes and the Seattle people know that no paper this renegade is connected with will ever be ultra-British, or even British.

British newspaper"; onlookers see prived of all benefit of such improvements under the act, re wild lands, because although adjacent the lands were not the contended immediately adjoining lansmuch as the public road divided them. This was our one and only point for appeal to the Full court of British Columbia in But it is useless to belabor an opponent whose principles are so elastic that he could take pay from a speculative company to help them with his influence, and pay also as editor at the same time. The newspaper has been more long-suffering than the company, which has unas the Times is concerned.

OUR LUCKY MINISTERS.

There is no precedent in the records of the legislative assembly of British Columbia for the fact of three cabinet vided, in effect, that a steamer load of ministers, including the premier, rising in their places in the house to assail the private character of the editor of a provincial newspaper. Some writers might accept this as a kind of compliment or advertisement, but we have only contempt and indignation to return for this abominable abuse of the privileges of the house by men who ought at least to know that the dignity of the legislative assembly should at all times be preservtimes by American politicians compares ed. Those men complained about the with it for originality and impudence. strong language used against them by Curious, too, that in the bill there is the Times; they imagined that by throwing out dark insinuations against the private character of the editor of this paper they could thereby damage him before the community and so, in some mysterious manner, check his attacks. But they will learn that they cannot annihitate an opponent in that manner. They chatter blandly in their places about strong language and vet, it will be observed by the reader, they most carefully avoid meeting the charges made. As for strong language, what do they know about strong language? Let them

"Lord Salisbury is to take a rest. Well. from nothing else, he needs it from s press critics. The harshest American iticism of our national statesmen in oublous times is unstinted praise compared to the hammer-and-tongs manner of the English press in like circumstances."—New York World.

What the New York World says is erfectly true; in spite of all the efforts of the American press they cannot even distantly approach the British press for "giving it" to statesmen when necessary. Look at even the Eastern Canadian papers, great and small; is there anything here to compare with their way of attacking unscrupulous politicians? And yet those hot-house gentry who dompose our local cabinet wince because the Times criticizes them with rather more vigor than is usual in these parts. The time has arrived, we submit, when some of the hammer-and-tongs style of the British press and our Eastern Canadian

troublous times like these curds-and whey journalism is out of place; and while we strongly deprecate the unmitigated vulgarity and sewerism of the Vancouver World, equally with the stupid dulness of the Colonist, with its cheap, canting willow-pattern vocabulary and pawn-shop sentiment, we would welcome the bold, outspoken freedom of the English press. Premier Turner and his col leagues seem to have some idea that their action and language in the house will frighten the Times from demanding reform, but they only show childishness thereby. Premier Turner and his col-leagues have been very lucky hitherto; as a general thing the sickly, skimmilk deprecation that passes for criticism among the Americans has been dealt out to them; what they need is British criticism, and they will get it when they need it between this date and that upon which he lay down office in June

The Nanaimo Review has this to say: "The Colonist is again at its old The Yankee editor evidently tricks. does not know the meaning of the word specific. He is now asking his Eastern contemporaries to make specific suggestions re senate reform. If they take any notice of what this editor says they will be foolish, as it would only be a waste of time. He does not know a specific charge is, (vide—his challenge to the oppositionists), nor how to answer them when he gets them."

Theological matters in the old country are reaching an acute stage, and remarkable things are looked for regarding the deceased wife's sister marriage question. After two years' deliberations, 23 Presbyteries and 111 Sessions act would be of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, against six Presbyteries and not, 29 Sessions, have voted in favor of immediate liberty being allowed in the Church as regards marriage with a deceased wife's sister.

THE M'CALLUM CASE.

To the Editor:-My attention has just been called to a letter in the Colonist from Mr. Cornelius Booth, assessor of taxes, in the which that gentleman appears to accepted a brief from the governmenter advocate-general. There is always a comic element in every the state of t always a comic element in every traged even in the fall of a moribund, incomp and worthless administration, which, sooner or later, the court fool is to put in an appearance. lection of taxes with as little regard equity and justice (as may be) in gett them in, followed by the mismanagem of other men's affairs with the aid other men's money, and a big deficit at the end of it, then Mr. Booth might occupy his proper place as apologist and scapegoat for the government that employs him.

I will take Mr. Booth's statements one

y one as they are made, remi that with regard to anything that took on's Bridge on the 3rd of January last natter on that occasion.

The first statement of Mr. Booth is as ollows: "At the court of revision Capt.

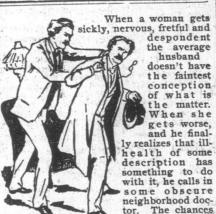
the ordinary sense and reading of the act were taken then that no mere easement of this case.
Secondly Mr. Booth states: "The appeal

was limited to a part only of the property, but it was obvious why the appeal was limited, viz.: because the assistant assessor had undervalued that portion of the property from which he did not appeal.

Much to Capt. McCallum's surprise the judge revised the whole assessment."

Here Mr. Booth implies that the judge. ceremoniously "bounced" him for good cause. The editor of the Colonist will not succeed again in getting a free advertisement in these columns, as "these few lines" terminate this matter so far as the Clark in the columns of the property. The columns is a session of the property. The columns is the columns of the property is a session of the property. The columns is a session of the property. The columns is a session of the property is a session of the property. The columns is a session of the property is a session of the property is a session of the property. The columns is a session of the property is a session of the property is a session of the property. ation for assessment of this particular por-tion of the property, previously \$21 per acre, one dollar per acre, leaving the im-provements at what they were before. Oh! Mr. Booth!

Mr. Booth:
Mr. Booth:
Mr. Booth:
was in force long prior to the Davie or
Turner government coming into existence,



something to do

charges big bills until the husband gets dis-gusted and throws him out. The trouble is usually weakness or disease of the dis-tinctly feminine organism.

Many husbands, after paying big doctor-

bills while their wives grew steadily worse, have at last written to a physician of nareputation and learned the truth. They have been justly indignant at the ig-norant pretenders who have experimented upon their wives' health. By writing to Dr. R. V. Pierce, any ailing woman may the free advice of an eminent and skillful specialist, for thirty years chief consulting physician to the knyalids' Hotel and Surgial Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescriptton is a marvelous medcine for women. It cures all weakness and disease of the organs distinctly feminine. It heals all internal ulceration and inflammation and stops debilitating drains. Over 90,000 women have testified, over their own

signatures, to its wonderful merits. "For several years I suffered with prolapsus of For several years I suncred with prolapsus of the uterus," writes Miss A. Lee Schuster, of Box 12, Rodney, Jefferson Co., Miss. "I had a fall from my horse, causing retroversion of the uterus. Our 'family physician treated me for kidney trouble and everything else but the right thing. I grew worse and worse. My body was emioated, hands and feet clammus and cold, stomach weak I grew worse and worse. My both was themed and feet clammy and cold, stomach weak, with great palpitation of the heart. I dreaded for night to come, for I would suffer from nauseall night, and so I continued until I began taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, and I began to improve right away. I am flow well and happy. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate and invigorate stomach, liver and bowels."

this farm was selected to

Here Mr. Booth himself the same prin ovements, and this bef government existed. sertions and for the public as well as myself, I public as well as myself, I public eases where and was "previously applied," should establish the truth ment, the more so that I come. Mills, in the presence gave me to understand that ours a test case if we appeale rought to his notice Fourthly Mr. Booth states ohn H. Turner and

court of revision? Again tegrity of Mr. S. have regarded his judgment; and "ultra vires" his disting in this direction being fully No! The responsibility of the "decision" of Mr. Mills (in legal cases) from the partment with notice of appeal d counsel. The interpolation deprive the farming months later when, owing t ence, it was intimated to ould withdraw my notice

revision, knows that

ast man to have his jud

uld ask Mr. Booth if

by any instructions from

intimation from I said 1 my apeal, but certainly event ventilate the case press, and I have done so.

Mr. Booth winds up his letter with a syn pathetic apostrophe to his far for the good offices of himself Perry Mills in reducing their Has Mr. Booth read "Alice where the walrus and th deeply sympathize with the poor ows they are devouring; being an Irishman will understand the significance of

ARTHUR M'CALLEM. SONGHEES RESERVE REMOVAL.

To the Editor:-Mr. H. D. Helmeken of of our city members, who has leverested himself in the city's in endeavoring to secure the rem Songhees Indian reserve by mo-tions in the legislature urgin Dominion government the imp great necessity for removing the Sons ndians-which been soon an accomplished fact provincial government acted in interests of Victoria and the promade to them through Mr. McKenna, to remove the Ind year without any cost or tro edly called up by the clerk of Just so often Mr. Helmcken has that the same lie over, on the pr his not having perused the ittle interest in the city's welfare as nce on this important ot; I am convinced has long since become the the whole of the correspondence on this important in think not; I am convince Helmcken has long since be familiar with the whole of condence, and while he may be this dealer to have the Indians in the condence. is quite evident from his action ing his resolution to stand over, that man at the head of the government has informed him that to bring up Songhees reserve question would place wish of the government rather than a vance the interests of Victoria. A mat of so great importance to the city as the control of the Soughees Indians and removal of the Songhees Indians and serve, and the refusal of the proving government to acept the offer for their noval by the Dominion government, is sufficient importance to warrant in convening a public meeting for the pur-pose of considering this all important ques

THE TRUCK ACT.

ntion of all workingmen, and of all hater

To the Editor:-I wish to summon

tention of all workingmen, and of all haters of oppression and wrong, to the bill called the "Truck Act, 1898," introduced by Mr. Kelhe. It is based word for word, for the most part, on the old Imperial Truck Act of 1831, (in force in this province, but seldom enforced, more is the shame, amalgamated with the still more stringent provisions of the Imperial amending act of 1887. It is almed at the shameful tyranny and plunder done to workmen by mineowners, contractors, foremen and others, who compel their workmen to deal at their shops, and board at their boarding houses. To such an extent is this shameful abuse grown, that it is said to be actually difficult around Rossland for a married man to get work; the mine owners insist on the men boarding at their shacks, for the scurvy profit of running them. the faintest conception for the scurvy profit of running But the mere loss and robbery of the man is the least of the evil, the man is wholly in the boss's hands; pecially where a married man is wholly in the boss's hands; pecially where a married man miner, say, once runs in debt at the today and from month to month to day and from month to month dependent; both wages and credit to day and from month to month of the ment perhaps within hundreds of the boss, and no other ment perhaps within hundreds of the perhaps within something to do with it, he calls in some obscure neighborhood doctor. The chances are that the doctor Nine times in ten he isn't within a mile of charges big bills until the husband gets disgusted and throws him out. The trouble is gusted and throw him out. The trouble is gusted and throw him out. The trouble is gusted an to submit on pain of man brought home on Saturda \$1.25 for his family, all that The bill, following the Impe rects, in effect, that every worl be haid his wages in cash and matter what he owes his employ are a number of carefuly tions, things for which a n tions, things for which a mass workman agrees in writing, if rom wages, but the price mu of course, the employer is alwarun a store or boarding house and the workman to deal the pleases; but he cannot be come so, nor dismissed if he does not board and lodging the employer workman agrees in writing. workman agrees in writing. wages a fair price for victuals if the works are over two mile incorporated city or town, other the can nowhere compel his wheard with him. In case lock should be influenced, the work the compel his works are the compel his works. should be influenced, the working take out a summons before to County Court Judge or Suprou Judge in the same way as before justices of the peace.

The public, and especially the of British Columbia should closel the progress of the bill. Its ad are likely to defeat it direct, on a first columbia should closel the progress of the bill.

it talked out, or to maul it in col and a very small change of its might easily deprive whole classes men of the protection they most

Victoria, B.C., April 16th, 1898.

United States Ma drawal of Ford

UNTIL MID-NIGH

President McKin Which

THE SPANISH MIN

Strong Likelihood ment by L

Washington, April 20.-A was announced at the White the ultimatum had been signe to Spain. At the same to nouncement was made that be made public until to-morro The ultimatum gives Spain urday noon to answer. The announces that if a satisfactor is not received from Spain will proceed to at once carry

At 11:20 o'clock Minister P a copy of the ultimatum. handed the messenger his request for his passports. to-night.

Spain's affairs have been the French ambassador a minister.

When the house was the president had approved resolution there was a tren burst of applause. Chairma the military affairs committ unanimous consent of the consideration of a bill auth president to call out the vol said he had just received a r the White House urging for the passage of the bill to It is learned later that at Saturday is Spain's furthest

The house unanimously sider the volunteer army now being considered in con

The Cuban resolution and the ultimatum to Spain plished fact. The president affixed his signature to the tion of congress requiring \$ uate the island of Cuba. T n the meantime had been the state department by As tary Day, and at 11:30 t ment was made at the that it had been signed by and sent to the Spanish ultimatum was brought White House by Day, who with the president, who la signature. After the pub ment Day said the ultimat mitted this morning to Ma ed to Minister Woodford,

liver it to the Spanish gov The Spanish minister w copy of the papers. The soon as he received it, mad and requested his passpot At the cabinet meeting general features of the u agreed upon, and there ret morning only the making for the president's signatu inal draft was made by retary Day and a revise was made - to-day under was laid before the p

There were present in t when the president signed Secretary Alger, Secretary Alger, A Griggs, Secretary Bliss, Se and Charles Emery Smit of the Cuban resolutions was an exceedingly inter though without special Although the text of was not made public, it with it is transmitted government, through Min copy of the joint, res gress, together with the they have received exe In compliance with their

ident makes demand or

draw her land and nava island of Cuba. In the event of a satis not being received by S will proceed with the ar United States to carry into effect. The preside any hour on Saturday Spain must make answ our demands, but the retion is that any time u Saturday will be rega pliance with the terms From this time forward tions will go forward

both the army and navy position for active, opmove will be to block of the Cuban ports, as' of occupation can be tra the demand will be ma ditional surrender; and refusal the work of combarding will be