

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 1897.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

It has been decided by the city council and a public meeting of citizens that the celebration of the Queen's birthday in Victoria shall for this year only be postponed until June 21 and June 22. This is not to be understood as an abandonment of May 24 as an annual celebration, but simply is intended to put this city, which bears Her Gracious Majesty's name, in line with the other capitals of the Queen's dominions.

THE SUBSIDY BILL.

The railway subsidy bill was passed to its second reading Friday night by a substantial majority. If Dr. Walker had not come in a moment too late his vote also would have been cast for the measure. The opposition having now placed themselves on record in respect to the measure, and having failed to carry their point, will no doubt be prepared to strengthen the hands of the government in pressing upon the Dominion the claims of the Province for assistance in railway construction which we are sure they recognize as fully as any one else.

THE CROW'S NEST PASS RAILWAY.

We are not greatly surprised at the reported refusal of the Canadian Pacific to accept a subsidy of \$3,150,000 conditional on the surrender of the exemption from government interference with its transportation rates and the right to construct branch lines on filing location claims. Under its charter the company's rates may not be interfered with by the government until a dividend of 10 per cent. on the stock has been earned, which, so far as the present management and ownership of the road is concerned, is equivalent to a guarantee of no interference whatever. The total earnings of the road each year may be approximated at \$20,000,000. It is, therefore, very evident that a small interference with rates might in a few years affect the income of a much greater sum than the proposed subsidy. While \$3,150,000 is a very large sum of money to a new company, it is not likely to be very influential in determining the policy of one in receipt of such a vast revenue. The right to construct branch lines without coming to parliament for authority is also worth a great deal of money to a trunk line running through a country in the infancy of its development. By it the Canadian Pacific is able, if it sees its way clear to do so, to head off much of the competition to which it otherwise might be subjected.

The situation of the Crow's Nest Pass line is somewhat peculiar. The Canadian Pacific intends to build it, at least such is our information; yet we recognize the extreme difficulty of finding out the real intention of the great railway corporations. Perhaps in many cases they are not quite sure themselves what they are going to do. The reported interview with the Minister of Railways leaves it in doubt as to what the intentions of the company are, and there will be considerable anxiety in the Province until the decision has been officially announced. It will be a very unfortunate thing if, after all that has been said in regard to the 'imperative necessity' for the construction of this railway, it should be postponed for a year or more by reason of the failure of the Canadian Pacific and the government to come to a satisfactory agreement. The public has been led to believe that if any one thing in regard to railways was more certain than anything else it was that this road would be begun this year and pushed through to completion at the earliest possible day.

Later dispatches indicate that the public has not yet been put in possession of all the facts of the case, and therefore judgment must be suspended.

BEGINNING NOWHERE AND ENDING NOWHERE.

The above was a pet expression of the opposition in the debate on the railway subsidy bill. It was very strange language in the mouths of residents of British Columbia. We can recall when it used to be said of the Canadian Pacific that it would begin nowhere and end nowhere. Vancouver is the "nowhere" at which it was to end. We can imagine that if any man three years ago had asked for a subsidy for a railway from the Coast to Kootenay he would have been met by the objection that it began nowhere and ended nowhere. Two years ago if anyone had asked for a subsidy to build a line from Penticton to Boundary Creek he would have been met by the same objection. Rosland was "nowhere" two years ago; so was Trail; so was Sandon; so was Slovan City; so was Grand Forks; so were a dozen other places. At present Cariboo is nowhere in the opinion of the opposition. Yet this "nowhere" has produced ten times as much gold as all the "somewheres" in the province put together.

It is a pitiable sight to hear men malign their own Province because a measure to develop it emanates from some one with whom they are not in political sympathy. Chilliwack was "nowhere" in the mind of the opposition until the government decided to subsidize a line through the Hope mountains. Oddly

enough though Cariboo is nowhere when it is proposed to build a line from the Coast, it becomes a very important somewhere when it is proposed to build a line into it from a point on the Canadian Pacific railway.

It is not possible to congratulate the members of the opposition upon the anti-Victoria spirit which they evinced on the railway debate. The Victoria people have taken a very different attitude. They have insisted that in any railway subsidy the claims of Victoria should be considered, but they have asked nothing for this city that they were unwilling to grant to other cities. On the other hand the whole force of the opposition has been directed against what they regard as projects favorable to this city.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary appears to have incurred the displeasure of the opposition in some especial manner, for to them things, which would be all perfectly right and wholly praiseworthy in the case of anyone else, became little short of criminal in the case of Col. Baker. Ten years ago a gentleman, exploring the southeastern portion of this province, discovered coal lands, organized a company, bought some of the lands from the province and paid for them. Later the same gentleman was instrumental in organizing a railway company—which he kept alive by great effort until the value of the railway as a commercial enterprise became apparent to everybody. He never owned very much of the stock of the company, but in order to get capitalists to start the enterprise, so as to warrant an application for the renewal of the charter, he had to join with his fellow-shareholders and surrender five-sixths of the stock to Eastern people. Of the remaining sixth he has a very small portion. As the result of his efforts to keep the project alive the railway will now be built. If John Smith, Thomas Brown or William Jones had done this, he would be regarded as a persevering and energetic man whose efforts were worthy of commendation and merited some substantial reward; but since Col. Baker did it, he deserves political ostracism, and ought to be thankful that he keeps out of the penitentiary. Col. Baker has one fault in this connection. He is too lenient with his assailants. He has done nothing which will not stand the Röntgen rays of the keenest criticism. He has been needlessly scrupulous in the matter of voting on B. C. Southern legislation. He has been instrumental in an exceptional way in bringing to light the great mineral wealth of Eastern Kootenay, and, if metaphorically speaking, he would take off his coat and give his hide to the drubbing they deserve, he would do himself justice and the public a favor.

The very brief reference, in the report of the proceedings of the house on Wednesday night, to the Attorney-General's denial of any connection of his firm with the Columbia and Western railway hardly did justice to his strong and convincing answer to Mr. Forster's assertion. Mr. Eberts showed that while his partner had acted for the Union Trust Company of New York in filing the Columbia and Western Railway Company's mortgage for registration and had tried a few small cases for the B. C. Smelting and Refining Company, neither his partner nor he himself, nor the firm of Eberts & Taylor or were the solicitors or agents of the Columbia and Western Railway Company. His denial was so explicit that Mr. Forster very promptly said it was quite satisfactory and would be accepted by the house. This is another of the pet opposition scandals buried beyond the hope of resurrection.

The Vancouver World is still hot. It now professes to believe that the editor of the Colonist is opposed to the Coast-Kootenay road. If it were material to any question now before the public to establish the position of the editor of the Colonist in regard to that railway, it would be the easiest thing in the world to prove that the World is entirely mistaken. But the Colonist does not propose to engage in a pointless personal discussion. If we were, a certain bad break lately made by the manager of an esteemed contemporary would be a sufficient warning.

Mr. Booth punctured Mr. Williams' tire very neatly. Mr. Williams said that he was greatly in favor of the subsidy for the line from the Coast to Boundary Creek, but opposed to that for the line from the head of Bute Inlet to Quesnelle. He didn't, however, believe the latter would ever be built. For these reasons he would vote against the bill. Mr. Booth pointed out that the member for Vancouver was prepared to defeat something that his constituents wanted for the sake of preventing something which he claimed to know would never happen.

We think the News-Advertiser is wrong in saying that it is best to ignore such gross articles as that recently printed in the Rosland Mining Review. There has been a disposition recently in some quarters, both within and without the Province, to make scandalous attacks upon the members of the Provincial government. These have been carried on to such an extent that some of the eastern papers take them as admittedly true. It is time they were stopped, and we think they have been.

The Canadian Gazette is very anxious to have the eight Canadian premiers come to London with Mr. Laurier, and says that it is a penalty of confederation, that seven premiers to London, Canada will only send one. But think of what that one premier will represent. He will represent a country which spans a continent, extending nearly one-quarter of the way around the globe in the latitude which has from all ages been the home of the world-conquering races; a country washed by three oceans, and containing, land-locked within its borders, a sea wherein two countries as great as France might be set as islands, and yet be below the horizon to a spectator standing on its shores; a country with a gold-bearing area greater than Germany and Austria-Hungary combined; a country with fertile prairies greater in extent than all Central and Western Europe; a country in which on June 23 the sun will not go down, for the day god will have risen out of the Atlantic waves before he has descended behind the mountains which mark the boundaries of Golden Yukon. Yes, Mr. Laurier will be alone as the representative of Canada; but think of what he will represent. There never marched in a procession in Imperial Rome, in all the pride of her greatest power, the feudatory potentate of a province, half as great as that with a title of the potentialities of the land which Wilfrid Laurier will represent when he takes his place in the Jubilee parade.

A correspondent thinks that we have let the new Dominion franchise bill down too easily. We hardly appreciate the criticism, for it was not our intention to oppose the bill. Indeed, in the brief reference made to it, the opinion was expressed that neither political party liked the present franchise law. Our correspondent is in doubt as to how the provincial franchise can be worked at Dominion elections, but he forgets that it was so worked and very satisfactorily for years. In respect to cases where the Dominion and local electoral districts do not coincide, the bill provides that the returning officer shall make out lists of the fractional parts of districts, being governed in so doing by the provincial voting list. He does this after he gets the writ and it will in no case be an expensive matter. We favor the provincial franchise in Dominion elections for the same reason that we oppose Dominion interference with local legislation. This is a federal union of provinces and the provinces ought to maintain the largest measure of self-government consistent with a Confederation.

The Times seeks to make it appear that the Colonist has changed its view on trade matters, because it favors a policy which will extend our commercial relations with the mother country. There never was a time in the history of this paper when its voice was not raised in behalf of every measure calculated to broaden a close union of Canada with the United Kingdom commercially, financially, and, if possible, politically. The present ministry having learned that nothing could be accomplished in the way of closer commercial relations with the United States have on second thought determined to seek greater commercial relations with Great Britain. If this can be accomplished there is not a Conservative in Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, who will not give the measure his hearty approval, and very few of them will even stop to comment on the fact that this policy was not adopted until the negotiations at Washington had failed.

The Times says it was an insult to the provincial newspapers for the Premier to ask if the Rosland Mining Review had a government advertisement. Our contemporary has suddenly grown very jealous of the honor of the provincial press; but we shall not be too critical. A late repentance is better than none. At the same time the Premier had no intention of insulting the provincial press, which of course the Times knows perfectly well.

We observe in a contemporary the statement that Mr. Rithet at the railway meeting held in Victoria last week reflected on the career of Mr. Shaw, C. E., who made the observation survey of the line across the Hope mountains. This is a pure invention. All that Mr. Rithet did was to question the value of so hurried a survey in view of the fact that Marcus Smith, C. E., had declared the line to be practically not feasible.

The Revelstoke Herald is of the opinion that the provincial government is not in a position to borrow any more money. That is quite true, but a very short act of the legislature will put it in such a position. Surely our contemporary does not mean that the credit of the province is not good, for that would be too absurd a suggestion.

An American Congressman has refused to dine with the President because he would have to wear a dress coat. He says a dress coat is a badge of aristocracy. Is that why waiters wear them?

SURELY the quarantine officer must see that his course in regard to the Alice A. Leigh is unwarranted either by law or good sense. His unfortunate mistake is regarded to the smallpox cases on the

steamer Victoria a short time ago no doubt makes him feel like being very cautious, but there is such a thing as being absurdly prudent.

There is a report that Japan may undertake to prevent the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States. As there are more Japanese than Americans in the islands it would seem not unreasonable that they should be protected from the oligarchical majority.

The idea of the Province of British Columbia undertaking to embark in the government ownership of railways, and to count upon the Dominion putting up two-thirds of the cost of the lines, is really too funny for serious consideration.

In Texas does not come to the front this year, it will only be because other places will get so far ahead of where they now are that no mining section can hope to catch up with them in a year. Texas is a land of promise and no mistake.

Mr. Semlin's speech on the subsidy bill was as mild a criticism as could well be imagined. He wasted his force on his point of order and his irrelevant amendment, which Mr. Speaker very properly ruled out.

DOMINION ESTIMATES.

A Comparison Between This Year and Those Presented for the Preceding Term.

Below will be found a comparison of the estimates presented this session at Ottawa and for the fiscal year of 1896-7. It must be remembered, however, that this year's figures do not contain the supplementary estimates:

	Total 1896-7.	Total 1897-8.	Decrease
Public debt	\$12,996,388	\$13,016,857	\$ 20,469
Charge	165,400	150,650	14,750
Interest	1,490,385	1,414,155	76,230
Justice	77,727	77,725	2
Police	22,589	22,000	589
Penitentiaries	484,900	417,650	67,250
Education	73,615	73,615	0
Agriculture, etc.	275,727	338,150	62,423
Immigration	130,500	175,000	44,500
Pensions	92,001	111,117	19,116
Starvation	810,240	815,320	5,080
Militia	1,694,999	1,368,015	326,984
Sea Works	288,997	148,812	140,185
Canals (income)	1,966,602	1,750,550	216,052
Steamship subventions	637,400	632,400	5,000
Coast and river service	185,078	186,400	1,322
Coast service	520,410	479,510	40,900
Marine hospitals, etc.	85,818	79,689	6,129
Steamboat inspection	40,143	38,000	2,143
Fisheries	27,200	27,200	0
Insurance	474,500	386,500	88,000
Geographical survey	11,500	11,500	0
Geological survey	4,239,500	4,239,500	0
Industries	67,000	57,000	10,000
N. W. Mounted Police	1,025,471	1,172,000	146,529
Government of the N. W. Territories	380,000	335,000	45,000
Miscellaneous	311,252	302,669	8,583
Total	282,252	127,569	154,683

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

He—Your father refuses to give his consent. She—Absolutely. Then we must elope. Ah! let us fly away on the wings of love. Yes, dearest; I will see if I can work a railway pass to-morrow. You know Statesman. Adolphus Softledge—Ah, my dear Miss Edith, you do not dream how many sorrowful men would seek to marry such an innocent, trusting girl as you are, just for her money. But I hope the man who wins you will love you for your own sweet sake alone. Miss Edith—Indeed, he will have to. It's my cousin—whose name is the same as mine—who is rich. I haven't a dollar of my own. A. S. (after an awkward pause)—What strange weather we are having lately.—New York Tribune. "Captain Kidd," said Mrs. Reamer at her last sale, "permit me to present you to Lot's wife. Lot's wife, Captain Kidd? Captain Kidd, Lot's wife. Two such odd sales ought to have met long ago."—Harper's Bazaar. War in 1900.—Son—Papa, what is that? Father—That is a torpedo boat. Son—What is that larger one? Father—That is a torpedo boat destroyer. Son—And what is the great big one? Father—That is a torpedo boat destroyer annihilator. "Why is a strong man like you found begging?" Ah, madam, it is the only profession in which a gentleman can address a beautiful lady without the formality of an introduction.—Boston Traveller. At one of our large North Country churches recently a fashionably-dressed lady happened to go into one of the private pews. The vergor, who is known to be a very stern old chap, immediately bustled up to her and said: "I'm afraid, miss, you'll have to cum out of 'at 'ere pew."

"Sir," said the young lady, turning sharply round, "do you know who I am?" "I dinna care," said the old man, "if you are the big drum, you'll hae to cum out."—Edinburgh Scotsman. "Don't cry," he entreated. Then he perceived that her handkerchief was edged with a very exquisite lace. "Don't weep," he said, correcting himself.—Detroit Journal.

Spain Tells Insurgents to Come Back and All Will Be Forgiveness. WASHINGTON, April 15.—A Washington dispatch to the New York Herald says the next important move on the part of Spain in connection with the Cuban trouble, it is said, will be the issuance of an amnesty proclamation similar to that which has just resulted in the surrender of 25,000 insurgents in the Philippine islands. This in the

opinion of Minister de Lome means the end of war in the Philippine islands. Encouraged by the good results of the amnesty proclamation applied to the Philippine islands, the Madrid authorities, it is understood in diplomatic circles, are planning a similar movement with regard to Cuba. "He must not see too much of me," mused the wise virgin. Accordingly she was very careful to have the stripe of her gowns run up and down, for besides wisdom she had embonpoint.—Detroit Journal.

St. Paul, Minn., has killed the bill passed under the auspices of clubs.

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Do you have pimples?
Do you run society?
Are you lacking self-control?
Do you have dizziness?
Is your memory poor?
Are you thoughtful gloomy?
Have you weak back?
Do your kidneys pain?
Have you exhausted your vitality?
Are your nerves unstrung?
Do you contemplate marriage?
Are you fit for matrimony?

WOMEN

Have you periodical headaches?
Do you have bearing-down pains?
Do you feel tired or languid?
Is your womb disarranged?
Is your complexion sallow?
Are you subject to dizzy spells?
Are you constipated?
Are you losing your appetite?
Have you ringing in the ears?
Have you leucorrhoeal discharges?
Have you hysterics?
Is your sleep sound?
Do you have cold feet?

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THE SUNNY DAYS.

Spain Tells Insurgents to Come Back and All Will Be Forgiveness.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—A Washington dispatch to the New York Herald says the next important move on the part of Spain in connection with the Cuban trouble, it is said, will be the issuance of an amnesty proclamation similar to that which has just resulted in the surrender of 25,000 insurgents in the Philippine islands. This in the

NEWS OF THE

An Orphan on the Shore Wrestling With Contract Law

Westminster Children Around the May Pole and Fruit Gro

VANCOUVER, April 15.—A claim near to the claims some black looking recently, which Mr. Lee principal owners of the d assayed. The large piece mitted went \$400 in te The only other place in his that telluride of gold is on a claim on Boundary

At the annual meeting of Old Reefs Co., it was d shared of the company b March 31, 1895. As a re changed hands at 25 c lowing day. The compa engineer, Mr. McFarlane for Lillooet, and will ver the property.

The Orphan Boy mine and will be sold by J \$3,249.

Fairview camp is be talked about just now of rock sent to Toronto \$1,087.15 in gold and sil was from the Smuggler.

The extensive addit End school will be bui the additions to the contract. A comparison drawn between the shi of the two systems.

The customs returns f were in the port of doubled at the end of taking out of bond of tended for the Vanouve The management of the ising a change of duty out of bond, paying, l less than \$24,900.

WESTMINSTER

WESTMINSTER, April -Owing to the numerous in the Harrison Lake o will be run to the hea water.

Friday, May 7, has the annual May Day ce Mr. James Fraser, pioneers, died yesterday widow, five sons and th The B. C. Fruit Exch quarterly meeting yes Cameron, freight agent was present and the m was discussed. The C better cars and a better according to promise, a be available at least

NELSON

From an authentic so that the difficulties ov of the Slovan City tow be satisfactorily settle the case stands. Hoffm who own three-sixteen y in question, have o rary injunction from Judge Fortin, restrain who is trustee for all s from selling any lots u settled by the superio

SALMON RIVER

The sum of \$150,000 night for the Dundee o on Quartz creek in t country. This is a l was offered by an E the shape of a 30-day position was promptly board of directors. sulting engineer of t up from the mill, r reported that the shaft ever. It is down 100 cut has been started the bottom of the quartz very much like The entire bottom of ore. The cross-cut, w is being run to dea the ore body. The fa bond for \$150,000 w how much faith the d may have in the p Miner.

BREAKING T

St. John's, Nfld., blockade was rais shipping to move free Portia and Caspian e and the Grand Lake rive to-morrow. T days out from Plym whether she had bee of weather, arti She was followed Vidonia, 52 days out Clementine on 64 day port, and the Stella, Barbadoes, also ar schooner John Nicho ter, Mass., was drive line yesterday. The get her off to-day. steamers are expecte row. The absence from them leads to failure is complete.

PEACEFUL

WASHINGTON, Apr legation authorities one, not two, Japane sail for Hawaii. gation says is not b but to stay in pro excited Japanese R anese government b in respect to rejecte capable of settleme negotiations, and it is tion that that will resorted to.

KNOCK

St. Paul, Minn., has killed the bill p under the auspices clubs.