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servatives had enacted. By great good fortune for Mr. Laurier, politically, the powers at Washington are hostile to reciprocity with Canada, and Mr. Laurier's missionaries to that city met with a polite reception and nothing more. Something had to be done to meet the inevitable disappointment of the Liberal party, and so this preferential section was devised. It caught the public fancy at once, and all the better because we do not quite understand what it amounted to. It was criticized by the Opposition as a matter of course, but not as to the principle, only as to its method. It was applied in Great Britain. It attracted the attention of every civilized government. For the first time Canada became an aggressive factor in international relations, and Mr. Laurier may almost literally be said to have awakened one morning to find himself famous.

But this is not the whole story. As luck would have it, the session of the Canadian parliament was delayed to an unusually late date, so that the same dispatches that told of the adoption of the preferential schedule, told also that Mr. Laurier would soon start for London for the Jubilee festivities. And so, like a smoothly arranged drama, the thing has worked. When the curtain has risen the actors have all been in their places. The whole thing has worked like a much clockwork, or—a better simile still—a play put on by Sir Henry Irving, and for the time being Laurier is the centre of it all. The interest in the drama groups itself around this graceful son of French Canada, and when in a few days he will be eclipsed, it will be by no less a person than Her Gracious Majesty.

Luck—why luck's no name for it.

work in a saw mill, he has never made a failure of anything he has undertaken. A remarkable thing in his case is that, not having had educational advantages in his youth, he has nevertheless come in time in the midst of business care of the heaviest kind to so improve his mind and add to his store of knowledge that he is an all-round educated man, who can converse on any subject well and on many subjects admirably. His knowledge of Shakespeare is only exceeded by his familiarity with Burns. Alexander Gibson is a man of whom Canada may well be proud.

**COMPLAINTS FROM KAMLOOPS.**

Kamloops, according to the grand jury, has two grievances. One is that the Tranquille bridge is not built, the other is that nothing has been done with the jail.

The Tranquille bridge would be over the North Thompson. It would cost \$54,000. It would be a great convenience to a few settlers. The only reason why the government has not asked the legislature for an appropriation for this bridge is that the cost is out of all proportion to the benefit that would result from its construction. There must be something approaching equilibrium between a public expenditure and the resulting benefit before any government can ask a legislature to vote, or any legislature will vote, so large a sum for a bridge or any other public work.

As for the jail, the legislature, on the recommendation of the government, voted \$12,000 for this structure and plans for a first-class modern jail are now being prepared. What more does Kamloops expect in this regard?

The Golden Era thinks it would be a good plan to have an inquiry "into the whole of the charter grants in British Columbia." Our contemporary is a little indefinite. Will it be a little more explicit? When it says charters, just what does it mean? Does it refer to railway charters? If so it can easily get the names of the several chartered companies by referring to the statute books. Does it mean the land grants? If so it can get the information in the same way. If it does not mean these things, what does it mean? Probably in no way does our contemporary do us itself know what it means. It is easy to say that the government has given away everything except the air. In point of fact, the government has given away nothing and can give away nothing. Only the legislature can do this. We will deal with our contemporary, and if it will state what it wants to know in the shape of an intelligible question, the *Colonist* is in the interest of the *News* just what our contemporary wants to know. There is absolutely nothing to be concealed or that can be concealed.

"A Norwegian Subscriber" asks what the *Colonist* meant by saying that "the Scandinavians make almost ideal colonists, but have not shown much fitness to be the pioneers of civilization," which he thinks is self-contradictory. We think not. The meaning intended to be conveyed is that the Scandinavians have not yet displayed the faculty of occupying new countries that are in a condition of barbarism, but after a country has been once occupied by a civilized government make almost ideal settlers, for they are industrious and frugal, and adapt themselves to the conditions of their new homes in a manner that no other people do except natives of the British Isles. While we do not now recall a single country outside of Europe that the Scandinavians have possessed themselves of and supplanted by the standard of civilization, the instances are many where Scandinavians have settled in newly opened countries with conspicuous success.

THE NELSON MINER has backed down from the *Colonist's* challenge and refers us to his file for proof of the iniquity of what it calls the Turner-Rithet-Dunsmuir party. We must be the Miner to be more explicit. What particular portion of his files does it refer to. Speaking from memory we should say that the Miner has jumped backwards and forwards over the political fence fifteen times in as many months. If such evasions were worth anything, it would be easy to prove from the files of the Miner that the present Provincial government is everything that is lovely. The Miner has been in haste to expose the iniquity of its opposition, but it is doing the best it can with the material at its command. Our Nelson contemporary is making a large sized blunder if it thinks it can befool the people by the absurd bluster in which it indulges.

If the *Colonist* were waging a campaign against the local government and could find nothing better to say than abuse the *Colonist*, after the manner of the Columbian and some other papers in this Province, it would get into some other line of work with the utmost despatch. The fact is, there is no fight in the opposition press. They remind one of a lot of little porcupines barking vigorously at passers-by from the safe retreat of a window in a barn-loft.

BECAUSE the *Colonist* expressed the opinion that correspondents ought to be careful about sending abroad exaggerated accounts of floods, the *Vancouver World* tells us that we should find out

where those accounts originated. We knew at the time. They originated in the editorial columns of the World; but we avoided saying so, not being desirous of saying anything unpleasant about a contemporary.

The Chaplain's prayer in the Illinois house of representatives the other day was greeted by enthusiastic applause. Since the Boston paper describing the prayer of a visiting clergyman said it was "the finest that had ever been delivered to a Boston audience," we have had nothing quite so absurd as a political prayer evoking enthusiastic applause.

WHEN complaint is made in the United States of the tremendous power over legislation vested in the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the answer is always made that the house gave it to him. This may be true, but does that make it any better? Tyranny is tyranny whether exercised by a Speaker or a Czar.

QUEEN VICTORIA has had nine children, forty-one grandchildren and thirty great-grandchildren. Two of her children and eight of her grandchildren are dead. If Her Majesty's descendants and relatives could be all got together they would make a pretty fair Jubilee procession themselves.

The Toronto Mail and Empire prints a long interview with Herbert Outbert, of this city, on mining and British Columbia, in general. It is needless to say that Mr. Outbert is very sanguine over the outlook for the Province and talks well on the several subjects he discusses.

ALL accounts of the Canadian Jubilee contingent agree that when the men sailed from Quebec they were as fine looking a lot as could well be got together, and one that would do honor to the young men of Canada.

THE report that Sir Henri Joly will be offered the Lieutenant-Governorship of British Columbia in the event of Senator McColl declining it, is repeated with some show of authority and is quite well received.



complete set of cutlery from his former companions at his bachelor home at Croywich.

The men of the Second Battalion are enthusiastic over the prospect of going into camp at Victoria. Each man will be served with knapsacks containing cleaning gear for accoutrements and all will carry the complete kit necessary for a three day's stay.

Mr. J. O. McLeod has received word of his appointment to the position of superintendent of the railway and mail service in British Columbia. Since 1884 Mr. McLeod has been connected with the mail service in this province.

Walter Jordan is again out with a challenge. He is ready to row "any lightweight in British Columbia any distance for any money." Jordan claims to hold the "lightweight" championship of the province, whatever that means.

**LAURIER'S LUCK.**

Few men, and certainly no Colonial statesman, ever reached such prominence at a single bound as Wilfrid Laurier. Only yesterday, as it were, he was comparatively unknown outside of his immediate entourage. To-day he is one of the most-talked-of men on two continents. The *Colonist* has no desire to say a single word in derogation of Mr. Laurier's personal worth and brilliant talents. He is a man who is an honor to his country and who, without any adventitious aids, achieved the distinction of becoming premier of the premier colony of the British Empire. Canada has had premiers before him, but none of them ever occupied the place in the eyes of the world that he holds to-day. His unique distinction will necessarily be only temporary; but he has it and that of itself is worthy of comment. Sir John Macdonald devoted a long life to the public service, and although when the history of the Empire comes to be written he will hold a foremost place as the founder of the Dominion which we now occupy, only the prototype of the greater union, now almost in sight, he never attained at any time in his long and arduous career such a place in the public eye as Mr. Laurier has reached in a few weeks. The hour came and the man happened to be Wilfrid Laurier.

It would not be quite fair to Mr. Laurier to say that his reception in Great Britain and the prominence of his name in connection with the Jubilee celebration is in no wise due to himself, for the preferential trade feature of the tariff, whatever its practical value may be, is something that appeals very strongly to the sentiment of the hour. Great Britain has been much taunted of late because of her isolation. For some years she has been growing up a demand for a closer union of the Empire. In the very nick of time comes this offer of preferential trade. It was not what any one was expecting, and its novelty and wholly voluntary character lent it a dramatic interest. The world is largely influenced by sentimental considerations, and under this offer of preferential trade there is a sentiment which appeals to the popular fancy of Britain, even though there may not be a dollar in it to them in a commercial point of view. Hitherto the Mother Country has looked upon the Colonies as those to whom much was to be given and from whom little was to be expected; but Canada has offered something and asked nothing in return. It may be that treaties stand in the way of Great Britain's profiting by the offer; but there it stands just the same, and if there are difficulties to be overcome, they are not of Canada's creating, nor such as Canada can remove. There is no difference of opinion on either side of the Atlantic as to the soundness of the sentiment which inspired the offer of preferential trade. To Mr. Laurier, as Premier, belongs the credit of this offer. Even if put upon no higher plane than a clever piece of stage play, it is yet clever, and cleverness in the great game of the world's politics is not so common that such a conspicuous instance of it can be allowed to pass.

It is quite probable that Mr. Laurier has "bulldozed" much wiser than he knew." He had promised free trade, or rather his party had talked free trade. When he came to take office he found that free trade was, under existing conditions, as hopeless a thing as the discovery of perpetual motion. It became evident very early in the game that any tariff which Mr. Laurier could propose would in its essential features be very little different to that which the Con-

**ANNEXATION OF HAWAII.**

The Hawaiian annexation treaty is now before the Senate of the United States. It is not certain what its fate will be in that body, and there is very great doubt as to how it will be received by the Hawaiians. Recently some very strong opposition to the treaty has been developed in the United States, and there is some doubt if the Senate will feel like ratifying it. The dispatches speak of possible opposition to the treaty by Great Britain and France. This seems quite unlikely. No valid reason can be given why the United States should not be allowed to annex the islands if the islanders are willing. Great Britain certainly does not want them herself.

Annexation would undoubtedly be a very excellent thing for the Hawaiians, for it would give security to business and property interests there that they cannot have now. It would also secure permanent peace for the islanders. The prospect of the islands is now drifting clear, as things are now drifting. Hawaii cannot long remain as it is. A strong government is needed, and no element of the population is able to provide it. Some foreign country must take control. We should have been glad to have seen Great Britain do so; but as that could not be brought about, it is probably better all round that the United States should do so.

But when the effect of this new departure upon the United States itself is considered there seems to be more reason for hesitation than appears on the face of the case. Very much stress is laid in some of the California papers upon the evils of the Hawaiian competition in sugar and some few other lines, but this is a small matter. The political effect of the proposed arrangement is the important feature of it. By annexing the islands the United States has stepped off the North American continent. Hitherto its territorial policy has been to confine its territorial expansion to the peninsula to the continent, and content itself with giving notice to the world that no European power would be permitted to extend its dominions in America. This was all well enough so long as the United States was content to remain an American power; but now that it is about to go beyond seas for new territory, the case is radically altered. Europe will never permit the United States to regard America as its exclusive preserve and to exercise the same rights of territorial aggrandizement elsewhere as other nations enjoy. The annexation of Hawaii will be the death blow to the Monroe doctrine.

**ALEXANDER GIBSON.**

We print to-day from the leading editor in the *St. John, N. B.*, Telegraph, a short sketch of a man who is in some respects one of the most remarkable sons of Canada. Alexander Gibson, of Marysville, who in the 70th year of his life seeks partial rest from his responsibilities by placing his immense possessions in the hands of a corporation composed of himself and members of his family, illustrates in his career what a man may do in this Dominion, if he has the right stuff in him. Absolutely without any advantages except good physique and an unbounded courage, inherited from his North of Ireland father and mother, Alexander Gibson at fourteen started to make his own way in the world, and he has done so in a manner that few men have equalled. While it cannot be said that he has met with no losses, it is nevertheless true that in his nearly sixty-five years of active life since the day he began to

**NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.**

**VANCOUVER.**

**VANCOUVER, June 14.**—The costs in the case of *Woods vs. the city of Victoria* have been taxed at \$7,785. Justice McColl in granting the application of the appellants to the full court, said that the law seemed to be in a very unsettled state regarding the liability of municipal corporations, and no one could tell what the result of the appeal would be. He said that the appellants were not to be considered or that can be considered.

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**WESTMINSTER.**

**WESTMINSTER, June 16.**—Mr. G. Edwards, expert accountant, has finished his audit of the city accounts from 1889 to 1896.

Mr. Marpole, general superintendent, accompanied by Superintendent Downie, has visited all the canneries, the Automatic Can Factory, and all the principal branches of trade and industry with a view of bringing himself more in touch with the city in a commercial sense.

**WESTMINSTER, June 14.**—There was joy on Saturday night over Westminster's magnificent showing in the League rifle match; and the opinion was generally expressed that they would be found at the head of the list for all Canada. The individual scoring for No. 1 team was:

Corp. Sloan.....	500	500	500	75
Mr. C. S. Maj. Corbett.....	32	32	32	95
Gr. G. Turnbull.....	30	31	33	94
Gr. W. Miller.....	27	28	28	82
Gr. R. Wilson.....	32	31	30	93
Capt. J. Sharp.....	28	30	31	89
Gr. G. Stein.....	28	29	28	85
Gr. J. Burr.....	28	28	28	87
Mr. H. A. Wilson.....	22	22	25	89
Gr. H. Huston.....	23	24	24	81
Total.....	290	318	294	902

Mrs. Scott, widow of the fisherman said to have been drowned by being run down by the steamer City of Nanaimo, has brought suit against the owners of the steamer for \$25,000.

**MECHOSIN.**

There was a large gathering of local residents at the Mechosin hall on Saturday, June 12, to watch the result of the examination among the schools of Esquimalt District. The following were the names of the competing scholars with their respective teachers:

*Boys.* Pappil. Tangles. Metchoisin. Miss Pears. Miss Behanen. Esquimalt. Miss Nunn. Mr. Campbell. Colwood. Miss Rant. Miss King. Berly Point. Miss Ball. Mr. Skelton. Happy V. V. Miss Fraser. Miss Harrup. Mr. C. G. Wilson. Miss Phair. Miss Harrison. Highland. Miss Dorling. Miss Clarke.

Sooke was unrepresented this year. The examining board consisted of Archdeacon Scriven, Dr. Wilson, and Miss Cameron. There were three subjects in the prize competition, viz: (1) "How I like to spend my holidays," (2) "The island we live in," (3) "My garden."

A recitation by each of the scholars in the presence of an audience of 150 people was well calculated to try their nerves. The subject chosen was "The Charge of the Light Brigade." To their credit be it said none failed to give a good recitation descriptive alike by action and word of that memorable event. The examiners adjudged the winners to be: 1st, Miss E. Rant, of Colwood school; 2nd, Miss E. Nunn, of Esquimalt; 3rd, Miss Ball, of Rocky Point. The prizes were then presented by Hon. C. E. Pooley.

A handsomely framed oil painting of the Queen (by Rowland Harris), will be placed in Colwood school as a memento of the Jubilee event. The painting bears the inscription: "June 1897—Diamond Jubilee prize for annual competition of the schools of Esquimalt district. Presented by W. H. Hayward." The trophy is to be won for three consecutive years before it becomes the final property of the school.

A prize in the shape of a handsome book was then given to each of the winning scholars, the first by Mr. Hayward, the two others by Hon. C. E. Pooley, who congratulated Mr. Hayward on the practical plan he had taken to encourage the spirit of emulation in the district schools.

Mr. Skelton, teacher at Rocky Point, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Hayward for the encouragement he had given to education by offering so handsome a prize. This was seconded by Mr. Brandon, teacher at Soke. Mr. Hayward in a very interesting speech moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Pooley for presiding over the meeting, and to the examiners for their services in examining the scholars.

The assembled company of teachers, parents and scholars were entertained at an excellent lunch provided by the ladies of the district.

**GALIANO ISLAND.**

GALIANO, June 14.—Through the kindness of friends from Ladner and vicinity a capital evening's entertainment was provided for the visitors and guests at Point Comfort on Saturday evening, the 12th inst., when a concert was held in the large dining-room of the hotel. Vocal and instrumental music was supplied by a large band of performers, and the rendering of comic and other songs delighted the large audience. The Mes-

DOMINION GOVERNMENT  
 Consent to Any Valuable  
 Paris Award

Minor Concessions Will  
 Law Acceptable  
 Trading B...

From Our Own Correspondent  
 OTTAWA, June 15.—It is expected the delegate is prepared to accept the acceptance of Laurier's school settlement or two concessions of a nature to-day to endeavor to induce the States to give way.

Senator Melnes protest the passage of the Yukon Trading Company's bill, proposing Delaware syndicate, but a bill passed its second reading. Major Thos. O. Towne's week ago placed on the Order of Business, will take place on December 30.

The St. Lawrence pilotage bill was thrown out by a 10-9 vote to-day.

Sir Charles Tupper leaves to-morrow. In the House he strongly urged the government to accept the request of revision of the Behring Strait. Mr. Davies said that the government has been told that the proposal to any concession five years agreed upon.

**THE EXPORT DUTY.**

From Our Own Correspondent  
 OTTAWA, June 15.—Mr. Tupper tabled the export duty on logs and pulp wood per 1,000 feet, board measure. The States impose a duty of 10 cents on logs and 5 cents on pulp. On the products are as follows:

(a) On nickel contained in the ore, or in any other manufactured state, as contained in any matte also contains nickel, the States impose a duty of 10 cents on every pound of nickel ore which contains more than one per cent of nickel when exported, an export duty of 15 per cent on the ore.

(b) On lead contained in the ore, or in any other manufactured state, as contained in any matte also contains lead, the States impose a duty of 10 cents on every pound of lead ore which contains more than one per cent of lead when exported, an export duty of 15 per cent on the ore.

(c) On copper contained in the ore, or in any other manufactured state, as contained in any matte also contains copper, the States impose a duty of 10 cents on every pound of copper ore which contains more than one per cent of copper when exported, an export duty of 15 per cent on the ore.

**CROW'S NEST AGREEMENT.**

From Our Own Correspondent  
 OTTAWA, June 15.—The Railway agreement was discussed after afternoon and went through unchanged. Tupper said that the which the late government proposed to make with Canada, \$5,000 per mile, and a loan of 5 per cent, was better than Mr. Blair's proposal, which would have been a loan of 7 per cent, and an amount per pound equal to the construction of the

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60 bbis. English  
 65c. PER C  
 IN 4-GAL

Elephant White  
 \$5.50 PER

Pure White Lead  
 \$6.00 PE

Pure Mixed Paint  
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Roof Paint, 1  
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5 Tons Barbed  
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 WALL PAPERS, GLASS, PAINTS, OILS, &c.

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Last and all the time Hood's Sarsaparilla has been advertised as a blood purifier. Its great cures have been accomplished through purified blood—cures of scrofula, salt rheum, eczema, rheumatism, neuralgia, catarrh, nervousness, that tired feeling. It cures when others fail, because it

**Always**

Strikes at the root of the disease and eliminates every germ of impurity. Thousands testify to absolute cures of blood diseases by Hood's Sarsaparilla, although discouraged by the failure of other medicines. Remember that

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.  
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