

The Colonist

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1895.

A NEW DISPUTE.

Great Britain has a dispute with the Congo States relative to the trial and execution of Mr. Stokes. This gentleman was accused by Captain Lothaire in the service of Congo State of having committed acts against that state which he considered treasonable. Mr. Stokes was arrested by Capt. Lothaire, tried by a court-martial consisting of the Captain himself and two non-commissioned officers, convicted and executed. All this took place in the wilds of Central Africa, where the proceedings of those in authority are necessarily summary and somewhat rude.

This Mr. Stokes was a British subject. He is described as a Protestant Irishman from Ulster. He went out to Africa as a missionary, but it appears that he was not long in finding out that attempting to convert the heathen was not his vocation and he took to trading, in which business he met with considerable success. It seems, too, that he became a bit of a politician as well as a trader, for he "established" Mwanga a chief or king, who, if our memory serves us, had something to do with Uganda.

Being a British subject, it is the duty of the British Government to find out whether or not he was fairly tried according to the laws of the country, by a competent tribunal. When Captain Lothaire came across Mr. Stokes he was in pursuit of a notorious Arab chief named Kibonge, who was in revolt against the Congo State, and who was accused of being the murderer of Emin Pasha. When the Captain arrived at a place called Kilunga he found his man Kibonge already a prisoner, his followers having mutinied. While at this place Captain Lothaire received letters from a British merchant, who stated that he was in the neighborhood and claimed protection for his ivory and other goods which he intended to carry to the East Coast. This merchant was the ex-missionary Stokes. Captain Lothaire states that he found among the Arab chief's effects treasonable letters from Mr. Stokes, and that other letters of the same character from that person had been handed to him by different chiefs. We may say here that Kibonge had been summarily tried and shot before the discovery of these Stokes letters had been made. In them Mr. Stokes informed Kibonge that he would shortly join him against the forces of the Congo State, and he made suggestions as to how the expected attack of the expedition should be thwarted. The information contained in these letters, the Captain declares, was corroborated by the evidence of the native chiefs, who also stated that Stokes had sold large quantities of arms and ammunition to Kibonge to be used against the forces of Congo State. In fact, according to Captain Lothaire, there was a very strong case against Mr. Stokes. The arms and ammunition in Kibonge's possession when he was made prisoner by his followers were seized, and Captain Lothaire sent men to where Mr. Stokes was sojourning to seize his ivory and other stores, and to take him prisoner. When Mr. Stokes was brought before the court-martial he, according to the story told by his captor, made a clean breast of it. He acknowledged the authenticity of the compromising letters, and confessed to having sold the insurgent chief arms and ammunition. It is easy to understand that under these circumstances it was all up with Mr. Stokes. The court-martial found him guilty of treason and "a flagrant participation in the war against the state, which merited death," and he was accordingly sentenced to die. It is not said what became of Mr. Stokes' ivory and stores, neither is it said whether or not Mr. Stokes' letters are accessible.

The above particulars of Mr. Stokes' apprehension and trial appeared in a Belgian journal friendly to Captain Lothaire. There are other details which give the story a somewhat different complexion and which require explanation. Another Belgian newspaper not quite so friendly to the energetic "commandant" "positively affirms that two officers who accompanied Captain Lothaire refused to take part in the court-martial upon Mr. Stokes and that they were replaced by two non-commissioned officers." Another journal states that Dr. Michaux, who was attached to the expedition, protested strongly against the execution of Mr. Stokes. So desirous was he to save the man's life that he got up at four o'clock in the morning to ask Captain Lothaire where Mr. Stokes was as he desired to speak to him. The Captain's only answer was to show him the dead body of his late prisoner hanging from a bamboo. The Doctor was so shocked and so indignant at the whole business that he insisted on leaving the expedition at once.

This summary execution of a British subject in the wilds of Africa and the confiscation of his property has a very unpleasant appearance, and it will no doubt be made the subject of strict inquiry by the British Government.

TARIFF REVISION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The policy of the Government of New South Wales is to remit specific customs duties to the extent of some two millions and a half dollars, and to levy direct taxes to about that amount. The burden of taxation is not in any degree to be lessened, but it is proposed to make property bear a heavier share of it than it has previously done. In fact, property-land and income-are to make good to the revenue what is taken from it by the remission of customs duties. The Government fixed the land tax at a penny in the pound of land value, with an exemption of £475. This means that the owner of land to the value of about \$2,300 will not pay any land

tax. The income tax is to be sixpence in the pound; but all incomes under \$1,500 a year are exempt. The object of these exemptions is plain enough. It is to make property pay more than its fair share of taxation. This is the kind of tariff revision that the free traders of New South Wales propose. The Legislative Council rejected this measure, which its members believed to be unjust and detrimental to the welfare of the country. There is a class of reformers in these days who believe that it is good policy to place all possible burdens on realized wealth. But they will find that such a policy will cripple the resources of the country and lessen its tax-paying power without conferring the slightest benefit on those who do not possess property. The experiment which New South Wales proposes to make will be watched by the people of other parts of the Empire with interest.

THE NEW REMEDY.

Many people are no doubt desirous to know whether or not the new remedy for diphtheria has proved efficacious. Some time has elapsed since its discovery. It has been used extensively by physicians in many countries. Some of these physicians have, no doubt, kept a record of the cases in which the diphtheria antitoxin was used. What has been the result? A systematic inquiry has it seems been made in Germany. Schedules were forwarded to the physicians of that country and the results of the inquiry have been published. They are substantially as follows:

The period covered was from Oct. 1, 1894 to April 1, 1895, and the record includes 10,312 cases of diphtheria. As the serum remedy was not in general use during the first part at least of this period of six months, it is not at all surprising that in nearly one half of these cases the new remedy was not applied. Of the entire number, 5,835 were treated with anti-toxine, while 4,477 were not. This division afforded an excellent opportunity for comparison, and it is shown that the mortality in the first group (treated with anti-toxine) was only 9.6 per cent., as against 14.7 per cent. for the second group.

Comparisons which take into account the ages of patients and the dates on which the remedy was first applied are even more favorable to the new treatment. In 401 cases children under the age of two years, in which the curative serum was administered on the first or second day of illness the mortality was 11.8 per cent., as against 39.7 per cent. under similar conditions when anti-toxine was not used. It may be noted, also, that the mortality was only 4 per cent. in 2,556 cases of children between the ages of two and ten years, in which the new remedy was used at an early stage, as compared with a rate of 15.2 per cent. for children within the same age limits who were treated without anti-toxine. Early treatment of 696 patients more than ten years old with serum showed a mortality of only 1 per cent., as compared with 3.7 per cent. under the ordinary treatment. It is important that the anti-toxine should be administered at the beginning of the illness; with every successive day thereafter it becomes less and less effective.

These statistics show a death rate of only 4.2 per cent. for cases treated with serum on the first or second day, against the rate of 14.7 per cent. for all the cases in which the new remedy was not used.

It is now known that tetanus, or lockjaw, is caused by a characteristic bacillus, and an anti-toxine has been found for this disease. The remedy has been fairly successful, although the number of cases in which it has been used are comparatively few. An English physician has collected reports of thirty-eight cases in which the anti-toxine was applied. The recoveries were twenty-five and the deaths were thirteen. This physician calculates that under the ordinary treatment the average mortality is 50 per cent. for chronic cases and 90 per cent. for cases that are acute.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(Special to the Colonist.) TORONTO, Sept. 20.—Mrs. Richard McDougall, of Sherbourne street, has given birth to triplets, two boys and a girl. One of the former was still born, but the remaining infants are vigorous. MONTREAL, Sept. 21.—Mr. Shortis, father of "Bertie" Shortis, at present in the Montreal jail awaiting trial for the Valleyfield murders, has sent out to the widow and family of Maxime Leboeuf, one of the victims, the sum of \$1,000. MONTREAL, Sept. 21.—Hon. Mr. Daurier addressed a large meeting at Ste. Anne de la Perade, and referred to the Manitoba school question. He accused the government of having two policies on the question, and of seeking to mislead the people. Mr. Jones, M.P., speaking on the school question, said: "I do not think Mr. Greenway will do anything in the school question. It will remain for the federal government to call the house and pass a remedial order."

TORONTO, Sept. 21.—Joseph Daly, aged 45, proprietor of the Daly house and one of the best known hotel men in the province, died yesterday. The Empress of Russia has made a selection of English hand-printed chintzes for curtains and furniture coverings in one of the Imperial palaces of St. Petersburg. The order amounts to several miles of material, and is probably the largest chintz order ever given for one residence. "I wonder why Cupid is always represented as a little boy. A boy couldn't be such an unerring shot as Cupid." "Couldn't he? Say, did you ever have a small boy and a catnip get a spite against one of your windows?"

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria. "And you say Dodkins is married?" "Yes." "Why, I thought he hadn't a cent of money." "He hadn't. But he's all right now. The young lady has any quantity of cash. All he will have to do now is to clip the coupons off the bonds of matrimony."—Washington Star.

THE BOARD OF TRADE TRIP.

Good Results Likely to Follow Their Visit to West Kootenay Mines.

Further Details of the Trip—Unbounded Hospitality Extended Everywhere.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

NAKUP, Sept. 18.—The issue of the board of trade's excursion to Kootenay has been more happy than even the most hopeful could have predicted. The extension of Victoria's trade will be one of its fruits; Kootenay's mineral wealth and importance will be appreciated on the coast, and a bond of good-fellowship established between its people and the residents on the coast. Each of the excursionists has had his eyes opened, surprise coming in unfeigned succession as the excursionists proceeded, each new revelation seeming greater than its predecessor. The wonderful scenic beauties of the Columbia and Kootenay rivers, and the Arrow and Kootenay lakes, hemmed in by the sea of snow-capped mountains, impressed the board of trade with a sense of the grandeur of the people of the interior delighted them, and the manifest evidences of the district's mineral wealth astonished them beyond measure. They realize that the Kootenay region is the best of indications that the yet they can see that its commerce has already assumed considerable dimensions. They are convinced that its advancement will be great and rapid and that its general development will keep pace with its mineral development. Victoria through its board of trade has made the first organized endeavor to secure this new avenue of commerce, and the reception which its members received is the best of indications that the Kootenay merchants are prepared to do business with them. It is not difficult to see how the interests of Kootenay and the coast can be unified, how these two sections may be worked together for mutual good and develop the resources of the province for the general advantage of its people.

The benefit from such a system will not be all on one side by any means. The visitors have seen sufficient to convince them of the fact that the show mine in the camp, its many of them have made investments in a small way, others on a larger scale are in embryo, and investments of greater magnitude will undoubtedly follow when the visit has been completed and the reports of the ear of local capitalists and urgent claims for consideration. Kootenay requires large appropriations for public works, such as trails, etc. The visitors have been made acquainted with the importance of this requirement, and the result of the trip, Victoria pledged to exert the influence of the board to secure the necessary works for Kootenay. In short, as British Columbians they desire to identify themselves with the development of the interior, and to assist in any way which they can render in this respect which no small return for the advantages incidental to Kootenay's trade. The hospitality of the people of the different towns has been uniform. They spend no pains to entertain their visitors and fully inform them of the wealth of the district. The owners of the mines at which the party called showed a hospitality and courtesy peculiar to a mining camp alone. This was especially the case at the Nitrate King, Deadman, Last Chance and Northern Belle, where food and shelter were provided for which no remuneration would be accepted.

The Silver King, per Ford mountain, was the first of the Lomaxes, the first of the double beam at the disposal of some of the visitors, and others secured saddle horses. Geo. A. Bigelow escorted the party, and as J. R. Ker expressed it, shortened the way by his personal attention. The party was everywhere in the district in its own essentially emphatic and picturesque Western style. At the mine M. S. Davys, superintendent, took the party through the workings, and the party was made acquainted with the Silver King, the quantity of silver ore, and the probable extent of the ore body, but one can have no accurate conception of it without a visit. Though the same amount of work has not been done upon the Silver King since the Lomaxes' visit, the fact has been done to establish its claim as one of the greatest bodies of high grade ore in existence. There is a considerable force of men working in the mine, opening it up, and preparations are being made to work the mine on a large scale. An aerial tramway from the mine to Nelson is all but completed and arrangements have been perfected for the erection of a smelter at Nelson to treat the ore from the mine. It was the discovery of this property which materially hastened the discovery and development of Southern Kootenay and as the visitors stood looking at the immense showings on the property it was not difficult for them to see the importance of the property and the recovery of this property which materially hastened the discovery and development of Southern Kootenay and as the visitors stood looking at the immense showings on the property it was not difficult for them to see the importance of the property and the recovery of this property which materially hastened the discovery and development of Southern Kootenay and as the visitors stood looking at the immense showings on the property it was not difficult for them to see the importance of the property and the recovery of this property which materially hastened the discovery and development of Southern Kootenay and as the visitors stood looking at the immense showings on the property it was not difficult for them to see the importance 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