

Ottawa Surprised That a Foreign Party Has Recaptured the Freedom of Yukon

Canada to Establish a Navy - Newspaper Postage Co. This Year.

From Our Own Correspondent OTTAWA, Jan. 31.-Private from Washington received here state emphatically that if a Yukon expedition is sent, and there is no doubt on the subject, it will be a military character. The war department waiting advices from Capt. Ray somewhere in the vicinity of City.

No special legislation is required for the establishment, as proposed, of a naval force in Canada. The acting department of militia and defence provides for a marine force all that is required for the navy to give effect to this portion of the bill. It is probable, however, that the force will be placed under the command of a naval officer, as he is father project.

A bill re-imposing newspaper is one of the seasonal certain took two box cars to carry last day's issue of two newspapers. Ten leading bankers, representing Canadian Bankers' Association viewed the government to-day subject of insolvency legislation Walker, of Toronto, said that the matter of difference between the boards of directors, viz. as rights of holder to negotiate paper upon the estates of endorse the banks asked was single rank their unimpaired rights under of maker and endorser, which they would pay full value for. If they get this, they must oppose the in cy bill.

It is now stated on authority junior clerks in the civil service who are receiving small will get an increase this year. Speaker Edgar arrived to-night Dandurand will move address and the seconder will be the Ontario Senator to be appointed to the Board of Commerce Mr. Bertram and Mr. Gauvreau second the address. The speech from the throne is It was considered in council last and again to-day. It will refer other things to the development of the board of Mr. Fielding as The Yukon gold mining boom mentioned, and the necessity that communication with that country be secured will be emphasized. will be preliminary to the intro of a bill to ratify the Mackenzie arrangement. Satisfaction with the denunciations and the denunciations have the effect of making the arrangements of obligations with respect to the lack of a bill to establish a fund for the purpose of the government measures promised in reference to the franchise and prohibition plebiscite, to amend and solidate the irrigation act, to amend the act, to amend the act, to amend the act.

CANADIANS IN ALASKA Proposal to Extend to Them the F Enjoyed by Foreigners in Canada WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.-S Carter has offered to the bill the right of way in Alaska an ment which affirms and continues present mining regulations, and adds the following provisions: "Provided that no territory of the Dominion of Canada shall be ceded in said territory of Alaska same mining rights and privileges to citizens of the United States British Columbia and the Territories by the laws of the Dominion of Canada or the local laws, rules and regulations."

RUSSIA IN CHINA. Only Visiting for the Winter an Arthur Open to British Trade LONDON, Jan. 31.-It is announced the best authority, that the Anglo-Japanese plan of campaign certain eventualities is unfounded such matter has occupied the attention of the two countries, and no engagement has been agreed upon to secure development in China. As regards Arthur, the Russian fleet, accord the same authority, is only the winter quarters, and the statement to a Russian occupation are unfounded. It is stated that the English ships should anchor there if required. The Manchester Guardian has the difficulty in the Far East solved by the opening of Port Arthur on the same terms as Kiel. Great Britain withdrawing her fleet for the opening of Talienwan.

PERIN, Jan. 31.-The German has taken measures locally for the killing of the German seaman Kinabon, but serious results anticipated. It is supposed that Great Britain withdrawal from Port Arthur ceasing to exert pressure for the of the port of Talien Wan, which was regarded as incredible and to British interests and preventing owing to her disbelief in the existence of a secret treaty between Russia and China. The Chinese government quotes this treaty as a reason for its presence in Port Arthur, and despatches to the Tientsin Yamen that the occupation of Port Arthur accordance with the treaty. CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 31.-The auxiliary cruiser Saratoff, below the volunteer fleet, with 12 quick guns and 1,000 troops on board through the Bosphorus yesterday the way to Vladivostok. Waterproof mackintosh with or without hood Williams & Co.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1898.

THE LAKE TESLIN RAILWAY.

Hon. Clifford Sifton has declared that the task of constructing the Stikine-Teslin railway is almost superhuman. This is strong language, but not too strong. Few people can grasp the magnitude of what Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann have undertaken. We believe they will succeed, but only those, who have made accurate calculations of what must be done in order that the 150 miles of railway may be completed by September 1st, can have any idea of the magnitude of the undertaking. The actual work of building the road is not a very serious matter. If the contractors were given two years in which to do the work, they would accomplish it without any very great difficulty; but it is to be remembered that they have practically only four months, and that during this short period, everything used in constructing the railway, except the right of way and the ballast, must be taken up the Stikine river. This is what will make the undertaking exceptionally difficult, and if the contractors can manage to carry out their bargain, they will deserve the first place among railway builders. We venture to say that no men ever before undertook to build one hundred and fifty miles of railway under such circumstances in the same length of time. Fortunately both the contractors are men who have energy and experience to assist them in their tremendous undertaking, and the fact they have put up a very substantial guarantee shows that they believe themselves able to do what they are attempting.

THEY ARE COMING TO VICTORIA.

Hundreds of intending Yukoners are coming to Victoria. Licenses are being taken out here at the rate of fifty a day already and as the season advances the number will increase. The wretched attempt of the Seattle morning paper to create the impression that licenses could be obtained at Skagway and Lake Tagish has been so thoroughly exposed by the COLONIST that we do not suppose many persons will hereafter be deceived by it. As the news gets spread around thousands of people will seek the British Columbia cities, and once here they will find that it will pay them better to buy their goods here than to purchase them in the United States.

In this connection it may be well to mention that a misapprehension exists as to the shipment of goods North, when they have been bought in the United States. We do not advise any one to buy goods in an American city, for if he does he will pay more for them than he would have to pay here and the duties besides; but as many persons have already bought outfits in the Sound cities, it is proper to inform them that, while they may not send those outfits to points in the territory of the United States in British bottoms, there is nothing in the laws of the United States to prevent them from bringing the goods to Victoria, paying duties on them here and sending them forward from here to any other point in Canada, even if in so doing they must pass across a portion of territory in possession of the United States. It would be against the law of the United States to send a British vessel to Seattle and load her with goods consigned to Dyea or Wrangell; but it is not against the law of that country to load goods from the United States on a British bottom and take them to Wrangell or Dyea en route to any point in Canada. The first is illegal, because the laws for the regulation of coasting forbid it; the second has nothing to do with coasting.

We mention this because there may be some people, who come here for licenses, but having bought their outfits in the United States, are under the impression that they must ship their goods North in an American vessel, simply because they must be unloaded in transitu at a port over which the government of the United States exercises jurisdiction. If they will look into the law they will find that they can bring their outfits with them, pay the duty on them here and send them North on a British bottom. Goods from the United States on which duty has been paid become British goods and must be treated in arriving at any port in the United States just the same as if they were goods of British origin.

As it is becoming generally known that the licenses can only be obtained on the Coast in British Columbia cities, as the fact that duties averaging 80 per cent. will be collected at the Canadian frontier is now known everywhere, as it is becoming understood that prices are lower here than in the United States cities, and as there will, hereafter, be no difficulties placed in the way of the transportation of Canadian goods across territory in the occupation of the United States, that is if the assurances from Washington and Ottawa are to be credited, the British Columbia cities ought to get the very great bulk of the outfitting trade. Already the streets of Victoria show abundant evidence that the stream has turned in this direction with increasing force, and in a volume that is steadily growing.

ROSELAND is going to have a mid-winter carnival. Is there anything else which that blessed locality would like to appropriate.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS.

A very interesting case arose in Halifax recently in which the right of teachers to administer corporal punishment in schools came up. The facts were as follows: A boy refused to take off his cap when required by the rules of the school to do so. A lady teacher thereupon made him step out of the ranks of the pupils, and he kicked her. He received three strokes on the hand with a rubber strap and was told to go upstairs. Refusing to go he received two strokes on the legs which caused a discolouration of the skin for ten days. For this the principal was brought before the stipendiary magistrate, who after hearing the evidence and what counsel had to allege, dismissed the case.

The stipendiary magistrate, in delivering judgment, said that the teacher had the right to act in loco parentis so far as was necessary for the enforcement of law and order, and this obligation could not be withdrawn by a notice from the parent. The teacher ought to be informed of the boy's peculiarities, but it would be subversive of discipline if his right to administer punishment could be taken away by notice from a parent. The criminal law of Canada permits corporal punishment by teachers, and the school regulations of localities generally prescribe how it shall be administered. A teacher who accepts a salary is bound to use such means for enforcing discipline if he finds them necessary. In punishing a pupil a teacher should endeavor as far as he can to place himself in the same attitude towards a pupil as a parent would occupy to a child, and his special training in disciplining boys ought to count in lieu of parental affection in determining whether he has exercised reasonable discretion. In short the stipendiary placed the teacher upon precisely the same ground as a parent. A teacher cannot be prima facie supposed to have been actuated by malice, and unless evidence is given establishing malice, he must be acquitted on a charge for assault.

Commenting upon this judgment the Educational Journal of St. John, advised teachers to exhaust every other means of enforcing discipline before resorting to corporal punishment, which should never be administered in anger, and only after the pupil has had a fair trial. The punishment, it thinks, ought to be given with a leather or rubber strap, and it should take place at least an hour before the boy is allowed to go home. It should only be applied to those portions of the body where the pain will be temporary and where no permanent injury can be done.

There is a good deal of common sense in all this; and while most of us would prefer that boys should not be whipped at school, we all know that it is impossible to maintain discipline in all cases unless the teacher is empowered to whip those who will not submit to the rules of the school, and is properly sustained by those to whom he is responsible in every case where he does not clearly exceed his authority.

THE APPROACHING SESSION.

The forthcoming session of the legislature is likely to be of very considerable importance, as it is reasonable to suppose the government to have in contemplation measures calculated to promote provincial interests in a manner in keeping with the general trend of events in the Pacific Northwest. Never in the history of this province has there been so momentous a period, and the best ability possessed by our public men may well be taxed to the utmost to meet its necessities. We have reason to believe that the government appreciates the character of the emergency and will be able to submit measures to the legislature well calculated to meet it in part at least. It is hardly within the financial ability of the province to attempt everything that presses for attention.

In the formulation of a vigorous and comprehensive policy we feel sure the government will have the support of the house and the people. To expect that partisan opposition will be allowed to rest in view of the diverse and urgent demands for development coming from all parts of the province and rendered necessary by the rapid changes in progress all around us, is to look for too much; to hope that sectional feelings will be entirely subordinated to the general interest would be to be foredoomed to disappointment. Yet we may plead for the dismissal of partisanship and sectionalism as far as possible, and ask that all measures submitted will be dealt with purely upon their merits.

We hope that nothing will be left un-done whereby the business of the session may be expedited. Owing to the conditions existing in this province and in part owing to the rules of the legislature itself, it is impossible to push through business as rapidly here as is done in some of the other provinces. But if the promoters of private legislation have their work ready at an early day there can be a good deal of time saved, which is specially important this year, because the session must be followed by a general election, and in a busy year like the present it is not desirable that men should have their attention distracted from their ordinary business any more than is absolutely necessary. We may expect considerable discussion. We know that the government

invites the closest criticism of its action in all departments. During the recess there has been very much loose talk against the ministers, and things have been said which, if accompanied by even a scintilla of evidence to support them, would have been damaging to the reputation of the government and the gentlemen who compose it. The session will afford an opportunity for the formulation of specific accusations, which have as yet not been forthcoming. If any such are made, we are confident that the government can meet them successfully. If none are made, the reasonable inference will be that which the public has already drawn from the character of the newspaper attacks, namely, that in point of fact the opposition have nothing to allege, and that the administration of affairs by Mr. Turner and his colleagues has been such as deserves a renewed expression of confidence from the voters.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE CHINESE.

The public will have learned with much satisfaction that the Provincial Board of Health has determined to take such steps as may be necessary to protect the public health from the injurious effects likely to result from the unsanitary practices of the Chinese. It will be admitted that action of some kind is needed, although there may be some difficulty in suggesting what lines it ought to take. The Board has shown itself able to grasp more difficult problems than this, and we feel very sure it will discover how to prevent the Chinese element of the population from becoming a menace to the public. If it can do nothing more, it can at least give warning of the sources from which danger is likely to come, so that people may be upon their guard.

The Chinese question is one of very great difficulty. It seems almost impossible, as things now are, to get along without Chinamen. What the people of Victoria or the other cities of British Columbia would do for domestic help if they were not available is not a very easy question to answer. But while this is so, and while in the very prosperous times now at hand the difficulty of getting along without Mongolian labor may be intensified, this is no reason why these people should be allowed to be mischievous from a sanitary point of view. There are two ways of looking at this question. One is the demagogic way of crying out that white labor is threatened, and to demand, in consequence, things which are at present impossible; the other, and by far the more sensible, plan is to take the case as it is and endeavor to reduce the evil to a minimum. If the COLONIST has not joined in the cry of the demagogue, the reason has been that it is useless to do so under the laws of Canada as they stand.

The Columbian accuses the COLONIST of having some two weeks or so ago asserted that Mr. J. C. Brown, the COLONIST has not the habit of sneering at any one, and did not sneer at Mr. Brown. Does it not strike our contemporary that such observations run politics pretty low into the ground. We all fight our political battles, but ought surely to be able to avoid exciting personal feeling and keeping alive grudges. If the COLONIST attacked have been made upon its character, its motives and the objects and motives of those associated with it in any way, it would be at sword's points with half the press of the province. It does not remember such things. It supposes that the papers that say hard things do so because they believe that it is the best way to advance the interests which they are advocating. We know that they do not feel towards the COLONIST and those associated with it as their language sometimes implies. We say to the Columbian that if the COLONIST made any observation regarding Mr. J. C. Brown in a public capacity it was not intended as a sneer at him personally. But we do not recall any remark in connection with Mr. Brown's name that can be so construed.

The United States is sending soldiers up to Dyea and Skagway in order that they may keep tally of the people going North and what provisions they are taking with them. We think this is a very sensible thing to do, if it is followed up by ascertaining what private commercial companies will send in to supply the winter's demand. While no doubt exists as to the magnitude of next winter's demand for food supplies, there is also happily very little doubt as to the ability of enterprising business concerns to get large stocks of goods into the country. What can be taken up the Yukon and over the Passes will not be anything like sufficient for the needs of the population; but the Stikine-Teslin railway will afford a means of transportation that will be utilized to the fullest extent. Thousands of tons can be taken in that way. We look with confidence to the establishment of winter communication between the Stikine and Dawson City during the whole of next winter, so that any supplies that can be got up the river during the season of navigation can be pushed forward.

It is a poor week that the European telegraphic correspondents cannot get up a new sensation. At present Norway and Sweden are the nations that are about to rupture the peace of the world. This is the old story retold without the change of a syllable.

THE COLONIST is accused by the Times of endeavoring to lay a trap for the defendant newspapers in the libel suits. It is doing nothing of the kind. It is endeavoring to edgel into the minds of those papers some faint conception of their rights as newspapers. At the same time it frankly concedes that it would not be in good taste for them to discuss the subject matter of the libels pending the trial of the suits against them. This would not be to their advantage, from considering the political aspect of the action of the ministers. Cannot the Times see the distinction? We are beginning to believe that it cannot. For a time we confess that we thought the Times and its fellow-defendants were simply afraid to assert their rights. We are fast coming to the conclusion that they are densely ignorant as to what those rights are. This is a pity; but we can tell them that their rights have been accurately defined by the COLONIST. We do not feel called upon to pursue the subject any further.

The Columbian prints a long and very serious article complaining of the action of the Attorney-General in regard to the death of Thomas J. Thompson, who was alleged to have been drowned by his boat being run into by the steamer R. P. Rithet. The Attorney-General investigated the case and reported that from the evidence in his possession he did not feel justified in taking criminal proceedings, but he added that the decision did not bar any civil action which the friends of the deceased might see fit to institute. It appears also that the Department of Marine and Fisheries has declined to investigate the case. We can understand why the Columbian might be justified in finding fault with the latter department for not taking any action, but cannot see why it should find fault with the Attorney-General who has investigated the matter. If the Columbian thinks the latter came to a wrong conclusion, why does it not give the facts which lead it to think so.

We fear our friend the Seattle Times is letting its reason run away with its judgment. It says that the regulations as to mining licenses are a boomerang to Victoria, because the licenses are for sale in other Canadian cities besides Victoria. We hardly see how the observation fits the case, for Victoria never asked that licenses should not be sold elsewhere in Canada. We observe that the Times is too honorable to print the Post-Intelligencer's falsehood about the licenses being for sale at Skagway and Lake Tagish. In the end the public will commend the Times for its refusal to follow the lead of its irresponsible morning contemporary in the publication of falsehoods deliberately meant to deceive the miners. The Times is making a good fight for its city, but is not resorting to untruth, although on several occasions it has fallen into errors through not quite understanding the situation.

There was considerable comment in Europe a few days ago over the fact that the Kaiser selected for a text to be preached from, just before the departure of Prince Henry for China, the following words: "Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the heathen." As one writer puts it, he evidently meant the public to substitute the words Chinese for heathen. The growth of imperialism is one of the most remarkable things of the day. There is small wonder at it, in view of the manner in which parliamentary government in Germany is failing to make its due influence felt, the scandalous disorders which disturb the Austrian parliament and the confessed uselessness of the French chamber. It was never more true than it is to-day that popular institutions are on their trial.

The absurdity of the Yukon relief scheme is pretty well demonstrated by the report of Captain Ray, U.S.A. Why should any government undertake to send supplies down the Yukon after the river opens for navigation? Commercial houses are arranging to do this and they ought not to be interfered with. It is, of course, none of our business whether or not the United States government chooses to send supplies down to Fort Yukon, which is in Alaska, but we protest against that government being permitted to take goods into the Canadian Yukon and sell them in competition with legitimate commercial shipments. And still more do we protest against that government being allowed to take in goods for the latter purpose without paying duty, as has been proposed.

We are not particularly in love with the regulations for issuing timber licenses in the Yukon, but it is a mistake to say, as the Winnipeg Nor'-Wester does, that the holders of the limits can prevent miners from cutting what lumber they actually need. The mining license gives that privilege. We point this out so that miners may not be misled.

THE POST-INTELLIGENCER says the Canadian government cannot close the passes because United States citizens have a right to navigate the Yukon. The trouble with the Seattle paper is that it is so marvellously ignorant of everything as to be unable to understand what is meant by the closing of the passes. No one ever suggested that the Canadian government should say that no one should go over the passes and down the river, but simply that no one should take goods into Canada to be consumed there by that route. If a man wanted to go down the Yukon to Circle City he would be allowed to do so on payment of duty on his goods, which duty would be refunded when he left Canada; but if he intended to make use of his goods in Canada he would be told that he would have to enter them at the custom house at Glenora. However, we hope there will be no occasion for any action along this line, but that arrangements will be made that will prove satisfactory to all concerned.

PASSENGERS coming in on the Australian boats say that Victoria is hardly brought under their notice until they reach here, when most of those who intend staying in the province find that it would have been to their advantage to have made this city their stopping place. It has been recommended that Victoria business men should send the city papers by the outgoing steamers to be left at Honolulu for the incoming steamers, which would serve to bring the city before the notice of the passengers. We believe the suggestion is a good one and urge it upon the consideration of all interested.

SEATTLE people are talking of duplicating the outfits lost in the Corona without expense to the losers. It will be very much like Seattle to do this. That city has a deserved reputation for generosity. If our Victoria merchants will profit by the late incident, they will undertake the insurance of all outfits purchased from them. The cost will be trifling, but the advantage all round would be very great.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

PROGRESS IN ONE DIRECTION. Canadians last year smoked 98,500,000 cigarettes or 15,400,000 more than in 1896. They also drank a tenth of a gallon a head of excised spirits more than they did in 1896. It looks as if a lot of prohibition that won't come after the plebiscite.—Montreal Gazette.

NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

Not the least interesting feature of the approaching session of the legislative assembly will be the formal opening of the new parliament buildings at Victoria. The general outline of the design, in style though treated in so original a manner as to make any particular description somewhat misleading. It is evident that the building has been designed more in a spirit of accordance with the materials at hand and in conformity with local requirements than with a desire to follow academic rules. The result consequently is much more interesting and distinctive because it is originality. The huge masses of gray stone, towering above to present a quaint old wooden government offices embedded in the midst of green foliage, with the blue waters of James bay in the foreground and the glorious Olympic mountains behind, produce a most beautiful, and in its way, unequalled effect. The stone used in the structure is of a pearly grey color, of a very transparent tone, and casts delicate airy shadows with each change of the sky. The particular quality of the stone adds a great charm to the building.—Roseland Miner.

MUST STAND FIRM.

We thoroughly endorse every word of the leading article in last Tuesday's COLONIST in reference to the closing of the passes at the head of Lynn Canal, until satisfactory regulations are acting in the officers' hands at Skagway and Dyea. Unless we take some decisive steps of some kind or other, the United States government will not be other than ourselves at all about it.—Nanaimo Reviewer.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Ledgerby.—It does seem good to see old Daybake back at his desk after his long illness. Billie.—You bet it does—I was afraid it was another case of "all round for a floater."—Detroit Free Press. Nell.—Mr. Stillness is only an apology for a man. Belle.—Well, wouldn't you accept an apology if it were offered.—Boston Traveller. "Well," remarked Li Hung Chang, as he signed a check for some more indemnity, "it isn't as bad as it might be." "How could our affairs be worse?" inquired the emperor. "They might have insisted on whipping us."—C. O. D., instead of taking notes for it. "He—Darling, don't you know that it is unkindly to postpone a wedding?" She.—I can't help that. My dressmaker says, "I'm afraid it would be more unkindly before having all the clothes I want made while my father is still willing to pay for them."—Washington Star. "Oh, mamma, do Christians eat preachers just like the cannibals do?" "Why, no, my child. What put that notion into your head?" "I heard that Deacon said this morning that she was going to have her minister for lunch."—Brooklyn Life. "It seems strange," muttered the literary hack, "that I never can climb up in the world, when I am always trading lore for hire."—New Orleans Times-Democrat. "What did you think of the living pictures?" asked the student boarder. "I thought they were barely fair." "I answered the Cheerful Idiot, "thought they were fairly bare."—Indianapolis Journal. "Th' wuz a feller back there that played a disgitin' trick on me while I wuz asleep." "What did he do to you, Wenz?" "He cut off me coattails all around." "I don't see but what 't coot looks as well as ever." "Yes, but you don't 't'pose I want to get all 't' 400 down on me by cleaving a black-listed Tuxed, do you?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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The Toronto Globe says the provincial government of Ontario is certain to be sustained at the forthcoming elections, and the Mail and Empire says it will certainly be defeated. Each has, we presume, exclusive information; but we advise both, in the words of Artemus Ward, never to prophesy unless they know.

It is possible that the Times does not know that several houses in Victoria are, and have for some time been, writing insurance on miners' outfits? The Montreal and Toronto papers are awakening to the possibilities of the Yukon trade. They have been a long time about it. We hope some good will result now that they are aroused.

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