

at 9 o'clock one morning to convince the complacent gentleman that he was sadly mistaken. By noon there was a rushing fall in prices, and the once jubilant merchant was a bankrupt. With the news he also received from Mr. Armour the offer of an instant and friendly loan of \$500,000 in cash.

A number of ladies and gentlemen of Winnipeg have formed themselves into a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. A Winnipeg exchange expresses the opinion that although cruelty to dumb beasts is not so prevalent in that city as in other places, a strong necessity exists for such a society.

Victoria, I understand, has some sort of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, but the offenses are so numerous and the prosecutions so rare that one is inclined to doubt its existence. Why should not the society be re-organized? I do not believe that cruelty is more prevalent here than in other places of the same size; in fact I strongly incline to the belief that our dumb animals are treated with more tenderness than in the majority of places. But as the *Manitoba Free Press* says concerning Winnipeg, it would be unreasonable to suppose that in a community of our size, including all sorts and conditions of people, there are not often practices which for humanity's sake it would be well to check. Heretofore there has been no organization, so far as I know, specially charged with this duty, and the consequence has been that offenders have been permitted to practice their little cruelties without restraint. With a society specially organized to protect helpless animals against the abuses of cruelty and avarice, there will be some warrant, or at any rate some encouragement, to interfere in their behalf and impress upon the minds of those disposed to offend that dumb animals in this enlightened and Christian country are entitled to decent treatment and must be accorded it.

I was pleased to note in the *Colonist* of 27th inst. a letter from the Provincial analyst dealing with the water supply in this city. He says, amongst other things, "It is a well known fact that lime is a great precipitant of organic matter. Now, there is hardly any lime in Elk Lake water, and I think it is to this that we have so much to complain of." Now, in this, I perfectly agree with Mr. Carmichael, and, further, it may not be generally known that tumor and cancer are two diseases which often follow certain streams, and it is well known that a very large proportion of the deaths in this city are from the latter of these maladies. Judging from this fact, it may not be assuming too much to look upon

the water as the cause, *prima facie*, of the trouble.

Mr. Carmichael suggests applying to the London water companies to ask them as to the means by which they obtained good water from an impure source; and here again I am with him, as I feel sure that those corporations would be only too glad to allow us to benefit by their experience. And I cannot urge too strongly upon the Corporation that now is the time to be up and doing. Something should be done at once to stop the fearful mortality amongst infants.

In reference to the meeting of Anarchists held in New York, on Monday night, to celebrate the murder of President Carnot, a gentleman, now connected with a Victoria newspaper, recalls a similar meeting held in New York about March 13, 1881, in connection with the assassination of Alexander I, Emperor of Russia. This meeting was held in the saloon of Justus Schwab, on First street, New York, at no great distance from the Bowery. The bar proper was hung with mottoes in the English and continental languages, each being wreathed with flowers and evergreens. This apartment, or rather series of apartments, was filled with a gathering that may be said to have been nondescript, and a perfect Babel of tongues was the consequence. Saloon Keeper Schwab was manifestly the ruling spirit of the celebration and may be said to have done a roaring trade. The speeches in English and French were of the most blood-thirsty character, the deliverances of the "foreigners" even exceeding in their intensity those of the men just referred to. The mildest looking man among them all was Schwab himself, but his words belied his general appearance, his face in repose being not unlike some of the most benevolent conceptions of the great masters. Whether he spoke in English or some of the continental dialects with which he was familiar, Schwab did not fail to rouse his hearers to the pitch of passion, the other demagogues doing their utmost in the same direction. Not alone on the bar basement, but in the other storeys of the building meetings were held that were addressed in turn by the orators of the occasion. Kings and capitalists were denounced as tyrants, and to them it was urged the same "punishment" should be meted out as had been the fate of the luckless cigar. The meetings were in no way secret; but anyone who chose was free to come and go, while no attempt was made by the authorities to interfere with the parties responsible for these revolutionary utterances.

The electors of the Province of British Columbia will have one more week in which to decide as to whether they will

cast their votes in favor of the present Government, or that which Keith, Coe, Dutton and Company propose to give the country in case the Government is in minority. The return of four supporters of Mr. Davie by acclamation certainly looks as if his party would be stronger in the next House than in the last. If such will be the case is fully borne out by the reports which come from nearly every constituency on the Mainland, and results on the Island, it is anticipated will be even more satisfactory.

A feature of the campaign is the absence of unanimity which prevails in the Opposition camp. The Victoria candidates disclaim any sympathy whatever with the semi-weekly proclamations issued by Mr. Cotton from his prison home, so far Mr. Cotton has not dropped a word which would lead one to believe that he was even aware of the existence of Milne, Beaven, Dutton and Cameron. It is clearly manifested that the Victoria Opposition acknowledge Mr. Beaven as their leader, those of Nanaimo, the blatant ignoramus, Tom Keith, while three Opposition candidates in Vancouver have pledged themselves to follow the standard of Cotton.

On the other hand, the Government candidates are a unit as to the wisdom of the policy pursued by Mr. Davie in the past. There are no conflicting elements and this gives confidence that whatever the Premier and his colleagues undertake will be performed without dissension from within. They know that a party divided against itself cannot stand, which is something the Opposition forces do not seem to realize.

As far as Victoria is concerned there is little doubt that the four Government candidates will be returned. The electors of this city have watched the tactics of the Opposition, and it is scarcely necessary to add that they have become disgusted therewith. Of course there is great sympathy for Dr. Milne, for it can be denied that the doctor is justly popular in many quarters. But he has chosen the evil companionship of Beaven and Dutton, and now he must struggle equally with them. It is generally conceded that Mr. Rithet and Hon. J. Turner will head the poll; and it is confidently believed that Messrs. Helmer and Braden will not be far behind. It is the duty of the elector who believes in honest, progressive government to turn Messrs. Turner, Rithet, Helmer and Braden with overwhelming majorities.

Patriotic Canadians from the Atlantic to the Pacific will observe next Monday the anniversary of the birth of the young Dominion. Canada, it has frequently been remarked, is the brightest jewel in Her Majesty Queen Victoria's crown,