Consistent Mr. Martin

Lately an Independent But Now Warns Electors Against the Type.

Furnishes Reason for Opposing Martin While Favoring Government Policy.

The position of the independent in politics appears to be occasioning Hon. Mr. Martin considerable alarm, for this was the text of the only part of his address at Saanichton, pretending to be serious and argumentative. Again at Chemainus Saturday he went over the same ground, amplifying and making more plausible his original argument.

In all parts of the province, he said, candidates were coming forward as independent representatives, while many good citizens were joining in the cry "give us business men in the house so that thereby we shall get a good government."

With all regard for the business capacity of these so-called independents, for their individual smallness, their worth as citizens, and their desire to do right, what did entrusting the representation of any district to an independent mean?

It meant renunciation by the electors of their right under the principles of constitutional government to express their own opinions on the issues of the day. It meant handing over to one man, to be dealt with as suited his individual wish, the power of the people. It meant leaving for him to do or not to do, the matters and things in contrasting political issues presented to the people at the polls, and upon which it was for the people, not one man, to pass judgment on.

Only when he came to the legislative chamber was the unpledged independent supposed to make up his mind as to the party to be favored with his vote and support, and it would be found that they usually went where the independent saw most prospect of advantage to himself.

As for a practical application, so strongly was he averse to the indefinite, unrepresentative place of the independent in politics that should the forthcoming election result in a close division of the straight defined parties with a sufficient number of independents to turn the scale of power either way, he proposed making no overtures for this unrepresentative support, particularly as the captured independents would at all times have the government at mercy and be in a position to extort unfair concessions for themselves or their constituencies by dangling over the governmental head the power of an adverse vote.

Nor was the personality of leadership a legitimate and honest factor of the issue. Up to date in the present campaign there had been little attempt to discuss the issues, and a too great tendency to deal with the man Martin. It seemed indeed as though he was to be regarded as the plague of locusts that once came to Manitoba and to combat which all classes of the community joined hands, sinking their private differences and forgetting politics.

So to-day in British Columbia it seemed the aim of his opponents to induce the people to forget all the principles at issue and unite for the annihilation of the bad man Martin. He only asked in this connection, a bill of particulars of his offence. What had he in truth to do with the issues? It was not him, but the policy, clear-cut, distinct and definite, that was to be passed upon by the electors at the polls, and upon which until the voting day he invited the fullest, freest criticism.

Passing to a brief review of his own record in Pacific province politics, Hon. Mr. Martin argued that his course had, on all occasion been consistent and dictated by his desire to accomplish the most good for the great mass of the people. At the time of the last general election, he contended, he had in reality been elected as an independent, for while he had been in hearty smypathy with every detail of the platform of the then opposition and in cordial disagreement with the policy of the Turner government, he did not concur in the leadership, believing Mr. Semlin, if his chance should come, neither able enough, nor forceful enough to be entrusted with the formation and direction of a government and the carrying out successfully of the course outlined in his party's enunciated policy.

Time had proved his estimate to be correct, and while he had waived his own judgment in deference to the party voice when Mr. Semlin had been called upon by His Honor to form a government, he had, while according loyal support, always retained sufficient independence to stand firm when he saw the party's policy about to be departed from—and herein was the secret of his distastefulness to his colleagues in that government.

* * *

From the above brief reference to a portion of Hon. Mr. Martin's Chemainus address it will be seen how contradictory he can on occasion become, even in the course of a few moments. He warns the electorate against the independent in politics, and in the very next breath declares that it was as an independent, and only as an independent, that he could be induced to run at the last general contest; he appeals for an elimination of all personal questions in politics, yet plainly says that it was an account of his personal opinion of Mr. Semlin that he could not be induced to give a loyal, unqualified support to his own party at the last general election. Consistency would appear to be not quite the brightest gem in Mr. Martin's political crown.

PROMISE OF NEW STEAMER.

Pacific Coast Company Discuss the Construction of a Floating Palace.

According to the San Francisco papers the Pacific Coast Steamship Company are contemplating the construction, for the San Francisco, Victoria and Alaska run, of a passenger steamship which shall surpass in speed and elegance anything now on the Coast. The handsome craft is expected to be 270 feet in length over all, with a breadth of 40 feet—or a trifle smaller than the steamer Queen. Modern equipment is, however, to be her main feature, electricity being a special characteristic, and a magnificent observatory occupying the entire after portion of the hurricane deck. Electric freight and passenger elevators are a decided novelty in the equipment plan, while the furnishings of the craft are to be luxurious beyond anything yet seen on this side of the continent.

LOCAL NEWS.

Death of Mrs. Choate.—There passed away at the family home on Cameron street, this city, on Sunday, Mrs. Elizabeth Choate, a native of Elgin county, Ontario, and relict of the late Charles H. Choate, aged 65 years. The funeral is arranged for this afternoon.

Another Flag.—Mr. J. H. Turner has presented a flag to the city schools, so that about all are now supplied. The poll at the South Park school was erected yesterday.

Death's Hand.—The death occurred at St. Mary's hospital, New Westminster on Monday, of Thomas John Partridge, eldest son of T. J. Partridge, late water collector for the city. The deceased was a native of Norfolk, England, aged 49 years, and came to the province in the early sixties with his parents. The remains were brought over from the Mainland yesterday and the funeral will take place at 2:30 this afternoon from the family residence, 113 Quadra street and at 2:45 at St. John's church.

Mansion House Fund.—At an entertainment given in Huff's hall, Alberni, on the 21st March last, and a supper supplied by the ladies of the district, a collection was taken up amounting to $88.61. Since then several small subscriptions have been received, bringing the total up to $97.61. After paying sundry expenses a net balance of $94.11 has been forwarded to the Lord Mayor of London on behalf of the fund. In a notice of the entertainment in the Colonist of 26th March last it was inadvertently omitted to be stated that Mr. Huff very generously gave his hall free for the entertainment, besides contributing of his talents, which is always appreciated by an Alberni audience.

Off For South Africa.—The word comes from Vancouver, in a telegram to Dr. Wilson of the Hotel Driard, that Mr. A. L. N. Heygate—who has been day clerk at that hotel for some time past—has been successful in the plan near to his heart, and has been accepted for service in the supplementary fifty for Strathcona's Horse. It will be remembered that when volunteers were first called for from the West, Mr. Seymour Hastings O'Dell, who had been acting as clerk of the Driard, promptly offered himself for service at the front. He was succeeded by Mr. Heygate, and when Strathcona's Horse was being recruited he too heard his country's call. Greatly to his disappointment, he was not accepted, the complement of men being already obtained. The new chance came with the making up of the extra fifty, and the Driard's second representative to the battlefield goes forward to-day.

Reception to Grand Master.—The joint committee from the different I. O. O. F. lodges in the city met last evening to receive the reports of the subcommittees and perfect arrangements for the reception of the Grand Master on Monday evening next. Victoria Lodge will have a short session and adjourn by 8:30 o'clock, after which the lodge room will be thrown open to Odd Fellows and their families, including the Sisters of Rebekah. There will be short addresses by Grand Master Welsh and others, songs, recitations, etc., followed by refreshments. A good orchestra will also be in attendance. On Tuesday evening the Sisters of Rebekah will give an "at home," at which the Grand Master has signified his intention of being present. This evening Columbia Lodge will confer the first degree and select the team which will present the third degree for the entertainment of the Grand Lodge next June.

Easter Wedding.—At St. Paul's church, Esquimalt, on Monday morning at 11 o'clock was celebrated the wedding of Mr. C. B. Innes, second son of Mr. J. H. Innes, formerly naval storekeeper at Esquimalt, and now of Upper Norwood, London, England, to Miss Roberta Elizabeth, second daughter of Lt.-Col. R. Wolfenden of this city. The ceremony was performed by the rector, Rev. C. Ensor Sharp, assisted by Venerable Archdeacon Scriven, and was witnessed by the immediate relatives and friends of the contracting parties. The bridegroom was attended by his brother A. V. W. Innes and the bride by her sister Miss Kate C. Wolfenden. After the ceremony, the wedding party were driven to the residence of the bride's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Mathews, where they received the congratulations of their friends. The honeymoon is being spent along the line of the E. & N. railway. Upon their return Mr. and Mrs. Innes will take up their residence in a pretty bungalow on Robert street, Victoria West.

Atlin Souvenirs.—Thanks to the enterprise of Mrs. Mary E. Hitchcock, there are now on sale in the local book stores very pretty souvenir postal-cards of Atlin. The scenery of that new camp is so magnificent that it cannot be too frequently presented.

BRITISH PUBLIC MEN.

Mr. Goldwin Smith Discusses Some Possibilities.

From the Toronto Weekly Sun.

It seems to be settled that when the South African business is over Lord Salisbury will retire. He is worn, broken and weary, as well he may be, considering what a burden he has borne, and of late without domestic solace. A prime minister ought not to hold a department; he ought to be free to overlook and control all the departments without being weighed with the details of any one of them. Had Lord Salisbury been free to overlook and control the conduct of the colonial office we should never have had the South African war. He will retire with the reputation of an honorable, wise and highly-instructed statesman, wanting only a little more tempted him, for one of hard work in the public service. Mr. Chamberlain is the Duke's superior, as he is the superior of most men in ability, especially in ability as a speaker; but Conservatives have not forgotten that he once flew a kite of socialistic Radicalism and warned property that it must pay a ransom for its existence. In face of such antecedents, confidence is a plant of slow growth, in the Tory, as it has been said to be in the aged, bosom. If you ask a Conservative why Mr. Balfour, the leader of the House of Commons, should not succeed to the premiership, he will have some difficulty in giving you his reasons; but they seem to amount to this, that Mr. Balfour, though extremely clever, is rather too light a weight. The report that Lord Rosebery will be foreign minister in the reconstructed government is likely enough, so far as his tastes and his aptitudes are concerned. Nor is there anything in his opinions to stand in the way, unless it be that he fails to appreciate the liveliness of the House of Lords. Even in this direction he has shown no serious tendency towards revolution. The leap from the leadership of one party to office with another is rather wide, but these are sensational days.

The Governor On His Trial

Sir Hibbert Tupper Insists That Such Is the Provincial Issue.

Strong Evidence of a Discreditable Alliance With the Present Premier.

At the Conservative mass meeting held in Chilliwack on Saturday last, in speaking of party lines, Sir Hibbert Tupper said:

"My former remarks have been misconstrued; I always have been in favor of straight party lines, but thought in any constituency where the Liberal party predominated, so as to insure the election of a Liberal candidate over a Conservative candidate, that the Liberal should not be opposed in order that there might be no question about the defeat of the Martin candidate."

In speaking of the Lieutenant-Governor's conduct in calling upon Mr. Martin to form a government, Sir Hibbert said:

"I am of the opinion that the paramount issue before the electors of this province is the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor. While it is true that Mr. Martin represents the Lieutenant-Governor, and is responsible for his actions, it is impossible to discuss this issue without discussing the Lieutenant-Governor, and dealing with him directly. No one who values the principles of responsible government can possibly vote for Mr. Martin and his candidates, who in this contest is to all intents and purposes the Lieutenant-Governor and no one else. The position of the governor is often misunderstood, it is so far different from that of the crown that special means of punishment for wrong-doing are provided in the British North America Act; section 59 of this act contemplates his removal for cause and invests the power in the governor-general-in-council, and it is under this clause that a lieutenant-governor has been removed from office in Canada, and doubtless under this clause Sir Wilfrid Laurier has practically told the people of British Columbia that he will act, if by our votes we indicate our disapproval of the Lieutenant-Governor's conduct. It was only in 1879 that Sir Wilfrid, referring to the office of lieutenant-governor, said: 'He is amenable to the people.'"

Sir Hibbert continued: "Beginning from the time of the Turner administration the conduct of the Governor has been nothing short of scandalous, and a perusal of the despatches connected with the dismissal of the last administration and the facts connected with the formation of the Martin administration reveals an unholy alliance between Mr. McInnes and Mr. Martin. It is chiefly due to the Governor that Mr. Martin has attained political importance in this province and has been given an opportunity to do incalculable injury to it. In the first place it is laid down by Todd, the greatest authority on constitutional government, that the governor 'should of course maintain the impartiality towards rival political parties which is essential to the proper performance of the duties of that office.' That the Governor was aware of this," said Sir Hibbert, "is shown by his despatch of August 19, 1898, addressed to the Governor-General, when he says: 'Inasmuch as our mode of government is by political parties it appears to me that the lieutenant-governor, while occupying a position above parties, is nevertheless bound to take cognizance of parties and their relative standing.' Yet," continued Sir Hibbert, "a disgraceful chapter in the history of our province shows that from that time the Governor has hunted in couples with Mr. Martin and regardless of the political complexion of the local legislature and of the strength of the different parties, has shaped his course to suit the whims and plans of Joseph Martin.

"Why," continued Sir Hibbert, "did the Lieutenant-Governor call upon Mr. Beaven to form a government? Mr. Semlin was the recognized leader for years of one side of the house and Mr. Turner of the other side. The result of the elections of 1898 found a house apparently divided equally, but at this early date Mr. Martin, a comparative stranger in the province, had begun to exert, by what means are unknown, his influence upon a gentleman who is supposed to hold the balance fairly between the political parties. The Governor explained that because he had heard (presumably through some back stairs report) that a party convention had some time before the general election been divided between Mr. Semlin and Mr. Joseph Martin as leader, he had decided to call on Mr. Beaven, but showing the back stairs influence again, the Governor continues that having found Mr. Beaven unequal to the task, he had had an interview with Mr. Martin, and in a subsequent letter addressed to Mr. Chas. A. Semlin, the Governor tells him he has called upon him (Mr. Semlin) because Mr. Martin tells him that the party he (Mr. Semlin) leads is in the ascendant. Mr. Beaven made a similar report to Mr. Semlin, saying 'Mr. Martin looks to you as the recognized leader.'

"To show what careful advice the Governor received from his henchman Mr. Martin," said Sir Hibbert, "it is only necessary to read the following statement made by that gentleman at Saanichton on April 12th, when he said: 'I declare from personal knowledge of the subject that my weakest minister is ten times more competent in his department that Mr. C. A. Semlin.'

"Contrast the Governor's reasons for dismissing Mr. Turner (he said he was convinced that Mr. Turner could not command a majority of the assembly) with the Governor's action in choosing Mr. Martin, who was unanimously repudiated by the House of Assembly; who had never been recognized as the leader of any party, in any part of Canada, who has been repudiated by the Liberal party, turned out of the government by the Semlin party, who cannot attend a Liberal convention without the assistance of four policemen, and who has had to fill his cabinet with men who have never been able to obtain the confidence of an electoral division of the province.

"The Governor's conspiracy with Mr. Martin against the rights of the people's representatives was made even more apparent by the proceedings of the legislature on February 27th, February 28th and March 1st. On February 27th it is clear that the Governor, setting at defiance all principles of constitutional government, was cabaling with Mr. Martin to such an extent that Mr. Semlin was compelled to state to the house that his government had been dismissed without being able to say that any one had been called in. As for Mr. Martin, in order to hold his seat in the house it is clear that being in the confidence of the Governor the cards were arranged to suit his game, and he still remained a member of the house, although he had been practically called upon. Mr. Martin on that day was aware of the difficulty of taking a straight course, as he said: 'If the choice were made from amongst the members of the house, the gentleman called upon would cease to be a member of the house when called upon.' And on that day," continued Sir Hibbert, "by a vote of 22 to 15 the people's representatives passed a vote of want of confidence in the Semlin administration, and solemnly announced by resolution that 'In the present crisis they have sufficient control of the house.'

"On the 28th of February Mr. Joseph Martin was still a member of the house, although doubtless advising the Governor as fully and effectively as if he had accepted the call. Indeed he confessed to the house that he had been called on to form a ministry, and that he had been called in to advise the Governor, but he spared himself of some technical advantage in not admitting that he had accepted office.

"On March 1st the third member for Vancouver having disappeared under the skirts of the Government coat, and the plot having so far developed, the house, one man dissenting, resolved that it had no confidence in the third member for Vancouver City, who had been called in by the Lieutenant-Governor to form a government.

"This came the final insult to the people's representatives and the injurious and serious blow to the business interests of the province; the vast amount of the business of the house was non-contentious legislation—private legislation awaiting enactment—and yet the Governor pounced down upon the people's representatives and sent them about their business without vouchsafing to them the slightest information as to whether they were to be dissolved or what his future course would be, notwithstanding, as is learned from Mr. Martin's address to the electors of Vancouver, that he (Mr. Martin) had made a bargain with the Governor that he be granted a dissolution and a general election would take place as soon as it suited his convenience!

"In the face of the above facts Mr. Martin has the temerity in that same address to pen the following lines: 'The legislative assembly declared their want of confidence in the Semlin government.' It would only be a child in constitutional history who in the fact of the above resolution would claim under the above circumstances that a defeat on the redistribution bill was tantamount to a deliberate vote of want of confidence. The rest of the disgraceful conduct of the Governor was seen in the leave which was practically given to Mr. Martin to take his own time in ransacking the province for men who would serve with him, some of them being men practically engaged at so much a month, while he was permitted to prolong indefinitely either the calling of the house together or the dissolution, until under the lash from Ottawa an election was announced for June 9th.

"Outside of Mr. McInnes and Mr. Martin it is clear that from March 1st until June 9th the province is without a real executive; it is practically to be governed by two gentlemen in defiance of constitutional practice and constitutional usage; the hitherto unquestioned right of parliament to advise the Sovereign as to administration has been ignored; we have the introduction of personal will, instead of the reasons of state in connection with the dismissal of the chief of the executive; we have personal motives in dismissing ministers and calling upon ministers, which is strictly forbidden by constitutional rule. Todd, the constitutional authority referred to before, tells us the selection of a prime minister is practically limited by parliamentary approval, and he goes on to say that on dismissal it is customary to send for the recognized leader of the opposition, 'or some other person of known weight and influence in either house of parliament who is capable of leading successfully the political party to which he belongs.'

"Bagehot, the great writer, sums up his practical views of English government by stating that the cabinet is 'a board of control, chosen by the legislature, by whom it is trusted and is known.' What legislature," said Sir Hibbert, "will ever trust and know the Martins, the Beebes and the Ryders?

However," continued Sir Hibbert, "Mr. Martin instead of ever having been the leader of a party has boasted that he is a smasher and wrecker, and he is corroborated in this by the leading Liberals of Winnipeg, who knew him at Rossland. Mr. Isaac Campbell in explaining why Sir Wilfrid Laurier would not take Mr. Martin into his cabinet used these words, 'To appoint Mr. Martin would have been to place the government over a powder mine.'

Sir Hibbert warned those present that Mr. Martin was making wildest and most reckless promises at every place he spoke for the purpose of diverting public attention from the constitutional scandal which had been perpetrated by Mr. McInnes, his political wet-nurse.

QUEEN CITY COMES AND GOES.

Witnesses For the Case of Cannibalism—Preparations For Skeena Navigation.

With 182 passengers in all and news of active preparations at the Northern canneries for a busy season with the fish, the Queen City returned to port from the Naas and Skeena Sunday evening, only to make a quick delivery and acceptance of freights and sail again last evening. Of her downward passengers the most interesting perhaps were a party of prisoners, several natives in the hands of Constable Woollacott, of Alert Bay, being wanted for their knowledge in the case initiated against the allege corpse-biters of the Thurlow Island potlach, which case is on for trial at the Terminal City. Constable C. E. Johnson has also a couple of prisoners, these being accused of the burglary of Finlay, Durham & Brodie's cannery at Rivers Inlet, and their hearing being set for to-day. Adjutant Smith and Ensign Thorsden of the Salvation Army expected to meet Commissioner Eva Booth at Victoria, and learn too late that arrangements for her Western trip have been cancelled, greatly to the disappointment of all interested in Army work. On her return to the North last evening the steamer carried many passengers for cannery work, together with tin and other supplies, construction material for the Quesnelle telegraph line, and 24 mules for the construction party's pack train. The telegraph party's supplies will go up the Skeena from the Balmoral cannery on the steamer Caledonia, which makes her first trip to Hazelton about the 25th, the river having cleared considerably earlier than usual. Among the Queen City's passengers are the ships' companies of both the Caledonia and the Strathcona.

THE COMING OF MANY JAPS.

Steamer Goodwin Arrives Ahead of the Milos With a Thousand Immigrants.

Steamer Goodwin of the N. P. flag, to be followed probably this week by the slower Milos, of the same line, from Kobe, arrived at the outer wharf yesterday with the largest list of Japanese immigrants yet brought to a Pacific Coast port, 1,117 in all, of whom 609 were debarked here. The Milos, it may be mentioned, has quite 1,200 Japs, who like the Goodwin's contribution—are said to be counting upon getting into the United States via Canada, to engage in road work on Western and Middle States railways, the Great Northern in particular finding it policy to engage this class of labor for a time. The present is the first visit of the Goodwin, and ship and officers are found to be well worth a welcome—even if there be doubts as to the manner of reception due her passengers.

Parliament Side-Tracked

Kettle Valley to Be Tapped Under Provincial Order in Council.

Promoters Place No Limit on Attemps of Present Local Rulers.

Special to the Colonist.

Vancouver, April 16.—R. A. Dixon, one of the applicants for the incorporation of the Boundary Rapid Transit Company, of Grand Forks, passed through Vancouver yesterday on his way to Chicago. In speaking of the projected Grand Forks railway Mr. Dixon said: "The lines of the projected company will cover the same route as the Kettle River railway would have done, and as the present government have assured me that the necessary order-in-council will be passed, under the Tramway Company Incorporation Act, as soon as the law will permit, namely, two months after the gazetted application, the Dominion government's refusal to grant a charter to the Kettle River railway is of no avail. We will have the railway, in spite of the opposition of the Dominion government and the C. P. R.

"When the Kettle River bill was turned down by the Dominion government, the people of Grand Forks thought their hopes in this direction were shattered for all time, but I felt sure the provincial government could grant the necessary power to build the road, under the Tramway Incorporation Act, without the local legislature having to take action, namely by order-in-council. I proceeded to Victoria and placed the matter before the government. They informed me that my contention was correct, that Grand Forks should have the road, and I am positive that long before the house meets construction work will have commenced on the Kettle River railway, alias the Boundary Rapid Transit railway, as Toronto capitalists have already subscribed the necessary amount to complete the road and are anxious to go on with its construction.

"The Tramway Act gives practically all the privileges of the ordinary Railway Act, except that we cannot run to a point further than one half a mile from the boundary line. In this difficulty can be overcome by the purchase of the necessary ground to enable us to make close connection with the American line."

Continuing Mr. Dixon said: "As the road will parallel the C. P. R. for some distance, we of course expect opposition from that company, but believe that this opposition will be unavailing. The railway, which will be about 100 miles long, will radiate from Grand Forks in four directions. It will tap the Kettle River valley, the great agricultural country, for 50 miles, one branch going from Grand Forks 50 miles to Brown's Camp, tapping many mining camps. It will run 13 miles east to Cascade City, six miles southeast to Carson, and 30 miles to Midway, and taking a circuitous route twisting north, south and west, following the North Fork, and for some distance paralleling the C. P. R. The road will be as easy to build as across a prairie. There will be no tunnelling or blasting, and no grades worth speaking of."

Mr. Dixon said he had also arranged with men in Victoria for the establishment of a supreme court registry office in Grand Forks, and had made arrangements by which bills of sale and chattel mortgages could be registered at Grand Forks instead of Kamloops.

MR. MARTIN AT CHEMAINUS.

Sir: At the close of the Chemainus meeting, the chairman announced that if any one wanted to ask questions, he could do so, but as many had gone, and all were anxious to go, I refrained from prolonging a weary evening, believing that the one speaker had done himself all the damage he could, and wanted no help to hang himself.

For this, some of our friends have blamed me, and I have been asked by some of the leading men of our party in Chemainus to put on record in your paper some of the weak spots in Mr. Martin's deliverance.

To one point I need not refer at length. Mr. Joseph Martin gave us to understand that Lord Strathcona had stolen the people's money as a railway builder and had therefore no right to credit as a patriotic patriot because he sent a few hundred of our best to Africa at his expense.

It is well that Mr. Martin should have put himself on record as the only man who ever belittled Strathcona's magnificent gift, and the only man who was ever fool enough to believe that even political partizans would tolerate such an insult to the honor of Canada. If he did not know what Canadians were likely to think of such an attack, he know directly after my interruption, and knew, too, how hard it was to wriggle out of the hole he had got himself into. It takes a strong Grit digestion to swallow the avowed rebel to Laurier's rule; but no Canadian digestion can swallow one who attacks, at this moment, the generous old man of whom we are all so proud.

Let me refer first to Mr. Martin's explanation of his relations with Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The honorable gentleman objected to the Colonist's remarks. Perhaps he will like mine better. To prove his friendly relations with his great party leader, Mr. Martin read us the second of two letters received from Sir Wilfrid. He did not read us both letters, neither did he read us his letter to Sir Wilfrid. Mr. Martin knows that the fair inference from the use of such fragmentary evidence is, that he used only that letter which served him best. And what does that letter come to? Sir Wilfrid called the speaker "My dear Martin." Sir Wilfrid is so courteous, that if he were writing to the devil he would probably begin "My dear Satan," and beyond, this this courteousness in phrase, there only remains a statement, that Sir Wilfrid will not interfere in Mr. Martin's interest. Mr. Martin explained that he did not want Sir Wilfrid to interfere in his behalf. Why then did Sir Wilfrid go out of his way to refuse to do so? Perhaps if we had the two suppressed letters before us, we might know this, but it is fair to infer that the Hon. Mr. Martin wrote "will you" from the fact that Sir Wilfrid wrote "I won't."

Sir Wilfrid is as other men are, and the motto of all I ever heard of is "No more Martin in mine; thank you."

Again, Mr. Martin pleaded that "what he was, did not matter; it was his platform that men should consider."

To this I say "no." His platform is a promise; his past is a fact, and the fact that those who have known him don't want to see more of him, is a poor reason why we should cultivate his closer acquaintance. To pass to another matter. Mr. Martin told us that it was "a matter of very little importance to us what any of his colleagues were." This I took down from his lips. In his closing words he impressed upon us the "necessity of choosing men of ability and experience to represent the constituencies." How does he reconcile these two utterances? Is the choice of a man to manage the people's money as Finance Minister of less importance, than the choice of a representative for a district? Is the appointment of Mr. Colin Ryder as Finance Minister an example of that care in the selection of "men of experience and intelligence" which Mr. Martin recommends to us? If a man's experience as a clerk in a toy shop warrants his appointment to manage the purse of the province it would be well for us to know it. Surely the test of a man's value is generally what he can earn for his services. Does any salary which Mr. Ryder ever earned suggest that his ability and experience are worth the emoluments attached to the most responsible position in the State? Let us know something about the experience of Mr. Ryder, Mr. Beebe, or even Mr. Yates. Mr. Martin let fall something about the locusts of Manitoba. I don't know any law firm of that name, but I have heard of a law firm whose partners left Manitoba to become respectively Premier, Minister of Mines, and Deputy Attorney-General of British Columbia. This is probably an example of the unselfishness of lawyers to which Mr. Martin referred when he said that he could earn very much more in the practice of law than he could in politics, but that he had been pressed into politics and was even then asking to be put into them again. If the practice of law is so much more profitable than politics why are there such a number of lawyers in the house?

Are lawyers more unselfish than other men?

With the two great planks of his platform Mr. Martin dealt at length. This was the sum of his remarks. He had interfered between mine owners and miners, the result of which was the closing down of the Kootenay mines, and the loss of infinte money, and credit to British Columbia. Having accomplished this Mr. Martin sent down Mr. Smith Curtis who he says has got miners and mine owners together, and as a result these people have settled their differences between themselves, and the mines have been opened again. Why in hundred could not Mr. Martin have let these people alone to settle their differences from the first and so have avoided all this trouble?

You don't owe a mischief-maker any thanks if he patches up eventually the quarrel which he made. All we ask of Mr. Martin is to go back to Manitoba if people really are so fond of him there, at the present time as some unpopular company which he may fight in the people's interest will pay him, say $15,000, to desert the people and come West again. Is any man so base as to suggest that this unselfish politician after having stirred up trouble to get the miners' votes, has patched it up to get the mine owners' money?

As to the state-owned railways, Mr. Martin showed such a knowledge of the way to make money dishonestly in railway building that if he were not the most honest and unselfish of men, ordinary people would be a little afraid to trust him with the building of railways for the state. As far as I could gather he would have us believe that governments habitually do work more cheaply than individual business men; that the credit of British Columbia is better than that of the great financiers of the world; that any railway (the C.P.R. for instance) could have been built without the aid of individual enterprise; that railway enterprises are all profit and no risk; and that a state-owned railway, run at the lowest possible cost, to please the people who own and use it, is more likely to pay than one which charges all it can get in the interest of its shareholders. He also wants us to believe that England will let us have all the money we want to build roads with, providing always that we show the lenders that they are to be secured by the levying of additional taxes upon the people of British Columbia.

And this leads me to my last question. Where is Mr. Martin going to get the money he says he has taxed the last of us out of the province?

But of course it is all a huge joke. Mr. Martin does not believe that his legislation in mining matters has benefited British Columbia. He does not believe that because a man has run a toy shop he is fit to manage the purse of a province; he does not believe that either he or other lawyer would rather fill our pockets than fill his own, and if he asks us to believe these things he is offering an insult to our common sense whorse than a slap in the face.

The only reasons for going into politics are these: (1) That you have nothing better to do; (2) to win honor and position, and this is a poor one; (3) to make money out of it, and this is a worse one; or (4) to promote the welfare of a province as a business concern in which you are such a large shareholder that the prosperity of the province will increase your own prosperity.

This is a good reason and one which common people can understand. Is this why this itinerant political saint, whose pilgrimages have extended from Ottawa, through Winnipeg to Vancouver, wants now to represent us.

Any other reason is poppy-cock.

OLIVE PHILLIPPS WOLLEY.

Poor Melbourne MacDowell.—Colonist readers who were told on Sunday of the pitiable exhibition made by Melbourne MacDowell in the first night of the Omaha engagement of the Walsh-MacDowell company, when he staggered through the Marc Antony in "Cleopatra," will not be surprised to hear of the climax of the once great actor's undoing. It came two nights later at the same city, in the presentation of "Fedora," and while details as yet are wanting, it seems as though for the present at least the stage has closed to the "magnificent MacDowell," as he has been called. All went well until the third act of "Fedora," when of a sudden MacDowell dropped his lines and seemed for the moment dazed. Three or four times did the prompter endeavor to save him from a collapse, Miss Walsh also prompting so loudly as to be heard from in front. MacDowell took no notice of either, but walked deliberately toward the footlights and gazed at the surprised house. Then the curtain rang down, money was paid back at the box office, and the audience departed to speculate upon the meaning of the strangest scene they had ever viewed upon a stage. It is hinted that Mr. MacDowell's mind has given way, and that he will be sent at once to a sanitarium where a specialty is made of mental disorders.

Sadly Laid In the Grave

Last Scenes at the Funeral of the Good Father Rondeault.

Great Assemblage of Cowichan Indians Present for the Occasion.

All that was mortal of the venerable and revered late Father Rondeault, who for 42 years ministered to the spiritual wants of the Cowichan Indians, was yesterday afternoon interred at Quamichan, on the site of the burned church he was instrumental in having built and there it is hoped another edifice will shortly be raised. Requiem high mass was celebrated in the morning at the Roman Catholic cathedral and the remains were afterwards borne to the E. & N. railway station, the pall-bearers being Messrs. L. McQuade, E. H. Fletcher, J. Sehl, M. Bantly, M. McHiernan and S. Baron.

At Duncan's all the Indians of Cowichan had gathered to pay their last respects to the dead missionary and likewise all sections sent large delegations of white settlers. The Indians had charge of the remains from the station to the school house, where services had been held since the church was destroyed by fire. Six Indian chiefs acted as pall-bearers, carrying the remains some way down the road on their shoulders.

The procession was quite three-quarters of a mile long, made up for the most part of the largest assemblage of Indians which had ever gathered in the vicinity. No less than 69 carriages were in line.

At Duncans the funeral party, in which were Father Althoff of Victoria, Father Vullingns from Saanich, Father Bedard from New Westminster, was joined by Father Hyeney of Nanaimo, Father Chudelek, of Upper Island, and Father Van Gauthom, assistant of the deceased. From Duncans the body way first taken to the Indian office, the pall-bearers being D. Alexander, W. R. Robertson, J. N. Evans, B. E. J. Bincourt, E. T. Lomas, G. Stuart, W. Morley and W. Beaumont.

From the Indian office the body, placed in a hearse, was then taken to the school house at Quamichan. The lid was removed from the coffin and viewed by the white settlers and the Indians, the latter expressing great grief at the sight of their dead spiritual adviser.

An interesting feature of the melancholy procession was the participation of all the children of the Cowichan branch of the Sisters of St. Ann. The clergy, clad in full vestments, then conducted the funeral cortege to the grave on the site of the burned church. The burial service being read, Father Althoff addressed the assemblage in English, after which Father Donckele spoke to the Indians in their own language. The body was then committed to the grave, the Indians chanting a dirge.

In lieu of a monument which such a noble life would well warrant being erected, it is hoped that a new church will shortly rise to commemorate the deeds of one who labored faithfully and well in the work of the uplifting of mankind.

VICTORIAN'S HEROISM.

Saved an Alaskan Trapper by Endangering His Own Life.

That all of Victoria's heroes are not found among those who are fighting for the flag on the battle fields of South Africa is borne testimony to in a letter which the Colonist has received from Harry Johnson, an American prospector now making his home at Rampart City on the Yukon. This letter is evidence also of a spirit of gratitude too infrequently shown in this hurrying age.

"I wish," writes Mr. Johnson, "to thank through your paper Mr. Alexander J. Lindsay, of Victoria, for saving my life from frost and exposure in Alaska. I will tell you the plain particulars, and you can fix it up to suit yourself, only I do not know where to find Lindsay to thank him personally, and in fact only found out his name and residence from the N. A. T. company here. I therefore take this privilege of extending my thanks through your paper, knowing that even if he does not see it, some of his friends or relatives may, and thus I shall be able to show him that I am a truly grateful man.

"I started out on a trapping trip up the Yukon river and was overtaken by sudden sickness. A siwash who was hunting found me. I asked him if he would get me help and he said he had seen some white men on the river that morning, and he would go to them. After going me a little wood he started, and shortly afterwards I fainted. I was awakened by someone feeling my heart, and saw that it was a white man. He stayed with me all that night, and the next day and night, for it was then too cold to travel. The following day he carried me on a sleigh about fifty miles to a roadhouse. I was too sick to know much, but I know that he had nothing to eat for two days, and the people at the roadhouse told me that his face and hands were terribly frozen, as he had used his own coats and mits to keep me warm.

"Now, my dear sir, if you will kindly fix this up to suit yourself, you will make one grateful man and family happy, and I shall be able to partially thank Mr. Lindsay for his heroism, and to congratulate Victoria upon having having so noble a son. I should certainly have died alone in the frozen wilderness had it not been for him."

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.

Vice Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated publicly in court that Dr. J. Collis Browne was undoubtedly the inventor of Chlorodyne, that the whole story of the defendant Freeman was literally untrue, and he regretted to say that it had been sworn to.—Times, July 13, 1864.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne is the best and most certain remedy in Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Consumption, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Etc.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne is prescribed by scores of Orthodox practitioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not "supply a want and fill a place."—Medical Times, January 12, 1885.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne is a certain cure for Cholera, Dysentery, Diarrhœa, Colics, Etc.

Caution—None genuine without the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne" on the stamp. Overwhelming medical testimony accompanies each bottle. Sole manufacturer, J. T. DAVENPORT, 33 Great Russell Street, London. Sold at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d.

150 cas

TRADING

The Influx Of Jap

Consul Shimizu Expla Preference for Lan British Columb

United States General Point—What Their Means to Victo

Another just-arrived army brown men of Japan troo Victoria's streets yesterday ing of the Northern Pacifi Goodwin from the Orient; m ing by the Milos, the Tos Braemar and the Empress of deed the close of the present see quite 3,500 Japanese landed at the outer wharf space of April, the number being greater—many times g in any previous month.

Of course everyone wants reason of this unprecedente Japanese, and everyone who terest of the country at hea guard it against a flood of Asiatic labor compe The very presence of th Japanese is taken by the po pecially of Mr. Martin's fai sufficient, yet it is interesti tul to go further and learn m

In the first place, then, t of the customs house leave mistake in figures. Altogethe 5,026 Japanese have been b their own country by the ste ing at this port from the January 1. Of these, 2,245 the ships that brought them 781 dropped at this city, to for, and arriving in the fol growing quantities:

Month of January.....
Month of February.....
Month of March.....
Half month of April....

The reasons for the prese given in many forms, which in the relation to American and conditions comes in for of criticism. It is said, t are leaving their own count quence of the reported i Russian war; then again i the closing of the gates o turned the volume of planta tion hitherward. The op fishing season accounts for ber, and the initiation of l works on the Americau ro explains the presence of a l

On the authority of a statement that appeared in sserted that not more than of the incoming Japanese British Columbia, while cent. go through a week landing, to the United Sta P. R. employs them all a working 4,000 at present; has 1,000 or more and wil this number; the C.P.R. g work to white men, and the predeliction of the brow both or either of the rival

Then comes another que to the Japanese, and he will more than half of these anese were here before, or lives here. They travel m their money quicker than d the Chinese, and in the lat more perhaps for the countr especially want them.

After the fishing season according to one of the cus close in touch with the in ject, more than 4,000 Ja back from British Colum their aggregate wages $600,000; while workers in and other up country mine with many thousands more.

These men returning for portion of the present ar also explain a point raised anese consul and which oth be unintelligible. Japan, i not allow unrestricted emig people. One hundred and month is the limit that m Canada, although those w viously been here may na just when it suits their bu venience.

On this matter of the J and Japanese immigration Colonist's V