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SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1894.

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

"I must have liberty,
Withal as large a charter as the wind—
To blow on whom I please."

THE remains of what was once a pow-
erful Opposition in this city have at
last cemented the crumbling parts to-
gether and placed a ticket in the field.
As to the respectability of the ticket, no
man can say nay; but many will be in-
clined to doubt the wisdom of entrusting
their suffrages to the combination which
has set itself up in opposition to the
powers that be.

The first on the list of the "bold and
the brave" is one Robert Beaven, who
distinguished himself at the last municipal
election by being overwhelmingly defeated
for the mayoralty. The Government has
nothing to fear from Mr. Beaven, as he is
undoubtedly the weakest man on the
Opposition ticket. His defeat by Mr.
Teague demonstrated his unpopularity,
and the prospects now are that he will be
subjected to an even more decisive "snow
under" on the day of election. The
citizens of Victoria owe no debt or obliga-
tion to Mr. Beaven, and the fact that he,
in the light of past events, offers himself
as a candidate for the Provincial Legisla-
ture is only another display of the con-
summate nerve of the man.

Mr. Dutton is a stronger candidate than
Mr. Beaven, and if that young man had
eschewed the company of that arrant
humbag—Tom Keith, of Nanaimo—there
is no saying but what the alleged labor

representative might have polled a fairly
respectable vote. But it is known that
Mr. Dutton has on more than one occa-
sion set himself up as an apologist for the
ignorance of Keith, and this coupled with
the fact that he is not regarded in any
sense as a representative of organized
labor, must result in his defeat.

Mr. Cameron, in all probability, se-
cured his place on the Opposition ticket
on account of his selection as the repre-
sentative of the Single Taxers. The
strength of this vote has never been
clearly defined in this city, but it is be-
lieved that, while not great, it will
be pretty equally divided between the
Government and the Opposition. Mr.
Beaven has always declared himself a
Single Taxer, but Mr. Davie has, on more
than one occasion, by legislation, given
practical effect to the principles advocated
by the disciples of Henry George. In
short, the Athenians *understand* what is
good, but the Lacedaemonians *practise* it.
Mr. Cameron will poll a large Single
Tax vote; but it is not believed that his
strength will be sufficient to make him a
very formidable antagonist.

I have left Dr. Milne last on the list,
and purposely so, as I firmly believe that
the doctor will prove the greatest thorn in
the side of the Government. There is no
disguising the fact that he will poll a large
vote. Although during his four years in
the Legislature he has done but little to
recommend himself to the consideration of
his constituents, he has, at the same
time, done nothing that should bring down
upon him very severe condemnation. This
coupled with the fact that the doctor
will poll a large Eastern Canadian vote,
renders him a more dangerous foe to the
Government than any of the other three.
What this latter vote amounts to, no one
appears to be able to say, but it is gen-
erally admitted to be large. It may not
be great enough to elect Dr. Milne, but
it behooves the friends of the Government
to consider it seriously.

Taking it all in all, the Opposition can-
not be said to be a strong one, and there
seems to be little doubt that Victoria will
return four Government supporters at the
next election. An Opposition constructed
on the lines of the one now offering itself
is not likely to result in serious discom-
fiture to the party in power. As compared
man to man, it must be confessed that the
Government ticket is stronger than the
one put forth by their opponents.

The Government of this great Prov-
ince of British Columbia in its infinite
wisdom, during the recent small-pox
scourge made a provision and had it
inserted in the City Health By-law to
the effect that the city health officer
be empowered, when he suspects that
passengers are coming from an infected
port, to deal with them and their baggage
as he sees fit under the provisions of the
Health By-law. In other words, the
Board of Health can detain and ex-
amine passengers and take such other
precautions as they may deem necessary
to prevent the introduction of smallpox
or other contagious diseases. Of course
this wise provision presupposes reason-
able grounds for suspicion, and this
brings us to the consideration of the
manner in which these provisions are
carried out by the health authorities of
the city. In 1892, it will be remembered
by many to their sorrow, Victoria was
visited by a severe epidemic of smallpox,
imported, as the Royal Commissioners
concluded, from China, and in looking
over the annual report of Dr. Geo. Dun-
can, Medical Health Officer for 1893, it is
learned that it was only by the exercise
of extreme vigilance that another epi-
demic did not take place in the latter
year. In truth, Chinatown contributed
twelve cases within a very short space
of time. These efforts resulted in
stamping out the disease completely.

Again we are confronted with the
danger of the disease being once more
imported into our midst. Current news-
paper reports state that an epidemic
of smallpox is prevalent in China and
Japan. In fact, it has been reported on
good authority, that two days after the
departure of the Empress of India on
her last trip from Hong Kong, smallpox
broke out among the steerage passengers.
When the vessel reached Yokohama
those cases were transferred to quaran-
tine and the remaining steerage pass-
engers, who were suspects in the true
sense of the term, were permitted to
proceed. Ten days were occupied in the
passage to Vancouver. Some four or five
days after reaching that port a case of
smallpox broke out among the Chinese
who were held in bond, bound for U. S.
ports. The remainder of the passengers
were distributed between Victoria, Cal-
gary and other eastern points. The
health authorities of Victoria, antici-