Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1887.

A LIBERAL FIASCO.

One of the funniest meetings ever held in this city was that which took place in Denny's hall last night. It was called by the opponents of the conservative government, and by actual count ninety-five people were present when the proceedings opened. Of these many were conservatives, and a considerable number adherents of the liberal party in the east, recently arrived in this province, who are not voters. Resolutions were seconded by these in some cases in the absence of responsible men, while the best speech of the evening was delivered by an American who has only been in this country two years. It was a miserable *fiasco*, and in many of its features reminded one of the celebrated meetings of the "Lime Kiln Club." It was irresistibly funny to the audience, but must have been a heart-rending performance for the leading players. The circus company "resoluted" in bad English, and these were spoken to in worse, the different orators being "guyed" in a most unpleasant manner. A liberal association was formed, but many having failed to pony up the two bits demanded may be considered read out of the party. Our evening contemporary has only added another to his many egregious errors and has been the means of bringing the small liberal contingent in this city into utter disrepute. As a comic exhibition it was superb, but as a political meeting an absurd failure. Blake would have hung his head with shame had he been present at his "rump" following in this city, which having only too effectively shown its available strength, may be considered a *minus* quantity in the coming election. We sympathize deeply with Dr. Milne in being made the scape-goat of his party's blunder—he is too good a citizen to be so victimized.

TRANSPARENT HYPOCRISY.

It is said by those who desire to lull to sleep the watchfulness of the electors favorable to the national policy that the opposition do not propose, in the event of obtaining power, to make any serious changes in the tariff. It is not required to make great changes in order to destroy the benefit the country has derived from the readjustment of the tariff. For instance, the sugar tariff might, by a very slight change, be made to work ruin to a growing industry. In the same way the protection given to farmers might become a curse instead of a blessing. But, setting aside the danger that might result from unskilful men taking charge of the tariff, is not the statement industriously spread by the opposition the best evidence in the world of the incapacity of the leaders of the opposition? They had a committee of investigation in 1876. They studied the subject of the depression in the fullest manner possible. After full investigation they determined that no relief could be given to the people of Canada by means of the tariff. They declared no government could do anything to help the suffering experienced through the depression. It was a fierce fire that must be left to burn itself out; a raging flood that no power of man or government could restrain; an epidemic in the presence of which science and statesmanship were necessarily compelled to stand with folded arms, impotent to prevent its spread or limit its powers of mischief. They declared that any attempt to weaken its force, limit its area, or bring about a change would do more mischief than good. Sir Richard Cartwright declared the proposed plan of the National Policy to be "legalized robbery." Mr. Mills spoke of the tariff as "our iniquitous and accursed tariff." As the Montreal *Gazette* points out, the Halifax *Chronicle*, the organ of the eastern free trade party, which, in 1876, threatened to abandon Mr. Mackenzie if he even squinted at protection, spoke of the tariff as "that unmitigated curse called the National Policy," and only a few weeks later announced that Mr. Blake is pledged to remove the duties on coal and breadstuffs and grains. From 1876 down to the present time there has been no cessation of hostilities, yet now, in spite of these attacks, it is industriously circulated that the opposition have determined no longer to oppose the National Policy. The curve is a sharp one. But they say they can take it. All this, if actually in the mind and purpose of the reform party shows how lacking the leaders have been in wisdom. The National Policy is the same to-day insists underlying principles as it was in 1876. Yet up to within a few days ago the organs and the public men have been attacking the tariff as fiercely and virulently as during all the past years. If it is so good now in their eyes that they promise to embrace it after being blind to its virtues for eleven years, it says little for their capacity as statesmen, little for their ability to sway the destinies of this country. On the most important subject the country has had to deal with since confederation the present opposition are ten years behind the liberal-conservatives. They are only just now reaching the point of development reached by the liberal-conservative party nearly a dozen years ago. This does not indicate a very intelligent party nor a party of progressive ideas, nor yet a party of original ideas. We know now from their past that if they had been returned to power in 1878 the country would not have had the Pacific railway nor the National Policy. Every improvement during the past eight or nine years would have been put off, and the country would have suffered. What guarantee have the electors that the reform leaders and party will be any brighter to discern the requirements of the country, or any more intelligent to provide against future calamities that may attack the country than they were in 1876, or have been down to the present time? The pretence at this time that the tariff is not to be disturbed, a pretence made only in industrial centres, where it is hoped some votes may be caught, will deceive no one. The hypocrisy is too transparent to be effective.

THE Dean of Wells, speaking at the annual meeting of the Bristol clergy society, drew attention to the distress existing among many of the clergy. He said that not only in particular districts but throughout England they were witnessing a kind of process which could only be described as that of disendowment by degrees. The endowments of the church, so far as they were derived from rents, glebe lands, or tithes, were becoming less. Giving instances of the privations to which many of the clergy had to submit, he said they not only had to dispense with the luxuries of life, but the comforts and necessaries also, and many had to deprive their sons and daughters of the necessary education they should receive, and they might become even straitened by the pressure of household difficulties so that gifts of cast-off clothing proved welcome. The bishop of the diocese, Archdeacon Norris and Bishop Marsden spoke on the same subject. Bishop Marsden said that the great want of the church now was help to the clergy, some of whom were suffering keen privations. He instanced the case of a vicar who had spent his last shilling, and was deeply grateful for a few shillings sent him, while others were glad to have old clothes. Archdeacon Norris enumerated benefices which were so poor that the dean and chapter of Bristol had the greatest difficulty in finding clergymen to fill them.

A CABLEGRAM from London announces that Mr. Kinglake has just finished the concluding volume of his history of the Crimean war. Twenty-four years have elapsed since the publication of the famous first volume, in which Louis Napoleon was smashed and pulverized. A generation has passed away, including the majority of those who had a personal interest in the events of the war, and the whole campaign has, in consequence of the wars of 1866 and 1870, became as much ancient history as the Peninsular war. The previous volume was published in November, 1880, and the completion of the work has been delayed by the impaired health of the author.

IT WILL not be the fault of the German national liberals if their countrymen are not thoroughly infected with the war spirit. They are flooding the constituencies with manifestos quite as warlike as those issued by them in 1866 and 1870. The official press publishes frantic appeals to the patriotism of the country and exaggerated accounts of the dangers to be feared from French Chauvinism. The fact is the war scare is being used for all it is worth by Bismarck, and this should be borne in mind by readers of the news from Berlin.

DR. AVELING, the English socialist, having fallen out with his American brothers, is wreaking his revenge upon them by writing letters to the papers. In one he says: "There is no getting away from the fact that the Americans are a very, very dirty people. I have never seen—in my worst nightmares I have never dreamed of—such filthiness of habit as is habitual here." There is only one conclusion to be drawn from these statements, and that is that Dr. Aveling was extremely unfortunate in the selection of his associates in America.

ACCORDING to the United States census the total capital invested in the fishing industries of Maine and Massachusetts is $17,710,444, the annual product $11,755,928, and the total number of persons employed on sea and shore 31,188. This would be a comparatively small stake to go to war about, but it is, of course, a principle for which each side is contending.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Senator Ingalls, who is just now bubbling over with patriotism, was old enough to handle a musket in the last war. But he didn't.

The Montreal mayoralty contest has ended in Mr. Clalida retiring by order of his medical adviser, leaving the field clear to Mr. Abbott.

The liberals of Hamilton have nominated a parson for the commons. How true it is that even Satan can quote scripture to suit his purpose.

The Winnipeg *Free Press* says Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin, the conservative candidate in Assiniboia, is a phosphorescent lobster." The *Free Press* is opposed to Mr. Davin's candidature. This "fixes" Nick's chances.

Considerable speculation prevails as to who will be the leader of the senate, but nothing will be done until it is seen how the elections result. Mr. McLelan is mentioned as the likely man in the event of the government being returned to power.

Our estimable morning contemporary regards as a compliment an allusion to his frozen brain. A congealed brain is better than no brain at all until it begins to thaw, then people in its vicinity will take the precaution to hold their noses.

Talk about the destruction of human life in India by "tigers!" It is not to be compared to the ravages of a well-shod donkey in a mining camp. And when there are thirty-five of them all caulked for winter wear the havoc will be simply appalling.

The following campaign verses come from New Brunswick:

Oh, every boodle, Tory crank—
There's one more river to cross,
He got to tumble off the plank—
There's one more river to cross.
We'll make that upstart Foster wish—
There's one more river to cross,
That his window he will dash—
There's one more river to cross,

There are eighlt other verses constructed on a similar plan.

In the report of the liberal meeting on Saturday evening the *Times* remarks: "There were other counter attractions" which prevented a larger attendance. Had the *Times* only given the public an idea beforehand of the amusing character of the proceedings, The Victoria would not have held the number that would have been present, and who would have willingly subscribed the two-bits demanded.

The junior member for Victoria hit the leader of the opposition and his ex-lieutenant from Cassiar a hard one with his resolution to investigate the "obliterated" Victoria city ballots. The opposition fought hard to avoid an inquiry and introduced an irrelevant amendment; but as the result the original motion passed and—now, gentlemen, bring on your proof or stand prepared for political "obliteration."

The editor of the *Times* last evening, in a paragraph replete with his usual choice expletives (patent applied for), gives vent to his chagrin over the utter failure of the liberal meeting on Saturday evening, which was merely a laughable burlesque. It is amusing after the articles that have lately been printed in the paper denouncing partizans and holding up "stradblebugs" as the kind of politician that should represent British Columbia, to witness the *Times* editor up in arms in defence of the liberals. He is like an abandoned bark on a storm-tossed sea, driven hither and thither by every changing wind.

Our esteemed morning contemporary suggests that the timber land returns asked for by the junior member for Esquimalt should include particulars of the Port Simpson "grab." Where has our estimable friend been for the past several years not to know that "grab" returns were furnished long ago? It is four years since the particulars he demands were laid before the house. During the interval he has devoted something like a ton of paper and ink to the discussion of those particulars; and to-day he is seemingly not aware that they were ever furnished! Go to, *Standard*. Thou art properly dubbed "The day before yesterday." You should now be called "The year before last." A thaw has set in; but it has not as yet benefited the *Standard* man. His brain is frozen solid.

Bulwer makes Richelieu exclaim, "I have re-created France." Sir John Macdonald with greater truth may say: "I have created Canada." Half a dozen jealous and disunited provinces, the vast stretch of "the great lone land," and a little cluster of settlements on the shore of the Pacific—these made up British North America. Sir John's hand held "the rich-enchanter's wand" under which these dissevered territories became bound and welded into the Dominion of Canada. The Intercolonial railway binds the east to the centre, and the Canadian Pacific—the greatest railway work under one management in the whole world—binds the centre to the west. Hamlets have become cities and towns have put on metropolitan greatness since Sir John Macdonald rose to be the director of Canada's fortunes; her people have from a handful become a great nation; from ten thousand factories the breath of busy industry rises; the face of the great plain has become dotted with happy homes sentineled by growing towns. And now the Canadian with swelling and kindling eye can look around him and see an empire bursting into birth.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

ROBBIE'S VERDICT.

It was a little newly arrived sister that nurse held in her arms and 7-year-old Robbie stood jealously inspecting her.

To his mind she looked smaller and less attractive than any little sister of the other boys that he could remember, and he felt a keen thrill of disappointment. So he put his hands deep in his pockets like papa, wrinkled up his nose, and regarding the new acquisition savagely, said:

"Well, I call that pretty near a failure!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

An Obstinate Case.

"In the spring of '83 I was nearly dead, as everybody around my neighborhood knows. My trouble was caused by obstinate constipation. One bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters cured me entirely." This statement is made by Walter Stinson, of Gorrie, Ont. tu-th-sat-dw.

"MY VALENTINE."

Reasons Why the Fourteenth Day of February is Celebrated.

A Festival the Origin of Which is Lost in the Mists of Antiquity, but for which St. St. Valentine Gets All the Popular Credit.

More than sixteen hundred years ago to-morrow the good Bishop Valentine fell a victim to the wrath of the Pagan Roman Emperor Claudius, and suffered accordingly the disarticulation of his spinal column. Although the pious bishop lost his head and life simultaneously, he thereby ere long gained canonization, and is today the best known saint in the calendar. One writer says: "St. Valentine was a man of most admirable parts, and so famous for his love and charity, that the custom of choosing valentines upon his festival (which is still practiced) took its rise from thence." The custom alluded to, however had its origin probably long anterior to St. Valentine, and in fact prior to the Christian era. Many authors incline to the belief that the exchange of valentines or love tokens, can easily be traced to the Lupercalia or ancient Roman festival of purification and expiation which was celebrated annually on the 15th of February. The ceremonies of this festival were numerous and among them was one as follows: The names of young women were put in a box, from which they were taken by young men as chance directed, and to the maiden whose name he drew, the youth devoted his attentions during the festival.

A CHANGE OF FORM.

This custom flourished during the early days of the church, and the pastors determined to change the form, as it was impossible to extirpate the custom, abhorred because of its pagan origin. It became then the custom on the eve of February 14th, St. Valentine's day, to have the names of a select number of one sex put into some receptacle by an equal number of the other; and thereupon every one drew a name, which was for the time being called his or her valentine. The giving of presents on Valentine's day was in vogue at an early date, and just how or why the giver is supposed to preserve inviolate the secret of his identity is one of those questions shrouded in a sacred mystery. The festival occurs at a season of the year when the birds are supposed to mate and the budding spring is just at hand and the young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. The fancy of the overworked delivery clerk perhaps is directed to anything but love.

A BUSY TIME.

To-morrow is St. Valentine's, the day when the post office is taxed to deliver the thousands of dainty missives and the so-called "comics." The show windows of the principal stationers indicate but little change from former years in the conceits for valentine favors. The hideous caricatures of dudes, sour old maids, and other types, hang side by side with delicate cards of so costly design and elaborate finish as to wreck the pecuniary standing of many a callow youth for weeks to come. It is safe to buy pools that hundreds of the younger members of each sex will wait with great impatience for the opening of the wicket to-morrow morning, and some, too, not so very young. The pretty blush and pleased exclamation of Angelina, as she draws from its envelope the expensive scraps of paper pasted over and about a bit of jingled sentiment, would, if he could be a witness, reconcile poor Algernon to his enforced patronage for a month or more to some obscure "bean racket" until his finances are recuperated.

THE RISING GENERATION.

No one, perhaps, takes a more fiendish satisfaction in the desecration of the day than the small boy whose years range from ten to fifteen. To this undesirable but very necessary factor of the census, St. Valentine's Day presents a perfectly safe chance of "getting even." The school teacher receives a missive, laboriously directed in a disguised hand, which libels her vocation. His big sister and her beaux are the recipients of the small boy's crude wit, and paterfamilias does not escape a hint that his generosity might be properly taxed to provide what has, perhaps, been often denied. The fair sex generally look upon St. Valentine's Day as a sort of amatory barometer by which they can guage the extent of their popularity with the sterner sex. She who receives the greatest number of valentines believes herself to stand higher in masculine admiration than her less favored sister who may receive but one or more evidence of homage. St. Valentine's Day, hoary with the snows of sixteen centuries, will doubtless never lose its hold on popularity, for it had its origin in that wonderful and inexplicable emotion which mortals call love.

NICOLA NEWS.

The Cold Weather—Probable Large Loss of Stock—A Demand for Cats—Newsy Notes.

(Correspondence of THE COLONIST.)

The winter seems destined to make the people of Nicola twice glad, glad when it came and glad when it goes away. Until about ten days ago the winter was very pleasant. The weather was something simply delightful with fine sunshiny days and there was enough snow to make good sleighing. The weather being just cold enough to make pleasure driving exhilirating. The weather was so fine and the air so balmy that a great many thought a Chinook wind would soon blow which would quickly melt the snow. But their expectations were rudely dispelled when about ten days ago the weather began to grow colder and colder until the 3rd inst., when it reached its coldest, the thermometer registering in this community 42° below zero, and at Nicola Lake 45° below zero, which is colder by 40° than it has ever been at these places during the last 12 years.

From the 2nd to 6th inst. the thermometer registered cold, ranging from 30° to 42° below zero in this community. This is undoubtedly an exceptional winter and is proving hard on the stock, especially cattle. Cattle feeding began a month and in some cases six weeks ago, and the cattle are beginning to show very marked evidences of the absence of "bunch grass." In the cases of some ranchers the supply of hay is nearly exhausted, and taking into consideration the destitute state of the ranges last fall, if cattle are now turned out to shift for themselves very disastrous, undoubtedly, will be the result. The outlook for the stockmen is very gloomy, there being no sign of approaching spring, and at least two weeks more to feed can be relied upon. Between now and the 1st of April there will be beyond a doubt a large number of cattle die in Nicola. The weather is now moderating and there is every evidence of being fair weather in the immediate future.

Cats are a scarce article in Nicola it being almost impossible to buy them for any price.

Business as a consequence of the late cold weather is very dull, everything being at a standstill.

Mr. J. W. Marsh suffered from a paralytic stroke a few days ago but is now recovering rapidly.

Mr. C. Woodward has removed to Nicola Lake where he intends to reside in the future, as presenting better facilities for the successful prosecution of his trade.

The Nicola milling company have employed Mr. Clark, a miller of large experience, and late from Chili, to entirely overhaul their grist mill and make such changes in it as will enable them to produce a better quality of flour than formerly and give a larger yield per hundred. They appear to mean business.

The Rev. J. Turner passed through Nicola a few days ago on his way to Barkerville. His health has greatly improved since he came to British Columbia.

W. W.

Lower Nicola, 9th Feb., 1887.

Mother Carey's Salve.

A valuable little ointment for Sores, Burns, Wounds, Piles, Fistula or Sore Bunions and Corns. Does not draw like other salves, but is soothing and cooling.

22nov LANGLEY & Co., Agents.

THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

Proceedings of the First Session of the Fifth Parliament.

MONDAY, Feb. 14th.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2 p.m.

Prayers were read by Rev. A. Beanlands.

Hon. Mr. Robson in response to a resolution of the house brought down correspondence, etc., between the government and Canadian Pacific railway company.

HIGHWAYS GAZETTED.

Mr. Ladner moved, seconded by Mr. Orr, that an order of the house be granted for a return of highways gazetted on the north side of Fraser river, in Townships 17, 20 and 23, New Westminster district, and a return of all monies expended since 1st July, 1883, on roads and bridges in the above townships; classifying the amount expended upon each gazetted highway, and the amount expended elsewhere.

The mover said large sums of money had been spent upon roads which were surveyed but not gazetted, and two or three disputes had already arisen on account of the uncertainty as to where the line ran. Resolution carried.

SUMAS DYKING.

The Hon. Mr. Robson asked leave to introduce a bill intituled—"An Act to repeal (in part) the 'Sumas Dyking Act, 1878.'"

Mr. Beaven did not see how a public bill could be brought to deal with a private bill.

Hon. Mr. Davie claimed that it was competent for the government to repeal with a private bill if it was in the public interest.

Mr. Vernon pointed out that the Walkem government had pursued the same course in 1879, as was now being adopted.

Mr. Speaker reserved his decision on the point taken, but believed the government were allowed to bring in any bill having for its object the public welfare.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Mr. Bole moved that the time for receiving petitions for private bills and for reporting private bills to the house be extended two weeks. Carried.

FALSE CREEK BRIDGE.

Mr. Orr moved, seconded by Mr. Ladner, that a respectful address be presented to His Honor the lieutenant-governor, praying that a copy of all correspondence between the Provincial and Dominion governments be sent down to this house respecting the railway bridge across False creek, in the District of New Westminster.

The mover referred to a resolution passed at the last session of the late legislature requesting the government to take steps to prevent the erection of any structures across False creek which would obstruct navigation. He pointed out that a bridge had been erected on the stream referred to, which greatly interfered with traffic on it and particularly with the business carried on by the mills situated above the bridge. He wished to ascertain by this resolution whether this matter had been represented in a sufficiently forcible manner. Resolution passed.

OBLITERATED BALLOT PAPERS.

Mr. T. Davie moved, seconded by Mr. Turner: Whereas it has been stated by an honorable member, in his place in this house, that at the last general election, whereat the senior member for the city of Victoria was a candidate, ballot papers were supplied to electors with the name of the said senior member obliterated; be it resolved that a select committee be appointed with power to call for persons, books and papers, to enquire into and report to this house upon the conduct of the last general election in the city of Victoria, and whether any such obliterated ballot papers were supplied to any of the electors thereat and under what circumstances; such committee to consist of Messrs. Beaven, Grant, Turner, Prior and the mover.

The mover did not wish to bind the honorable gentleman (member from Cassiar) to the words contained in the resolution, but in view of the remarks reported in THE COLONIST as having been made by him, it was of the greatest importance that a searching inquiry should be made in the matter and the charge substantiated or those who conducted the election should be relieved of the stigma which the honorable gentleman's words had cast on them.

Mr. Grant said he had not used any words to warrant the honorable gentleman using the word "obliterated" in his resolution. He had said a line was drawn through the honorable senior member for Victoria's name, but he had used no such word as "obliterated."

Mr. Davie as he had said, had no desire to confine the honorable gentleman to the words of the resolution, and he had no objection to amending it in the manner suggested.

Mr. Beaven was entirely in accord with the principle of the resolution, but objected to words being put in his mouth, which he had not used and which he was also sure the honorable member for Cassiar had not used. When he had spoken on the question he had done so with deliberation and with the expectation that the government would take the matter up.

Mr. Dunsmuir was prepared to say that the honorable member for Cassiar did use the word "obliterated." He might not remember it but he (Grant) had explained that the name was obliterated by a line drawn through it.

Hon. Mr. Robson thought that if the language did not represent what the honorable gentleman intended to say it was very remarkable that on a question of so much importance he had not taken the opportunity of rising in his place in the house and correcting his report. He did not wish to put words in that gentleman's mouth, but he certainly remembered most distinctly that the word "obliterated" had been used on the opposition side of the house and he thought it was by the honorable member for Cassiar.

Mr. Grant did not always read the report of the proceedings of the house in THE COLONIST.

Mr. Turner said he himself and he knew several others had gone away from the house with the impression that it had been said that the name was "obliterated." If a line was drawn through it, then it certainly was "obliterated."

Honorable attorney-general said certainly a line drawn through the name was an obliteration for all practical purposes. It seemed strange to him that an hon. gentleman, representing such an important constituency as the senior member for Victoria, should not have moved in a matter of this kind the first thing when he came to this house. He could assure him it was not the intention of the government to let it pass.

Mr. Bole said that whatever chance there was of THE COLONIST reporting correctly remarks made by the government members, he did not think there was much chance for the opposition, as several questions of privilege would bear witness. He had a dictionary before him which defined the word "obliterate" as follows: "Efface, erase, blot out." In view of this the time of the house was being wasted in a useless discussion. It was not the duty of the opposition to bring this matter up. Moved, seconded by the second member for New Westminster district, To strike out the word "obliterated" on the 3rd line thereof, and insert in lieu the words "interferred with." Insert as fourth line the following: "Whereas the members from the city and district of New Westminster have stated from their places in the house that the honorable the provincial secretary in the month of June last informed the electors of New Westminster when soliciting their suffrages that the sum of $300,000 of the money received from the Dominion government on account of the graving dock refund was unexpended, and was at that time in the treasury." Strike out the word "obliterated" and insert after the word "were" the words "anywise interfered with." Insert after the word "circumstances" "and also to report to this house as to the circumstances attending the making of such statement by the provincial secretary."

A member—What does it mean?

Mr. T. Davie—It means that the opposition don't want any inquiry (hear, hear).

Hon. Mr. Robson said such words had never come out of his mouth, but rather he had said that the government had intended to keep faith with the mainland in respect to this matter and that there was yet $102,000 to be expended on the mainland in the way of general improvements.

Mr. Bole maintained that the provincial secretary had said at New Westminster that the total amount of the dry dock refund was yet in the treasury and yet to be expended upon the mainland.

Mr. Ladner said ditto.

Mr. Orr said the same thing.

Mr. Dunsmuir—Upon my word I am surprised at the honorable members for New Westminster district. They should be very glad to know that there was $102,000 in the treasury to their credit, but they do not seem to be in the least bit thankful for it.

Hon. Mr. Davie said if the time of the house was to be consumed in listening to the conflicting opinions of the members from New Westminster district, the house should never get through with its business (hear, hear). He failed to see the object of the amendment, seeing that it was totally foreign to the resolution. Moved that the word obliterated be removed from the resolution and that "a line drawn through" be inserted instead.

Mr. Grant decidedly objected to any word in the resolution or amendment which he had not used. He had said "a line *apparently* drawn through" the name of the senior member for Victoria.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the amendment of the honorable attorney-general was out of order, inasmuch as it proposed to deal with an earlier part of the resolution than the previous amendment.

Mr. Semlin claimed that both the resolution and the amendment of the honorable member for New Westminster dealt with election irregularities and should be supported. Was glad to hear that there was $102,000 in the treasury to be expended on the mainland because this was information he had been endeavoring to obtain for the past four years.

Mr. Higgins had previously objected to the honorable gentleman from New Westminster district introducing into the house matters connected with the election contest. This was no place for them to throw in one another's faces words used during the campaign. He was convinced that the honorable member for Cassiar had used the word "obliterated," at least he found that he (Mr. Grant) was credited in the *Daily Times* of the 9th inst., as follows: "Mr. Grant said he had been told by several electors that a mark appeared over Mr. Beaven's name on the ballot paper, and was believed by them to obliterate his name." (Applause.)

Mr. Grant—I am not responsible for everything which appears in the *Times*.

Mr. Higgins—I do not say that the honorable gentleman is. I should be very sorry to think he was; but it does seem remarkable that two city papers, endeavoring to report the proceedings of the house correctly should have credited the honorable gentleman with the same words. It was particularly strange that he should not have been correctly reported in his own paper.

Mr. Vernon thoroughly agreed with the remarks of the honorable senior member for Victoria, and thought it was very strange that Mr. Grant should not at least have taken some steps to have his remarks reported correctly in his own paper. (Hear, hear.) In reference to the amendment he was of opinion that in dealing with public business in this house members should not know any distinction between island and mainland. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Croft moved, to strike out all the words of the amendment after "to," and to insert the words "a line apparently drawn through," between the words "with" and "the" on the third line, and to strike out the word "obliterated" on the third and sixth lines.

Mr. Beaven—That is as much out of order as the other.

Mr. Higgins said it was becoming more apparent every day that if some member would throw the rules and orders in the fire he would be a public benefactor. The house had now wasted over three hours discussing points of order and the sooner that some other authority than May was adopted the better. If some one else did not move in this matter before the close of the session he would. The "little parliament" which met once a week in Victoria never bothered about "May." Why did this house not rise above "May" and adopt an authority of their own. (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr. Davie said with the evidence he had before him he was convinced that the word "obliterated" had been used. If this matter had not been brought now we would not fail to hear about it when the next election came on and as the opposition opposed the matter in every form it was brought up, he was in favor of adopting the original resolution.

Mr. Turner pointed out that the whole discusion rested on the meaning and application of the word "obliterated." To all intents and purposes it had been correctly used.

Hon. Mr. Robson confirmed the position he had previously taken.

Mr. Bole wanted an enquiry into all election irregularities.

Mr. Beaven—Ditto.

Hon. Mr. Robson said he would be most happy at the proper time, to support a committee to enquire into anything he had said or done but he objected to the present amendment which was simply a ruse of the opposition to draw a red herring across the track.

A division being taken the original resolution was adopted by a vote of 14 to 8.

MOUNT DOUGLAS RESERVE.

Mr. John moved that an order be granted for a return of all correspondence between the government and the municipal council of the city of Victoria respecting the transfer of Mount Douglas reserve, Victoria district, to the corporation of Victoria city.

REPORT OF THE MINES.

The honorable minister of mines brought down the annual report of the mines up to the 31st December, 1886.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

The Hon. Mr. Robson asked leave to introduce a bill intituled "An act to amend the qualification and registration of voter's act, 1876." Bill read a first time; second reading on Wednesday.

CARIBOO TIMBER LANDS.

Mr. Cowan asked—Have any timber leases or grants in the Cariboo district been applied for; and if so, by whom; and for what extent?

Hon. Attorney-General—There have been no applications for timber leases in the Cariboo district.

PARLIAMENT BUILDING.

Mr. Higgins asked—Is it the intention of the government to place a sum on the estimates for the current year to provide for the erection of a suitable building for parliamentary purposes?

Hon. Attorney-General—It is not.

House adjourned at 5:45 till Tuesday at 2 p. m.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Col. Baker will move—Whereas, in the present disturbed state of Europe the imperial British government might suddenly be plunged into war; and whereas the coast and ports of British Columbia are not in a state to resist any sudden attack by an enemy; therefore be it resolved that representation be made to the Dominion government requesting that early steps be taken to carry out its policy declared in 1883, of stationing in British Columbia a battery of Canadian artillery; also requesting the Dominion government to take steps toward placing on a better footing the militia of this province, 1st, by the enrollment of new corps at Nanaimo, Vancouver, the Yale and Kootenay districts, and such other districts as may be deemed advisable; 2nd, by providing better and more suitable drill sheds for existing corps, and also by providing suitable magazines for the storage of powder and other ammunition.

Mr. Orr will move for all communications addressed to the Canadian Pacific railway company and their sureties concerning their bonds entered into in favor of this province.

Mr. Croft will move that in view of the intention of the government to introduce legislation relative to the timber lands of the province it is desirable that the house be fully informed as to the present condition of the timber trade of the country. Be it therefore resolved that a select committee be appointed for the purpose of obtaining such information with power to call for persons and papers, and to report to this house, and that the committee be also at liberty to report a scheme for the protection of the timber lands of the province, such committee to be composed of the following members: Attorney-General Davie, Higgins, Vernon, Grant, Bole, Ladner, and the mover.

OUR GOLD MINES.

Report of the Minister of Mines for the Past Year.

The Gold Yield an Increase Over the Previous Year—Gratifying Progress Made in Quartz Mining—Mr. Bowman's Preliminary Report.

Hon. J. Robson, minister of mines, presented to the house yesterday his annual report of the mining industries of the province for the year 1886. The total amount exported by the banks during the year amounted to $753,043, nearly $160,000 in excess of 1885. Adding one-fifth as the estimated value of gold leaving the province by other sources gives a total yield of over $903,000 for the past year, a gratifying increase. Incorporated with the report are those of the gold commissioners of the various districts, the preliminary report of Mr. A. Bowman, M.E., and the report of MR. G. Koch, mining expert; the latter has already been printed in the columns of THE COLONIST.

CARIBOO.

In his report Mr. Bowron states that another dry season has greatly interfered with the gold output of his district, though on William's creek and tributaries the yield has nearly equalled that of last year. Among the hydraulic claims the Forest Rose has been the most successful, having now reached bed-rock and good pay. The others have not as yet reached that stage, and the dry season have compelled them to go further for a better supply of water. The Nascu Co. has not as yet been successful in securing pay, having been unable to compete with the under-current of water, and it is now thought that the only successful way to proceed is to flume the creek for a considerable distance below the shaft. The gold has been proven to exist in quantities and the work will proceed. The strike made by prospectors northeast of Barkerville is referred to as likely to lead to the opening up of a new and extensive mining field. The section in which the discovery was made is entirely disconnected from the present Cariboo mines by a high granite range. The region is probably the source from which the bars on the Upper Fraser derive their deposits of gold.

Mr. Bowron estimates the gold yield for the district as follows:

Barkerville polling division	$ 96,000
Lightning " "	54,300
Grouse mouth " "	45,000
Keithley Creek " "	62,000
Amount from time of collecting statistics to December 31st	15,000
Amount of which no account was obtainable	15,000
	$288,300

In speaking of the quartz deposits, the gold commissioner refers individually to the various ledges now being worked which are being proved to be deposits of valuable gold-bearing rock.

Appended to Mr. Bowron's report is that of the men who discovered the new ground, and also that of Mr. W. Craib, who speaks in high terms of the quartz and suggests the establishing of a chlorination works as the most practical means of introducing capital.

Mr. W. Stephenson, government agent, reports a great number of Chinese miners scattered through the Keithly and Williams Lake districts, and every possible water supply recorded for mining purposes. The Horsefly country has not proved anything new, though considerable prospecting has been done and better returns are looked for during the coming year. From Keithley and Harvey creeks there is nothing new and claims have done as well as during the previous year. The great Snowshoe Co., on Snowshoe creek, after five years of hard work, have at last struck good pay.

CASSIAR.

Mr. J. L. Crimp reports an increase in yield over that of the previous seasons. The greatest increase was in Dease creek. There has been little prospecting done, though four white men found encouraging prospects on Mosquito creek. On Muddy river three white men prospected all summer. This stream is ninety miles from Sylvester's landing. High water interfered with work, though good pay was found, two men rocking out $100 in one day. The government is recommended to make a small appropriation to assist in prospecting.

Following is the output of gold for the season:

Laketon Division	$41,460
McDame Division	22,150
Total	$63,610

Mr. Allan Graham reports that Lorne creek has had an unsatisfactory season owing to continued high water. Better returns are hoped for next year, as the hill claims which could not be worked this year, will be tested.

KOOTENAY.

Gold Commissioner Sproat in his report on the Big Bend division, speaks encouragingly of the placer and quartz prospects. Fifty-eight placer and 77 mineral claims are recorded. Quartz mining has been impracticable owing to it being impossible to pack machinery over the trail, though ledges sampled have given good results.

On Carnes creek one company took out from $8 to $10 per day to the man. The diggings are deep. Prospects for large work during the present season are good.

French creek, which gave such good returns twenty years ago, is likely to prove itself still a rich source of supply of the precious metal. The Creek company secured pay-gold in August, but shut down to put in machinery. The hill company, lower down, have been making $7 to $9 per day to the man. French creek with its affluents offers about twenty-five miles of ground.

McCullough creek is about five miles long. Gray's Ophir Bedrock Flume Co. have been hard at work, but at latest accounts had not reached bedrock. Work is heavy owing to the large sized boulders. Four claims are above this one and a great deal of work has been done during the season, and there is a confidence that when bedrock is reached good pay will also be found.

Mention is made of the rich, silver-bearing ores in the Ille-cille-waet subdivision, which have assayed from $34.05 to $609 per ton.

The southern subdivision, including the Arrow lakes and Lardo river and to the boundary have been little prospected.

No Chinese are employed in the district. About 223 men were in the mines, and about 150 prospected the district.

Mr. Vowell, S. M., states that the dry season greatly interferred with mining, and estimates $50,000 as the total yield. The hope is entertained that next season's output will be a large increase, and that the new hydraulic claims will be in working order. Quartz mining was only prosecuted sufficient to hold mineral claims.

LILLOOET.

Mr. Soues, government agent, Clinton, reports the yield as largely in excess of previous years, it being $132,000. Of this Fraser river contributed 1,455 ounces, Bridge river 1,440 ounces and Cajoosh creek 725 ounces. The principal portion of the latter was secured by Chinese and Indians and the greater portion of the gold of the district was secured by the Chinese.

Quartz has been paid considerable attention, and several new ledges have been discovered. The Foster Gold Mining and Milling Co. have done a great amount of work, and the gold commissioner describes the ledge and work done very clearly. Great confidence is expressed in the successful treating of this extensive body of ore.

The appended report of Messrs. Ward and Gould gives an account of their prospecting tour.

A report from Mr. Geo. Henderson is also given. This treats altogether of the Foster mine, and gives the result of eighteen assays made of the ore. These run all the way from $6.20 to $118.91 to the ton. The hope is expressed that the next report will contain the bullion product.

YALE.

Mr. W. Dodd, government agent, Kamloops, estimates the yield of Scotch creek at $22,000. The Stump lake mines are referred to as likely to prove of value and large extent.

Mr. W. Dewdney reports considerable work in placer and quartz mining in the Okanagan district.

Mr. G. C. Tunstall reports that Similkameen division has yielded $203,000 during the last year. The greater portion was taken from Granite creek. The various other creeks were worked but no pay gold was secured. The largest nugget, $320, was taken out of Bear creek. Slate creek produced one worth $215. About 100 whites and 50 chinese are wintering in the camp, which it is thought will give employment to 400 men this year.

MR. KOCH'S REPORT.

Mr. Koch's exhaustive report has already been produced in these columns, and it will not now be necessary to refer to it.

MR. BOWMAN'S REPORT.

The preliminary report of Mr. A. Bowman, M. E., on ores collected and quartz localities in Cariboo occupies fifteen pages of the printed report, and treats fully the subject of quartz. Space will not admit of more than a passing reference at present. The following sections were visited: Quesnelle river, Spanish creek, Duck creek, Snowshoe creek, Snowshoe plateau, Harvey creek, between the head of Keithley, main Quesnelle and Swift rivers, Round-top mountain and Cunningham creek, Antler creek, Grouse creek, Williams creek, Lowhee creek, Island mountain, Mosquito creek, Sugar creek, Lightning creek and Hixon creek. In all these sections specimens from the various mines were secured, from which assays will be made. A large mass of information in regard to each ledge is given. The report is a very valuable addition to the mineral knowledge of Cariboo, and shows faithful and practical research on the part of its author.

MRS. LANGTRY HAS VIEWS.

And Expresses them with Considerable Freedom.

"Really, I don't see what any actress has to do with society. It is none of her business, and if she attends to her art she won't have time to go out. But there does seem, nevertheless, to be a great craving on the part of many actresses to achieve social success."

"Not actresses alone?"

"No, truly. All sorts of people. I mean all sorts of people who have not been out in the fashionable world and know not its loftiness. They have an extreme craving for the glitter and vanities of fashionable life."

"And you?"

"I have no love for fashion at all. I have had all I want of it. Society is dangerous ground—dangerous for young women, I mean."

"More so than the stage?"

"Decidedly. A young girl's morals are safer on the stage than amidst the dangers of a fashionable drawing-room, a great ball, or other fashionable gatherings.

"How could it be otherwise amidst a lot of people who live high and have nothing to do but to amuse themselves? It is only natural that they should flirt and that a young girl should be in constant danger.