The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1898.

THE OUTPUT OF KLONDIKE.

The reports of the output of Klondike will probably continue to be conflicting. That it will be very large is certain, but it is not safe to accept as absolutely correct, or as close approximations, the stories brought down from the North even by the most conservative men. There is only one way to ascertain how much gold has been cleaned up and that is by weighing it. No man's story of what another has is worth much. Government returns will afford pretty good proof, but these are likely to be under rather than over the mark. The statements which the large commercial companies may make public will also be a guide. Nevertheless after every method of getting at the true amount has been exhausted, there will be a large uncovered margin, one way or the other. The Colonist does not claim to be able to form an opinion as to the truth with any greater likelihood of being correct than any one else. It prints what it is told by men of apparent veracity, who have had facilities for observation, and gives the stories just as they are told, and its readers must form their own conclusions as to their accuracy. Some of the reports do not harmonize very well. Which is the most trustworthy, we do not know. If we did we would publish that one and omit the others. In the complete absence of anything official, and in the anxiety of the people to know just what the reports from the North are, the best course seems to be to print everything having any pretensions to trustworthiness, and permit the public to decide for themselves what to believe.

Some of the reports put the probable clean-up as high as $25,000,000. Frankly speaking, this seems incredible. We do not say it is impossible, but the amount is so vast that it is impossible to contemplate such an enormous production for so small an area and so small a population, without absolute proof. Half this amount will be enormous. Probably no district of similar area ever produced $12,500,000 in the same length of time. Never in any year has the output of all the placer mines of British Columbia, even in the days when the greatest results were being obtained from Cariboo, reached a third of this amount. None of the Australian colonies ever yielded more than twice as much as this in a single year. So when men talk of twenty-five or thirty millions in gold, they are speaking of something, the magnitude of which they cannot appreciate.

Undoubtedly the output will be large, and equally undoubtedly it will be magnified. Every corner of the civilized world will hear the story, and the chances are that the excitement will be such that the rush northward will begin anew. Under these circumstances it becomes a matter of extreme importance that every route to the Yukon should be put in the best possible shape for the carriage of freight. A very large amount of goods will be needed during the winter, and great doubt exists as to the possibility of getting any considerable quantity up the Yukon. The traffic capacity of the route via Lynn Canal is limited. The Colonist adheres to the view, which it has held at all times during the last year, namely that the Stikine is the route by which alone any very great tonnage of heavy freight can be taken into the Yukon valley. A large amount can be sent across to Lake Teslin this fall on wagons in time to be taken down the river; but the greater part will have to be carried by sleighs, and if provision is made long enough in advance, there will be no difficulty in delivering hundreds of tons of freight at points in the Yukon valley during the winter.

THE LATE ELECTION.

The opposition press represents that the late election is to be taken as a condemnation of the government for corrupt administration. Yet it is a fact that every minister received a majority of votes in his constituency. Even the Hon. G. B. Martin received more votes than his opponent, who was declared elected. Very many ballots were spoiled in North Yale, and there is said to be no question that legally Mr. Martin should have been declared successful. Only legal proceedings can determine this for certain, and these are to be undertaken. There is no question as to the majorities of Hon. Messrs. Turner, Eberts, Baker and Pooley. Seeing therefore that the constituencies to which the ministers appealed gave them majorities, it is not easy to understand how a claim, that they were condemned for corruption, can be supported. In some constituencies the majorities against the government candidates were so narrow as to be really accidental. For example, in Nelson where Mr. Hume had a majority of six, it is known that a party of seven voters, each one of whom would have voted for Mr. Farwell, were delayed on their way to the polls and arrived too late to vote. Other instances of a similar kind might be mentioned. It cannot possibly be known until after the protests are decided and the Cassiar election has been held who has received a majority of the representation, and hence all this talk about a clean sweep in condemnation of the corruption of the government is without foundation.

Apply the claim to any locality and it will be seen how baseless it is. Take Slocan, where Mr. Green defeated Mr. Retallack. The contest in this riding was little more than a personal one between the two candidates. Take the Chilliwack riding. Mr. Munro opposed the Premier chiefly because he was a non-resident. It is folly to pretend that the vote of Chilliwack was a verdict upon the honesty of the administration. Take Alberni. Everybody who knows anything about the contest in that riding knows that neither the personnel of the government nor its policy played any part in it. The people of Nanaimo city and South Nanaimo would laugh at the man who suggested that the charges of corruption made against the government influenced the vote there in the slightest degree. If there was one constituency in the province, where the allegation of corruption was made and repeated with more persistency than anywhere else, it was New Westminster. Yet Mr. Brown, the great financial critic and the chief apostle of this corruption fable, was defeated there. Take Vancouver. Surely the four successful candidates in that city will not claim that they were elected because the people of that city believed the government was corrupt. Will this be alleged as a reason for rejecting four men, who were not running as government candidates.

In like manner the result of every constituency might be examined, and it would be seen that the claim made by the opposition press is utterly baseless. On the result, as it now stands, no one can justly say that the government has been condemned; much less can any one say that it has been condemned on the ground of corruption. While the Colonist has no expectation that the Hon. Mr. Turner will be called upon to resign, it expresses the hope that if such a thing should happen, his successor will charge himself with the duty of probing the public service to the very bottom, to discover, if he can, whether there has been the slightest trace of corrupt dealing. We hope also that when the legislature meets, some member of the opposition will formulate some charge of corrupt dealing, and have a committee of the house struck to examine into it. The time has come when those papers and politicians, which slander honorable public men and throw around charges of corruption, as though it were not the horrible thing it is, were compelled either to make good what they say or hold their peace.

ORATORY.

Is oratory on the decline? Most people say that it is; yet we saw William J. Bryan secure the presidential nomination of his party by a single speech. Until that time Bryan was a very modest factor in national politics. He came to the front as the result of a single impassioned address. Gladstone's great power lay in his oratory. His arguments were oftener than not inconclusive, but he swept the people before him by the force of his speech, combined with the music of his voice. Oratory has not lost its influence with men, but great orators are perhaps fewer in number than they once were.

The absence of anything like oratory was very marked during the general election just concluded. Rarely did speakers display any enthusiasm, and on not a single occasion could an audience be said to have been enthusiastic. Indeed while we have many good talkers in Canada to-day, we have few orators. They are scarce anywhere—men who can handle an audience as a skillful driver handles a pair of horses. Joseph Howe could do it; L. A. Wilmot, the great gladiator of responsible government in New Brunswick, could do it. To hear such men, when they were at their best was to get a revelation of the power of human speech. Wilmot was probably the finest specimen of an orator ever produced by British North America. A man of commanding presence, with piercing eyes, a musical voice and intense dramatic power, he would catch his hearers on the flood of his eloquence, and for the time being influence them almost as he wished. Joseph Howe was a speaker of the same type. He made a speech at Detroit on one occasion from the balcony of a hotel, and one of his hearers said that when he closed by a reference to the war of secession, sobs could be heard from all parts of the vast concourse, and the crowd, that had come to hear him, shouting and headed by a band, left his presence in silence. There can be no greater triumph of oratory than this—to rouse an audience to wild enthusiasm, as he did, and then to dismiss in silence.

The successful orator must be a man of strong personality and he must impress his personality upon his hearers. Knowledge of a subject and smoothness of diction do not alone make an orator. If they did, Edward Blake would be a model. Blake knows infinitely more about things than Laurier, but the latter comes nearer the oratorical ideal. Rev. Phillip Brooks, of Boston, was an orator. He had a defect in his speech, that is, he talked too rapidly and not always distinctly, but his splendid presence, his sincere conviction and, above all, the fact that he made his individuality felt gained him eminence on two continents. Her Majesty heard him on one occasion, when he visited London, and ever after honored him with her friendship.

To be a successful orator, behind the speech there must be the man, and in proportion as the man can manifest himself in his speech, so the orator will be successful. The chief criticism to be made of public speakers in this province is that they do not project themselves sufficiently in their speeches; by which we do not mean that they do not talk sufficiently about themselves, but that they do not make their hearers feel that they, the speakers, are dead in earnest. Given earnestness, a fair flow of language, a good voice and some personal magnetism, and we have the elements of a fairly successful orator. British Columbia wants more of people like that. Depend upon it the day has not passed in this province for oratory to do its work. In fact what British Columbia needs as much as anything else is some one who can take up the questions of the day, the great questions that ought to be brought home to every British Columbian, and handle them aright.

AS TO THE SITUATION.

Word has been received from Cassiar that nomination day has passed and that only three candidates are in the field, all government supporters. Their names are John Irving, C. W. Clifford and Archie McTavish. This gives the government nineteen seats certain, with a chance of getting two or more additional as the result of protests to be filed. It is also reasonable to suppose that the line of policy which the government will be able to present will secure the support of some other gentlemen, who, while not fully in sympathy with it heretofore, may see that the interests of the province lie in the retention of Mr. Turner in the premiership. There are many considerations which make it appear desirable, and one of the good features of the non-partizan system of carrying on the affairs of this province, is that it leaves the way open for gentlemen to give their support to any government which seems to be the most likely to promote the public welfare.

The Columbian devotes a long and interesting article to the discussion of the political situation, which it regards as affording an interesting field for speculation. It expresses its doubt as to either party having a sufficient majority to carry on business, and talks about the Lieutenant-Governor's duty in this event. The Lieutenant-Governor will probably listen to the advice of his ministers, who may be trusted to do what they are constitutionally bound to do. There is a law maxim which suits the case. It is: "In pari delictu, potior est conditio defendentis." Literally this means that when two parties are equally at fault the defendant's case is the stronger, but the principle of the rule applies to the suppositious case of the Columbian, that is one in which there may be some doubt as to whether the government or the opposition will command a majority of the votes in the legislature. In such a case the right of the party in power to remain in is stronger than that of the opposition to be allowed to take office. So long as there remains a doubt as to whether the ministry will be sustained on a vote in the legislature, the Lieutenant-Governor may very properly refrain from taking any action whatever as to the result of an election. This is not to question his constitutional power to dismiss his advisers at any time. He can do this, even if they show that they have a majority. A very conspicuous instance of this was when Governor Gordon of New Brunswick dismissed the Anti-Confederate government, though it had nearly every vote in the legislature, and called upon Charles Fisher to form a government, granting him a dissolution immediately. But as a rule Lieutenant-Governors take no notice of the result of elections. Referring again to the case of New Brunswick, which is especially apropos to British Columbia, because party lines do not hold there, the Fraser government was undoubtedly defeated at the elections of 1879, but was recast, met the house and held power for four years. Mr. Fraser was succeeded by Mr. Hanington, who on an appeal to the people at a general election was defeated. Yet he was not asked to resign, and he himself believed that he could carry on the government. He was defeated in moving the address, when he resigned. Here were two cases very much stronger against the government of the day than the case supposed by the Columbian, and the Lieutenant-Governor did not feel called upon to take any action whatever, but accepted the advice of his ministry as to the likelihood of their being able to command a majority, in one case the advice proving sound and in the other unsound. Even if it shall appear by and bye that the legislature is equally divided, an event which we do not contemplate for a moment, it would be perfectly proper and constitutional for the Lieutenant-Governor to take no action whatever until the legislature meets and his advisers have an opportunity to submit their policy to the members. If they are then outvoted, or if they fail to be able to organize the house, there will be nothing left for the ministers but to resign, but until such an event happens there seems to be no reason for dragging the Lieutenant-Governor's office into the situation.

THE COST OF GOLD.

A good many people are talking this way: Granted that the output of Klondike will be $20,000,000 in gold, fully 40,000 people have gone into the country within a year and they have spent at least $500 each, so where does the profit come in? Suppose we admit that the 40,000 people have spent on the aggregate $20,000,000, and the estimate is probably not excessive, it is not very clear that this proves anything unfavorable to the Klondike. It gives absolutely no criterion as to the profit of individuals. It does not give any idea of what the future profit of mining in the Yukon will be.

Perhaps more than half the money spent in connection with mining in the Far North has never led to the production of a single ounce of gold. It represents the failures, the disappointments and the delays attendant upon mining in such a remote region. Next year some of the so far profitless outlay will yield a reward to the plucky men who made it, but a very large percentage will unquestionably yield nothing in the way of profit, except to the transportation companies and the outfitters. This has always been the case in all new mining countries to such an extent that it is almost proverbial that gold costs all it is worth.

There are several sides to this question. If it cost only 25 cents to produce a dollar's worth of gold in the Yukon, the industry would be extremely profitable, but it is not very clear that Canada would gain much by the operation. By this we do not mean the cost of the individual producer, because doubtless in the great majority of cases his profit is even greater than this. What we mean is that if people could come into Canada and get gold so readily, that the outlay represented would not be more than twenty-five per cent. of the product, the [illegible] to the country would not [illegible] advantage great as if the outlay [illegible] be nearly as led the yield, pro[illegible] more nearly equal was in the D[illegible]ded the expenditure the more [illegible] money is spent in Canada in getting [illegible] out gold, the better for the country. Nearly a year ago, the Colonist, when speaking of the prospects opened up by the first reports from Klondike, said that, no matter how large the yield might be and no matter how great might be the fortunes amassed by individuals, people might make up their minds that on an average every ounce of gold produced in the Yukon would cost, directly and indirectly, all it would sell for as bullion, and the Colonist then said, what it now repeats, that from an economic point of view this great cost would be a good thing for the country. One of the great mysteries of commerce is that all the parties to successful business transactions make a profit. It was the omission to take note of this that led to the balance of trade fallacy obtaining such a hold upon the popular fancy. Even as late as six years ago. President Harrison in a message to congress argued that the United States was necessarily getting richer because its exports exceeded its imports. At the same time the British chancellor of the exchequer congratulated Great Britain that the imports continued to greatly exceed the exports.

The profit to the majority of the people of Canada from the gold product of Klondike will not be derived from the gold itself, but from the vast amount of trade and transportation to which it will give rise. As a general proposition at every stage, from the time the farmer sows the seed, which produces the corn, which is fed to the pigs, which produce the bacon, which is sold to the miner, who is carried to the Yukon and digs out the gold, there is a profit to the man who controls that particular stage, and this is how the country gets rich. If a man could be transported from New York to Klondike without cost and get back again in the same way, bringing with him a ton of gold, the profit to Canada would be a minus quantity.

MR. HIGGINS IN A NEW ROLE.

In the Montreal Gazette of July 11, two days after the electors of Esquimalt turned him down, the name of D. W. Higgins appears in the directorate of the Royal Five Gold Mining Company as follows:

Hon. D. W. Higgins, M.P.P., vice-president, Speaker of the legislative assembly of British Columbia, and vice-president of the Colonna Gold Mining Company.

This is a pretty showing for the great purist and immaculate individual whose name thus appears. It cannot, of course, be charged that Mr. Higgins has used his official position as a bait to investors, for he has no official position to use for any purpose whatever. The statement is simply a bald untruth, which Mr. Higgins will have considerable difficulty in explaining away. Mr. Higgins ceased to be Speaker of the legislative assembly some three months or more ago. He ceased to be a member of the legislative assembly and hence lost all right to write M.P.P. after his name more than a month ago. Yet here we have him posing in these false colors, and undoubtedly for the purpose of giving him a standing which he would not otherwise possess. Suppose that instead of this false description, Mr. Higgins' position had been described truthfully, would he be considered a drawing card? There was no objection to Mr. Higgins when he was Speaker accepting a position on the directorate of any company that wanted him. There was no objection to his being described in the prospectus as Speaker, any more than in his being described as vice-president of the Colonna Gold Mining Company. This is all perfectly legitimate and no one has a right to find a word of fault. But to pose now as Speaker, to hold himself now out to the world as an M.P.P. is just a little too much. For Mr. Higgins' company to obtain subscriptions on the strength of his being Speaker and an M.P.P would be to obtain money under false pretences, morally if not legally.

AN OUTSIDE VIEW.

There is an old saying that onlookers see most of the game. Like most popular saws, this is only partly true; but there is enough in it to render the views of those not participating in the recent election worthy of notice. The Toronto Globe, for example, after reviewing all the elements, which it thinks entered into the contest, says that the results "seem to have been brought about by the accumulated sins of fifteen years of paternalism." By this the Globe means that the system of government prevailing in this province, under which so many details are administered by the ministry and so few by the various localities, created a feeling of irritation, which could not be allayed. In view of the exceedingly narrow majorities against the government in some of the constituencies, there is little room for doubt that this consideration contributed very largely to the outcome of the election.

We observe that the Globe takes no stock what ever in the charge of corruption with which the opposition dealt so freely, and which they have had the temerity to repeat since the election, although they have never on any occasion ventured to specify a single act that could be characterized as corrupt. So far as this is concerned, the people of British Columbia, who have known Mr Turner for upwards of a quarter of a century, do not need any guarantee of his integrity, and his public life, which has lasted twelve years, is as free from stain as [illegible] his personal reputation. And a similar [illegible] observation holds good of his colleagues.

The Globe thinks that Mr. Turner has the advantage on his side in the peculiar conditions to which the election has given rise. He undoubtedly has. He has the advantage of being in power, which is in itself considerable. He has the advantage of a good record and of possessing the confidence of the people generally. He has the advantage of being confronted by a divided opposition. He has the very great advantage of being able to formulate a policy and present it to the legislature for its acceptance. The ultimate result of the elections will undoubtedly give him a majority, and when he meets the house, he will be able, by the exercise of good judgment, to secure sufficient independent support to make his tenure of office perfectly safe. This view of the case will, we think, commend itself to all persons, who, like the Globe, are in a position to take an unbiased view of the situation.

The Montreal Gazette says:—

The government, especially in regard to the finances, has given a good deal of ground for hostile criticism, which the opposition took full advantage of. The case was not a singular one, nor does it reflect credit on the Canadian people. Much of the addition to the debt that has been condemned has been made for the purpose of aiding projects the constituencies were presumably interested in ,and quite as loud condemnation would have been heard had the lines of economy been followed. The opposition was not in all things wise in its course. Mr. Joseph Martin, of Manitoba school law fame, took a prominent part in its work, and imparted to the campaign some of the qualities that make him, in some ways, one of the most offensive men in Canada public life. He appears to have been elected; but may be disappointed in his ambition of forming part of the expected new ministry.

The Toronto Mail and Empire considers the strong opposition vote due to the fact that Mr. Turner is a "progressionist," and hence was compelled to incur heavy expenditures.

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS.

The Journal of Commerce thinks that Dominion Day only receives any recognition at all because it is a public holiday, and not because of the event which it commemorates. There is a great deal of truth in this, but why should it be otherwise? Confederation Day only marks a stage in our national growth. No associations cluster around it. No man's pulse beats the faster, when he remembers that on July 1st, 1867, the four older provinces of Canada became united for certain purposes in pursuance of an act of the Imperial parliament, after a good deal of very animated political contention. That is all there is to be said about it, and it certainly is not calculated to arouse any great degree of patriotism or enthusiasm. To evoke these sentiments, there must be something which appeals to the imagination, which the prosaic fact of the consummation of confederation undoubtedly does not. We were all just as loyal subjects of the British Crown on the June 30th preceding the historic July 1st as we were afterwards. The union gave us no new rights. It in no sense enlarged our freedom. A very great many people regarded the step with some trepidation. There are some now, even, who are not quite satisfied now that it was not a mistake. Every man who knows anything about St. John, N.B., will tell you that May 18th, the anniversary of the landing of the Loyalists, appeals to the imagination and the patriotism of the people far more than July 1st, and quite as much as May 24th. The reason is not far to seek. To a large element of the population Loyalists' Day stands for something of priceless value. It commemorates a sacrifice for the flag. On that day three ships dropped anchor in St. John harbor, freighted with that which no money could buy and no act of parliament create—unswerving loyalty to the flag, testified by sacrifices which can be hardly measured. Thousands of the descendants of the United Empire Loyalists have sought homes in the land which their forefathers left, but not one of them recalls the story of that sorrowful banishment without a feeling of pride that there flows in his veins the blood of the men and women who were capable of making such a choice between ease under a foreign flag and privation beneath the Union Jack. Even though they may claim that the men who signed the Declaration of Independence were justified, they glory in the courage and loyalty of those who accepted the sacrifice of all they possessed as the price of loyalty.

This is not the place to tell the story of the Loyalists. It has really never been told. Douglas Sladen tried it and made a mess of it. Perhaps it never will be told as it ought to be, for those who heard it from the lips of the Loyalists themselves are very few. But there are many who retain a strong impression of the association which cluster round the day when the New Brunswick contingent landed, and they can appreciate without explanation why it is that, proud as they may be of the accomplishment of confederation, the anniversary of its commencement fails to appeal either to their imagination or their enthusiasm. Several times the question has been asked: Why does no one write a national song for Canada? The answer is that there is nothing to call forth such a song. We say what we have to say about Canada in hand-books and tables of statistics. Canada is yet a commercial and industrial proposition, with less about it to appeal to the imagination of the poet than there is about a sawmill, and infinitely less than there is about a shipyard. Nothing has yet occurred to touch the heart of Canada. We have made no sacrifice for the flag. We have been too happy in our lot, too contented, too well-cared for by our glorious Mother Land to allow of the development of the sentiment, which finds expression in song or lends eclat to a holiday.

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THE KOLAPORE CUP.

For the Second Year in Succession Canada Defeated by Other Colonial Teams.

Toronto, July 16—A cable to the Evening Telegram, dated Bisley, July 15, says: Six teams competed for the Kolapore cup to-day, namely, England, Canada, Guernsey, Victoria, India and Jersey. Though the Canadians were defeated they did some excellent shooting, their marksmanship being superior to that exhibited in last year's competition for the cup. The match is named after the Rajah of Kolapore with whom the event originated in 1871. The National Rifle Association also adds a colonial prize of £80 for the Indian or colonial team making the highest aggregate score, shooting it at 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each distance. The highest possible to be made being 840 marks. Last year the cup was carried off by the Australians from Victoria, a team brought to Bisley for reason of the Jubilee celebration. Altogether ten teams were entered, the largest number ever taking part in this competition. After the Victorias for the cup at last year's match was New Zealand, while the Mother Country came in third, the Canadian team ranked fourth, with 721. Today the cup was won by the Guernsey team, 744 points; England and Victoria tieing for second place with 741 points to the credit of each. Canada followed with a score of 733, while Jersey and India got 718 and 700 respectively. The Canadian scores were.

	200	500	600	T'l.
Sergt. Hayhurst	31	32	33	96
Pte. McVittie	31	32	26	89
Col. Sgt. Blair	30	33	26	89
Lieut. Forbes	30	34	31	95
Lieut. Ross	29	34	33	96
Sergt. Broadhurst	31	33	34	98
Capt. Hutcheson	31	30	29	90
Lieut. Smith	31	30	21	82
Totals	244	252	233	735

The weather to-day was much more favorable to good scoring. The wind had ceased, but throughout the shooting the heat was excessive.

There is much disappointment among members of the Canadian team over the losing of the Kolapore cup. Captain Hutcheson at the 600 yards' range shot at the wrong target, thereby destroying what otherwise would have been a most excellent score. Lieut. Smith, who made such a bad showing at the 600 yards is completely broken down, attributing to his bad marksmanship in the contest the loss to Canada's team the Kolapore cup. Smith had, however, done the best shooting during practice. Sergt. Broadhurst, of the Royal Scots of Canada, with a total of 98, made the best scoring of any competitor in the match. Captain Hutcheson claims that the range officer hurried himself and Lieut. Smith when firing their last two shots at the 500 yards ranges. He also claims that a Jersey man benefited by his mistake with the first shot at 600 yards.

ALBERNI NOTES.

Development More Than Realized the High Expectations Formed.

By the steamship Willapa, which arrived from West Coast ports on Thursday news of a highly satisfactory nature was received from the various mining camps.

At the Alberni Consolidated mine the erection of the stamp mill was nearly completed and the machinery will probably be working on Monday. The developments in the mine are most satisfactory, the reef having a very solid appearance and the ore now waiting to be crushed as well as that which is ready to be mined will yield a handsome profit over the working expenses.

At Anderson Lake recent developments go to prove that this must in time become an important mining centre.

At Hayes' camp on the Alberni Canal, where native copper was recently discovered, small shipments of very valuable ore are being made and the latest developments justify the owners' belief that they have a really good mine.

At Granite Creek, where the Wilson Bros. struck free milling ore which assayed $1,000 in gold arrangements have been made to put a force of men at work to develop the claim, the ledge is narrow at the surface but it is believed it will widen out at depth.

Nootka Sound is at present attracting attention owing to the recent discoveries made there by prospectors, some of whom are sending parcels of stone to this city for assay.

At Sidney Inlet development work on many claims is progressing most satisfactorily, but the high prices asked for claims by prospectors has prevented any business being done.

It is stated that a cinnabar claim at Sechart, Barclay Sound, has been bonded and men will shortly commence active development work.

The reef is stated to be 20 feet wide and carries gold and copper in payable quantities as well as a high percentage of quicksilver.

There is little doubt that the mining industry of this Island is progressing and the recent discoveries should attract capital both from America and England, more especially as the few judicious investments which have lately been made by capitalists from both countries are proving most satisfactory.

The Leonora at Mount Sicker, recently bonded to Scotch capitalists, continues in splendid ore and the latest specimens show native copper in the rock.

Gordon, the Omineca prospector whose trial for stealing his missing partner's effects has been pending for a long time, was brought before Mr. Justice Walkem yesterday and the case was heard. J. J. Chapman, M. R. E. Loring, Indian agent at Hazleton; Superintendent Hussey and several other witnesses gave evidence, the gist of it being that Godron sold his partner's goods and told two different stories, first telling Mr. Loring that his partner Jones had gone back home by way of Quesnelle and afterwards stating to Superintendent Hussey that Jones had been drowned. Gordon it will be remembered was primarily arrested on suspicion of having murdered his partner, but the body could not be found. The case will be finished to-day. Mr. A. G. Smith appears for the Crown and Mr. Gordon Hunter for the defence.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

"I spent an awful night last night."

"What was the matter, old man?"

"Oh, I forgot the combination of the safe where we kept the plate, and lay awake all night, wondering what in thunder I'd do if burglars came."—Detroit Journal.

"Maria, is this red, white and blue ice-cream wholesome?"

"I don't know; but what if it isn't? Aren't you willing to take any risks for your country?"—Chicago Record.

"Isn't Slims a little slow as a business man?"

"A little slow? He still has a big display of skates in his show window."—Detroit Free Press.

"Puffins answered an advertisement in which somebody offered to sell him the secret for preventing trousers from getting fringes round the bottom."

"What did they tell him?"

"To wear knickerbockers."—Tit-Bits.

The victory rests with America's Greatest Medicine, Hood's Sarsaparilla, when it enters the battle against impure blood.

"Our clergyman preached a sermon last Sunday on 'Remember the Maine.'"

"Was it fine?"

"Yes; but he spoiled the effect somewhat by asking us to remember the Sunday school picnic also."—Chicago Record.