

"OLD TOMORROW."

Characteristic Dealings with the Mainland Railway Belt.

A Prod o'the Thistle Needed.

The chronic procrastination evinced by the Dominion Government in its dealings with all matters connected with the interests of this Province has become proverbial, so much so that even the stolid Indian has long since learned to expect only repeated delays in the fulfilment of promises from that quarter. Sir John, being nearly always at the head of that government, the aborigines have, we think very properly, laid the blame of these tardy practices at his door, and, when speaking of the Premier, invariably refer to him as "Old Tomorrow," a somewhat inelegant *subriquet* by which he has long been known among them. Nor can our white population congratulate that gentleman upon anything like Napoleonic promptitude in dealing with matters affecting the interests of this Province, notably in the opening up of the Mainland Railway Belt to settlement. Early in May last, Sir John promised that this would be done *at once*, and that Mr. Trutch would be instructed to open a land office here for the purpose of disposing of these lands at a nominal price to settlers, but we are sorry to say that upon inquiry at the proper office, we were informed that no such order has, as yet, been received by the resident agent of the federal government. It is said that the Scots chose the thistle as the emblem of their country on account of its signal efficacy, when used as a prod, in arousing the sleeping soldier to immediate action, and we believe that there are some very wicked(?) people in British Columbia, who, if opportunity favored, would actually try the experiment on the Ottawa Premier.

HOW TO PROCEED.

While awaiting the manipulation of red tape at Ottawa, those desirous of settling on lands within the railway belt can do so with the assurance that when these lands do come into the market they may purchase them at a merely nominal price per acre, not taking into account any improvements made in the meantime. Besides such settlers will not be required to pay anything for them until they are regularly open for settlement, a matter that cannot be much longer delayed.

After selecting any location desired the intending settler should not fail to file in the Office of the Dominion Agent at Victoria, a local description of the tract, say such as is required for similar applications in the land office. Although a record is kept of all such applications, it is apparent that it will be absolutely necessary for the settler, the moment these

lands come into the market, to make such farther application and such payments as may be required by the Dominion Government, in order to acquire title to such lands. While it would be much more satisfactory if these lands were surveyed and regularly open to settlement, so that immediate title could be obtained, yet there can be no doubt that the *bona fide* settler may acquire title in the manner above stated. It is the speculator, alone, who is effectually barred out for the present.

Apart from the railway belt, there is any quantity of excellent land, belonging to the Province, now obtainable for one dollar per acre, both on the Island and Mainland, and concerning which the Immigration Agents at Victoria and New Westminster will, on application, cheerfully give, free of charge, the fullest information to intending immigrants and settlers.

We advise all interested in this subject to interview these gentlemen, or, if this is not practicable, to write to them for the information desired.

Our Table.


The *Pacific Rural Press* is a large and beautifully illustrated weekly publication containing an unusual amount of fresh, original farm, household and family circle literature, besides giving full and reliable market reports, and is one of our most valued exchanges. It is published by Messrs. Dewey & Co, 252, Market st. San Francisco, Cal. Price \$3.00 a year.

The *Daily Oregonian*, of Portland, Ogn. another welcome visitor comes regularly to hand. Besides its able editorials and interesting locals, its columns are replete with the latest telegraphic news from all quarters and it is justly regarded as the leading newspaper north of San Francisco. It has a considerable number of readers in this Province who take it on account of its telegraphic dispatches.

The *Daily Evening Post*, published in this city by the Mc Dowell Bros., is rapidly gaining in public favor. Being printed immediately after the arrival of the mail steamers, it is thus enabled to give the latest news from abroad, while its local department is always spicy and interesting.

The *Daily Standard* of this City, which is the leading journal of the Opposition in Provincial politics is also the largest daily paper in the Province, and besides containing a great amount of general news, is especially interesting and valuable for its correspondence from the interior of the Province.

A number of other exchanges, not less valued and welcome, will be noticed in our next issue.

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