

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1895.

CANADIAN GROWERS.

The intemperate language used by some of the newspapers of the Dominion would lead a stranger to believe that Canadians are a fierce and violent people, ready to resort to extreme measures when public affairs are not managed in the way that they approve. To judge by the war like tone of newspaper articles and the profuseness with which fiery epithets and offensive phrases are used, it might be supposed that the country was on the verge of civil war, and that the excited and angry writers were prepared to shoulder their rifles and risk their lives in defence of their principles. For instance, what conclusion would a man who knew nothing about Canadian journalism and the ways and manners of Canadian journalists, arrive at as to the state of the country when he read in a journal, supposed to be respectable, the following passage:

"Does Manitoba want to be whipped into subjection by force of arms? Is it aching for a third Northwest expedition? Then let it continue to insult the Dominion Government and call in question the jurisdiction of the Imperial Privy Council. Greenway on his anti-bill would collapse as quickly as Riel before an army representing the British Empire."

A stranger would be justified in concluding that the country must be on the verge of revolution and that preparations for civil war must be very far advanced before any newspaper editor in his sober senses would permit such language to appear in the editorial columns of his paper. But the country from Cape Breton to British Columbia is quiet and peaceful. The interest that is felt in the Manitoba school question has not produced, even in Manitoba, anything like excitement; and the people of the other provinces appear to be already getting tired of the subject. Most likely the writer, who has worked himself into a fine frenzy on the subject, really regards it with philosophical indifference. It would be safe to wager that he holds the enthusiastic assertions of the rights of Manitoba's minority in as high esteem as he does the advocates of the claims of the majority of that Province. The probability is that he did not intend to express himself intemperately or to say anything that any lover of peace and harmony could find fault with. He and the class to which he belongs have an exceedingly limited vocabulary. They have got into the habit of using certain words and phrases without enquiring very closely into their significance, and they are not at all particular as to the way in which they apply them. The consequence is that their censure is often violent and offensive when they intend it to be temperate and impersonal, and their praise is fulsome and flattering when they desire to express only a moderate degree of commendation. It would be really interesting to know how much of the vilification and scurrility that appear in some newspapers is due to poverty of language rather than deliberate intention to insult and annoy.

Fire-exting articles and speeches must consequently be taken with many grains of allowance. The writers and speakers must probably do not mean half that they say. Many of them, we are convinced, would be surprised and disgusted if the true meaning of the expressions they have got into the habit of using were explained to them. They do not weigh the words they use, and they are very far from expecting that their readers will be more discriminating than they are. This habit of using words without considering their real value is a bad one and one that leads readers to make a false estimate of the public opinion which these careless writers are supposed to express, but it, we are glad to notice, now far less common than it used to be.

A FRENCH STRONGHOLD.

France for some time back has been greatly strengthening herself in the Mediterranean. She has been long wanting a safe port on that sea in which her ships of war could remain secure until it was safe for them to put to sea. The French have always envied Great Britain the possession of Gibraltar and Malta. They have more than once attributed the failure of cherished designs to the want of ports on the Mediterranean properly situated. Well, they have within the last three years constructed a harbor large enough to accommodate their whole fleet and strong enough to bid defiance to attack. This harbor is on the north coast of Tunis. There is at Bizerta a large lake separated from the sea by a great bank of sand. The French Government has cut a canal through this sandbank 1,640 yards long, 131 yards wide, and 27 feet deep. This canal makes Lake Bizerta one of the finest harbors in the world, and quite spacious enough for all practical uses. The entrance to the canal is protected by two great jetty wharves, of themselves, form a harbor of no inconsiderable area. Last year small steamers were able to get into the lake, and in June of the present year the canal was so far finished as to enable ships of war to enter the new harbor.

"The naval port," says the New York Herald, "is in the central part of the salt lake with a depth of from 234 feet to 42 feet. All around the lake will be constructed the various military establishments required for the naval port, arsenals, building slips, foundries, powder magazines, masts, refitting docks, provision storehouses, schools, barracks, etc. The heights which command the town and lake will be furnished with fortifications in accord with their topographical importance. In this land-locked harbor the entire French Mediterranean fleet could ride in safety, and

it is asserted that they could be as secure from the enemy outside as if they were lying in an artificial basin in the centre of France."

It is said that the construction of this formidable harbor has been almost, if not altogether, a surprise to the Government of Great Britain. But this must be a mistake. The British authorities have their eyes about them and no work of the nature and dimensions of the Bizerta Harbor could be carried out without their being advised as to all the particulars with respect to it.

WHOLESALE PHILOSOPHY.

A letter written by Mr. Charles Nordhoff to American wage workers contains a good deal of sound political doctrine, and many instructive facts and figures. He reminds the wage-earners that if bad laws are enacted, and if there are lawless and disorder in the country, the fault is to a great extent their own. He says:

Unfortunately for us all, the wage workers, who are the mass of voters in this country, have for many years carelessly tolerated and even supported the enactment of vicious and one-sided laws, impairing their own liberties, narrowing their own chances for independence and prosperity, and giving to the few, but shrewd members of the speculating class, unfair chances in life.

But this is not all. The wage workers in this country, to whom peace, good order, the faithful and above all the prompt execution of the laws are the most vital consequences, have not required even this. But their comfort and security are involved in this far more than the comfort and security of the rich. When you read of girls and women insulted in the streets of our great cities, of gangs of yahoos and ruffians, of street corners and attacking peaceable passers-by, of murders or robberies, and general insecurity, these things do not happen on the Fifth Avenue, but on the numerous other streets and avenues inhabited by the respectable wage workers. If you choose, you need not tolerate these lawless outrages; you can have in your own quarters peace, good order, security for your wives and daughters; you can even have clean streets.

You have only to unite for these good things, and demand them. You'll get them if you do this.

Anything within the bounds of law is possible to us, the voters; and therefore I am saying that if there is discontent and discomfort you have yourselves almost entirely to blame. It would be well if all who undertake to advise the people of the United States were as honest and as outspoken as Mr. Nordhoff. Unfortunately very many of their self-constituted instructors do little else than flatter them. They exert all their powers to make the wage-earners believe that the evils from which they suffer and the ills with which society is afflicted have been brought upon them by men who are represented as the enemies of the people. The workmen are made to believe that they are victims and martyrs, who suffer from misfortunes brought upon them by capitalists and monopolists, and numbers of others who are set down as 'the classes,' and it is not as much as hinting that many of these misfortunes have their origin in the use, the misuse or the non-use of the powers they possess as citizens of a free and self-governing country.

One of the evils on which the American demagogue expatiates with great effusion is the currency evil. The Government of the country is to blame, it is said, for not giving the people more money, and it is prevented from making all the money that the people require by the bankers and the millionaires. Mr. Nordhoff shows the wage-earners that there is no class in the country more deeply interested in having sound money—money that everyone everywhere will gladly take for what he has to sell—than the wage-earners. He says:

1.—It is absolutely necessary to the prosperity of the wage-worker that the dollar which he works for, and in which he is paid, shall be the best dollar in the world; the dollar which will buy the most every where; and that there shall be no uncertainty about its value. You earn it only to spend it, and you want to get as much as possible for it. But the mass of wage-workers in this country have, through carelessness and ignorance of their own right and advantage, allowed our currency to fall into a mixed and thoroughly bad condition for them—though it is not so bad for speculators. During the late war, when gold was entirely disappeared from circulation, and we had only legal tender paper dollars, and a great abundance of them, your fathers' wages were paid in dollars worth sometimes seventy-five cents, sometimes as low as sixty-six cents; which means that when an employer paid us our wages in 'dollars'—in legal tender dollars—these dollars were worth only seventy-five or seventy or sixty-six cents apiece.

You can easily see that under such a legal tender arrangement there was among hard-working men and their families great and keen suffering.

But I noticed that in those same days of depreciated legal tender millions rapidly increased. There are many who try to gain the good-will and the political support of the wage-earners by representing them as being exceedingly poor. Mr. Nordhoff, although he readily admits that there is a great deal of real poverty in the land, reminds his readers that the workers have a snug little sum in the savings banks, and that they have managed to build houses for themselves and to accumulate in one way and another a great deal of property. The increase of deposits in the savings banks of Massachusetts alone was seventeen millions in 1894, and ten millions in 1893. This, as he remarks, was not so bad for a time of deep depression. It must, he says, "surely be a good showing that in the midst of a real and general depression of industry 4,777,687 persons should hold deposits in the savings banks. If you strike off 777,687 of these as not being wage workers, there still remain four millions of depositors who work for wages, and are even in these hard times able to lay by something for a rainy day."

The wage-earners of the United States are not as prosperous and as happy as he would like them to be, but he says:

With at least four millions of working-men, by which I mean wage workers and farmers, insuring their lives; with more

than four millions having money in savings banks, with a million and three-quarters of members of building and loan associations, who have in the course of their membership built themselves 314,755 homes, and 28,459 shops and other houses out of their savings, at a cost of \$529,000,000, not the worst grumbler can doubt that, with all that is amiss with us, there remains a very large and solid substratum of fairly prosperous wage workers. "There's life in the old ship yet."

Mr. Nordhoff is right. The people of the United States, and we may add, of Canada—the wage-earning class and all other classes—would do well to look at the bright side of things and count up the advantages they possess rather than to be perpetually brooding over grievances, real and fancied, and they should also remember that for very many of the evils of which they complain they have a remedy at hand if they only knew how to apply it.

STILL ABUNDANT.

It is not often that there are quite as many salmon caught on the Fraser River as the canneries, which are said to be too numerous, can handle. Some of the canners, we learn, have already put up as many fish as they had made preparation for, and the canneries that are better equipped are working to their full capacity to keep their establishments clear of the fish with which they are supplied. The draft of fishes on the Fraser cannot be said to be miraculous, but it is certainly extraordinary. The very large run of this year shows that the unqualified statements and the confident predictions of many who wished to be thought wiser and more far-sighted than their neighbors were groundless and unreasonable. We were told that throwing the offal of the canneries into the river was detrimental to fish life, and now it is seen that the fish are as abundant as ever they were. Facts had no weight with the well-meaning people who were constantly predicting ruin to the salmon fishery on account of this practice, and argument was lost upon them. What they said must be true, no matter what was said against, or who it was that said it. It is to be hoped that facts are at last too strong for them, and that they must now see by the evidence afforded by the river itself that they must have been mistaken in their inferences and conclusions.

Then it was declared that if the fishery regulations were not made more stringent the river would be over-fished and that the salmon would be exterminated. Well, there has been no change in the direction of stringency in the rules and regulations, and the river has not been over-fished. The salmon continue to be as abundant as ever in the Fraser river. This should be a lesson to meddlers in office and out of office. They should see that it is not only unwise but unfair to interfere with the canners' business for any other purpose than to preserve the fish. And they must see that as long as the salmon are as plentiful as they are the restrictions already in force are quite sufficient. Except for the preservation of the fish, which is for the public advantage, the Government has no more right to interfere with the business of the canner and the fisherman than it has to interfere with that of the farmer or the lumberman. Interference that can be proved to be unnecessary is not only irritating but mischievous.

We are glad to learn that Prof. Prince is on the Fraser River while the run is on. He can see for himself how abundant the fish are and how unfair needless interference with the operations of the canners is. These men have risked their money in this industry so advantageous to the Dominion. The chances of loss are many. Consequently the Government of the Dominion, instead of annoying and discouraging them, should do what lies in its power to aid and encourage them. This course is in perfect accordance with its declared policy, which is to foster and encourage native industry. The continued abundance of salmon in the Fraser is strong presumptive evidence that the efforts of the Government to keep up the supply of fish by artificial propagation have been successful. There is no direct evidence that we know of to prove this, for the fry that are sent from the hatchery when they come back to the river full-grown salmon cannot be identified. But as the salmon come up the river every year in apparently undiminished numbers notwithstanding all that are caught and destroyed in one way and another, it is only fair to infer that the hatchery as well as the other means ordained by the Government to preserve the salmon have been highly successful.

QUITE A MISTAKE.

We can assure our effusive contemporary the Vancouver World that we were not "frightfully mad" because the evening paper of this city referred to the nonsensical rumor—if there was such a rumor, which we very much question—that "Sir Mackenzie Bowell intended to have a constituency in this section of the Dominion." We do not get "mad" when we see our contemporaries treating silly stories seriously. Our feeling with regard to them is altogether different from madness, frightful or other. The journalists who try to make political capital out of ridiculous fabrications, or who are so childish as to inform the World what "a little bird" told them, cannot do the slightest harm to any political party. The effect that they do produce is to bring Canadian journalism into contempt. Sensible men, let them be ever so favorably disposed towards them, cannot feel the slightest respect for journals which advertise themselves as being utterly untrue as well as wholly unreliable.

Mr. Nathaniel Mortonson, a well known citizen of Vancouver, B.C., and editor of the Pacific Post, who, for a long time, suffered from the most excruciating pains of rheumatism, was cured, eight years ago, by taking Dr. Serravallo's, having never felt a twinge of it since.

A NEW GOLD FIELD.

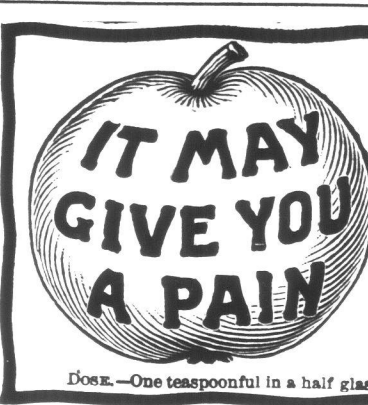
It is cheering to find that the promise which Alberni gave of being rich in gold is being realized. The more closely the gold-bearing rocks and gulches of the district are examined the greater is the certainty of gold being found in them in paying quantities. It seems to be only the other day when word was first brought to Victoria that there was gold in the Alberni district and that the ground might be worth prospecting. There were many who considered the story the fabrication of a few speculators who were trying to exploit the credulity of enterprising men who might be persuaded to risk their money in what would in all likelihood turn out to be a fruitless search for gold. Enquiries were, however, made and the result was that some sanguine men, Mr. H. Saunders of this city among the foremost, considered that the prospect was such as warranted the search being continued. The news from Alberni became more and more encouraging as time advanced. The area of the district in which gold could be found was discovered to be much more extensive than was at first supposed, and the richness of the leads and placer grounds gave the prospectors and others interested great encouragement. Operations have been energetically continued. Very little comparatively has hitherto been said about the discoveries that have been made. There has been no attempt to get up an Alberni boom. The prospectors and their backers appeared afraid of saying anything prematurely, and of raising false hopes. If the discoveries had been made in Kootenay or Cariboo a good deal more, we are satisfied, would have been heard about them. But their being made on this island and comparatively near Victoria, it might be supposed that reports of their richness were purposely exaggerated. But if the last reports that have reached us are true, the time for reticence regarding the richness of the Alberni district has gone by. Its mineral resources will no doubt be rapidly developed. Men of capital will work the quartz leads that promise so well and the placer grounds will be searched by miners who work more energetically and produce better results than plodding Chinamen. We would not be at all surprised if within a year towns should spring up in Alberni as large, as populous and as busy as Rossland or any of the mining camps of the Kootenay district. The advantage to Victoria of extensive gold mines being operated on Vancouver Island cannot be overestimated. We consequently hope that the reports of the richness and extent of the discoveries of gold in Alberni are strictly true, and that further examination and the operations of miners will prove that half the truth regarding them has not been told. This is indeed quite as probable as that the present hopeful indications will turn out to be deceptive.

THAT SUBSIDY.

A good deal has been said by the Opposition newspapers about a new subsidy alleged to have been given to the Canadian Pacific Railway. They are trying to create the impression that the Government has given this subsidy without the authority of Parliament. The suggestion of corruption made by some, others not so scrupulous directly accuse the Government of dishonestly and illegally favoring the C.P.R. Has the Administration, as these papers allege, invaded the prerogative of Parliament in that it has undertaken to spend the money of the people without due authorization? In reply to this accusation the Toronto Mail and Empire says:

Parliament votes two millions odd annually for the mail service. It does not particularize the directions in which this money is to be spent. The postal law, however, says "the Postmaster General may with or without previous advertisement contract with any railway or steamboat for the conveying of the mails; but all contracts involving payments of a larger sum than a thousand dollars shall be submitted to the Governor in Council." Now it is evident, in the first place, that Parliament has voted the money for the carriage of the mails; and in the second place, that the order-in-council was not an over-riding of the Parliamentary control of the supplies, but a compliance with the statute which provides that if, in the first place, the money, a contract necessitating a larger outlay than a thousand dollars shall be entered into, the Governor in Council, and not the Minister alone, shall ratify the arrangement. As a matter of fact, the Government cannot spend by order-in-council money that Parliament has not voted. The Auditor-General sees to it that no such unauthorized outlay is made. With there can be no question as to the legality of the procedure, there may be room to criticize the addition that is made to the charges for mail transportation. On this point a few facts may be useful. We pay for the carrying of the mails throughout Canada over two million dollars annually. The two great mail carriers are the Grand Trunk railway and the Canadian Pacific. For each road a scale of rates is in force. The rate for the main line of the Grand Trunk railway is \$160 per mile per annum, and for the branches \$80 per mile. As regards the Canadian Pacific the rate is \$105 per mile for the main line, or \$55 less than to the Grand Trunk, while for the branches it is \$37 per mile, or \$43 less than to the Grand Trunk. These figures will bear comparison with those paid elsewhere. The United States gives \$200 per mile for the carrying of the mails on the Northern Pacific; \$460 per mile for the same service on the Southern Pacific; and \$680 per mile for a like service on the Union Pacific. It must be remembered that the railways are required to provide mail cars, and that every mile for which the lump sum is paid yearly has to be traversed several times a day. The Canadian Pacific, has, it seems, sought an increase in its rates, on the ground that it is paid much less per mile for its service than is the Grand Trunk. Its statement of the situation is true. Until the details of the new contract are produced, however, when it will be possible to see how much of the added payment is for new mileage, and how much for the original mileage, an opinion as to the desirability of the advance cannot well be formed.

From this it can be seen that there is no



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MISCELLANEOUS.

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NOTICE is hereby given that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council has been pleased to adopt the "British Columbia Log Scale" for the measurement of saw logs and timber in this Province.

A book of tables has been computed and copies can be obtained from the Provincial Timber Inspector, at Vancouver, upon payment of \$2.00 each.

W. S. GORR, Deputy Commissioner of Lands & Works, Lands and Works Department, Victoria, B.C., 3rd August, 1895.



PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE. HIS HONOUR the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments:

5th August, 1895. THOMAS JAMES LENDRUM, of the Town of Alsworth, Esquire, to be a Justice of the Peace within and for the South Riding of the West Kootenay Electoral District.

ROBERT FINLAYSON TOLMIE, of the City of Victoria, Esquire, to be a Clerk in the Land Registry Office, Victoria.

RAYMOND BELMONT FENNELL, Esquire, from the Land Registry Office, Victoria, to be a Clerk in the Office of the Supreme and County Courts, Victoria.

8th August, 1895. To be Official Sealers under the provisions of the "Official Sealers Act, 1891":

J. WARREN BELL, of the City of Nanaimo, for District No. 1, comprising Vancouver Island; JOHN B. TIPPIN and GEORGE W. DEBROCK, of the City of Vancouver, for District No. 2, being that portion of the Province situated to the west of the Cascade Range, exclusive of Vancouver Island.

Certificate of the Registration of a Foreign Company.

"COMPANIES ACT," PART IV., AND AMENDING ACTS.

"Lookout Mining and Milling Company," (Foreign.)

REGISTERED THE 1ST DAY OF AUGUST, 1895.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I have this day registered the "Lookout Mining and Milling Company," (Foreign), under the "Companies Act," Part IV., Registration of Foreign Companies, and amending Acts.

The head office of the said Company is situated at the City of Spokane, State of Washington, U.S.A.

The objects for which the said Company is established are:—To work, operate, bond, buy, sell, lease, locate and deal in mines, metals and mineral properties of every kind and description within the United States of America and the Province of British Columbia; to bond, buy, lease, locate, sell and hold ditches and flumes and water rights to construct, lease, buy, sell and operate mills, concentrators, crushers of every description, and mining machinery, reduction works, and mining machinery, for transporting ore and mining material; to lease, bond, buy, sell, lease and locate timber and timber claims, and finally to do anything consistent, proper and requisite for the carrying out of the objects and purposes aforesaid in their fullest and broadest sense.

The capital stock of the said Company is divided into two hundred and fifty thousand shares of the par value of one dollar each. Given under my hand and the seal of the Province of British Columbia, this 1st day of August, 1895.

(J.S.) W. WOOLTON, Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

LITHOGRAPHY

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THE COLONIST VICTORIA, B.C.

—Write or ask for Estimates