

FRIDAY, MAY, 1893.

AN UNINTENTIONAL ERROR.

The Month, a publication published in New Westminster, contains a moderate and well-written article entitled "Shall it be Separation?" The writer, who does not show any political bias, makes a mistake which we are surprised to find in a British Columbia periodical, and then goes on with his argument as if he had stated a fact which could not be controverted. He says: "Now, in our Province, the question of redistribution is a question of the Mainland versus the Island, and the Island having at present one more member than the Mainland, the required majority will be impossible unless we suppose that some members of the Island represent their claims to those of the Mainland."

The writer, and no doubt many of those who have read his article, will feel surprised when they learn that the representation of the Mainland and Island in the Legislative Assembly is in proportion to the very reverse of those described by him. It is the Mainland which has representatives here and the Island sixteen. As many others, both in this Province and in other parts of the Dominion, may be under the same impression as the editor of the Month, we give below a list of the members of the House, divided into Mainland and Island.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Mainland.	Island.
Quarar...	Comor...
Nelson...	Alberni...
Walla...	Nanaimo...
...	...

It is important that the people of the Province should know that the Mainland already has a majority in the Legislature. Whether it is entitled to a greater representation than it now enjoys is the question which the Government has to decide. We believe that there is every disposition on the part of the majority of the present House to do ample justice to the Mainland, but they cannot be expected to work in the dark. They must have full information as to what is the population of the Province, and how it is divided. We do not believe that the people of the Mainland wish to do the Island an injustice in this matter. They want to see fairly done to both geographical sections, but without more and better information than can be now obtained this cannot be done.

This is the principal question about which some excited politicians are just now making such a noise. The matter is by no means so simple as some interested parties would make it appear. Here we see that a writer who might be supposed to be well-informed, makes a very serious mistake, as to how the representation of the Mainland and Island are apportioned, yet he had the means at hand of obtaining accurate information. How much easier is it to make a mistake as to the relative population of Mainland and Island, than the source from which information is to be obtained are generally believed to be very far from exact.

We are very far indeed from believing that the misstatement made by the Month was intentional. We are quite convinced it is more than probable, by the certainty of the writer that he knew all about it. This over-certainty is the cause of a great many blunders.

ENQUIRY NEEDED.

Dr. George H. Duncan, city health officer, says in a late report: "It would be profitable to see the Dominion and the City health authorities working in harmony, for then needless expense and annoyance would be avoided and the danger from an epidemic minimized. Not only would it be pleasant to have the Dominion and the City health authorities working in harmony, but the preservation of the public health makes it absolutely necessary that they should so work. The City Health Officer should have such confidence in the efficiency of the quarantine that he should consider it unnecessary to examine persons who have been liberated from quarantine. The object of the quarantine is to prevent the importation of disease. If the treatment of persons detained at the quarantine station is such that the City Health Officer considers it his duty to examine and disinfect those who have conferred to the quarantine regulations and have been dismissed by the Dominion Health Officer with a clean bill of health, either the City Health Officer is fussy and vexatiously officious or the management of the quarantine station is bad and inefficient. In any case, if persons are, after remaining in quarantine during the time required by law, detained by the City Health Officer for the purpose of examination and disinfection, the call is on the Dominion health authorities, as well as on the authorities of the Dominion as well as of the City and Province. Quarantine is nothing more than a sham if City and Provincial health officers are required to keep a watch over all patients as allowed to leave before they are properly disinfect. We trust that the attention of the Dominion authorities will be directed to Dr. Duncan's report of May last. If the statements in that report are correct, the Albert Head station requires immediate improvement. It will not do to wait until the new station at William Head is put in good working order. The present station may be filled any day.

EXPLANATIONS.

The impression on the minds of many Canadians seems to be that one of the objects of the Imperial Federation League is to induce the colonies to contribute largely to the maintenance of the army and navy of the Empire. A letter written by Sir Charles Tupper to the secretary of the Imperial Federation League in January tended to dispel this impression. In order to show that the League has no such design, the following notices of motions have been given by Lord Rosey and Sir John Colomb, who were colleagues of the High Commissioner on the Special Committee of the League:

THE CUBAN REBELLION.

Cuba is in an unsettled condition. Rebellion has broken out on the island and the indications are that it will become much more formidable than it is at present. The people of that island are discontented, and with very good reason. They have never possessed self-government. The Captain-General appointed by the Spanish Government rules the island. He is practically an autocrat. The Cuban, since the rebellion of 1895, have had representation in the Cortes. But the country has been ruled in that which was regarded as the interests of Spain rather than of its inhabitants. The intelligent Cubans compare their miserable condition with that of the free inhabitants of the British colonies, and the consequence is that they find the yoke of Spain insupportable. What they want is self-government such as those colonies enjoy or complete independence. It does not appear that citizens of the United States have had anything to do with fomenting this rebellion as they had in the struggle of '64 and succeeding years. Many of them at that time were most desirous to annex Cuba, and they resorted to measures that could not be justified to accomplish their purpose. But there are now very few Americans who desire the addition to the Union of a slave-holding state. Rich as Cuba is in natural resources, much as she is to the United States and such as may be gained by having unrestricted free trade with her, the Americans see that such an addition to their territory would bring with it many disadvantages, and would add another to the difficult problem which they are required to solve. So they are satisfied to see the Cubans fighting for their own independence. Some of them may, without any ulterior designs, lend them in many ways a helping hand in the struggle. The Cubans, too, will have the sympathy of British Americans in their struggle for self-government. The wonder with them has been that they have tolerated so long the rule of a people who took no pains to conceal from the native Cubans that they regarded them as inferiors.

THE HULL STRIKE.

The strike in Hull has become important enough to be the subject of a discussion in Parliament. It had its origin in the conflict which now appears to be irrepressible between union and non-union labor. The following news item, taken from the London Times of April 7th, will give a very clear idea of the origin of the strike and of the question at issue between the dockers and their employers: "A fortnight ago the Hull shipowners and other determined to open a free labor office in the port, and the Hull dockers threatened that if free labor men were set on they would strike in a body and call out the men and lightermen. Four hundred free labor dockers from London arrived at Hull on Wednesday morning, and at about noon fifty were sent to the Wilson liner Romeo. When they came on shore for dinner they were greeted by the local dockers and some stones were thrown at them. The ganger named Dennis, therefore drew a revolver and the sight of which irritated the men, and they closed around him. He fired three shots in the air, when the Hull men became enraged, and they fired the immediate help of the police. Dennis was shot at and thrown into the dock. The free labor men were then sent to the ship Romeo. The attack on the dockers was the beginning of the strike. The men of thousands of dockers were in the afternoon the free labor men were placed on board the steamer Pluto, of which the captain was ordered to sail for Hamburg; but they did not return in the afternoon, and late in the day the Wilson steamers were effectively blocked. The force of police was not sufficient to prevent the free labor dockers from working. Alderman Stuart, chairman of the Watch Committee, addressed the men at the Albert dock, and assured them that the police meant to protect all men who would work, and if the local force was not strong enough outside help would be obtained. The strike has already assumed large proportions, and both sides are most determined. Mr. Estlin was at Hull on Wednesday encouraging the strikers. The contest continued getting hotter and hotter until the lumber yards were set on fire and the troops were called out. The spirit in which the employers continue the contest may be inferred from the following extract from the letter of the Hull correspondent of the Times, written on the 14th of last month. He says: "that the employers are determined at all hazards to maintain their right to control their own business, which control, as Mr. Wilson asserts, they have 'been rapidly losing,' and the strike is not to be brought to a close, as far as the employers are concerned, until they have established the principle of the freedom of labor in Hull. There is no idea either of reducing wages or of 'smashing' the men's unions; but there is a firm resolve not to tolerate 'factional preferences' and to secure for the employeers the right to engage whomsoever they please, and for the men the right to obtain employment without being first compelled to join any particular union; or to pay up 'arrests' if they should already be members. The attitude of the Government is, it appears, that of the preserver of the peace and the enforcer of the law. It says in effect to both contestants: 'settle your own disputes and fight out your own battles, but the peace must be kept and the law must be obeyed.' It is hard to see what other position the Government could take. It is evident that it should not take the part of either side, but it is equally evident that it would be wanting in its duty if it did not put down disorder and uphold the law.

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When the time comes, if it ever does come, for the colonies to confederate with the Mother Country, they will, no doubt, be prepared to bear their fair share of the burden of the defence of the Empire. A partnership which would require one of the members to bear the whole expense of services in which all are equally interested, would be too unfair and too one-sided to last. Every sensible Canadian knows that for the majority of his countrymen consider it for the welfare of their country to enter into a closer union with Great Britain than now exists, they will be prepared to bear their proportionate share of all expenses that are purely Imperial. This, it is believed, must be one of the essentials of the compact. It will be for them to consider whether the advantages of Federation will justify them in entering into such an alliance.

It is, we believe, a mistake to suppose that Canadians are afraid of the prospect of the Empire. Federation implies that they, through their representatives, shall have a voice in regulating the relations between the Empire and foreign countries. While peace lasts they will cheerfully help to maintain the Federal forces, and if war is declared with their consent they will shrink from bearing their full share of its burdens.

The people of Canada may hesitate long before they enter into a Federation with Great Britain. The great majority of them at present have not yet thought enough about it to be able to form an intelligent opinion on its merits. But when circumstances are such that they must think about it and come to a decision with regard to it they will take it for granted, as a matter of course, that they will contribute to the maintenance of all common interests. Their being required to do this will not, we venture to predict, if ever that time comes, be even a serious obstacle in the way of their accepting so just a Federation. If they decline it will be from other, and in their opinion, more weighty considerations.

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Discipline is as strict in the army and navy of the United States as it is in those of other countries. The man who joins the United States navy must understand a very large part of his freedom as a citizen. He will be no longer able to say what he likes and do as he pleases. He will have to obey orders, and while he is in the service he must consult the interests of the country in all his public acts.

Some time ago Mr. J. C. Sullivan, Paymaster in the United States Navy, spoke, as he thought in private, pretty freely respecting the policy which his Government was pursuing in the Behring Sea business. His conversation was reported in the Seattle newspapers and commented upon favorably in the Colonist. Paymaster Sullivan's criticisms and the comments upon them were at once officially reported to the Navy Department in Washington and was called to account by the Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Sullivan replied that what he said was not intended for publication; and the editor of the Post-Intelligencer was kind enough to write a letter stating that Mr. Sullivan at first declined to be interviewed for publication, and that such expressions are were subsequently used in relation to the matter were used at a time and under circumstances which gave Mr. Sullivan no reason to suppose they would be published. The Secretary of the Navy, in a letter to Paymaster Sullivan, over his own signature, published for the information and guidance of officers of the navy, recounts all the circumstances, and says:—"In view of these facts now for the first time brought to the attention of the Department, which materially lessen your offence, so much of the Department's order of February 7, 1893, as directs that you be placed on furlough under the provisions of section 1,442 of the Revised Statutes, is rescinded. The action herein directed is not, however, to be understood as indicating that the Department approves of your course or re-

CHICAGO, MAY 6.—This was a busy day at Jackson park, and naval officers of eight different nationalities, resplendent in blues and gold uniforms, lent splendor to the brilliant interior of the Auditorium.

OAKLAND, CAL., MAY 6.—A car on the electric road was overturned this afternoon. The car, which was crowded with passengers, was on the cemetery branch of the Grove Street Electric Company's road, and was coming down one of the street grades in the foot hills, the motor man lost control of the motor and the car immediately became unmanageable. After running for a considerable distance with frightful speed it suddenly jumped the track and turned over. A number of passengers were thrown to the ground with fearful force and one of them, Mrs. E. A. Redfish, was injured. A number of rescuers, when placed upon the scene, made un- successful endeavors to restore her so far as proved unavailing, and it is feared that fatal results will ensue from concussion of the brain. A number of passengers were more or less seriously injured.

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IRISH

Home Rule

The Irish Magistrate

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LONDON, May 5.—Four asked the Speaker regarding the third committee regarding which were standing. The Speaker's replies were all out of order. Mr. T. G. M. P. for King of the Home Rule bill the part relating to the Imperial Parliam. This resolution was a great surprise to the thirteen had most practised Parliam. There had been no general order. The Speaker made this declaration in a committee report course of not Col. Sanderson, aided, and Mr. Bal and Lord Randolph the talking. As so resolved, the members place.

Rt. Hon. Mr. O. that on Monday he whether or not the adhere to clause 9 of this clause concerning Westminster, who to eighty members. The bill is left in accordance to the Parliam. Sir Charles Duke the power of appointing the transferred from the Lord Lieutenant and John Dillon, and Mayo, supported the the power of appointing the transferred from the Lord Lieutenant and John Dillon, and Mayo, supported the

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