

A POSSIBLE LEADER.

Mr. Forbes George Vernon, formerly of the Turner cabinet and more recently agent-general in London, who returned to the country a few weeks ago, is credited with having brought back with him high political aspirations. Now that Mr. Turner has been "turned down" by the Colonist, Mr. Vernon has hopes that his long and faithful services in three or four administrations of his friends will be recognized, and that he will be called upon to reorganize the party. On his return he finds his party leaderless; who better qualified by experience for leader than he? Not Mr. Eberts, nor Col. Baker, nor any other opposition member, certainly. When we come to look at the qualifications of the several claimants we are forced to the conclusion that Mr. Vernon possesses claims equal to any and greater than most of the other aspirants. Mr. Vernon very probably entertains similar views, and is now looking about him for a constituency that will enable him again to climb into place and power. It is only surmised that his visit to Cariboo has a political object, and as he is connected with the mining company managed by Mr. Hunter the electors there are perhaps needlessly alarmed. Mr. Vernon is not dangerous politically. It is doubtful also, if the opposition as a party desire his return to public life, for as the Colonist has said, "conditions have changed" and a new electorate has arisen that does not know Mr. Vernon or Mr. Turner and will have nothing to do with either. However, Mr. Vernon may get back into the Legislature again, although it will not be by way of Cariboo, and if he then becomes the leader of the lost cause, the tenure of office of the government will be secure for many years. It would not be the first instance in British Columbia of a party ruling in consequence of the weakness of their opponents.

MR. SWORD'S APPOINTMENT.

In choosing Mr. C. E. Sword to fill the important position of Inspector of Fisheries for British Columbia the Dominion government has once more shown their excellent judgment. It is not too much to say that the honor of selection to fill an office under the present government is a distinct compliment to the man; because it is in every sense worthy to occupy with credit to himself and the country, the position of trust to which the very best judgment of character in the country—the government—have been pleased to call him. Mr. Sword is known throughout this province as a man of sterling worth; honest and sincere in his opinions and fearless in the expression of them. Friends and opponents alike can testify to his amiable qualities and also to his ability. Few men in the Provincial Assembly have ever surpassed Mr. Sword in his clear and forceful exposition of questions of finance, a theme which has been his favorite for many years, and in which, had the proper opportunity been offered, he might have rendered signal service to the province. Mr. Sword has another claim upon the esteem of British Columbians; he is a pioneer of the Fraser valley; and he is a chieftain indeed who has not made the acquaintance of the genial ex-member for Dewdney. Mr. Sword will bring to his new duties a ripe experience of affairs in this province, a very wide knowledge of the fishing business and a keen sympathy with those engaged in this great industry. We venture to predict that Mr. Sword will win the complete confidence of fishermen and canners at once, and that his tenure of the office will be marked by that complete harmony so valuable to the country and so pleasant to all immediately concerned with the fisheries.

WESTMINSTER EXHIBITION.

We learn with much satisfaction that the anticipations which have been raised that this year's great agricultural show at New Westminster will beat anything of the kind ever attempted in this province, are likely to be fully realized. For the splendid energy and faith in their town which the people of the Royal City have all along displayed we have nothing but admiration, and we think that the struggle Westminster made during the past ten years to win recognition as the headquarters of agricultural interest in British Columbia and to make the annual show the best of the kind west of Ontario, richly deserves the reward that public recognition now freely accorded. One very pleasing feature of this matter is that there is not a particle of sectional jealousy to cloud New Westminster's claim, all parts of the province being seemingly in agreement that New Westminster had better be acknowledged to be British Columbia's best exponent in agricultural showing.

Last year's unique exhibition, with the city lying in ashes around the show-grounds, and all the excitement and discomfort, so cheerfully borne by the people, following the great fire, will not soon be forgotten by those who visited the scene. Westminster is a very different place now, and from all accounts the coming exhibition will be a surprise even to those who have made a point of attending the show for years past, and know what to expect. We hope the exhibit from Vancouver Island will be large and representative and that it will succeed in securing a good share of the honors.

MR. M'INNES'S ORATION.

When the good people who crowded the Opera House at Nanaimo last Monday and listened to Mr. William Wallace Bruce McInnes, M.P., deliver what must be classed as the most extraordinary speech in the history of politics in this province, when they read that speech in cold type, its periods unadorned by the gesticulations and other oratorical paraphernalia which enable a man to talk nonsensical sense with impunity to a salaried audience when they will wonder who thinks over that speech they will wonder what there was in it to excite their applause. We have no doubt that their second thoughts on that speech will cause them some uneasiness, because they are bound to feel some suspicion that the sounding brass and the tinkling cymbals of the demagogue have charmed them and won their approbation in an unguarded moment.

No paid agitator ever made use of poorer shoddy than the pitiful stuff dished up by Mr. McInnes to his audience on Monday. His theatrical announcement of the resignation of his seat was too evidently a mere bit of the art of political dodger, and though it might take the audience unawares and momentarily arouse their admiration, their calmer thoughts must inevitably be fatal to Mr. McInnes's plan to gain credit and escape possible censure.

One serious offence which Mr. McInnes committed in that speech was his expression of unreasoning hostility to capital. The wisest leader of the labor movement would deprecate the utterance of Mr. McInnes; for all thinking workmen know that while the just claims of labor must be fairly and unceasingly pressed upon the attention of governments for settlement labor has no desire to antagonize capital. The split between the two ought to be one of conciliation; it is in that spirit that great reforms are to be brought about, it is not right for any public man to utter such statements as those which fell from Mr. McInnes on Monday, and we feel sure he will yet regret them if he does not do so now.

The speaker's assertions regarding the action of the Dominion government on the Japanese question were misleading and in many cases absurd. Mr. McInnes said: "It was disallowed against the wishes of the representatives of the province, and the answer given to the protestations made was that it was demanded by Imperial policy. I tell you, gentlemen, that Imperialism had nothing to do with it. I tell you frankly there was a desire to disallow it, and in the second place the interest of Birmingham merchants had more to do with that disallowance than any consideration of Imperialism."

To comment upon such talk would be superfluous; it is self-condemnatory. Every sane man in Canada knows perfectly well that the Dominion government, in matters touching foreign powers, is subject to the will of the government of Great Britain. Long before the Dominion government took up the matter of disallowing the anti-Japanese act passed by the Legislature of British Columbia it was known that the Imperial government would bring pressure to bear on the Dominion government when would leave the latter no alternative but to do as they have done. Mr. McInnes's fine frenzy would have been much better expended upon the powers in Downing street.

Then Mr. McInnes violently attacked the Dominion government for what he alleged to be their breach of faith regarding the imposition of an increased tax on the Chinese, and alleged that the government have no desire to impose that tax. No man knows better than Mr. McInnes what the government have had to endure from the wanton obstructionists of the opposition during the session just ended; nobody knows better than he the tremendous difficulty encountered at every turn by the government in the endeavor to go on with the business of the country. The government's pledge would undoubtedly have been put into effect had it been possible to do so during last session, but the outrageous conduct of the opposition made it quite impossible. The opposition, not the government, are the proper objects of Mr. McInnes's wrath and eloquence. The government are quite willing to carry out their promise in the matter, and, as we say, probably nobody is more fully aware of the fact than the gentleman who talked so intemperately at the opera on Monday. He says the explanation given as to why the government could not bring on the promised legislation "is all twaddle. . . . the trash sent out by the hired apologists of the government." Mr. McInnes knows that is not a correct statement—and so do the public, unfortunately for him.

ANOTHER DEATH AT OPORTO.

Oporto, Sept. 5.—Three new cases of bubonic plague and one death were reported yesterday.



Hood's Pills. House the torpid liver, and cure biliousness, sick headache, jaundice, nausea, indigestion, etc. They are invaluable to prevent a cold or break up a fever. Mild, gentle, certain, they are worthy your confidence. Purely vegetable; they can be taken by children or delicate women. Price, 25c. at all medicine dealers or by mail of C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

WILL THERE BE WAR?

The Briton and the Boer; the Whole Question Reviewed by One Who Has Lived in the Transvaal. (Written for the Times.)

While it is still to be hoped that war between Britain and the Transvaal may be avoided, it is clear that this end can only be achieved by the withdrawal of President Kruger from the unreasonable position which he has taken up and to which he is clinging with donkey-Dutch obstinacy. War is an acknowledged evil, an offence to humanity, but there are things which are more evil and more offensive. Shame and pusillanimous concession are among these greater evils; and to feel the truth they have not been unknown to England in the course of her relations with the Transvaal. Englishmen have not forgotten Majuba Hill, and the still more inglorious diplomatic sequel. "We never blushed before," cried the late Lord Cairnes, when the policy of that day was debated in the House of Lords; and the business was none the better because Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues were mainly actuated by noble and humanitarian sentiments. There was a striking cartoon in Punch some years ago—at the time of Gordon's death, if I remember right—in which Tennyson represented Mr. Gladstone as Joseph the Egyptian. John Bull as Sir Peter Teazle, Joseph says: "Sir Peter, I confess that appearances are against me and want of courage there may have been, but as to honesty of purpose, painful as it is, I do not think I had a better alternative. I almost think that I shall carry with me your sympathy in uttering that sentiment!" Sir Peter replies: "Oh damn your sentiments! They can be so construed that Mr. Gladstone's well-meeting 'sentiment' on more than one occasion tempted patriotic Englishmen to use Sir Peter's expletive, and not only that, but did a good deal of practical harm. The legacy of Boer enmity is a case in point. If instead of the peace-at-any-price policy of Gladstone, the English had been given the opportunity, to teach the Boers a lesson in 1881, Oom Paul's fate would have been very different. Boer heard of, and England would not be at the present moment on the eve of a bloody war."

Upon the present occasion I do not propose to discuss the history of the Transvaal controversy, but to give a few facts, sent to me by a matter of fact Scotsman, whom I met in British Columbia a few months ago, and who is now in South Africa, using his eyes and ears as matter of fact. The men know how to get their facts which should undeceive those worthy people who fondly imagine that the Boers are an honest, peace-loving, independent family; fulfilling the visions of the "Ethiopian" and "Bantu" of the Oom Paulus patriarchal father, under their vines and fig-trees, and sadly harassed by the greedy and aggressive Britishers. This is nothing but a sentimental myth. The Boers are not Americans; should allow to interfere with his judgment. Oliver Schreiner's beautiful idealism is not practical politics, and that section of the American press, which in sympathy with Boer anarchy, is ignorant of the facts of the case. As a matter of fact, the Boers have been conspicuously ungrateful. They asked for English aid, and they saved them from imminent peril from the Zulus. Nothing of the access of prosperity which the English brought in their wake. Then the Boers turned on their saviors, and unfortunately, owing to bad military tactics on the part of the Boers, they were allowed to get the best of the encounter. Ever since that time they have been retrogressive, unjust and highly stupid. It must not be forgotten that the Boers, in violation of the treaty of peace, the suzerainty of Queen Victoria was acknowledged, and though Dr. Jamieson's famous raid was a palpable and egregious blunder, it must be borne in mind that the attempt at the consequence of the refusal of the Boers to do anything like justice to the English and Americans who had settled in the country, men who had practically given to the country whatever prosperity it possesses.

This injustice still continues to be practised to an almost inconceivable extent, the so-called Uitlanders are refused the most ordinary political rights (though those who are refused their rights are the British and the Boers, and the Boers, with the crassness that proverbially precedes destruction, seems determined to face war with England rather than recede an inch from his preposterous position). His belief that he would be victorious in a trial of strength with England appears to be based upon the weakness shown by English tacticians and statesmen in the course of the Boer war. He ought to realize, however, that it would have been no difficult matter for the British to avenge the Majuba Hill affair if the Gladstone government had not decided to attempt. War takes place with England at the present time, it is quite certain that it will be conducted on the part of England with the utmost vigor, and with the determination to achieve a successful result. It will be a very different thing from an irresponsible expedition like Dr. Jamieson's. Prof. Goldwin Smith attributes the cause of the Transvaal trouble to the cupidity arising from the discovery of gold, together with the financial designs of Mr. Cecil Rhodes, and says that it is not to rectify the franchise of the Transvaal that an army corps is being sent out from Britain. Now this is only true inasmuch as if gold had not been found, and the country was a barren one, there would be no Uitlanders there to have a grievance. Britishers certainly took over the Witwatersrand, and found reefs which were rich in gold in an out-of-the-way part of South Africa, building up the wonderful city Johannesburg, and establishing gold mining industries on the Rand, which promise to produce \$100,000,000 worth of gold in 1899. The advent of men of all nationalities upon the slow-gold Boer, and as the production of gold increased and trade expanded, railways were built, bringing the Transvaal within easy distance of the sea coast, and the lonely Boer found the hated British very much nearer him. During the "boom time" there was much attention paid to the franchise, taxation and other injustices, but when men invested their money in business and brought their families there, they looked

ed upon the Transvaal as their future home, they naturally wanted better schools than those where Dutch only was spoken, and some return for the enormous sums they were paying in rents and taxes to the Boer government, and some voice in the matter of raising and expending revenue. Paul Kruger has put intolerable burdens on the mining industry, has given a monopoly to a railway which levies extortionate charges on the Uitlanders, has asked them to take an oath of allegiance to him and his countrymen, which no self-respecting man would take; has given dynamic and spirit monopolies of the worst kind, and committed at huge swindles at the expense of the Uitlanders.

In Rider Haggard's "Jesse," a good account of how the Boers treat the British is given, and it is worth reading at this juncture. It is no wonder the British colonists in South Africa hate the Boers with a thorough hate, and the latter have no friends among the Zulus or other native blacks. Yet they say "the Britishers were glad to give us our independence before; they are afraid of us; our revolution as they called it was successful; we will have the assistance of all the Dutch in South Africa. The British government are afraid of us. If not now, when will they protect their subjects? One Boer is equal to five Britishers; we proved that at Laingsnek and Majuba Hill. Didn't we lick them there? Yes, and we will do it again—Oom Paul says so."

Britain has a very delicate and difficult part to play. If she declare war it will be to decide whether the Union Jack or a Dutch Republican flag shall float south of the Zambesi. Present difficulties may be patched up, but so great is the ingrained hatred of the Boer against the British that war is almost inevitable. JUNIUS.

HONEST ADVICE FREE TO MEN.

The Times is requested to publish the following: All men who are nervous and debilitated or who are suffering from any of the various troubles resulting from overwork, excess or youthful errors, or from above troubles, and after trying in vain many advertised remedies, electric belts, etc., become almost entirely discouraged and hopeless. Finally he consulted "in all his ailments" the famous physician, "through whose skillful treatment a speedy and perfect cure was obtained." Now, I am sorry that so many more sufferers are being imposed upon by unscrupulous quacks. Mr. Graham, considers it his duty to give his fellow-men the benefit of his experience and assist them to a cure by informing anyone who writes to him in strict confidence where to be cured. No attention can be given to those writing out of mere curiosity but any one who really needs a cure is advised to address Mr. Graham as above. NEW TRIAL ORDERED. The Hon. Judge of the Application of the Plaintiff in the Pack Train Case.

At the sitting of the Full Court this afternoon judgment was delivered in the appeal of Bird vs. Veith, granting a new trial to the defendants. It will be remembered that the action was one for the recovery of damages for breach of contract by the plaintiffs in failing to deliver a pack train at Glenora on a specified date. The trial judge, Mr. Drake, ordered the defendants out of court while the plaintiffs case was being given, counsel for the defendants objecting on the ground that it was necessary for the defendants to remain in court for the purpose of aiding counsel in cross-examination. The judgment delivered this morning was Bird vs. Veith—We are of opinion that the learned trial judge erred in dealing with the question of the defendants' exclusion from the court room, as a witness, in the same position as a witness, as a party, to the action, whose exclusion, if requested, is commonly ordered as of course. In our judgment the parties to an action have the right to be present during the trial, unless some good reason is shown why any of them should be excluded, and the mere circumstance that these defendants would, or might, be called as witnesses did not entitle the plaintiff to require their exclusion. It is sufficient for this disposition of this appeal that no reason whatever was given suggested for the exclusion, other than the plaintiffs' supposed right to call for it. Mr. Cassidy contended that a new trial ought not to be granted because of the exclusion, even if wrongful, unless the defendants could show that they had been substantially prejudiced in the result by their absence. We cannot accede to this. If the questions to be determined between the parties were such as to make it clear that the defendants could have been prejudiced by the error complained of, a different question would have arisen; but in this case, af-

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ter some of the witnesses had been examined, it was found necessary to permit the return of one of the defendants to the court room, for the purpose of instructing their counsel, and in the present circumstances we ought not to speculate to what extent the defendants may have been prejudiced. There should be a new trial, with costs to the defendants in any event. Mr. H. D. Helmcken, Q. C., and Mr. L. P. Duff for applicant defendants; Mr. B. Cassidy and Mr. A. W. Cresser for respondent (plaintiffs). Other appeals expected to be reached this afternoon or to-morrow are: Re O. K. Mining Co. motion; Le Bau vs. Kirk, motion; Fender vs. War Eagle, and B. & N. Railway Co. vs. New Vancouver Coal Co. NOW IN VENEZUELA. (Associated Press.) Washington, D. C. Sept. 6.—The state department has been informed that a revolution has broken out in Venezuela. No particulars have been received. FILES FOR 15 YEARS. Mr. Jas. Bowles, councillor, Embury, Ont., writes: "For over 15 years I suffered the misery of bleeding, protruding piles. Many remedies I tried all failed. I was advised to use Dr. A. W. Cassin's Ointment, and must say that the first application effected relief, after the third day the bleeding stopped and two boxes cured me completely." Cherrapunji, in Assam, northeast of Calcutta, has the reputation of being the wettest place on earth, the average annual rainfall being 493.15 inches, while it has the record of one month in which 147.17 inches fell. This year it seems bound to beat all previous records, 267.84 inches of rain having fallen between January 1, and the middle of June, five months and a half, while 73.79 inches, over six feet of water, fell in a single week. Dr. Rev. Vishup Perin returned yesterday from a visit to Salt Spring Island.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WEILER

The Founder of One of Victoria's Largest and Most Successful Business Houses Died This Morning. The death occurred this morning at the family residence, 26 Blanchard street, of John Weiler, the founder of the firm of Weiler Bros. of this city. Death was the result of a long illness, extending over six months, during a larger part of which he was an acute sufferer. His sickness and death was attributable to advanced years, he having reached the age of 75. Mr. Weiler came to America when quite a young man from Mayence, Hesse-Darmstadt, settling first in the state of New York. Although a book-keeper by occupation he joined in the rush to the gold fields of California, coming to that state in 1850. Eleven years were spent in that state, and in 1861 he drifted north to British Columbia. It was shortly after his arrival here that he commenced, in a modest way, the business which has since become one of the largest in the province. Year by year, by his personal direction of affairs and bringing to the conduct of the concern his German thrift, the business swelled in importance, and, when in 1890, he turned it over to his sons, it was with the proud satisfaction that the establishment was of his own creation and a monument to his energy and enterprise. His widow and four sons, all of whom are members of the firm, survive him. The sons are George, Charles, Otto and Joseph. He also had two daughters, one of whom died in infancy and the other later in life. The funeral takes place on Friday afternoon at three o'clock from the family residence to Ross Bay cemetery. "50 ACRES FOR MY HEALTH." Files Were Sapping the Life From Him—Dr. Agnew's Ointment Cured. Mr. M. Beemer, of Knotmail, Mich., says: "For seven years I had suffered from itching and protruding piles. I tried all kinds of cures, but got no relief until I used Dr. Agnew's Ointment. One application did more for me than any remedy I had ever tried. I have been such a sufferer that I would willingly give my 500 acres of land rather than have a return of my suffering from those tormenting things." 3c. cents. Use Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills for liver ills. 25c. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co. Japanese workmen are obliged to wear on their caps and backs an inscription stating their business and their employer's name.

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THE DAY'S O' WORK. Shortly after the ad-crowd wended its way kindly placed at the disposal of the New Vain-bany again, and here A. Manson opened the party. As soon as the show was completed the show and speakers and speedily drenched, the bringer newspaper men, counting on only a few. An adjournment was and the meeting was an hour later in the Op-completely filled, contented themselves with accommodation only. Those who occupied a room were A. Haslam, B. McInnes, M.P.; Joe P. Hon. Dr. McKeckel, J. Roberts, ex-M.P.; Thomas Kitchin, A.D.; Mrs. W. McAllan and president of the Victoria Council. A. J. Manson's opening in the first re-entended to extending a hearty welcome to all visitors, and an explanation of the absence of M.P.P. for South Nan-

JERSEY STOCK FOR SALE. Consisting of two magnificent young bulls, one 16 mos. and the other 4 mos. old, light wavy in color; dams aged 1 to 3 yrs. 21 lbs. cows; also, of females from 1 to 3 years old, the individuals from imported stock, sired by the grand young bull "Ella's Dick St. Heller," whose dam has a record of 21 lbs. butter per week, and their dams are 16 lbs. cows, strong in the blood of St. Heller and St. Lambert. All registered in A. J. C. For prices and terms address: J. S. SMITH, Cloverbrook Farm, Chilliwack, B. C.

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With one accord the yesterday regretted of the water, comp-annual celebration, consequently disapp- of visitors who went the morning, and ha-suading street of who otherwise would shing several round the arrangements for duced the procession low the ordinary s- there was still a suffi- good many minor ob- num's reputation v-erse conditions. T-competition for a- difficult task, and M- McKay had to take f- charge many minor ob- to arrive at a decisio- the question of the- awards. The rain inter- that of the first bas- shell which was t- off. The athletic race- but abandoned af- been run, and the Cal- calomni was decid- sports programme fit- tained their proud po- on the diamond, defe- not very easily. The many remedies I tried all failed. I was advised to use Dr. A. W. Cassin's Ointment, and must say that the first application effected relief, after the third day the bleeding stopped and two boxes cured me completely.