

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1893.

A SHORT ENQUIRY.

The assertion of the Kamloops non-representative Convention that the present Provincial Assembly has no moral right to legislate for the people of British Columbia is so unreasonable and leads to so many absurd conclusions, that it may be considered a mistake to treat it seriously. But as everybody is not able to see a ridiculous proposition in a ridiculous light, there may be no harm in suggesting that every member of the Legislature, duly elected, is under a strong moral obligation to perform the duties of his position to the best of his ability. There is no constitutional body in existence against which censure cannot find what they call moral objections. Yes we find honest and conscientious men working in those bodies and doing all they can to make them of use to the several countries. No one ever refused on moral grounds to sit in the old reformed House of Commons with the conscientiousness of a dozen or so of potwallopers. And this House of Commons, great as were the anomalies of representation in its constitution, did for centuries good work for the British nation. There are many, no doubt, who believe that the present House of Lords has no moral right to exercise the powers with which the constitution invests it, yet we do not hear of any man, clergyman or layman, who has a right to a seat in it, refusing to occupy that seat because he does not see that he has a moral right to have a voice in making the laws of the nation. There are men who are known to be too bad to sit in the House of Lords, but no one that we have ever heard of, considered himself, or was considered by others, too good to perform the official duties and to exercise the official powers of a peer of the realm.

The legal right in this case is the moral right. The people or their representatives are the sole judges of how a representative body shall be constituted, and what they decide to be right as regards representation, is right, morally as well as constitutionally. This, besides being the principle acted upon in every country having a constitutional government, is most reasonable. Legislative bodies under the British Constitution have the power to make what alterations they see fit, both in the distribution of representation and in the qualification of electors, so that if a member of a British Legislature believes that the organization of the body to which he belongs is morally defective, he has a perfect right, if he sees it his duty to do so, to endeavor to prevail upon his fellow members and fellow citizens to make such alterations in its constitution as he considers right. In those self-adjusting legislatures a member can reconcile himself to any inequality of representation that may exist, knowing that the people have it in their power to change it, when they believe a change to be necessary. This is, no doubt, the reason why no one ever hears anything about the "moral right" of legislators to legislate among sane and sensible people. Even the engineers and delegates of the non-representative Kamloops Convention acted in open contravention of the principle which they laid down so dogmatically. The engineers—Brown, Cotton and Kitchin—remain members of a Legislature, which they declare has no moral right to legislate, and the delegates took upon themselves to speak and act for men whom they had neither a moral nor a constitutional right to represent. Their own acts show more clearly than anything that can be said or written the absurdity of their own proposition.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

We are not at all surprised that Paris has given such an enthusiastic welcome to the officers of the Russian fleet. The citizens of Paris are most excitable. It takes comparatively little to cause them to lose their heads. But the friendship of Russia is not a trifle to France just now. Russia is at present the only ally it has that it can depend upon. Germany's hostility to France is open and avowed. The two nations are what, in times not very long gone by, would be called "natural enemies." Austria and Italy are in close alliance with Germany. Germany's friends must be their friends, and Germany's enemies their enemies. France has for a long time been jealous of England, and just now the feeling between the two countries, if not hostile, is not cordial. It was, indeed, said the other day, when the difficulty about Siam was pending, that Great Britain would have, for self-protection, to join the triple alliance. Russia is, therefore, the only great power which France can depend upon in the event of a rupture with Germany, which may take place any day. France, in fact, without Russia's goodwill, would be friendless in Europe. It is, therefore, no wonder that the people of Paris exhibited the joy they felt at the manifestation of friendliness made by Russia. It may be easy to make too much of the visit of the Russian fleet to France, and perhaps the Parisians are doing this. But when it is considered that Russia is, as regards the rest of Europe, in pretty much the same position as France, it is not surprising that the instinct of self-preservation draws the two countries together. It is somewhat remarkable that every country which France dislikes and fears looks upon Russia with suspicion more or less well grounded. England, since the talk of another matrimonial alliance between the royal families of the two countries, may be regarded as an exception. But the public mind of England must have greatly changed of late if the attitude of Russia in Asia is not looked upon as threatening the integrity of the British Empire. Russia may not have designs upon India, but it will take a good deal to convince in-

telligent Englishmen that this is a fact. Great Britain has, for a good many years, been keeping a watchful eye upon the progress of Russian conquest in Asia, and it is not likely that this ostentatious exhibition of friendship between France and Russia will have the effect of causing her to be less vigilant. With Russia on the North and France on the South-east, Great Britain has neighbors in India which will bear a good deal of watching. Neither of them may mean any harm, but all the same, it would not be wise to give either of them a good chance to encroach on her Indian possessions.

AN IMPORTANT VISIT.

The Hon. Mr. Foster and the Hon. Mr. Angers will soon be in this Province. They are not out on a holiday excursion. Their visit to British Columbia is a business visit. They will be here to receive and impart information. They want to learn for themselves the actual condition of the Province, and the views, opinions and wishes of its inhabitants. They intend also, no doubt, to explain to British Columbians the policy of the Government; and they will probably endeavor to remove any misapprehensions and misunderstandings as to the conduct and intentions of the Administration, that may exist.

The two cabinet ministers are, we are sure, sincerely desirous to do all the good they can to British Columbia, and to meet the wishes of its inhabitants as far as they can consistently with their duty to the other parts of the Dominion. It is therefore to be hoped that they will be met by men of all classes and both parties in a friendly spirit, and that the information they desire will be freely and frankly imparted. It is important that the Ministers should learn the whole truth with regard to the Province, that they will be assisted to see it exactly as it is. The men who paint it for them in the colors of the rose are quite as much the enemies of the Province as the men who draw a gloomy and unattractive picture of its present condition and its future prospects. The Ministers are both men of the world and seasoned politicians, who can bear to hear truth that is unpalatable as well as truth that is pleasant and agreeable. We believe that perfect frankness in dealing with the Ministers is not only right, but the best policy, both for the Dominion Government and for the people of the Province. They should not be allowed to leave the Coast laboring under any delusion, either as to the opinions of the people, so far as they can be ascertained, or the state and prospects of the Province.

There are in this Province, as there are in every other, persons who distrust politicians and who believe that no good thing can come out of Ottawa; and there are also people who think that the only way to please men in power is to flatter them and to tell them nothing but what they are pretty sure the Ministers would like to hear. The former class malign every drawback and exaggerate every grievance. They consider it their duty to croak and to preach blue ruin. The latter class have nothing but good to say of the country and are ready to represent the people as being perfectly satisfied with the policy of the Federal Government and the treatment they receive at the hands of the Ministers should be on their guard against both classes, for both will be certain to lead them astray. There are, however, men in the country who are not either confirmed pessimists or slavish worshippers of those in authority, and it will be found that these men, as well as being the most reliable, know most about the Province and its resources. We trust that they will consider it their duty to call upon the distinguished visitors and speak to them without either concealment or reservation.

British Columbians are hospitable, and we need not say that the Ministers will be warmly welcomed and well treated when they come to the Coast. We sincerely trust that they will be able to obtain information here that they will be able to use in the near future, for the good of the Province, and that when they turn their faces Eastward they will carry with them favorable impressions of British Columbia and its inhabitants.

MANITOBA'S POSITION.

The attitude of the Manitoba Government with respect to the reference of the school question to that Province to the Supreme Court is made very plain by Mr. Sifton, the Attorney-General in an interview with a representative of the Winnipeg Tribune: "Asked if he had seen the statement made by the Toronto Q. C., Mr. Sifton said he had, 'but,' he remarked, 'I don't know that I have very much to say about the position of the Local Government, except what everybody understands at the present time. So far as the reference to the Supreme Court is concerned, that is purely a reference by the Dominion Government for advice. Instead of taking the advice of the Minister of Justice, who is the law officer of the Dominion Government, they have power to take the advice of the Supreme Court. It is purely a voluntary proceeding on their part and we are not a party to it in any way. If they choose to refer the question of their powers to the Supreme Court, we have no objection to them doing it, although we are perfectly satisfied that they have no power to interfere with our legislation; but we do not propose to be made a party to the proceeding. We have sent counsel to the Supreme Court purely out of courtesy to that body, and not with any intention of being a defendant in the case of taking part in the argument. If the Supreme Court sees fit to appoint Mr. Robinson to argue any particular phase of the question, that is purely a matter for the court to deal with, and we will neither adopt Mr. Robinson's advocacy nor repudiate it.'"

"What is your position then?" "We take the position that we have nothing whatever to do with Mr. Robinson's argument. It may be quite proper for the court to appoint him, but he is arguing in a proceeding instituted by the Dominion Government, to which the Province of Manitoba is not a party, and he is not in any way a representative of the Province."

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

We learn from a late Ottawa special telegram that the attention of the Governor-in-Council has been directed to the services rendered by several gentlemen in connection with the Behring Sea case, and that Parliament will be asked to recognize their services in a substantial manner. We trust that when the value of the services of those gentlemen is being considered, justice will be done to Collector Milne of this port. That gentleman has for many years taken a deep interest in the sealing industry, and has spared neither time nor labor in collecting the information necessary to put the business in its true light before those in authority. We have reason to believe that the information which he collected with such pains, has been of great use to the authorities. It can easily be seen that having at the centre of the sealing industry a gentleman of wide intelligence, who was not only willing but eager to do everything in his power to strengthen the British case, must have been of very considerable advantage to those engaged in getting up that case. We are very sure that the Commissioners and other officials who applied to Collector Milne for information and who desired his cooperation will bear witness to his zeal and to the value of the services which he so disinterestedly rendered. The owners of sealing schooners here and all connected with the business speak highly of Collector Milne. They have always looked upon him as a firm and judicious friend upon whose good-will and implicit reliance, in all emergencies place serious to the state such as those rendered by Collector Milne cannot receive a more permanent and a more distinguishing recognition than the "substantial" one mentioned in the telegram. Honors less "substantial" than a recognition in cash are often more highly prized by the men who earn them and by their family and friends.

A RUSSIAN OPINION.

It is strongly suspected in some quarters that the love and admiration for the Russians, so often expressed by the people and the press of Paris, is not reciprocated. The Russian who is a devotee in religion, and who is a devotee in politics, is not a tolerant believer in the divine right of kings and emperors, has very little, indeed, in common with the sceptical Frenchman, who is not only a sojourner of religion and a defender of the faith, but is a hater of monarchy and a sympathizer with revolutionists of all classes and creeds. The way in which the great majority of good Russians look at the French as a people, was not very long ago, pretty strongly expressed by Prince Meshchery in the Gradonin (Citizen), of which he is editor. Among other things this loyal and orthodox Prince says:

"Away with a nation that does not believe in the Almighty, a nation incapable of defending itself, and which surrenders itself to an enemy in hundreds of crises! A nation whose patriotism only exists in phrases cannot be the ally of the Russian nation. . . . The Frenchmen of to-day are a degraded body, destined by fate to exhibit the spectacle of degenerated patriots. The present Frenchman is composed of nothing but words—everything in words, and in fact he is in practice wanting in the qualities, a superabundance of which is found in his words,—manliness, bravery, patriotism, solidity and sincerity."

The above is, no doubt, the estimate which very many Russians have formed of Frenchmen, and Frenchmen, when not carried away by excitement and enthusiasm, would, if they gave their honest opinion of the average Russian, be quite as uncompromising as Prince Meshchery was when denouncing the French to his countrymen. It is not likely that an alliance between peoples differing so widely in their principles, their feelings and their ideas about almost everything, can be very cordial, or can last very long. Orthodox Russians, whose loyalty is a part of their religion, know very well that close intercourse between the people of Russia and the French would be dangerous, both to their religion and their Government.

HE WAS MISSED.

The name of Sir Richard Cartwright did not appear on Mr. Laurier's list of speakers. It would be perhaps wrong to say that he has not been missed. Sir Richard is a man of the best speakers in Canada. But he has become unpopular even among the Liberals. There is no gentleness in the man, and his spirit is the very reverse of a cheerful one. He does not possess the talent with which Mr. Laurier is gifted in an eminent degree, of putting those who hear him in a good humor with themselves and at peace with almost all the world—the Tories, of course, always excepted. Sir Richard, on the contrary, harrows the feelings of his auditors. His tones are not sweet, and the subject matter of his discourse is not pleasant. He makes those who hear him feel that the times are out of joint, and that those who are contented with the status quo when everything is going wrong are forgetful both of feeling and good sense. Cheerful farmers and hopeful tradesmen who want to be cheered, enlivened and encouraged, feel uneasy and depressed after hearing one of Sir Richard Cartwright's able speeches, and consequently they have at last grown tired of his jargon and gladly welcome the advent of a leader of more cheerful countenance and more exhilarating speech.

Sir Richard Cartwright was missed at the meetings, as the skeleton at the feast would be missed. His absence was found to be a relief. The holiday makers were glad that he was not on the platform. They were in no mind to listen to his gloomy orations. Life, they

felt, was too short to lose time in bemoaning the state of the country, and if the truth were told, they saw no reason for lamenting and being in a melancholy mood. It is true, Sir Richard gave it hot to the Tories, but they are losing their taste for the highly seasoned dishes that were relished at gatherings of the reform party some years ago. They do not think that a dish which is almost wholly made up of cayenne pepper, mustard and vinegar is either pleasant to the taste or nourishing for the body. To drop the figure, the Liberals of Ontario are finding out that the Tories are not all monsters and that Conservative public men are not in a conspiracy with Old Nick to ruin the country. They see now the foolishness of looking at the supporters of the Government in and out of Parliament through the Green party spectacles. Experience has proved to them that Conservatives and Liberals are wonderfully like each other, and that differing in opinion from them in politics is no proof either of idiocy or of moral depravity. The consequence is that toleration and neighborly feeling between the rank and file of the different parties have made great progress of late years, and one of the results of this social and moral improvement is that Sir Richard Cartwright and orators of his school are out of date in Ontario—back numbers, as it were. This is a change on which they are to be congratulated. The bigoted and narrow-minded of both parties may try to fan the smouldering fire of party feeling into a flame, and they may appear to succeed for a while here and there, but they labor in vain. The new state of things is far better and pleasanter in every way than the old. The old party hates, and unreasoning antipathies are sure to die out, and with them, unless they change their ways, the men who kept them alive and did their best to intensify them. There is not the slightest reason to fear a reaction. Dropping Sir Richard Cartwright from the list of speakers at the Liberal meetings is an indication that a beneficial change has taken place in Ontario, and that it is likely to last. So mote it be.

BRITISH OPINION.

The British newspapers are regarding the unbridled and unparliamentary struggle which is going on in the United States Senate with amazement, not unmixed with contempt. Commenting upon it, the Times says: "The determining of an economic question by an appeal to physical endurance is little removed from the medieval 'ordal of battle.' Yet this absurd Old World remedy is being applied in the centre of the most essentially modern form of government. The Chronicle says: "The spectacle is ludicrous and contemptible. If physical endurance is to be the criterion of the application of the law, the defendant company on September 29, 1891, and a note assigned to the plaintiff by Preston, Carr & Preston for \$350,000. Thomas H. Fildes, bookkeeper in the office of the newspaper, has been appointed receiver by Judge Langley."

Swift MacNeill, M. P., the Irish gentleman who pulled Harry Furness's ears because of a caricature in Punch, is declared by disinterested people to be so unparliamentary that Furness could not have libelled him. His appearance when addressing the House is beautifully compared to a "warm heart struggling with a hot potato." Sir Stoop dogs were tried in court for carrying dispatches from headquarters. They went about their duties with dispatch and certainty, especially at night, and proved of decided value in rescuing and supporting wounded persons. The Scotch dogs were very sagacious and faithful, and the German said did wonders in speed. One sped over two miles in seven minutes. Dogs are not of so much account in conveying messages now that field telegraph facilities by ordinary instruments, telephone and heliograph, are so perfect. They might be utilized in laying field wires for short distances during the hot fighting, or in carrying messages to the front. In some cases dealing with dogs, an enemy has a good opportunity to coax the animals and deprive them of their messages or turn them to hostile account.

THE FIRST FRUITS.

The work of exploration which the Government surveyors are constantly and quietly doing in the British Columbia, highly beneficial to the Province. Those surveyors are showing the world that the country which was looked upon as almost, if not altogether uninhabitable, contains great natural riches. Attention has already been directed to the newly opened up country in the North. We are told that people are visiting Nechaco and are pleased with what they find there. The weather, even at this late season, is "charming." The land is fertile, producing the nourishing bunchgrass so high as to reach the horses' heads. The visitors are so well pleased with the country that they intend to return to it, bringing with them settlers of the best kind. And this, we confidently believe, is only the beginning of large and flourishing settlements in that northern country. As the surveyors proceed with their work, it will be seen that there are not only minerals in that northern country, but that it contains large areas of good farming and grazing land, that when cultivated and occupied, will produce sustenance for a large population. The Government in opening up the country are doing a good work, and the money expended on the surveys will, we are satisfied, before long yield a liberal return to the Province.

CANADIAN CATTLE TRADE.

MONTREAL, Oct. 20.—Cable despatches this week, in regard to the sale of cattle in the United States, showed considerable loss in Canadian shipments, some of the shipments up to date have been 16,446 head behind last season, the figure being 70,702 head this year. On account of the restrictions placed upon Canadian cattle in Great Britain, the stock trade with Scotland has been completely killed.

IMPORTANT TO WORKINGMEN.

Artisans, mechanics and laboring men are liable to accidents, and injuries, as well as painful colds, stiff joints, rheumatism, and the troubles we would recommend Hayward's Compound, the best and reliable pain-killer, for outward and internal use.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report. Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

OUR NEIGHBORS' NEWS.

Dundas Banner: The name of the story the Hamilton Spec is running is "The Green Hand." He probably writes the editorial.

Portland Oregonian: The French are deliberately working themselves into a war-like rage. Something very like this took place in the summer of 1870; but conditions have changed greatly since then.

Toronto Telegram: A master artist is the Hamilton Spectator, the estimable journal that assailed a sprightly jest into an editorial declaration that "The Paris award settles the sealink question forever."

Brockville Recorder: According to the Regina Leader it is not literature but wits that the people of the Northwest want. The Leader editor being a confirmed old bachelor, should know. However, he probably only speaks for Regina.

Hamilton Spectator: "The gab record in the United States Senate was broken last night, when Senator Allen spoke for fourteen hours and three-quarters! What the United States wants more than anything else is the adding of oratory to the list of capital crimes."

Spokane Review: There is grim humor in the Franco-Russian demonstration of affection. It is an alliance between one of the most liberal republics the world has ever seen and the most autocratic government on the face of the earth. The embrace, however, seems to be exceedingly loving.

Toronto Mail: Mr. Hyslop, of Hyslop, Caulfield & Co., of this city, says that advertising this year sold twice as many goods as a dozen first class travellers could have done, and at half the expense. Hyslop, Caulfield & Co. were very large advertisers this year, and hope to increase it next year.

Post-Intelligencer: The evening Press-Times has passed into the hands of a receiver under the application of the Puget Sound National Bank, which has just secured a judgment against the Press-Times Publishing Company for \$21,701.90 on account of a loan of \$20,000 made by the bank to the defendant company on September 29, 1891, and a note assigned to the plaintiff by Preston, Carr & Preston for \$350,000.

The Telegraph is of opinion that legislation in the Senate is reduced to "an absurd statement." All that the Chicago Tribune has to say to this trenchant criticism is that, "There is nothing to do but to plead guilty. The English papers state the exact truth. They could have said more than they did."

Brantford Expositor: Mr. T. Elliott, an eminent president of the Sons of England, has just returned from a trip to the Northwest and the Coast in the interests of that order. In an interview, Mr. Elliott speaks in high terms of the country and of the progress of the Sons of England there, and he and Grand Secretary Carter, having in all visited and instituted some thirty lodges.

Missionary Herald:—A report of the survey made for the Mombasa-Victoria railway has been presented to the British Parliament. The report treats not only upon the possible routes and the engineering difficulties, but also upon the relation of the proposed railway to commerce and the slave trade. The estimated length of the road is 657 miles, the cost being an average of \$1,000 per mile, making the total cost in the vicinity of \$1,100,000. The report makes an elaborate estimate as to the probable amount of exports and imports and passenger traffic, and concludes that, on the outside, the road would be able to pay its working expenses. It is anticipated that it would develop commerce as soon as it is completed. At any rate, the road seems to be a necessity connected with the British occupation of Uganda, and the Great British Empire will not prevent Great Britain from making fast its hold upon this magnificent region of Central Africa.

Toronto Empire (London special): There was a large attendance at St. Paul's church, Knightsbridge, a few days ago, to witness the marriage of the Right Rev. Edward Bickersteth, D. D., who was consecrated missionary bishop of the Church of England in Japan in 1896, to Miss Marion Torvick, daughter of Mr. William Forsyth, an alderman of the City of London, and the sister of the late Lord Brougham. The bride wore a costume of white satin brocade, the whole front being artistically draped with beautiful old lace, caught up with small sprays of orange blossoms, and the bodice was also trimmed with lace. Her train well covered a slat of real orange blossoms in foliage. There were seven bridesmaids: Miss Cecil Forsyth (sister), Miss Jean Forsyth, and Miss Margaret Glendon (niece of the bride), Miss Rose Aglioni, Miss Randall and Miss Muriel Bickersteth (niece), and Miss Edith Bickersteth (sister of the bridegroom), who were all dressed in white satin trimmed with white silk and edged with passementerie; they also wore large tan fall hats, with white feathers and tan-colored veils. The bridegroom presents to them were gold bangles, diamond necklaces, and bouquets of roses and white chrysanthemums tied with streamers. Master Burgon Bickersteth (son of the bridegroom) acted as train-bearer, in a white silk suit, with white silk sash and white velvet hat, the bride's

NEWS OF THE Messrs. Foster and Ask-d to Naval Canned Salmon Ship pool—Father M. Injur Special to the VANCOUVER, Oct. 19—employment of ladies in detrimental to the welfare is the subject chosen for the Burrard Inlet Light society has recently elected a new president, Mrs. S. S. Shaw, Vice President, Secretary, C. C. May. Action to secure damages threatened by one of the which bore it into an his best. The cause of the excavation was not the Salters are not in a Ham, of the Empress of the E. C. hospital at West which were made by the contract has been awarded. The number of city of Ball-Irving & Bell-Ir partnership, Mr. Bell-Ir business.

VANCOUVER, Oct. 20.—orgie at the Indian which was suppressed by police. A negro is suspected the whiskey. The Mayor has received the Deputy Attorney G Mr. C. W. Robson has been acting officer for the year 1894. He will be Rapid progress is being M. I. building; the B. M. on Columbia Street. Captain Thompson's new station is nearly completed. Ben Brennan was fined \$10 for the Indians. Mr. Holman, the real estate ranging to migrate to the N. Holman mentions the fact that the English colony before Messrs. Draper & Leigar importers, have failed in their attempt to be paved with concrete and Reports come from Vancouver several camps are closed.

On Monday the council over and Westminster Road met to discuss matters relating to the Dominion of the Tilts pavements are being done street by various of them, who manifested their here. He came to Vancouver on the advice of Emigrant Agent The British ship Anand on October 26. The Government steamer Taylor & Davis have a ship. W. S. Taylor with

NEW WESTMINSTER, Oct of salmon, consisting of 40 from to Liverpool, England. Premier Davis passed it day homeward bound from he was dined after the fall and directors of the Agric Rev. Father Martin O on a carriage this afternoon collar bone broken, beside had shaking up. He is Mary's husband. Elaborate ceremonies were Holy Trinity cathedral with the dedication of a New Westminster, Ont loads of "falling water" England, went East to do The two story dwelling man named Smith, at New was completely destroyed hour this morning. The the kitchen, and before was so far advanced that he was to check the flames.

Application was made Court chambers, before J. the morning, for the removal of Alfred Jones from the premises for selling liquor to Stevenson. The application and terms released on Irregularities of the de

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DUNCAN, Oct. 19.—John Kingston Jack, was on limited to Nanaimo jail for six months at supplying whiskey to a dikan, for being in possession, were ordered to His Honor Judge County court on Tuesday and one judgment sum The business was doubled itself within a plain, 6 judgment sum these summonses were

Yesterday, Indian Agent James Kinross for four months for supplying intoxicants to the Coast. The first annual and liter of the season at the Agri night (Thursday).

Winnipeg Tribune: side-addles were recent two of the fall sex of Y are now riding with a pronounced the trial a troling the horse was on to the rider.

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