

THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ASSIST.

Some of the Mainland papers object to the idea of the government contributing anything towards the construction of a new bridge at Point Ellice because the structure would be within the Victoria city limits. Under ordinary conditions the objection would be considered well taken. But it should not be forgotten that Esquimalt as a naval station has been established for the protection of the whole province, and for the protection of the entire country, and such being the case it is undoubtedly the duty of the provincial authorities to do all in their power not only to furnish all possible facilities for the departments of the army and navy to transact business but also to render the lot of the officers and men as pleasant and agreeable as possible. But there is another aspect to this question. The provincial government is a large property owner in Victoria. This property pays nothing into the city treasury, and yet it is as fully protected by the municipality as private holdings against the calamities which all material things are heir to. The Ottawa government contributes about \$200,000 a year towards the beautifying of the capital of the Dominion, and keeps some of the streets surrounding its property in repair, and will probably do so for all time; it contributed a very handsome sum towards the construction of a bridge in the very heart of the city because it was for the general benefit of the country and not exclusively for the use of the municipality, and in many other ways has given tangible proof that there is no disputing the claims which the city has upon it. Victoria therefore has a legitimate though possibly not a legal claim to consideration from the government of the province, and that claim is strengthened when all the circumstances in connection with the construction of the Point Ellice bridge are considered.

UNWISE UTTERANCES.

We are afraid the partisan spirit aroused during the late political contest in Great Britain has moved some of the more radical of the Liberal members to say things that were better left unsaid at the present time. The time for such criticism as appeared in the Times yesterday is not now. It is calculated to give encouragement to the enemy, to strengthen his belief in the justice of his cause, and to induce him to prolong a conflict which in the interests of the Boers themselves it were well to have brought to a speedy end. The country has given its verdict. It has sustained by a tremendous majority the action of the Conservative ministry and has indicated in a most unmistakable way that it holds the opinion entertained by all men who are capable of looking impartially at the circumstances which precipitated the war, that the vaulting ambition of Kruger and his satellites left the government no alternative but to vindicate its position by a resort to arms and to settle a question which had been disturbing the British in South Africa for years in such a manner that there can never again be a possibility of its causing trouble. The time will soon come when the sword shall be placed in its scabbard, and then the opposition will have a legitimate opportunity to discuss the conduct of the negotiations which preceded the war and the manner in which the armed contest has been conducted. We are sorry to see some of the opposition critics taking a position which is not justified by the evidence that has thus far been forthcoming, or by the character of the officers who have had command of the British forces, or by the reputation of the men whom the officers commanded. Never in the history of the world has a war been more humanely conducted, but the fact must not be overlooked that while the savagery of earlier times has been entirely eliminated the characteristics of the brutal trade remain essentially the same. When men go forth to kill and the lust of battle takes possession of them passions are let loose which are difficult to restrain, but when the strife ceased the Briton treated the Boer as a brother and all that it was possible to do for the alleviation of the sufferings of those stricken down in the conflict was done. Kruger has made complaints about the treatment of women which have been proved to be absolutely without foundation and have proved to the world that the old gentleman who thought he was "slim" enough to "do" the British diplomatically and martially is as mendacious as he is crafty. It has been urged that the burning of farm houses was proceeding to unnecessary extremes for the purpose of effecting the reduction of the enemy. It must not be overlooked, however, that many of those standings have been proved to be veritable arsenals—stations for the purpose of storing and from which were distributed the Boer supplies and ammunition and from which expeditions set forth to destroy railways and telegraph lines. In some cases information has been supplied by the women occupying these farms which has resulted in the annihilation of small British forces without compunction and without mercy. Under such circumstances it surely cannot be contended that Lord Roberts has been unduly severe or that the new commanding officer will not be fully justified in following in his footsteps. Kitchener has been held to be a hard man, and it

may be well to remember all these things when the time comes to criticize his methods of bringing the contest to a speedy conclusion.

THE WELLAND VICTORY.

When the Conservatives found by virtue of their effective gerrymandering they had elected a majority in Ontario to the House of Commons they raised a joyous whoop which almost drowned the groan of despair with which they received the news from the Dominion generally. They were going to pounce on Ross's government and leave not a vestige of it in sight. They held a convention in Toronto and gathered all their forces for the contest which was decided yesterday. McCleary, the strongest man they possess in the county, who held the seat in the last Dominion Parliament and who was beaten by Mr. German, was put up again in the provincial contest and beaten by a majority which must be very depressing to the spirits of those who were so joyous a short time ago at the prospects they thought they saw of "downing Ross." The fact is that the feelings which the Conservative leaders succeeded in working up in Ontario over the cry of French domination have passed away and normal conditions again prevail. Mr. Ross is one of the ablest men in public life in Canada to-day, his policy of preserving the natural assets of the province from the manufacturers of the United States, who would carry them away and return them to this country in finished form, is very popular, and the erection of the great works of all kinds at Sault Ste. Marie prove that his ideas are practical. In all the twenty-five years or more that the present Premier and his predecessors have been in power not a single act of maladministration has been brought home to them, and it will surely be found when he appeals to the people at the next provincial general election that the voters whose confidence he has possessed for so many years are as strongly Liberal as ever, and that the Conservative party is still in a decadent state.

UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN.

The time must surely come when the statesmen and the people of the United Kingdom shall be awakened to the true sentiments of the United States toward their country. With admirable determination the feelings provoked by the Venezuela episode during the term of President Cleveland were set aside and his insolent ukase treated as the silly ebullition of an amateur in statecraft. It was felt that in course of time the sturdy common sense of the American people would assert itself and that by and by the conviction would become general on this side of the ocean that there could never possibly arise cause for serious disagreement between the two great nations whose harmonious relationship meant so much for the peace and prosperity of the world. The action of the Senate at Washington yesterday in ordering the removal of one flag of all the national colors displayed there in amending the treaty which Secretary Hay had entered into with Lord Pauncefote with reference to conditions which shall obtain upon the proposed isthmian canal when it is constructed should open the eyes of the people of Great Britain to the true state of affairs amongst our southern neighbors and as to their real feelings toward us. The good offices of Great Britain during the war with Spain, which saved the United States from being confronted by a hostile continent and from a humiliating retreat from the position which the latter country had taken as the knightly champion of the downtrodden and the oppressed, aroused a feeling of gratitude which induced the vain hope that that state of feeling would be permanent and that the old misunderstandings and tendencies to misconstruction of motives had passed away forever. We in Canada were not deceived by that fatal fever. We are aware of the nature of the fare put before the youth of the republic in the public schools. As the twig is bent so is the bough inclined. We have had the testimony of large-minded men in the United States to the effect that the history as taught there is a gross perversion of authenticated facts and we who see the newspapers of the republic daily know that they for the most part faithfully reflect the feelings engendered in the minds of the writers in their early days. The flag incident in the senate yesterday was the natural result of the teachings of the schools, no doubt in the case of some of the members with the prejudices brought from the land of their origin adding to their unreasoning hatred of the Union Jack.

There is not a thoughtful man in either of the countries chiefly concerned but will be pained at the position taken by the men who at present control the destinies of the United States and who have been endowed with so much power for good or evil in the world. In Canada we have been taught in the schools to feel just as deeply as the people at the central part of the Empire such irruptions as occurred yesterday, we have learned to take them philosophically and to look for them periodically. It was only yesterday we read in an American paper that Great Britain had a past and that that past taught that she was not to be trusted; that she had gone in to South Africa intending to remain there; that she was in China and would never go out, and much more about Egypt and India and other places. We are free to admit that things were done

in the past which no one would attempt to justify at the present day. But has Great Britain been the only sinner? We also have a present. Will it not stand comparison with the present of contemporary nations, even with the immaculate United States itself? Is the law more efficiently administered or justice more unwavering in its impartiality in the United States than in Canada, in Great Britain, in Australia, or in any of the great dependencies of the Empire? Are the minorities treated with more inflexible justice in the United States than they are in every part of the Empire? We have never been permitted to read in a speech from the throne that it is necessary that vigorous measures should be taken to put a stop to such things in the President's message. Slavery was abolished by Great Britain long before public opinion precipitated the war between the North and the South. Leave the past out of consideration altogether and deal with the present, although there is ample evidence that at all times Great Britain has been in advance of the times and that when comparisons are fairly made we have no reason to be ashamed of our country. When the United States has created such a transformation in the Philippines and the other possessions which she wrested from Spain as Great Britain has in India, in Egypt and in all places in which she has set her foot, in which she has been compelled by circumstances beyond her control to step in in the name of humanity, then homilies on good government will come with better grace from American newspapers and public men.

PROGRESS OF LIBERALISM.

The provinces coolly ignore the assertions of newspapers and people who maintain that the country is Conservative by tradition, and keep right along in the commendable course of electing Liberals. Hon. George E. Foster opines that the trouble which landed him in his present unenviable position is only skin deep, but all the same it seems to have taken a very deep grip upon the public constitution. It has gained greatly in strength during the last five years and has not yet by any means reached the turning-point. The government which was thought to be all but defeated, in Prince Edward Island has been returned to power with a majority which leaves the Conservative opposition very weak indeed. In Quebec the fortunes of the Conservative party have reached an even lower ebb, and there we are sorry to say there is practically no opposition left. In neither of these cases can the race cry raised by the Conservatives in the western provinces be said to have had any effect, while the result shows that the rise in the Liberal tide is the result of honest admiration and wise statesmanship which have quickened the business and industries of the country and awakened its people into a proper conception of the magnitude of their inheritance.

Sir Charles Tupper's original plan of campaign contemplated the capture of the provinces from the Liberals first and a general assault upon the great citadel at Ottawa afterwards. His scheme miscarried, perhaps not because it was not wisely conceived, but because investigation disclosed that there was no fault of any consequence to be found with the provincial administrations. The late Mr. Marchand lifted Quebec from a condition which was almost bordering on bankruptcy and set her on the highway of prosperity. Annual deficits of alarming extent were changed into surpluses of small dimensions, but sufficient to show that the old province was more than paying its way. There are neither provincial nor Dominion leaders in the Conservative party in whom the people have any confidence, and it is not to be wondered at and is a matter of satisfaction to know that they are giving such emphatic testimony to the confidence which they have in the men who have managed their affairs so successfully. There is Manitoba, the Tories' one source of consolation. It was captured by a fluke and on false pretences. Hugh John posed as a prohibitionist for the time being, but the result in Brandon showed that he was soon found out, and he was promptly relegated to his proper place. Taking the country as a whole from the Great Lakes to the Pacific, it is as strongly Liberal in sentiment as the

RHEUMATISM

As experience stands, the most promising way to treat an old settled rheumatism is: to set up the general health. Whatever makes health, in other respects, is good for rheumatism. We don't say it will cure it. Sometimes it does; sometimes it don't. Your chance is better with Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil than with anything else now known. By and by there will be a sure cure; it will make a big noise in the world when it comes.

East is, and as it fills up, as it is sure to do, with young and aggressive manhood, it will become more so.

CHURCHES AND THEIR WORK.

With the closing weeks of the century an inquiry has been set afoot by certain ministers of the gospel who are not satisfied with the work the churches have been doing of late years as to the reason why the masses of the people are not being reached by an agency which, according to its Founder, was established by Him especially for their benefit. The subject has been taken up by the newspapers, and the response to inquiries from all parts of the continent has been the same. The words, "Come unto Me all ye that labor," may not have been intended to apply in their literally accepted sense at the present day. They were intended to cover the case of all mankind. Yet from shore to shore of the great oceans the same story is told. The poor are not reached. In some cases they have establishments which by consent seem to have been set apart for their use, but in the large majority of the churches the membership have become a sort of exclusive club, with "sets" of various degrees of social standing, with choirs chanting attractive numbers and the general public tolerated apart for them to take part in the services. The poor they seldom have with them, unless it be a few of the sycophantic, parasitic variety, whom they keep on hand and in many cases support as a salve to their consciences and in order to induce the belief that they are doing the work of the Master. The poor but honest man, the man who thinks there is nothing to be ashamed of in his worldly condition and whose honorable pride has enabled him to bear with equanimity the trials and tribulations of life, is never found in such places. Nor will he ever be found there until another reformation of the church takes place, and there is little likelihood of that. As at present constituted there is no possibility of the rich and the poor meeting together on the same level. They may do so theoretically, but the millionaire is never found entertaining his hornyhanded brother at his own table. The same thing applies to all the circles, clearly defined from the highest even to the lowest. As long as such things obtain the Church can never be even less successful than it has been in years gone by. The masses have been raised to a higher level, yet the gulf which separates them from the "moneyed classes" appears to have become wider. Even in countries where aristocratic institutions flourish the work of the schoolmaster is beginning to tell. The people do not all now accept with equanimity the injunction of the Church to be satisfied with their condition in life. They persist in looking up to higher things and are inclined to cogitate over the theory that all men are born free and equal. The foregoing are facts bearing on city life generally. Thinking men prominent in the churches are aware of them and have become disquieted in mind because of them. Century funds of great dimensions have been raised, which may be accepted as a sign of vitality of a sort, but many thoughtful leaders of the movement recently inaugurated evidently think something more than that is required. At all events a stirring up of the embers cannot but have a healthy effect, even if the old fires of religious fervor be not set burning with intensity.

The Kamloops Sentinel thus expresses itself in regard to the Yale-Kootenay contest: "Mr. Gallier fought a very difficult campaign, and was heavily handicapped by the fact that in the great mining centres of Southern Kootenay he had no newspaper support at all. His cause was further handicapped by the fact that the entire machinery of the Provincial Government was worked against him in the interests of Mr. McKane. This is a feature of the contest most discreditable to the Provincial Government. Premier Dunsmuir holds office to-day solely by reason of the support given his Government by Liberals, and he should not have permitted partisan members of his cabinet to use their influence one way or the other in a Dominion election. More will be heard of this matter later on."

Have the Nelson newspapers any conception of the amusement they afford the outside world by their little personal squabbles? The following from the Miner is an average sample of the manner in which they go at each other (Mr. Houston is editor of the Tribune and mayor of the city):

The following from his paper this morning is a pretty exact measure of Mr. John Houston: "The Miner says that the city assessment would be investigated. If it were no one connected with the Miner would be found on it. On the other hand, if the water collector's roll was investigated it would be found that both the Miner and its editor are using city water without paying for it."

Montreal, Dec. 14.—A special general meeting of the board of trade, at which representatives of the corporation of pilots, all consuls and consular agents in the city and others interested in the matter were in attendance, was held yesterday before whom Capt. Inman, Du-luth, explained his ice-breaking vessel for use on the upper lakes and rivers and Gulf of St. Lawrence. Before concluding a resolution was passed calling upon the Dominion government to take steps towards subsidizing vessels of the Inman type for the purpose of having winter navigation on these waters.

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Montreal, Dec. 14.—Rev. Principal George of the Congregational college, leaves to-morrow morning for British Columbia. He expects to be away about three weeks visiting churches in the west. Principal Peterson and other officers of McGill University are much interested at the importance given by some of the Montreal city press to a little dispute between second year graduates and Prof. McBride. They declare the facts have been grossly exaggerated; that the matter was of such a trivial nature that there was no need for publicity.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Fire this morning did \$2,500 damage at Burncliffe, the former residence of Sir John A. Macdonald, now owned by C. A. E. Harris. The house was being renovated at the time of the fire.

Hamilton, Dec. 14.—A conference of workmen called by the Rev. Mr. Gil-mour was held in the lecture hall, James Street Baptist church, last evening. Questions regarding the non-attendance of workmen at church were discussed. It was the opinion of the gospel was all right and that the church had a message for workmen, but it was stated that the churches were not reaching the workmen because the sermons were not suitable, not being for that class. The remedy proposed was to make sermons more simple and practical.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—F. Richardson, G. T. R. engineer, was instantly killed yesterday afternoon by striking his head against the support of an overhead bridge on the main line ten miles east of Scarborough, while the train was running at a good speed.

A. Stratton, an old man employed in the city scavenging department, slipped and fell under the wheels of his cart yesterday afternoon and died in the general hospital.

A strong committee has been formed to formulate a scheme for the maintenance, in connection with Women's Medical College, of a woman's hospital for Ontario, in which all operations shall be performed by women surgeons and the resident physicians shall be women.

Just a Spoonful! Of Bowes' Balm of Aniseed will give instant relief, and a bottle will usually cure two or three bad colds. We know all about the ingredients of this remedy; that's the reason we guarantee its purity and effectiveness. 25c. Cyrus H. Bowes, CHEMIST, 28 GOVERNMENT STREET, NEAR YATES STREET.

Dolls, Fancy Goods AND Christmas Notions At Wholesale. From all the leading European and American makers J. PIERCY & CO., Wholesale Dry Goods, Victoria, B. C.

Special Bargains FOR SATURDAY ONLY... Cleaned Currants, 2 lbs., 25c. Seeded Raisins, 10c lb. Dixie H. Ross & Co.

Inman's Ice-Breaker Dominion Government to be Asked to Subsidize Vessels for St. Lawrence.

Principal George, of Montreal, to Visit the West—Railway Engineer Killed.

WANT A RAILROAD. Petition to Dominion Government for Connection of Coast With Agricultural Districts. The city clerk has received several copies of a petition to the Dominion government which is being circulated by the residents, settlers and property owners in the municipalities of Delta, Surrey, Langley, Matsqui, Sumas and Chilliwack, urging the necessary existing for railway communication between the municipal districts and the coast cities of the province by means of a bridge over the Fraser river at West Westminster, thereby giving them access to the markets of the province. The petitioners believe that the construction of the railway and bridge will cause a large influx of population, and that a large area of lands will become developed and productive. Attention is directed toward the fact that a petition is before the provincial government urging the construction and operation of a road to a point at least as far as Chilliwack. The prayer of the petitioners is that a liberal subsidy be granted at the coming session to aid in the government construction of both railway and bridge. There is a blank space for names of petitioners and a clause just above privileging residents in other portions of the province than those mentioned, to endorse the petition. There are several copies at the clerk's office.

There is Sallow Complexion, Fullness About the Stomach and Back—Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills Act Promptly and Directly on the Liver. A sense of fullness and oppression about the stomach, a pale, sallow complexion and pain in the shoulders and back are among the first indications of a disordered liver. Then there comes indigestion, wind on the stomach, headache, coated tongue, a bitter taste in the mouth, depression of spirits and despondency. The bowels become irregular and constipation and looseness alternate. The bile left in the blood by an inactive liver poisons the blood and causes liver spots, blotches and pimples. The prescription from which Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are prepared was perfected by the doctor in his immense practice, and has proven the greatest liver regulator ever discovered. It acts directly and promptly on the liver, making it active and vigorous as a filtering organ. At the same time it regulates and tones up the kidneys and bowels and sets the whole filtering and excretory system in healthy working order. In these days of experimenting with all sorts of new, untried remedies, appliances and treatments it is a comfort and pleasure to know that you can turn to this prescription of Dr. A. W. Chase and find in it a safe and certain cure for the many dangerous and complicated disorders of the liver, kidneys and bowels. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, one pill a dose, 25 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

IF THE LIVER IS DERANGED There is Sallow Complexion, Fullness About the Stomach and Back—Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills Act Promptly and Directly on the Liver. A statement of the past three months, as follows: August, \$43.95; October, \$81.18. For the last year the bills were: 12; September, \$60; November, \$4.72. Regarding the 28 October, \$90 per cent amount had been paid; patients, who had special nurses. By the death of Mr. Williams were appointed. The first clause was committee. The next clause, while the house with the matter of clause were approved. The next to the question a desirable that the answer telephone the press irrespect was decided that upon them to do hours. The chairman dis fact that the flag by the Chemainus the water near Sax it to the grounds, had offered to tow. It was finally decided matter to the gro power to act. The chairman in the hospital were

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In Regular Board of Directors Hospital Board Even Business Transact pally of Routin -Repo

The regular monthly board of directors of Royal Jubilee hospital meeting in the board Joshua Davies president of the president, H. is ill, and the vice-president, who is away, east Joshua Davies, T. Wilson, J. Braxton, A. Lewis, J. Gordon, secretary Elworthy and After the customary communication was Daughters of Pity, of the usual Christmas festivities at the hospital recommended that the evening of the 2 the house committee. The matron reported following donations of Auxiliary: 6 pair of tumbler, 3 dozen snow bowls, 18 fannelleton night shirts, 6 pair pillow slips, 6 pair jackets, 2 dressing gowns and 6 tray covers. Linen were received from Mrs. Potts. Receipts will be thanked. The doctor reported patients admitted during the month, 57; number of 103; total days' average number of patients per diem, \$157. The finance committee reported that the amount of salaries amounted to \$710.25 commencing the payment the same month, \$11 and adopted. The steward, Robert that supplies were good order, and were Henry Rucker, of \$8 generously donated and 6 sacks of potatoes the piggery, the steward had received a cheque had been handed Enclosed with the remittance of the connection with the that the profit to the \$62.72. Received at Ruckie will be thanked. A bill was read from the Finance Committee the amount entitled to Oakden, a former of This occasioned some and it was finally deferred to the finance committee. Messrs. Day, Gordon reported that plans for accommodation had been referred to the for consideration, and the area in the west illustrative block had that several other in particular were affected \$12.50. The cancelled position, and was in doors and windows and fasteners and locked, and other necessary connection executed. \$35.50. The doctor had have the care of old splints repaired; also to have new crutches repaired. The patients' clothes were cleaned. Several other wise authorized. Owing to the obstruction in the admission the ventilator had construction. The enclosed the institution was in the stairs and the alteration head of the stairs both ways, and the panel.

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