

## THE REAL CAUSE.

When there is so much talk of the desirability of having a short session, it was rather curious to find the government proposing to postpone the consideration of the address until to-morrow. Hon. Mr. Turner's pretext was lamentably "thin." The mover and seconder of the address should have been selected a week or so since, and then they could have had ample time for preparation of their weighty speeches. There are different explanations given for the delay in selecting the government's spokesmen, the one most commonly accepted being that some of the government's hitherto faithful followers did not care to assume the task this year when asked to do so, and others had to be tried in turn. Such incidents as this serve to show how close to the edge of the precipice the Turner government has come.

## THE SESSION.

A great deal has been said about the probable importance of the present session of the provincial legislature, but the government has been remarkably careful to exclude all indications of such importance from the formal announcement laid before the house. Of all the documents that have been dignified with the title of "Speech from the Throne," surely that which was read by His Honor the Lieut. Governor yesterday is the most namby-pamby. The government has great satisfaction and pleasure from several events that have happened, but it is extremely reticent as to the course of action which the present position of provincial affairs would seem to call for. One very vague announcement it does make, in the following words: "The discovery of our extensive and wonderful resources in minerals calls for the consideration of a railway policy which will prove adequate to provide transportation facilities for the development of the natural wealth which is known to exist, and a measure will be submitted to you which will have for its object financial aid to the construction of such public works as will tend to the profitable development of the resources of the province." The public might have spent some time in speculating on the probable meaning of this paragraph, if the Colonist had not kindly come forward with the explanation that "a prominent feature of the government's policy will be the pressing of the claims of the province upon the Ottawa ministry." Of this line of policy it must at least be said that it is eminently safe and easy to follow. If the Dominion government will only furnish the money, doubtless the supply of "financial aid" will be a most agreeable task to Hon. Mr. Turner and his colleagues. In another paragraph it is announced that "the draft consolidation and revision of the statute law of the province, under the auspices of the learned Chief Justice of British Columbia, has been completed, and the result of his labor has been submitted for final examination and revision to a commission consisting of himself and two judges of the supreme court of British Columbia." It is likely that something more will be heard of this matter before the session closes. His Honor is made to refer with pleasure to the court's decision in the precious metals case. Could the government not have spared a few words also for the coal mines regulation decision, with a promise that the regulation would be enforced? Perhaps it will do so before the house rises.

## THE CATTLE QUARANTINE.

In his reply to the Inland Agricultural Association on the subject of cattle quarantine regulations, the Hon. Mr. Fisher pointed to the facts which were mentioned a few weeks ago by the Times as making against the B. C. cattlemen's contentions. Mr. Fisher's statement of the case shows conclusively that as a measure of protection, in the fiscal sense of the word, the quarantine system cannot properly be used. If further protection from competition is necessary it should be secured through the tariff. There is a considerable degree of protection already afforded by the tariff, and so far the cattle raisers have not made out a very good case for its increase. They probably have a just complaint against the excessive carrying charges, but they should be able to see that an increase in duty, with freight charges left as they are, would mean protection for the railway and steamboat people, not for them. In any event, quarantine should be used for its legitimate purpose alone, and that is to secure protection from infectious diseases. In this connection it may be noted that though the Alberta cattlemen have been represented as unanimously opposed to the abolition of the quarantine, some of them have written to the press strongly commending the change as being very much in their interest. In Saturday's Calgary Herald appears a long letter from R. A. James of Calgary, pointing out that the removal of quarantine will benefit the ranchers in many ways, particularly in giving them entry to the American market at times when it will be of great advantage to them, and enabling them to send their cattle in bond over the competing American railways.

## WORTHY OF ATTENTION.

In his letter in the Times yesterday "Progress" presented some facts and suggestions relative to the agricultural resources of the province which may well receive attention from our legislators. The most careless observer will perceive the force of the statement that if our mineral resources are developed by outsiders, whose aim is to make substan-

tial profits therefrom, while at the same time our agricultural lands lie vacant, the province will be far from receiving the benefit which should come to it. Over much the greater part of British Columbia the farmer has much to contend with before he can begin to secure a return from the cultivation of his soil. The topographical character of the country precludes dense settlement in many parts of the province; means of transport and communication are beyond the reach of self-help, in such places; markets are apt to be difficult of access; the clearing of the land is difficult. Many things, in short, combine against the farmer in British Columbia, and his industry is the most heavily handicapped of all known to the province. At the same time it is generally acknowledged to be the most important. The suggestions offered by "Progress" are most timely, and it will be of great advantage to the province if a way can be found to secure the results which he sets forth as desirable. Whatever can be done to make the agricultural industry keep pace with not only mining but other industries which create a demand for food supplies, is well worth the attention of the legislators.

## SENATORS AND TREATY.

Carl Schurz in Harper's Weekly offers some pointed remarks on the onslaught made by jingo senators on the proposed arbitration treaty. At the close of the article he says: "Unless the senate can irrefutably prove that, contrary to the universal belief, this treaty will make for wrong instead of justice, for international discord and broil instead of peace, it would, by rejecting or even unnecessarily delaying the ratification of this treaty, present to the world a pitiable display of American statesmanship and American civilization." Unfortunately the jingo senators do not feel the necessity of proving anything except the fact that they want to fustigate Cleveland and want to cultivate a certain element in their domestic politics. It is an extremely pointless work to lay before such men arguments based on a regard for humanity; their understandings have no room for the consideration of high principles. It would appear as though only one source of gratification can be found in connection with this treaty, namely, the fact that the enlightened and fully civilized portion of the people of the United States must decidedly differ from the low grade politicians who delight in mangling the document.

Says the Canadian Gazette: "Canada is supposed to desire cheap literature. Yet Mr. Stead declares in the Review of Reviews that the Canadian tariff imposes a duty of nearly 60 per cent. ad valorem on the published price of his remarkable 'Penny Poets.' This," says Mr. Stead, "was not contemplated when the tariff was framed, for books are charged only by weight, and thence a pound on the average book would amount to a trivial percentage; but when a crushing import, Mr. Fielding will, we may hope, remove this embargo on the best English literature when he comes to revise the tariff this session."

## HARDLY A JOKE.

Mr. Macpherson yesterday charged the government with selling an island near Steveston for \$20, the same to be used for a cannery site, when much smaller areas of land cannot be procured for less than \$2,500. He also said that lots for cannery purposes in other places on the coast have been sold at a dollar an acre, where they have been commanding a yearly rental of 25 cents per acre. Ministers affected to treat these charges as a joke, and perhaps they have a perfectly good answer to make. Of this they may be perfectly sure, that unless they do meet Mr. Macpherson's charges successfully the public will not take the matter as a joke. The government has been twisting the taxation screw at too lively a rate to leave the taxpayers in a joking humor. It has also been squeezing the arrears of land dues out of the settlers in order to keep up the provincial revenue. If while doing all this it has cheapened land values to specially favored individuals, its action will not be taken as a joke. It was rather surprising to find the ministers letting Mr. Macpherson's circumstantial charges go unanswered even for a day.

## ONE LESSON LEARNED.

Hon. Mr. Pooley's announcement as to the discriminating tax on one class of mine laborers gives reason for congratulating the government on having some capacity for profiting by good advice. The determination to do away with the discriminating tax is a little rough on those faithful adherents of the government who have been defending the impost, but it is better that they should be discredited than that an injustice should be continued. If the government could only be brought to see the mortgage tax in the same light, it would do the province a further substantial service. It is quite useless for the ministers to endeavor to uphold this tax on any ground of equity or logic, because its nature and its incidence are too well known through actual experience. If the ministers would openly and candidly say that they know the tax is not just or equitable, but that it must be continued on account of revenue exigencies,

then the people might give them credit for an honest confession, but to attempt a defence on any economic ground is too absurd a farce.

## THE OPENING DEBATE.

The debate on the address, initiated by Messrs. Hunter and Stoddart in somewhat independent speeches, does not promise well for a very exciting session. It was on the whole a flat affair, the stereotyped platitudes being relieved by the faintest suspicion of a phrasemonger, or the wearisome utterances of most of the speakers by any evidence of feeling or sincerity. That is, of course, speaking of the debate as a whole. Probably one of the best speeches, all things considered, was made by the seconder of the address, Mr. Stoddart. The member for Lillooet spoke with the aid of copious notes; but that is an example that might be imitated by others, for it is better to speak well from notes than badly without them. On railway construction Mr. Stoddart spoke out manfully, condemning the "give-away" policy that has so long prevailed, whereby the province provided the money and the promoters built and owned the railways. There was a ring of "I think-for-myself" in almost everything that Mr. Stoddart said, if we except his rather fulsome laudation of the doubtful work of the revisor of the statutes.

Mr. Semlin attacked the government on a few minor points only. The leader of the Opposition is looked to set the pace, and in this case it was a very slow one. There was not, it is true, anything in the address to approve or condemn, but the opportunity is generally taken to review and criticize the policy and administrative acts of the government; and if, as every person believes, the Turner government is tottering to its fall, it was clearly the duty of Mr. Semlin to administer a few helpful kicks to assist it on the road. Mr. Semlin was altogether too brief, for he is a most agreeable speaker. His moderation, however, may carry conviction where it fails to arouse enthusiasm.

Mr. Cotton was politic to a degree. He spoke with the utmost consideration for the feelings of the government, and when he sat down he received, as he had fully earned, the applause of the government benches. There was a truer ring in the brief speech of his colleague, Mr. Macpherson, who criticized the administration of the land department with much vigor, and seemed utterly non-plussed when the blush of shame did not mantle the cheeks of Mr. Martin. Evidently Mr. Macpherson is not acquainted with the chief commissioner. The old government trick was resorted to. The ministers would not speak until the Opposition had exhausted themselves. This, it appears to us, is very bad tactics; for the people are, after all, more concerned to hear the views of the government than they are to read the attacks of the Opposition. It is a petty trick, a cowardly artifice, thus to minimize discussion; and the effect upon the country is most likely to be the very reverse of what the ministers expect.

No doubt the members will get down to business in a day or two. Mr. Helmcken is nursing his wrath to keep it warm, while Dr. Walkem is simply spoiling for a fight. The opening calm may be no indication of a peaceful session, and before the adjournment, it is not improbable that a crisis may be precipitated and the rule of the Turner administration be brought to an end.

## This and That.

The latest show has arrived. Tickets being exceedingly cheap a goodly number of the elite of society gathered so much so that even smoking room was unobtainable. Visitors from all parts of the province were present. Very promptly the curtain was raised and the play began. As the chief actor, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor showed to considerable advantage and "spoke his piece" with commendable zeal.

It is much to be regretted that so much labor was expended on such a poor production as the Speech from the Throne. If His Honor had any responsibility in the matter he must have blushed. I once attended a very high-toned banquet at which the notabilities of the city and country were present. The menu was as follows: A thimbleful of soup, a pinch of fish, a wing of snipe, a square inch of beef, one-fourth of a small potato, a microscopic piece of pie, cheese in miniature and celery of the dwarf pattern. After two hours vainly attempting to stay the pangs of hunger, my neighbor, a Scotchman, asked the waiter to "give him a dish of parritch."

Just as I felt Monday when the Queen's speech was read. In the government told us what everybody knew before about mining, timber, agriculture, and the Indian famine, but apparently forgot to tell the people of the province that which they are most eager to know.

The bill of fare is of the most meagre description. The ambiguity of the clause which "calls for the consideration of a railway policy which will prove adequate to provide transportation facilities for the development of the natural wealth which is known to exist" is truly delightful. As nobody knows what it may mean, or is likely to mean, there can be no objection.

There is one bill which the government is to be commended for introducing. "An Act to amend the Lunacy Act." "Where are you going?" I asked yesterday of a stalwart Victorian. "Oh," he replied, "just over to the lunatic asylum."

"Where?" I asked, incredulously. "To the lunatic asylum," the other name for the provincial legislature. Evidently

the "Lunacy Amendment Act" is in order. My friend, the genial Harry Helmcken, is in it with both feet. He evidently means to tease the government and get his name up. Some of his "questions" are a bit awkward. I wonder if he means to bolt, or is it a case of "much cry and little wool?" Stick to it, Harry, old boy, you are on the right track. W. T.

## MACKINAW ASHORE

The Big Collier Runs on Marrowstone Point Yesterday Morning.

Several Powerful Tugs Will Make an Effort to Float Her To-Morrow.

Sealing Captains Go To the West Coast to Arrange for Indian Hunters.

The big iron steam collier Mackinaw, which left Tacoma early yesterday morning with 3,000 tons of coal, is ashore on Marrowstone point, at the entrance to Port Townsend harbor. Efforts so far made to float her have been unavailing, but for to-morrow morning more powerful tugs will be engaged to make the attempt, and the opinion prevails that they will succeed. When the Schooner passed last evening the collier appeared to be resting easily, according to the report of the passengers and officers, who were the first to bring the news to Victoria.

The accident was directly attributable to the steering gear, which had been working unsatisfactorily, and which broke down entirely as the vessel was in the tide rip which runs strong around Marrowstone. The Mackinaw is owned by the Saginaw Steel Steamship Company and she is now under charter to the Oregon Iron Works by the steamer. She has aboard about 3,500 tons of cargo. She is on a soft, sandy beach, and cannot be badly damaged unless a strong wind springs up.

Of the British Columbia sealing fleet fully two-thirds are lying in the harbor. Wharf street is crowded with sealing captains, all of which are murmuring at the delay of the industry. Yesterday evening Captains Lachlan McLean, C. Moore, Dan Martin, of the San Diego; Siegfried, of the Dora Siewerd; Otto Buckholz, of the Ocean Rover, left for the West Coast by the steamer Tees to offer the Indian hunters \$2 a skin. This they said was the most they would pay, and the Siwash can take or leave it. The most of the Indians have expressed their willingness to accept \$2, but this is considered too high by the sealers. If this offer of \$2 a skin is not accepted nearly all the schooners will remain idle for the balance of the season.

The Hudson's Bay Company's sale of sealskins has come and gone, and the prices realized could not have been so low. The Indian hunters and the way they have of administering justice. It is said by some of the complainants that Rev. Mr. Stone has levied fines upon the Indians. But until Constable McKenna's report is made public, it will not be known whether there is any evidence to substantiate the charges. It is possible that stories have been circulated by some of the Indians or white residents, who have a grudge against the mission, who have always been looked upon as a hard and efficient worker among the Indians. It is alleged that these fines were levied previous to the appointment of Mr. Logan, the present justice of the peace for the district.

## THEIR BLOOD IS UP.

Victoria Greeks Ready to Fight the Turks.

The news of the departure of the torpedo boats from Athens to Crete has stirred the Greek settlement of Victoria. They are fairly bubbling over with fighting enthusiasm, and are anxious to go to Crete to meet the murderous Turks. They have no doubts about the result of a war between Turkey and Greece. "One-a Greek fights ten Turk," is how an enthusiastic native of the smaller kingdom expressed himself this morning.

A prominent Greek stated to-day that in the event of war every Greek in Victoria suitable for the field of battle would be ready to go, and fight for his country. He believed that the same would hold true of all the natives of Greece in other cities on the continent. He was sure there would be a war, and the Turks would be forced to fight. Greece would take possession of Crete, and retain possession of the island. They were going to tell their government that there are in Victoria 75 men ready to go home and fight for their native land. They would fight the Turks, and if anyone else, and are anxious to get at them.

## WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD.

Is the Testimony of Frank S. Emerick of Alvinston, Ont.—Says South American Kidney Cure Saved His Life—It Relieves in Six Hours.

"For two years I was greatly troubled with kidney disease. I suffered intense pain, and frequently was unable to work. I doctored at intervals, but got little or no relief. I began to grow worse and the pains were frequent and intense. About this time I saw South American Kidney Cure advertised as a speedy relief for all kidney trouble. I purchased a bottle and it gave me wonderful relief in a few hours. I improved steadily, and after taking four bottles I am completely cured. I consider it worth its weight in gold. It has assuredly saved my life."

—Captain and Mrs. Cole, of 85 North Pembroke street, mourn the loss of their son, Cecil, a bright little child of seven months, who died yesterday in fact of his bereaved parents, they having lost another child by death a short time ago.

Captain Francis Tuttle, of the United States revenue cutter Bear, has left for Washington. His business at the treasury department is in connection with outfitting the vessel for her cruise north in the spring. It is expected the Bear will sail for Behring Sea early in May.

## BRIEF LOCALS.

Cleanings of City and Provincial News as Compared with.

From Tuesday's Daily. Alfonso O. Roy, charged in the police court with having assaulted Joseph Labonne, for whom he is removing a house, was this morning convicted and fined \$1 and costs.

—W. J. Hanna has received a check for the amount of all charges for the burial of the late James Abrahamson from Messrs. Elford & Smith, the contractors for the new postoffice building, where deceased met his death.

—Arthur Roe, for stealing three overcoats, was sentenced in the police court this morning to imprisonment with hard labor for one year, four months for each offence. Roe had recently finished a sentence of three months for stealing an overcoat from the Y.M.C.A. Officers Palmer and Anderson, who were working on the case, discovered that Roe had stolen some overcoats which were reported missing, and yesterday afternoon they found their man and immediately arrested him.

—Cedar Hill Lodge, No. 8, I.O.G.T., finds itself at present in a flourishing condition. At the regular meeting held last Saturday the following officers were installed for the ensuing quarter: O. H. Cogswell, C. E. M. O. H. Cogswell, V. T. C. E. King, P. C. T. T. Miss Maggie Irvine, Sec.; John Leeming, F. S. Miss J. A. Scott, Treasurer; Miss Alice King, Chap.; C. McRae, M.; L. Clarke, D. M.; H. Gartley, G.; G. Clark, S. The lodge was visited by Bros. Wilkes, Waller and Yarnel, from the city, who addressed the lodge or otherwise entertained the members.

The Jubilee Hospital board held a meeting yesterday evening at the office of Messrs. Yates & Jay. The resident medical officer reported that further accommodation was necessary for the use of pay patients and said that if a sterilizing apparatus were provided another room might be used for this purpose. By the provision of this apparatus chemicals to the value of from \$300 to \$400 would be saved yearly. Mr. J. S. Yates was appointed to wait on the ladies of the Agenerian Society to suggest that a portion of the money subscribed by them be devoted to the purchase of the apparatus. The report of the matron stated that an increase had been made in the staff of nurses, the increased demands of the institution necessitating the appointment of three more, and that the two years' course had been completed by Miss Emily Stoddart. Bills amounting to \$1902 were passed and the following donations acknowledged: From H. D. Helmcken and a grateful patient, \$40 from Sir Henry Creswell on behalf of Mr. Justice Putnam. During January the number of patients at the hospital was 43 at a daily cost of \$120.

—Constable McKenna of the provincial police returned on the steamer Tees from the West Coast. According to stories that came down on the Tees, the constable has been investigating complaints regarding Rev. Mr. Stone, the Methodist minister at Claycoos. These complaints were received in the form of petitions, so it is said, by both the police and Indian departments, but neither Supt. Hussey nor Supt. Yowell will disclose the nature of the complaints, if such as can be called, until they have received further information. Another matter receiving attention is the action of Indian constables and the way they have of administering justice. It is said by some of the complainants that Rev. Mr. Stone has levied fines upon the Indians. But until Constable McKenna's report is made public, it will not be known whether there is any evidence to substantiate the charges. It is possible that stories have been circulated by some of the Indians or white residents, who have a grudge against the mission, who have always been looked upon as a hard and efficient worker among the Indians. It is alleged that these fines were levied previous to the appointment of Mr. Logan, the present justice of the peace for the district.

The bill introduced in the legislature yesterday by Hon. Mr. Eberts, to amend the Co-Operative Association Act, proposes to repeal subsection 7 of clause 17 of the act, which reads as follows: "If an officer, member or other person being or representing himself to be a member of the association, or the heirs, executors or administrators of a member thereof, or any person whatsoever, obtains possession by false representation or imposition, of any property, money, securities, books, papers or other effects, of an association, or having the same in his possession, withholds or misapplies the same, or wilfully applies any part thereof to purposes other than those expressed or directed in the rules of the association and authorized clause act, he shall on complaint of the association or any member authorized by the association or the committee thereof, or of the registrar, be liable to conviction before any justice of the peace having jurisdiction, or by the magistrate having the powers of two justices."

—There was quite an array of culprits before Justices of the Peace Dalby and Pearson in the city police court this morning, consisting of Indians, Chinese and whites. The Indians were charged with drunkenness and were punished with the usual fine of \$5 and costs, or in default ten days. The Chinese, three in number, were discharged in the public streets. They allowed their enthusiasm to run away with their feet, and during the procession yesterday, and this morning paid \$2.50 each for their little celebration. John Boyle was ordered to pay \$10 for throwing a beer glass through the mirror of the Palace saloon, but as John is not dressed with an abundance of the world's goods, he will spend a couple of months with Governor John to make traffic and operating arrangements with other railway lines, and to construct, maintain and operate telegraph and telephone lines for railway and other purposes.

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of the peace under the Summary Convictions Act, to a penalty not exceeding \$100 and costs, and in default of payment thereof, with costs, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three calendar months; but nothing herein contained shall prevent any such person from being proceeded against by way of indictment if not previously convicted of the same offence under the provisions of this act."

—A branch of the Bank of Montreal is to be opened at New Denver and a branch of the Imperial bank is to be established at Revelstoke.

—Henry W. C. Meyer, Q.C., of Calgary, a brother of Mr. J. T. L. Meyer, of this city, died recently at Banff, where he had gone in search of health.

—Surveyor-General Kaim has received a letter from Mr. William Ogilvie, the explorer, dated Port Canby, Nov. 19, in which Mr. Ogilvie states that he will be unable to reach the coast this winter.

—A gentleman who arrived from the West Coast on the steamer Tees, speaking of the complaints about Rev. Mr. Stone, particulars of which were published last evening, says Mr. Stone is being persecuted by men who he informed for selling liquor to Indians. One of the allegations against the reverend gentleman is that he has been holding court among the Indians and appropriating to his own use the fines received, and on this charge Mr. Stone has written to the authorities demanding an investigation.

—A private meeting of the board of aldermen was held yesterday evening at the city hall, when the estimates for the ensuing year were discussed. Several suggestions were made in regard to appropriation for band music at Beacon Hill Park, but nothing was done in that matter yesterday evening, it being laid on the table for future consideration. The board decided that the salaries of the members of the police force will remain as at present, as will the salaries of all the city officers. Five hundred dollars, however, was appropriated for the purchase of overcoats for the police. An extra appropriation of \$500 was also made for Beacon Hill Park. The salaries of the fire department were not touched upon, being laid over until the discussion of the plan suggested by the Fire Underwriters' Association of having a fully paid fire department. Another meeting will be held on Friday evening, when the estimates will be completed.

—Mrs. Ruth Hayes, a native of Staffordshire, England, aged 85 years, died this morning at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Burt, No. 56 Vancouver street. The funeral will take place on Sunday at 2 o'clock from the residence and at 2:30 o'clock from the Reformed Episcopal church.

—Rev. W. Leslie Clark yesterday afternoon united the fortunes of Mr. A. H. Mitchell, of the Government street firm of jewellers, Messrs. Chalmers, Mitchell & Co., and Miss Mary E. (Lily) Bunting, who will take place on Sunday at 2 o'clock from the residence and at 2:30 o'clock from the Reformed Episcopal church.

—R. Lee Barnes, formerly manager of the Seattle branch of the Bank of British Columbia, has been appointed manager of the Portland branch of the same institution. It is understood that Mr. Townsend, who held the dual position of inspector of the American branches and manager at Portland, has been appointed inspector of all the offices in British Columbia, Oregon and California.

—The report frequently circulated that Messrs. Dunsmuir have purchased, or contemplated purchasing, the mines and property of the New Vancouver Coal Company, Nanaimo, is officially denied. Mr. Samuel M. Robbins, superintendent of the N. V. C. Company, who is now on a business visit to the head office of the company in England, telegraphs that there is absolutely no truth in the reported transfer of the company's property, and, further, that the property is not for sale.

—J. I. Packard gives notice that application will be made to the legislature for an act to empower the Yukon Mining, Trading and Transportation Company to construct, equip and operate a line of railway from the head of steamboat navigation on Taku Inlet by the most direct and feasible route to Teslin Lake, with all necessary sidetracks, switches, turnouts and terminal facilities; to construct and maintain steamers, ferries, wharves and docks, to make traffic and operating arrangements with other railway lines, and to construct, maintain and operate telegraph and telephone lines for railway and other purposes.

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## FROM WASHINGTON

No Serious Opposition to the Election of Thomas B. Reed as Speaker.

The New Tariff Bill Will be Read Through House With All Speed.

What the Retiring Members of Cleveland's Cabinet are Expected to Do.

Washington, Feb. 10.—There is serious opposition to the reelection of Thomas B. Reed as speaker of the house of representatives, all stores the contrary notwithstanding. Major McKinley's closest friend the house say that they do not desire any change and that if they did they would undertake a fight on Reed, who would certainly cause a breach in the plans of the administration almost necessitate the retention of Reed as speaker.

The programme is to frame the bill this winter and rush it through the house within two weeks or a month after beginning of the extra session. To accomplish this it is almost indispensable that the present organization of the house shall continue. If a new speaker should be elected the committee would be held up for air for weeks, and sibly months.

Everything combines, therefore, for the administration strength. Mr. Reed, and Gen. Grosvenor, the congressional representative of Major McKinley, is emphatic in the belief, which he has openly expressed, that Reed will be nominated in the Republican caucus by acclamation.

If anybody were to take the Reed against Reed it would undoubtedly Hopkins of Illinois. He is one of the most popular men in the house, and has been in frequent opposition to speaker. Unfortunately for "Ho" chances there is no organized opposition at all to the big speaker. Both lobbyists and treasury riders who have secured appropriations have endeavored to foment a rebellion, but with success, and in the opinion of the leadership of the house only his death or resignation can prevent his reelection.

Now that the personnel of the coming cabinet has been determined public interest naturally turns to those gentlemen in the present cabinet who will so soon retire to a more or less unearned private obscurity. Richard Olney, secretary of state, instance, will return to Boston and resume his lucrative practice as attorney for half a score of railway corporations. It may be added he has not relinquished during his incumbency the office. It may be fairly surmised that the secretary's experience as attorney-general and secretary of state will be of great value to the monopolies he represents than ever was before. So that there need no sympathy wasted upon Secret Olney.

As for Secretary Carlisle, his path is not so smooth. It need not be said there is no place in Kentucky for great a man as he. Mr. Carlisle goes to New York city, where his ties and his family are. His views will be better appreciated. In an open secret here that Mr. Carlisle has received several advantages from prominent New York legal firms, one of which is the New York state committee of the New York roads. In this position Mr. Lamont is superior.

The secretary of the navy, Mr. Hilbert, will retire to Alabama to incubate a new political ambition. Herbert has met with so many political vicissitudes in his time that he will visit familiar with this "prom time" when Mr. Herbert was very bitterly bitten by the free silver idea, only broke out in spots, however, refrained from becoming rabid on supposition that by standing by the administration policy he would succeed a United States circuit judgeship Mississippi. This, too, passed as Mr. Herbert is a professional congressman and will doubtless know what to do when he gets back to Alabama.

Secretary of the interior, Mr. E. David R. Francis, will return to Louisiana immediately after the 4th March, and as the head of the firm Francis Bros. & Co. will resume his occupation of buying wheat on the "chante's" Exchange. Mr. Francis is striking example of the self-made man who, in his political ambition, has fastened the "bite old maxims": "Soar too high to fall; but stoop to rise."

Hon. William L. Wilson, postmaster general, and junior partner in the called Wilson bill, has a West Virginia future to which to look forward. Wilson is an accomplished college professor. He will go back to his Virginia university and teach the young idea how to shoot "