The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1893.

THE OFFAL QUESTION.

Members of the Dominion Government and high grade civil servants evidently think that all that the canners have to do is to start oil and guano factories near their establishments to get rid of the offal and to increase the profits of their business. They seem to be under the impression that the idea of utilizing the offal is too brilliant and too profound to be conceived by the rude uncultivated men of the Far West who catch and can salmon. They, no doubt, will be surprized to find that the idea, wherever it originated, has been entertained by the canners. The experiment was tried, and the result has been utter failure. Rithet & Co. have now on hand a quantity of guano and oil, the guano they will give away to any one who will take it, and the oil they will sell for no more than the cost of production. The simple truth is that there is no market for either of these products on this side of the continent.

It might have occurred to the Hon. Mr. Bowell that the men who have been for years engaged in the canning business and whose interest it is to make the most they can out of the salmon they catch, would not have waited until this time of day for suggestions from him or from any outsider, to attempt to utilize the waste products of their establishments. He might have taken for granted that if money could have been made by making oil and guano out of the offal, additions for the purpose of manufacturing them would, long ere this, have been made to all the canneries on the river. We need not tell a man of his experience that it is always safe to presume that the men engaged in a business know better how to carry it on than those who practically know nothing about it. Neither need we tell him that very many schemes which sound very well in theory when they come to be tried prove to be utterly unworkable. The manufacture of oil and guano from the offal of the salmon canneries has been demonstrated to be one of these.

SOME REPORTS.

We see that telegrams to the American newspapers say that there is division and discontent in the ranks of British Conservatives. It is asserted that a large proportion of the party is not satisfied with the leadership of Mr. Balfour and that they want a leader in the Commons in whom they have more confidence.

Lord Randolph Churchill is said to be the man whom nearly all the Liberal Unionists and a good many Conservatives want to lead them. It does not appear that Lord Randolph has shown any disposition to supplant Mr. Balfour. Mr. Chamberlain has, however, been somewhat insubordinate, and quite a number of members on the occasion on which his restiveness under the Balfour leadership was exhibited, showed by voting with him that they approved of what he did.

It is, however, not at all likely that there will be any want of unity in the Conservative party at this important crisis. All the strength and the undivided energy of the party are needed to defeat Mr. Gladstone's bill, and the late telegrams inform us that they are being exercised in a very effective manner. The stories of dissension, it is more than likely, are inventions or exaggerations of the enemy. Unfortunately many trans-Atlantic telegrams bear internal evidence of having been written by persons who are by no means friendly to the Conservative party.

Very little has been heard of Lord Randolph Churchill of late. He for a time disappeared from the political arena of Great Britain. When heard from he was travelling in Africa. He published letters from that country, but those letters did very little to add to his reputation either as a statesman or a traveller. They were not very favorably received in England, and they gave great offence to many in South Africa. It does not appear that he was very warmly welcomed when he appeared in his old place in the House of Commons. But he made an able speech against Mr. Gladstone's Bill and showed that he had not lost either his skill or his courage as a parliamentary gladiator. He is in manner and temperament the antipodes of Mr. Balfour. He, too, is at the head of a very active and by no means insignificant section of the Conservative party. Its members bear the somewhat anomalous title of Democratic Tories. They are Conservatives who fight the Radicals and even the Socialists with their own weapons, and, it is said, with no small degree of success. There are many who believe that the Conservatives of the future, if they want to succeed, must adopt the policy and the methods of the Tory Democrats. And it is by no means certain that they are not right. It is evident that Lord Randolph Churchill, notwithstanding his eccentricities, won for himself a prominent place in the Conservative party, and now we find that he is spoken of as a rival of Mr. Balfour.

INCONTROVERTIBLE.

It is fortunate that the Dominion Government were able to lay upon the table of the House of Commons and place before the country the minutes of the conference between the United States Secretary of State and the Canadian Ministers. The Opposition affected to disbelieve the oral account given by the Ministers of what was said at that Conference. They maintained that it was possible for the Dominion to enter into a reciprocity treaty with the then Govern- United States without dis- trade in favor of that coun- nst Great Britain. Canada, d have unrestricted recipro- city with the United States, and at the same time maintain her fiscal independence. Sir John Thompson and Mr. Foster affirmed that Mr. Blaine had at the conference declared that the only reciprocity to which the United States would consent was one from which Great Britain would be excluded, and that if the Dominion wished to have a free exchange of products, manufactured as well as raw, she must discriminate against the Mother Country. The Liberals tried to make the country believe that the ministers either misunderstood Mr. Blaine or that they for purposes of their own had misrepresented the attitude taken by the Secretary of State. Some statements made by General Foster, who was afterwards Mr. Blaine's successor, gave the Liberals some slight excuse for concluding that the account given by the ministers of what took place at the conference was not strictly accurate. The documents brought down to Parliament a few days ago, however, prove conclusively that everything which the Dominion delegates had said was strictly correct, that they had not misunderstood Mr. Blaine and that they had not misrepresented the stand he had taken.

The controversy may be said to be almost obsolete now, but it is satisfactory to know that the Canadian ministers had not attempted to mislead the people. It is also gratifying to find that in courteously but firmly refusing to entertain the proposal to discriminate against the Mother Country, they did what ninety-nine out of every hundred Canadians cordially approve. The Liberal leaders know now that there are very few Canadians indeed who are so ungrateful and so disloyal as to grant trade favors to the United States that they would deny to the Mother Country, which extends to them freely, and without condition of any kind, all that the United States would not concede to them except at a very high price.

That nothing but Commercial Union would satisfy Mr. Blaine the following paragraph taken from the minutes shows:

Mr. Blaine said he could easily understand why Canada was reluctant to enter into a treaty of unlimited reciprocity, but that it was clear to his mind that no other arrangement would suit the United States, and that it must be accompanied by discrimination in favor of the United States, especially against Great Britain, who was their great competitor, and that it *must likewise be accompanied by the adoption of a uniform tariff for the United States and Canada equal to that of the United States.*

The Italics are ours. The passage shows clearly that what Mr. Blaine required as the price of reciprocity was the fiscal independence of the Dominion of Canada, for if the two countries were to have the same tariff it is easy to see which of them would have the framing of that tariff. It will be remembered by our readers that when it was first said that these were the only terms on which reciprocity could be had from the Harrison administration, Canadian Liberals loudly declared that there was no truth in the statement, and that it was a story invented by the Tory politicians to alarm the electors. It is now seen that it is nothing more than the literal truth.

HARKING BACK.

The annexation of Hawaii is by no means a foregone conclusion. There are a great many United States citizens besides President Cleveland who believe that there is a good deal to be done before the Hawaiian Islands are permitted to enter the Union either as a territory or a state, or even before the Government will consent to make the protectorate set up by Consul General Stevens permanent. It seems, indeed, as if the doings of the Consul were to be made the subject of a pretty rigid inquiry. There are people in the East who question the propriety of his acts in this annexation business. The New York Herald uses some pretty strong language in connection with the "jingo" proceedings at Honolulu. It says:

But the climax of jingoism was reserved for the closing days of Republican rule. The rash attempt to force through the annexation of the sugar islands before the outgoing party relinquished its hold of power presents one of the most curious and extraordinary episodes in the annals of our foreign relations.

The whole business at Honolulu savored more of a bold filibustering scheme, a desperate conspiracy or a gigantic sugar job, than a patriotic national proceeding. Yet in spite of this, in spite of the unwarranted use of the diplomatic functions and the naval forces revealed there, in defiance of the protest of the deposed Queen and a majority of the Hawaiians, before both sides could be heard or the facts ascertained, we see the spectacle of a treaty drawn and accompanied by a special message rushed into the Senate with a haste that has no parallel or precedent in our political history.

On this movement the people will look to the present administration to put a prompt and emphatic veto. An early steamer should bear from San Francisco to Honolulu not only a new Minister, but also a commission to investigate the extraordinary doings of our diplomatic and naval representatives there in January and February.

That they exceeded their legitimate functions and powers is apparent. It is of vital importance to ascertain fully and accurately the extent to which the authority of the United States has been wrongfully or unconstitutionally used to bring about the present anomalous situation in the islands and to stamp with the seal of disapproval such acts so far as they are unwarranted.

What has been done by our representatives in Honolulu cannot with safety be allowed to go on record as an undisputed precedent. If the naval forces of the United States may be used to support revolutionists in the Pacific islands they may be so used in any South American Republic. If an armed protectorate may be proclaimed by the American Minister in Hawaii it may be proclaimed by the American Minister in Chili.

It would appear that the advice of the Herald is to be followed, for we are told that a Commissioner is on his way to Hawaii for the purpose of making inquiries as to how the revolution was brought about, and what hand Mr. Stevens and the captain of the Boston had in depriving Queen Liliuokalani of her throne.

It is evident that the Queen of the Hawaiian Islands is a sensible woman and one who knows how, even when misfortune has overtaken her, to comport herself with dignity. She has said very little indeed for publication, but that little has been full of good sense and in the best possible taste. We have no doubt that now that Mr. Cleveland is President the Queen of the Hawaiian Islands will be treated with the utmost consideration.

HEARD IN THE HOTELS.

They were talking about getting up outfits for prospecting and the relative merits of the horse and the mule as a pack animal came up for discussion.

"Give them horses as wants them," said Jim, "but as for me I'll take a mule. Say Jack, do you remember that old grey mule of mine?"

The veteran nodded assent.

"Well that mule made me every dollar I own. It was this way. I was out in the mountains six years ago looking up a place over on Soda creek that I had noticed the year before, but I had to quit on account of the snow.

"I picked up that grey mule from a Siwash and started out. Well that was the ornaries' mule I ever saw. Kick? Why he would kick at his shadow. I tried to break him of it several times, but it was no go.

"Well one day as I was going into camp he started. It was near a small stream and I had resolved to camp under a small ledge of rock, so I thought I'd give him enough of it for once and so I led that mule around close to the ledge, backed him up against it and tied him to a tree.

"When I went to bed three hours later he was still banging away at that ledge, and several times in the night I awoke as some fragment larger than usual broke off and rolled into the creek.

"In the morning I got up and went to see how Old Grey was getting along. He was exhausted, but game, and from time to time feebly lifted a hoof and blazed away, but his blows lacked steam, as they say in them prize fight accounts.

"All around him were fragments of rock, and that ledge looked as if a box of giant powder had been touched off back of it. But strangest of all there lay some chunks of the prettiest steel galena you ever saw. Old Grey had uncovered a ledge. I led him away and let him recruit his strength against a nice, soft bank, while I looked after the lode.

"Well you know that the 'Old Grey' mine sold for $40,000 last year, and that mule packs no more, but is turned out where he can kick all creation to his heart's content."

"The ingenuity of the modern jokist surpasses my comprehension," said an old gentlemen at the Driard the other evening. "About six months ago the Kansas City Times had a telegraphic item about a weekly newspaper that was to be started to air the grievances of the Sioux Indians. The editor remarked that subscribers who didn't pay up would probably be scalped."

"No," replied an esteemed cotem., "they will be Sioux-ed."

"That's right," added another knight of the quill, "for if the editor were to scalp all his subscribers he'd soon find himself in the Sioux-p."

"If that's the kind of man he is," declared another, "the Sioux-ner the better; the paper can easily get a more Sioux-table man."

"This outrageous treatment of the reds made my soul weary," concluded the COLONIST's informant. "I am willing to Sioux for peace and to let these jokes go on exhibit as Sioux-venirs of the past. Otherwise I may Sioux-icide."

"The Columbia River salmon combine is off,"—so said Mr. B. Young to a reporter in the Driard last night. "They met down in Portland, and up to the last it was hoped that the details of the combination, which has been under discussion for some time, would be completed. But it is off. Why? Well the trouble was that the Astorians wanted one thing and the Portland people another, and when it came to the election of directors there was a hitch. It is now too late to patch things up, as the season opens on the 10th of next month. It will now be 'every man for himself' on the Columbia this year."

Grand Lodge Delegates Return.

Victoria's representatives to the second annual meeting of the Grand Lodge A.O.U.W. of British Columbia, returned last evening from Chilliwack, where the session was held. The delegation from this city was made up of Messrs. G. Leiser, J. D. Warren, H. Jewell and J. Steers, Victoria lodge No. 1; W. Jackson, R. Dinsdale and James Cretchley, Vancouver lodge No. 5; E. Bragg and M. McGregor, Sullivan lodge No. 6; and J. H. Hughes, Western Star lodge No. 7. Each of the delegates expresses himself as well satisfied with the kind treatment the Grand lodge received at the hands of the good people of Chilliwack. On Tuesday evening, after an excellent entertainment, a banquet was held at the Queen's hotel, the thirty-five Grand lodge delegates with many Westminster and Chilliwack brethren present. In addition to the particulars given by telegraph in yesterday's COLONIST, the secretary's report showed that but three deaths occurred in the jurisdiction during the year ending December 31, eleven assessments of $1 each being thereby necessitated. The question of age limit being brought forward, it was decided to make the maximum 45 years, no candidate being eligible for admission above this age. Arrangements were also made prior to adjournment with Bro. Caskey, editor of the Washington Workman, to supply members of this jurisdiction with his excellent publication. The complete list of Grand Lodge officers for 1893-4 is appended: Marcus Wolfe, Nanaimo, Grand Master Workman; Gustav Leiser, Victoria, Past Grand Master Workman; J. D. Warren, Victoria, Grand Foreman; L. W. Paisley, Chilliwack, Grand Overseer; H. Jewell, Victoria, Grand Recorder; R. T. Williams, Victoria, Grand Receiver; E. L. Budlong, Vancouver, Grand Guide; E. Driscoll, Vernon, Grand Inside Watchman; J. H. Hughes, Victoria, Grand Outside Watchman. Representatives to the Supreme Lodge—G. Leiser, Victoria No. 1; W. H. Keary and H. Hoy, Beaver No. 3.

A San Diego dispatch of yesterday says: "H. M. S. Nymphe arrived Wednesday afternoon, ten days from Acapulco. Commander Huntingford came ashore immediately after mail which had been forwarded to this port, and it is reported, though without foundation, that he received orders to proceed direct to Honolulu. The Nymphe is due April 1 at Esquimalt, and unless contrary orders have been issued she will depart for that station after recoaling here and at San Francisco. She will remain here several days."

From the DAILY COLONIST, March 16.

THE CITY.

Verdict for Defendant.

John R. Rathom, editor of the Astorian, has been acquitted on the charge of criminal libel recently brought against him on account of certain political articles appearing in his paper.

No Smallpox on the Coast.

Capt. Anderson, of the Mystery, who returned from the West coast yesterday morning, says that he made inquiry among the Indians on the coast as to whether smallpox was prevalent among them or not. He was everywhere informed that there was no disease along the coast.

Preparing for the Contest.

The Uniformed Rank, K. of P., occupied the floor of the City market last night and commenced drill practice for the prize to be won in Westminster in June for the best drilled corps. There will be drill every Thursday evening up to date, by which time it is expected that the Victoria Knights will be second to none entering the competition.

The Market Scales.

The scales at the public market are being rendered more valuable than ever through the exertions of Superintendent Johnson. Realizing the difficulty of dealing with live stock, he has had constructed a moveable fence around the weigh bridge, so that cattle, sheep or hogs can be weighed without difficulty. This innovation is proving a source of income.

B. C. Commercial Journal.

With its last issue the B. C. Commercial Journal began its third volume. Its publishers, Messrs. Carley & Henderson, have every reason to compliment themselves on the success of their venture. Their endeavor has been to make the paper representative of the trade and commerce of the City and Province and, upon the whole, they have, with consistency as well as ability, carried out their programme.

The Horse Killed.

The horse which was injured by being run into by a tramcar out on Oak bay Wednesday evening was killed yesterday. The animal was running loose and becoming frightened got in the way and was struck. The car was damaged to the extent of about $50. The motorneer is out a coat, which he burned in putting out the flames communicated to the horse by the dripping oil from the broken head light.

Merry Maskers.

One of the largest attended masquerade balls held in the city for some time was that given by Messrs. Bennett and Taylor in Harmony Hall last evening. There was a good variety of masks, many of which looked as though they might have been stolen from comic valentines. Mrs. L. Turner and Mr. R. Baird won the prizes for the best dressed lady and gentleman, and Mrs. Blackmond and John Smith were the most comically masked couple. The music was supplied by the Bantly family.

A Feature of the B. C. Court.

A conspicuous feature of the British Columbia Court at the World's Fair will be the mantelpiece which now attracts the attention of almost everyone passing the showrooms of the Sehl—Hastie—Erskine Furniture Co., by whom it was manufactured. The wood used is native maple, and the Provincial coat of arms crowns the whole, carved in a darker and harder wood which harmonizes perfectly. The workmanship throughout is artistic, and reflects great credit upon Victoria artisans. It is not intended to exhibit this mantel at all—it will form part of the furnishing of British Columbia's room.

Broke His Promise.

Mr. Elmer H. Fisher, a Seattle architect, who formerly lived in Victoria, is defendant in a sensational breach of promise case begun in the Superior court at Seattle yesterday. The plaintiff, Mary H. Smith, generally known as Mrs. Fisher, asks for $10,000 damages. She asserts that in 1884 in Denver, Colorado, Fisher told her that a lawful marriage could be contracted by verbal agreement. Such an agreement was entered into in good faith on her part and they have since lived together as man and wife. In 1888 after removing from Victoria she learned from others sufficient to cause her to doubt the legal nature of her marriage. When she questioned Fisher he promised to marry her according to the laws of Washington, but had failed to do so, and had lately married another woman—hence the suit.

Protestant Orphan's Home.

The plans, conditionally accepted, of Architect Hooper for the new Protestant Orphans' Home, corner of Cook street and Hillside avenue, are now on view at the office of Mr. R. Mackay Fripp, Trounce avenue, and are much admired. The building is original in design, and calculated to accommodate 100 children, with ample apartments for teachers, servants, etc. A stone foundation is provided for, the general structure to be of brick, and every apartment airy, lightsome and spacious. The building will stand in 12½ acres of land, with hospital detached. To one side are the boys' quarters—playground, dormitories, bath-rooms, etc., and to the other that section set apart for the girls, who are also liberally provided for as to space and accommodation. The whole structure is to cost $20,000, and will be erected through the liberality of the late John G. Taylor. Tenders will be invited and work commenced as soon as possible.

Some Strange Experiences.

An interesting as well as novel "experience meeting" was held at the Refuge Home yesterday afternoon, the large parlors being filled with ladies. After opening with devotional exercises the relation of "experiences" was entered upon, each lady being called upon to tell how she had either earned or saved $1 during the week for the temperance cause. Many and varied were the plans resorted to. Two ladies cut hair; one sold bottles; one refused to have a doctor when ill and saved the fee; a fourth altered a pair of pantaloons and was paid $1 for the work. Bread, pies and cakes were made instead of bought; a cough mixture was manufactured and sold; white shirts were ironed, an old dress renovated and a blouse made. The city missionary had been invited to dinner by a number of friends—and saved money. Cutting the grass on the lawn instead of employing a gardener; wearing cheaper gloves, and walking instead of patronizing the tram cars—each and all were duly quoted. The number of experiences, each accompanied with $1, was 46, several being received by mail. After hearing or reading the "experiences" refreshments were served and the city missionary addressed the meeting. The work of organizing a young woman's branch in connection with the union was subsequently discussed, a number of young ladies being anxious to organize. The ladies were greatly aided in the preparation for yesterday's meeting by two young gentlemen who kindly wrote out the invitations on typewriter; the thanks of the ladies are hereby tendered them.

A Brother Laid Low.

The remains of the late J. F. Becker were yesterday interred at Ross Bay cemetery. At the house of mourning on Fort street, those who had revered and respected the deceased during a long and useful career assembled and took a last fond look at the mortal remains, the casket containing which was literally covered with floral tributes. There was a short service in the death chamber, conducted by Rev. P. McF. Macleod, after which the casket was placed in the bier and the sorrowful procession formed. Chief among the mourners were the Masonic fraternity, in which the deceased was a faithful worker, and at the time of his demise held the office of treasurer in Vancouver-Quadra lodge, which position of high trust he had held for the past seventeen years. He was also a leading light in the A. O. U. W., the members of which turned out and walked in the solemn procession to the grave, where the impressive ceremony of the Masonic burial service was conducted by Workshipful Master A. B. Erskine. The pall-bearers were: Messrs. H. F. Heisterman, T. Shotbolt, M. Miller, J. E. Phillips and A. R. Milne, all past masters in the craft, and Mr. J. B. Lovell.

Thrown Overboard.

Jailer Allen communicated a rather strange incident to the Provincial police authorities yesterday. Some time during the morning a small sloop was observed making close in near the end of Menzies street. A party of children playing in the vicinity say that the sloop was manned by a dark-looking person whom they took to be an Italian. When the sloop got close in to shore the man proceded to fling a number of things overboard. These landed at the edge of the water. After doing this the sloop stood out toward sea again. Sometime after Mr. Allen was informed of the circumstances, and as he lives in the neighborhood, he thought it well to investigate. On the way down, just as he had arrived on the edge of the bluff, he heard a shot which he found came from a revolver which had been thrown over and which some of the boys were playing with. It had gone off accidentally, but fortunately no one was injured. On the beach were found a rifle, a revolver, a trunk full of clothing, a valise also filled with goods, a pair of sea boots, a small clock still running, and a number of rugs, bedspreads and blankets. The whole would amount in value to over $100. The Provincial police were notified and officer Robb took the things into his possession. In the trunk was an envelope addressed to Mr. Davidson, Lopez Island, and several photographs, some of which had the same address written on the back. The sloop was painted white, and bore the name of "Clipper, Lopez Island." Where the goods came from and why they were thrown overboard has not yet been discovered. What became of the sloop is also a mystery, though a man who saw it in the morning thinks he met the man who was on board, later in the day in town. The police will investigate the matter to-day.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Bible Society was held last evening in the First Methodist Church, Dr. Milne, M.P.P., presiding. There was a large attendance and the proceedings throughout were pleasing to all who take an interest in the good work of the society.

The annual report showed that the subscriptions for the past year have been greater than any yet attained. The Word was being liberally distributed from the local repository (T. N. Hibben & Co.'s), where Bibles can be obtained at 25c. each, and copies of the New Testament at 5c—figures below cost price. In many instances copies of the Scriptures were given away free of cost, and can be had in all languages. The receipts from the churches for last year were $347 50, and the expenses $58. A sum of $325 had been sent on to Toronto last year, and $26 to China. During the present year $45 85 had been collected in St. John's church and handed over to the treasurer; $35.70 in the First Presbyterian Church; $43.60 in the Reformed Episcopal, and $5 given by "A Steadfast Friend." Six churches are yet to be heard from.

There were many excellent speeches during the evening, Rev. Dr. Campbell speaking of the operations of the society in Victoria, and Mr. Brown, M. P. P., telling of the good work done in New Westminster and district.

On the motion of Mr. J. Campbell, it was unanimously resolved:

"That we express gratitude to Almighty God for the large measure of success which has crowned the efforts of the Bible Society during the past year, the harmony which characterised all departments of its work, and the new channels which were opened up for the advancement of the Master's cause; and that we once more, at the end of another year, record our fullest confidence in the society, and commend it to the liberal support of all Christians."

The office bearers for the year are: Dr. G. L. Milne, M.P.P., president; J. B. Chantrell, secretary-treasurer; T. N. Hibben & Co., repositories.

The committee is composed as follows: Rev. Dr. Campbell and Mr. T. Rendall, First Presbyterian church; Rev. P. McF. Macleod and Dr. Milne, St. Andrew's church; Rev. Coverdale Watson and Mr. Wm. McKay, Pandora street Methodist church; Rev. J. H. White and N. Shakespeare, Gorge road Methodist church; Rev. S. Wilkinson and Mr. D. Spencer, James Bay Methodist church; Rev. J. E. Gardner, Chinese Methodist missionary; Mr. H. Saunders, St. John's church; Mr. T. Kains, St. James' church; Mr. J. Ward, Christ church; Rt. Rev. Bishop Cridge, Reformed Episcopal; Rev. A. B. Winchester, Chinese missionary.

ENOUGH HOMETALENT.

NEW YORK, March 17.—A special to the Times from Baltimore says the Rev. I. P. Frost, of Brooklyn, who was called here by the First Methodist church, has been rejected by Bishop Newman, just as was Rev. Dr. Lanceley, of Toronto, who was wanted by a Mount Vernon church. This action was unexpected, and has raised a row. At a recent conference Dr. Lanceley's application for admission was rejected on the ground that he was practically a foreigner. This decision of Bishop Newman is construed into an objection to bringing here any minister outside the Baltimore conference and hence the refusal to appoint Mr. Frost. In the latter's place he has sent the Rev. Charles W. Baldwin, of Washington, D. C., for whom the trustees did not ask. A committee went to Brooklyn yesterday to discuss the matter with Mr. Frost, and a scheme is believed to be in preparation by which Bishop Newman may be over-ruled. Next to the Mount Vernon church the First church is the largest here.

The plain truth is good enough for Hood's Sarsaparilla. No need of embellishment or sensationalism. Hood's Cures.

PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS.

Description of the New Edifices After the Plans of Mr. F. M. Rattenbury.

They Will Form a Most Imposing and Very Handsome Pile of Buildings.

Visitors to the Legislative Assembly yesterday found in the lobby something which interested the majority, if not all, quite as much as the words of the honorable gentlemen on the floor of the House. This special attraction had a conspicuous place upon the walls and was nothing more nor less than the five elevations of the new parliament buildings that are to be. The final choice was announced yesterday morning, and British Columbians will learn with pleasure and pardonable pride that the choice of such eminent men in the profession as Mr. A. T. Taylor, of Montreal, and Mr. S. G. Curry, of Toronto, has fallen upon a British Columbian—Mr. F. M. Rattenbury, of Vancouver.

It will be remembered that 67 designs were originally submitted, from all the chief cities of the United States and Canada, and from these the experts selected the five sets which, in their opinion, were most suitable, the authors being allowed six months to elaborate their work. In pursuance of the conditions of the second competition for final selection, Messrs. Taylor and Curry, the experts, went thoroughly into the various plans, examining and analysing them under the several heads of entrances, staircases and passages, design and composition, light and air, lavatories, construction, detail, heating, ventilation and drainage—the principal heads on which the award was based. The result of the labors of the experts was embodied in a report in which the designs were placed in the following order of merit:

1—"For our Queen and Province."
2—"Spes Labor Levis."
3—"Caractacus."
4—"A Red Seal."
5—"Dieu et Mon Droit."

When the envelopes containing the key to the *noms de plume* were opened the names of the competing architects were found to be:—

No. 1—F. M. Rattenbury, Vancouver.
No. 2—T. C. Sorby, Victoria.
No. 3—F. M. Garden, Chicago.
No. 4—J. M. Corner, Boston, and W. P. Skillings, Seattle.
No. 5—J. Francis Brown, Toronto.

Mr. Rattenbury was notified of his success by wire and came to the Capital by last night's Islander. He is naturally elated at his success, of which a much older man in the profession might well be proud. Those who were less fortunate in the competition, however, have only words of praise and commendation for the courtesy, justness and skill brought to bear in making the award. That the latter was a wise one all will admit who have had the opportunity of carefully examining the successful plans. The leading principles of the design it is proposed to here describe; when executed the buildings will be among the most beautiful on this side of the continent.

The plan or arrangement of the departments is one of the most important features in large public buildings, and in this respect especially the plans are excellent. Broadly, the buildings are arranged in three groups—the centre or principal building comprising six departments so arranged that, whilst each of the three wings will be a perfect and complete building that can be erected independently of the others, they will when completed form a monumental and impressive pile. The grand entrance in the centre of the facade leads into a central octagon hall, terminating in a nobly proportioned dome. From this octagon hall on the ground floor the Minister of Education's department is approached on the left; the Treasury on the right, and the Lands and Works department in front. On the first floor the same arrangement is repeated with the Provincial Secretary's department on the left, the Attorney-General's department on the right, and the Legislative hall and offices in the centre. Thus from this one hall in every department immediately approached, all confusion or perplexity being entirely obviated. And while each department thus forms part of one central scheme, it has nevertheless its own independent entrance, staircases, strong rooms and lavatories, rendering it a perfectly contained and independent block.

The grand entrance is a handsome enriched portal, approached by a grand flight of steps. Through this the visitor enters the dome, which ultimately may be enriched by sculpture, mosaics and decoration. A flood of light is shed down from the cupola at the apex, as in its great prototypes, the Pantheon at Rome, or St. Paul's Cathedral in London. Beautiful vistas along the corridors and arcaded staircases can be obtained on three sides of this hall. On special occasions the entrance can be reserved solely for the legislative hall, forming a magnificent and unique approach to it, the departments on either side having their own special entrance as before described. The legislative hall is situated in the centre of the block and has a corridor round it with a belt of rooms for the use of the ministers and members, committee rooms, library, etc.

The hall itself is a spacious and beautiful room. On three sides an arcade is carried round, with galleries for the public, ladies and reporters obtained over the corridor. The acoustic properties of the hall are excellent.

On the third floor the Lieutenant-Governor has a suite of rooms in the front, facing over James Bay and approached by the elevators next the principal entrance.

A unique and ingenious method for protecting the building from fire is adopted. At the approach to the three departments on each floor from the central hall, a system of iron doors or bulkheads is arranged, so that in case a fire might occur it can be isolated to one wing and controlled, without there being any possibility of its spreading. The heating and ventilation are also carefully considered and, while the principle involved is simplicity itself, there is no doubt that it would be effective and satisfactory. A complete separate plan shows also the sanitary arrangements. In this as in all other respects the building would be a model.

This is the principal block. Two others, perfectly fireproof, one on each side, are arranged for the Land Registry office, on the right, and the Government Printing office, on the left. The buildings are designed on classic principles, with the solidity and majesty inherent in this style; at the same time slavish adherence to precedent is avoided, and an original and bold detailing of the various parts gives the building a character and beauty entirely novel and appropriate.

The centre part of the group as it will rise up when viewed from James Bay, is a splendid piece of designing. The grand entrance with two small towers on each side, and behind them the great dome soaring into the skies. The end of each wing is terminated by a pavilion, the wall between being treated as an arcade. The contrast of the openings with the piers gives a relief and scale to the design which is marvellously effective. The two detached buildings at either side stand somewhat in advance of the principal building—looking on the plan somewhat like the three sides of a square. These are connected to the main structure by a colonnade of columns, forming a covered approach or porch from one to the other.

To further enhance the dignity of the structure, instead of excavating for the basement it is proposed to raise the level of the ground, forming a terrace, with the carriage drive around it.

The grounds are shown laid out with the walks and fountains all combining to add to the general appearance, while the beautiful silver-grey sandstone with which it is proposed to erect the building will stand out like marble among the green lawns and foliage which surround it. This, together with the glorious foreground of James Bay, will produce a *tout ensemble* rarely, if ever, equalled in the capitols of any country.

In these buildings it is intended to use only the materials of British Columbia as far as possible. The sandstone, granite and marble, which abound in the Province, for the walls; and the cedar, maple and oak for the interior furnishings. The roof will be of slate and the dome of copper. The buildings will afford a striking example of what Canadian materials, combined with Canadian skill, can effect.

A short history of Mr. Rattenbury's career will probably be of interest. When he began the profession of architecture he entered the office of his uncle, Richard Mawson—the firm being the well-known one of Lockwood & Mawson, of Bradford, England. This firm was one of seven chosen out of all England to compete for the great Law Courts in London, and they it was who built the grand town hall of Bradford and most of the other great public buildings of the town. They built the whole of the model town of Saltaire—churches, mills, universities and markets. On many of these Mr. Rattenbury worked, after having served his articles for six years, gaining great practical experience from them.

In 1885, Mr. Rattenbury carried off the first prize of the Bradford Society of Architects for Designing and Construction, and subsequently, in conjunction with his uncle, Richard Mawson, competed for the town hall at Cleckheaton—his design for which was accepted at the Royal Academy, London. Afterwards he competed for a church at Hull and a club at Bradford; these buildings, as well as many others of his designs, were erected under his supervision.

In the recent competition for great municipal buildings to cost $500,000 at Oxford, England, his design was highly recommended by the Assessor, Mr. Collcutt, the architect for the Imperial Institute. In this competition there were 130 competitors, including the ablest architects of England. Mr. Rattenbury, in order to become thoroughly acquainted with every improvement in this class of building, carefully studied all the best buildings of the kind which have been erected and, subsequently travelled extensively in Europe, sketching and studying the most famous examples of ancient and modern architecture.

Last year, having heard of the wonderful progress which this Province was making, he determined to come here, and arrived on May 29, 1892. Charmed with the surroundings, and impressed by the rapid strides of progress which were shown on all sides, he established himself in his profession at Vancouver, where he soon acquired a considerable practice, while he has made designs for many large blocks and buildings in various parts of the Province, which are to be erected during the coming year.

The competition for the Government buildings afforded him an opportunity of showing the knowledge and skill which he had acquired, particularly in this class of building, and against great odds. Success has crowned his endeavors and made for him a name, not only here but on the whole Pacific coast.

ULSTER DEFENCE LEAGUE.

LONDON, March 16.—A manifesto has been issued over the signature of the Duke of Abercorn, the Marquis of Londonderry, the Earl of Erne, Lord Arthur Hill, Colonel Saunderson, the Mayors of Belfast and Londonderry and others. The manifesto announces the formation of an Ulster Defence League, "not merely to coatinue the struggle for the Union, but to prepare to meet any contingency." The signers call upon Unionists to qualify at once as members of the League. The two necessary qualifications of every successful applicant for admission are that he be a full-grown man and pledge himself to be faithful to the cause of Union. Those enrolled as members will send delegates to Belfast to form a central assembly of six hundred members, who will elect a governing council of sixty. The last words of the manifesto are: "Be patient! Enroll! Combine!"

THE STEAMER TACOMA.

The steamship Tacoma is expected to be released from quarantine to-morrow evening, by which time the small-pox patients on board her will have served their period of confinement. If released, the ship will, as is the rule, be thoroughly disinfected by the fumigating steamer Earle, before being allowed to enter at any port.

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