

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1896.

TUPPER TO THE FRONT.

The return of Sir Charles Tupper was a foregone conclusion. The only uncertainty there was about it was as to the number of his majority. The Grits strained every nerve to gain what they were pleased to denominate "a moral victory." But the defeat they sustained yesterday can hardly be called a victory of that kind.

Every means which the experience of the Grits had convinced them was effective, and every device that their ingenuity could invent were used to bring about the defeat, actual or moral, of Sir Charles Tupper. But their efforts, vigorous as they were and unscrupulous as they are known to be, only went to make their weakness the more conspicuous. It would have been far better for them to have made a virtue of necessity and allowed the Secretary of State to have been elected by acclamation than to have exposed themselves to bitter humiliation and certain defeat.

The Grits fear Sir Charles Tupper and with good reason. They have tried the quality of his mettle in many a hard fight, and they know that when he is on the floor of Parliament they will have to be more watchful and to fight better than they have watched and fought for many a long year. The Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, in particular, will have to sharpen his weapons and test his armor again most carefully. The adversary with whom he will now have to cross swords is no carpet knight—no drawing-room warrior. His petty little tricks and his clever devices will avail him but little when he comes to close quarters with Sir Charles Tupper. The matter-of-fact Secretary of State will, with plain and pointed statement and pitiless sarcasm, show to Parliament and the people of what flimsy stuff the Grit Leader's defences are composed. Let the Leader of the Opposition look to his laurels for they are in danger of being torn from his brows.

It is needless to say that Sir Charles Tupper will prove a tower of strength to the Conservative party. In Parliament and in the country, in debate and on the platform, his talents will be exercised and his influence exerted. That influence will be a vivifying influence and will give confidence and energy to the party, and cause them to face difficulties pluckily and hopefully, which many Conservatives now regard as insurmountable.

RAILWAY EARNINGS.

Notwithstanding the hard times the year ending December 31st, 1895, has not been a bad one for the Canadian Pacific Railway. The gross earnings of the road were \$18,941,036, which was \$188,869 more than the gross earnings of the previous year. But the hard times compelled the management to practice economy, and, in consequence, the working expenses of the road, instead of being \$12,238,309, as they were in 1894, were \$11,460,085. The net earnings were \$7,480,950, exceeding those of the year before by \$1,057,641. "The early part of the year," we are told, was not a favorable one for railways on this continent, and decreases were the rule in the weekly statements of the Canadian Pacific. The gain has been made in the latter part of the year, as at the close of July the gross earnings were more than half a million short of the figures of 1894. The improvement is due largely to the good harvest that was reaped in a large part of the country; the wheat yield in Manitoba having been 31,775,000 bushels compared with only 17,172,000 bushels in 1894. This meant an increase of business for the road as well as for the rest of the country. The rise in the wheat market which the known facts as to the demand and supply make it likely will be maintained, is also a factor for good in the situation which railroads as well as other interests stand to profit by. The weekly traffic returns since the 1st of January show that the improvement noted in the figures of the year's statement is being maintained."

A BUSINESS ADDRESS.

The Address of Mr. Stapleton Caldecott, the retiring President of the Toronto Board of Trade, is a comprehensive view of the trade of the Dominion, and almost everything immediately connected with it. The tone of the Address is cheerful and the part of it that relates to the future hopeful. "The year 1895," he very properly said, "has been for the most part a year of quiet economy from the depression of 1893, and 1894." Convalescence, as everyone knows, although a pleasant time enough, is not a period of very vigorous activity. During its continuance energy is rather being stored than expended. Like a wise physician, Mr. Caldecott counsels, for a time at any rate, moderation. Prudence and care are required not only to make the best use of newly acquired strength but to prevent a relapse. This is what he says to the recovering business community:

As to the business outlook for 1896 I think there is every reason to take a hopeful view. In Great Britain, France, Germany, the United States and even in Australia business has decidedly im-

proved, confidence is reviving, raw materials, such as silk, cotton, wool and iron, have advanced and are as a rule holding the advance. We may, I think, confidently hope that the unfortunate, political excitement and the unsatisfactory currency question in the United States, which are such disturbing elements in all business matters on this continent, will before long be satisfactorily settled and not interfere further with the improvement in business which otherwise would be very marked. Manitoba has been favored with a magnificent crop, the largest since it became a province. There is promise of development of the rich gold deposits in British Columbia. Canada as a whole has had a fair average harvest; why, then, should we not look forward hopefully for the trade prospects of 1896? The progress will no doubt be gradual, but the merchant or manufacturer who steadily avoids speculation or extravagance, who does not aim at merely expanding his trade, but pays careful attention to his profits, not striving merely to make or sell goods at the smallest margin, but to build up a solid business upon solid business principles—for such a business and for such a merchant or manufacturer I see a prosperous period before him. But I do think with my distinguished predecessor, Mr. Blain, that a reduction of the rates of discount to a legitimate business enterprise by our banks, in sympathy with the prevailing rates in the great commercial centres of the world, would be advantageous to our business men; the merchant who pays the current rates of interest here is not doing business on equal terms with a competitor elsewhere who borrows upon more favorable terms, and the present small margin of profit will not justify an artificially high rate of interest.

Mr. Caldecott sees the importance of the business men of Canada availing themselves of the opportunity which the meeting of the various Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade of the British Empire will afford them of advancing the interests of the Dominion of Canada and of enlarging their views. That meeting, which is to take place in London next June, will, he says, "give a good opportunity of comparing notes and finding out fresh fields of enterprise. I hope that the important gathering of the Board will send a number of its ablest men to represent worthily its interests at this great business Parliament."

Although a practical man of business and a true Canadian Mr. Caldecott is evidently a loyal British subject in the best and widest sense of the terms. He looks upon Canada not as an isolated country separated in interests as well as by space from the rest of the Empire, but as an integral part of that Empire which will in time be joined not only to the Mother Country but to all the other parts by the closest bonds, both of patriotic sentiment and of material interest. The perusal of the following passages of his address has led us to this conclusion:

Before closing this address I feel I should not do right if I did not take this opportunity to express the great pleasure the elevation of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain to the position of Colonial Secretary gave to the people of Canada, and I think I am voicing your sentiments when I say, judging from his past history and from the live and deep interest he has manifested in the welfare of Britain's great colonies, that whatever may be our views upon the general questions that divide politicians we are all agreed that our present Colonial Secretary is eminently "the right man in the right place." Full of grand aspirations for the British Empire, wishful to see the complete unification of the Anglo-Saxon race, he looks forward, as many of us here look forward, to the time when Canada will become, not perhaps, a separate nationality, but rather while retaining full control over all local affairs, be a member of a grand Imperial Federation. It is premature to outline any specific form that this union should take, but the proposed appointment of a Canadian judge as a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council Westminster is, in my humble opinion, a step in the right direction. And if this union does come we must no longer be colonialists, but equal partners in this great empire. Meantime, with Joseph Chamberlain in the Colonial office we may feel sure our interests will not suffer, but that the bonds that bind the vast empire together shall be closer drawn and the grand race we belong to feel and act as one powerful confederacy.

A practical business address should venture to talk to business men in this strain is one of the surest and most cheering signs that we have seen of the growth of union sentiment in this Dominion. Two or three years ago it would require a much greater amount of moral courage than most men possess for a Canadian merchant to talk to a Canadian Board of Trade on the subject of Imperial Federation in this enthusiastic way.

STILL HARPING.

The Grits of Victoria and their organ are still greatly exercised about the status of Col. Prior. They seem bound to make out by some means or another that he is not a "full-fledged" member of the Cabinet. We may say in passing that the Grit citizens of Brockville and their newspaper organ are not at all concerned about the exact standing in the Government of Mr. Wood, who occupies a position precisely similar to that of Col. Prior. The reason of this most likely is that the Grits in Mr. Wood's constituency were not such fools as to declare that it was not in the power of the Premier to elevate their representative to a cabinet position, and consequently they do not feel themselves under any obligation to raise questions with respect to the constitutionality of his appointment.

The pertinacity of some of the Victoria

Grits in sticking to the position they first assumed with respect to Col. Prior, or rather their reluctance to acknowledge that they, for want of political intelligence, blundered atrociously, must be very annoying to their political friends in the House of Commons who are obliged to keep their Victoria fellow Grits in countenance, to raise foolish points and to put themselves in a false position.

No one knows better than the Hon. Mr. Mills and the Hon. Mr. Laurier that Col. Prior and Mr. Wood are as genuinely and in every respect as fully Cabinet Ministers as the other members of the Cabinet, yet when they had nothing else to do in the House than to obstruct its proceedings, they asked questions and raised objections, of the foolishness and the futility of which they were perfectly well aware. What Mr. Laurier is reported to have said amounted to nothing more than what everyone in the House, and out of it for that matter, knew as well as he did, namely, that the two gentlemen occupy the position of controller. No body ever attempted to conceal or deny this fact. But they knew better than to go as far as Senator McInnes and other Victoria Grits did—to affirm that men occupying the position of controller are ineligible for seats in the Cabinet. They went no further than to say that to place them in the Cabinet was "unusual" and "anomalous." This, too, everyone knows. But the British Constitution, for that matter, abounds in anomalies. The Grit leader knew better, however, than to question the validity of the appointments. What Mr. Laurier said—supposing that he is reported correctly—about the controllers not being responsible was, with all due deference, sheer nonsense. Instead of having only one man responsible to Parliament as to the way in which the affairs of the Departments of Customs and Inland Revenue are conducted, as was the case last session, there are now three Ministers of the Crown who can be called to account by Parliament. Let either of the Controllers be proved to have been guilty of any grave dereliction of duty and it will very soon be seen whether or not he is responsible. As our readers know, the seat in the Cabinet was offered to Col. Prior at the same time as he was offered the controllership, and that was necessarily some time before there was an election.

Mr. Mills was much more cautious than his nominal chief. All that he said was that appointments of the kind are unusual, which is very different indeed from declaring that they are impossible. Mr. Mills owed it to himself to say that "the government" (Governor-General, no doubt) could make even the barber of the House of Commons a privy councillor, which piece of information must have horrified the Victoria Grit constitutional lawyers.

Well, the Hon. Col. Prior is a Cabinet Minister, and he performs the duties and exercises the powers of a Cabinet Minister. This fact ought to convince if it does not satisfy the Ottawa correspondent of the Times and show the editor of that sheet the folly of publishing any more of his idiotic rubbish about Col. Prior's status.

IMPOTENT MALICIOUSITY.

The Times refers to Sir Charles Tupper in bold head lines as the "Arch Satisfier." It is needless to say this attempted substitution of Sir Charles for His Satanic Majesty will not bring about the utter condemnation of that honorable gentleman, but it is, nevertheless, very suggestive of the good intentions of his political opponents. No doubt at the present time they wish him in any place rather than in the region of Dominion politics, and the suggestion of his high place among evil doers is born of that fear which troubled consciences regard the enemy of all mankind.

We do not know, in our experience, of any man who has been the subject of so much vituperation and downright malignant cursing as Sir Charles Tupper during the short period since his re-entry into Canadian politics, and taking into consideration the motives actuating his political adversaries and the circumstances of his re-appearance, we do not know of so great a compliment having been paid to any other public man in Canada than is comprehended in such unbridled and wholesale abuse. It is malevolent and hateful in its every expression, and can have but one result, and that is in turning the eyes of Canadians as a body to the brilliant career of a statesman who, next to Sir John Macdonald himself, has done more than any other Canadian, living or dead, to give effect to the principles of responsible government, in bringing about Confederation and carrying to a successful conclusion the great national undertakings that have since grown out of it. They will look to him as the Strong Man of the nation, who can best steer it through a crisis the gravest since we became a Dominion—a crisis brought about not by any difficulties or inherent defects of the constitution, but by reason of the contravention of its most sacred principles on the part of those who style themselves Liberals.

Such a record of success and eminent usefulness cannot but inspire a confidence in his ability and his patriotism that will bring to his support the best elements of all parties, to emphatically condemn and defeat the designs of those

who are trifling with the most vital principles of the federal compact and playing on provincial prejudices for a lease of power.

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

Some of the suggestions made by the deputation of city school trustees who waited upon the Minister of Education yesterday would, in our opinion, if adopted, be improvements.

They wanted the Government to shorten the school hours for the little children. This is a wise and a humane request. The little ones should not be tortured by being kept shut up in a schoolroom—often an uncomfortable and a stuffy one—five or six hours a day. The Government might do even more than the trustees seemed to want. They might without injuring the efficiency of the school in the least, or retarding the progress of the children, make it a rule that the two junior classes should not be allowed to remain in school more than half a day. The children might with benefit to themselves and to the school, be dismissed for the day at noon. Two hours and a half, or at most three hours a day, is quite long enough for the junior classes to be confined in a school room. The experiment of making the school day short for the little ones has been tried in several places with the best results.

It was suggested by the deputation that teachers should be engaged for the year. Under the present system the teacher is hired by the month as a cook or a Chinaman is hired, and he or she can be sent adrift without rhyme or reason after thirty days' notice. This system, we submit, is not fair either to the teachers or the trustees. It gives the teacher who gets huffed at some imaginary offence or who sees what he or she considers a better position advertised an opportunity to desert his or her position just after the school has got well under way, much to its detriment; and it gives capricious and ignorant trustees a chance to dismiss a good, hard-working teacher because he does not happen to please a majority of them in some matter not even remotely connected with school work. The teacher's position should be assured for a year, provided he behaves himself well and performs his duties faithfully. At the year's end if the Trustees did not like the teacher, or if the teacher did not like the school, the engagement would not be renewed and no harm would be done to anyone. The school in which the teacher is frequently changed is seldom or never a good one.

Some of the trustees seemed to be opposed to public examinations. They appeared to think that those who visit the schools on show days are not placed in a position to form a correct or an intelligent opinion on either the quality of the teaching or the progress made by the pupils. There is a good deal of truth in this. But if the examinations were really examinations and not performances the result might be different. If the teacher, or some visitor qualified to give a lesson, examined the classes in the usual way, it would not, we think, be very hard to form a pretty correct opinion as to both the attainments of the pupils and the efficiency of the system under which they are taught.

The influence of public examinations, properly conducted, is, we think, wholesome on all concerned, parents, teachers and children. They break the monotony of school life and they do much to keep up an interest in the schools and in education generally. Besides, it is only right that the public should be afforded the opportunity now and then to see for themselves what they are getting in the shape of education for their money. The conference of the school trustees of the cities will, we hope and believe, be productive of good results.

A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.


Our readers will remember that a short time ago we directed attention to a stupid blunder to the prejudice of the city of Victoria that had been made in the Trade and Navigation Returns. The article attracted the attention of the Hon. Col. Prior, who immediately inquired into the cause of the mistake. He found that it had been made inadvertently, and what could be done was done immediately to correct it. Correction slips were immediately printed by the direction of the Controller of Customs, and at once forwarded to each person who had received a copy of the Returns, and correction slips were also placed in each copy of the undistributed stock.

This is a small matter, but it shows the advantage of having a representative of British Columbia in the Government. Before this the exposure of the mistake by the Colonist would most likely not have been noticed by those in authority, and a similar mistake it is not improbable would be made next year.

DO NOT SUFFER

With Kidney Complaint—You Can Be Relieved Within Six Hours.

I take much pleasure in stating that I have been using South American Kidney Cure, and found relief within six hours after first dose was taken. I became sick in January, 1895, when I employed several of the local physicians, and was treated by them until the fall of 1895 without receiving much benefit. I then began using South American Kidney Cure and have found great benefit, and am almost, if not quite, cured. Have not been taking any of the medicine for seven weeks, and feel as well as ever. Mrs. A. E. Young, Barnston, P.Q. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall



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The Occidental Hotel,

Corner Wharf and Johnson Streets, Victoria.

THIS popular and well known Hotel was re-opened on November 15, under the management of Wm. Jensen, its founder, with everything new and bright. It will be conducted as of former years, aiming to make it homelike for guests.

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ARMENIAN MARTYRDOMS.

The Armenian Martyrdoms was the subject which Bishop Crooke took for his sermon at the Reformed Episcopal church on Sunday.

It would seem, he said, as if in these latter days God was drawing special attention to the horrors attendant upon false religions; to the cruelties perpetrated in regions where the light of truth does not shine. They are forced upon our notice with distressing frequency. The atrocities perpetrated on the Armenians Christians may well draw the attention of mankind to the iniquity of the efforts made to disparage the religion of Jesus and exalt the religions of men by maintaining that missions to the Mohammedan countries are needless; that their own religion being good enough and that there is no need of Christ where Mohammed rules. Their efforts had culminated in the Parliament of Religions, the ne plus ultra of antagonism to Christianity, a tower to reach to heaven and to pluck the Crown from the brow of the King of Kings.

Out of a big mountain had proceeded a little mouse in the form of Mohammedan missions to Christian lands. Think of it, while the sword of the false prophet is drinking Christian blood in their own land. God was rebuking this folly and confounding this blindness by showing to mankind what those religions are and what are their fruits. The blood of the poor innocents is shed like water and to use the expressive language of scripture, was set upon the top of a rock and cannot be covered. Who will come to the help of the Lord against the mighty, is the question agitating Christian minds all over the world, and to which as yet no answer is found. As when cries for help proceed from a dwelling where some brute in human form is murdering wife and children, the crowds gather horrified but powerless to help, for the door is barred, and when they enter there is the silence of death. So all the world, horrified at the scenes enacted in Armenia, gather around its fact-barred gates with lamentations and entreaties to those who have the power to hasten the rescue. So far this has been in vain; for the powers have their own disputes to settle, their own jealousies to appease, their own ambitions to gratify, and the

WISE WOMEN!

Two Opinions Freely Given

Wise women always use Diamond Dyes when the work of home-dyeing begins. The majority of women know that Diamond Dyes produce the richest, strongest and most brilliant colors. Two users of Diamond Dyes freely give their opinions.

Mrs. A. Chittick, Windsor, N.S., says: "Have used Diamond Dyes for over two years and find them ahead of all others. They are the best for producing clear and lovely colors."

Mrs. Jas. H. Coulter, Neepawa, Man., says: "I have always much pleasure in using Diamond Dyes; I think they are grand, and always make odd things look like new."

NEWS THE OF

The Fraser River Bridge Demands—Vancouver By-law—Custom Association

Victoria Lumber Company—Mining Association

(Special to the)

VANCOUVER, Feb. 5. Trade have been asked smelter committee to their power to assist the construction of a smelter. To-morrow afternoon rooms Clara Barton will cross work, with special society's work among them.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 4. ster council are asking of the Vancouver council to the provincial government in building a Fraser.

The school board are council for \$52,085 and \$70,000 for necessary and additions.

The city papers demand advance on the present advertising.

The Dominion Government granting any for private citizens until the some plan of proceeds.

The by-law referring goods on Sunday is to the new council.

The city council have passed the private bill desired by the Consol and Lighting Company will also press for the contract by the Western lighting the city. The present handicapped proceedings in the formation for a permanent injest and sinking fund track near English Bay will consider the proposal.

The customs returns of greater this month than month last year by \$100,000.

The Arrow Lake brand is in full operation, a Kootenay has been untire season.

The steamer Coquitlam from the fishing ground pounds of halibut.

The Provincial Association Engineers, recently formed again at Nelson in complete organization, writes on the committee most prominent mining province are connected with, which is destined to in the province.

The council express submit a by-law to the city bonus for a smelter to city limits.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 5. Pleasant, East End schools are to be enlarged of several rooms.

Ald. McPhaden's amendment closing by-law council, and which has been unpopular here, admission of milk, drugs or medical papers, and food to travel.

Leap year parties have ular here since the first of "new woman" is notice directions.

Ald. Banfield is introduced to encourage the planting in the city.

Another billiard tournament at the Hotel Vancouver.

Two men, Charles Fred Antonio Cantandinas, entitled woman into a shack, took her clothes from her. The first was fined was sent to jail for six months.

NANAIMO

NANAIMO, Feb. 1.—The turns at this port during were: Total for duty, \$11,091. The inland revenue were \$871.77.

The shipments of coal for the month show the that has been shipped for The New Vancouver Co shipments were 14,232 or 23,042 tons from Wellington from Union.

There were 25 cases in the during the month, 25 cases debts court and 4 in the There were 22 births, 3 marriages. The average the schools for the month.

NANAIMO, Feb. 3. Rev land is confined to the house.

The run of herring in the continues.

A committee of the board to interview Mr. S. M. B ascertain whether the N prepared to convey the along the water front to J. mair & Sons, should the ship their coal from Vancouver.

The carpenters' work court house will be finished, but the building for occupation until the painting and varnish.

The New Vancouver Co reopening their Newcastle quarry, having received from Vancouver for stone situated within half a mile furnished the stone for the mint building, pillars over eighty feet in length.

Captain Ryder, of the Ellwell, has made another loading record.

Rufus E. Wood came up a cisco and finished loading, exceeding all previous port. But the Ellwell better. The last job of by the New Vancouver Co midnight Saturday, or days from the time the dock at San Francisco.

B. L. Robertson, of M and A. Stanford, of Pen