

The Colonist.

CONFIRMATION.

A statement which Mr. Trumbull, an eminent Chilean of American descent, recently made in New York proves that the statements made by the officers of H. M. S. Champion to a reporter of this paper were substantially true.

It is undoubtedly true that everyone in Valparaiso knew that the insurgent fleet was at Quintero, but no one knew they had made a landing there.

It will be remembered that the officers of the Champion said that the Valparaiso newspapers contained accounts of the landing, giving the officers of the American ship of war credit for supplying the news.

BRASIL'S CONSTITUTION.

It is quite evident that there is not in Fonseca the stuff that tyrants and dictators are made of. He is not the man to maintain the authority he had usurped by physical force.

His successor, Floriano Peixoto, is clearly a mere *locum tenens*, who will remain Head of the State until a new President is regularly and constitutionally elected.

It will be interesting to see what Congress will do with Fonseca, when it meets. It is quite clear that he is liable to be impeached. He committed a crime, against the State, when he, without warrant from the Constitution, turned Congress out of doors and assumed supreme power in the State.

It is not likely that the leading men in the Republic will allow such action on the part of the President to pass unquestioned. They, if they desire the Republic to continue, can hardly afford to overlook Fonseca's crime.

At this present moment it looks very much as if the Constitution of Brazil will be a great deal too good for the people of Brazil. They allowed Fonseca to set it at defiance and to override it, and it is more than likely that the next President will, when it suits his convenience, pay very little heed to its most solemn provisions.

PLAINTIFF AND JUDGE.

It is no wonder that Alderman Benoit was surprised to see Trustee Richards moving the resolution for the dismissal of Mr. Hayward, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The case between the chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Trustee-City Councillor has only to be stated to convince every fair-minded man of the unfairness and the unmanliness of the course which Mr. Richards has seen fit to pursue.

We believe that the Council would act both foolishly and unjustly in dismissing Mr. Hayward. He was appointed because he had proved himself a good man for the school.

It is not surprising that more than one man in the valley of the Yangtze, the anti-foreign party has been deluged with inflammatory literature directed against foreigners and the Government.

There can be no question as to the extent and the severity of the distress in Russia. It is well known that a very large proportion of twenty-five millions of people in that country are literally starving, yet we do not hear that any general movement is being made in Great Britain to send funds to these perishing millions.

The relief of Russian distress, it says, "as far as we could have anything to do with it, is entirely a question of money."

It is almost perfect on paper. The New York Herald describes it as "one of the best charters ever formed for the government of a nation. Modelled closely after that of the United States, it is in some respects superior to it."

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however much they may feel for the poor peasants, who are actually starving do not feel disposed to send money to Russia to be handled by officials who are notoriously the most corrupt to be found on the continent of Europe.

It is well known that Government officials are not always either zealous or intelligent in the distribution of relief, and that when they have done all that they are able and willing to do, there is a wide field for the judicious exercise of private benevolence.

Dr. Griffith John, who has lived long enough among the Chinese to learn their language, is of opinion that the late riots were not solely against either the missionaries or the religion they teach, but was the commencement of a great and general movement to drive foreigners out of the country.

There is too much intellectual stagnation against everywhere in our days. There are many who use their brains as a duty that they have contracted a dislike to mental exertion of any kind.

There are many of the boys who should turn over a new leaf, and this mock parliament gives them one of the opportunities they need. There will be many to sneer at and to ridicule them.

For some reason or other, which it is impossible even to guess, the Governor-General has incurred the dislike of the most ardent of the Grits.

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opinion, is to be traced to a government policy, and it is with the government and its policy the Great Powers are called upon now to deal.

We do not think that Europeans have any idea of "clearing out" of China. As the Emperor wishes China to be regarded by the Great Powers as a civilized country, they will, no doubt, treat her as one, and if she encourages a policy which is essentially barbarous, like that of non-intercourse, they will most likely resort to measures which will teach the Emperor how a civilized nation is expected to act towards strangers who reside in its territory.

We are glad to see that young men in this city are about to establish a Mock Parliament. Such institutions are of great use. Young men who hope to perform their duties as citizens creditably should try to improve themselves.

It is surprising to see in these times when education is so widely diffused, how few there are who know how to take a credible part in a deliberative body. Very many know nothing about the rules of order, they cannot discuss the simplest subject systematically or rationally, they cannot express themselves clearly, they cannot think on their feet, and they cannot draw up even a simple resolution off-hand correctly.

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what it may, can have any fault to find with him. The Liberals, who profess to abominate a meddling Governor General, should be particularly pleased with Lord Stanley. He has done his duty in a dignified and strictly constitutional manner.

It is impossible for outsiders to know what the influence of a Governor General is when the machinery of Government is in a normal condition and runs smoothly. His hand is seldom or never seen except on the performance of a few official acts on occasions of ceremony, but it is not, therefore, to be hastily concluded that he does nothing.

No fewer than six members of the Dominion Cabinet attended the demonstration at Perth, Ontario, held in honor of the Postmaster-General. They all spoke, but the principal speeches were made by Sir John Thompson and Mr. Foster.

The Minister of Justice in his quietly inductive way, commented upon the conduct of the Liberals who were so intent when putting down bribery and corruption in Ottawa when they visited Quebec.

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Paquet, proud of Sir Richard Cartwright's pledge, went with the remainder of the stolen money down to our own province, to assist with this plunder in putting down Tory corruption. (Loud cheers and laughter.) And a lot of us in the distant provinces are now being arranged in the election courts at the instance of Mr. Ernest Paquet and Mr. Francois Langelier, for the purpose of seeing whether we carried our elections corruptly or not; or whether we were such vile Tory corruptors as to enter to hire a hack for the purpose of carrying a sick voter to the polls—a species of corruption which makes the hair on the heads of Mr. Paquet and Mr. Langelier rise on end.

The Minister of Finance made it very clear that there are no grounds for the dismal croakings of the Opposition with respect to the financial state of the country. He reminded his hearers that the credit of Canada stands higher, to-day, in the British money market than that of any other colony, and that, though the public debt had been increased, the burden on the people, owing to the low rate at which the money had been obtained, had not been correspondingly increased.

What was the trouble? Were our finances in bad shape? The credit of this country, to-day, stood higher than any other British colony in the world. (Applause.) It was said that the debt was increasing and piling up, and that in consequence the present Government ought to be put out of power.

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tinuing such men as Sir John Thompson, Mr. Foster and Mr. Tupper, is worthy of their support. They will be even better convinced of this when they find that the platform of the men who oppose them consists of one plank—that of unrestricted reciprocity. They cannot but see that opposition policy is a most destructive one. If adopted, will certainly destroy the manufactures of Canada that have been built up with such care, its connection with Great Britain, and, in fact, the Confederation itself for one of its inevitable consequences, is annexation to the United States.

The public have, evidently, not heard the last of the Briggs heresy case. The prosecuting committee, and the minority which supported it, are not satisfied with the decision of the Presbytery of New York. The case will probably be heard in the Synod and the General Assembly, for the committee have appealed to both these bodies.

When we read Dr. Briggs' disclaimer, we felt quite sure that it would not be satisfactory to many members of the Presbytery. In it the ingenious theologian declared he was misunderstood and misrepresented, but nothing that he said could fairly be construed into a retraction of what he had said with respect to the "inerrancy" of the Scriptures; and it was this that gave such offence to many who are sincerely orthodox.

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