

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1897.

VICTORIA AND THE

YUKON TRADE.

The business men of Victoria are fully alive to their opportunity in the Yukon and seem likely to reap a very rich reward. What is most needed now is the wide distribution of information in regard to Victoria as a place to outfit. This is being in part met by the circulation of a pamphlet and map. At least 10,000 copies of this will be distributed by the Canadian Pacific immediately at all points in Eastern Canada and the United States. This will do much good. A special effort is likely to be made in Seattle and other Coast cities of the United States to show persons going into the Yukon country the advantages of outfitting in Victoria. If the simple facts of the case are laid before intending miners they will come here.

It is a matter of business with them. They do not care where they buy goods so long as they can get what they need at a reasonable price, and they can buy them at as reasonable a price here in Victoria as anywhere. Then there comes the question of duties. Everything purchased in Victoria will go into the Yukon duty free and without any vexatious customs delay. At a season of the year when time is money to intending miners this means a very great deal.

A report is in circulation that some of the Seattle people think they will be able to evade the collection of the Canadian customs. We do not suppose that any reasonable people hope to do anything of the kind; but so much nonsense has recently been printed about the disputed boundary that an impression may have got abroad to the effect that there is some doubt about the right of the Canadian government to collect its duties at the summit of the passes. While there is very great doubt, indeed, as to the right of the United States government to collect duties on the Coast, for the head of Lynn Canal probably will be ultimately determined to be British territory, there is not the least doubt in the world that once the summit of the passes has been reached the Canadian government has full and absolute jurisdiction.

It may also be worth mentioning that there is no bluff about the intention of the government to collect duties. The law will be enforced just as strictly in the passes as anywhere else in Canadian territory. The business of the Yukon is open to all the world, but on the same terms, and no others, as the business of the rest of Canada is open. The laws of Canada will be enforced in the whole territory precisely as they are enforced everywhere else. Upon this point there ought to be no mistake whatever.

ON TO KHARTOUM.

Some months ago after discussing the situation on the Nile, we suggested that the next movement would have Khartoum, or, more strictly speaking, Omdurman on the opposite bank of the river, as its objective point. The last English papers confirm this and contain a semi-official notice that a strong force will go forward at a very early day, the intention being to dispose of the Khalifa by a single blow, if possible. Recently a British envoy has visited Menelik Negus Negusti of Abyssinia, to give him his very august title, and an agreement seems to have been arrived at whereby that potentate will, if necessary, smite the Khalifa on the rear, while the Anglo-Egyptian column presses him in the front. The Congo Free State would also like to be in at the death, but its ability to get a force upon the scene, in time to be of any service, is very doubtful, especially if Lieut. Dhanniss has met with his reported fate.

We believe there is no historic record of the permanent conquest of the Sudan by any army from without. All the great conquerors of antiquity found its sands an impassable barrier. The great Napoleon came to grief on its borders. Mehemet Ali was able to extend his authority over a portion of it, and his successor in the Khedivship retained it for a time; but as a general proposition it may be asserted that the Sudan has been hitherto unconquerable. Will the Anglo-Egyptian expedition change the record? Indications are all favorable. If it does, the last great stronghold of barbarism will have been brought under the influence of European civilization.

If the map of Africa be examined, it will be seen that Abyssinia fronts on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Immediately east of the Abyssinian frontier, and extending along the gulf nearly to Cape Guardafui, is British Somaliland. East and south of this is a great region known as Somaliland, which extends along the coast of the Indian Ocean as far as the Equator. Then for about three hundred miles south the African Coast is under British control. The area having this frontage on the Indian Ocean extends in a general westerly direction into the interior about 1,500 miles and northward about 1,700 miles, fronting on Somaliland and Abyssinia and reaching the Red Sea at Suakin. It also takes in the northern half of the Victoria Nyanza, the source of the Nile, and abuts on the Congo Free State. North of the latter, the western boundary of this British territory is formed

by Kordofan, Darfur and the little known region in the very heart of the Dark Continent which the tribes of the Sudan inhabit. Darfur and Kordofan once acknowledged the sovereignty of Mehemet Ali. If they are again made tributary by reason of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition, as is not unlikely, it will probably not be to Egypt, but to Great Britain that they will acknowledge subjection. In this way British influence will extend from the Indian Ocean to the eastern shore of Lake Chad, and the recent successes of the British East Africa Company have opened the way for British control, if not fully established it, from the Atlantic Coast on the Gulf of Guinea, to the western shore of that lake; so that we may anticipate, as the direct result of the next move in the Nile Valley, the extension of British influence completely across Africa. There will remain then only about six hundred miles across the Congo Free State to be acquired, by treaty or otherwise, to give Great Britain control of a strip of country the full length of the continent from north to south; that is British influence is likely in the course of a few years to lie upon Africa in the form of a great cross, the foot resting on the Cape, the upper end on the Mediterranean, and the arms on the Atlantic and Indian oceans respectively. This is what "On to Khartoum!" means.

THE MINING OUTLOOK AND BUSINESS.

Yesterday, as a sort of pleasantry, the *Colonist*, after speaking in an editorial paragraph of the fine showing made on Lorne creek, said that if any new strikes were reported the account would be found elsewhere in the paper. After the paragraph was in type news came of the great discoveries elsewhere on the Yukon, and presumably on Stewart river. This news is probably correct, for reports to the same effect have been received from the Yukon valley on several occasions recently. It is impossible to set a limit at present to the number and value of the strikes that may be made on the Canadian Yukon.

The news from Lorne creek excited great interest, and very properly so, as it proves that the old river channels in that part of the province are likely to be very rich. Westward of Lorne creek, that is on the other side of the mountain range, in which the creek rises, good places have been found. The section has only been very superficially prospected. Several excellent quartz mines have been found, and one or more are being developed. We think it may be taken for granted that the Skeena will become a very important gold producer. The workings are so near at hand that they will prove more attractive to many people than richer ground farther away. No one can say that the Yukon placers are richer than those that may be discovered in British Columbia. When we recall that Williams Creek in Cariboo yielded \$25,000,000 in less than two miles and Lightning Creek \$12,000,000 in less than two and a half miles, we need not hesitate to regard discoveries equally rich as possible on the Skeena and other points in Northern British Columbia.

Nothing has been heard from Omineca very lately, but the last news was favorable. This district will certainly produce largely for the promise of the new placers was such that it would create great interest if it were not overshadowed by the news from Klondike. The Stikkeen and its tributaries, that is the Cassiar country, is not very much in evidence nowadays, for the same reason that Omineca has almost been lost sight of, but that Cassiar will before long take high rank as a wealth producer is conceded by everyone.

The news from Texada and Alberni is of excellent character. When we read stories of how people picked up fortunes in a day, it is not a matter of surprise that quartz yielding only \$100 to the ton fails to create more than a passing interest. If some one will discover a quartz mine out of which it is possible to get \$1,000 a day with a mortar and pestle, he can probably succeed in having it talked about. But, seriously, in other times the developments close home would be discussed on every corner and in every office, so promising are they.

And Kootenay—there is not a section of this richly endowed district that is not doing better than ever. Up north of the Canadian Pacific in the Big Bend of the Columbia splendid work is in progress. The hydraulic mines of Cariboo are exceeding all previous records. From every quarter of the vast Canadian auriferous domain, which includes half a million square miles, come the same stories of wonderful discoveries, gratifying development or handsome profits.

Such is a hasty, imperfect and superficial sketch of the mining situation today in the Pacific Slope of Canada. When we say that in the history of the world there is nothing to be compared to it, we state the sober language of facts. The eyes of the world are on this part of Canada. This will be the Mecca of thousands of adventurers. The present occasion differs from previous gold excitement in one very important particular. When the diggings in California were made known to the world, months of arduous travel were needed to reach them. So, too, in the case of Australia, and even more so was it true in the case of Cariboo. Now five or six days will bring the adventurers to the British Columbia cities, the nearest commercial points to

the new El Dorado, from any point in North America; and less than two weeks will bring them here from Europe. Six days more will see them on the head waters of the Yukon. This fact will bring on the rush of gold seekers quickly. We believe that both Victoria and Vancouver must prepare for an influx of people such as no part of the continent ever experienced. Efforts must be made to secure as much of the prospective trade as possible for our cities. There need be no jealousy on this subject. If the rush is what there is reason to expect it will be, both Victoria and Vancouver will be taxed to their utmost to supply the demand for goods and the permanent trade, after the outflow is over, will for years to come be simply enormous.

THE "BALANCE OF TRADE."

A correspondent takes exception to the views expressed in the *Colonist* as to the meaning of the returns of exports and imports, and asks for further information. We are not surprised, for it is only very recently that the fallacy of the old "balance of trade" theory has been generally recognized. So good a publicist as Sir Leonard Tilley, in introducing the National Policy, told the House of Commons that he hoped to be able to restore the equilibrium between exports and imports; and President Harrison, in one of his messages to Congress, expressed his profound gratification because the exports of the United States exceeded the imports during the previous year by a large sum, claiming that the excess represented the profit of the country on its foreign trade. Later he saw the absurdity of his position, and in subsequent references to the subject was careful to speak of the difference between the exports and imports as "the merchandise balance." Even this expression is deceptive, as a few facts will show.

Suppose that a thousand miners outfit in the United States for the Yukon, taking with them \$1,000 worth of goods each, or \$1,000,000 in all. These goods being regularly entered at the Customs House would appear as "Imports, \$1,000,000." Now suppose these same miners after consuming their outfit take \$5,000,000 in gold out of the country and report the shipments to the Customs House, as they ought in point of fact to do, this gold would figure as "Exports \$5,000,000," and according to the old balance of trade theory the country would be just \$4,000,000 ahead on the transaction, while as a matter of fact it would be a very large loser by it. Take another case: Suppose a number of Victoria merchants ship \$1,000,000 of goods to South America and sell them to such advantage that they are able to bring back \$2,000,000 of South American products, the transaction would appear on the books as "Imports, \$2,000,000"; "Exports, \$1,000,000"; and the old theorists would say the country lost a million, while in point of fact it really gained that much. Suppose again that a man owes \$100,000 in London and he ships wheat to London that cost him \$75,000 here, sells it at a profit and pays his debts with it. The transaction would stand in the books "Imports, nil"; "Exports, \$75,000," an apparent gain of \$75,000, according to the old theory, but really only a gain of the profit on the transaction.

Of course in the ramifications of trade not very many transactions are as simple as those above suggested, for goods and credits pass through many hands before a balance can be struck to ascertain how much the country may have gained or lost; but the principle of the thing is just the same. To illustrate this: Let us suppose that a Canadian merchant wishes to buy a quantity of coffee in Brazil. He will pay for it by a draft on London. To meet this draft in London he will have a credit there, which credit may be a cash balance, which he gets by means of his credit with some Canadian bank. The money to meet the draft in London may be the price of, say some Canadian cheese, which may have been sold in France by some other Canadian, and he paid for by the French purchaser by a draft on London. So the cheese seller has furnished the money which pays for the coffee, but he is entitled to receive the price of his cheese. This he may get by a draft on the bank which gave credit to the man who bought the coffee. Thus in point of fact the Canadian cheese paid for the Brazilian coffee; but before the transaction was completed a number of people made a profit out of it, and none of them really knew that the others were in it.

Even the foregoing is a very simple affair when compared with some of the business operations which result in a merchant's getting paid for goods he sells abroad or pays for those he buys abroad. His own share of the matter is simple enough; but if each individual transaction had to be segregated from the mass of trade and a balance had to be struck, the intricacy of the problem, to make the year's foreign trade balance and show what had been made and what had been lost, would be almost inconceivable. All trade transactions balance in some way. There must be an equilibrium between exports and imports, however it is established. If the exchange of merchandise does not balance, and it never does, then there must be a transference of credits to establish the balance. If it

cannot be done by means of credits, then there must be remittances of bullion. Here is the explanation of the exports of gold which make so much discussion in the United States.

OUR FOREIGN TRADE.

The aggregate foreign trade of Canada for the year ending June 30, 1897, amounted to \$245,474,766. This is the banner year in Canadian history. We append a table showing the totals since 1890:

Exports.	Imports.	Total.
1890, \$ 96,749,140	\$112,765,584	\$209,514,724
1891, 98,417,286	113,245,124	211,662,410
1892, 113,963,373	110,978,943	224,942,316
1893, 118,664,332	121,705,080	240,369,412
1894, 117,624,963	113,082,898	230,707,861
1895, 113,638,803	105,232,511	218,871,314
1896, 113,140,976	110,587,806	223,728,782
1897, 134,113,976	111,360,770	245,474,746

The year 1892 was a very good one, being the only year between 1888 and 1892 when both the exports and imports for home consumption exceeded one hundred millions, the aggregate of foreign trade in that year having been \$214,786,130. The great increase of trade in the year recently ended will be a subject of very general congratulation. We note that the exports have reached the very highest notch in the history of our trade. This is a very excellent thing, for it shows the existence abroad of an active and growing demand for Canadian products. We note, however, that the imports for home consumption, while in excess of what they were in 1895 and 1896, are less than in any of the other years since 1890. It used to be the practice to regard this as a very satisfactory state of things, and there is a school of writers who believe that the prosperity of a country is to be measured by the excess of its exports over imports. This is no longer considered a test of any value whatever. Since Confederation Canada has exported goods to the value of \$2,760,000,000 in round numbers, and imported \$3,250,000,000 worth, that is, it has apparently lost \$500,000,000 on its foreign trade. But everyone knows that the country has made no such loss. Everyone knows that as a general proposition our foreign trade is conducted at a profit. All that the trade returns given above show is the value of the merchandise exported from the country and the value of the merchandise imported. They do not tell what our exports sold for abroad, or what our imports sold for at home. They give no idea of the profits or losses on the several transactions, or of the movements of bullion or the transference of credits. At the same time the increase of exports is a highly gratifying circumstance.

OUR NEIGHBORS ARE ANXIOUS.

It is proverbial that drowning men catch at straws, and the Seattle people have shown this by the way they have drawn barrels of comfort out of some remarks wrongfully attributed to Mr. Foulkes. The truth of the matter is that our Seattle friends are very considerably agitated at present, and with very good reason. They worked hard for the Yukon trade and got a good deal of it. They believed they had it corralled, but to their inexpressible disgust find that they have no greater hold on it than they can get by the closest possible figuring and the most skillful catering to the needs of consumers.

They may make up their minds to one thing, namely, that the collection of duties is not a "mere bluff on the part of Victoria merchants." They have really no right to complain, and as a matter of fact they do not complain, of the action of the Canadian government and the determination of the Victoria merchants to secure the business. There is a little mild frenzy in San Francisco and other points over the fact that the authorities at Washington have met the reasonable demands of the Canadian government in a fair spirit, but this will soon pass away. If our friends in the United States are allowed to go into the Canadian Yukon and dig gold on the same footing as British subjects, they had better thank their stars for that privilege and not embitter the Canadian people by seeking to throw obstacles in the way of trade between two portions of Canadian territory.

The Times the other day expressed its doubts as to the navigability of the Hootalinqua, and hence as to the advisability of the Provincial government doing anything to open the Stikkeen-Teslin trail. Last night it printed an Ottawa dispatch in which Dr. Dawson is reported as saying that navigation from the head of Teslin lake to the mouth of the Yukon by stern-wheel steamers is uninterrupted. We did not observe, however, that the Times thought it necessary to convey in its previous article.

The Vancouver World does not think there is any hurry about the appointment of a cabinet minister from British Columbia. Is the World waiting until someone is made Governor and someone else is made Senator, before joining in the demand for this highly necessary step on the part of the Dominion government?

The Kamloops Standard is the latest addition to the British Columbia newspaper world and it makes a strong beginning. "We wish it would not say 'onto.' That is the meanest and most unnecessary word that ever was written.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF

Chas. H. Fletcher

IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF

CASTORIA

It is put up in one-size bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose." See that you get O-A-S-T-O-R-I-A.

Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

WHEN DOCTORS FAIL. TRY WHAT ALWAYS CURES.



It has stood upon its merits for years, and cures after the failure of drugs.

Electricity flows from it into the body and carries new life to the nerves.

It Cures All Diseases.

Disease yields to it naturally, because it supplies the power to work the human machinery. All disease is the result of weakness of the vital organs, hence this wonderful invigorant, which restores the wasted strength, will always cure.

Do You Suffer

From Rheumatism, Lame Back, Weak Kidneys, Indigestion, Nervous Debility, Varicose, Sciatica, Loss of Memory, Confusion of Ideas, Sleeplessness, Nightmare, or any of the distressing effects of the loss of nerve and vital strength, Dyspepsia, Constipation etc.?

Are You a Woman

With bearing-down pains, nervous exhaustion, pale flabby complexion, weak stomach, nervous trembling, or any other of the many forms of female weakness? If so, apply to Dr. Sanden. Tell him of your trouble, and he will give you the names of others who once suffered as you do and

Who Have Been Cured.

Do not suffer for this Belt will cure you. Send for the book about it, free. It has hundreds of testimonials, describes your ailment and tells you how to cure it. Address

DR. A. T. SANDEN,

255 Washington Street, PORTLAND, Oregon.

Dr. Sanden pays the duty on all goods shipped to this Province.

EXTRA HEAVY BLANKETS, \$2.50, \$7.75 Pair.

Mackinaw Jackets and Pants. 7 Pairs Heavy Wool Sox, \$1.00. Arctic Sox, 75c. per pair. Leather Jackets, Overalls, Top Shirts, Heavy Underwear, Etc.

B. WILLIAMS & CO.,
HATTERS AND CLOTHIERS, 97 JOHNSON ST.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE

SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.

THE QUEEN'S

Special Acknowledgment of Toronto and Premier La

The Golden West Railway Business-Duluth Pro

Toronto, July 26.—The received a letter from the Queen conveying the Queen's letter. The Queen's letter: "I request you to inform the Municipality of Toronto for their loyal thanks for their loyal dress, which I accept with pleasure and gratification. I have ordered the Queen's coat of arms, which is varied and valuable Dominion of Canada."

The Westward Pacific never had such a large acreage of land up to the land in Manitoba excitement over the discoveries all the traffic. Mr. McNicoll's era of prosperity in the C.P. traffic receipts for the year 1896 were \$417,000, and a score more in.

Toronto, July 24.—A celebrities are expected, including the fair, including Queen of Siam, Dr. Nan potki, Lord Lister, the Royal Society, Lord Speaker Courtney of the month, and a score more in.

MANITOBA AND NO

WINNIPEG, July 24.—and people attended the bition to-day. The fair Monday. Despite the weather during the ear week, the show has been

W. S. Hall, of Heading yesterday by a you. Only Canadians have tracts for the construction of the West Pass railway for the from MacLeod to Crow's names being as follows: Strevell, Neil Keith, J. Crismond, J. H. McMillan, Ed. Egan and the wealthy and enter man Chong Hoy, known colony of Hongkong, and who passed through ten days ago, en route yesterday afternoon. It is believed that the distinction was ill when last in the victim of rheumatism, and still troubles him, he has routed his rivals and a season of treatment Springs. After leaving Hoy will visit Portland, points on Puget Sound, and being on his return voyage. During his journey the visitor arranged with the Woods Milling Company their flour in China, and that large quantities will be sent to the coast. Robert Jack and Company this summer.

A youth named Richard drowned yesterday while Assiniboia river at St. Ch. A man named Olsen fell tank at Carleton station and broke his neck. Premier Greenway left City. He expects to contract for the construction of the Winnipeg-Duluth air line by August.

WINNIPEG, July 26.—shot in the abdomen, and on Saturday, died of injuries. The families of Dr. G. Hawke, editor of the Herald, have been camping week at Boundary Creek some fifteen miles west of Winnipeg. Yesterday morning the eldest son of the late Clandon Hawke, sons of went out boating on the lake since been seen. He was found turned over, and his body was drifting in the water.

A FREIGHT BL

PORT TOWNSEND, July 24.—er City of Topeka arrived to-day. She brings news of dyke fever is on the increase nearly every able-bodied either having gone or been the rich gold fields.

Authentic reports do are that there is now a piled up at the head of the Indians can pack over next eighteen months. Freight will be more than the steamers Queen and route, arrive. This practically precludes the hundreds of gold seekers mining regions this year. John C. Brann has taken office and is now Alaska.

P. E. ISLAND ED

CHARLOTTETOWN, July vinal elections were and some of the major that it will not be certain declaration day which turned. This uncertain the system of special voting by absence in being polled in other they reside. But it appears the Peters government is