

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1892.

HELP NEEDED.

The awful catastrophe at the Roanoke mines has deprived many families of their breadwinners, and left women and little children destitute. They must not be allowed to suffer. Time should not be lost in sending them relief. We know that Victoria will not be the last to give in this matter. He gives twice who gives quickly, is particularly true in cases of this kind. A subscription list has already appeared in the COLONIST office to raise a fund to help the sorrowing and suffering widows and orphans at Roanoke. We trust that the next boat to Seattle will carry part of Victoria's contribution to the sufferers.

BADLY USED.

The British Columbia sealers have reason to feel that they are badly used under the *modus vivendi* of this year. They were allowed to fish their vessels and to send them to sea without one word of warning. It has since been a physical impossibility to give the masters of the vessels any intimation of the arrangement made by the two governments. And now these vessels that are not violating any law or conscientiously acting in contravention of any national arrangement are liable to seizure without a single word of warning. The arrangement of last year was equitable. Vessels were met by cruisers in Behring Sea and ordered out of it. If they were found again in the forbidden waters they were liable to seizure. Of this they could not complain for they had received fair warning. But this year the preliminary notice is dispensed with, and men who have committed no offence are to be treated as violators of the law. This is most unjust, and if the proper representations are made to the Imperial authorities we are quite sure that the sealers who are now in Behring Sea will be treated as they were last year.

AN IMPARTIAL ENQUIRY.

The investigation into the charges made against Sir A. P. Caron will be both searching and impartial. The Royal Commission not having a party end to gain, will conduct the enquiry in a fair and orderly manner, with the sole object of finding out whether or not the charges are well founded.

The Opposition declared, when Mr. Edgar denounced the Postmaster-General in the House of Commons, that the Government were afraid to investigate the charges. And when the Minister of Justice asked Mr. Edgar to make his accusations specific, in order that they could be dealt with, they did not want a fair enquiry into Sir A. P. Caron's conduct, for when the Government takes steps to institute an enquiry, and an enquiry by men learned in the law, and not politicians, their murmurs are both loud and deep.

For our part we cannot see what better the real lovers of honest Government could ask for than such an enquiry as the Government has provided for. It was a Commission composed of judges that enquired into the charges which had been made against Mr. Parrell. All the world knows that the enquiry was impartially conducted, and that as it went on matters were brought to light, the extent of which but few even suspected. It is very questionable indeed if any Committee of the House of Commons could have done the work anything like as well, and as satisfactorily to the nation as it was done by the judges.

It was a Commission of judges that enquired into the conduct of Mr. Mercier and his colleagues and agents. No one presumes to say that that enquiry was not well conducted, and that it did not find out the truth with regard to the late Governor of Quebec. It was on account of the confidence which men of all parties, and of no party at all, had in the impartiality and ability of that Commission that they drove Mr. Mercier from power, and gave his opponents a majority in the Legislature. We think the Minister of Customs was right when he said:

"I believe that this House and the country will concur in the course and approval of the policy which has been adopted by the Government in this matter. I believe that this country will be more satisfied and that the truth will be arrived at much better by a commission of one or more independent men, whose duty it will be to take the evidence, than by a body of politicians who compose the committee of Privileges and Elections."

The proceedings of the Commission will be watched narrowly by the people. They are lynx-eyed in such matters, and they will readily see if any attempt is made to suppress the truth, or if the accused Minister is treated unfairly by his opponents. What the people of this Dominion want to know about their public servants, high as well as humble, is the simple truth. They don't want to see any man whitewashed, neither do they wish to see facts strained and distorted to bring about any man's condemnation. They want to see justice done to Sir A. P. Caron—nothing more and nothing less—and we very much mistake if they don't conclude that this end will be best brought about by the means adopted by the Government.

EARL GREY ON CANADA'S TRADE POLICY.

Earl Grey is the author of a pamphlet on "The Commercial Policy of the British Colonies and the McKinley Tariff." That veteran statesman is a free trader of the strictest type. He believes that free trade in the British empire should be the policy not only of Great Britain but of all the colonies. He is of opinion that it was a mistake on

the part of the "Mother Country" to extend to the colonies the power of framing their own tariffs. The trade policy of Great Britain, he holds, should be the trade policy of the whole Empire. Consistently with his free trade creed he believes that to allow the colonies to become protectionist was bad both for them and for the Mother Country. He does not appear to think it at all inconsistent with his principles as a Liberal to deny to the great colonial communities the power of governing themselves in matters relating to trade and commerce. He, though a Liberal, would keep them in leading strings to the end of time, and would have the people and the Parliament of Great Britain, as far as trade is concerned, do their thinking for them.

We have a very strong suspicion that if Great Britain had attempted to govern the colonies on the lines laid down by Earl Grey, they would not have got along very well together. The adoption of the protectionist policy by Canada and other colonies has, the noble Earl thinks, a tendency to make a breach between them and the Mother Country, but would not the policy of subordination or coercion in matters of trade have a much greater influence in that direction? We believe that if it had been tried there would have been a severance of the colonial bond long ere this.

Earl Grey looks upon the scheme of the United Empire Trade League—that of mutually preferential duties by Great Britain and her dependencies—as going back to the policy of protection, and he consequently gives it no countenance at all. On the contrary, he frowns upon it darkly. He argues against commercial union between Canada and the United States, and he condemns annexation. What does he believe in as a uniform trade policy for the whole British Empire, and that a policy of free trade. He looks upon protection as an absurd policy for a new country whose natural resources are undeveloped. He advises Canada to adopt the British trade policy. He is convinced that if she did so, she would be more prosperous than she is, and that her example would cause the United States to abandon, in a great measure, if not altogether, its policy of trade exclusiveness. Free Trade for the whole British Empire is the creed of the venerable Earl Grey.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES.

Italy has come to grief. It has, for some time, been travelling on what many have found to be the road to ruin. It has, in matters of expense, been trying to keep up with its richer neighbors, Germany, Austria and France have big military establishments, and the Italian Government thought that Italy must have one proportionately large. France and England keep up powerful navies, and Italy, being a maritime power, must have a formidable navy, too. In order to get the money to organize and support the Italian fleet, and to build and keep up the Italian army, the Italian people were heavily taxed. They were compelled to pay more than they could afford, and broken down and discouraged, thousands upon thousands left the country, and those that remained were squeezed by the Government up to, and beyond their tarpaving capacity. An end was sure to come to this state of things some time. The frog could not, for ever, keep on swelling itself with the vain hope of one day getting to be as big as the ox. The time of collapse has arrived. Changes have been made in ministries, and one remedy after another has been tried, but the problem which is insoluble one. The most skillful financier in the whole Kingdom could not get five and four to make twelve. So it was found that the Government must stretch or go into bankruptcy. Italy had during the days of her prodigality been keeping company with the great ones of the earth. She had been ambitious and had, following the fashion, extended her dominion. She had tried to lay the foundation of a colonial empire. But now when her treasury is empty, and she must cut down her establishments and give up her dream of forming a new Italy in distant Africa, what will her great friends think of her? Will they associate with her any longer? Will she in her poverty-stricken condition be allowed to remain a member of the great Alliance of Three which was to control the destinies of Europe? This is what makes the descent hard and humiliating. But she seems to have no choice. She must lessen her expenses. She must for a time at least import a figure in the world. The pill which the Italian statesman have to swallow is an exceedingly bitter one, but it must be taken. Italy must bid a long farewell to her short-lived greatness.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The victory won by the Conservatives in London, on Wednesday, will greatly encourage the upholders of Union in Great Britain. Since the County election the Liberals have been reckoning upon making great gains in London. At that election the Progressive or Radical party carried all before it, and it was hoped by the Gladstonians that the Londoners would vote on national issues as they had done in the county contest. But this North Hackney election has gone a great way to unconvince them. It has shown them that the men who vote for sweeping reforms in municipal matters may be staunchly Conservative when the preservation of the integrity of the Empire is the issue.

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS.

Mrs. WINDOLY'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children when teething with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Beware of cheap imitations. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Windoly's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.

THE NEW COAL FIELDS.

We see by Dr. Selwyn's Summary Report, Geological Survey Department, that he spent part of last summer exploring the country in the vicinity of Crow's Nest Pass, on both sides of the British Columbia boundary. In the vicinity of the Pass he found heads that there was petroleum to be had for the boring. He says:

"The whole country, for many miles around, and up to the entrance of the South Kootenay Pass, nine miles south, was marked off with the stakes of the oilfields. On inquiry I was informed that an 'expert' named Baring had been there, and had expressed a favorable opinion as to boring where operations were being commenced. I was unable to obtain any other reason for fixing on the site."

But the enterprising miners, like many others, were the victims of a quack. There is no oil in that part of the country, and the biters soon found out, for they struck water, and a great deal too much of it, but of oil they did not see a sign. The note which the Government geologist made after examining the area was: "There is nothing whatever to indicate the existence of petroleum in this vicinity. It seems highly improbable that it should be found here, though, of course, not impossible."

Dr. Selwyn, in the course of his explorations, however, came upon signs of petroleum. At a place called Cameron Falls, just at the southeast corner of British Columbia, he noticed a powerful odor of petroleum, and stirring the stones in the bed of the stream considerable quantities of oil rose at once to the surface. Oil was seen oozing out of the bank of the stream, and skimming the surface of a shallow pool a wine that when a big concern like the Canadian Pacific goes to some expense to add to the accommodation of the public, it also furthers its own interests.

The report shows, too, that the fear that the C. P. R. would prove a great land monopolist, asking an extortionate price for land, and holding it until settlers would have to give it what it asked, was groundless. We find by the report that the company is now anxious to sell its land, and looks upon its increasing sales as a matter of congratulation. In this, too, the company shows an enlightened regard for its own interests. The prospect of the Canadian Pacific are good. The report says that the country tributary to the company's lines is of enormous extent, and its potential wealth is without limit. This is quite true, and it is to be hoped that the Canadian Pacific Company will always realize that it is its duty as well as its interest to give the country a full equivalent for what it gets from it. As long as it does this, the people of Canada will be proud of it and will rejoice in its prosperity.

UNEXPECTED.

The Canadians who scoffed at Mr. McNeill's preferential duties' motion did not dream that the London Times would look upon it favorably and discuss it seriously. If they believed that that great organ of British public opinion would look upon the resolution they despised as an overture from a despised colony, which, if followed by similar overtures from other colonies, might lead to a change in Britain's trade policy, which may be regarded as revolutionary, they would, we venture to say, have treated both it and its mover much more respectfully than they did. But they were sure that that resolution would be looked upon with contempt by the free traders on the other side of the Atlantic, and they, therefore, believed that they were safe in speaking of it with contempt and ridicule. When they read the Times of the 27th of last month they will see how silly and short-sighted they were. The article in the Times is most significant, and is altogether different from what the Liberal economists expected. This the reader will admit when he peruses the following message:

"In dealing with the proposals for an arrangement to enable me to see that kind of union, such as Mr. Howard Vincent brought forward a few weeks ago in the debate on the address, we have more than once pointed out in the absence of any prospect of a desire on the part of the principal colonies to enter into serious relations of reciprocity it was impossible to discuss the subject on any good purpose, and his are bound, in fairness, to take note of the fact that the Parliament of the Canadian Dominion has made an offer which, if backed by the other leading colonies, would be a most desirable one. It would be deserving, at any rate, of careful consideration."

A GOOD REPORT.

We received by telegraph on Thursday an abstract of part of the annual report of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which, owing to the pressure of advertisements, we found it impossible to publish. The report shows, what all the world now knows, that this great railway is in a most flourishing condition, and that it is managed skillfully as regards the interests of the stockholders and liberally as far as the accommodation of the public is concerned. Though the management studies and practises economy, it is an enlightened economy. It is not afraid to spend money when it is seen that the true interests of the road require a liberal expenditure. For instance, many of the bridges when the road was first built were not calculated to stand wear and tear very long. It has been the object of the management to replace these bridges by masonry, steel structures, and solid embankments. This has been done gradually and continuously, and when the report was drawn up no fewer than 224 bridges had undergone these transformations. These and other improvements, though expensive, were really made in the interests of economy, for we are informed that they have effected a saving of twenty per cent. per annum in the cost of working the road. Here a double purpose was effected; the road was made smoother and safer, and the expense of operating it diminished. We are glad to see that it is the purpose of the Company to continue to make these improvements until the lines shall have reached the highest state of efficiency, and the greatest possible economy

IN WORKING HAS BEEN SECURED.

The people of Canada, as well as the stockholders of the Canadian Pacific, will be glad to know that the Company has lost nothing by establishing a line of ocean steamships on the Pacific. When first this project was mooted, prudent people, who were not convinced by any means of the wisdom of the project, shook their heads and said that the C. P. R. was going too fast and too far, that its management was taking more upon itself than it could successfully accomplish. Even some who approved of the project thought the Company would have to calculate upon losing money for a time, for the Japan steamers would have to run a good while before they could be made to pay. But it is most pleasant to find that the steamships have, from the start, cleared their working expenses and the interest on their cost, without taking into account the value of the business contributed to the railway itself. The profit will, no doubt, come by and by. We are pretty sure that very few indeed believed that the Company would be able, in the first year of the running of the steamships, to make so good a showing.

The other improvements which the company have made have turned out equally well, telegraph extension, and sleeping cars, grain elevators, and lake steamers, have been additions to the comforts and conveniences which the Company has extended to the public, and they have, at the same time, tended to swell its profits. This is gratifying. The public are neither churlish nor ungrateful. They are always pleased when they hear that what individuals or companies have done to accommodate them has put money into their pockets. It is well to know, too, that when a big concern like the Canadian Pacific goes to some expense to add to the accommodation of the public, it also furthers its own interests.

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A TRANSFERENCE.

Ferdinand Ward realizes to-day that the way of the transgressor is hard. Seven years or so ago he was to all appearance a prosperous man of business. He was intelligent, energetic and enterprising. He was the head of an apparently prosperous firm, of which ex-President Grant was the sleeping partner, and his son, U. S. Grant, Jr., an active one. Ward was not content to do a legitimate business. Honest-dealing was too slow for him, and legitimate profits too small. He traded upon the confidence of the mercantile community placed in the integrity of his partners in business. He robbed the bank of which he was president, and he borrowed right and left without having the means or the intention of returning the money. The collapse came. The firm of Grant and Ward, which commenced business in 1880 with a modest capital of nearly \$500,000, failed in 1888 for some \$1,000,000. To fishermen dealing generally, he added falsification of books and other kinds of forgery. He was tried for one of his offences and sentenced to imprisonment for ten years. Three and a half years of his term of imprisonment has been commuted for good behavior.

He is now nominally a free man, for there are several charges still hanging over him, and he is liable to be apprehended at any time. He has no home, no character, no means. His wife died while he was in prison, and his father did not long survive the disgrace which Ward brought upon his family. It is said, too, that Ward's dishonesty shortened as well as embittered General Grant's days. Ferdinand Ward has certainly paid dearly for whatever gratification he enjoyed during his five years' career in an apparently brilliant financial career. He tried to build up a fortune and a reputation with stolen money. He brought ruin upon many innocent and deserving persons. He sent sorrow to many a home. He disgraced those connected with him by the ties of blood, and he made shipwreck of himself. What has such a man to live for. Yet there are many who are pursuing the same career as Ferdinand Ward did, who will not be warned by his fate.

SLOW WORK.

Vigorous efforts are still being made in the United States to raise money for the construction of the Nicaragua canal. It is a little surprising that American capitalists are so slow in putting down their names for Nicaragua canal stock. There can be no doubt that if the canal were once built it would yield a good return for the money invested in its construction. It is still more wonderful that the United States Congress hesitates to guarantee the bonds of the canal company. Not more than one hundred millions of dollars are required for the construction of the canal and Uncle Sam's name on the company's bonds would make them as good as wheat, and the money could be raised and the canal built without the old gentleman being a single dollar out of pocket. Once the canal was built he could take good care that it would be so managed that he would not be called upon to pay one cent of the guaranteed interest. He, too, could arrange matters as to get a controlling interest in the concern and could manage its affairs so as to further his own interests. Since the guarantee has not been given it is, we believe, safe to conclude that there is some very powerful influence at work to retard the construction of the canal. It cannot succeed in defeating the project altogether.

The advantage of the Nicaragua Canal to the whole Pacific Coast is simply incalculable. Mr. J. G. Holcombe, United States Engineer, gives an illustration which shows in a striking manner the benefits which the mercantile communities on this side of the continent must gain from the opening of this ship canal. He says:

"The bark W. W. Crapo sailed from Port Townsend for Boston, Mass., with a cargo of spars and shingles. She sailed shows in a striking manner the benefits which the mercantile communities on this side of the continent must gain from the opening of this ship canal. He says:

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merical enterprise, there cannot be the shadow of a doubt. The revenue from the way outlet would be large. It is calculated that the traffic through the canal during the first year of its existence would be at least \$12,000,000. Such an amount of traffic, if the tolls were the same as are charged on the Suez Canal, would yield a revenue of \$16,848,196. This, after paying working expenses, would give a dividend on the capital invested in its construction, \$100,000,000, of at least ten per cent. This does not seem to be unreasonable. Yet, with such a bright prospect as this, the Nicaragua Canal project hangs fire. It is evident that there must be something wrong somewhere.

A VEGETARIAN REVIEWER.

Is it right to eat animal food? Is a question which some people find it hard to answer. They question the right of man to take the life of other animals to supply himself with food, and they fear that the wholesale slaughter which the consumption of animal food renders necessary is demoralizing to the flesh eater. There are others who, putting sentiment, moral and religious aside, believe that flesh and fish are not wholesome food for the human race. They contend that flesh eaters are not so vigorous in body or so clear and alert in mind as the vegetarians. They believe that men would be healthier, happier and purer if they banished animal food from their bill of fare.

Lady Paget thought this subject worth enquiring into. She did enquire, and, in consequence, has become a vegetarian. A paper of hers, on "Vegetable Diet," is published in the April number of the Nineteenth Century. It is pleasantly written. She states her opinions modestly, and she is not, as most new converts are, dreadfully hard on those whose creed she has only lately repudiated. She does not call those who still persist in eating flesh names, and does not threaten them with fearful punishments if they continue in the good old way, as far as their diet is concerned.

The good lady's account of her awakening is interesting. She had invited a distinguished German professor to dinner, and when he came he could not "touch anything," because he was a vegetarian. She had been, a few evenings before, to hear the professor lecture, and was struck by his extraordinary vigor and clearness. The words dropped like pebbles from his lips, and though the voice was scarcely raised, it appeared to search out the remotest corners of the room. Every rounded-off sentence presented a vivid picture to the mind. . . . The thing which, however, impressed me the most, was the sense of power held back, and to the good, as it were, which the Professor gave me whilst speaking, and even after he had finished." This clearness of mind and intellectual, or magnetic power, Lady Paget attributes to the Professor's abstinence from animal food.

She afterwards heard the gentleman's experience. He had been very ill and given up by all the doctors. He was advised to abstain from animal food. All the strong soups and beef jellies, and the mixed meats were eliminated and replaced by fruit and light farinaceous food, but fruit especially. And he soon got well and made a home. He disgraced those connected with him by the ties of blood, and he made shipwreck of himself. What has such a man to live for. Yet there are many who are pursuing the same career as Ferdinand Ward did, who will not be warned by his fate.

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keep Chinese out of the United States, and worry and humiliate those who, previous to the passage of the law, had become residents on its territory, they feel that they have no right to complain if the Chinese do their best to make the lives of those who happen to be in the country miserable. This is what the Oregonian has to say on the subject:

"Retaliation in kind is a lawful mode of protest against international injury. We should have no right to complain if China were to adopt towards American citizens in that empire precisely the course we have taken towards Chinese subjects. There are many thousands of Americans in China engaged in trade and teaching. They are there by grace of the very Burlingame treaty under which the Chinese now in the United States came here, and we can expect of China no more than to treat them precisely as we treat her subjects. If that Government were to expel our trade and missionaries, summarily, we might well adopt a loud and energetic tone of protest. But surely it may regulate, supervise and limit them, as we have done Chinese immigrants in this country."

This is a little hard on the Christian country which might be expected to set an example of covenant-keeping to the pagan Chinese, but it is good sense.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND has its little gerrymander. The Grits of that province have eagerly seized the opportunity that a change in the provincial constitution has afforded them to dish the Conservatives. They have, it appears, out and carved the electoral districts in such a way as to ensure their return to power at the next general election with a good majority. They have the power to make a redistribution to suit themselves and they do not hesitate to use it. Yet these same Grits are awfully indignant at what they call the Tory Gerrymander.

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For a general family cathartic we confidently recommend Hood's Pills. They should be in every home medicine chest.

REGULATES THE BOWELS, BILE AND BLOOD. CURES Constipation, Biliousness, Headache, Nervousness, Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, Scrofula, and All Broken Down Conditions of the Body.

My daughter, after a severe attack of Scarlet Fever, was completely broken down. I spent hundreds of dollars in doctors bills with but little satisfaction. Before she had taken one bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters there was a remarkable change, and now she is entirely cured.

DICK'S BLOOD PURIFIER FOR HORSES AND CATTLE. It will remove all signs of disease and consequently prevent any disease that may be going about from taking a firm hold on their constitutions. It is infinitely superior to any Condition Powder now used, as it loosens the fluids, enabling the animal to cast his hair, and is also an unfailing remedy for Ringworms, Warts, and all other skin diseases. It is also an unfailing remedy for Ringworms, Warts, and all other skin diseases. It is also an unfailing remedy for Ringworms, Warts, and all other skin diseases.

OTTAWA.

Anticipations of a Redistribution of Seats in the House of Commons.

Why the Charges Caron were Commenced.

The Strength of Its Majority.

From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, May 7. Unless the Redistribution Bill is passed by the House of Commons before the end of the session, the Government will be obliged to resign. The Redistribution Bill is a measure of great importance, and its passage is essential to the continuance of the present Government.

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