Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1885.

THE METLAKAHTLA MATTER.

Mr. Pooley's retort upon Mr. Dunsmuir, with reference to Mr. Duncan's refusal to give an answer that might criminate him, is not justified by the evidence. Mr. Duncan gave the only answer which it was possible to give to a question that should not have been put. The attorney-general, after stating that it is "utterly unlawful" to prevent an Indian from building a house on an Indian reserve, proceeded to ask Mr. Duncan if he did this unlawful act, to which Mr. Duncan properly replied, "I decline to answer such a question." Elsewhere, see page 34, Mr. Duncan clearly shows the reason for such prevention, and the fact that the village community practice enforces it—a practice which all incomers agree to. It is too much to expect that on being told on high authority that this practice was utterly unlawful he should admit participation in it. But with deference to Mr. Davie the unlawfulness of the practice is by no means clear. The question is within the discretion of the superintendent-general. The Metlakahtlans are an informally organized community or band on certain recognized principles, annually declared and adopted to prevent the possibility of mistake. Indians, who are not Metlakahtlans, have no more right than white men to settle, reside upon or occupy any portion of Metlakahtlan land. They can only do so with the licence of the superintendent-general who, in such matters, always requires the assent of a majority of the people. What the Metlakahtla Indians say, and what Mr. Duncan says, is that Indians who come in on a pretence of conformity, and afterwards refuse to conform, cease to be Metlakahtlans, become "other than Indians of the band," and cannot claim communal rights. These non-conformists appear to number thirteen men, since reduced to twelve, by the defection of an individual who reverted from the bishop, because "he punches people, and also has a gun." This odd description of a prelate may be read with the following: "He told us about the Bible and about God, but he told us more about the society, and he has told us about God, but has never followed it. He has only told us about the outside of the bible, and that is why his work has not grown." Says the bishop himself: "I struck him so that he did not return at all, I struck him heavily." A Police Gazette reporter would value the graphic touches. The most interesting fact brought out by the evidence taken at Metlakahtla is the constitution of the village community at that place. Without understanding this, nothing else can be understood. The principle of the community is *unity*—the conformity of everybody to everything. Whether we approve this principle or not it has produced good results in the particular case. It is utterly opposed to our social principles, and will not be the type of other Indian communities; but, nevertheless, Metlakahtla is before us as a living, potential fact. Everybody who joins the community has to declare his willingness to conform, and each member of the community has to declare his continuing conformity once a year. The promise to obey the village rules is the chief part of this declaration. These rules, necessarily to preserve the principle of unity, forbid ownership of village lots in severality, or the building of houses without permission. There is nothing unlawful in such a social arrangement, provided that no persons having prior rights at Metlakahtla are disturbed, which does not appear to be the case. The main dispute has been raised by non-unionists, who claim to be renegade unionists, to break the village rules to which they have declared adherence, or outsiders desirous of living at Metlakahtla without conforming. The population of the village is about 1,000, all told. The non-unionists consist of a thirteen adult men with their families, and, so far as they were organized, are led by Bishop Ridley. One of the requirements of the "union" principle is that there shall be one church at the place—the "Christian Church of Metlakahtla." The Indians know only this, their own church. It appears that, in their mission efforts, the church missionary society looked to the Indians having an "independent church of their own," which the Indians have now got. If the Dominion government examined the matter, they would find that the true object of the special trusteeship of the two acres was to help the Metlakahtla experiment, of which unity is the sustaining principle and, specifically, to prevent an invasion of the settlement by non-unionists. They, therefore, not only could but were bound to remove any persons causing disunion by active hostilely to the village rules. No valid territorial claim on the part of the non-unionists could be set up against this action of the Dominion government. It does not require much acquaintance with our land laws to know that the governor's letter on which the non-unionists, through the agent of the missionary society, base their right of intrusion, even were it a competent letter (which is very doubtful), could not legally have the effect of alienating two acres of an Indian settlement for the uses of a foreign corporation, or of anybody. The missionary society are not a land or building society; their donations were for moral results, which have been gained.

METEMNEH.

The success of General Stewart's march across the desert, terminating in two sharp but victorious battles, has placed him in the foremost rank of English generals. The undertaking was a dangerous one, but the skill and courage of the commander and the bravery and endurance of the soldiers have made it one of the most brilliant episodes of recent warfare. It was on the 30th of December that General Stewart left Korti to cross the desert to Metemneh, in order to avoid an immense curve in the Nile. General Wolseley was to follow up with the remainder of the army, but some apprehensions were felt that General Stewart's small force might be overpowered on the way. These fears proved well founded by the attack made by some 10,000 of the Mahdi's troops near Abu Klea wells. The gallant little army, however, overcame the enemy with great slaughter and obtained possession of the wells. These latter are situated about twenty-three miles from Metemneh, toward which Stewart's army continued its march, followed and harassed by the enemy. Near Metemneh the recent victorious battle with the united rebel forces from Berber, Shendy and Omderman was fought, of which full details have been given. With a comparatively trifling loss the English succeeded in completely routing the Arabs, and afterwards entrenching themselves near Metemneh, on the Nile, from which point communication was soon had with General Gordon. Metemneh is on the west bank of the Nile, nearly opposite Shendy, below the sixth cataract and about 100 miles north of Khartoum. The distance from Korti to Metemneh is 400 miles by water, but the route pursued by Stewart across the desert shortens it to 175 miles. The country is remarkably sterile, only one or two oases occurring along the whole route.

THE WORLD LARGE ENOUGH.

In these days when so much is heard of the over-population of European countries, and when thousands are yearly leaving these lands for America, or some of the great islands of the Pacific, the thought must occur to many that in time these new countries will also become filled up by means of immigration and the natural increase of population, till after the lapse of a century or two they will become as crowded as those old-world lands by whose overflow they were first peopled. The problem then would be an overstocked world, for which it would be difficult to conceive a remedy. This idea of the ultimate over-crowding of the world is strengthened by a consideration of the improved conditions of mankind in general whereby loss of life is constantly being diminished. In the earlier history of the world famines were the great scourge of mankind, and even in later times they have carried off millions among the uncivilized races of the globe. But a remedy for famine is found in the railway and other means of speedy communication. The difficulty has always been to get food to the starving people in time to save them. Thousands, and even millions, died in China and India during a period of famine, when a few hundred miles distant from some isolated districts there is plenty of food which cannot be transported for lack of roads. But when the network of railways is extended all over the world famine will become practically impossible. Epidemics have always counteracted the effect of a too-rapid increase of the world's inhabitants. But science has to a great extent overcome this old foe; the power to prevent epidemics and to cope with them when they do appear was never so great as it is now. Cholera, for instance, is always in existence in some parts of Asia, but when it appeared in Europe recently it was completely eradicated in a comparatively short time. Thus it is evident that as civilization advances science will do more and more to preserve the lives of men. This very fact suggests one reason why the world will not speedily become over-crowded. It is civilization which tends to this end; barbarism on the other hand leads ultimately to degeneration and extinction, especially when it is brought in contact with civilization. History shows that civilization destroys uncivilized races. There is hardly an instance where barbarous populations have not been wasted when brought into contact with a civilized people. If then the barbarians are extinguished their room will be left for the civilized. North America, which now supports such great and flourishing communities, was once the home of a race of savages who are now fast disappearing. There is no reason why this history should not be repeated in South America, Asia and Africa, and it is already going on in the great islands of the sea. There are something like two hundred millions in Africa, the greater part of whom must in the course of time give place to the immigration from more civilized races. It is also estimated that Africa can support one hundred million more. The vast area of North and South America holds hardly more than one hundred millions of people while its capabilities are almost illimitable. The waste places of the earth are only waste because they have been neglected. As population increases they will receive attention and by means of irrigation will be made to do their share towards supporting the earth. So it is evident that the time is far distant when the world will be overcrowded. There are now supposed to be about fourteen hundred millions of human beings upon the earth and there is probably room for as many more.

WHO SHOULD BE PUNCHED?

It is hardly necessary to notice such an inexperienced politician as Mr. John Grant, or to comment on his antics during the absence of the responsible and more reasonable editor of our juvenile evening contemporary. With his private contentions we have nothing to do; but we doubt if the public to which he appeals will approve his use of parliamentary privilege as shelter against a charge of slander. The Metlakahtla trouble is evidently beyond his comprehension. He sees in it nothing but a means of further gratifying a sensational appetite. It is perfectly clear to any impartial, well-judging reader that the Dominion government is delinquent, and that a baker's dozen of renegade, law-breaking Indians at Metlakahtla, led by a pugilistic prelate, have been permitted to throw a promising settlement into confusion. As a consequence of this the province is put to expense and the minds of all the Indians on the northwest coast are disturbed. It is proper that the member for Cassiar should speak out on this subject, but not with silly bluster and ranting quotations. Why does he not condemn the parties directly implicated by the evidence—the Dominion Indian department and land commission, the schismatic bishop and his twelve adherents, trembling lest they be "punched?" In the face of the fact that the worthy resident magistrate and a commission, comprising two lawyers, can find no evidence against anybody else that a grand jury would waste a moment on, what is the object of ferocious bluster? The practical question is what should be done to make the Dominion government realize the facts and their responsibilities? The province has grievous cause to complain, but it is difficult to say what can be done except to remonstrate with the Dominion government in the strongest manner. It might gratify the member for Cassiar to hear of a few innocent, law-abiding Indians being officially "punched" to atone for the delinquencies of the Dominion government; but he may be assured that the public will not permit such injustice fraught, as it would be, with still deeper trouble. The situation is very serious, and our miners and others on the north-west feel the brunt of it. That we all admit. But only a goose could imagine that "punching" the wrong parties would mend matters. The defence of the Times of its owner's ill-conditioned assault on the house on Mr. Duncan and the Methodist missionaries has only made matters worse for him. When challenged to prove that the missionaries had condoned the murder of Yeomans he trots out Mr. Clifford's evidence before the commission. Mr. Clifford stated that the Indians told him that Mr. Tomlinson told them that they had the sympathy of the Metlakahtlans! Would the Times or Mr. Grant hang a dog on such evidence? Nay, would such evidence be received in a court of law? Decidedly not; and yet we have the Times attempting to condone the assault its owner made on hearsay evidence and third-handed testimony at that! If Mr. Clifford's evidence is all that Mr. Grant has to offer in extenuation of his fault he ought to rise in his place to-day and humbly apologize for having outraged the Christian sentiment of the province on the most unreliable and worthless of all testimony—except Chinese—that of Indians.

Prayer in the Schools.

To the Editor:—You are aware that a very general demand has been made in the province of Ontario for religious instruction in the public schools, and that the minister of education has been endeavoring to give a favorable response to that demand by a compilation of selections from the sacred scriptures for use in the schools. Why are we in British Columbia so much afraid of anything religious in our schools? When our school system was established we had forms of prayer for opening and closing the schools taken, I believe, from the Ontario rules and regulations. In a short time a certain infidel and spiritualistic clique got the upper hand, and then it proclaimed "exercises of a religious character in opening and closing school are strictly prohibited." The eyes of the public got gradually opened to the evil of such an iniquitous system. Then we had a very small concession to the religious feelings and claims of nine-tenths of the supporters of our schools by the enactment—"the Lord's Prayer may be used in opening and closing school upon the permission of the board of trustees." For a few years we had a column in the annual report reporting the number of schools opened and closed with the Lord's Prayer. Since the present provincial secretary controlled the report that column has been left out. Is that once more the thin end of the wedge? And who would have expected it to come from that quarter? Depend upon it regret will come when it is too late for many of our rising generation that we did not pay more attention to their religious education. "Behold the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

Reformer.

Sunday Rows and the Police.

To the Editor:—How is it that your reporters became aware of such demoralizing rows as you describe in your journal to day, and that the police were ignorant of their occurrence? It would seem as if the time had arrived for the new mayor and council to either make a radical change or insist upon being told where the police were when the rows occurred.

Civis.

Mr. Duncan's Position.

To the Editor:—From the general tenor of the debate yesterday I gather that the house will be asked to throw the Metlakahtla difficulty on the Dominion government. But if I read correctly between the lines they will also be asked to urge upon that government the removal of Mr. Duncan from Metlakahtla. If I mistake not, the change of policy has been recommended to the government, or will be recommended to the house, by a gentleman high in the legal profession, who not only is, or lately was, retained as counsel for the church party at Metlakahtla, but who is a high legal ecclesiastical functionary as well. That the removal of Mr. Duncan would be agreeable to this gentleman is, I think, plain from his utterances in the house against Mr. Duncan.

Now, sir, I think it very likely that this reference of the matter to the Dominion government is the proper course to be pursued; but I respectfully submit that the question what sort of recommendation should accompany that reference is one of grave consideration. I do not hesitate to say that if, as has been alleged, Mr. Duncan has been and is deliberately himself breaking the law and teaching the Indians to do the same, such recommendation would be just and proper. It is not to be tolerated, and surely never is tolerated in this or any other part of her majesty's dominions that any person should on any pretence go on breaking the law with impunity. And it is just this which perplexes me when I read the utterances of members of the house accusing Mr. Duncan of so doing. Three years and upward is surely a period long enough to have given Mr. Duncan tried and convicted. If he has not been tried and convicted it is not because the attention of the authorities has not been drawn to the subject; or because they have not had the physical force and legal machinery present on the spot to deal with the offender; or, because Mr. Duncan has eluded the law in any way. There seems to be but one conclusion as to the offence charged against the Metlakahtlans (viz. that of refusing to come under the Indian act, and as a consequence, to receive an Indian agent) and it is this, that it was optional for the Metlakahtlans to say whether they would come under that act or not. To say that they must come under it, and are breaking the law in not doing so, is absurd on the face of it. For, sir, the Indian act is a constitution specially devised for the benefit of the Indians, under which constitution they have power of deliberating on certain matters which affect themselves and which then might have the force of law. It is clear that co-ercion into the acceptance of such constitution is an absurdity and an impossibility. But more than this, sir, and to show that this is the view of the Dominion government I believe that another Indian act has been recently passed, supposed to be more suitable to the Metlakahtlans, and they are to be *asked* to come under *that*. It is clearly optional whether they will or not. And, sir, unless the Metlakahtlans be cattle or slaves it is but just that they should be allowed to previously *understand* that which is submitted to their choice. I believe that the Dominion government (or the Indian department thereof) look—and are now looking—to Mr. Duncan to take the part of their (the Metlakahtlans') adviser in the matter. But it cannot surely for a moment be supposed that he is expected to advise them against his own judgment or to their hurt. And if this be so Mr. Duncan's wrong-doing pales into thin air and the opinion of these members would seem to be the whest way that it would be better to keep Mr. Duncan out of the question altogether. And if the Dominion government would abandon the idea of a theoretical constitution for the Metlakahtlans, and sanction that which has been found to work so admirably up to the time of its disturbance by a small minority, they would do more towards quieting the trouble all round, than by any other measure that they could adopt. A resident (or neighboring) magistrate, with the old, well oiled, well-kept, well-appointed municipal machinery, would please and conciliate not only the Metlakahtlans but all the surrounding tribes, and render the settlement of the land question a matter of comparative ease. Such at least is my unfeigned conviction.

A.

January 31st, 1885.

A Thankful Acknowledgement

To the Editor:—Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to acknowledge my great appreciation of the action that our local government is taking on behalf of the workingmen who were not paid when McNamee & Co.'s contract on the dry dock shut down, which will be three years ago the 10th of April next. Since that time it has been impossible for the workmen to know who was to blame for the delay in settling their just claims. However, we have taken it for granted that the honorable chief commissioner of lands and works and other honorable members of the house intend to see that our claims are settled as soon as possible. Mr. Pooley said there was about 100 men at time the works shut down. I understood at the time that there was 80 or 85 workmen employed on the dry dock; but assuming there were 100 men, other of the unpaid workmen and myself are of opinion that the average indebtedness to each would be about $50. I know of eight whose highest bill is $30 and lowest $4.50. There are about fifteen men dead or left the country, who will never call for their money. Three bills I heard of are about $250 each. I am of opinion that $5000 will fully settle all the workingmen's claims on account of McNamee & Co., but how many other claims there are against the company I am not aware.

I wish to thank, on behalf of the workmen and myself, Mr. Pooley the mover and Mr. John the seconder of the resolution and honorable gentlemen who spoke in favor of the question of settling the workmen's claims for their interest in the matter.

Written by one who struck drill for nine months on the dry dock and the balance the 17 months on other parts of the works.

A Dry Dock Man.

The Times on the Terminus.

To the Editor:—I notice that the Times of last Friday makes a lame attempt to shuffle out of its offensive and disparaging statements with regard to the Royal City by substituting the term "trading port" for "trading post;" but instead of making the *amende honorable* by frankly acknowledging that New Westminster is the leading commercial city on the mainland and certain to remain so, it positively tries to belittle it by adhering to and repeating its former ridiculous statement that it will be a "useful adjunct to the terminal city."

The Times' editor would himself discover the absurdity of his position were he a person blessed with ordinary intelligence or with a logical mind. As he is unfortunately a distressing specimen of contented ignorance he employs words of which he knows not the meaning and misapplies them.

As there is so much room for improvement I mention for his benefit that the meaning of the word adjunct is "something joined to another, an appendage." As (making use of his hifalutin phrase) "the terminal city" has no existence it is quite clear that New Westminster cannot be joined to it, neither can our city be "an appendage" to anything.

Having exposed the impropriety of the language used by the Times, I would expect a becoming apology from its editor were it not that one of its proprietors is implicated in the land gamble at Coal Harbor, which depends for its success upon the extent to which the credulity of the inexperienced can be imposed upon by the Times traducing New Westminster and constantly puffing at its expense an imaginary city which has only a paper existence of the flimsiest kind.

Now, Mr. Editor, I do not think that any portion of the press of this province, however insignificant, should be prostituted for such a purpose. The immorality of the act is its complete condemnation. Besides this it is impolitic because it is an injury to British Columbia for a number of people to be seduced into sinking their money where it cannot be remunerated and where most of it will be lost when there are many *bona fide* industries and resources which require developement, and in which capital can be securely and profitably invested.

I am aware that there are people who will touch nothing but real estate; to such I would say New Westminster, Victoria and Nanaimo are legitimate cities on this coast to invest in because they are established, have resources at the back of them and are thriving and growing places, but the terminal city (!) there is nothing real about that at present and, as I pointed out in my former letter, the most that it can become for a generation is a ferry landing for Vancouver Island.

Anybody not blinded by prejudice or self interest must see that what has happened at Port Moody during the last three years will be repeated at English Bay or Coal Harbor whichever place the railroad may be extended to. It is therefore desirable to recall what happened at Port Moody.

After Port Moody was made the terminus by the Dominion government and whilst surveys were being made for the line, speculators bought up any land within 4 or 5 miles distance that they could get hold of at from $25 to $250 per acre. The original holders who bought it at one dollar per acre, its value then and now, of course made money. Then the speculators mapped out their purchases into lots abundant enough to make half a dozen Chicago's and under the influence of great expectations of a bigger city than San Francisco and more such nonsense, quite a number of simple innocents were deluded into purchasing at prices from $50 to $1000 a lot! It is a matter for wonder where such prices came from for there were too many of these evergreens to have all hailed from Pike county. Whilst most of the speculators gassed about the hotels and lived like lords, some of the deluded purchasers with faith in what had been told them, set to work to clear their lots and put up shanties, and then waited more or less patiently for the city to grow and for the arrival of the eastern millionaires daily expected to start warehouses, build factories and circulate their money for the benefit of the inhabitants of the terminal city. Not that the city stood altogether still. The construction of the railroad wharf and terminal buildings gave temporary employment to a large number of men and led to the erection of two or three boarding-houses and whisky saloons, brought along a barber, a blacksmith, several workmen and small Chinese trades and a white merchant with a floating store on a scow; but the principal business caused by the works under weigh was done by New Westminster and Victoria merchants. All Port Moody obtained was as it were "the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table."

With the competition of the railway, etc., etc., and notwithstanding that an accident on the line happened about once a week as if for the express purpose of keeping the repair shop going, the population migrated and no more deject and wretched, more utterly grave place than the terminal city to point a moral or adorn a tale, or to show that great cities are not created by paying fancy prices for town lots in a forest can be found on this coast nearer than Kalama. To use a common expression "the bottom had dropped out" of Port Moody before the C. P. R. and expressed its intention to imitate its late inhabitants and leave the place.

The fact was travellers avoided it, and although it was called then, as Coal Harbor is now, the terminal or end of the (terminary) city, and trains ran to and from it, all the passengers from the interior got off at Port Hammond where steamers in waiting conveyed them to New Westminster or Victoria.

With the extension of the railroad to New Westminster passengers bound west will, of course, come on here as this is on the natural and well defined line of travel to Victoria and other places.

If any of your readers doubt the accuracy of what I have written of Port Moody or have any idea of buying city lots I hope they will take a run up to the Inlet, make themselves at home and come over to New Westminster. If they do so I am confident they will prefer to purchase property here rather than at Coal Harbor or Port Moody.

Speaking with the knowledge of an old resident, one who has grown up with this city, my disinterested opinion—for none of my property is for sale—is more valuable and reliable than the interested utterances of the Victoria Times, which I have now more correctly designated "the Coal Harbor Screamer."

My opinion is that the inlet, both mouth and head, will continue to be in future as in the past our outer harbor, just as Esquimalt is to Victoria, and that is all that Coal Harbor can be for the next twenty years is a burial place for the money of people strong in imagination but weak in judgment who, ignoring the recent Port Moody experience of others, buy terminal city lots located in the backwoods near Burrard Inlet at prices beyond all reason.

As probably I may shortly be away from the city for some time, and shall not therefore have an opportunity of keeping the Times on its good behaviour, I hope you will take up the cause of the Royal City should the Times attempt again to traduce it.

Fraser River.

John Grant, M. P. P., Again.

To the Editor:—The gentle currying down I gave the sprightly war-horse from Cassiar in your issue of Saturday last appears to have made the savage animal restive. To hear his pitiful "neigh" in the Times on the evening of the same day was certainly very affecting. Or, to change the figure, he belches forth the hot lava of his wrath like an infantile Vesuvius in a state of eruption. If however, Mr. Grant for one moment imagines that a discriminating public cannot distinguish the difference there is between *vile billingsgate* and *reason*, he is certainly laboring under a mental delusion. It is also a sure evidence of weakness when an opponent loses command of his temper and substitutes abuse for argument. It is quite apparent, from the manner in which he writes, that his stock of the last-mentioned commodity is infinitesimally small. If he hopes, by resorting to the low method he has seen fit to adopt, that he will induce us to follow his evil example, we can assure him that his effort will be in vain. We cherish towards him nothing worse than a feeling of pity; and it is utterly beyond his power to make us display a temper similar to his own. When we, with a pen, punched a hole in his inflated vanity-bag, we can assure him it was done purely from the standpoint of duty and with a sincere desire to promote his future welfare. Mr. Grant furnishes us with another pitiable illustration of the truthfulness of the ancient proverb—of which probably he has never heard—"Whom the Gods would destroy, they first make mad."

Mr. Grant denies that his utterances in the house of assembly were of a belligerent or warlike character. This, of course, is all that is necessary to settle the whole matter in his own apprehension. His utterances are before the public, and I am quite willing to allow them to draw their own conclusions.

Mr. Grant takes it for *granted* that I am in utter ignorance of this Metlakahtla difficulty. But I beg to inform Mr. Grant now that I am not willing to *grant* the correctness of his assumption. But it is not with this *general* question with which I have now to deal. I have nothing at present to say either about Mr. Duncan or Bishop Ridley. It is with Mr. Grant's particular action in going out of his way to drag in the names of Mr. Crosby and Mr. Green, two esteemed clergymen of the church to which I have the honor to belong. If John Grant, M. P. P. thinks he can stand up in the house of assembly and publicly vilify and slander the reputation of these gentlemen (who were not in a position to defend themselves) and go unwhipped of justice, I beg to assure him that he has been "reckoning without his host." If I have applied the lash mildly, but with a steady and somewhat vigorous hand to the bare political shoulders of John Grant, M. P. P., all that I have to say in defence is, that desperate diseases sometimes require desperate remedies. It is now my intention to rub *salt* instead of *salve* into the gaping wounds, to preserve, if possible, his political body from utter putrifaction. I again publicly challenge him to substantiate by *facts* his mean, cowardly and altogether uncalled for attack upon the two Methodist missionaries above named; or else continue to remain writhing on the gibbet of public sentiment, where he is, for the present, transfixed.

I willingly believe that Mr. Grant in referring me to page 6 of the report of the commissioners, brought forward all the evidence of which he was possessed on this matter. Let us examine it for a moment, however. A certain wandering miner by the name of Clifford is brought on the stand. In answer to an inquiry he admits that he has no *fixed residence*. He wanders around for his own, and possibly for the welfare of others. He is a miner; and, in the estimation of Mr. Grant, a very paragon of all moral excellence, as miners generally are.

This Mr. Clifford says that he was "told by some Indians" that, "Green of the Naas and Crosby of Port Simpson, had informed them that the white men were coming into the country to rob them of their land," etc. This is the sum of all the *evidence*, if you call that kind of stuff "evidence," that the report contains against these missionaries. They were not called before the commission and, therefore, had no opportunity to disprove the calumnious statement of this wandering miner. On the strength of this evidence, which *rested not upon civilized knowledge, but upon mere hearsay*, (which every school boy knows is no evidence at all) John Grant, M. P. P., thinks he has evidence sufficient to warrant him to stand up in the house and publicly assail Messrs. Crosby and Green. Old Festus assures us that it was "not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die before that he, which is accused, have the accusers face to face, and have license to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him." Certainly English law is not inferior to Roman law in this respect. But what cares John Grant, M. P. P., for either Roman or English law? Standing up upon the exalted pedestal of his grand *imaginary* political achievements he looks down with proud disdain upon them both; but more especially upon those lowly things—Methodist missionaries.

So far from the missionaries condoning the offense of the killing of Yeomans, as the wandering miner states, I am in a position to prove, and will do it if necessary, that even it not for the action of the missionary Green, many other white men might possibly have shared a similar fate at the hands of those savages.

The Devil and John Grant, M. P. P., appear to have taken a great dislike to the missionaries. I am at no loss to understand the secret of the animosity of the first-mentioned; but I confess that to account for the attitude of the last-named member of the *duo* is to me as yet an enigma. Surely, he cannot be vain enough to be proud of the co-partnership he has recently formed.

Mr. Grant seems anxious to ascertain the true name of your humble correspondent. I am sorry that I cannot, at present, gratify his curiosity. He can rest assured, however, that it is not "Macduff." Observer.

P. S.—It is said that no lady's letter is complete without a postscript. To be orthodox, I therefore add mine. It is to this effect.—If John Grant, M. P. P., answers this communication in the same senseless manner in which he answered my last, I shall in future take no further notice of his frothy utterances, but treat them with the silent contempt they merit.

I have some serious doubts whether the game when bagged is worth the ammunition expended.

O.

Feb. 2, 1885.

THE GREAT COAL FIELD.

Glowing Report From Prof. Newton, Who Discovered the Coal.

Winnipeg Sun.

Prof. Newton, a practical American geologist, who has been prospecting in this country for a number of months, and who discovered the immense coal mine at Crawfoot Crossing, arrived in this city last night. Mr. Egan introduced a reporter to the professor this morning, and the latter gave some particulars regarding the coal.

"The coal", said the professor, "shows the least percentage of water of any coal west of Maryland. As to its quality it will compare to that of any coal found in the Western States. So far as steam is concerned, the coal is exactly adapted for the purpose, and for paelor purposes it cannot be surpassed. I tested it and found no sulphur in it, so that any quantity could be stowed in sheds without any danger of igniting. You know, great trouble is experienced with some coal in consequence of the aptness to ignite charged as it is with sulphur, Such coal as was discovered out at the Crawfoot crossing, would be worth $10,000 an acre in the western states. There is sufficient coal out there to keep the whole northwest

WARM FOR A MILLIN YEARS.

I consider there is enough coal there to last for all the time to come. The seam is over five feet thick, which is larger than almost any seam in the States. The shaft is 135 feet deep and eight feet in diameter. Over the vein is a stratum of slate more than a foot thick. This will make an excellent roof for the mine. There are several other seams encountered on the way down, but none of them are so good, and none nearly so thick as the bottom seam."

The proprietor is confident that if the mines were developed the coal would be used to supply Dokata, Montana and Minnesota. He thinks it would soon supplant all the other coal in St. Paul. While sinking the shaft for the coal a vein of iron stone four feet thick, of a very rich character was struck. Prof. Newton says it possesses untold wealth, and if its richness were made known, a sensation among capitalists would be created.

Wealthy Women.

The reported resolution of the widow of Mark Hopkins to erect a $5,000,000 palace at Great Barrington, Mass., has turned our attention to our millionairs of the female sex. It is difficult to enumerate them all at once. Mrs A. R. Allen of St. Louis pays taxes on $1,197,000, and Miss Bernice Morrison, of the same city, is taxed at $964,990. A cattle queen named Rogers, near Corpus Christi, Texas, owns 40,000 head of cattle, is worth over $1,000,000. She is the financial agent of ranch, keeps the pocket-book and oversees the stock, while she sends her second husband to the Troy Legislature. Catherine Wolf, of New York the daughter of old Peter Wolf, who married Lorillard's two sisters, and got $1,000,000 with each of them, and an income of $5,000,000 a year, and she owns real estate at the amount of $6,000,000. She is about 55 years old, and plain in all her habits. She is single, too, and she lives alone in a big house. Mrs William Astor is worth $1,000,000, and Mrs Marshall O. Roberts, the wife of the mining king, who died some years ago, is said to have assets which will foot up $8,000,000. Mrs A. T. Stewart might be added to the list.

Whipped cream pie.—Make a crust of moderate richness, line a deep tin with it; bake quickly in a hot oven; when done spread it with a layer of jelly or jam; first a thin layer, then whip one teacup of sweet cream until it is as light as possible; sweeten with powdered sugar, and flavor with vanilla; spread over the jelly or jam; set the cream where it will get very cold before whipping.

FRAUD ON THE FAITHFUL.

Bogus Relics Foisted on the Good People of Lachine.

Montreal, Jan. 20.—The peaceful worshippers at the Lachine parish churchs were startled at high mass Sunday morning when the Rev. Father Piche made the announcement that the remains of St. Claudius, which were brought to Lachine five years ago and installed with great solemnity, and which have since that time been reverently adored by the good parishioners, have just been discovered to be bogus, and not the mortal relics of the pious Saint at all. The Rev. Father explained the case as follows:—In 1871, when the Piedmontese conquered Rome with Victor Emmanuel at their head, several Roman Catholic churches were desecrated, the holy sanctuaries broken down and many corpses of martyrs thrown out into the streets. These were taken possession of by Jewish dealers in second-hand goods, who immediately conveyed them to their shops, where they were secreted. The church authorities, however, were not long in discovering the hiding places of the holy corpses and at once set about reclaiming the treasured remains at any cost. The Jews, of course, made the best of their excellent chances and demanded exorbitant sums in payment for the bodies, which were readily forthcoming. Elated by their wonderful success, and fearing lest the supply should be exhausted before their grasping propensities had been satisfied, they hit upon a bold though hazardous scheme for meeting their ends. Knowing that the only way the authorities had of recognizing the bodies of saints was by means of the bona fide autograph of the Pope himself, they continued without much trouble to substitute for the original corpses bodies stolen from the cemeteries and appropriately dressed, to which they attached the forged signature of his Holiness. Thus they coined immense sums of money with little fear of detection. About two years ago the fraud was discovered, and consternation ensued among the ecclesiastics who had thus been shamefully duped, at the thought that the faithful of the Church had for years been reverencing relics, which might have been, for all they knew, those of Rome's most dishonored dead. All the churches which had been made resting-places for bodies since 1871 were asked to send the signatures of the Pope accompaying their treasures to Rome for examination. Those which had come with the relics of St. Claudius and St. Juliana, the latter of which was also brought to Lachine and consigned to the sacred precincts of the convent, returned the Holy See along with the rest, and last week the intelligence was received from the Pope that the supposed remains of St. Claudius and St. Juliana had no authenticity whatever; and Father Piche was instructed to do away with them at once. The alleged relics of St. Claudius and St. Juliana were brought to Lachine from Rome in 1880. The consternation of the people on hearing the announcement from the Rev. cure's lips yesterday can only be imagined. They were extremely mortified to find that they had been so badly deceived. A new holy relic has been promised the cure, in place of the false one.

England, Italy and Spain.

Madrid, Jan. 19.—Information has been obtained which explains Germany's present hostile attitude towards this country in colonial matters. It also throws a new light on the sudden breaking off of the negotiations between Senor Elduayen, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Count Von Sohns Sonnenwald, the German ambassador to Spain, and Sir Robert B. D. Morier, the British envoy, who were expected to sign a protocol last month establishing Spain's sovereignty over the islands of the Sooloo archipelago. It now transpires that Germany had proposed to Spain that the harbors should be given to Germany for naval coaling and refitting stations in the Spanish possessions of Fernando Po, in Western Africa, and the Sooloo islands in the Indian ocean. Spain refused to entertain the proposition, taking the ground that her interests in colonial affairs were identical with those of England, and therefore opposed to the anti-German policy wholesale annexation. This sturdy refusal on the part of Spain, when all her interests in the Sooloo archipelago were at stake, is believed to indicate a concert between England, Spain, and Italy to dispute the colonial pretensions of Prince Bismarck's new partnership, which comprises Germany, France, Austria, and Russia.

WHITE SLAVES.

The Chinese of San Francisco Buy and Sell White Infants.

Late telegrams from San Francisco furnish the news of a most infamous traffic that is being carried on there by the Chinese, assisted by the private establishments termed "lying in hospitals and homes for foundlings." The matrons of these places charge $50 if the mother desires to keep the baby, but only from $20 to $30 if the mother gives up all claim to it. In the latter case it becomes the property of the matron, who sells the baby over again to whoever she can find that will pay the most for it. In this way many of these unfortunates have been sold to the Chinese. The latter pay more for female babies than male ones. A girl who had worked in one of these lying-in hospitals related to a reporter that she knew that Chinamen bought white babies, and recited an instance of where a Chinaman selected a blonde girl baby out of a lot of seven, and paid the matron, a Mrs. Wilson, living at 322 Sixth street, $50 for it. This fearful business has created so much excitement that Mrs. Hunter, secretary of the society for the prevention of cruelty to children, called Chief of Police Crowley, asking his co-operation in making a raid on Chinatown and removing all the white babies they could find in possession of the Chinese. They found three, two of them girls. It is believed there are still many others, but the Chinese have hid them out of sight. The three that were discovered have been placed in the orphan asylum. The chief of police stated that no cases of kidnapping white babies had been reported, so that these little unfortunates were undoubtedly turned over or sold to the Chinese by mothers who did not wish to rear them.

The Evening Post, referring to the iniquitous practice of white mothers selling their illegitimate offspring to the Chinese, says: "We are informed upon the best authority that the children are purchased in many cases by Chinese speculators and sent to China, where they are raised until they are twelve years of age, and then sold to wealthy Chinamen for large sums of money, to be placed by them in their harems. One of the most dreadful phases of slave-trading is going on in our midst, and if strong measures are not taken to stop it at once, it will be a disgrace to our city and our civilization."

DELAYED DISPATCHES

EASTERN STATES.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 31.—At 11 o'clock this morning a terrific natural gas explosion occurred at the corner of Thirty-fourth and Butler streets. The explosion originated in the cellar of Aug. Mueller's saloon, which building was entirely demolished and four adjoining structures were badly wrecked. The buildings on the opposite side of the street were badly shaken, the windows blown in and shutters torn off. A passing street-car was blown off the track, and a number of passengers seriously injured. Twelve persons have already been reported as wounded, but none fatally, so far as ascertained. The shock was felt throughout the city, and the fire department was called to the scene to suppress the flames and rescue the wounded.

Later.—It is now believed that the casualties will reach 25, four or five of whom will die. There is intense excitement in the neighborhood, and a gang of men has been formed among the citizens to tear up the gas pipes to-night. The loss to the buildings and stock will be from $15,000 to $20,000. The gas fire is still burning in the sewers.

Kansas, City, Jan. 31.—Gen. Hatch reached Caldwell, Kan., from Stillwater yesterday. He says that Couch refused to surrender until an order was given for the soldiers to advance upon their camp. Then the boomers agreed to capitulate. The colonists then, under escort of the troops, marched to the Kansas line and crossed to Kansas city. Here couch and three of his lieutenants were arrested yesterday evening on federal warrants for resisting troops in Indian Territory.

CALIFORNIA.

Sacramento, Jan. 30.—In the Assembly to-day, the French introduced a resolution requiring the committee on chinese to investigate the matter of the purchase of white children by chinese, and to draft a bill to prevent such practice. Adopted.

San Francisco, Jan. 30.—In a glove match this evening between Jack Bradydy, champion heavy weight pugilist of the Pacific coast, and clarence Whistler, champion wrestler of the world, the latter was knocked out in 33½ seconds.

San Francisco, Feb. 1.—The discovery of the selling of white babies to the Chinese has led to the further developement that it is a common practice on the part of the matrons of private lying-in hospitals to drug sick babies and then deposit them at the doors of the orphan asylums. This infamous traffic has opened up the question whether a woman who sells her baby to the Chinese can be prosecuted under the law. The whole matter reveals a state of horrible depravity.

EUROPE

London, Jan. 31.—The Crofters recently arrested in the parishes of Kilmuir and Glendale, Isle of Skye, on a charge of resisting the Sheriff in the discharge of his duties, arrived at Glasgow, strongly guarded by a hundred policemen and a number of marines. A large crowd of sympathizing friends of the prisoner gathered at the landing, and for a time it looked as if they would attempt to rescue of the crofters. From the landing to the Court House the crowd kept up a series of yells, and several times made threatening demonstrations. They were, however, held at bay by guards. Large congregations of people in the vicinity are prohibited.

The letter carrier arrested yesterday on suspicions of being implicated in the dynamite conspiracies, because a dynamite package was found in his mail pouch, was discharged. His innocence was demonstrated.

London, Jan. 31.—The Chamber of Deputies has passed a bill prolonging the law for the expulsion of foreigners residing within the kingdom under suspicious circumstances.

MEXICO.

City of Mexico, Jan. 31.—A valuable silver convoy, en route between Toluca and Cuerrayaca, was attacted Wednesday evening by an organized band, the escort was