

THE DEAD PARTY.

At last the true cause of the extinction of Turnerism has been given to the world; at least the latest theory as to the cause of the submergence of what we are one day told was the embodiment of the highest ideals of an honest, upright and capable administration, and the next that the resurrection of the remains of Turnerism is out of the question, as the statesmanlike government aforesaid by their farseeing and progressive policy filled the province with a people who know neither Mr. Turner nor his able lieutenants and will not support their candidates at the polls. The latest idea is that under the late regime the rapid development of the mining districts and the increase of population was the cause of bringing into existence many newspapers, whose editors being Americans, and therefore not familiar with the public life of this province and the purity and innocence of the Turnerites, concluded that the conditions here were much the same as in the land they had left, and they inaugurated a policy of slander against the probity of the government; these slanders undermined, the faith of the people, who defeated the government at the polls, so here we have at last an admission of a fact which was shrewdly suspected all along—that the Turner government was turned out because it had lost the confidence of the people. That is a little more reasonable than the original cry that the Lieut.-Governor was to blame for dismissing an administration which had the confidence of the people. But even here we have a weakness in the argument. Allen editors were not the only participants in this "crime" against the prosperity of British Columbia. There were others—the London Times, for instance, and other English papers, besides many papers in British Columbia which are not controlled by aliens. But what is the use of discussing this matter. The Colonel knows that the people of British Columbia had lost faith in the Turner government, and confesses that it knows it when it admits that Turnerism is a factor in politics henceforth.

Attorney-General Henderson was elected by acclamation yesterday. After all the froth and fury of the opposition press an opponent could not be found to challenge a verdict of the electors. A few days ago, it will be remembered, the return of Mr. Henderson was declared to be out of the question, and some very strong language was used, particularly by the World and Colonist, to incite the electors of New Westminster to action. The only effect of these personal diatribes, apparently, was to strengthen Mr. Henderson, and it is now certain that had there been a contest the Attorney-General's opponent would have lost his deposit.

Judged by the result of the Westminster election the organs of the opposition are mighty poor prophets. When they were so far astray in a matter about which it was so easy to be well informed, how can they possibly expect any credence to be placed in their daily predictions about the political situation. When they were far at sea in regard to Mr. Henderson what right have they to speak with so much assurance when they say that Mr. Helgesen and Mr. Macpherson will tumble, like Mr. Higgins, into the arms of the opposition? It certainly was safer to predict Mr. Henderson's defeat than to foretell the defections of two such stalwart opponents of Turnerism and misgovernment as Messrs. Helgesen and Macpherson.

MR. JAMES MARTIN'S VIEWS. Mr. James Martin, M.P.P., on his return to Rossland from the government caucus, was interviewed by the Miner on political affairs, and among other things he said: "Those members of the opposition who are calculating that Mr. Martin will go in with the Turner adherents for the purpose of fighting the government, are very much mistaken, as such a course is the farthest from Mr. Martin's intention. It is his intention to occupy an independent position, both the supporters of the government and some of the members of the opposition recognize the ability and the honesty of Mr. Martin. The fact that he has resigned from the position of attorney-general does not alter the opinion which the members of the government have of him. They still have great confidence in his ability and integrity. I think that there is no doubt whatever that the government will be elected, and that Henderson will be elected, and that to them and to me a foregone conclusion. "As to the alien legislation and the trouble over the rights of aliens in the Atlin mining district, that matter has all been straightened out by Judge Irving. He went into Atlin with power to settle all disputes that had arisen under this act. He was given full authority to make decisions according to the equities in each case. He has made a number of decisions, which have been so just and fair as to win the commendations of all who are conversant with the circumstances. Mr. Joseph Martin hastens to explain that he was not interviewed by the Colonist and that he did not therefore say to a reporter of that paper that it would please him beyond anything else in this world if the Semlin government was defeated on the first day of the session. We are glad to have the denial. While it is generally understood that Mr. Martin will not be a warm supporter of the government, it is nevertheless somewhat satisfactory to know that he is not running after Colonist reporters to force interviews upon them. A paper that professes to have "contributed to his political downfall" is not the medium through which Mr. Martin would give his views to the public.

Framed to make a woman false.—Shakespeare. On February 14th, Mr. J. M. Kelle brought in a report on behalf of the mining committee, which was published in full in the Times of the 15th. That report did not recommend the enactment of an eight hour law, although the matter had been discussed by the committee. On February 16th the Hon. the Finance Minister, in the absence of the Hon. the Minister of Mines, introduced "An Act to Amend the Inspection of Metalliferous Mines Act," which contained no eight hour clause. The bill was read a first time on the 16th and on the 21st Mr. Carter-Cotton moved the second reading, which was seconded by Mr. R. F. Green (Kaslo).

On Friday, the 20th, with Mr. Richard Hall in the chair, the bill was considered in committee of the House, and Mr. J. M. Martin, of Rossland, moved as an amendment: "Section 13 of said chapter 134 is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: "No person shall be employed underground in any metalliferous mine for more than eight hours in every twenty-four hours."

Members of the Canadian Press Association Arrive in Victoria. Their Too Short Stay Made Enjoyable by Favorable Weather To-Day. That there are Press Association excursions and Press Association excursions is being amply demonstrated in the city to-day, and those in authority are congratulating themselves that because of unfortunate experiences in the past they were not deluded into believing that all such visitors are of the same calibre and importance of standing. The Canadian Press Association excursion, which reached here last evening on board the Dominion, consisted of the Dominion, made up of ladies and gentlemen of eminence in the journalistic profession, and "in honoring them the city honors itself," as a prominent Victorian expressed it this morning. When the Quadra arrived in port last night the visitors were met by the members of the reception and entertainment committee, and escorted to the city, where they were speedily installed in comfortable quarters at the various hotels. The complete list of visitors, with their respective temporary homes in the city, is as follows:

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Welcomed and Entertained

Members of the Canadian Press Association Arrive in Victoria.

Their Too Short Stay Made Enjoyable by Favorable Weather To-Day.

That there are Press Association excursions and Press Association excursions is being amply demonstrated in the city to-day, and those in authority are congratulating themselves that because of unfortunate experiences in the past they were not deluded into believing that all such visitors are of the same calibre and importance of standing. The Canadian Press Association excursion, which reached here last evening on board the Dominion, consisted of the Dominion, made up of ladies and gentlemen of eminence in the journalistic profession, and "in honoring them the city honors itself," as a prominent Victorian expressed it this morning. When the Quadra arrived in port last night the visitors were met by the members of the reception and entertainment committee, and escorted to the city, where they were speedily installed in comfortable quarters at the various hotels. The complete list of visitors, with their respective temporary homes in the city, is as follows:

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