

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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THE CASE OF GUN-A-NOOT.

In answer to G. R. Naden (Greenwood), in reference to the case of Simon Gun-a-noot, the Indian who was supposed in a drunken brawl to have shot two halfbreeds, Hon. Mr. Bowser stated it was quite true that this man had managed to get a writ of habeas corpus. Since he had undertaken the duties of attorney-general he had sent two expeditions in quest of the accused, but all the while the Indian was being made in this direction had unfortunately proved absolutely futile. It was, however, fair to say that the difficulties which were constantly encountered by the police were indeed very great; the country in the North, to which Gun-a-noot had fled, was almost inaccessible and the only communication was by some system of wireless telegraphy which enabled information in respect to the movements of the police to be communicated to this outlaw and his friends. But he would not cease in his efforts, and hoped that they would yet succeed in making the trail.

The above is an extract from the report of the proceedings in the Legislature on Saturday last. It is of supreme importance that the fullest publicity should be given to the facts in the case of Gun-a-noot there is to be no departure from the practice which has always been followed, and will always obtain wherever the British flag flies—namely, to arrest and bring to justice, if it is humanly possible to do so, every offender against the laws of the country. This Indian murderer, who is skulking in the wilds of northern British Columbia, has succeeded in evading the justice of the law, and it is to be hoped that he will be brought to answer for his crime. The questions of distance and expense are immaterial. A complete review of the operation of the British law was furnished some few years ago as a consequence of the occurrence of a number of cold-blooded murders on the Yukon river. The best detective talent on the continent of America was engaged in the search for the criminals. They were tracked over thousands of miles of territory in the northern wilderness, thence to Seattle, where the trail was lost for a time by the bloodhounds of the law. Every hole in the ground in Canada and the United States, figuratively speaking, were searched—and at last they were seized, taken back to the scene of the crime, and a jury of their peers and hanged by the neck until they were dead. Thousands and thousands of miles were traversed by the police, and the progress of the search, thousands and thousands of dollars were expended—and all for what? To uphold the majesty of British law, which can never know defeat. The men who had been cruelly murdered were but humble prospector. They had no wealthy friends to spur the officers to special effort—and they needed none. Had they possessed all the wealth of the world they could not have expedited the effort by much as a single instant of the moment of their capture of those who were guilty of the crime of killing them. The long arm of British law was extended, as it is extended now in the case of Gun-a-noot, and it found what it sought, as it sooner or later must find it in the search now in progress in the wilds of northern British Columbia. It is important that attention should be directed anew to the facts herein set forth. It is true, unquestionably, that the officers who accomplished the arrest of this Indian murderer are calculated to have an injurious effect on the minds of the people of the province, who are spectators of the man-hunt; and it is, therefore, all the more important in this particular case that unusual pains would be taken to make the arrest an immutable working of the machinery of justice in this province, as elsewhere in the British dominions.

NEW BRUNSWICK ELECTION.

The election in New Brunswick excited a great deal of interest over Canada, and in several leading papers reviews have been published of the political history of that province since Confederation. Some of them are quite erroneous. For example, the Canadian Courier speaks of Sir Leonard Tilley having defeated Mr. George E. King, who was at one time premier, far from that being the case, the vote was largely through Mr. King's efforts that Sir Leonard Tilley re-entered Parliament after his first term as lieutenant-governor. The latter never was premier of New Brunswick after Confederation.

The political combination which went to pieces on Tuesday was formed in 1882, and was the first party since 1854. It was between the late A. G. Blair, the leader of the local opposition, and the late William Elder, a strong supporter of the late Premier, who then premier. The agreement was that Mr. Elder should continue to support Mr. Fraser until the latter received an appointment to the Supreme Court bench, and that then he should join hands with Mr. Blair. Mr. Fraser resigned the premiership and became a candidate for the House of Commons in 1882. He was defeated, and shortly after was elevated to the bench, afterwards becoming lieutenant-governor of the province. The local elections were held shortly after the federal elections, and the result was that the Hanington ministry was left in an exceedingly uncertain position. Mr. Hanington met the House in 1882. Before the session opened an arrangement had been entered into with one of the members, whose political position was not very strongly pronounced, that he should give his first vote at that session to any resolution of a party nature which Messrs. Blair and Elder should move, but afterwards should be free to act as he saw fit. It was not a corrupt bargain in any sense, but simply one of those that might readily be made in any legisla-

ture where party lines are not clearly drawn. In New Brunswick the practice was to consider the address on the first day of the session, and when it came up on that occasion, Mr. Blair arose and moved a vote of want of confidence, but made no speech in support of it. Mr. Elder seconded the motion and made no speech. Mr. Hanington, having nothing to reply to, kept his seat and a vote was at once taken. It was carried by a majority of one. Mr. Blair moved that the House adjourn to enable the premier to consult the lieutenant-governor. The House divided on this, but this time Mr. Blair's majority was some four or five. Mr. Hanington went at once to government house and asked for a dissolution, but the lieutenant-governor declined to grant it on the ground that he had been defeated in a House fresh from the people, and he forthwith resigned, and Mr. Blair was called in. This is the story of how the conservative regime in New Brunswick politics was broken and a political combination brought about which lasted until Tuesday, and we think it has never before been told in print.

But even then party lines were not drawn. The late James Mitchell, who was the Blair-Elder ministry as surveyor-general, was a Conservative, and so, if we remember aright, was the late P. G. Ryan, who became chief commissioner of public works. Mr. Blair was supported by Conservatives as well as Liberals, and when he appealed to the people at the close of the legislative term, his opponents numbered five. At this election he took his opponents completely by surprise, by dissolving the House immediately after prorogation and bringing on the elections in the shortest time allowed by law. When Mr. Blair went into the Laurier cabinet he was succeeded in the premiership by Mr. Mitchell, an upright gentleman's death Mr. H. Emmerson took office. When the latter entered Parliament his place was taken by Mr. Tweedie, now lieutenant-governor, who in the provincial election had been a Conservative, and he was succeeded by Mr. William Pugsley, who also was at one time a Conservative. Mr. Pugsley subsequently entered the Dominion government, and his place was taken by Mr. C. W. Robinson, a comparative new man in the political field. Thus for a quarter of a century the same political combination remained unbroken. Men died or dropped out, but the administration which went down to defeat on Tuesday was the direct result of the agreement reached on the evening of 1882, between three persons, an agreement that determined the complexion of New Brunswick for a quarter of a century.

Under these circumstances the result of the election is exceedingly interesting. It indicates in the first place that the mantle of Mr. Blair has not descended upon Mr. Pugsley. There is no doubt that the former had the strongest hold upon the province of any man ever in public life there, and that he was a man of a high order of ability. It is not surprising that Mr. Pugsley has not developed greater strength. It is true that he has not been in office for a long time, but he has returned without opposition in St. John, where there was a vacant seat, caused by the death of the late A. A. Stockton, who at the time of his death was Conservative, but entered the local legislature as a Liberal and a supporter of Mr. Blair on the death of Mr. Elder above mentioned.

This review of the political situation in New Brunswick will enable Colonist readers to estimate for themselves the effect of the recent election upon federal politics. Our own view of the matter is that it will be very great, although allowance must be made for the proverbial uncertainty of the province in political matters. Every election there is uncertain, because the local conditions and personal considerations which enter into the contest there are more potent probably than in any other part of Canada. At one election, when Mr. Blair swept the province, his opponents only secured a narrow majority, and thus gained signal victory in a federal election the same year, capturing seats previously held by the Liberals. Our reasons for thinking that the province will give strong support to the Conservative at the Dominion elections are:

The general discrediting of the provincial leaders by reason of the defeat which they have just suffered. The prestige which the Conservatives will derive from their conspicuous success. And last, but not least, the growing disposition throughout the province, among men whose political leanings are not decided, that the present regime has been in power quite long enough.

After all has been said, it is the element referred to in the last paragraph that makes an unexpected gain. It is the element which Mr. Robinson government in New Brunswick, and it will unmake the Liberal administration at Ottawa.

THE CLEVELAND TRAGEDY.

Words cannot express the sorrow of every one over the terrible calamity which occurred near Cleveland, Ohio, and we shall not attempt anything more than to give this brief expression of the sympathy of the people of Victoria for those who have been so terribly bereaved. There seems to be several lessons from this awful event, and among them are these: That schoolhouses should never be more than two stories high, and should be as nearly fireproof as possible. That the exits should be numerous and wide. That fire drills should be practiced frequently and without previous notice to pupils. A DOMINION EXHIBITION. The announcement that the city of Victoria is to have new, large and modern exhibition buildings brings up anew the desirability of securing for this city a Dominion Exhibition in 1909. The special reason why we make this claim is that next year the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition will be held in Seattle, and if we had a Dominion exhibition here the attendance would be very great. We have

observed a disposition in some of the Eastern papers to treat the Seattle project simply as a piece of advertising and unworthy of consideration by the Canadian people. There is a great mistake, and in passing, we may express a hope that Parliament will not fail to make an appropriation sufficient to enable the Dominion, and especially British Columbia, to be adequately represented thereat.

THE DOMINION ELECTIONS.

There no longer appears to be any probability that the Dominion elections will be held in June, as was one time thought likely. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said a week or two ago that he feared the elections could be kept in session until September, and this is the case, we can hardly look for the elections before November. Our impression is that they will be brought on in the early part of that month, so that the session can be held towards the close of it. That the government will permit the House to live out its term seems very improbable. Our collection of the matter is that on only two occasions has a Canadian House of Commons been allowed to expire through the lapse of time. In 1878, when Alexander Mackenzie was premier, and the other was in power in 1896, when the government was defeated at the polls, and though there is no reason why such a result is always likely to be the case in the Dominion, it goes without saying, however, that their sojourn on Canadian soil will be made the occasion for a remarkable demonstration of loyalty, embracing all the ablest men of the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The enthusiasm of the people of Western Canada at the announcement that the Prince and Princess of Wales are to be present at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the confederation of Quebec, will be dampened on learning that it is not the intention of Their Royal Highnesses to visit any other part of the Dominion. It goes without saying, however, that their sojourn on Canadian soil will be made the occasion for a remarkable demonstration of loyalty, embracing all the ablest men of the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

A cable dispatch from London, dated Sunday last, was to the effect that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the prime minister, suffered a relapse as a result of the strain of seeing people and transacting business on Saturday. The attending physicians consider that weakness of the heart is the most serious factor in the premier's illness. Sir Henry, though he has passed the allotted three score and ten, is not yet an old man compared with many of those who have occupied prominent positions in the public life of England. He was born on September 7, 1836, and is, therefore, 72 years of age. None are more thorough in their preparation of the hope that he may speedily be restored to health and long be spared to assist in moulding the destiny of the Empire than those who are opposed to the present government which he has the honor to lead in the House of Commons.

Since the advent to office of a radical government, the people of England have suffered many rude shocks tending to disturb their characteristic placidity, but it has remained for the United States to deliver a blow which would shake the British Empire to its very foundations. They may now well exclaim "O tempora, O mores," for the gentleman mentioned in the preceding article has just been elected to the office of premier of the Dominion of Canada. The question is asked, why should everybody supposed to be an official visitor to his private ends. It is contended that the official character of the tour is shown by the fact that Mr. Churchill is accompanied by a guard of honor at many places, while some information contained in the article could only have been obtained by him as a bona fide visitor. It is, therefore, held that the information should be published in a Blue Book, not in a magazine.

The Montreal Gazette of Thursday last week had news announcing the arrival of the party of sixty-five marines en route from Esquimaux to England, in which a paragraph of great significance was to be understood as proposing Mr. Barnard for the choice of the party, but only as expressing the satisfaction that so many of the marines would feel at the possibility of such an excellent candidate being available.

The anarchists in the United States are displaying an unpleasant activity. Years ago our neighbors to the south of the line were warned against the danger of opening their doors to the scum of Europe. The warning was not heeded, and now the scum is rising to the top. While we are not disposed to take an alarmist view of the situation, we are nevertheless inclined to think that the process of getting rid of the scum of Europe is a most desirable one. The United States for some considerable period.

The need of an enlarged dry dock at Esquimaux is emphasized by the fact that very shortly vessels will be plying to this port of such size that they will be unable to make use of the present facilities. Well, the board of trade has passed a resolution on the matter, and thus Victoria has exhausted itself in aggressive endeavor to impress upon the government the necessity of taking immediate action. In some other communities a strong delegation would go to Ottawa on behalf of the project—but this is apparently too much to ask of Victoria.

when the ships sail through the Golden Gate, completing the Pacific cruise, by conferring upon him the rank mentioned. As "peace hath her victories less renowned than war," it is probable that "Fighting Bob's" triumph over the long, tortuous route from the Atlantic should be properly recognized. It must be conceded, however, that he has displayed qualities of the highest skill and seamanship in bringing the mighty fleet to its destination without a single serious mishap.

The Colonist feels that it is only performing a pleasing duty devolving upon the local press when it says that the action of Mr. A. E. Todd of this city, in importing at his own expense game birds from foreign countries with the object of stocking this island, is worthy of the highest commendation. Mr. Todd has displayed a spirit of public enterprise, which might well be emulated with infinite advantage to the country.

Heartly congratulations to the people of New Westminster on the really remarkable growth of that enterprising city during the past year, an impression of the magnitude of the returns for February, when \$13,137.14 duty was collected, being an increase of 60 per cent over the corresponding month last year. And we may add, an impression of the magnitude of the returns that this is but the beginning of greater things which the future holds in store for New Westminster.

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Now is the Best Time to Choose Your New Spring Carpets. Come in. WEILER BROS. VICTORIA, B.C. The China Store is Filled With a Fine Assortment of Dainty Pieces.

BUYING NEW CARPETS

This Spring? Then, See This Unusual Showing. In our Broughton Street windows, we are showing a few samples from our immense stock of Spring Carpets and Squares—an exhibit of newness you should see. However, it is just a taste of what is in store for you on our Second Floor. Never before in the history of this store's business experience have we had such an immense stock of Carpets and Rugs; never such a complete range of beautiful designs; never have we offered better Carpet values. If you have ever had any experience with "cheap" Carpets, it is not necessary to advocate the claims of the reliable sorts, for one experience with the former is usually sufficient. But there are some who are about to invest in their first Carpets, who may perhaps be lured by the apparent cheapness of some Carpet offerings. It is to these we wish to say: "cheap Carpets aren't cheap, but very dear at any price. We are exclusive Victoria agents for the world's best carpet makers, and, buying the immense quantities we do, are in a position to offer you these finest grades at the price usually asked for the "cheap" sorts. We ask you to investigate OUR Carpet offerings.

An Unusual Assortment of Centre Tables

JUST A FEW FROM OUR SPLENDID STOCK OF THESE. CENTRE TABLE—An excellent low-priced table in Golden Oak. Top is square and measures 24 x 24 inches, polished to a high finish. Shelf underneath. Shaped legs. Price each, only \$3.50. CENTRE TABLE—Another Golden Oak style. This table has a round top, 24 inches in diameter, polished. Shelf beneath. A very neat style and one that will please lovers of the plain. Price... \$5.50. CENTRE TABLE—We have this style in either Quartered Golden Oak or Empire Mahogany, and in either wood it is a very stylish table. The top is a polished round one, 24 inches in diameter. Price is \$6.50. CENTRE TABLE—An oval shaped style in Empire Mahogany. Top is 28 x 28 inches. Has a shaped shelf and shaped legs. This is a very attractive table and is splendid value at the price, each... \$7.50. CENTRE TABLE—Made of selected Quartered Oak, finished Golden. The top of this table is square and measures 24 x 24 inches, and is highly polished. Legs are plain shaped. Price, each... \$10.00. CENTRE TABLE—A dainty round top style, in Golden Oak. Top measures 28 inches in diameter and is highly polished. This is one of our most handsome centre table styles. Price only \$12.00.

A Sideboard Style Worthy of Special Note

SIDEBOARD—Here is a new and dainty Sideboard style in Mission design and Early English finish. This sideboard has large bevel mirror of first quality, two small and one large drawers and two cupboards with bevel glass and carved wood doors. It is a very handsome style, with "newness" conspicuous throughout. See what excellent value we can offer you for \$50.00.

A Buffet Style of Merit

BUFFET—A Mission design at once striking and pleasing and a style most serviceable in its arrangement. This buffet is finished in the popular and pleasing Early English finish. It is made of best quality Oak in one of Canada's best factories. This style has large bevel plate mirror with long shelf above and two small side shelves, two small and one large drawers, one of the smaller drawers being lined with green felt, and two large cupboards. The trimmings are of handsome antique copper. This is a splendid buffet style and is offered at the fair price of, each... \$65.00.

Two Chairs in Mission Design

ARM CHAIR—A striking Mission Chair Design. This is a new and unusually attractive style, made in finest quality oak, finished in Early English and upholstered in Spanish leather. The back is high and of odd design and the whole chair throughout breathes newness. We have the same design in Rocker at same price. These are two chair styles worthy of a special "look." Price, each... \$30.00.

An Unusual Show of Art Pottery

There is an interesting collection of Art Pottery in our Government street windows today—some dainty and unique examples from the foremost potteries of three continents, and representing the best efforts of the potters of several countries. From the handsome and interesting Japanese Cloisonne and Satsuma to the less costly, yet dainty and novel, Ioga; from the artistic examples of Ruskin Pottery to the odd and curious reproductions of Ancient Rome, as shown in Basaltine ware, the windows and our China showrooms offer "food" for an interesting half hour or more of "looking." One line to which we call special attention is the Ruskin Pottery. This is a line with which we are positive you'll be delighted. The aims of Ruskin Pottery are good potting, beauty of form and rich and tender colorations. The potting is so good it makes the ware as delightful to handle as to look upon. The shapes are such as grow only under artistic guidance, and the colorings are so delightful as to rival Eastern Cloisonne enamels, and are suggestive of rich hues seen in rock pools by the sea—but Ruskin is only one of many interesting lines we show in our showrooms. Don't you think you can spare a half-hour today?

WEILER BROS. HOME, HOTEL AND CLUB FURNISHERS - VICTORIA, B.C.

NOTE AND. If there is one more admirer in a really honest client to be secured for the leader of the party by refusing to bow to the temperance cause, it is to be justified by the action. Premier W. in a recent utterance said a man of this kind is a man of this kind. The result is that on any other day, he would be mistaken. We take the consequence of low-citizens may visit to the government. I say that for ever yours on this great issue there is a heart of government, and we will risk our own in the past, great questions. I have some who are working together in another or not. I have some who are displayed, and my because you represent, that the law of Car is as it is in order. I have some who are the great difficulty round it—Premier's perance Deputation.

Future events may be largely in the ad that Ambassador allowed to depart from out hearing some of the trust in the government of Canadians giving away our increase friendly in Great Britain and a press dispatch from February 26, says: "At the banquet held here last night most of the guests were care, evidently hoping to visit here would tend this sort of thing. The change of the banquet was a very marked change. Mr. George vice-president of the dian club, was called to the toast of 'Sist directed in remarkable guest of the evening the genial presiding dwelled upon the result of the banquet. Addressing Mr. Lee said with great 'Yes, we have a great Canada, a glorious must be a great one that from this time, nothing to give away reference to the unforgotten diplomatic 'Canada' and 'British' received with a perfect cheer, and was evic appreciated by the day."

British Columbia is advertised these days, and when advertisements are so numerous, it could very well get the whole what is in the province is much of the good kind of due to the agitation of the North American Fish tecton association. The forest reserve be cre Columbia is largely the press. Thus, for the Montreal Witness.

When the North American convention in Victoria a certain portion of the Columbia situation. Four hundred and fifty waste lands which were stocked with mountain goats, grizzly bears and species of animals which are known to inhabit that region all. It is asserted that the tion contains a number of agricultural lands of any kind have been the association, having guard these statements passed a resolution that it is to the best interest and the world at large of the region referred only set aside as a preserve, and the same time this is recommended this Columbia government.

The preservation of the characteristic of the object greatly to be this is the time to set proposed to call this Mountain park, and crossed the water, was unsurpassed wonderland present time it is said least a thousand goat mountain sheep, a huge fifty cozzly herd, and to be hoped that the American Fish and G will be listened to, as well founded, that it be made a national its wild life can be pr The significant comm Messrs. William T. John M. Phelan, was interested in this matter action is vitally necessary.

A snowload of 600 tons from Seattle was brought harbor yesterday to Mexico by the steamer reached Ladysmith yesterday and is due at the outer. A steamship has rec and launched on the in the record time of the vessel. She was specifically the order of the Tzaz Steamship company, I signed for their West between Middleport and Calcutta. The dimensions of the steamer over all, 417 feet; beam 42 feet; depth, 18 inches.

Rich Hill, Mo., who most completely wrecked 1890 by a cyclone. It was from Liberty, the James boys, the fa

Stylish Satchels for Stylish Women. We make a specialty of smart Hand Bags, and have a most desirable stock of high class. Genuine Hornbacked Alligator Satchels Priced from \$5 to \$20. Any lady who desires a really serviceable, as well as fashionable, Bag or Purse, should call here and select one of these. CYRUS H. BOWES, Chemist, Government St., near Yates