

The Colonist.

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AN IRREPRESSIBLE MOVEMENT.

Lord Salisbury's definition of policy in regard to Crete had few of the elements of finality about it, and susceptible though it is of different interpretations, it will not satisfy the people of the United Kingdom. There is no doubt that British sympathy is with Greece and that if Lord Salisbury commits the government to a policy of coercion the protest from the public will be deep and loud.

A REMARKABLE PARALLEL.

In the ruins of Nineveh were found, a number of years ago, some tablets, which appeared to relate to the Flood. They have lately been very fully translated, and they form a graphic and circumstantial account of a tremendous catastrophe, which, it is alleged, befell the world because of the wickedness of the people of Shurpuk, a city which was built on the shore of the Euphrates.

THE DESTROYING ANGEL STRODE OVER MOUNTAIN AND VALLEY.

And light is changed to darkness. The land quaked like an earthen vessel.

This is from the Edda: Mountains dash together. Heaven is rent in twain. The sun grows dark.

This is from the Edda: Brothers slay brothers; Sisters children shed each other's blood.

Then the Edda goes on to tell how the gods had hidden until they were aroused at the command of Odin to fight the Fenris-Wolf, which had brought all this woe upon earth and heaven.

This is from the Edda: Brother regards not brother; Men trouble not about one another; In heaven the gods fear the flood.

Then the ancient Assyrian poet tells us that the goddess Ishtar called the gods together with a loud voice, and they held council and cast out Bel, who had wrought such havoc.

In the Saga, as in the Edda, the building of a great ship is described. Lines out of the one account might be placed bodily in the other without affecting the continuity of the tale.

We do not propose to follow the above statement of facts with an argument against federal aid to the proposed railway. Our object is to show the people of British Columbia that their friends in the East know a thing or two about how to get a railway sidetracked, and also that any delegates who may go to Ottawa to ask for assistance for the construction of lines in this province need not put out of countenance by any fear that they are immoderate in their demands.

THE COMING TIDE OF IMMIGRATION.

The Roseland thinks that some measure in the nature of the Corlies Amendment bill, which lately passed the American congress and now awaits the signature of the President, will be necessary, so keep Roseland from being flooded with people of small means, who, though they may get work during the summer and fall, will be thrown upon their own resources during the winter and may be put to much distress. It is impossible to legislate against matters of this sort. In this connection a suggestion of the Roseland Record is worth noting. It is that the Dominion government ought to station an agent at Roseland for the purpose of advising immigrants, who are being accepted for farming than mining, as to what parts of Canada they ought to settle in. The Roseland Miner repeats its belief that fully 100,000 immigrants are coming and says:

AN OBJECT LESSON IN SUBSIDIES.

An agitation has sprung up in New Brunswick for a federal subsidy for a railway through the centre of that province. The proposed line would be about 200 miles long, and would pass for about half its length through unsettled country. It would not be a difficult line, but would be expensive because of the bridges, which would be many, for the line would be run at right angles to most of the river courses. The route which this road would follow was one of those proposed for the Intercolonial railway. It is worth while telling the facts of this matter, so that British Columbia people may realize the nature of the precedents that have been set in the matter of railway bonusing in the East.

Three routes were proposed for the Intercolonial—one via the valley of the St. John river, and one by the route proposed for the road referred to above, the third, which was finally chosen, being near the shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. These routes had two points in common, namely, Riviere du Loup, in Quebec, and Moncton, in New Brunswick. As soon as the gulf route was chosen, agitation began for a road up the St. John valley. This was finally secured, but only after the several parts of the road been subsidized in various ways by the provincial government. For one portion the province took a large amount of stock and gave outright \$10,000 subsidy per mile. For another part, which was of 8 feet 6-inch gauge, it gave 10,000 acres of land per mile, and for another a cash subsidy of \$5,000 per mile. For some small portions both the latter subsidies were given. The lines constructed under these subsidies gave rail communication up the St. John valley to Edmundston, a point 90 miles from Riviere du Loup.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

ALL WEST RAILWAYS. British Columbia, in respect of railway construction and expansion, we find does not stand alone.

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NOT IN FAVOR OF REBELLATION.

What would we gain by rebellion beyond gratifying the old barbaric feeling of revenge?—Manitoba Free Press.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Judge—As you have no counsel, I'll assign Mr. Baggs to defend you.

Burglar—Judge—the last time he defended me I got three years, an' the evidence wasn't a marker to what it is this trip.

There is no occasion for you to envy me," said the prosperous person. "I have so many troubles as you."

"I allow you do, mister," admitted Dick Dawson; "but the difficulty with me is that I ain't got nothin' else."

Miss Suburb—Nellie Perkins is the meanest girl in our town. She's engaged to three men at once.

Miss Gotham—"What do you care?"

Miss Suburb—"Because there aren't any left for the rest of us girls."

Storekeeper—Did you ride 'way in here jes' ter buy that gallon 'uv whiskey, Abner Abner—'W'y, conarn yer hide, Silas yer orter know 'I wouldn't leave my farm right in the middle 'uv 'phantin' a ride 'way in here jes' ter buy a gallon 'uv whiskey. I kem ter town ter day sumpen ter buy my wife a spoon 'uv white cotton thread, an' got durn yer buttons off 'I hadn't clear forgot all about that thread until yer spoke."—Judge.

Mr. JOHN JANE has remitted to the Bank of British Columbia \$10,25, collected from the Presidents of Sawtooths for the benefit of the famine-stricken residents of India. The only local contribution in the same direction yesterday was \$5 from Mr. Thornton Fell.

ALIENS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The people of Spokane are alive to the folly of permitting the so-called Corlies amendment bill to become law, and fully realize the injustice of the laws of the state of Washington in regard to the ownership of property by aliens. The following correspondence shows that they are anxious to see the right thing shall be done in both these matters:

SPokane, Wash., February 24, 1897. To the Editor of the "Colonist," Victoria, B. C.

DEAR SIR.—I herewith beg to hand you copies of resolutions unanimously adopted at a mass meeting of the citizens of this city, held last night, with request that you give the same publicity in the columns of your valuable paper. Very truly yours,

SIDNEY NORMAN, Secretary.

Resolved, That we, citizens of Spokane, in mass meeting assembled, do earnestly protest against the so-called Corlies amendment bill, in being highly detrimental and destructive to the mining and other industries in the Northwest and tending to destroy the present existing friendly relations, commercial and otherwise, between the Dominion of Canada and our own country, and we respectfully demand that our congressional delegation use their best efforts in procuring the President's veto to this highly obnoxious measure;

Resolved, That we, citizens of Spokane, in mass meeting assembled, do earnestly urge the legislature of the State of Washington to submit to the voters of this state the amendment to the constitution that shall modify the provision preventing aliens from holding real estate by purchase, so that our neighbors in the Dominion of Canada may have the privilege of enjoying the right to purchase and own a home in the state of Washington.

H. N. BERT, A. A. NEWBERY, N. E. LINSLEY, S. A. WELLS, GEO. T. OLNEY, A. P. CURRY, SIDNEY NORMAN, Chairman, Secretary, Committee.

The Winnipeg Tribune states: "Owing to the increase in mining operations in the province a mining act is to be introduced. This bill is based mainly upon the act now in force in Ontario. The Ontario law has been somewhat criticized, but on the whole it is commended as offering the discoverer ample opportunity. The feature of that law that has attracted most criticism has been the system of statutory royalties. Under the proposed bill the mining locations can be acquired in two ways, by purchase and by lease. The location must be rectangular in shape, consisting of 40, 80, 160 or 320 acres, and the purchase price is to be fixed by regulations of the Lieutenant-Governor in council. The crown lands, surveyed and unsurveyed, are open to the prospector and miner. In addition to purchase and lease mining rights may be acquired by any one who holds a miner's license, issued annually on payment of a small fee. Such licensee has the right to stake out anywhere on crown lands by planting stakes, a claim 600 feet along a vein by 350 feet on each side. Each claim can be forfeited if allowed to remain unworked for a period of three months. Inspectors may be appointed to examine the mines and see that the regulations are observed. Provision is also made for general rules as to explosives, safety from water, division and construction of shafts, etc. Appropriate penalties are prescribed for infractions of the act."

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