

The Colonist

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1894

A RESIDENT'S TESTIMONY.

Although so much is written about the war between China and Japan very little indeed seems to be known about it. In fact, it is by no means certain that war between the two countries has been declared. It appears that telegraphic communication between Korea and the rest of Asia has been cut off, and if this is the case the rumors of what has been done at Seoul or anywhere else in the country which is said to be the seat of war are not to be relied upon. We have, however, advice from Japan direct of an late date as the 10th of the present month. There is no lack, in the newspapers of that date, of news about the doings in Korea and the part that Japan has taken with respect to that country. The articles that we have seen on the subject discuss the situation from a British standpoint, and the British are not favorable to the pretensions of Japan and do not approve of what she has done or what she is likely to do.

It is admitted, in the first place, that Korea is a very badly governed country. It is also a greatly disturbed country. The people are discontented and rebellions are frequent. A manifesto lately issued by the Korean insurgents is described as being full of expressions of loyalty to the king. It declares that "he is benevolent, affectionate and merciful," and that "the great God is witness to his purity," and they say that if he had honest and sagacious ministers to assist him the people of the peninsula would be in the enjoyment of peace and prosperity. But those ministers are very far indeed from being either honest or sagacious. They are denounced as being "negligent in the discharge of their duties, not above robbing the exchequer and vain of their rank." They are accused of hiding from the sovereign the wishes of the people and of representing those who make complaints as "wicked, ignorant and dishonest." The rebels declare that there is not one faithful official near the Throne, and they affirm that owing to the maladministration of these greedy and unfaithful ministers "disorder is prevalent and on the increase, that misery exists on all sides, and that life in the kingdom is not worth living."

This dreadful state of affairs excites the compassion of the Japanese and they most benevolently resolve to interfere to improve the Government of Korea, to take the side of the good King against his wicked ministers. It is asserted that Japan has not been asked either by the King of Korea or the Emperor of China to interfere in the management of the public affairs of the Kingdom of Korea. It is admitted, too, that Korea is a vassal state, that the Emperor of China is its sovereign, that the King of its accession to the Throne is formally invested with authority by Chinese officials from Peking, and that in great emergencies the aid of the Government of China is sought and extended as a matter of course. Although the Japanese have not been invited to Korea, and although the Japanese inhabitants of the country are in no danger whatever, the Japanese Government has sent an army of ten thousand men to Korea. It has been requested by the King of Korea to withdraw those troops, but it has refused to withdraw them. As this is an important point it may be as well to reproduce what our authority, the Japan Daily Mail, says on the subject:

At the commencement it was plausibly argued when the Japanese troops were sent over that their function was to protect the Japanese Legation and such of the Japanese people as are resident in Korea. Next it was asserted that they were furnished—not that they had been asked for—as was the case with China—to assert the so-called independence of the Kingdom, or in other words to divert it if possible of the trammels imposed by the Suseiwan State. Now, however, these excuses are not urged with the persistence which attended their original utterance; what is now advanced, as may be gleaned from what the Government has caused to be put forward in its principal vernacular organ, the Nichi Nichi Shimbum, is that owing to the proximity of China, Korea and Japan to each other, it is asserted that their being so close any disturbance in Korea affects the adjoining States. It is, therefore, held to be incumbent that Japan and China should enter into consultation with a view to advise the Korean Government to reform the system under which the affairs of the country are administered.

Further on in the same article we find the following sentence: "While all these strange proceedings are taking place the very Power which pretends that Korea is independent is treating it with the utmost disrespect, for Japan landed its troops there without being asked and though requested refused to withdraw them." In another article in the same paper the editor, speaking of the Japanese invasion of Korea, says: "Their troops were not there by the invitation of the Sovereign or his Suseiwan, but against the desire and protestations of both. Possession had been taken in the first instance by Japan of the capital city of the Kingdom, and subsequently, though the Japanese soldiers have been withdrawn from within the confines of the city walls, the intruding troops have been encamped without, and such strategical positions have been taken as those in command of the Japanese army have deemed most advantageous for commanding the city or checking the advance of any forces which might attempt relief."

The reader can easily see from this testimony of a resident of Japan, who has been carefully recording every movement made by the Government in this Korean business, the position which Japan occupied a fortnight ago with respect to Korea. It is so solicitous of the welfare of that country that it is determined to defend it and to ameliorate the condition of its people whether they desire its help or not. In fact, it is determined that Korea shall have a better Government whether it good off-

ers are accepted or rejected by those whom it intends to benefit. It has ten thousand men on the spot to commence the work of reform, and there are more ready to come if they are required. It is most edifying in this selfish and greedy age to witness such disinterestedness and such generosity. We see that the motives of the Japanese are misunderstood and misrepresented not only by the King of Korea and the Emperor of China but by residents of the islands of Japan themselves.

It may be well, perhaps, to see what force the Emperor of Japan has to draw upon if anyone tries to prevent his carrying out his good intentions with regard to Korea. We find that the strength of the "active army" of Japan is 63,034; that it has a reserve of 91,190 officers and men, and also a territorial army of 106,088. Its whole military force available and unavailable does not greatly exceed 260,000 men, and it has also a navy which is said to be more than a match for that of China.

STUPID AND UNOIVL.

Our polite and charitable neighbor the Times accuses us of "dishonesty," because we quoted the Kootenay Mail's report of what Mr. Hume's committee said to the Premier relative to the issue in the West Kootenay contest, without adding the criticism of that paper on the committee's utterances. We submit that the material part of the interview was what the committee said—and their statement has not been contradicted by Mr. Hume, or even by the Mail itself. The Mail's comment was of no importance whatever. We dare say that it was disappointed and perhaps annoyed, but as its feelings did not affect either the importance or the truth of the statements made by Mr. Hume's committee, we cannot see that we were under any obligation to publish it. Is it not true that our contemporary learned to exercise a little common sense when it criticizes an opponent, and let us add, a spice of common civility would not detract in the least from the force of its criticisms. Is it ambitious to climb down to the level of the Westminster Columbian?

NERVOUS NEIGHBORS.

The difficulty at Bluefields does not appear to be yet cleared up. The Nicaragua Government and the Mosquito Indians are still at loggerheads, and the strangers that live in the land do not feel safe. They could get along with the Nicaraguans alone fairly well; when they have only the Mosquitoes to deal with they are happy; but when the country is disturbed, one month under Nicaraguan rule and the next in possession of the native race, they feel badly the need of the protection of either a British or a United States ship of war. Of the two it is evident that they prefer the British. This is not liked by some foolish Americans. They would much rather see disorder at Bluefields than that it should be peaceful and contented under British protection. They are afraid that Great Britain will get a permanent foothold in that part of Central America. Bluefields is not far from the entrance of the proposed Nicaragua canal, and these patriotic Americans imagine that if the British manage to get possession of either Bluefields or Corn Island they will be able, in some way or another, to prevent the United States getting full control of the Canal. But they should first build their canal, or at least get it well under way, before they take precautions to prevent Great Britain's obtaining undue influence over it. At the rate they have been going on lately it will be the end of the twentieth century before the canal is completed, and by that time it is hard to predict what Power or combination of Powers will have a controlling interest in it. The nervousness which some American journalists evince when a British ship of war sails for Bluefields to protect a handful of British and American citizens from the violence of semi-barbarians is almost comical. They give the British Government credit for harboring designs which it is more than probable never entered the head of any British Minister.

TREMBLING IN THE BALANCE.

The fate of the American tariff bill is still uncertain. No one seems to be able to tell whether the Senate will stand by its amendments or whether it will suggest such a compromise as the conferees of the House can agree to. It is evident that the Senate does not like to take upon itself the responsibility of killing the bill, and it is equally plain that some of its Democratic members are most reluctant to give up the amendments they have made. It is said boldly and openly that some of the Senators have sold themselves to the sugar syndicate, and it is more than hinted that the secret of Hill's defence of the President in the matter of the Wilson letter is that he wishes to play into the hands of a coal ring. The tone of some of the American newspapers in discussing the disagreement between the Senate and the House of Representatives is not pleasant. If half that they assert and insinuate is true the political morality of Congress is deplorably low. The Americans should be able to form a correct estimate of the characters of their own public men. But the habit of slander and detraction is so general and so deeply-rooted that it is impossible for an outsider to be able to distinguish foul calumny from honest denunciation. He would be a bold man who would at this moment predict with anything like confidence what is to be the fate of the Tariff bill. We see that American newspapers which are not remarkable for either reticence or caution, do not venture to risk their reputation for foresight and sagacity by undertaking to tell their readers what is going to happen to the Wilson bill.

WINSTON, July 28.—On Thursday 35,762 passengers were carried on the electric street railway lines in the city.

E. M. JOHNSON

37 Government Street, Corner of Broughton.

ESTABLISHED 1879.

Real Estate Agent, Conveyancer and Notary Public

Loans Effected, Rents and Income Collected, Deeds Prepared, Etc., Etc.

FOR SALE---A 1388-ACRE FARM

About 1000 Acres of which is Ploughable Prairie of First-class Quality.

120 Head (more or less) Cows, Steers, 2-year olds, etc., etc., (about 60 or 8 years. more to calve this spring), 1 pedigree Hereford Bull (rising 7 years.

7 Mares (in foal to a good stallion), 1 Horse, Pigs, Chickens, etc. Ploughs, Harrows, Reaper, Fanning Mill, Wagon, Sleds and usual Double Harness, Chain Harness, Bull Chains, Saddles (ladies and Blacksmiths' Bellows, Anvil and Tools and Carpenters' Tools.

9-Room House (shingle roofed; Stable for 10 horses, with hay loft above; Stone Root-house, Store Buildings, Dairy, Cow Sheds, etc., etc.

4 Miles (about) Standing Fences, in good order; Corrals, 10 miles barbed wire and staples; (about 2,500 Posts on the ground, ready for use, Small Lot Household Furniture, Stove and Pipes, Crockery, etc., etc.

This Property is within easy distance of many of the most important population of this district will increase this year by at least 10,000; the area of farm land is very limited, and from this it may be fairly asserted that beef and all classes of farm products will find a ready and lucrative market. The soil is the best bottom land, and the locality is one of the few places in the Province where so large a piece of good farm land can be found in one block. A river runs through the property, and rainbow trout are plentiful and afford capital sport. Deer abound in considerable numbers. Bear, Wolf, Coyote and other large game are to be found in the hills. There are two creeks recorded and belonging to the estate, one flows all the year round. Limestone and brick clay are to be had in the valley.

The Gattle are well bred; a much larger herd could be farmed with the many thousands of acres, and is available to the few land owners in the valleys. All buildings and fences about the farm are a good order, and farming operations can be gone on with at once; about 180 acres of ploughing have been, so far, provided for this year's work.

The Climate is not severe, the land being about 1,100 feet above sea level; the station was for many years the winter quarters of the H. B. Co.'s pack trains. There is a weekly express in and out. Goods and supplies at wholesale can be procured on order and delivered in 48 hours.

The Title is by grant from the Crown, and is free of all encumbrances. Immediate possession can be given.

Important Railway works are now in progress within moderate distance, and two railway lines have been run to pass close to or through the estate, which can be reached in the spring in three days' journey from Victoria.

The South West Kootenay District, British Columbia, is not only one of the richest and most important mineral centres in the world. Statistics show that although the district is in its primary stage, the mines have developed ore veins rich enough to warrant the investment of over a million dollars. When these mines come to be worked systematically, there will be an

Influx of Population, which will require beef and farm products in large quantities. The limited quantity of really good farm land in the district to supply these requirements makes this

A BONANZA!

To any person or corporation having the capital and knowledge necessary to develop and work this estate. A store, hotel and blacksmith shop could be run in connection with the farm.

P. O. BOX 188.

TELEPHONE NO. 74.

ON THE JAPAN SIDE.

Sixty-Five Thousand Skins Represent the Catch of the Combined Fleets.

Sealing Schooners Are Now Coming Home—The Badly Damaged "Wreath."

Mr. William Munroe, who was a passenger home from Japan by yesterday's Empress, reports the majority of the fleet on the Asiatic Coast as having done very well in the Japan sea, where the season is now practically over. Many of the schooners are now homeward bound direct, while others will cruise for a few weeks longer to the north of the Japanese archipelago. None will enter Behring sea, and only a very few will try the Russian Coast. The Viva, Casco and Sea Lion are now on their way across headed for Victoria, the former having left Hakodate on the 9th instant with 23,370 skins, her own catch with the skins of the Mary Ellen, Brenda, Umbria, Oscar and Hattie; Sadie Turpel, Agnes Macdonald, Walter A. Barle, Libbie, Koda Oleson, May Belle, Aurora, Otto and Fawn. The catch of the E. B. Marvin & Co.'s fleet will be brought home by the schooner bearing the name of the head of the firm. Below is given the detailed catch of the Canadian and American schooners forming the Japanese fleet of this year: (Canadian)—Umbria, 2,539; Brenda, 2,838; Diana, 1,802; Mary Ellen, 1,900; C. G. Cox, 1,900; E. B. Marvin, 1,378; Sadie Turpel, 1,700; Oscar and Hattie, 1,735; Agnes Macdonald, 1,717; Mermald, 1,617; W. A. Earle, 1,402; Viva, 1,430; Casco, 1,394; Penelope, 1,305; Dora Steward, 1,233; City of San Diego, 1,304; Enterprise, 1,233; Arctic, 1,197; Annie E. Palm, 1,125; Teresa, 1,102; Geneva, 1,092; Rosie Olsen, 1,042; Vera, 1,072; Libbie, 1,010; Beatrice of Vancouver, 947; May Belle, (three boats away for five weeks), 925; Fawn, 911; Maudie S., 1,241; Otto, 772; Mary Taylor, 738; W. P. Hall, 710; Aurora, 698; Oceans Belle, 597; W. F. Hayward, 458; Florence M. Smith, 36; total, 44,669; average, 1,276 per schooner. (American)—Bonanza, 1,734; Louisa D., 1,547; Sophia Sutherland, 1,466; Alice L. Alger, 1,373; Alton, 1,160; Emma and Louise, 1,100; Rattler, 1,046; Eppinger, 1,008;

C. G. White, 942; Herman, 927; Mattie T. Dyer, 915; Willard Ainsworth, 893; Theresa, 686; Louis Olsen, 636; Lilly L., 594; Alexander, 570; Penelope, 540; Rosie Sparks, 440; Ansonia, 332; Prescott, 329; George Peabody, 199; Anna Matilda, 152; Josephine, 147; George C. Whalley, 142; Edward Webster, 1,430; total, 20,289; average per schooner, 811.

THE SAN FRANCISCO FLEET. There was an inward and an outward-bound San Francisco steamer in port yesterday. The former, the steamship Umatilla, arrived from California early in the morning, and brought 148 4 1/2 tons of freight and 213 passengers, the majority of whom are bound to Eastern points. The Waila Waila arrived and departed for San Francisco on time, taking the following cabin passengers from Victoria: R. P. Ridd, E. W. Hill, W. Adams, P. W. Tompkins, Miss J. Newberger, Mrs. H. Stephen, Miss E. Tompkins, Alexander Cook, Mrs. Helena Cook, Miss Plocham, Miss Lockhart, Mrs. J. W. Westington and child, Miss S. G. Hill, Mrs. Florence E. Keith, Miss E. Hubbard, H. W. Lewis, H. F. Hamilton, D. Williams, H. B. De Mure, G. H. Crosswell, E. H. Power, Mrs. J. H. Hammond, J. A. Hart, J. D. Grant, E. A. Parker, S. G. Ois, W. Skarfe, C. D. Sherman, Shields, E. N. Laplaine, W. E. Faber, H. E. Walker, L. Burband and Mrs. W. O. Anderson and son.

THE CONTRACT AWARDED. Mr. W. F. Bullen has received the contract for repairing the barkentine Wreath, now on the marine railroad in Esquimalt, and yesterday a small force of men were set to work stripping off the vessel's copper. The lower part of the craft is in a very dilapidated condition. Her entire keel will have to be renewed as nothing of it now remains but a few jagged pieces merely holding to the vessel. Numerous punctures appear on either side of the vessel, while here and there are patches where the rocks have worn almost through the timbers. In one particular spot is a great hole, over thirty square feet. The timbers surrounding this other parts of the vessel. These will all be replaced and the vessel will again be put into first-class running condition.

THE FLAGSHIP TO DOCK. According to present expectations, H.M.S. Hyacinth will come out of dock on Monday or Tuesday next. It is believed that the Royal Arthur will immediately replace her on the stocks, in order to have some copper put on her bottom, to cover a spot about twenty feet long from which the metal has been discovered by divers to be missing.

E. G. PRIOR & CO. LIMITED LIABILITY. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER AND KAMLOOPS.

- Builders' Hardware. Looks, Hinges, Nails, Sash Weights, Cord Fasteners, Lifts, Pulls, Hooks, Bolts, Brackets, etc. Carriages. Buggies, Surreys, Gladstones, Kangaroo and Phaetons. Farm Machinery and Implements. Binders, Mowers, Rakes, Plows, Harrows, Seed Drills, Cultivators, Forks, Spades, Hoos, etc., etc. Pumps. In great variety, including SPRAYING OUTFITS for ORCHARDS. Pipe. Water and Gas (galvanized and black), Pipe Fittings and Brass Goods. Iron and Steel. Plates, Bars and Hoops.

ALL AT PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES. SEND FOR CATALOGUE OR SEE OUR GOODS BEFORE PURCHASING.

CARIBOO. NECHAGO. QUESNELLE. JAMES REID, QUESNELLE MOUTH.

A full stock of GROCERIES, consisting in part, of the best brands of Flour, Bacon and Beans. Also Mining Outfits, Hardware, Boots and Shoes, Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Dressed and Rough Lumber, Shingles, etc. anti-am-dk.

CAPITAL.

The New Canadian "deen" to Salt August

Dominion Rifle Meeting.—The Premier Muskoka

From Our Own Ottawa, July 26.—Mr. Marine has been advised another Aberdeen will Scotland, early in August trip last Tuesday.

The programme of matches will be ready to match has been added for the extra series.

Sir John Thompson goes Monday.

Ottawa, July 28.—The Assiniboia farmers for the way of public work prospective failure of the drought was considered to-day. While sympathizers, the government is one with which the must deal, consequently it is contained.

A concession has been published by the amendment act, by which the their papers printed direct of subscription, chromos, lithographs, printed by any newspaper part of their regular issue. It has been definitely Chief Justice Galt will ber l.

J. C. Patterson has put of General Wolfe and will government, and will Parliamentary Library.

Sir John Thompson states copy of an order-in-council the governments of Manitoba pointing out that ority complain of their exercise of their rights separate schools, and urged against it the complaint.

Sir John Thompson and Muskoka on Monday for go thence to Halifax.

CABLE NEWS.

LONDON, July 27.—The French government's Antiferring to the publication of the trials of which concerns foreign American press in view of trial of Caserio Santo, the not. The newspapers are printing reports of trials, as are permitted by the newspapers disobeying the distance, and two railway lines have been run to pass close to or through the estate, which can be reached in the spring in three days' journey from Victoria.

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LOS ANGELES, July 25. Beale, daughter of the late had a narrow escape from Monica. Mrs. Beale, her party of friends had been Monica during the past the ladies of the party much of the time at the house, where they indulged the big plunge. None of swim, although all are and as Mrs. Beale is bolder others, she took it on herself yesterday three or four of her depth and went under. gles and cries for help Roy Jones, son of Nevada, was attracted. Mrs. Beale, under the water for the nothing but a bubble denot others. Her companions v almost to death, and con Mr. Jones' question as trouble was, but when to the air bubbles he mind that some-one was plunged in, clothes and all, expert in the water he soon out and saved her life.

NARROW ESCAPE.

THE PULLMAN TRIP. CHICAGO, July 27.—It is Pullman company will, as a gin a wholesale evasion of The company expected to but union labor in Chicago the necessary food, and it food will be provided until settled. The policy to be company will probably be a regular annual meeting of the stockholders to be held in Oakland, Cal., July 2 branch of the A. R. U. has the strike off. It does not est ripple in railroad or bus the reason that it has been for more than a week. It is dardness that only those w believe that they would not played by the railroad con in holding out. MASSHORE, Ohio, July 2. Morris of the United Min to-day in regard to the rail the original intention of Deb