The Colonist.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1898.

INCREASING DEBT.

In a speech delivered at Gagetown, N.B., Mr. Fielding boasted of his surplus, which he claimed to be $1,576,881. Nevertheless the public debt is steadily growing. In 1896 it was $253,494,432, and now it is $266,038,000, about four and a half millions of the additional having been made to it during the year in which Mr. Fielding's so-called surplus was accumulated. Any man can save money if he earns anything and goes in debt for what he buys, and so any finance minister can show a surplus, if he is careful to charge up against his revenue only such amounts as will leave a balance in his favor. Mr. Fielding has managed to keep his books so that he can claim to have a balance on account, but even he will not pretend that he has the amount in cash in the treasury, ready to be applied on the expenditure of the current year. The alleged surplus was spent long ago and several millions more with it.

Not only is this the case, but the ability to show even a nominal surplus is not in any way due to the economy of Mr. Fielding and his colleagues. It was quite unexpected. It came because times became better, because our staples commanded higher prices abroad and we were able to import more dutiable goods. Hence we find the customs revenue greater by a million than it was last year, and when other tax returns are published, it will doubtless be found that there has been an increase all along the line. Increased buoyancy of trade has given an increased revenue, and the appropriations made by parliament happen to be less than the income thus augmented. This is what Mr. Fielding rejoices in as a surplus. We say that it came quite unexpectedly, for his budget speech shows that he did not reckon upon any such balance in his favor. If he got half a million dollars, he told the House of Commons he would be satisfied.

The truth of the matter is this that notwithstanding all the Liberal promises of reduced taxation, reduced expenditure and a stop to the debt-growing process, the people are paying more taxes than ever, more money is being spent than ever and the debt is being rolled up faster than for many years past.

THE FIRE TEST.

The most optimistic individual will hardly claim that the test of the water pressure for fire purposes, made yesterday, gave a satisfactory result. There was not nearly enough pressure. Fortunately we have not many lofty buildings in Victoria, and therefore the handling of a fire is not as difficult as it might be in other places of the same magnitude; but such streams as those thrown from the hydrants yesterday are wretchedly inadequate for anything more than a fire of moderate dimensions.

What seems to be needed is at least two more engines, or one engine and a fireboat. The cost will be considerable of course, but it would be the height of folly to allow the city to go along without adequate protection. The Colonist has no desire to play the part of an alarmist, but to remain silent, when abundant evidence has been given that something more is needed than is at the disposal of the fire department, would be almost criminal.

The city council need not fear to grappel with the question of adequate fire protection fearlessly. We saw in New Westminster what a conflagration can do when it once gets headway. Yet of all the cities in the province, New Westminster was supposed to have the best water supply. It had relatively a far better supply than Victoria has. The people will support the council in taking any well-considered steps to strengthen the fire department.

THE SOUDAN.

What is the Soudan, of which so much has been heard during the last fifteen years? The map-makers are not agreed as to the answer to this question. Some of them apply the name to the region which forms the western part of what we used to call Nubia, that is, the country on the west bank of the Nile, south of Egypt proper and north of Abyssinia. Lippincott's Gazetteer, published in 1876, says the name means "the land of the blacks," and applies it to the country around Lake Tchad and the source of the Niger—that is, it excludes the whole Nile basin from the description. Zell's Encyclopaedia, published in 1879, assigns it to the same limits, and says it has a population of about 35,000,000. Of late years the practice has been to apply the name to the great belt of country extending across Africa from the Gulf of Guinea to the Red Sea. Readers ought to bear the above facts in mind in connection with what may hereafter be printed in regard to the Soudan. They may meet with statements to the effect that French influence has hitherto been dominant in the so-called region, but this applies only to the portion of it which was formerly known by the name, that is, the western, and especially the northwestern portion. France has never had any standing in the Soudan east of Lake Tchad.

Taking the whole area now commonly included in the Soudan, we have a tract that may be estimated at upwards of 3,000,000 square miles, with a population that probably exceeds 100,000,000. In other words, it is fully as large and considerably more populous than the United States. Although its latitude is subequatorial, the climate, owing to the general altitude of the country, is by no means unfavorable to the development of a high stage of civilization. The soil over so vast an area will necessarily present great variety, but only a comparatively small extent of it is desert, the remainder being for the most part fertile and plentifully supplied with water. Owing to variations in altitude, the products take a wide range. The mineral wealth of the country is reported to be varied and very great, but is necessarily only imperfectly known.

There is much diversity among the several races inhabiting this vast region. Some of the tribes are stalwart and warlike, and, on the other hand, there is at least one race of pigmies. In some sections considerable progress has been made towards civilization. In others the most primitive barbarism exists. Travellers say that there is a great diversity in the color of the people, from the intense black of the Nubians and the Niger people to as fair complexions as those of average Europeans. There are tribes of the extreme negro type—that is, with flat noses, retreating foreheads and close woolly hair, and others that have features similar to those of the Caucasian family. For the most part they are naturally fairly well-disposed towards foreigners, although the effect of the slave trade has been to make them suspicious, blood-thirsty and treacherous. The influence of the Arabs has been almost wholly for the bad.

Up to seventy-five years ago, a chain of independent sultanates extended across Africa, from the Niger to the Nile, and they nominally exist to-day. Mehemet Ali, first Khedive of Egypt, brought the Sultans of Kordofan and Darfur under his dominion, but the region around Lake Tchad has never acknowledged any foreign suzerainty, until within the last year or two, when both the British and the French have claimed rights on the west shore of the lake, which they appear to have been able to make the natives respect. The sphere of influence of the British Royal Niger company extends from the rear of the British possessions on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea to the border of the lake. There is little doubt that one result of Kitchener's campaign will be the extension of Anglo-Egyptian dominion from the Nile to the east shore of the lake, thus giving Great Britain control of a strip of territory from one side of Africa to the other; or, in other words, of the central belt of the Soudan. It is altogether probable that a light railway will be built at an early day from some point on the Nile—say Omdurman—to Lake Tchad. This lake is one of the most interesting bodies of fresh water in the world. Its area is estimated at about 10,000 square miles. It has no outlet. It abounds with animal life of all kinds. Many islands are encompassed by its waters, and they are densely peopled by a race called Bidduma, who have made very considerable progress in arts, although they are pagans, even Mohammedanism not having been able to obtain any influence over them. Their country is probably the most thickly populated in the world, it being said that there is a large village for every square mile. Such are a few facts concerning this great portion of the earth, which is now about to be thrown open to Anglo-Saxon enterprise and capital. There seems to be every reason to believe that the people, under a just and settled government, will make rapid progress, and one day play a very important part in the history of mankind.

MR. BOSTOCK AS LEADER.

A correspondent says that the Colonist does not do Mr. Hewitt Bostock, M. P., full justice in that it has failed to publicly recognize him as the Skookum Tyee of the Liberal party. We should be sorry to say anything to deprive Mr. Bostock of his honors in this regard, and are forced to admit that his more or less fine Italian hand is quite observable in recent political events in this province. That he should aspire to the leadership of his party is natural; that he has already attained it is probable. Whatever position he may occupy in respect to political acumen and knowledge of the necessities of the province, he is facile princeps among his political associates in the matter of shekels, and even our amiable friends of the Liberal party are not indifferent to the music of jingling coin or the gentle rustle of the persuasive bank note.

We do not think that Mr. Bostock's leadership will commend itself to the generality of people. He has been a resident of the province for quite a long time, but his influence cannot be justly said to have been beneficial. He has interested himself in business, it is true, but his private means are so large that the question of profit has been with him a secondary consideration, and the effect of his competition has been pecuniary loss to many and no advantage to himself. He has embarked in daily journalism, and the product of his enterprise in this regard is certainly unique. It is undoubtedly the lowest example of political newspaper work which Canada has ever been afflicted with. We hardly think that Mr. Bostock's business record in British Columbia is of such a character that people will welcome his political leadership. We do not wish to be misunderstood in this reference. There is no intention to imply that he has not paid his way, and paid it liberally; but simply that his entrance into British Columbia business has not been for a profit, but as a part of a plan to advance his personal ambition. Nor do we wish to say that this ambition is not one that is perfectly legitimate. What we think the people will object to is his employment of his wealth to force himself to the front by means of so-called business enterprises, which confront with ruinous competition men who must make a profit in order to live, and by means of a newspaper which appears to have had for its sole object the villification of those whom he regards as obstacles to his progress. For these and other reasons, we do not think that Mr. Bostock's leadership, however welcome it may be to those who realize, or expect to realize, some of the advantages derivable from political association with a rich and ambitious young man, will commend itself to the rank and file of the political party, or gain for that political organization the confidence and support of a majority of the electorate. Yet we concede that he is the logical leader of the party, as things now stand.

AN AUTHORIZED WRONG.

Mr. Wade, late prosecuting attorney for the Yukon, is reported as saying that the Dominion officials sent there were allowed to stake claims. We assume that Mr. Wade would not venture to make such a statement if it were not true, and being true, it discloses a very extraordinary state of things. Most men who went to the Yukon intending to stake claims, went at their own expense and at their own risk. It was with them a venture in the strictest meaning of the word. Mr. Sifton's official prospectors took no such chances. Parliament voted them salaries; the public money paid for their transportation and provisions; they were provided with offices and homes at the public expense; they were given access to the inside of what every one in the country was doing; and in addition they were paid handsome salaries, the amounts being justified by the fact that they were being sent to a distant and inhospitable part of the Dominion. If Mr. Sifton had appreciated the full value of the privilege he was conferring upon his official prospectors, he would have not only have saved the country the amount of their salaries, but might have made a snug profit for the treasury out of it. Suppose that he had advertised that he had sundry positions at Dawson City to be disposed of, entitling the holder to free transportation into the country and as good accommodation after they got there as could be provided, and that such persons would have, not only access to the records of what every one was doing in the way of recording claims, but the right to say what creeks should be opened and when they should be opened and to decide between conflicting claimants; in other words, if he had offered to take into the Yukon men to administer the mining law, with the fullest privileges of acquiring mineral rights under it, he would have found many people ready to pay handsomely for the privilege. If he had advertised that in addition to the privileges attaching to them, a handsome salary went with the positions, his office would have been besieged with applicants, ready to put up large bonuses to secure the appointments.

To one who looks at the matter in a casual way, there may appear to be no great objection to an official being allowed to stake out placer claims; but to one who has any idea of the actual conditions existing in such localities as Klondike, such a privilege will appear dangerous in the extreme. It practically makes the official, who should stand impartial between contestants and between the Crown and the public, an interested party in every case. We do not mean that he would actually be interested in every case, but he has a possible interest. Having the recognized right to stake claims, no one can find fault with him if he employs knowledge acquired officially to his own advantage and to the disadvantage of others not in the official ring. Think of the estimation in which the people of Dawson will hold the administration of the mining law when they learn that its administrators have been given permission by the government of Canada to directly profit by the manner in which they administer it.

We have heard of delay occurring in pronouncing upon findings and of the applicant, after waiting for days, finding his application rejected and his claim jumped by some one who apparently got a tip as to the irregularity. Under the law as ordinarily administered in Canada the suggestion that such tip had been given would be at once scouted as without the least warrant, but when we are told that the officers, charged with the administration of the law, are authorized by the government to acquire private rights under it, a different complexion is given to the matter, the posibility of personal interest coming in conflict with official duty becomes apparent, and the door is thrown open wide for the perpetration of wrongs by men in office, whose ideas of the obligations of their position may never have been very acute or have become dulled by a haste to become rich.

Regarded from the standpoint of honest administration, we must class Mr. Wade's reported statement as the most damaging yet made in connection with the administration of the Yukon. It is difficult to see how members of parliament, no matter with which party they are allied, can decline to condemn the course which he says the Yukon officials have been permitted to follow. It places Mr. Sifton in a remarkable light before the people of Canada.

PLACER MINING IN THE YUKON.

The Winnepeg Tribune raises a question as to the permanency of the Yukon gold fields, and it is based upon a Toronto despatch stating that a Methodist missionary at Dawson said that the rush into the country had ceased and that the great question among the people now was how to get out. We are all familiar with this sort of talk here on the Coast, and no one is misled by it. One man goes into a gold camp and reports everything as promising as it can well be; another goes to the same place and sends back a story that the country is no good. It is the same with all new localities, even those that depend upon other lines of business than mining. Undoubtedly there are hundreds of people in Dawson, who would like to get out to civilization again; but as a rule they are of the class that would not make a success of any undertaking. The population of the Yukon has been recruited from all parts of the world and all grades of society. The Yukoners all called themselves miners, but the majority of them were absolutely without experience. A large proportion of them, as soon as they were away from the restraints of civilization, adopted the traditional, but wholly imaginary, customs of mining countries, and were lavish in their expenditures and not particularly careful as to their conduct. They thus added to the handicap of their inexperience. Others, with the best intentions and the greatest prudence, found themselves unfitted for the new work. Others again, with experience, found themselves unlucky. Many people object to the use of the word "luck" in connection with anything but gambling, but it must be remembered that prospecting is to a large degree gambling. Skill counts for something; industry for something; patience for something; but pure chance counts for more than either. A prospector goes up one side of a valley instead of the other and finds nothing, while another takes the other side and strikes it rich. One man follows what seems to be the best rule in selecting a claim in a creek of proved richness, and finds that he has either hit upon a poor spot or one difficult to work or for some other reason unprofitable. Another for the mere sake of chancing it, selects a fractional piece of ground that every one else has passed by, and takes out a fortune. The word "luck" may not suit the fine ethical ideas of some people, but until some one suggests a better one to meet the case, most people will continue to employ it.

Such are some of the reasons why so many people are trying to get out of the Yukon, but it seems to us that a small area, which yields from eight to ten millions of gold during what is practically the second year in which it has been worked, and which has not been one-third opened by actual mining operatins, has a brilliant future before it.

TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDEE.

The immense difference that exists between Tweedledum and Tweedledee is proverbial. Nations have gone to war over it; churches have been rent asunder because of it; society has been distracted in consequence of it, and life-long friendships have been smashed to smithereens by it. It is now the dominant factor in British Columbia politics.

Mr. Turner has eighteen supporters in the legislature-elect. Nevertheless he was permitted by the Lieutenant-Governor to carry out nothing which he recommended as Premier though it might be perfectly proper in itself. This is Tweedledum.

Mr. Semlin has also eighteen supporters in the house, but everything which Mr. Turner recommended, everything which he himself recommends, every dismissal which he orders, every appointment which he makes is all right and is permitted by the Lieutenant-Governor to be carried into effect. This is Tweedledee.

Can you distinguish between the two positions?

A peculiar phase of this situation is that the gentleman, who is responsible for it, that is the Lieutenant-Governor, had not the least intention of creating it. He had no more idea, when he did away with Tweedledum, that he should have to put up with Tweedledee than a child unborn. He supposed that he had found something which was neither Tweedledum nor Tweedledee in the person of Mr. Beaven. Hence he is confronted with a condition of things which he did not for a single moment anticipate. This does not, however, make his position any the less illogical. If the result of the elections left him no alternative except to decline to recognize Mr. Turner, the same result left him no warrant for recognizing Mr. Semlin as entitled to speak for the majority of the people. As a matter of fact, every one knows that when the house meets if the government elect a speaker, they will find themselves in a minority. Nothing can be absolutely certain in politics, but nothing can be more certain than that Mr. Semlin will be defeated on the Address if he succeeds in organizing the house. Yet he is allowed to go on administering affairs as if he had a parliamentary majority. If the Lieutenant-Governor does not recognize the illogical nature of his position, he stands alone in that particular. We believe that he does recognize it, but does not see his way out.

THE PLEBISCITE.

To-day week the vote on the prohibition plebiscite will be taken. It is desirable that the vote shall be a full one. One objection to other votes in which the question of total or partial prohibition has been involved, is that a very large number of the voters do not go to the polls. Therefore, though in most cases the result has been favorable to prohibition, it cannot be said that a majority of the people have declared in favor of it. It seems probable that a majority vote will be cast for prohibition, taking the Dominion as a whole, but that this vote will represent a majority of the voters is by no means certain.

The very great gravity of the question renders it one upon which it is the patriotic duty of every man to express himself at the ballot box. A prohibitory law involves changes of the greatest and most far-reaching nature. It touches the question of taxation, business, social and moral reform, the administration of justice, and in fact every relation in life. No voter ought to think of refraining from recording his opinion.

If we may judge from the newspapers, the discussion of the question has been carried on in all parts of the country with extreme moderation. The press, as a rule, has not taken sides. Most of the prominent public men have also kept aloof from the campaign. Notable exceptions are the Hon. Messrs. Foster and Fisher, both of whom have spoken on more than one occasion for prohibition. Some of the provincial ministers in the Eastern provinces have also taken part, but as a rule it has been left in the hands of others. The opponents of prohibition have not been much in evidence, although latterly they have circulated considerable literature.

What course the government will take in the event of a vote being cast in the affirmative, representing a majority of the electorate, no one can say. The only logical course will be to follow it up with a prohibitory law. If this course is not taken the plebiscite will be a farce.

DUDES AND AMERICANS.

The Times seeks to justify the recent dismissals from the civil service by sending out to the public statements to the effect that the government is simply getting rid of dudes and Americans. This is certainly a statesmanlike reason to give. It is also charmingly courteous. It is also utterly untrue.

The persons dismissed so far are Messrs. Mason, Kains, Gosnell, Kennedy and Allan, Mrs. Campbell and Miss Woolley. We learn from inquiry that of all these people, Miss Woolley is the only one chargeable with the enormous crime of having been born in the United States. As there is no evidence that this incident occurred with her knowledge and consent, it seems rather hard that she should have been sent adrift without an hour's notice, because of it. If the object of her dismissal had been to economize, and the choice had to be made between two ladies, equally efficient, but one a native-born Canadian and the other a native of the United States, presumably the former would be entitled to the preference, but even in such a case the dismissed lady would have been entitled to some notice. There is a particularly hard feature about Miss Woolley's case, for another situation was open for her in the city, and was only filled when the persons requiring her services had made inquiries as to the likelihood of her remaining in the government employ. If she had been given a week's notice even, she would have found the position available.

As to dudes, how ill the epithet suits the gentlemen above named, only those who know them personally can fully appreciate. The next thing we shall hear will be Mr. Sword, the new premier's private secretary, or the sixth member of the cabinet, as some call him, described as a dude. But as the publication of such a statement is intended to mislead people in other parts of the province, it may be well to speak a little of the personality of the dismissed officials. Mr. Mason is a gentleman who has passed middle age. He has been identified with large business interests, and in appearance he is simply like any other respectable man of his years. Mr. Kains looks like what he is—a practical surveyor—a plainly living, plainly dressing, unassuming man. Mr. Gosnell is rather of a retiring disposition, a student and worker. His attire is inconspicuous and certainly very modest. Mr. Kennedy was the engineer of the provincial building, and Mr. Allan one of the watchmen. They are like nine men out of ten who fill such positions.

It seems and in fact it is humiliating to have to speak of such purely personal matters, but under the Semlin regime, as illustrated by the Times, the cut of a man's trousers may at any day become a political issue. There is a rumor that hereafter members of the civil service will be required to submit samples of goods, out of which they propose to have trousers made, to the inspection of the sixth member of the cabinet, the defeated member for Dewdney, for his approval.

It may not have occurred to many people that there is only one really transcontinental railway in North America, namely the Canadian Pacific. The United States so-called transcontinental lines do not extend east of the Mississippi. Only the Canadian line runs on its own rails from docks on the Atlantic to docks on the Pacific. There is likely, however, soon to be another road entitled to this distinction, namely the Great Northern. Recently a powerful syndicate, at the head of which is James J. Hill, of the Great Northern, acquired the Baltimore & Ohio railway, which has its own line from Chicago to Baltimore and New York. The next move of the syndicate will, it is said, be the acquisition of the Chicago & Great Western railway, which will supply a link between St. Paul and Chicago, and give the Great Northern combination its own line of rails between Seattle and New York.

Referring again to the cultivation of flax it is interesting to know that some specimens of the product of British Columbia were sent by the provincial government last fall to the flax mills of Dunton, McMaster & Co., Ireland, to be reported on. This flax was grown from seed distributed under the direction of Mr. Turner as minister of agriculture.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness or constipation you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable, small and easy to take. Don't forget this.

Talk Is Cheap

We don't want to waste words on our goods. They are right in price and quality. What we want is to get our readers to visit us. Our goods will do the talking.

Bovril in 1 oz., 2 oz, 4 oz Bottles
Manitoba Creamery Butter 25c lb.
Also in small tubs for Family Use.
Our Blend Tea - - 20c. lb.
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Morgan's Eastern Oysters, always Fresh and Reliable.

Dixi H. Ross & Co.

A telegram from Washington announces that the term of Sir Julian Pauncefote as ambassador at Washington has been extended in consideration of his eminent services. Great Britain has had many able diplomats, but none who filled so peculiar a post as that at Washington with such general acceptance. He discharged his duties with great dignity and shrewdness, and unquestionably stands as high in the opinion of the American people as any United States ambassador has ever stood in the esteem of the people of Great Britain. Probably Sir Julian, when he retires from diplomacy, will be created a peer.

The Vancouver World refers to the cry that went up a few days ago as to the duty of the Lieutenant-Governor to insist that the house should be called together at the earliest possible day, and to the singular silence of the press supporting the present government on that subject. Of course the World knows the explanation. It is quite well aware that the length of time by which Mr. Semlin can postpone the beginning of the session is the limit of his premiership. When the house meets, the government will be defeated, and then Mr. Semlin can retire and enjoy his otium cum dignitate.

All the world is wondering at the remarkable freedom from sickness of Kitchener's force. It is quite possible that the strict rule adopted by the Sirdar against the use of intoxicants may have had a great deal to do with it. Undoubtedly the usefulness of intoxicating liquor is fast becoming a rejected notion among military men. The time was when it was thought necessary to serve out extra grog before a battle was to be fought, but the experience of Kitchener and some of the American naval commanders in the late war put a new face on the matter.

A marked increase in lawlessness is reported from Dawson City, and the explanation given is that the action of United States Collector Ivey, in insisting that a criminal, arrested in Alaska for a crime committed in Dawson, should be set free because no extradition proceedings had been instituted, has made criminals feel very much safer than they did, when the police could follow them down the river to St. Michael, if necessary. This state of things emphasizes the desirability of arranging with the United States government for reciprocity in arrests.

The splendid effort which New Westminster is making to carry out its plans for the provincial fair will doubtless meet with a hearty response from all parts of the province. Let no one suppose, however, that the Royal City makes any appeal ad misericordiam, for the exhibition itself is sure to be a very fine affair, well worth going to see. Vancouver is near enough to render the matter of accommodation of no importance.

We notice that the Toronto Globe confounds the C. P. N. with the C. P. R. company, referring to the steamers of the former as belonging to the latter. This confusion between the two names is quite common among strangers, and it may be well therefore to say that the Canadian Pacific Navigation company is not in any sense connected with the Canadian Pacific Railway company, but is a wholly distinct corporation made up chiefly of Victoria business men.

Non-treating clubs have been started in the United States. They originated as a joke, but are becoming very popular. Every member promises never to ask another member to take a drink, and wears a button for purposes of identification. It is said that commercial travellers are taking hold of the matter very ardently.

Rosslanders are beginning to chafe over the fact that the papers will insist in referring to their city as a "camp." When you come to thing of it the term is a misleading one for a place with all the et ceteras of civilization, including a healthy municipal debt.

Judging from the preparations which the Kaiser is making for his trip to Jerusalem, one might be excused for imagining that he fancies himself to be about to inaugurate the Millennium.

A surplus of $1,575,881 is claimed for the last fiscal year. Yet additional taxation is to be imposed in the way of postage on newspapers.

We are glad to see the Times uniting with the Colonist in urging upon the civic authorities the necessity for providing better fire protection.

In a moment of contrition the Province expresses a hope that the spirit of honesty, which has lain dormant in so many people in British Columbia, will awaken to new life. We shall watch the columns of our contemporary with interest to see if its apparent change of heart is real or only a fit of hysterics.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

The Nelson Miner, which does not think that Mr. Vernon made a good agent-general, believes that the office ought to be maintained. It says the government should weigh the matter well before discontinuing it.

Captain Paget, R. N., has arrived at the conclusion that Cervera's sortie from Santiago was foolhardy. It hardly called for a naval education to determine that point.

It appears that the licence commissioner of Ontario has arrived at the conclusion that saloons may be kept open on plebiscite day.

SHORT DESPATCHES.

Three men strangled Andrew Cassogue to death yesterday in his bedroom in a tenement house, 253 Seventh street, Williamsburg, N.Y. They also attempted to strangle his wife, who was sleeping by her husband's side, but was aroused, and, making her escape, gave the alarm. The woman then discovered $500 which her husband had placed under his pillow before retiring, had gone. The police found two men running from the house and arrested them. They gave their names as Michael Siegel and James Thomas, and said they knew nothing about the crime.

The ravages of disease are gradually sapping the life out of former Ambassador Bayard, and he continually loses ground, although his wonderful constitution makes a strong resistance. He passed a restless night and to-day will be considerably worse than at any time during his sickness. The end is looked for in the course of a few days, although he will probably have a number of rallies.

In the course of the German Emperor's first day's shooting at Hubertaustock yesterday His Majesty brought down ten splendid stags.

The London Daily News says the Philippines are McKinley's Old Man of the Sea, and the mere cooling of the annexation fever will not shake him off. Aguinaldo's message to the Associated Press is couched in the language of suspiciously tautological protestation, and comes rather late in the day. Aguinaldo himself could hardly expect his version to be preferred to that of General Otis.

A destructive hurricane yesterday swept over the southern part of Spain, doing great damage in the provinces of Seville and Grenada. Six persons fell victims to the storm at Guadrix, in the province of Grenada.

At a public meeting in Kingston Jamaica, for the purpose of discussing the posibilities of raising funds for the relief of the sufferers from the recent hurricane, which swept over the West Indian islands, the Archbishop of the West Indies declared that the conditions in Jamaica were such that it was not possible to do more than emphasize an expression of sympathy with those who were in need of help.

Dr. Kranz, of the European union of astronomers, cables to Messrs. Chandler & Ritchie, of Boston, the discovery of a star-like constellation in the centre of the nebulae of Andromeda and Romeda.

Special despatches to Bradstreet's indicate among the more important changes in available food supply last Saturday compared with the preceding Saturday: An increase of 900,000 bushels at Manitoba storage points and 122,000 bushels at Fort William and Keewatin.

The diplomatic representatives of Russia, France, Belgium, Spain and Holland, have called upon Li Hung Chang to condole with him upon his dismissal from the Chinese foreign office. Much comment has been excited by the action of those ministers.

Governor Pringle's unanimous re-nomination by the republicans of Michigan is considered to be a certainty by the crowd of delegates, party leaders and candidates now gathered in Detroit. It is freely admitted that the conservatives of the party that the governor's strength with the people, compels the support of republicans, including those who do not approve of all the governor's acts.

The National Zeitung asserts upon the highest authority that the personal estate of Prince Bismarck does not represent as much as 2,500,000 marks (about $500,000).

A despatch to the Central News from Candia says that Col. Chermside, British military attache at Constantinople, and formerly the commander of the city garrison, who arrived there a few days ago on board the British gunboat Halcyon, is continuing inquiries into the situation there secretly.