The Colonist.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1891.

THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR.

The organ of the Opposition wishes the public to believe that the Government has not done much towards cleansing the civil service and putting down bribery and corruption. Before it concludes its remarks, however, it is obliged to admit that the Government has already done a good deal in those directions. It does not find it convenient to go into detail, imagining that the public will take its own unsupported assertions and its insinuations for proof instead of facts. But, as the matter is one of great importance, it will be more satisfactory to see what the facts really are. We find that justice has overtaken every official who has been found guilty of wrong doing. Not one has escaped. Thomas McGreevy has been expelled from the House of Commons covered with disgrace. Mr. Perley, Mr. Arnoldi, Mr. Senecal and a number of other civil servants are no longer in the service of the Government. A Royal Commission is to be appointed to institute a searching enquiry into the conduct of civil servants and to suggest means to prevent impositions and irregularities in the future. A law has been passed which provides severe punishment by fine and imprisonment both for the men who offer bribes to civil servants and the men who take bribes. The same law makes it a serious offense punishable by fine and imprisonment to attempt to cheat the Government in the matter of tendering for public work or service. This most persons will admit is a good beginning. It could hardly be expected that more could be done in a few weeks, for there has been very little time since the discovery of the frauds in which to do more than begin the work of reform.

The Opposition began with its accustomed exaggeration says "Sir Hector gleams all white in the rays of a September sun. * * Nobody connected with the scandals this year has been really punished." The opposition newspapers and the opposition orators have been compelled to admit that it was not proved that Sir Hector Langevin received any money directly or indirectly from Larkin, Connelly & Co., or that he had a guilty knowledge of the frauds that had been perpetrated on the Government. Would the Times have Parliament punish a man who, as even his enemies are obliged to admit, has not been guilty of the crime laid to his charge? It will be said that the late Minister, if he was not an accomplice of the men who defrauded the Government, was wanting in his duty in that he did not long ago discover the crimes, and punish the guilty men. Has not that unhappy man been severely punished for his neglect of duty? Is it not a punishment—a punishment to many men worse than death itself—to be forced to resign a position of honor and emolument under a cloud? Is not the loss of dignity, of power, of influence, of the respect and confidence of his countrymen, a terrible punishment? We say nothing now of the loss of eight thousand dollars a year for an indefinite number of years, for we look upon the money loss, great as it is, the part of Sir Hector Langevin's punishment that is easiest to be borne. It is hard not to pity the old man, stripped of his honors, driven into retirement without the gratifications and the consolations that make a man's last days pleasant and enjoyable.

What could be more bitter than the punishment meted out to the Deputy Head of the Department of Public Works. Could any mere physical pain be greater torture than the mental agony which he suffered? Shame and self-reproach completely broke him down. He, too, has lost his position, and also the consciousness of deserving the respect of his fellow-men. That man must be, indeed, vindictive, who desires to see either the late Minister of Public Works or the Chief Engineer of his Department condemned to suffer more than they already suffered, and must of necessity still suffer. Surely the writer of the Times article did not consider the position in which the scandals have placed these two men when he said that "Nobody connected with the scandals this year has been really punished."

Then there are the other civil servants who have been proved to be unfaithful. Has not the loss of their offices, with their emoluments and the disgrace that followed discovery, been punishment? Would he have the men tied to a cart's tail and whipped? These men have been really punished. Whether or not they have been punished according to their deserts is a question about which sensible men may differ, but it is absurd to say that they have not been really and severely punished.

DENSE IGNORANCE.

The New York Sun in an article headed "Raiding the Rookeries," asserts that both British and American schooners took part in the raids that were made during the summer on the Russian rookeries. The Sun was misinformed. Not a single British sealer was among those who committed that offence. The statement of the London Times which the Sun contradicts: that "British sealers never approach the sacred breeding grounds" is not "a display of dense ignorance," but the literal truth. British Columbia seal hunters respect what they know to be the territorial rights of the United States in Alaskan waters. They never hunt the seal within three marine miles of the coast of Alaska or the islands in Behring's Sea. No British vessel has ever yet been seized for hunting seals in the territorial waters of the United States. Their opportunities for unlawful seal hunting have been many, yet they have kept off the coast, and have done their hunting on what is acknowledged by all nations to be "the high seas."

The American sealers, last summer, acted in a very different way. When they were ordered out of Behring's Sea by the American and British cruisers, and found that they could not remain with safety in the part of it claimed by the United States, they betook themselves to the Russian section of the sea, and there, not content with hunting on the high seas, they invaded the Russian rookeries. We were told by a gentleman interested in sealing in Behring's Sea, that as long as the schooners kept out to sea on the Russian side they were not interfered with, and that it was only when they were inshore that their crews came into collision with the Russian coastguards. British Columbians have no sympathy with the men who raid rookeries, and if a schooner hailing from Victoria were caught committing such an offence as the American sealers were guilty of last summer, her captain and crew would be condemned by the citizens of Victoria of all occupations, and no attempt would be made to save them from the punishment they richly deserved.

The "dense ignorance," or the wilful misrepresentation, is, this time, on the part of the New York Sun.

The very peculiar logic of that paper will not, we think, convince any one. It is in substance this: Because some lawless American sealers raided the Russian rookeries last summer, therefore British sealers should be, from this time forth, rigidly excluded from Behring's Sea. Why British subjects should be punished for the offence of American citizens it is very difficult to see.

HOW MUCH CAN A MAN STAND?

Theoretically the human machine is supposed to run 313 days out of 365, discharging to the full its functions. The few holidays that the laboring man gets he pays for. This does not, of course, affect the fact that there are holidays, but counting them all, Christmas, New Year's Day, Washington's birthday, Decoration Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day—seven, there are 306 days out of 365 that the human machine is supposed to discharge its functions fully. It is found in Europe, as the experience of all countries in dealing with their armies, that there is a certain time or certain per cent. of incapacity for service. The conditions in the armies of Europe are most favorable, that is, such as to reduce this recurring incapacity to a minimum, for to begin with the armies are made up of men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five, who, before going into service, are inspected as to health, and only those who are sound admitted; who, while in the service, are not only carefully and sufficiently fed, but are put through various forms of physical exercise in a manner calculated to keep them in the best of physical condition, while not over-exerting their powers; are carefully watched, too, that medication may take "the stitch in time" which "saves nine," and generally are made to live according to the laws of health. It must be admitted that the average of incapacity would here be at least as small as any other large class that could be selected. The statistics of this class are complete, the military tables leaving nothing to guesswork or supposition. These tables have been expounded by a Frenchman, M. Bertillion. They show that each soldier has, on an average, sixteen or seventeen days in the year when he is incapable of doing work, an experience which apparently holds good in each of the three great armies of France, Germany and Italy. If this is the experience of loss of time in consequence of ill-health under such favorable circumstances, it may be safe to assume that the waste is greater among older men and those living under more unfavorable physical conditions. A similar examination, if it could be made, into the condition of wage-workers, would throw much light upon the effect on health, and consequently on service, of an eight-hour day compared with one of ten hours, thus approaching the problem simply on the low selfish ground of effectiveness of the human machine, taking no account of the moral æsthetic elements involved. In the report of our commissioner of labor on railroad labor, it is shown that laborers in that service are employed on an average less than 100 days a year; brakemen and firemen, a little over 150; telegraph operators, 164; switchmen, 176; conductors, 207; engineers, 237. Col. Wright attributes part of this to the migratory character of railroad labor, and a part to the fact that in some lines of work a considerable number of days of rest are needed, while in some instances trained crews who are kept steadily employed throughout the year, work only four days in the week, with an occasional Sunday extra. From 210 to 240 days are assumed to mean that a conductor or engineer is steadily employed, and are said to represent his full annual earning power. On this assumption either there is considerable waste of time through non-employment, or a discount is made because of the average inability to work due to physical disablement. Certain it is that there is a limit of effectiveness to the human machine. A man can only do so much, and he cannot "strike twelve" all the time. It is also certain, as history shows, that the shortening of hours has been accompanied with better and more profitable work. Statistics may some day be gathered that will show how much a man can stand and be at par for effectiveness, as the military tables of Europe show with reference to the armies. Doubtless the time will come when this quantity in human effort will be recognised, and wage-workers will be held as of right entitled to vacations, wages adjusted on that basis.—*Indianapolis News.*

MRS. CANBY—"Oh, Titus, the baby has swallowed a hair-pin!" MR. CANBY—"That's it; just as I expected. Now you'll want to buy some more. It's nothing but money, money, money in this house the whole blessed time. I'll bet that baby has swallowed more than fifty dollars' worth of hair-pins in the last three months. Now, madam, this thing has got to stop right here—either that baby will quit eating hair-pins and come down to common grub like the rest of us, or I'll know the reason why—you understand."—[Epoch.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Parliament Prorogued—Closing Formalities of the Session—Governor General's Speech.

Government Cannot Aid the McLean Bros., as They Are American Subjects.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

OTTAWA, Ont., Sept. 30.—Prorogation has come at last, and is welcomed by Ministerialists and Oppositionists alike. The Senate and Commons both sat this morning and cleared their respective papers.

An interesting discussion took place in the House of Commons on the trade policy of Canada towards Great Britain. Hon. Mr. Foster's motion was adopted for an address to the Queen, asking the renunciation of the favored nation clauses in the Belgian and German treaties. He pointed out that the clauses as they stand deprive Canada of the right to make preferential arrangements with any country from which Germany and Belgium could be debarred. Hon. Mr. Laurier said the Opposition were in complete sympathy and accord with the prayer of the petition. He was glad to see the Government gradually coming to the conclusion that the fiscal policy of the Mother land and the commercial interests of Canada were at total variance as far as their mutual interests were concerned. The proper and logical conclusion of this address was what the Opposition had long advocated. Not only would Canada not be bound by the commercial treaties negotiated by Great Britain, but she would have the right to negotiate treaties affecting her own interests. Ten years had passed since Canada made her first demand to be relieved from the restriction clauses imposed. Great Britain had manifested every disposition to help Canada but the reason the treaties were not denounced was because the officials of Great Britain and the Mother Country had to choose either to sacrifice Canada or the interests of Britain. Great Britain chose to keep all the benefits for herself and to the injury of Canada. He did not blame the British Government for the stand they took, but it showed once more that Britain did not hesitate on occasion to do her own business, even to the detriment of the colonies. The Opposition held it to be the duty of Canada to look after her own interests first, last and always, and for this reason they found in the address a vindication of the policy the Opposition had advocated. He thought he detected sentiments favorable to the policy of the United Empire Trade League, in the reference that any attempt to establish a commercial policy upon allegiance and sentiment would be a failure. Sir John Thompson, replying to Mr. Laurier, said the petition did not assert what the Trade League policy was. After remarks from Hon. David Mills, the address was adopted.

A clause has been added to the frauds bill, making it illegal for any Government contractor to contribute to the Election funds of a candidate for the House of Commons.

The Speaker has announced that he had issued a warrant for a writ for a new election in Quebec West.

There was a small gathering of the elite in the Senate Chamber. The Governor-General made an unfortunate slip through the fault of Black Rod. After reading the speech and before the Speaker of the Senate had announced that Parliament was prorogued, His Excellency left the chair and had to retrace his steps to the throne in order to complete the formalities. Following is the speech:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I desire to convey to you my high appreciation of the earnestness and assiduity which you have devoted to your parliamentary duties during this protracted session. I have also to express my sympathy in the regret which you and the whole Dominion must feel, and which I sincerely share, for the lamented loss of the late Prime Minister, the Right Hon. John A. Macdonald, who died full of years and honors in the midst of your deliberations; and I congratulate you and the country upon the moderation and patriotism which you manifested in that crisis, and which enabled the legislation of the country to be continued without serious interruption.

An agreement was made in June last between Great Britain and the United States for the practical cessation of seal fishing in Behring Sea during the past season, for the benefit of the protection of seal life, pending an investigation by experts, in which this country has taken part, into the question of the necessity of measures for preventing its extinction. The report of the experts has not yet been received, and the negotiation for the settlement of the question which has arisen on the subject is proceeding, but still incomplete.

I am pleased to observe that in anticipation of a friendly conference with the Government of the United States on the subject of the extension and development of our trade with that country, and other important matters, the provisions of the protocol of 1883, known as the *modus vivendi*, has been extended.

The measures you have concurred in passing are important and useful. The reorganization of the Legislature of the Northwest Territory, and the readjustment and increase of its powers, are just tributes to the eminent capacity for self-government which that important and rapidly increasing section of Canada has manifested. The acts for the improvement of the law respecting elections will, I hope, be found beneficial, by simplifying procedure and facilitating the repression of corrupt practices. The measures respecting the cattle trade, the loading of ships, registration of trade marks, and the Vice-Admiralty Courts, will prove advantageous to trade, commerce and shipping. The enactments respecting the inspection of ships must prove of great value in the protection of lives of persons employed upon them, while the act respecting the fisheries of the Dominion and the obstruction of navigable waters will remove a possible source of discussion between the Government and the Provinces.

Notwithstanding that the result of the census shows a less important increase in population than was expected, it is satisfactory to observe the evidence of the general prosperity of the country, and the bountiful harvest which Providence has blessed us this year will give a fresh impetus to the settlement of the North-west and to the enterprise and industries of the country generally.

It is gratifying to perceive that you have felt justified in reducing the duty upon sugar to the extent of about $3,000,000, thus materially lessening the cost of an article of consumption, and that you have judged it necessary to provide for replacing the revenue to the extent of more than half the reduction thus made. It is a further recommendation of this important measure, that while it has largely reduced the cost of a necessary article of food, it provides for supplying the consequent loss of revenue by the imposition of duties on luxuries.

The extensive frauds upon the Government by a group of contractors and the irregularities of certain persons in the civil service, which have been discovered on investigation by your committees, are much to be regretted. The punishment with which many of them have already been visited, the steps which are to be taken in regard to others and the operation of the statute you have passed for their repression in future, will, I trust, have the effect of preventing their recurrence, and it is the intention of my ministers to procure the issue of a commission and investigate the organization of the civil service and report in a measure for its improvement.

The question of the restriction or prohibition of the liquor traffic has also been occupying the attention of my ministers, and a commission will issue during recess to enquire into and report upon this important subject.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

I thank you for the liberal provision which you have made for the requirements of the public service.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

In taking leave of you for the present, it is with an earnest desire for your happiness and prosperity in your several homes.

The Department of Agriculture is advised of a large influx of immigrants from Dakota into Montana.

Hon. Mr. Trupper has notified the McLean Bros., who were seized by the Russians in the Behring sea, that they are no longer British subjects, as they are sailing under the American flag; in consequence the Government cannot do anything for them.

The Department of Agriculture has informed the steamship lines that they will hold them responsible for the Russian Jews landed in Canada.

Col. Prior left for home to-night.

As a result of the settlement pending litigation, the Great Northwest railway will commence running from Brandon in a few days.

The strikers at the lumber mills attempted to prevent the shipment of lumber to-day, but the police used their clubs effectively.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Sept. 29.—Parliament will be prorogued to-morrow. Both the Senate and the Commons have practically finished work to-night. Sir John Thompson moved that Thomas McGreevy be expelled from the House. He said that the duty was disagreeable, but in view of Mr. McGreevy's disobedience to the orders of the House, and the fact that he was adjudged guilty of certain charges made against him, there was no alternative. The motion passed without debate. The Speaker was then requested to issue a warrant for a writ for a new election.

Hon. Mr. Foster brought down the supplementary estimate, granting the senators and members each an additional indemnity of $500. Messrs. Laurier, Cartwright and Mills stated that, in view of the protracted session, they thought the proposal justifiable. Messrs. McMullen and Muloch urged that the law be changed to make the indemnity flexible according to the length of the session.

An address to the Queen on copyright passed to-day, Sir John Thompson vigorously pressing Canada's right to legislate on this subject, as it affects her interest.

Mr. E. Crow Baker is here, looking well after his trip to England.

Col. Prior leaves for home to-morrow night. He secured to-day an order for a draft of 60 men of A and B batteries to add to C battery. The Colonel stuck to Sir Adolphe Caron like a leech, and would not leave until he got the order. The men go West to-morrow night.

CANADIAN NEWS.

Only One Saved.

HALIFAX, N.S., Sept. 20.—On Tuesday last, the schooner Blossom was returning with a load of fish from Labrador to Purcell's harbor, Newfoundland. She struck on Gull Island in a heavy gale, with fog, and broke in two. There were five men and one woman aboard. One of the men jumped into the water and clung to the cliff, against which he was dashed, but the others were drowned. The sole survivor was rescued in the morning.

Anglican Church Consolidation.

LONDON, Ont., Sept. 29.—The special committee appointed by the Bishop of Huron to consider the plan of the Winnipeg conference on the consolidation of the Anglican church in British North America, have unanimously passed a resolution recommending the scheme to the final consideration of the synod, and that delegates be selected to attend the proposed general synod, to be held at Toronto in September, 1893; but that said delegates be instructed to endeavor to obtain an amendment to the proposed plan in respect of representation; that there be an increase of numbers, and, if possible, by the adoption of the principle of equal representation from each diocese, as well as by vote by diocese, and for the calling together of provincial synods (with well-defined powers) only when necessary in the opinion of the metropolitans. A committee was appointed to draft a series of resolutions for submission to the synod, giving effect to the above.

Winnipeg Industrial Fair.

WINNIPEG, Man., Sept. 30.—The Winnipeg Industrial Fair opened to-day. The attendance of visitors from all parts of the Province and territories is large.

Legislation Postponed.

OTTAWA, Sept. 30.—In the House, this forenoon, the North-west bill was killed rather unexpectedly. La Riviere objected to a reduction in the representation of Saskatchewan, proposed in the senate yesterday. This is a French section, and La Riviere would not allow it to be slighted. The bill could not be rushed through without unanimous consent, which Mr. Dewdney would not grant, and the House prorogued at three o'clock.

With Intent to Kill.

OWEN SOUND, Sept. 30.—On the arrival of the Canadian Pacific steamship Manitoba from Port Arthur, yesterday, Herman Mott, a passenger, was arrested, charged with shooting, with intent to kill, Detective Bardley, of Hamilton, while the latter was endeavoring to arrest him on a charge of burglary.

The Baie des Chaleurs Scandal.

MONTREAL, Sept. 30.—Judges Jette, Davidson and Baby have accepted the position of Royal Commissioners to investigate the Baie des Chaleurs scandals. The investigation commences this week.

Jennings Resigned.

TORONTO, Sept. 30.—City Engineer Jennings has handed in his resignation in consequence of the City Council's action in depriving him of power of increasing or diminishing the salaries of the subordinates. Jennings is mentioned as the successor of Perley as chief Government engineer.

Personating Voters.

BELLEVILLE, Sept. 30.—At the assizes here, to-day, Mayor Porter was fined $100 and sentenced to one day's imprisonment for personating voters at the last Dominion general election. Porter voted twice for H. Corby, M.P. for West Hastings.

For Over Fifty Years

MRS WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children when teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind.
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MOHAMMEDAN JUSTICE.

Stoning to Death Still Practiced Among the Afghans.

The Terrible Punishment Meted Out to a Criminal—Pelted with Stones by a Howling and Pitiless Mob.

"An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." The dictum of the old law still holds good in Afghanistan. In fact, the manners, customs and surroundings of the Afghans of to-day might be prototyped in the pages of the Old Testament as faithfully as the life of the Israelites.

The Afghans are Mohammedans, it is true, but their religion is built on old-law lines, and their social life is as simple and patriarchal as when the great lawgiver, Moses, ruled the destinies of the people of Israel.

For in Afghanistan of to-day oxen tread out the corn and plow the fields, and the plow itself is a counterpart of the Mosaical instrument. Corn is ground in hand mills, and a goatskin serves as "water bottle."

Household and farming utensils have changed nothing during the centuries that have elapsed since the Israelites trapped the desert by the Red sea. In short, you could find a series of "tableaux vivants" in the surroundings of Afghanistan to-day to fill up chapter by chapter the scenes depicted in the Old Testament.

It is said that the Afghans are of the lost tribes, and certainly as far as a dogged adherence to Israelitish customs is concerned, they might be.

There is no mistaking the Mosaical parallel as far as the social customs present themselves; but I was astonished one evening, says a writer in the Sheffield Telegraph, during the Russian scare, when I was on the Afghan frontier, to see the very similitude of the old law punishment of stoning to death put in practice.

A yelling mob of people came rushing from all directions towards the outskirts of the village of Puckta, picking up pieces of stone by the way and piling them up in little heaps by their feet. I thought at the time they were going to have a pitched battle with stones as missiles. But shortly a man came rushing forward, followed by a spitting, hooting mob, shouting: "Sag! Sag!" (dog! dog!)

The unfortunate runaway evidently knew his fate, for his long, earnest appeal to Heaven as he stopped short and threw his arms up was but the preliminary to his fateful fate—his final appeal for mercy on his soul, for from that howling mob he well knew he need expect none.

The man had scarcely time to finish his invocation, when from all directions a literal shower of stones fell on him. For a moment he swayed to and fro under the onslaught. Soon the terrible shower had battered him into a jellied, blood-bespattered mass, his very clothes showing rents through which the blood found vent and spurted freely. He wavered for a moment, with his chin bobbing his chest, and then, after doubling up at the knees and middle, fell in a heap dead.

Still the howling mob continued their terrible fusillade of stones until around the already lifeless body a cairn was formed, completely covering in the corpse. And then the mob clapped their hands, crowed, and went their way.

"That dog is done for," said they.

Done for! Yes, it was a terrible doing; for there, under the heap of stones, the man's nerves and muscles still vibrated in their post-death struggle, causing the stone heap to rise and fall as if in labor with a thing of life; rose and fell in their horrible parturition for a few moments until the twitching of nerve and muscle ceased, and all was still, "consummatum est." The murderer of Afghanistan has breathed his last, and his hic jacet is written around the tombstone in those bloodmarks that bespatter the ground about his grave cairn.

WHY SNOW IS WHITE.

All the Elementary Colors Are Blended Together in the Crystals.

The pure white luster of snow is due to the fact that all the elementary colors of light are blended together in the radiance that is thrown off from the surface of the crystals. It is quite possible to examine the individual snow crystals in such a way as to detect these several colors before they are mingled together to constitute the compound impression of whiteness upon the eye. The snow is then clothed with all the varied hues of the rainbow. The soft whiteness of the snow is also in some degree referable to the large quantity of air which is entangled amid the frozen particles.

Snow is composed of a great number of minute crystals, explains London Tit-Bits. More than a thousand distinct forms of snow crystals have been enumerated by various observers. One hundred and fifty-one were noticed during eight days in February and March, 1855, by Mr. Glashier, which were carefully drawn, engraved and printed in a paper attached to the report of the British Meteorological society for that year.

These minute crystals and prisms reflect all the compound rays of which white light consists. Sheets of snow on the ground are known to reflect beautiful pink and blue tints under certain angles of sunshine, and to fling back so much light as to be painful to the eyes by day, and to guide the traveler, in the absence of moonshine, by night.

Not Serious.

A Wiscasset man, according to the Bath (Me.) Independent, discovered a big gash in his boot where he had cut his foot while in the woods and just managed to get home, feeling himself growing fainter from loss of blood all the way and fainted on arriving; when somebody discovered that the gash only went through his boot and the red color was not blood but only a woolen stocking.

TREES THAT STING.

The Beautiful Shrubs of Queensland Have Their Drawbacks.

Though the tropical shrubs of Queensland are very luxuriant and beautiful, they are not without their dangerous drawbacks, for there is one plant growing among them that is really deadly in its effects—that is to say, deadly in the same way that one would apply that term to fire, for if a certain proportion of one's body be burned by the stinging tree death will be the result.

They are found, says the St. Louis Republic, of all sizes, from three inches up to fifteen and twenty feet. In the old ones the stem is whitish, and the red berries usually grow in a cluster at the top. It emits a peculiar and disagreeable smell, but it is best known by its leaf, which is nearly round, with a point on the top and jagged all around the edges like a nettle. All the leaves are large, even on small plants—sometimes larger than a saucer.

The effects of the sting are curious, it leaves no mark, but the pain is said to be maddening, and for months after a jab from one of its numerous "stingers" the part stung remains very tender; especially is this true in rainy weather, or when the parts stung have been accidentally dampened, even if very slightly.

Hunters who have found themselves surrounded by small forests of "stinging trees" in the dusk of evening have been known to lie down and pass the night as comfortably as possible, fearing to make an effort to extricate themselves in the dim, uncertain light, lest they might get deeper and deeper into the besetting trouble.

"I have seen," said Shuman, "a man, who would treat ordinary pain lightly, roll on the ground in agony for hours after being stung, and have known a horse so completely mad, after getting into a thicket of these trees, that he rushed open-mouthed at everyone that approached him, and had to be shot to relieve his agony."

Dogs, when stung, will rush about, whining piteously, biting pieces of flesh from the affected parts.

The small "stinging trees," only a few inches high, are even more dangerous than the large ones, being so small they are likely to brush one's ankles before they are seen.

One safeguard for the experienced hunter is the fact that they always grow in palm thickets, and no place else. The presence of palm trees is, therefore, sufficient to put an old settler on his guard.

A POWERFUL CURRENT.

The Greatest Voltage and the Longest Line in the World.

Mention was made some weeks ago of a line intended to carry electricity at twenty-five thousand volts from Lauffen to Frankfort, a distance of over one hundred miles. The experiment has been watched with interest by electricians on both sides of the ocean, says the Philadelphia Record, since there are not wanting those who claim that the thing cannot be done. The preliminary experiments made over a line of three miles in length were, it is said, entirely successful. A current of thirty-three thousand volts was developed for the purpose of seeing how great the tendency would be for the current to leave the wire for the ground. To discover this the wire was cut and the pieces then slowly brought together, and it was not until the ends were within less than an inch of each other that a spark was forced across the intervening space. An ordinary safety cut-out, consisting of a ball of lead, was then placed in the circuit and a wire was dropped across the current to imitate the falling of a tree or the crossing of another wire, when the lead ball instantly melted with a flash and an explosion, cutting off the current. From the results of the preliminary experiments the projectors of the new line feel confident of its success.

Her Tribute.

Over in the Evergreen cemetery on a recent bright Sunday the doings of a woman at one of the graves attracted the attention of a chance visitor. When the woman had finally gone away the visitor sought the spot to discover the cause of several patches of bright color that were visible there, says the New York Tribune. A leafless bush grew at the head of a little grave. Upon this, hanging from every spare stem, were paper roses, red, blue and green. On the grave a wreath of the same was laid, and in a cheap vase set in the earth near one end of the mound was a bunch of more paper blossoms, pink and purple, and of a fashion akin to no known botanical specimen. The effect was grotesque and withal pathetic. The woman, probably a bereaved mother, looked to be a German, neat and thrifty in appearance. This riot of color and unstable decoration had doubtless been a loving effort with her, and, whatever the absurd result, the spirit which animated the offering was as delicate and beautiful as if its outward token were the choicest blooms of nature's conservatories.

South American Hotels.

The visitor's first experience of the hotels in Buenos Ayres is his first disappointment. With the exception of the Grand hotel, which would rank with third and even fourth class houses in Europe, all the thirty or forty hotels of Buenos Ayres occupy inadequate buildings and they are badly furnished, badly managed and altogether wretched, dirty and comfortless. Nevertheless, the proprietors make good profits. They charge from $2.50 to $12 gold a day for each person and their houses are always full.

He Got the Worst of It.

He was a Bath (Me.) hackman, so the Enterprise says, and he had a Canadian quarter, worth only twenty cents in Bath, that he wanted to dispose of. So one dark night when an innocent old lady handed him half a dollar he gave her the Canadian quarter in change, and instead of feeling ashamed of himself he chuckled over the transaction—that is, he chuckled until he pulled out the coin the lady had given him, and by the light of a lamp discovered that it was a Canadian half dollar.

RAILWAYS.

Esquimalt & Nanaimo R'y

TIME TABLE No. 14.

To take effect at 8.00 a.m. on Saturday May 9th, 1891. Trains run on Pacific Standard Time.

GOING NORTH. READ DOWN. No. 1 Passenger Daily.		No. 3 Passenger Saturdays and Sundays.	Miles from Victoria	STATIONS.	Miles from Wellington	GOING SOUTH. READ UP. No. 2 Passenger Daily.		No. 4 Passenger Saturdays and Sundays.
De 8.00 A.M.		De 3.30 P.M.		VICTORIA		Ar 6.05		Ar 6.35
" 8.04		" 3.34	1	RUSSELLS Vic. W	74	" 6.04		" 6.04
" 8.14		" 3.44	7	ESQUIMALT	67	" 5.44		" 5.44
" 8.29		" 4.00	13	COLLISTREAM	60	" 5.19		" 5.19
" 8.34		" 4.04	16	COBBLE HILL	57	" 5.14		" 5.14
" 8.44		" 4.14	22	SHAWNIGAN	50	" 5.04		" 5.04
" 8.59		" 4.29	29	MOPHERSONS	43	" 4.49		" 4.49
" 9.04		" 4.34	32	KOKSILAH	40	" 4.44		" 4.44
" 9.07		" 4.37	35	DUNCANS	36	" 4.41		" 4.11
" 10.17		" 5.47	49	DO	22	" 3.31		" 3.31
" 10.25		" 5.55	53	CHEMAINUS	18	" 3.23		" 3.03
" 10.46		" 6.16	62	"	9	" 3.14		Ar 2.35
Ar 11.50		" 7.14		NANAIMO		Lv 2.30		De 2.30
De 11.50		Ar 7.20	73	"	1	LINGTON		
Ar 12.14 P.M.		Lv 7.00 P.M.	76					

On Saturdays and Sundays

Return Tickets will be issued between all points for a single fare, good for return not later than Monday.

Return Tickets for one and a half ordinary fare may be purchased daily to all points, good for three days, including day of issue.

No Return Tickets issued for a Single Fare, where such fare is twenty-five cents.

Through rates between Victoria & Comox.

A. DUNSMUIR, President. JOSEPH HUNTER, Gen'l Supt.
H. K. PRIOR, Gen. Freight and Passenger Agt
my29

From Terminal or Interior Points the

Northern Pacific Railroad

Is the line to take

To all Points East and South.

It is the Dining Car Route. It runs through Vestibuled trains every day in the year to

ST. PAUL and CHICAGO

(NO CHANGE OF CARS)

Composed of Dining Cars unsurpassed,

Pullman Drawing Room Sleepers.

Of Latest Equipment,

Tourist Sleeping Cars.

Best that can be constructed and in which accommodations are both Free and furnished for holders of First or Second Class Tickets, and

Elegant Day Coaches.

A continuous line connecting with all lines, affording direct and uninterrupted service.

Pullman Sleeper reservations can be secured in advance through any agent of the road.

THROUGH TICKETS To and from all Points in America, England and Europe can be purchased at any ticket office of this Company.

For full information concerning rates, time of trains, routes and other details furnished on application to any agent, or

E. E. BLACKWOOD, Freight and Ticket Agent, 83 Gov't St., cor. Bastion, Victoria
A. D. CHARLTON, Ass't Gen. Pass. Agt., 121 First st., corner Washington, Portland, Or.
feb11

UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY, B. C., L'D.

HEAD OFFICE, - VANCOUVER, B. C.

VANCOUVER-NANAIMO ROUTE—SS. CUTCH leaves VANCOUVER daily at 2.30 p.m., arriving at NANAIMO at 6 p.m. Leaves NANAIMO 7 a.m. daily, arriving at VANCOUVER 11.30 a.m.

TOURIST TICKETS are issued available from VICTORIA to NANAIMO via the E. & N. Ry., by SS. CUTCH from NANAIMO to VANCOUVER, and return by C. P. N. Co'y steamers to VICTORIA. Round trip, $6.00.

VANCOUVER AND PORTLAND (OR.)—Carrying freight and passengers—SS. GRANDHOLM (1,800 tons). This steamer makes FORTNIGHTLY TRIPS between Vancouver and Portland, via Victoria, Sound Ports and Astoria.

VANCOUVER AND LADNER'S LANDING—SS. ELIZA EDWARDS will leave Union SS. Co's Wharf DAILY at 2.30 p.m., calling at STEVESTON and Way Landings. LEAVE LADNER'S LANDING at 7 a.m. for STEVESTON, Way Landings and Vancouver. Cargo received at Company's Wharf.

Ferry steamer plies at regular intervals between Vancouver and Moodyville from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Excursion steamers are always available at short notice. W. WEBSTER, Mgr.
Cable address—Union, Vancouver.
P. O. Box 217. jel

CANADIAN PACIFIC NAVIGATION COMPANY, (Limited.)

Time Table No. 14, takes effect June 23, 1891.

Vancouver Route:

Victoria to Vancouver—Daily, except Monday at 2 o'clock, a.m.

Vancouver to Victoria—Daily, except Monday at 13 o'clock or on arrival of C. P. R. No. 1 train.

New Westminster Route:

LEAVE VICTORIA for New Westminster, Ladner's Land'g and Lulu Island—Sunday at 22 o'clock. Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 o'clock. (Sunday's steamer to New Westminster connects with C. P. R. train No. 1 going east Monday.)

For Plumper Pass—Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 o'clock.

For Moresby Island—Friday at 7 o'clock.

LEAVE NEW WESTMINSTER for Victoria—Monday at 13 o'clock; Thursday and Saturday at 7 o'clock.

For Plumper Pass—Saturday at 7 o'clock.

Fraser River Route:

Steamers leave New Westminster for CHILLIWHACK and Way Landings every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7 o'clock.

Northern Route:

Steamships of this Co. will leave for Fort Simpson and intermediate ports on the FIRST and FIFTEENTH of each month. When sufficient inducements offer will extend trips to West Coast points and Queen Charlotte Islands.

Barclay Sound Route:

Steamer MAUDE leaves Victoria for Alberni and Sound ports the 27th of each month.

Bute Inlet Route:

Steamer RAINBOW leaves every Friday for Cowichan, New Westminster, Burrard Inlet, Bute Inlet and way ports.

The Company reserves the right of changing this Time Table at any time without notification. Steamers leave by Standard time.

JOHN IRVING, Manager.
G. A. CARLETON, General Agent. ly2