

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1894.

CONSISTENT IN MEANNESS.

The Opposition were consistent when they did not on Tuesday permit the Premier to close the debate on the Nakusp & Slocan railway bill. The debate had been a peculiar one. The Opposition had not confined themselves within the legitimate limits of debate. They had gone out of their way to cast aspersions on the character and motives of members of the Government. The Premier, who had conducted the negotiations connected with the transaction, and had represented the Government throughout the whole business, naturally felt that, considering the course adopted by the Opposition, he had a moral right to reply to the aspersions. It might be thought that if there were any meanness in his opponents, and if they possessed any sense of justice or any regard for fair play, they would cheerfully concede to him the privilege of taking his own part. But as the rules of the House were on their side, they were determined to make the most of the unfair advantage they had taken.

It was like the Times to represent the Premier's desire to speak at the close of the debate as "a snub" to his colleagues. Its sympathies are with the pettifoggish tactics of the Opposition slanders, and it did its little best to make their unfairness and their trickiness still more unfair and more tricky. But the Premier's colleagues understand both the situation and the nature of their opponents too well to regard the feeble attempt of the Times to excite jealousy and distrust with any other feeling than that of contempt. They knew that "Premier Davis," owing to the part he had taken, was in the best position to meet the insinuations of their opponents and to expose their misrepresentations, and they thoroughly sympathized with him in his desire to speak before the debate closed.

SHALL THE MAJORITY RULE?

The letter from "A Gallery Girl," which appeared in the Colonist yesterday, must have opened the eyes of the advocates of Single Tax and workingmen to the motives that have impelled Mr. Beaven to give notice of an important amendment to the Municipality Bill, now before the House. Instead of the representative of the masses, he is the tool of the classes. Instead of the exponent of an enlightened, go-ahead policy, he is the willing mouthpiece of all that is hide-bound and non-progressive in our midst. If his latest effort on behalf of the landed interest should pass, the reader will be able to count on his fingers and toes the ratepayers who may block every needed and useful improvement. What is Mr. Beaven's amendment? Simply this: No money by law can be so much as entertained by the Board of Aldermen, unless it shall have first received the approval, as expressed in a petition, of at least one-half in value of the owners of property within the municipality. Ten, or at the most twenty, persons in Victoria, who hold one-half of the rateable real estate in value may prevent the undertaking of every improvement that may be desired by the remaining 3,900 ratepayers, whose property, collectively, scarcely amounts in value to that held by the other ten or twenty ratepayers. No improvement of an important character need be looked for in this or any other municipality should Mr. Beaven's amendment pass. This amendment furnishes interesting thought-food for the Single Taxers. They demand the adoption of a system of taxation which shall make land pay the whole cost of government. Mr. Beaven seeks to place within the power of the few heavy landholders, to say whether they shall be taxed or not, in opposition to the wishes of an overwhelming majority. It is a well understood principle of popular government that the majority shall rule. Mr. Beaven aims to reverse this principle by insisting that the minority shall govern. If the House should adopt the amendment, the workingmen who have remained in the city during the winter in the expectation of obtaining employment with the prosecution of municipal works with the opening of spring, may pack their effects and hasten away to some land where a man's influence is not gauged by the size of his bank account or by the number of acres he may hold.

AN ANGRY ORGAN.

Our very amusing contemporary, the New Westminster Columbian, flies into a rage and uses what it considers strong language, because we inferred from its leading article of the 28th ult. that it had adopted for itself and recommended to its readers the Union Hall programme. We are astonished at the violent way in which our contemporary denies the soundness of our inferences. When we look over its article, we are surprised that we expressed ourselves with such moderation. The attitude of the Columbian with regard to that programme was one of intense, we had almost written, devout, admiration. It led its readers to believe that the sixteen resolutions were too good for the very best of the degenerate politicians of these days. It declared that the platform is "in every respect . . . a most advanced one." It divided the reforms it outlined and fore-shadowed into three classes. Ist. Those that "can only gradually be worked up to"; 2nd. Those to which there is a legitimate ground of difference of opinion; and 3rd. The "immediately practical planks." It will be observed that it did not condemn or censure a single plank of the platform or a single principle enunciated in its preamble. We cannot imagine a more complete adoption of any set of principles, political, moral or religious, than that contained in the

Columbian's comments on the Union Hall resolutions. If it were consistent, and if it really believed what it said of that platform, it would acknowledge with pride that it had readily adopted it for itself and its party, and instead of being angry at us for arriving at the only legitimate conclusions that could be formed from its avowals, it would compliment us upon our discernment and reiterate its declaration that the programme is to be hereafter the ground of its political action and the object of its political and social aspirations.

We cannot imagine what has come over the Columbian. It is ashamed of the Union Hall platform, which it only the other day described as being as near perfection as possible? Has it already repented of announcing its adhesion to it? What can be the secret of its violence, and why does it soil us so violently for taking it at its word? We observe, however, that there is a kind of system in the Columbian's anger. Cross as it is, and vehemently as it berates us, it does not repudiate the Union Hall platform. It is very far from saying that it does not believe that every principle set forth in it is sound, or that every change it recommends ought not to be made. Neither does it say that the platform of sixteen planks is not the political platform of itself and its party. In fact, in the face of its own emphatic and apparently earnest approval of the resolutions, it could not possibly go back on them.

We notice that Mr. Sward is equally reticent and non-committal on this point. He says that he was not reported correctly, although in our opinion he makes a distinction where there is really no difference, but he does not deny that he and his party have adopted the Union Hall resolutions as their platform.

We trust that the Columbian will keep cool and take things easy. When it gets in such a frame of mind as to have command over itself, it may tell us without too many imperatives whether or not it has changed its mind about the Union Hall resolutions.

THE HAWAIIAN POLICY.

One of the great objections to the policy of the Hawaiian revolutionists—indeed, almost the only objection—was that they refused to permit the native Hawaiians to have any part in the government of the country. It was believed that the natives were to be treated as an inferior race, who are not fit to be trusted with the privilege of the franchise. At the beginning of the movement, many who took part in it and many who, in the United States, approved of it and encouraged it, laughed at the idea of investing the native population with the powers of citizenship. The idea of making the whole population of a country serfs, of ruling them without their own consent, was most repugnant to many American citizens and to many British subjects. It was pronounced un-American and un-republican, as well as un-British. If that idea was ever entertained by the ruling class in the Hawaiian Islands it has been abandoned. It is now proposed to give the country a free constitution and to govern it according to the well-understood wishes of the people. This is what the Hawaiian Gazette of March 23rd, says on the subject:

The final form of government to which the Provisional Government looks forward, with anticipation or without it, is full representative government, in which the native race may be sure of taking its just and proper share. There is no intention on the part of the administration, and we believe on that of any considerable section of the Ancestral party, to disfranchise the Hawaiian. Of this fact, no more substantial proof can be offered than is contained in the provisions of the Constitutional Convention Bill, which throws the ballot open to the natives, without even the restriction of a property or income qualification. Annexation is the policy favored by the ruling party in the islands. What proportion that party bears to the whole population we do not know. Whether there is any considerable number of native Hawaiians in favor of union in some shape with the United States does not yet appear. It is very evident that whatever their predilections in favor of royalty may be, they are not strong enough to impel them to sacrifice anything in its cause. The Hawaiians evidently have no genius for politics. They appear to be an easy-going, good-tempered, contented people, who would live quietly, peaceably and cheerfully under any form of government, provided they were fairly treated. We do not think there is going to be a great deal of trouble in choosing a form of government for the Hawaiians.

SIR RICHARD'S DECLARATION.

The Liberals of the Dominion have been asked time and again definitely to state their trade policy, but they have carefully avoided any clear and precise statement. There is an ambiguity about nearly everything that their leaders have said on the subject which leaves it altogether uncertain what policy they would, if they were elevated to power, pursue. For instance, Mr. Laurier has declared that the commercial policy of his party is free trade after the British pattern, but he took good care, in almost the same breath, to declare that, at present, British free trade was not possible in Canada. This left his hearers quite uncertain as to the time when British free trade would be possible in this country and equally uncertain what policy the Liberal party, if the opportunity of directing the affairs of the Dominion were afforded them, would pursue until that time should arrive.

Sir Richard Cartwright, who loves strong language and unqualified statements closed his speech on the Budget the other day with the following passage:

Sir, they demand our policy. Well, sir, they shall have our policy, and here I believe I speak for my hon. friends beside me. Our policy is death to protection and war to the knife to corruption. Sir, we strike and we will strike for liberty and freedom from

this system of protective taxation, and I tell the hon. gentlemen that we will not rest until the slavery that they have imposed upon us has become a thing of the past, and until Canadian farmers are as free as Canadians ought to be free to make the most they can of the opportunities God has given them.

This sounds strong and appears definite, but what does it mean? Does it mean that if Sir Richard Cartwright were made Finance Minister next year he would set to work immediately to eliminate protection from the trade policy of the Dominion? Would he make the tariff of this country as near as may be a counterpart of the tariff of Great Britain? Would he allow nearly all the products raw and manufactured, of every country under the sun to enter our ports duty free. Would he select some thirteen articles or so not produced in this country for taxation and get all his customs revenue from them, and would he impose heavy excise duties and there, to make his revenue large enough to meet the purposes of Government, would he impose an income tax? This is what Sir Richard's declaration, if it is to be taken literally, means. If it is not to be taken literally, if his sentences have only the appearance of strength and definiteness, if the passage is merely rhetorical, made to tickle the ears of the groundlings, then we are as far from knowing what the Liberal policy will be as ever we were.

WASTED INGENUITY.

The News-Advertiser is too clever by half. Its editor evidently believes that he is doing a very smart thing when he endeavors to convey the impression that the Hon. Mr. Davis's desire to speak at the close of the debate on the Nakusp and Slocan Railway bill was caused by the "very poor opinion" he has "of the ability and the capacity of his colleagues and supporters." We are quite sure that there is no one, either in the Legislature or out of it, who does not fully appreciate our contemporary's smartness, and who does not give its editor all the credit he deserves for his extraordinary astuteness. It is a thousand pities that he has not a wider field for his talent for intrigue.

We are greatly afraid that our contemporary's cleverness will be thrown away on Mr. Davis's colleagues and supporters. From all that we can hear, we are led to believe that they think that their leader ought to have had an opportunity of replying to the false accusations and the slanders that Mr. Beaven and his high-minded co-laborers contrived to insinuate with so much ingenuity and ability into their speeches. Their supporters are fully convinced that the object of the Opposition in that debate was not so much to show that the Nakusp & Slocan arrangement is injurious to the Province, as to fasten a suspicion of wrong-doing on the Hon. Mr. Davis and some of all of his colleagues. The Advertiser's ingenuities and praiseworthy efforts to turn them against their leader are, we fear, vain. It is a pity that so much sympathy should be wasted and so great an amount of talent exercised without adequate results. But, as the editor of the Advertiser well knows, "it is not in mortals to command success," let him bear his disappointment with philosophical resignation.

THE FREE LIST.

The Toronto Empire directs attention to the extent of the free list. Many who are not in business, and some who are, will be surprised to find what an immense quantity of merchandise is allowed to enter the ports of the Dominion altogether free of duty. The general opinion is that almost everything that is imported is taxed to a greater or less extent. But this is not so. We pay no duty on tea and sugar and coffee and a hundred other commodities. This is part of what the Empire says on the subject:

It will not doubt astonish those who have not paid attention to the figures to learn that last year we admitted into the country and entered for home consumption goods to the value of \$1,831,459 on which not a cent of duty was exacted, while in 1878, the last year under the free trade champion, Sir Richardson, only \$30,619,282 worth of goods came in free of duty. Or to put it in another form, which brings out even more clearly what the present Government is doing in letting people have the great staples which we do not produce ourselves free of duty, while the value of goods on which duties are levied only increased ten million dollars from 1878 to 1893, the value of goods admitted free increased twenty-one million dollars. In the recollection of the people that two years ago the Government threw off three and a half million dollars of sugar tax and 3,233,184 pounds of coffee were imported free of duty, on which, under the Cartwright tariff, the "people" would have to pay \$1,035,790, so that on these three items alone the people have been relieved of taxation to the amount of four and a half million dollars, not to speak of the millions they have been relieved of on the hundreds of other articles added to the free list since the National Policy came into force.

A conspicuous and gratifying feature of the new tariff announced by Hon. Mr. Foster on Tuesday evening, was the extension of this principle still further. Sugars from the dutiable free were raised from 14 to 16 Dutch standard, under which a very large range of articles will be saved to the people in duties. Bibles and prayer books and some forty or fifty other articles have also been added to the free list; and as these are articles which do not come into competition with anything in the country, every dollar of duty remitted is a dollar added to the taxpayer.

This large free list makes the average duty upon all imports, dutiable and undutiable, much lower than many persons imagine. The average duty previous to the revision of the tariff was 17½ per cent. Before the national policy was established it was 14 per cent. So the difference in the average rate of duty on imports between Sir Richard Cartwright's tariff for revenue, and the National Policy protective tariff is, after all, only 3½ per cent. This is what the Finance Minister said on this subject in the Budget Speech of '90, looking back to 1878 and calculating the ad-valorem equivalent upon all goods, dutiable and free, brought into the

country, and it is 14 per cent. Calculate it to-day and it is 17½ per cent., and debit the National Policy with what belongs to it namely a rise on the total consumption of the country of 3½ per cent.

WELL NAMED.

The Times objects to the epithets "sneak," "coward" and "slanderer" being applied to the "critics" of the Nakusp and Slocan arrangement, and to their being "credited" with "meanness" and "maliginity." If our contemporary alludes to our comments on the Nakusp and Slocan railway debate, it commits a deliberate and an inexcusable misrepresentation. With respect to any criticism properly so called on the railway transaction, we do not say any word either of approval or disapproval. We cheerfully recognize the right and the duty of the Opposition to criticize and to enquire into every administrative act of the Government. The Opposition were only doing what they ought to do, and what they were sent to the Legislature to do, when they criticized the way in which that transaction was conducted, and when they tried to find out whether or not it was calculated to be beneficial to the country. They, too, did right if they had any suspicions as to the integrity of the Government, to enquire strictly into the nature of the transaction, and to the part taken with respect to it by any member of the Government. If the Opposition, after they had completed their enquiries and finished their examination, had confined themselves to what all honest and honorable men regard as legitimate comment and criticism, they would not have been one reproachful word in the Colonist, no matter what their conclusions fairly arrived at might be.

What we did find fault with, and what we regard as most despicable, when no evidence of wrong-doing on the part of the Government could be found by the most rigid search, were the insinuations and suggestions and hints so profusely made by the different speakers that the transaction was not a fair one, and that some one connected with the Government had made money out of it to which he was not entitled. To insinuate charges of this kind without a shred of evidence, and to take advantage of the privileges of the House to impeach the integrity of members of the Government, is the meanest and the most cowardly act of which any man could be guilty. There are many men in the parliamentaries of the country who would scorn to be guilty of conduct so dirty and so dastardly. The Times is not so obtuse, intellectually and morally, as not to be able to distinguish between slander of this kind and fair criticism, no matter how severe it may be. When, therefore, it stigmatizes denunciation of contemptible and cowardly calumny, such as several leading members of the Opposition resorted to in the debate on the Nakusp and Slocan railway, as "abuse where argument was out of the question," it does what it knows to be contemptibly dishonest.

In the article in which it attempts to justify and apologize for the course pursued by Mr. Beaven and his associate defamers, it evinces a disposition to follow their bad example. It is so evidently "willing to wound and yet afraid to strike" that it is but fair to conclude that if it were only shielded by the privileges enjoyed by members of the Legislature it would be as culpable as the worst of the parliamentary slanders.

A SIGNAL FAILURE.

The experiment of the abolition of capital punishment is being tried in the State of Michigan. The results are not favorable. Crimes of violence in that State are increasing at an alarming rate. The number of murders committed since capital punishment was abolished are greater in proportion to the population than they were when the punishment for murder was hanging.

One of the arguments used for the abolition of capital punishment was that, if there were no death penalty, juries would be sure to convict as often as the evidence warranted conviction, and that a comparatively light punishment, sure to be inflicted, would be a greater deterrent than one that was far more severe, which could be readily avoided. This seemed reasonable, for juries are most unwilling to convict when they know that a verdict of guilty will condemn the criminal to the gallows. But, singular to relate, in Michigan, where the most severe sentence a man can receive is imprisonment for life, convictions are very rare, and the punishment is seldom fully carried out. During the past year only twenty-five per cent of those who were generally believed to have been guilty of murder were convicted, and of those convicted only three persons suffered the extreme penalty of the law. Evidently murder is not considered a very serious crime in the State of Michigan. In other States, where the death penalty nominally obtains, murderers frequently escape through the laxity with which the law is administered, but we are greatly mistaken if in the worst of them the proportion of those convicted and punished is not as great as it is in Michigan.

NEWFOUNDLAND SEALERS.

Reports of the Catch-Stormy Weather Driven the Seals Out of the Vessel's Reach.

St. John's, N.F., April 6.—The sealing steamer Hope arrived last night with 17,000 seals. Her report is not nearly so favorable as that of the steamer Newfoundland. The stormy weather during the last week drove a great quantity of seals out of the steamer's reach. Other sealers report catches as follows: Neptune, 7,000; Wolf, 40,000; Labrador, 3,000; Terra Nova, 6,000; Diana, 20,000; Walrus, 12,000; Kite, 5,000; Falcon, 5,000; Ranger, 5,000.

MONTEAL, April 4.—The G.R.P. traffic receipts for the week ending March 31 were \$433,000. For the same week last year they were \$614,000.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Fourth Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FORTY-NINTH DAY.

THURSDAY, April 5, 1894.

After Recess.

The House resumed the consideration of the report from committee of the whole on the municipal act amendment bill.

Hon. Mr. BEAVER moved to insert the following section: "The person to whom a new license to sell liquor by retail has been granted and issued shall not be entitled or allowed to transfer the same to any other person, but if he desires a renewal of the said license in his own name, he shall make application for such renewal, personally or by agent, to the board of licensing commissioners sitting in open court, and the said board may grant or refuse a renewal of the same at its discretion."

The SPEAKER ruled that part of the resolution referring to renewals to be out of order, having already been voted on on consideration of the report; and the mover thereupon struck it out. The discussion then proceeded on the first part, relating to transfers.

The amendment was lost on division of 10 to 15.

Mr. GRANT moved his amendment providing for the appointment of a board of commissioners to manage the sinking funds and authorize the investment of such funds in real estate.

Dr. Milne, Hon. Mr. Turner, Hon. Mr. Beaven and Hon. Mr. Davis all spoke strongly against the amendment, which was lost and negatived.

Mr. GRANT moved to insert the following as a new clause: "When the corporation money of any municipality shall have a sum of any amount on hand, which has been borrowed for a special purpose by the authority of a loan by-law, and when the council deems it undesirable to expend for such purpose the money borrowed, it shall be lawful for the council to place before the ratepayers a by-law providing for the expending of such sum of money for some other purpose; said by-law shall be subject to the provisions of the municipal act, 1893, and amendments as to the passage of by-laws for creating debts." The mover intimated the creator of the loan by-law passed a few years ago as an instance such as referred to in his resolution.

Hon. Mr. BEAVER thought this would be a dangerous principle to establish; if necessary to deal with the creator of the loan, which while not expended as intended is being retained at a rate slightly higher than paid for it, he thought it would be better to pass an act dealing with that special loan only.

The motion was adopted on division.

Mr. GRANT moved to repeal section 47 of the municipal act amendment act 1893, which permits interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum to be charged upon overdrafts. Mr. Beaven agreed to.

Hon. Mr. BEAVER moved to insert the following clause: "The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, when granting letters patent of incorporation to a district municipality, vary the boundaries of the district as mentioned in the petition, for the purpose of making the same regular and in conformity with the boundaries of neighboring municipalities, or so that no small piece of land may be excluded from any municipality, or otherwise, as may be considered expedient." The mover explained that a great deal of trouble has been experienced in the past for want of such a clause as this giving power to correct irregularities which very likely occurred through the mere oversight or inadvertence of the council or the people interested in the matter. Motion agreed to. Report adopted with amendments.

CATTLE ACT.

Mr. ROBERTS moved the adoption of the report from committee on the bill to amend the cattle act.

Motion agreed to; bill read a third time and passed.

LICENSES ACT.

The House went into committee on the bill (Mr. Rogers) to amend the licenses act, Mr. Smith in the chair.

Bill reported complete with amendments.

THIRD READINGS.

The reports from committee on the drainage, dyking and irrigation bill, and the county courts amendment bill, were adopted and the bills were read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACT.

Dr. MILNE, on the motion to adopt the report from committee on the public school act, moved an amendment limiting to immorality the cases for which a teacher's certificate may be suspended or annulled.

Hon. Col. BAKER opposed the amendment on the same grounds as stated in previous sessions when this and others of what are known as the "Muir amendments" had been brought up.

Dr. MILNE moved an amendment providing, amongst other things, that in any school district the trustees may remove a teacher; and that a teacher removed by the trustees for gross misconduct may appeal to the county court judge of the district. He explained that the power of dismissal in the district to which this applies now rests in the council of public instruction. Lost on division.

Dr. MILNE moved to amend section 56 by striking out the provision that no certificate shall be given to any person who does not satisfy the board that he is a fit and proper person to be granted a certificate. He said it was the board "satisfy" to which he objected. Lost.

Dr. MILNE moved to strike out the word "strictly" from the clause requiring teachers to "strictly obey the rules and regulations." Lost.

Other amendments moved by the same member were lost.

Report adopted; bill read a third time and passed.

NAKUSP AND SLOCAN RAILWAY.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS said he wished to call attention to an omission or error in the affidavit of Engineer Duchesney in the papers last brought down relating to the Nakusp & Slocan railway. In paragraph 6, there should appear after the word "master" the words "for which the work is only charged at construction rates." He had

had that page reprinted with the correction made.

OFFICIAL SCALERS.

The report from committee on the official scalers bill was adopted; and the bill was read a third time and passed.

PROVINCIAL ENDING.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS said as a matter of privilege he wished to refer to the subject of the binding of the provincial statutes, and to correct an impression which Mr. Williams carried away this evening. He had read that gentleman in which the writer says, "In accordance with the assurance given in the house this afternoon that the binding will be given out by tender, please inform me" so and so. He wished to say that he had given no assurance. He believed he had stated his own opinion that it would be well to call for tenders, and he thought it quite likely this would be done; but the matter was of course one which would have to be considered before any assurance could be given.

PROBATION.

Mr. SMITH asked when the government thought probation should take place.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS replied that it would very likely be on Saturday or Monday. There are one or two bills likely to be brought down yet.

PRIVATE BILL.

The report from committee on the Consolidated railway and light company's bill was adopted, and the bill read a third time and passed.

The house adjourned at 12:15 until 2 p.m. on Friday.

AMERICAN NEWS.

TAOUMA, April 5.—At the civic elections the Republicans made almost a clean sweep of it. Five Populist members of council were returned; but not a single Democrat. A very large vote was polled, 6,893 out of a total registration of 7,997.

NEW YORK, April 5.—The Hungarian patriots of this city paid a tribute to the memory of Kosuth, whose body was placed in its final resting place yesterday. Societies formed of Kosuth's countrymen marched to the city hall park, where memorial services were held, singing hymns and tolling the Liberty bell 92 times, one for each year of Kosuth's age.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5.—The Mariposa sailed for Sydney via Honolulu this afternoon. Among her passengers were Admiral Walker of the U.S. navy, and staff. In reply to questions the Admiral said he was simply going to Honolulu to relieve Admiral Irwin, and didn't know what his future orders there might be.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The senate committee on Pacific railroads yesterday discussed the condition of the roads, and Chairman Bruce said he believed in two positions, the first of which would be an offer by the government to sell its interest in the road, the second would be an extension of time for paying off the debt to the government at a reduced rate of interest.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5.—The failure of J. K. Fifth, iron dealer, occurred to-day. The firm filed its petition on insolvency this afternoon, setting forth that their liabilities amount to \$20,235; the total value of assets are stated at \$28,350. Mr. Fifth was the inventor and builder of the famous Fifth wheel at the Midwinter Fair. The Fifth company also constructed the Boston electric tower at that fair, and one of the book accounts of the insolvent is a claim against the owner.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., April 5.—The climax of the terrible accident at the Gaylor mine was reached when the body of the thirteenth victim, George Picton, the mine foreman, was discovered beneath the debris this afternoon. Like the others, Picton's position indicated that he was running down the plane and was caught by the falling mass of rock.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5.—The Panama Railway Co. attached the effects of the North American Company this afternoon for \$33,000. The members of the Navigation Company evidently knew that trouble was brewing, as a private meeting was held at 3 o'clock this afternoon. At its arrangements to meet the demand were probably made. No one could be found who would speak about the matter, but it is now almost an assured fact that the company will go out of existence and that the Panama railway will continue the service.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—In the Senate to-day a favorable report was made by Mr. German upon the bill amending the Interstate Commerce act by eliminating the imprisonment penal clause for violations and making corporations liable for misdemeanor and upon conviction punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.

NEW YORK, April 4.—James Owen O'Connor, the only tragedian who ever played Hamlet behind a net, is dead. He has been confined in an insane asylum at Morris Plains since August, 1892, and died there last Saturday. He was 54 years old. O'Connor took the place on the stage made vacant when Geo. Jones, as Count Johannes, died. Both men pretended to be actors, and their buffoonery was so laughable that crowds paid for the privilege of guffing them and throwing turnips, eggs and cabbage on the stage. When O'Connor was in the heyday of his notoriety six years ago, theatrical people were divided in their opinion as to whether he was really crazy or only humming. He had money and his salary was now said to be worth \$10,500. He wrote alleged poetry, tried to practice law, lectured to unappreciative audiences, and then discovered gold in stopping accurately throw eggs. Once at apple pie struck him full in the face and the next night he played Hamlet with a net lowered in front of the stage.

LONDON, April 2.—Mr. Mundella, presiding of the board of trade, Sir John E. Gore, Sir James Ferguson, Sir Geo. Russell and other directors of the defunct Land Security Company, have been summoned to appear in court for a public examination.

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST.

THE CITY.

WILLIAM BRACK and R. R. Brack a carload of cattle through from last evening.

THE annual general meeting of the British Columbia railway company, is to be held on the 20th.

MR. WILLIAM MONTGOMERY, appointed official liquidator of the registered joint stock company, the Victoria Iron Works Co., is in process of being "wound up."

APPLICATION has been made for the enlargement of Laury's mill on the addition to its territory of land lying between the present boundary and the 49th parallel.

THE Canadian Northwest (foreign) has been registered by the registrar of joint stock companies, head office of this corporation is in London and its capital is placed at \$2,000,000.

THE Progress Printing and Publishing Co., of Chilliwack, has been incorporated with a capital of \$25,000 and R. Ashwell, S. Miller and W. J. directors. Besides engraving in paper business the company will publish books and stationery.

TENDERS for the purchase of the electric light plant, passed by the ratepayers' meeting at the City Clerk's office on June 18. The total amount of \$55,000, or its equivalent in pounds the life of the loan being fifty years at interest 4½ per cent.

DURING the past few days chicken have been given away to all who apply. Lakeview Hotel, Cowichan lake. Free distribution of poultry was to a panther visit, Messrs. Prior, hen-roost having been almost depopulated, the death roll comprising a total of 43. The panther is only the head and neck of each, sending himself with sucking to Mr. Fraser's poultry yard in the neighborhood has also been visited four-footed thief helping himself, and only duck in the place, and chickens unharmed.

One of the earliest and best settlers of Metochin district, in the Province, was laid at rest in the churchyard yesterday afternoon. He was the late Robert Weir, who came on one of the sailing vessels from this country from Europe. A native of Scotland and was 85 years having spent the last forty-one years of his life in British Columbia. The third son of Metochin is in a great part the late Mr. Weir's energy. He yesterday was largely attended, "vice being held in St. Mary's church, the services being conducted by Rev. W. H. Ellis, minister of the church of the deceased. It acted as pall bearers were: G. Cook, Smart, H. Helgeson, T. Helgeson, Peart and Alfred Peart.

The signages of Green, Worland yesterday were placed in possession of the creditors attending the meeting last Monday, and there offered to call a meeting, as requested time during next week. They prepared the following letter, which is published by request:

VICTORIA, B.C., April 13, 1894.

To the persons or persons who insert in the Victoria Times of Wednesday, March 28th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Thursday, March 29th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Friday, March 30th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Saturday, April 1st, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Sunday, April 2nd, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Monday, April 3rd, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Tuesday, April 4th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Wednesday, April 5th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Thursday, April 6th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Friday, April 7th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Saturday, April 8th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Sunday, April 9th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Monday, April 10th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Tuesday, April 11th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Wednesday, April 12th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Thursday, April 13th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria Colonist of Friday, April 14th, a notice signed "Creditors," and in the Victoria