

erty of the capitalist on the occasion of the Boston Tea Party.

"Cromwell and other good people of England cut off the sacred head of Charles the First.

"Caesar had his Brutus.

"The Capots had their guillotine.

"The Coeur d'Alenars blew up the Bunker Hill mill.

"Let tyrants take warning!

"In conclusion we firmly declare that we are good and true citizens, organized to secure justice, and not to wrong any man. But we are not fools, and we will not reject the use of means effectual, just because they may not be conventionally popular."

The "bears" have been assiduously depreciating temporarily the price of the Payne Mine stock on the ground of the Eight Hours law. Their reason is, however, inadequate for the Payne has already resources enough available to continue its average dividend payments for several months and it is to be hoped long before these are exhausted a settlement of the present labour difficulty will have been certain. However, Payne Mine stock values had previously reached too high a point and were consequently certain in any case to decline.

From all recent accounts Atlin has been very much over-boomed, and instead of being a 'Tom Tiddlers' ground for poor men, the press correspondents now tell us that all previous reports regarding the shallowness of the diggings were incorrect, that it is necessary to sink deep shafts to get to bed-rock on most of the creeks, and that from all appearances hydraulic mining will prove the only profitable method of mining in this territory. All of which may or may not be true; but as this information has no more authoritative or scientific source than the other, said to be reliable, wise men will be content to await further developments.

Apropos of the eight-hour question the following paragraph from the New York *Sun* is of more than passing interest:

"The first protest on record by trades unions against the eight-hour workday was made to the Dock Board yesterday by the Ship Carpenters' and Caulkers' Unions. These unions ask the Dock Board not to enforce the eight-hour law in its department. The reason given is that the men are paid by the hour and are therefore anxious to put in as long a day as possible. Surprise was expressed by the Commissioners at receiving this protest, as the labor unions have been demanding the eight-hour workday for years and there have been more strikes to enforce it than from all other causes put together. The Dock Board, according to the present law, cannot employ the men more than eight hours a day."

Meanwhile, it may be noted that at several Colorado mines and smelters the system has been adopted of making an hour instead of a day the unit of payment. It is alleged, however, that this change is not at all popular with either the mine or smelter workers.

A New Zealand newspaper publishes the following interesting piece of intelligence:

"Mr. John A. Wauchope, F.R.C.S., who, with his wife, left New Zealand some twelve or fifteen months

ago, and after spending a few months in the Old Country went out to British Columbia to develop on behalf of a Scotch company a supposedly very valuable gold mining property near Harrison Lake (some one hundred miles from Vancouver), has just returned to London. He has come back with a good opinion of British Columbia as a country, but does not seem to think much of it as a gold-producing area, whilst for the inhabitants he has an utter contempt. Whilst in charge of the Harrison Lake property, which proved a duffer and was shut down in October last, Mr. Wauchope had a somewhat unpleasant experience. The miners he had at work for him were not miners in the true sense of the word. They could handle a pick and shovel, but were, as a rule, utterly unfamiliar with even the ABC of gold getting. Moreover, they were mostly utter blackguards. Mr. Wauchope's foreman, a queer sort of creature, holding the tenets of the Mormon creed and a powerful prayer, arranged with two other men that when the manager next went down the shaft he should be welcomed at the bottom with a blow on the head. This pretty little conspiracy, luckily for Mr. Wauchope, proved too much for one of the parties concerned, and he 'blabbed.' Next day the foreman requested the manager to 'go and 'ave a look at things below.' Mr. Wauchope consented, but took with him a revolver and a small pick, which weapons ostensibly displayed prevented any attempt on his person. A few days later he got the foreman on some pretext to go down with him to Agassiz, the nearest township owning a police force and a court of justice, and handed the chief conspirator over to the authorities. At the trial the would-be assaulter wept bitterly, and Mr. Wauchope, foolishly perhaps, made a strong appeal to the magistrate to deal leniently with the prisoner. They did so, only binding him over to keep the peace for twelve months. At the same time they gave Mr. Wauchope permission to carry firearms. After shutting down the Harrison Lake 'wild cat' Mr. Wauchope made a move to the Lillooet River, where he managed six claims for a local company. These did not pan out to his satisfaction. Both he and Mrs. Wauchope being tired of the country and in poor health they decided to come to England again for a spell."

We have gone to some little pains to find out whether this truly remarkable story has the slightest foundation in fact, with the result that we have recently received from our correspondent at Harrison Lake—a gentleman in whose reliability we have the utmost confidence—some interesting information in connection with the affair to which Mr. Wauchope so pitifully alludes. Mr. Wauchope, a typical "yellow-legger," it appears, arrived at Harrison Lake about a year ago, ostensibly to open up a mineral claim at a spot on the Lake known as Six-Mile Bay. He employed two miners, and for some time was wonderfully enthusiastic. He had never seen so promising a mineral country, and was quite certain that the "Mother Lode" of the district, that on which the "Providence" was located, ran through his ground. The "Providence" was situated at least ten miles distant; but that of course is a mere detail. Our correspondent believes that the three claims at Six-Mile Bay were owned by a man named Nicholls, and the arrangement was made that Mr. Wauchope's company should develop the properties in exchange for one of them, and at the same time Nicholls stipulated that he should be engaged as foreman on the work. Shortly afterwards Mr. Wauchope located a property