

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1896.

REPRESENTED IN THE CABINET.

Col. Prior has been sworn in Privy Councillor and is now a "full-fledged Cabinet Minister," and also a Controller without being reappointed. "We have had a wire to say so."

IGNORANT OR DECEPTIVE?

The leading Grits in Victoria during the late election campaign exhibited a most remarkable ignorance of the constitution under which they live.

The Grit candidate and the Smart Ales who took upon themselves to run the campaign for their party would have the electors believe that it was not in the power of the Premier to appoint a Cabinet minister, or that he might appoint one but if the person appointed held a certain office he could not have "full cabinet rank."

Col. Prior was from the moment he accepted Sir Mackenzie Bowell's offer to all intents and purposes a "full-fledged cabinet minister."

In an article in the Montreal Gazette of the 9th there are some extracts from a work of Mr. Gladstone's, "Kin Beyond the Sea," on the subject of the Cabinet which contain information that our readers may find useful:

"The head of the Government," says Mr. Gladstone, "is not a grand vizier. His position is just as the vote of any other minister, nevertheless the other ministers owe their places to his counsel. On his advice they may be dismissed. In a perfectly organized administration nothing of great importance is mentioned or would be projected in any department, without his personal cognizance; and any weighty business would commonly go to him before being submitted to the Cabinet."

With regard to the Cabinet as a whole and the relations of its members to each other, Mr. Gladstone says:

"The nicest of all the adjustments involved in the working of the British Government is that which determines without formally defining the internal relations of the Cabinet. On the one hand, while each Minister is an adviser of the Crown, the Cabinet is a unity, and none of its members can advise as an individual without in opposition actual or presumed to his colleagues. It is, therefore, a prime office of discretion for each Minister to settle what are the departmental acts in which he can presume the concurrence of his colleagues and in what more deliberate, weighty or peculiar cases he must positively ascertain it."

From this it is seen that a member of a Cabinet must act in unison with all

the other members. As an individual member he is unknown to the constitution. It is only when he acts with the Cabinet as a whole that his advice has influence. The foolishness of talking about "full-fledged cabinet ministers," or of a member of the Cabinet being of "full cabinet rank" is therefore apparent. In the Council Chamber, as in the Legislative Chamber, all members are of equal rank. Who ever heard anyone talking about a full-fledged member of Parliament? The man who attempted to make a distinction between members of the House of Commons would be immediately set down as an ignoramus by men of intelligence. It is equally an indication of ignorance to speak of Cabinet ministers as being "full-fledged."

But everyone knows that all members of parliament do not exercise the same influence—are not equally powerful. The greater influence exercised by some members of parliament is the natural consequence of the possession of superior intellectual or moral power and greater knowledge and wider experience. Such superiority is unknown to the constitution, whether it is written or unwritten.

When it comes to be generally known that the Grits in the late campaign mainly depended for support on misrepresentation and deception with regard to Col. Prior's position in the Government, the electors will hereafter regard their solemn assurances and their loud and labored arguments within credulity and distrust. It is perfectly immaterial whether the misrepresentation is the result of ignorance or design. Men who undertake to lead others have no business to be ignorant.

LAURIER'S LITTLE GAME.

The St. John Sun hopes that there will be no more by-elections until the Hon. Mr. Laurier has been compelled to declare himself on one side or the other in a way that the most bigotted Grit in the Dominion cannot misunderstand. One of the mistakes of the Government has been to appeal to any constituency while Mr. Laurier remained hidden in his Torres Vedras refuge. They have given Laurier's candidates in Quebec the chance to profess to be out-and-out separate school men—champions of the Manitoba minority, and in Ontario and British Columbia to pose as the uncompromising opponents of separate schools and of interference with Manitoba. This was giving Laurier and his followers an advantage which they do not scruple to make the most of. It is evident that either the Quebec Laurier candidates or the British Columbia Laurier candidate was humbugging the people. To us it is as plain as a pike-staff that the humbugging was done in British Columbia. Since Mr. Laurier declared in Montreal Centre that he is in favor of restoring separate schools in Manitoba no honest opponent of interference with Manitoba's legislation with respect to education can solicit the votes of the electors as a supporter of Mr. Laurier, or as a member of the party which Mr. Laurier leads.

The Liberals, as a party, have without doubt adopted Mr. Laurier's declaration, for we have not heard that a single Liberal representative has repudiated that declaration or even protested against it. The Times tries to get out of the hole in which that declaration has placed it by declaring that the declaration as published by us and other Conservative papers is garbled. We copied it verbatim et literatim from the Montreal Star, and it has been before the people of the Dominion in that shape for some weeks, yet neither has Mr. Laurier himself nor anyone for him as much as hinted that it is not correct in every particular. It is, in fact, a formal profession of Mr. Laurier's faith on the Manitoba school question, and such we are quite satisfied it was intended to be.

A SECOND OFFENCE.

Government officials are not supposed to be infallible, and mistakes will from time to time occur in the most important official publications. But when a gross blunder appears in the same table in two successive volumes of so important a work as the Tables of Trade and Navigation for the Dominion, the person responsible should be taken sharply to task. When the Trade and Navigation returns for 1893-94 were issued, it was found that, in the comparative statement of the value of exports and imports at each port, the business of Victoria was credited to Vancouver, and vice versa; greatly to the prejudice of Victoria in the eyes of any strangers who might base an estimate of the relative commercial importance of the cities of British Columbia upon the figures given in this blue-book. The indignant protests sent from Victoria at the time should have rendered a repetition of the offence impossible, yet in the volume just issued the very same stupid transposition occurs with respect to the trade of 1894-95. We commend the matter to the attention of Hon. E. G. Prior, who as a merchant of Victoria is well aware that the affair is not trifling one so far as the interests of this port are concerned.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

A POLITICAL ROMANEC.

The way in which American politicians practice upon the ignorance of their fellow citizens is simply amazing. In any matter in which the relations between Great Britain and the United States are involved the American politician who will not do his utmost to misrepresent the British appears to be the rare exception. On such subjects the orator draws largely upon his imagination and depicts a state of things that has really no existence. One would suppose that if there is any subject which in all its aspects is plain and prosaic it is the Alaskan boundary question. That boundary has as yet not been fixed, and, consequently, there can be no dispute about it. As a matter of fact there is no dispute. The boundaries of the territory which the United States purchased from Russia are clearly described in the treaty of 1823. So little importance has been attached to the Alaskan boundary that Great Britain and the United States are only now amicably at work, deciding where the line of delimitation really is. Until the joint report of the Commissioners of the two nations is laid before their respective Governments and published, there is really nothing to dispute about. Great Britain and the United States, as far as is known, are quite willing to wait until they see what the Commissioners have done. The probability is that they will both approve of the decision arrived at by the Commissioners. But Senator Davis is not content to wait. He must make a splurge. He attributes designs to Great Britain which British subjects here and elsewhere know nothing about and never heard of. He says the desire of Great Britain for a portion of the Alaskan coast is plainly apparent. Great Britain will, no doubt, take part of the coast which the Americans now consider Alaskan, if an honest survey shows that it is within British territory, but the desire for it which Senator Davis says is so apparent, never had any existence. The patriotic Senator talks about 100,000,000 acres of tillable land for which Great Britain covets an outlet through Alaska. It is evident that the Senator knows very little about the Northern part of British Columbia and the Peace River country. That region will in good time find an outlet to the sea through territory and into waters that are beyond the shadow of a doubt British. It is very evident that what Senator Davis does not know about the Alaskan boundary and the Peace River region, as well as the designs of Great Britain, would fill a good-sized volume. Let him possess his soul in patience. Let him first find out what is the boundary between British territory and Alaska before he begins to weave romances about it and the claims of Great Britain to American territory in that Northern land.

WISDOM FROM THE EAST.

The St. John Daily Sun is decidedly of opinion that the Government should "allow no more bye-elections to be held until Mr. Laurier and his friends have stood up to be counted. It is time that there should be an end of allowing Mr. Laurier's friends to gather in votes in one province by denouncing the Government's injustice to Catholics, while they are gathering in votes in other provinces by denouncing the Government's concessions to Catholics." The Sun is right. The Grits have been permitted to play this deceptive game too long.

THE ROSSLAND MINES.

A number of Rossland people arrived in town yesterday, among them being W. Y. Clark and J. A. Clark. Mr. Clark, who has been interested in mining both in the States and in British Columbia, is very enthusiastic over the prospects of Rossland and mining in that part of the province. When he left Rossland some ten days ago it was expected that the matting plant at Trail would "blow in" in thirty days. Already 4,000 tons had been shipped there by the Le Roi mine, which was sending ore at the rate of 40 or 50 tons a day. The matting plant, it is expected, will before long add to its plant and be in a position by next summer to handle between 150 and 200 tons a day. A number of other mines besides Le Roi are shipping out at a lively rate, the War Eagle and Josie among them. So great is the demand for teams that the Homestake found it very difficult to get sufficient to handle their ore. During the day time the streets of Quesnel present a very busy appearance, an immense number of sleighs being engaged in hauling freight and ore between the town and Trail landing. People don't seem to appreciate the enormous richness of the mines in the camp, Mr. Clark thinks, for, taking the War Eagle, there is not a mine in the world that can show such ore, not excepting South Africa. There is no other gold mine in the world that can ship such a large amount of ore averaging \$45 a ton in gold alone, without counting the copper in it. It is likely that the War Eagle will put up a matting plant of its own at Rossland. A great deal of work is going on in the various mines, and at Champion Creek, five miles east of Trail, there are thirty men who went into that country as prospectors last summer, located claims, and now have taken in provisions to last through the winter, and are going right ahead, developing their claims at a lively rate.

WORTH \$500 A BOTTLE.

SIR.—For five years I have been troubled with neuralgia and tried everything I could see in the way of medicine, but I found nothing that would cure me. I bought a bottle of Yellow Oil and refused because I thought it was like all the rest—a failure. A half bottle was given me, however, and I found it helped me, and bought a bottle which cured me. If it cost five dollars a bottle I would not be without it. THOS. QUINN, Gravenhurst, Ont.

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS.

Announcements by the Premier and His Colleagues Regarding the Cabinet Difficulties.

Sir Mackenzie Promises When the Time Comes to Make the Necessary Explanations.

(From the Mail-Enterprise, Jan. 8.) There was not a tremor in Sir Mackenzie Bowell's voice as he made the all-important declaration in the Senate. If anything his voice was stronger, clearer, than usual, and it penetrated to every part of the chamber. The statement was interrupted occasionally and at the close by applause. To Mr. Angers in particular it seemed to give especial pleasure.

THE PREMIER'S STATEMENT.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell, after reading the statement that was read in the House of Commons, said: "I have to ask that when the house adjourns to-night, it stand adjourned until to-morrow at eight o'clock. It is not usual, believe upon occasions of this kind, to make explanations at length until the action of the government, whatever it may be, has been taken in reference to the filling of the vacancies, or the organization and formation of a new government. I shall act on this occasion in accordance with English precedents, I have simply to say, in addition to the remarks I have already made, that I believe an explanation has been made in another place by the gentlemen who have retired from the cabinet, giving his reasons therefor. I have not yet had an opportunity of reading it, but only casually heard it, and am therefore not in a position to deal with it as I think its importance demands. I must therefore ask the indulgence of the house for at least twenty-four hours, when I shall be in a much better position to deal with the statement as it deserves. In making this request, I have no desire to shift any of the responsibilities which devolve upon the head of the government in dealing with matters referred to in the speech from the throne. As I have stated, I have not seen the statement to which I refer, nor was that courtesy extended to me as the head of the government of handling me a copy of it in order that it might be dealt with properly, and I therefore ask again the indulgence of the house to permit me to postpone the matter until it appears in the press to-morrow, when I can deal with it as its merits deserve. If my ears did not deceive me, I heard a gentleman say that it was not recalled for that it was unfair to the head of the government for the time being to say that it was a sound principle, saying very little. I leave that to the gentleman who thought proper to make the statement, and if it fails to satisfy him and his friends, I am sure that I must to the judgment of the country in defence of the course which I have taken. I shall add this, however, the declaration that I made in this House just before prorogation last year, in reference to the future policy of government upon the great question which agitates the people of this country, will so far as I am concerned, and so far as my influence goes, be carried out to the letter. (Applause.) I have no regret to say that it is my duty as a public man to do otherwise. Having enunciated a principle, firmly believing, as I did, and as I suppose my colleagues did, that it was a sound principle; that it was but doing justice to a portion of this Dominion, and maintaining the constitutional rights of the people, and giving to a portion of Her Majesty's subjects who had been deprived of their rights that which the constitution entitles them to, I feel it my duty, as far as in my power lies, to see that the remedy is given. It is not the subject of my regret that any difference of opinion should prevail among gentlemen who had formed a deliberate opinion to take a course, and I regret to say that one of my colleagues, in whom I had the most unbounded confidence and respect, to leave the government last year because he did not act at that time, and because we asked for delay in order to give the province, whose interests he was to consider the grave question with which they, and with which we have had to deal. We were accused of no other desire but to so put off and delay the question that it might be ultimately defeated (to use the very familiar and elegant expression of my friends) by the time that we were to deal with it. I have no doubt that when this house adjourns to-night it stand adjourned until to-morrow evening at eight o'clock.

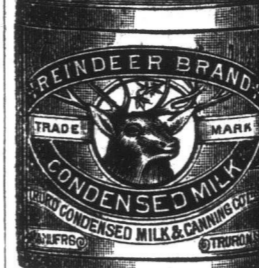
SIR ADOLPHE'S STATEMENT.

In the House of Commons before the orders of the day were called, Sir Adolphe Caron, said: "I have an important statement to make to the house. Since the opening of parliament several members have tendered their resignations to the Prime Minister, which were submitted to the Governor-General and accepted by His Excellency. The gentlemen whose resignations have thus been accepted are: Mr. George E. Foster, Minister of Finance; Mr. John Haggart, Minister of Railways and Canals; Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, Minister of Justice; Mr. William Bullock Ives, Minister of Trade and Commerce; Mr. Arthur B. Dickey, Minister of Militia and Defence; Mr. Walter H. Montague, Minister of Agriculture; and Mr. John E. Wood, Controller of Customs. At the next meeting of the house I hope to be in a position to state definitely what course the government has taken, or intends to take, under these circumstances. (Ironical hear, hears.) Considering the gravity of the situation, I have to say that when the house adjourns to-day—of course I am aware that without notice I can only move for an adjournment from day to day—stand adjourned for ten days or a fortnight, which would allow time to consider the gravity of the circumstances. This is the statement which I have the honor of laying before the house. I move that when the house adjourns to-day it stand adjourned until Tuesday, January 15th, at eight o'clock. Mr. Costigan seconded the motion.

MR. FOSTER'S DECLARATION.

Mr. Foster, who was received with cheers from the Conservative benches, said: "Before the house adjourns I rise to perform a duty which I consider to be one of the most important at once, and to say at the same time that I do not propose (as neither, I think, do my colleagues, who are not entering into any discussion of the subject). I will to-day simply make a statement for the information of the house and the country as to our position. I mean the position of those gentlemen who thought it their duty to retire from the government—and I shall briefly state

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ERIF MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N. Y.

MONTREAL, Jan. 14.—An enthusiastic meeting was held at the Windsor hall in connection with the British Empire exhibition. We are of the opinion that the Liberal-Conservative party ought to be represented by the strongest government possible to be secured from its ranks, that the necessity therefor was never greater than under existing circumstances, and we believe that such a government can be formed without delay. This we have repeatedly urged upon the Premier, with the result that we found ourselves face to face with parliament, having a government with its numbers incomplete and with no assurance that the present Premier could satisfactorily complete it. Under these circumstances we thought it our duty to retire, and in this manner to pave the way, if possible, for the formation of a government whose premier could command the confidence of all his colleagues, could satisfy the Liberal-Conservative party that its strongest elements were at its head, and impress the country that it had a government which was united and had power to govern. We affirm with the utmost sincerity that the action we have taken has sprung from a feeling of personal dislike or of personal ambition, but has been solely dictated by our wish to sink all minor considerations in the presence of our great desire that the best interests of our party and country should be duly conserved.

NEWS FROM

The "Times" on the Sir George Ba on Venezu

Armed Burglers Pa Johannesburg—Br Tenders for W

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The financial article this doubts whether the permanently strengthened treasury. A twenty per cent says will add \$20,000,000 of gold, but it is not the remaining \$80,000,000 unless later in the year again becomes the buy securities.

The Chronicle believes the Hemming, the newly ernor of British Guiana Georgetown will have a with the Venezuelan go later so wish.

Advices from Massow Italians inflicted another the Abyssinians at Ma day. The Italian news that England has ceded Straits of Babel Mandeb Sir George Baden-Powell the British member of the joint commission, writes this morning suggesting Britain follow the success precedent, and invite appoint two representatives two British representatives joint commission. If it should be agreed the qu settled, and if they dis be necessary to negotiat ring the matter to med tration.

A thousand armed burghers traversed the st neburg yesterday, causi ment, and twelve hund outside the city and will the town to-day, in of their fighting strength to gratify them.

The Brazilian govern cluded a contract for the a hundred thousand fore being excluded from the contract. Governor Sir Hercules telegraphed to the colon that completed arrange transfer of the prisoner the Transvaal government border.

The Chronicle announ prominence the fact that Press had published in terday morning Lord A to M. Fortique, dated Ja which it prints textually upon at some length, de publication of this dispa to answer our commis ures it is no answer at all. An editorial in the Tim ing repeats that the on and can concede nothing Venezuelan controversy u tie of the bona fide s under British sovereign can be secured," says the is no reason to insu burg line. The talk of tribunal of arbitration c obstruct or obscure the efforts to solve the difficu a British desire to give to that the smoke of the first been dissipated, but Gre not afford to close its eye toms of fresh German mo watch on Delagoa bay. The attempts of the 2 Gazette and other paper Venezuela side may gai Venezuela's alliance in tions, but it will secu further.

The Times says this m Admiralty has invited the vate firms to tender bids cruisers to be completed the armament to be wid firing guns. It has also given them the preference oras. Many friends of Ameri nesberg called to-day a States embassy here and regarding their safety. The Times says in p no additional news to div Secretary Olney's instruc the request made to the Great Britain to provide Americans in the Transv today, an attack on the was immediately sent t office. There he was a Joseph Chamberlain; wh request was made knowl in an immediate and v very glad to use our go half of the United States.

The Fall Mail Gazette referring to the political Great Britain would be t if she failed to recogni gratitude which she owe liam for arousing the p country and thus leadin understanding with the U. The Westminster Gazet assertion that there has tanding arrived at and point and France, and poin ment of the Mekong di show first fruits of the exhibition.

Toronto, Jan. 13.—The Hyams twins appeared in the police court this morning on an adjourned charge of conspiring to murder Mrs. Harry Hyams. The crown asked for a further adjournment, pending the arrival from Montreal of Mr. Ste. Marie, agent of the insurance company concerned, who cannot at present be found. The magistrate granted a remand until Monday, but stipulated that there would be no further remand after that. It is generally expected that the case will fall through.

MONTREAL, Jan. 14.—John S. Douglas, a former fur merchant of Winnipeg, has been arrested by the Canadian secret service, charged with having while in business at Winnipeg, defrauded a Montreal wholesale house out of \$1,300 by false statements as to his financial condition.

The Globe this morn the pacific completion of question is due to Emper ding: "The moment sword rattled, Cousin J to finger his revolver. S appeared regarding the Tr from the author of the the Monroe doctrine, is a