

## The Colonist.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1892.

## NOT ARBITRARY.

We were, we see, right in presuming that the British Government would not prohibit the importation of Canadian cattle without inquiry and without obtaining what was, in the opinion of the authorities, proof that pleuro-pneumonia existed among them. We believed that a fair and exhaustive inquiry would be made before a conclusion was taken. We find that the conclusions we arrived at were accurate. The London correspondent of the Toronto Globe, writing on the 5th inst., said:

I have high authority for stating that throughout the whole business the officials of the Board of Agriculture have shown the utmost desire to meet Canadian views, consider Canadian interests, and to act with great circumspection. No step has been taken hastily, and the feeling manifested goes a long way to warrant the hope that, with a clear bill of health, Canada may possibly soon regain the privileges which have unfortunately been forfeited.

Mr. Gariner, president of the Board of Agriculture, gave the most careful attention to the matter, and it is evident that, under the circumstances, it was hardly possible for him to act otherwise than he did. His speech in reply to the very influential deputation which waited upon him contained the following passages:

At the present time and under the present circumstances our duty is clear. We regret to say that no other course was open to us. I wish to refer to certain criticisms which have been put forward that the Board have been most anxious in regard to this Canadian outbreak, and that we ought to have withdrawn the privilege from Canada long ago. Well, now, in the first place, I hope it is not necessary for me to assure the deputation that this matter has been constantly and anxiously engaged the energies of the Board since the first rumors on the subject reached our ears.

Indeed it would be impossible for the Board of Agriculture to cancel the privileges Canada has enjoyed for so many years without the most complete and exhaustive investigation. In consideration of the importance of the matter, I felt it my duty to take my colleagues into consultation and, also, to ascertain on the highest authority our legal position. No undue or unnecessary delay has taken place in regard to the matter, and I am anxious to assure those whose interests are affected by the restrictions, that we have not arrived at this conclusion without the most careful consideration which it was possible for the board to make. I regret the decision we were forced to come to, but it was the paramount duty which we had to fulfil.

Canadians may take it for granted that the exclusion of cattle from the ports of the United Kingdom was not hastily or unduly decided, or was not the effect of pressure brought to bear on the Government by the cattle dealers. In fact, we gather from the Times that the pressure was the other way. The Scotch dealers were exceedingly partial to Canadian cattle. They imported what are called "stock" cattle from Canada, took them to different parts of the country, fattened them, and when the market suited sold them. Under the new regulations the cattle, if taken across the Atlantic alive, must be fattened on this side of the water and killed, whether they are in good condition or not, before they are taken from the wharf.

The Scotch dealers, under the changed arrangements, will lose the profit they made by keeping the cattle, and this prospect was not pleasing to them. The Times approves of the action of the Government, and so do the other London papers, of both parties. They do not stop to inquire whether or not pleuro-pneumonia is in Canada. It is sufficient for them that Canadian cattle, after having been landed in Scotland, were found to be stricken with the disease. The diseased cattle came from Canada in Canadian ships, and the conclusion promptly arrived at was that it was not safe to allow cattle to be taken into the country that were shipped at Canadian ports and brought over in Canadian vessels.

It was said that the disease for which Canadian cattle were condemned was not pleuro-pneumonia at all, but a disease which greatly resembles it but is not contagious. This is not likely. The veterinary surgeons in the employ of the British Government are neither ignorant nor dishonest. They, no doubt, know the disease when they see it and they are not such soundbore as solemnly to declare that the animals had pleuro-pneumonia, when they knew that they were not affected with that terrible disease. It is by no means certain that the exclusion will be an unequalled misfortune to Canada. Fattening the cattle at home has many advantages and these may more than compensate the dealers and farmers for the loss of the privilege of landing them in Great Britain.

## THE PEOPLE'S POWER.

Our contemporary the Times insists upon it that the British House of Lords has the power to balk "the plainly expressed will of the people." Our contemporary ought to know that practically the House of Lords has no such power. Intelligent men are convinced that the House of Lords in these days would not imperil its existence by balking, or attempting to balk, "the plainly expressed will of the people." If that body rejected a measure on which the Government had staked its existence in the House of Commons, that rejection would not be accepted as final by any means. The Government would probably resign, and the leader of the party opposing the measure would be asked to form a Government. If he accepted the House would be dissolved and an appeal would be made to the people on the issue. Here again would be an acknowledgment of the sovereignty of the people. If they gave a verdict favorable to the measure which the Lords had rejected, the matter would be virtually decided. After the will of the people had been "plainly expressed" in its

favor, the House of Lords would, as a matter of course, pass the measure. This is well understood in these days. It is because Lord Salisbury, and hundreds of thousands besides Lord Salisbury, believe that the will of the people of the United Kingdom has not been "plainly expressed" with regard to Home Rule that he talks about a Home Rule bill being thrown out by the House of Lords. And there are any number of people who can honestly say that the will of the British people has been "plainly expressed" on that question? Are there many who are certain, if an appeal were made to the people now, that the verdict given in June last would not be reversed? A majority of forty does not always plainly express the will of the whole people.

We are quite sure that in these days there would be no need to resort to extreme measures, or to threaten to resort to such measures, to coerce the House of Lords. The appeal to the people would be accepted by men of all ranks and all parties as decisive. The British Constitution has grown since 1832. The power of the House of Commons in the intervening sixty years has developed wonderfully. When it expresses the will of the people plainly it cannot, with the remotest chance of success, be resisted.

But the American Constitution, with which our contemporary has fallen in love, has no way of appealing to the people except at the regular periods of election, and then, as we saw in 1890, the decision of the sovereign people may have no effect whatever on the Government. And now in 1892 the will of the sovereign people is very tardily recognized by the Government. At the next session of Congress measures may be passed in direct opposition to the will of the people twice plainly expressed at the polls. And those measures "must go into effect in spite of the vigorous protests of the great majority of the sovereign people. There is no appeal from the decision of Congress, sanctioned by the President.

The President-elect will, for four years after March 4th, have the power to veto laws of which the majority of the sovereign people approve. That veto power is no form of fiction. It is a living, active power, which is frequently exercised. It is true that a two-thirds majority of both Houses can override that veto, but who is to know that the two-thirds majority represent a majority of the people? It is as likely as not that they do not. Public opinion may change in the United States very materially, and on very important subjects, during the next four years, yet there is no guarantee that the opinions of the President and the Senate will undergo a corresponding change. Yet they will be matters of the situation and can do as they please, notwithstanding the veto power of the President. An intelligent man who thinks over the matter will be surprised to find how readily in monarchical Great Britain the people give effect to their wishes, and he will wonder how the framers of the Constitution of the Great Republic contrived to put so many obstacles in the way of the sovereign people's having their own way.

## IS IT A STUPENDOUS FRAUD?

The general impression is that the money that has been lost in attempting to construct the Panama Canal on account of the miscalculation of the projector and the mismanagement of those who had care of the work. No one believed that any considerable proportion of the money of the stockholders was stolen. But the recent action of the Minister of Justice of France shows that this is believed to have been the case.

M. Riouard, the French Minister of Justice, has determined to prosecute M. Lesseppe and the contractors and administrators of the Panama Canal Company upon criminal charges. Among those accused are M. Lesseppe, M. Lesseppe's son, and M. Eiffel of Eiffel Tower fame. The charge against them is breach of trust and malversation of funds subscribed for the construction of the canal. It is set forth in the accusation that of the \$280,000,000 subscribed for the construction of the canal, only \$94,200,000 was used for that purpose; the balance was misappropriated in one way and another. The immense sum of \$4,000,000 was given to the newspapers; what they did for the money is not stated; and \$1,600,000 was lavished on lobbyists. It is asserted that \$168,000,000 has disappeared. Where the greater part of this went cannot be discovered. It should be recollected that the majority of those who put their money in Panama Canal shares were not speculating capitalists who had opportunities of examining the scheme and who could calculate what were its chances of success, but ignorant, hard-working peasants, who, relying upon information received from those in whom they placed confidence, invested their hard earned savings in the project. These people are to be pitied if the canal proves to be a failure through the mistakes and miscalculations of its projectors, but the fact that it has fallen through the dishonesty of those who had the management of the canal makes their position greatly more deplorable.

If the scheme was conducted in the way it was represented, and nearly two-thirds of the money subscribed for its construction irretrievably lost, the project would be a commercial failure and the French nation. It matters are as they are represented, the fraud perpetrated upon the confiding French investors is of immense proportions. It is quite probable that if the money subscribed had been honestly expended, the Panama Canal would have been a success. This view of the case leads to the conclusion that the men who stole the \$168,000,000 cheated the whole world as well as the peasant investors.

## AMERICAN FINANCE.

The Republican Party in the United States has acted the part of a spendthrift on principle. The revenue of the country was much greater than was needed for the ordinary purposes of government. They were opposed to cutting down the taxes to any considerable extent, neither did they believe in piling up big surpluses. So they set about finding ways of spending the revenue. They have succeeded so well that the surpluses of the former administration have disappeared and the revenue of the current year will not be sufficient to meet the expenditure.

The money has been going out of the treasury this year at a tremendous rate—a rate not anticipated by Congress. The expenditure of the first four months of the current year has exceeded that of the corresponding period of last year by \$18,000,000. This means a total increase for the year of \$48,000,000. But the appropriations for this year provide for an expenditure of only \$12,000,000 more than last year. This will make the deficit at the end of the year, if the revenue comes up to the estimate, \$36,000,000. The deficit appears to be chiefly caused by pensions. The appropriations for pensions for the current fiscal year were \$150,000,000, a large enough sum good enough; but the expenditure for pensions will amount in the aggregate to \$186,000,000. Another authority informs us that the estimated revenue for the current fiscal year is \$455,000,000 and the appropriations already made are \$507,000,000. This leaves a deficit of \$52,000,000, and if the pension deficiency is added to this the total deficit will be somewhere about \$88,000,000.

Admitting that these figures are merely approximations, it will be seen that the new Administration will have to face a depleted treasury and a greatly increased expenditure. Everyone knows how difficult it is for a Government to cut down expenses without losing prestige in the country. There are so many who are looking for generous appropriations for themselves and for the district in which they live, that to lessen them materially, no matter with what intention, will cause disappointment and discontent and, consequently, loss of votes.

The Democrats, if they really wish to lighten the burdens of the people and to cut down expenditure, will have a very unpleasant duty to perform. They must calculate upon losing the support of men who voted for the party because they wanted to get a share of the public plunder. Whether there are many or few, time will tell.

It is said that the state of the finances of the country will compel Mr. Cleveland to call an extra session of Congress, a step which, rumor says, he is most unwilling to take. The chances are that in spite of shortness of cash in the Treasury, he will manage to have his own way. His Administration will continue to carry on the government with the money at their command, and when Congress meets in December, 1893, the Democrats will begin the work of economy and retrenchment to which they are pledged.

## AFTER THE FIGHT.

A few days after the presidential election the New York Chamber of Commerce gave a banquet. Among the guests were the President-elect, Grover Cleveland; the Vice-President, William H. Taft; the Speaker of the House, Charles D. Walcott; and the Secretary of the Senate, Charles F. Smith. The President-elect, Mr. Cleveland, was elected; and Chauncey Depew, who was not a candidate for the Republican nomination and a hard worker for Mr. Harrison in the campaign. These gentlemen, who for the previous four or five months had been fighting vigorously for themselves and their respective parties, met at the festive board, and in the speeches they made alluded to the contest just ended in the most friendly and good humored manner imaginable. Mr. Cleveland cracked mild jokes about the failure of his speeches on the stump, and Mr. Depew's jolliness would have made the genuine and original Mark Twain blue with envy.

There is no reason to believe that the good humor of these gentlemen was forced or their kindness insincere. They had done what they considered their duty in the electoral contest. They did their best to win, but the verdict of the people was against them. They had really no reason to feel sore or to hold any grudge against those on the other side, who had done exactly as they did, but who were successful. Both Republicans and Democrats had fought their duty as citizens; and, if he had fought fair, it would be most unreasonable to take offence at what an opponent had done. They therefore, as good citizens, and as chivalrous, high-minded gentlemen, could meet each other after the fight was over and drink each other's health without a hard or unpleasant thought. It is, we know, different in other places. In South America, for instance, such a revolution as took place in the United States the other day would not be effected without bloodshed, and the leaders of the losing party instead of meeting their victorious opponents at a banquet would have to fly for their lives. And in places not so distant as South America the feeling engendered by the contest would not settle down so quickly. Some of the contestants would feel as if those who opposed them had done them a personal injury, bitter feeling would for a time rankle in their bosoms, and a considerable period must elapse before intercourse between the active politicians would be as cordial as before the contest began. Such conduct as this is very foolish. Every man has a right to act in political matters according to his convictions, and that right and all that it implies should be fully recognized by every one who differs with him in opinion. "Our friends, the enemy," is in politics not in the least paradoxical.

Try Victoria Lager.

## M. QUAD'S SKETCHES.

The Burglar Who got in Through the Cupola—Hanging a Spy.

[Copyright, 1892, by Charles B. Lewis.]  
The "house with the cupola," as it was generally referred to, was situated at the head of the long and straggling street called Main street, in the village of Davisburg. It was built for and occupied by the editor of The Clarion. To be more explicit, Mr. Bonest, as I will call him, was editor, publisher and proprietor of The Clarion. Mr. Bonest wasn't much of an editor, and The Clarion wasn't much of a newspaper, but both managed to exist. The editor was fifteen years building the house with the cupola. All the lumber, hardware, plastering and painting was secured by advertising and subscriptions. Not all either, for now and then the editor put in a day or two with saw and jackplane, and now and then the office force was there with brush and paintpot. The office force consisted of a boy anywhere from thirteen to sixteen years old, who acted as "devil," and an old man named Fodick, who acted as foreman, pressman, local editor, job printer and so on. It wasn't always the same boy, but boys change as do the seasons, but it was always Fodick. He was forty-five when the house was dug; he was fifty when the cellar was dug; he was put in and the outside doors hung, and he was a day or two over fifty-five when the editor moved in. Some of the rooms were not "done off," yet, and the cupola was only an open framework, but the editor concluded to move in and take fifteen years more to finish up.

One day a week or so after The Clarion's announcement that "we have finally moved into our new house on the hill, and our wife and I are in exchange for a new house," the wife was called away by the illness of a relative, and that night the editor had the house all to himself. It was an autumn night, and he shut himself in as much as possible, because the weather was chilly. It was midnight by the clock he had in the hall, and a half column ad. on the third page for six months, when he was aroused from his dreams. A man with a pistol at the bed beside him. A lamp had been lighted by the intruder, and the editor had opened his eyes to realize that something had happened to knock his usual routine into "pi."

"I want money!" growled the intruder as he saw that the editor was awake. "How did you get in?" queried the latter.

"By way of a ladder, the roof and the cupola, if you want to know. Come, shell out!"

"My friend, we have nothing to shell," was the honest reply. "We did have three dollars in cash, but we gave it to our wife when she went away to-day."

"You are a—of a man, you are!" exclaimed the burglar. "Get out of bed and look around. I've got to have money, and you must shell out or take the consequences."

"My friend, we'll get out of bed and we'll search around, but the result will be fruitless. The fact is, we've got to borrow money of some one to get our next bundle of paper. Couldn't you?"

"If I have to live a thousand years I'll have your life for this!" "Another one of our pet theories has been that criminals were not vicious," replied the editor as he sat down to rest. In the last issue of The Clarion we had a long article on the subject. We contended that the average criminal had neither spite nor malice, but was simply seeking to get what the world denied him—a living. You seem to be a thoroughly wicked man."

"You bet I am!" "In our issue of two weeks ago we contended that the average robber aimed to rob the rich only, and only because oppressed by capital. Were we correct? No. I see we were not. The moment you entered this house you realized that it belonged to a poor man. There are at least ten men in this town worth \$25,000 each, but you passed them all by. We further contended that the robber simply sought for plunder. Your actions, on first arousing us, led us to believe that failure to secure plunder would have led you to assault us."

"Yes, I wish I had put a bullet into your head and gone through the house afterward!" growled the man, who had been the editor for some time, and then sat down to remark:

"About six weeks ago there was a case of punishment in the New Jersey state prison which aroused public discussion. A convict refused to obey orders and was given the strap. We contended that a few kind words would have touched his heart and broken his resolution, while our esteemed contemporary argued that he should have been punished an hour sooner than he was. It seems that we were wrong in that particular also!"

"Look out for me, old man!" growled the burglar as he gritted his teeth. "I see. Our whole line of reasoning from start to finish has been wrong, though we don't propose to admit it and give our esteemed contemporary opportunity to exult. We shall simply declare that we have closed the discussion for fear of wearying our intelligent subscribers. Excuse my pertinacity, but was it the knowledge that Gould, Vanderbilt and Astor had tens of millions while you had only a few shillings which drove you into crime?"

"You are a fool!" was the blunt reply. "But tell me, could you have found work and lived an honest life had you so desired?" "Work! Why, you lump-headed bloke, who wants work when he can make a living without it? As for honesty, everybody wants what he can get. The only thing I'm sorry about is that such a fool as you are should have laid me by the heels in this fashion. If I was free I'd roast you at the fire!"

"We believe you would, but you won't get free. We can now clearly see what an ass we have made of ourselves in arguing as we have, and—"

"And he rose up and applied the broom handle again until his shoulders ached. Greatly to his surprise, the burglar called for mercy."

"Can this be a parallel case of the New Jersey case?"

## TO DEPOSITORS.

## The British Columbia Land and Investment Agency, Ltd.

SUCCESSORS TO ALLSOP &amp; MASON.

In view of the low rate of interest given by the Dominion Savings Bank Department, and the restrictions imposed as to the amount to be deposited, this Company is now prepared to receive money on deposit, in large or small amounts, at interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, in large or small terms as to notice, etc.

The offices of the Company have been removed to 40 Government street, the premises lately occupied by the Telegraph Company.

and unless you untie me I'll have your life for this!"

"Then our esteemed contemporary has been right all along!" sighed Mr. Bonest as he looked down upon his victim.

"Our arguments have been founded upon ignorance, and our deductions have convinced no one but myself. You are the first criminal we have encountered in the flesh. All our arguments were based on criminals in the abstract. We have been deceived. Our delusions have been put to flight."

The robber cursed him high and low and struggled with his bonds, and Mr. Bonest continued:

"Better late than never, however. We shall now advocate the maximum punishment and more. You entered our house to rob us. Let us see if you have anything worth taking."

He knelt down beside the man and searched his pockets. The search brought to light a gold watch, thirty-seven dollars in cash and a diamond pin—the proceeds of a crime committed elsewhere.

"Ah! This is better!" chuckled Mr. Bonest. "This is more money than we have handled in three months. We shall appropriate everything to our own personal benefit. It is lucky you paid us this visit. This plunder dispels any last lingering doubt that necessity drove you to crime."

For the next two minutes the burglar indulged in a continuous stream of blasphemy, and wound up by uttering the most terrible threats of what would happen when he got free.

"If such are your intentions," replied Mr. Bonest after a visit to his bed-room to put away the plunder, "it is only reasonable that we should reciprocate the sentiment which inspires you."

He picked up the broom, which was one of a dozen received for a 4-inch ad. published six consecutive weeks following local market, broke off the handle, and for five long minutes he pounded the burglar's body from chin to heel. The man yelled and cursed and rolled over and over on the floor, and when the blows ceased to fall he said:

"If I have to live a thousand years I'll have your life for this!"

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"You bet I am!" "In our issue of two weeks ago we contended that the average robber aimed to rob the rich only, and only because oppressed by capital. Were we correct? No. I see we were not. The moment you entered this house you realized that it belonged to a poor man. There are at least ten men in this town worth \$25,000 each, but you passed them all by. We further contended that the robber simply sought for plunder. Your actions, on first arousing us, led us to believe that failure to secure plunder would have led you to assault us."

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"We believe you would, but you won't get free. We can now clearly see what an ass we have made of ourselves in arguing as we have, and—"

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Jersey affair!" gasped Mr. Bonest. "All our kind words produced no effect on you, but corporal punishment seems to bring you to terms."

"For heaven's sake, don't wallopp me any more!" whined the man.

"You have threatened to murder us. But that was all guff."

"You would have robbed and maltreated us."

"But I'm sorry I ever came in here."

"How about living a thousand years to get revenge on us?"

"All nonsense! Say, old man, let up on me and I'll make tracks. You've had all the fun there was in it and can afford to turn me loose."

"Not yet. In our arguments with our esteemed contemporary we have repeatedly declared that criminals were only hardened by corporal punishment. We now discover that we have been altogether wrong, and that—"

"Don't! Don't!" shouted the burglar as Mr. Bonest spat on his hands and flourished the broomstick. "You didn't get all my money. If you will let me go I will tell you where I have hidden \$100."

"Well?"

"In that left boot. Take it and let me go, and you'll never see me around here again."

Mr. Bonest pulled off the boot and found five twenty dollar bills in it. He put them in his pocket and asked:

"Got any more?"

"Not a red. Now let me go."

Holding the burglar's revolver in one hand and using a knife with the other Mr. Bonest snatched the fellow from the boot. He had no luck left. He got upon his feet with a groan, opened the kitchen door as commanded, and the editor followed him around the house to the front gate. The man hadn't a word to say. He gained the highway and dragged himself out of sight in the darkness and never been heard of in the village since.

Mr. Bonest looked at his watch and found it was a long time and then slowly re-entered the house, hunted up paper and pencil and sat down to write:

"OUR VICTORY.—From the numerous letters received from subscribers we are satisfied that we have won a complete victory over our esteemed contemporary in the discussion regarding criminals—how they are made such, how they should be treated, what kindness will do for them, etc. We shall therefore pursue the subject no further, but devote the space to additional local and general news of interest to our many intelligent subscribers."

"Halt! Who goes there?"

"It is 11 o'clock on a winter's night, and a cavalryman on picket hears a suspicious sound in the leafless bushes on his right. He has hardly spoken when the echo comes back to him from the post below:

"Halt! Who goes there?"

The figure of a man suddenly rises above the low bushes. A quick dash to the south might save him, but he hesitates, and it is too late. He is in Federal custody. He has passed the camp sentinels—he is skulking through the woods—he has planned to desert to the enemy. Five minutes after his capture he is at the reserve, and ten minutes later he is on his way back to camp. And he should be sent to the gallows to cover his memory for all time with a stain worse than that of murder! He is young in years, but evidently a veteran in war. They question him, hoping he may exculpate himself, but he refuses to answer. He is left in the care of the provost guard, and it is not long before he comes again that other questions are put to him. He maintains silence. Then they charge him with being a spy. His face pales at the word, but he has nothing to say. He refuses to give his name or name his command. He is still obstinate when taken to headquarters. He is pale and anxious, but refuses to open his lips. Later on, when put on trial for his life before a court martial he still pursued the policy he had evidently decided on from the first. As a would be deserter he might bring forward excuses—have some sort of defense. The verdict might be imprisonment, but it would not be death. As a spy he will surely suffer the fate of spies. Then why not speak—name his captain—identify himself and ask the court to be merciful?"

Never a word from him throughout the trial. Every captain in the division was sent up to board the ship of Section VIII, and part of North 1st of Section VIII, and part of North 2nd of Section VIII, of which 32 are cultivated and cleared, and several acres of older bottom are partly cleared. The buildings on the premises consist of a house, barn, chicken-house, etc.

The farm has a plentiful supply of fresh water and a steamboat landing within a convenient distance.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

DRAKE, JACKSON & HELMCKEN, 30 Station street, Victoria, B.C., Nov 25th.

SOLICITORS FOR MORTGAGES.

REMARKS.

MELDRAUN.—In this city on 20th inst. the wife of James W. Meldraun, of a son, the wife of L. U. Conyers, of a daughter.

## GERMANY'S DANCE.

Chancellor Caprivi's Power to the Reichstag—The Must be Prepared.

Bismarck not all He was to be the Gauntlet Thrown Down.

BERLIN, Nov. 23.—Chancellor Caprivi addressed the Reichstag on the 23rd of the Army bill. He addressed the Reichstag on the 23rd of the Army bill. He addressed the Reichstag on the 23rd of the Army bill.

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