

THE CROW'S NEST PASS PROJECT.

There are some objections to the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway by any company other than the Canadian Pacific, which have very great weight. The proposed road would have neither an Eastern or Western connection of its own. It would have to make an alliance either with the Canadian Pacific or the American roads. If it were owned and operated by the government the connection with these roads might be in the nature of a grant of traffic privileges; but if a private company owned the line it would undoubtedly be necessary to form a closer arrangement than this. We feel that the people of Canada would hardly be willing to give a subsidy to a private company to enable them to construct a road which, when completed, would be handed over to an American company. It would be hardly less objectionable to give a large subsidy to a company to enable it to build a road and then sell out to the Canadian Pacific.

The situation is somewhat complicated and a very great diversity of opinion is expressed regarding it. The Toronto Telegram is very strongly opposed to the building of the road by the Canadian Pacific, which it thinks would thereby acquire a control of the future of the Dominion that nothing could break. But it says: "The way to control the C. P. R. for its own and the country's good is to build and operate the Crow's Nest Pass line for the welfare of the country whose assets will build the road. Working in harmony with a Government road through the Crow's Nest Pass, the Canadian Pacific Railway would be master of the trade of the region, but it would not be master of the whole country."

The Toronto Globe defines the position in these words: "In short, it seems to us that the main objection to government construction is the expenditure of 20 or 25 millions of dollars of public money. No one, we think, would advocate a grant of 20 or 25 millions to the Canadian Pacific. And if we put 20 or 25 millions into a railway through the Crow's Nest Pass to Hope, what could we then do for the Baiter River Railway or for the James Bay Railway, or for other great projects that are pressing for aid from the public treasury? We think it very likely that the Crow's Nest road, if carried out as a government work, would be revenue producing, but we must set some limit to our public debt."

On the whole the Globe, though not very strongly committing itself, may be regarded as favorable to the construction of the proposed road by the Canadian Pacific on the condition that this company shall surrender its exemption from government control of its freight rates. The Toronto World has printed a sensational article on this question, to which brief reference was made in our telegraphic columns. The article is entitled, "Is There to Be a New Pacific Scandal?" It alleges that the sentiment of the country is overwhelmingly in favor of the construction of the road by the government. It assumes that the road will be a profitable undertaking, and says "the government will not lose a dollar if it builds the work itself." After arguing in favor of government control of the line, the World assails the British Columbia government for having granted the British Columbia Southern its franchise and subsidies, and asserts that these subsidies are to be used "in the form of convincing arguments in favor of the C.P.R.'s obtaining the Crow's Nest Pass Railway." It then substantially charges that Messrs. Jaffray and Cox, of the Toronto Globe Publishing Company, are concerned in a bargain with the C.P.R. in which the subsidies play a part, and that the attitude of the Globe on this question is thereby accounted for.

We know nothing of what the relations of Messrs. Jaffray and Cox are to either the British Columbia Southern or the C.P.R. further than has appeared in the public press; but this we do know, that the World's attack upon the British Columbia government is utterly unfounded and absolutely without foundation. The British Columbia charter was granted several years ago, and it has lain unused, because the subsidies to the company were insufficient to attract capital. No member of the government had a farthing's interest in the project at the time the company was incorporated and the subsidy given, and although one of the promoters, Col. Baker, is now provincial secretary, he was not a member of the government at the time the charter was granted. The World could do well to confine its observations to what it knows something about. If what it has said about the Globe directors and the C. P. R. is no more true than what it has said about the British Columbia government and the B. C. Southern, it has written itself down as a mere lying scandal monger.

The Toronto Star also addresses its attention to the B. C. Southern charter, which it declares was a "conspiracy." The Star has evidently grown very wise about the affairs of this Province, but its wisdom is of a very questionable character. The B. C. Southern subsidies were granted openly and above board. Everybody who knows anything about the matter at all will say that when these subsidies were granted it would have been deemed a very fortunate thing if the construction of the railway had been secured by them. At that time

the wealth of Kootenay was hardly suspected, not to say demonstrated. Since this company was incorporated and the subsidies given to it, the Slokan region has gone to the front with tremendous strides, the Trail Creek district has surprised the world with its enormous wealth, and other sections of Kootenay have furnished abundant evidence of their great possibilities. These things have made valuable subsidies, which for years no one could take on the condition on which they were granted, and the Toronto Star, with a recklessness which is highly discreditable, connects these recent developments with the fruitless attempt made years ago to open the Kootenay from the East, and evolves a conspiracy from its own diseased imagination.

DR. DUNCAN'S APPOINTMENT.

The appointment of Dr. George H. Duncan to be secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, vice Dr. Watt, resigned, meets with general approval. Dr. Duncan was made city health officer in the fall of 1892, just as the smallpox scourge was passing away, and the manner in which he discharged his duties remains with the highest endorsement on all hands. His handling of the cases which occurred after the worst stage of the epidemic had passed was so skilful that, when the number of cases treated by him was made known, the public was surprised that much had been accomplished without alarming anyone. Believing that the pestilence had its origin in Chinatown, Dr. Duncan devoted a long time to the sanitation of that portion of the city with very great success. After this he directed his attention to the sanitary concerns of the city generally with such excellent results that smallpox and other infectious diseases have since given very little trouble and almost no public anxiety. Both Mayor Beaven and Mayor Teague, who had every opportunity of observing Dr. Duncan's methods and the success attending his work, have both privately and officially borne testimony to his efficiency. The press of the city, without exception, united in pronouncing him a capable and reliable health officer. His removal from the control of the William Head station, for political reasons, was generally regretted, and it is a matter for general congratulation that the public will have the benefit of his services in a field of wider usefulness.

It is more than strange that the Times of this city, which until less than a year ago had nothing but warm praise for Dr. Duncan, has felt called upon to attack him personally, and to assail the Provincial government because of this appointment. The motive and manner of the attack are alike despicable. It says: "The Provincial government possibly believes that it will have use for Dr. Duncan in one capacity or another. At all events Mr. Turner has shown that he disapproves of the course taken by the Dominion government in dismissing Dr. Duncan."

It is perhaps sufficient to say that this remark is worthy of the source from which it emanated; but since the Times invites a reference to the course pursued by the Dominion government we would suggest that it might with advantage examine into the results which have followed from that course. To make the examination complete it would be necessary to send to Port Townsend and Tacoma in order to ascertain how the disinfecting at William Head worked in one recent case of a small-pox infected vessel. We do not desire to press the matter any further and shall not do so at present. As for the insinuation that the appointment of Dr. Duncan was made so that his official position might be used to the political advantage by the government, it is not worth any reply. If the appointment were made expressly to show that the Dominion Government had not done Dr. Duncan justice, it would be defensible on that ground alone, seeing that his fitness for the office is known to everyone.

AS SEEN FROM THE EAST.

The movement of the farmers of this Province for the abolition of the mortgage tax and for cheaper money is the subject of an article in the Toronto Globe. On the first point the Toronto paper advances the proposition that all attempts to tax the lender of money upon the amount loaned will prove futile, and it thinks the declaration of our farmers "will have an educational effect elsewhere." The Globe points out that in many of the American States farmers hold views directly opposite to those favored by the British Columbia Farmers' Alliance. In regard to the proposition that the government should devise some means for providing the farmers with cheaper money on mortgages, the Globe takes the position that the easier it is made to borrow money the more money will be borrowed, and that "until all the farms were mortgaged to their full capacity, the government must be paying money into a knot hole." It believes also that the government percentage of losses on loans would be larger than that of private loan companies, and that when election campaigns were pending there would be a disposition to make loans freely for political purposes. The Columbian says it did not mean that it would be better to bonus prospectors than to charge them a license. Then it should not have said so. It ex-

plains that what it said was "with a grain of salt." We beg to remind it that such frivolity is unbecoming, and that it should endeavor to discuss serious matters seriously. Vide the Columbian of a recent date.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has a heavy contract on his hands. He has been heralded as the Advance Agent of prosperity. He is next to powerless to advance the material interests of the country by so much as a hair's breadth. His chief title to fame rests upon the fact that he was chairman of the committee on ways and means in the 51st Congress, and therefore gave his name to the tariff of 1890. He was not eminent before that time in any special line. When he retired from Congress and became Governor of Ohio, his career was that of a weak and undecided man. In his private business he made a disastrous failure. Whether he will be equal to the responsibilities of his new position, that is those which will arise when the clamour of the shoving multitude is away with the expectation that the condition of the country can be improved by taxing the people more heavily, remains to be seen. There is danger that he will not. The best friends of the United States look with considerable anxiety for what the next four years will bring forth in the way of domestic problems.

A BILL is to be introduced into the United States Congress to declare "The Star Spangled Banner" the national song; one is to be introduced into the Nevada legislature to appropriate \$2,000 to pay for a belt to be given to the winner of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight; one has been introduced into the Michigan legislature to require restaurants to print their bills of fare in English; one in the Washington legislature to prohibit the use of type-setting machines in the government printing office; and there are other legislative propositions on the tapis across the line even more absurd than these.

BOB INGERSOLL has been asked what he thinks of divorce, and his opinion is substantially that every woman should be allowed a divorce if she asks for it. He has few good words for marriage. A sample of his fair-mindedness is afforded by his denunciation of the early Christian fathers as no better than their self-made men who worship their maker so devoutly that they have come to regard their imaginations as veritable facts. It is times the while the eloquent Colonel went into retirement. His last production bears the stamp of parenia.

A SOMEWHAT sensational story comes from Ottawa in regard to the Crow's Nest Pass railway. The allegation is that until the British Columbia Southern railway charter is got out of the way nothing can be done. The ministers have been for some months aware of the existence of this charter and the powers conferred by it, and we hesitate to take much stock in any report based upon the supposition that during all negotiations on this subject this matter has been overlooked. It is more likely that the press correspondents are doing a little guessing.

ALFRED NOBEL, a Scandinavian and the inventor of dynamite, by his will left \$10,000,000, the interest to be divided into five prizes to be distributed annually among those who shall be deemed by the trustees to have during the year performed the most eminent act for the benefit of humanity.

"THE GRIPSACK" is a monthly publication, issued at St. John, N.B., by J. S. Knowles. It begins its tenth volume in a new dress and handsomely illustrated. The Grripsack is a good and useful periodical.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

A JUBILEE SUGGESTION. Mr. Bostock, M.P., makes the excellent suggestion that British subjects in Cariboo-Yale-Kootenay should show their respect for the Queen's reign by the fact that in British history, by presenting Her Majesty with a suitable gift in the shape of a bar of gold from each producing mine in Yale-Cariboo, enclosed in a casket made of silver mined in Kootenay. A casket constructed of out and polished specimens of quartz, showing the native gold and silver, and containing a congratulatory address from representatives of every camp, might perhaps be a still more unique manner of carrying out the same idea.—Boundary Creek Times.

SLEPT ON THEIR RIGHTS. Rosland's choice for a mayor will be restricted to a very few individuals if the bill goes through without amendment in at least one particular. The nominee for mayor is required to have been the registered owner of real property to the value of \$2,000 for three months prior to his nomination. As it happens few of our large property owners have taken the trouble to have their titles registered, with the consequence that they cannot qualify.—Rosland Miner.

THE COMPANIES ACT.

The only duty which the legislature owes to the public in respect of these companies is to see that proper provision is made for the furnishing of that information which is necessary to aid an intending investor in arriving at a true financial position of each company and provide that misleading statements shall not be allowed to be laid before the public. When the legislature has done this it will, as we believe, have done its whole duty, but if all sorts of obstacles

are placed in the way of legitimate companies carrying on business, then there will be an end to development of mining properties in this country.—The Golden Era.

WHERE GRAND FORKS IS. It is situated in the centre of Grand Prairie, one of the richest agricultural districts in the province, from which the mining camps from the surrounding districts are bound to come for their supply of fruits, vegetables, and in fact all farm produce.—Grand Forks Miner.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

"Papa," said the growing youth, "how many classes are prize fighters divided into?" "Five," he answered, without looking up—"heavy, middle, welter, light, and feather weights." "What class do Corbett and Fitzsimmons belong to?" "I don't know," was the dreamy response—"I suppose they are in the middle class." "I don't know," returned the interview in which each said he'd soak the other with a punch.—St. Paul Dispatch.

A College Barber.—Barber—Have you had your hair shaved since? Applicant for job—Oh, yes, sir. I always go over their faces twice with the back of a razor, and then I pull much. Barber—Quite right; but you mustn't forget to stop your razor several times during the operation. "I don't know," returned the interview in which each said he'd soak the other with a punch.—St. Paul Dispatch.

"I think not, judging by some of the people who play it."—"Fack. Chumley—You're a mighty poor talker, especially to ladies. How did you raise the nerve to propose to Miss Sweet? Dumley—Oh, aw! I didn't say much of anything, handed my ring to her, and she slipped it on her left finger, and said, "All right—it fits."—New York truth. "Why do you suppose that society woman married an organ grinder?" "Probably she wanted to get rid of him."—Chicago Record.

NEW MINING COMPANIES.

- Apex Gold Mining & Development Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Aurum Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Albany Gold Mining Co., Rosland; \$750,000.
Alvilda Gold Mining & Development Co., Rosland; \$900,000.
Amazon Gold Mining & Smelting Co., Portland; \$500,000.
B. C. Gold Discovery Co., London, Eng.; \$100,000.
Bellaria Mining Co., Rosland; \$125,000.
Barnato Gold & Silver Mining Co. of Slokan; \$1,000,000.
Bunker Hill & Sullivan Gold Mining Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
Bachelor Mines Co., Vancouver; \$500,000.
Black Hills Mining Co. of B. C., Victoria; \$100,000.
B. C. Southern Prospecting & Development Co., Rosland; \$500,000.
B. C. Gold Mining & Development Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
Canadian-American Gold Mining & Development Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
Chenango Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Cornwallis Mining & Development Co., Nelson; \$1,000,000.
Cassiope Creek Gold Hills Mining & Development Co., Vancouver; \$300,000.
Diamond Jubilee Mining & Development Co., Vancouver; \$1,000,000.
Elen Silver Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Golden Canyon Gold & Silver Mining Co., Vancouver; \$800,000.
Golden Treasure Mining & Development Co., Vancouver; \$250,000.
Gold Bar Mining & Development Co., Rosland; \$1,200,000.
Granite Mining & Milling Co., Spokane; \$700,000.
Hispano-American Trading Co., Vancouver; \$100,000.
Harrison Lake Mining, Development & Prospecting Co., Vancouver; \$500,000.
Jed Day Mining & Milling Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Justice Gold Mining Co., Rosland; \$1,200,000.
Jackson Mines, Kaslo; \$1,000,000.
Kootenay-Tacoma L. C. Mining Co., Tacoma; \$1,000,000.
Kootenay Mining Co., Tacoma; \$2,000,000.
Kaslo-Slokan Development Co., Kaslo; \$1,000,000.
Kenseth Mining & Development Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
Lloyd's Consolidated Gold Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Lemon Creek Mining Co., Slokan City; \$1,000,000.
Maggins Mining Co., Vancouver; \$1,000,000.
Mayflower No. 4 Gold Mining Co., Seattle; \$1,000,000.
Mannamend Gold Mining Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
Miller Creek Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Norton Salmon River Gold Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
New Brunswick Consolidated Gold Mining Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
Pierre Development Co., Spokane; \$100,000.
Rosland Gold Bug Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Royal Canadian Mining and Development Co., Rosland; \$1,500,000.
Ripley Mining Co., Vancouver; \$1,000,000.
Regent Mining and Development Co., Sandon; \$1,000,000.
Skookum Mining Co., Spokane; \$250,000.
Sunnahs Mining Co., New Westminster; \$500,000.
Samson Gold Mining Co., Rosland; \$1,000,000.
St. Keverne Mining Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Sullivan Group Mining Co., Spokane; \$2,000,000.
Salmon River Gold Mining Co., of B. C., Spokane; \$1,500,000.
Slokan Maiden Mining and Milling Co., Spokane; \$1,000,000.
Stonleigh Mining Co., Milwaukee; \$1,000,000.
Tanton Gold Mining Co., Spokane; \$750,000.
Texada-Kirk Lake Gold Mines, Victoria; \$1,000,000.
Vancouver-Meteor Mining Co., Vancouver; \$500,000.

FROM THE EAST.

MONTREAL, March 4.—La Presse, publishes a rumor to the effect that two important persons, a layman and a cleric, left Toronto on Tuesday night for New York to call for Rome at once, in order to reach the Pope before Bishop Begin, and uphold the Dominion government.

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THE INAUGURATION.

President McKinley Sued Cleveland as Head of United States.

Spectacle Loving America the Pagan as the Show as Poss.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The fourth time in the history of the United States, a native born citizen, the presence of the solemnly bound him for four years and guard the welfare of the people. It was an in beautiful simple ceremony the accession of William Ohio, to the high office of the United States of America was no flash of gratification the dark eye beneath the brow that scanned the shining multitude that crowded the broad terrace of the east capitol, but an expression mingled with the reality heavy burden he was about to discharge the manifold high office, as he bent his head in a clear voice the solemnly swear that I will execute the office of president of the United States, and will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

There have been many in Washington, but in that of March 4, 1897, will history as excellent all the before. The citizens of worked in that end with an energy unknown even in the spirit-ecited community great popular demonstration day was a unique and a novel in every particular. In the novelty, the decorations of incomparably superior to a before in Washington, the regular United States troops numerous than in any of Grant's great display at the before in Washington, the regular United States troops instead of being disgraced scene, as had been the case by, were not only comfort and of pretty architecture were most appropriately decorated with the national colors, and spent money with a liberality that was a beautiful thing, and with thousands of flags of every color, the line of march was longer than that of any in fact, made so to ease the spectators in the line in the of the city and to ensure the presence of the line in the body agreed that it was a grand day as far as concerned, in the morning, the march in the parade, while the warmth of the sun as it melted in the blue sky reassured who feared for the comfort of covered grand stands, a great demand, and by 10 was scarcely a seat to be had in the carriage, and the crowd for one avenue room for the liard's, with luncheon added party.

The start for the Capitol shortly before 11 o'clock, first cheer arose, Major M seen to raise his hat in acknowledgment of the President and Mrs. in the carriage, were Secretary, the incoming secretary and Senator Mitchell, of Other carriages, including members of President Cleveland. The black horse to President's escort fell in at the carriage. These troops handsome Hussar uniforms black horses, were given ovation than was the President. The approach of the President-elect was signified by the crowds on the Capitol steps that greeted them and followed the hills by waving hands and hats. Grand Marshal P at the top of the hill, sign Cleveland troop escorting dential carriage, and they the Capitol grounds and the front steps of the Senate building following a brisk Caiffery, a Democratic escort Cleveland, President-elect walked after beside his secretary. They entered the Senate chamber, where they went at once to the vice room and President Cleveland's cabinet. The President-elect's Senate chamber was the traction early in the day noon was to occur the first carriage, and they began to surge towards the and by 10 o'clock the busi- sleged. By 11 o'clock the sign representatives had ambassadors and the mit in the marble room to en- ber with the presidential the staff of the legations of the diplomatic corps files reserved for them. were started shortly after 1 former Queen Lilian's gallery diplomatic gallery accom secretary, Mr. Palmer. I monthly with the door- socials hestitated at the what to do. The embar- momentary. She was giv- available seat, but they far in the rear. The pres- party arrived at 11:30, ent- Palden, reserved for the President-elect, and the President and Vice-President sister, Mrs. Barber, the aisle arm chair, which had been reserved was dressed simply in with a large American her right shoulder. Her