

The Colonist.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1897.

SELF-RELIANCE THE WATCHWORD.

The desirability at this particular time of any overture on the part of Canada looking to reciprocity with the United States, may be questioned. It is already well understood at Washington that the people of this country, irrespective of party, stand ready to enter into any reasonable arrangement for reciprocal trade that is consistent with Canada's position as a part of the British Empire.

If we correctly appreciate the situation, the Dominion government would do well to turn its eyes from the South to the West, which we have been accustomed to call the Orient. The great fact of these closing years of the century is that the portals of Asia are slowly swinging open to the commerce of the world.

Mr. Tarte came out here and discovered Mr. Davies came and confirmed his colleague's report. Mr. Blair played the part of de Soto to Tarte's Columbus and on returning said like the Queen of Sheba after her memorable visit to Solomon.

When the Egyptologists began to instruct the world as to the meaning of the records of the Nile country, the necessity for leaving the question of the earliest historical dates an open one became very apparent.

STREET PAYMENTS.

The best method of paving the streets of Victoria is now before the taxpayers, and connected with it is the matter of sidewalks. The latter is not very difficult. The city of Fredericton, N.B., has tried a very successful experiment at laying asphalt sidewalks.

Known, and all will admit that it can be in any case relied upon as a demerit resort. Asphalt properly laid makes an excellent street, but is open to the objection that if it is made hard enough to resist the wear of heavy traffic it is apt to be too hard to give a sure footing to horses.

It is stated in an Ottawa dispatch to the Montreal Gazette that if the United States congress adopts the proposed measure for the exclusion of non-resident Canadians from obtaining employment in that country, Parliament will be asked to enact a law which will be word for word with the American statute.

THE BEGINNING OF HISTORY.

To what date should we assign the beginning of history? Not very long ago a little difficulty would have been found in answering this question. The Protestant portion of Christendom accepted the chronology of Bishop Usher, who estimated that, in order to harmonize with the Old Testament records, it was necessary to assume a little over 4,000 years as having elapsed between the creation and the birth of Christ.

During the last twenty years a new element has come up for consideration, namely, the bearing of the ruined cities of Central America and the adjacent portions of South America upon the early history of mankind. Here are the remains of cities so ancient that the legends of the Indian tribes contain no suggestion as to their origin.

ology of Polynesia preserves not even a hint as to who the unknown sculptors were. A French explorer claims to have discovered and deciphered an ancient Mayan record, which gives some general historic data, from which it appears that the Central American ruins antedate those of Egypt.

It is not only desirable upon two conditions: That it can be located here by the help of only moderate and reasonable civic assistance, and that it can be profitably opened when built. Except on these conditions Vancouver is better off without a smelter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

The idea of bringing the people of Canada to their knees by depriving them of the privilege of holding land in fee simple is not a new one. There are some localities in Canada which would look upon such an action with some interest.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Schoolboy—I always envied Caesar. Teacher—Yes, he was a great general. Schoolboy—Yes, but he didn't have to study Latin.—Somerville Journal.

A writer in one of the late reviews discusses the potential ability of the French navy to inflict damage upon British commerce in the event of war, and reaches the very comfortable conclusion that it could accomplish less than was possible in the old days of sailing ships.

A movement is on foot in New Brunswick to erect a memorial to the late Sir Leonard Tilley. For forty years Sir Leonard was closely identified with the affairs of his native province, and his connection with Dominion politics is a part of the history of Canada.

THE BONDING PRIVILEGE.

The idea of bringing the people of Canada to their knees by depriving them of the privilege of holding land in fee simple is not a new one. There are some localities in Canada which would look upon such an action with some interest.

THE MONTEAL STAR PLEADS FOR TARIFF LEGISLATION.

The Montreal Star pleads for tariff legislation at the earliest possible day. The Star does not appear to want any particular changes, but only that whatever changes are made should be made with a view to the welfare of the country.

A PRESSING QUESTION.



HOW TO LIVE THE CHEAPEST?

That is a question we are answering every day. All our customers know that we have the choicest Groceries at the lowest prices. Any one can see that by looking over the following prices:

- 21 lbs. best Granulated Sugar, \$1. A few more Potatoes at \$1 a sack. Bontler's Canned Goods, 13 tins for \$1. Ontario Apples, 8 lbs. for 25c. Sardines in Mustard, 2 large tins for 25c. Fresh Eggs from reliable farmers, 2 doz. for 55c.

Dixie H. Ross & Co., Government St.

VICTORIA'S STREETS.

Cedar block Sand 71 Concrete 1.90 Asphalt Concrete 2.60 Vitrified brick Concrete 2.44

Now that the new city council are settling down into their places, people will naturally look forward to some movement towards putting the streets in proper repair. Mayor Redfern made this question one of the leading features of his campaign speeches, and also of his inaugural address at the meeting of the council on Monday evening.

The Vancouver World is shocked over the "levity" of the COLONIST anent the proposition of the Kamloops Sentinel to take three representatives away from this island to the Wornly. The COLONIST extends to the Wornly an expression of its distinguished consideration and hopes it distils better.

Another person who had something to say on street-paving yesterday was Mr. F. Barham, the manager of the British Columbia Pottery Co. "I read with much interest," he said, "the editorial in this morning's COLONIST on the subject of street pavements, and though I agree with much there stated, I must beg leave to differ with some of the remarks on the subject of asphalt sidewalks.

Mr. Barham showed several specimens of brick paving, and stated that his company had as good material here for making street paving bricks as could be had elsewhere, and if the city were prepared to do several miles of streets, the company would be ready to put in a plant for making the street paving bricks, and could furnish them at a price just as cheap as has been secured in the East.

LE ROI MINE.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—An English syndicate with headquarters in this city is likely shortly to own the Le Roi mine. It made an offer of £750,000, but the owners asked £850,000. An effort is now being made to split the difference.

FAMINE IN RHODESIA.

Amendment in the House Censuring the Government for Releasing Irish.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—A Capuchin who has been received at the Home Office, has arrived from Rhodesia, and has reported a terrible mortality prevailing there.

Panic in Bombay as Bad Distress in the Argentine.

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Sir Henry Howarth's amendment to the House of Commons censuring the government for releasing prisoners caused an unexpected Sir Henry Howarth is a Toronto politician and a member of the "star chambers," and used other phrases and also suggested that the ministers were slandering him, and then read extracts from Irish newspapers to the effect that the Nationalist shouts of "O'Connell!"

A dispatch from Bombay to Mail says: "Fifty doctors of medical services have arrived here. There are now four thousand men engaged in cleaning and purifying the town. The panic here is as great as the appalling statistics of the plague drives the natives from their homes."

The government house, over a speedy burning of the same, and this is taken as a strong favor of similar measures elsewhere.

Great distress prevails in the districts of Argentine, owing to the American line steamship which lost one of her propellers at the Lizard on 12th morning. The Paris and New York lines are also one of her propellers. She is at Southampton this morning.

INDIAN RELIEF WORK.

JAYLUM, Punjab, Jan. 22.—A correspondent who is visiting the stricken districts in India, is accompanying the official mission of the same work, has arrived in vast relief work known as Canal, about which no less than 12,000 persons, either aged or infirm, are suffering. A correspondent arrived here the other day, and called the spectacle of a great number of the sick, old and children was noticeable.

After visiting the tent, the mission traversed the country along a double line of mat with grass. The market was grain dealers, and heaps of hay, maize and other crops were ground in front of the huts. The market had fallen still, the recent rains, causing a shift for the better in the prices, but in spite of this prices were terribly high, the cheapest wheat being at 15s. 6d. per bushel, and other luxuries were very scarce. The price of the grain was very high, and the market was very quiet.

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