

**The Colonist.**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27,

Published Every Monday and Thursday by  
The Colonial Printing & Publishing Company, Limited, Limited.

W. H. ELLIS, MANAGER.

TERMS:

THE DAILY COLONIST.  
Published Every Day except Monday.

Per year, postage free by air to any part of Canada, \$10 00

Per week, if delivered, 20

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.  
Per year, postage free to any part of the Dominion of the United States, \$1 50

Per month, 15

Subscriptions in all cases are payable strictly in advance.

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Vancouver.  
Branch Office of THE COLONIST, 602 Hastings Street, A. GOODMAN, Agent.**CANADA'S OPPORTUNITY.**

The eyes of the world are on Canada, and there seems little reason to doubt that the time has come for the Dominion to begin a career of unparalleled prosperity.

Mr. J. Scott Kellie, the chairman of the geographical section of the British Association, says that if Europe knew of the magnitude of Canada's possibilities, our population would soon be a hundred millions.

We have undoubtedly an extent of habitable land that far exceeds what most of Canadians, even, imagine. Formerly the impression was that all our available territory was an exceedingly narrow strip along the boundary line, that the Dominion was something like the mathematical definition of a line—length without breadth; but now we know that in some places the habitable area is fully a thousand miles wide.

A few facts on this point may be of interest.

The width of the permanently habitable area west of the Rocky Mountains is, according to the observations of Dr. Dawson, fully 800 miles. Its width east of the Rockies, according to the report of Senator Schultz' committee, made some years ago, is fully 1,000 miles.

In the longitude of Manitoba the habitable belt is somewhat narrower, although here it will probably be found to be fully 700 miles. Dr. Bell's explorations around the southern portion of Hudson Bay warrant the opinion that from the extreme southern limit of Ontario to the northern limit of permanent civilized settlement, the distance may be more than 1,000 miles. These figures embrace a vast area available for settlement. We do not think it an exaggeration to say that there is in Canada an area of 2,000,000 square miles quite as well adapted for permanent habitation as the country between corresponding latitudes in Europe and between those latitudes in Europe fully 200,000,000 people live. This tremendous fact ought not to be lost sight of, for it gives us some sort of conception of the astonishing possibilities of our country.

We are glad to observe that simultaneously with the enhanced importance of Canada in the eyes of the people abroad, there is coming a keener sense of its greatness at home.

Sir Louis Davies said the other day in England that never was there so little anxiety about Canada as now.

This is quite correct. There is, indeed, no such sentiment in existence. There never was much of it, and what there was has died out.

There has, however, been a disposition to shape our policy with one eye upon the United States.

This is fast passing away, and public men of all parties seem inspired by the conviction that Canada can hereafter afford to adopt such lines of action as she chooses in all things, having regard only to her duty and responsibility as an integral part of the Empire.

**POLAR EXPLORATION.**

The detailed reports of the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition towards the North Pole are interesting chiefly from a scientific point of view.

Excepting that they remove from the map what are known as Gillis Land and King Oscar Land and render the existence of Petermann Land very doubtful, and that they establish the existence in the far North of a large open sea, the story possesses very little popular interest.

The latter discovery is especially worthy of note, because recently there has been a disposition on the part of Polar explorers to deny the existence of open water near the Pole.

Nansen's observations certainly suggest that ice, and nothing but ice, exists in that portion of the world.

Lieut. Peary will undertake his next expedition according to plans based upon the theory that ice extends all the way from Greenland to the Pole.

The idea which prevailed until very recently was that the North Pole might be surrounded by open water.

The strongest impetus which this theory received was from the report of Lieut. Morton, who was with Dr. Kane on his voyage in search of Sir John Franklin in 1853.

He ascended a mountain on Kennedy Channel, and thus described what he saw:

A boundless waste of water stretched away toward the Pole. Not a particle of ice encumbered its surface.

A fluid sea, amid continents of ice, which seemed to wash the Pole itself.

The eye surveyed at least fifty miles of uninterrupted water in a northerly direction.

The temperature was more moderate than it was further south. Marine birds were common.

More recent explorers have gone considerably further north than the point from which these observations were made, but it is worthy of note that this particular portion of the Arctic world is practically unexplored, and it does not follow that because ice has been found north of Greenland, extending to a much higher latitude than Mount Parry, on which Morton stood and looked over the sea, open water may not be permanently found in the direction in which he observed it.

As a matter of fact only a comparatively small portion of the circum-polar area has been penetrated by explorers.

Only two quarters have been at all thoroughly explored. One of these is the northwestern corner of Greenland and the other the region around Franz Josef's Land.

Nansen really explored nothing new. He did not get into very high latitude until after he had abandoned his ship.

In a general way it may be said that the whole Arctic region to a distance of eight hundred miles from the Pole is unknown except at one or two points.

The discovery of the open sea by Jackson will certainly stimulate exploration. There is reason to think that this open water may extend eastward around the Pole north of Asia and that what Nansen saw may have been its prolongation north of America.

It is all largely a matter of surmise, but the discovery of open water at points so widely separated and the fact that no one has ever traversed the intermediate region renders the suggestion probable.

**A GODLESS NATION.**

It is the boast of a certain class of Americans that the name of God does not appear in the constitution of the United States.

That this should be true of a movement inaugurated largely by descendants of the God-fearing Puritans is remarkable, and there is possibly more significance in it than at first sight appears.

It implies that the people are the irresponsible source of all civil power, whence it follows logically that what the people do is right and thence that no other sanction than the public will is needed for anything.

In other words, the voice of the people is not simply the voice of God, as the Romans used to say, but that it is the voice of the God. We think this idea permeates American institutions through and through, and that it is the weak point in them.

God was not only left out of the constitution, but He is conspicuously left out of all the policies of the nation.

The United States is a godless nation, in the sense that the idea of moral responsibility plays no part in determining what shall be done in any emergency.

This was not always so; there was a time when the land was in peril, when their prayers went up continually. Harriet Beecher Stowe colored the agony of the nation in the Battle Hymn of the Republic; but when peace and prosperity returned the people forgot to whom they had looked for deliverance.

The result is shown in the daily record of the nation. The growing hostility between classes is the direct outcome of this forgetfulness, or what is the same thing, of forgetfulness of the fact that there are other and greater responsibilities than to achieve political success—the truth that each man is to a certain extent his brother's keeper.

Intoxicated with their own greatness, drunken with an idea of their own importance, the people have disregarded the solemn broadcast over their fair land dragon's teeth, from which a terrible harvest will one day be reaped, unless the people turn back again to the only true principle of national greatness, namely, a sense of responsibility to something higher than themselves for national opportunities.

Rudyard Kipling, in the refrain of the Jubilee Recessional, expresses the true basis on which national greatness can be built:

"Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
"Lest we forget; lest we forget."

The story told of the Queen, to the effect that she gave an African prince a copy of the Bible, when asked for the secret of England's greatness, is doubtless a pious fraud; but it might very well be true, for unquestionably the greatness of the British Empire is due to the fact that, in spite of many imperfections, it is a Christian nation.

By this we do not mean that there is an established church with the sovereign at its head, or that a very large proportion of the population are church-goers, or that the people man for man are more pious than

those of other countries. We mean that the government of the British Empire is on the whole conducted in accordance with Christian principles.

The welfare of the party is not the supreme law of British public men.

Responsibilities, none the less, because they cannot be very clearly defined, are recognized by the authority, which secure the even-handed administration of justice and prevent to a very large degree abuses of the legislative power.

British public men are not yet ashamed to ask of a thing: Is it right? It is not sufficient for them to know that a thing can be done.

As between a Constitution without the name of God in it and a form of government which does every act under a formula expressing that it exists by the Grace of God, there can be little doubt, in the light of history, which is the better, or which is likely to be the more permanent.

It is a fact that the most potent of all forces in nation-building has ever been the religious sentiment. Nothing so stirs a people to action; nothing makes them so patient under disaster; nothing renders them so conservative in times of success.

We could not measure, if we tried, what the effect of the words, "In Witness Whereof, by the Grace of God, Queen," etc., has been upon the life of the nation, or how the words of the National Anthem have moulded the national character. It is a remarkable thing that the great nation of 70,000,000 people to the south of us has not yet produced, except in the single instance of Mrs. Stowe's hymn, a national song that touches the religious instinct.

Yankee Doodle is of course more trumpery. The Star Spangled Banner, the words, we mean, is the defecation of the flag; "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," is the defecation of the nation.

When the nation was in despair; when it seemed as though its brief life was going out in the night of the slaveholders' rebellion, Mrs. Stowe spoke. Her eyes had "seen the glory of the coming of the Lord," and she told the people that their God was marching on.

It has been said that this hymn was worth a hundred thousand men to the cause of the North.

As one looks over the broad field of the great republic, there seems on every sign of a rising storm. The lesson of 1861-65 has been forgotten.

**COLD WATER FOR JINGOS.**

George T. Angell, of Boston, Mass., has a plethoric pocket book and a level head.

He issues a little publication called "Our Dam Animals," which is devoted to the prevention of cruelty.

He has lately fallen afoul of American jingoism and delivered himself to the following effect:

The so-called Monroe doctrine is a humbug.

Great Britain has a right to acquire peaceably whatever territory she wishes in America.

That as all the great powers of Europe have larger armies and navies than the United States, which has two enormous sea coasts to defend, "unless we want to lose the gold mines of Alaska and pay perhaps a thousand millions of dollars for ransom of our large cities, we had better attend diligently to our own business and treat all other nations with respect."

That the talk about invading Canada is as silly as it would be to propose the erection of a Chinese wall along the international boundary, or to empty the Great Lakes into the Atlantic ocean.

That a lot of old politicians want to get up a war in which young men would have to do the fighting.

That "war is hell," and politicians who try to incite it should be put in lunatic asylums or set at hard labor in state prisons.

That there is plenty of room for employment of all the unemployed on public works and internal improvements.

The jingoes will not relish this sort of talk, but there is a barrel of good sense in it.

The United States has as little to gain and as much to lose by war as any country in the world.

Sensible, patriotic Americans understand this perfectly well.

The jingoes shut their eyes to things that everyone else sees.

They talk of war with Great Britain as if it would be a sort of a picnic, forgetting that in 48 hours after it was declared the blunder of the Northwest boundary would be corrected, and the mouth of the Columbia would be the southern limit of British possessions on the Pacific, and that the bankers in the Atlantic Coast cities would be getting together their specie to purchase the safety of their cities.

But there is no necessary in writing in this strain. If an American jingo wants to know just how silly a creature he is let him send to Washington, D. C., for a copy of the report of the Senate committee on coast defence made in 1836.

He will learn there of guns without cartridges or ammunition or machinery to make them; of empty arsenals; of an absolute lack of means or a plan of mobilizing an army; of an entire absence of commissariat arrangements; of an inefficient fleet manned chiefly by foreigners; of an entire absence of land batteries; of an almost total lack of means to repair damaged vessels.

Admiral Walker said that in the event of war Great Britain would have all the coast of the United States at her mercy without weakening her squadrons at other stations.

General Miles was asked if a million men would not spring to arms at the first call, and he replied that

they probably would, but he added, in effect: "We have no rifles to arm them with, no ammunition for the rifles if we had them, and only the most inadequate means of manufacturing them."

Nevertheless, things are drifting in such a direction that war may be precipitated with Spain. If it is, while there can be no manner of doubt as to the result if the two nations fought it out single-handed, Spain would, at the outset, inflict an enormous amount of damage upon her opponent.

The actual invasion of the United States by a Spanish army would be among the possibilities; but as Von Moltke said about Great Britain: "It might be the easiest thing in the world to get an army into the country, the trouble would be about getting it out again."

**THE SHEEP INDUSTRY.**

We have had the pleasure of receiving a letter from Mr. Thomas A. Wood, secretary-treasurer of the Vancouver Island Fleecemasters' Association, in which he expresses his satisfaction with the position taken in a recent issue of the Colonist in regard to the sheep industry.

He says: "It coincides in the suggestions made therein remarkably with the views already adopted by the Fleecemasters' Association for the encouragement and improvement of the sheep breeding industry."

We are glad to hear this, and may add that the views expressed by the Colonist were the result of observations and experience in connection with the improvement of farm stock. In the report of the above association for 1895 the following appears:

Another subject that requires the close attention of our association is the improvement of our present flocks, which (as they at present stand) are not of the standard or quality of flesh to be able to compete successfully with the imported article; but when our customers have had their palates tickled with prime Southdown or other high grade mutton such as this Island is eminently fitted to produce, a big step has been taken to counteract the danger from the foreign article.

There is a great deal of practical wisdom in this paragraph. If our farmers will make an effort to raise high grade mutton, they need fear no competitors.

Foreign competition is only effectual when it meets inferiority.

The report goes on to speak of the importation of Southdown and Shropshire Down rams, and a note, added by Mr. Hood, says that Oxford Down rams have been added. It also notes that money has been set apart for the purchase of pedigree ewes.

We hope the government can see its way clear to assisting the effort that is being made by the farmers. From what we know of such matters, we feel satisfied that a carload of good pedigree rams and ewes, offered for sale at public auction would sell for enough to pay all the expenses attending the importation, and we are sure that the loss of the province could very well afford it for the good that would result from such an addition to the flocks of the farmers.

We can assure the Columbian that the interpretation which the Colonist put upon its report of Hon. Mr. Turner's remarks about redistribution is exactly what it reports to be, nothing more nor less.

It was an effort to convey what the Colonist understood Mr. Turner to mean. Mr. Turner was not consulted about it, and knew nothing about it until he read it in the Colonist.

If our contemporary wants to know the grounds which the Colonist has for putting that interpretation upon Mr. Turner's words, we may tell it that the writer of the article in question, and of this paragraph, heard Mr. Turner make the speech in question, and when called upon, very properly, by the Columbian to explain what Mr. Turner meant by the language attributed to him, gave his impressions as gathered at the time from listening to the speech.

It is perfectly idle for the Colonist to talk about the Colonist's repudiating its own report. It has not done so. Its reports purport to be a brief synopsis only, and no member of the legislature ought to be held to the language used.

A word in conclusion to the Columbian. It talks about dignity, honor, responsibility, and so on. It slings about charges of repudiation, bad faith, and all that sort of thing. That sort of talk is mere twaddle. It imposes upon no one.

The Times think it very improper for the Hon. Mr. Pooley to appear for the E. &amp; N. railway in the investigation now being made into the claims of the squatters on the railway belt.

Can anything more unreasonable be suggested? The reason given is that he is a minister of the crown.

It would be less unreasonable to object to Mr. Maxwell, M.P., interesting himself in public affairs because he is a minister of the gospel.

The crown is not a party to the question under investigation, which is as to what rights certain individuals have against the railway company.

If they have any rights the company will doubtless satisfy them. If they have no rights against the company there is the end of the matter so far as Mr. Pooley's clients are concerned.

Even St. Marsac seems to have awakened to the sense of the fact that Great Britain is the arbiter of Europe. As matters are going, only the New York Sun will soon be left to smash John Bull and his Empire.

REPLYING to a request that it should declare the names of its owners, the Roseland Miner says it is no one's business. We are in sympathy with this. Certain small newspapers are given to looking for something sinister and underhand in their contemporaries, and to nosing around to see if they cannot discover some hidden motive for what is really open and above board.

A paper should be judged by what it says, not by the influence which certain real or imaginary owners are supposed to exercise over it.

SLOCAN is greedy. Not content with the greatest silver mines in the world it must needs go into the placer gold business. The Kootenian suggests that this is a good opportunity to urge people to outfit in Victoria. All occasions are suitable for that. The Kootenian will probably recall the old Roman who ended every speech in the Senate with the words, "Carthago delenda est," until Rome arose in her might and Carthage was destroyed. So the Colonist feels like ending every article with the words, "Outfit in Victoria."

The Colonist is authorized by the Hon. Mr. Turner to deny in the most positive terms that he ever, in any speech delivered in the legislature or elsewhere said that it was the intention of the government to defer redistribution until the last moment before the elections of 1898, and that any report of his remarks which makes him appear to have so stated is incorrect.

Mr. Turner further says that the position he took was exactly as has been explained in the Colonist.

The Tacoma Ledger has discovered that Mr. Heinze controls several British Columbia newspapers, and that he is responsible for the legislation of the last session of parliament in regard to an export duty on ore.

It is surprising how much news you can learn about Canada when you look in the American papers for it.

The Grand Forks Miner will please note that the area of British Columbia is 390,000 in round numbers; not 300,000 as it says in a paragraph.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS.**

The provincial opposition will never be dangerous to the present administration so long as it remains in such an absurdly disorganized condition, and the prospect of a unification of the various factions seems to be decidedly remote.

These factions consist of the Semlin party, the Maxwell-Templeton party, the Victoria Times party, the Vancouver Electoral League and a number of stragglers behind agitators in the lower Fraser valley, who have not made a complete success of agriculture, and are anxious to hit at the political power.

The platform of the Semlin crowd has been outlined in the train of the editor of the Vancouver News-Advertiser, and was adopted at a star-chamber convention of opposition M.P.'s, who regard the matter as of no concern to any one else.

As a political manifesto it is worthy of "General" Oxy or Herr Most.

The Maxwell-Templeton combination consists of politicians who are more concerned in the promotion of the Vancouver, Victoria &amp; Eastern railway, than in the question of good government.

The Victoria Times party will consist of the members of the Victoria League becomes Lieutenant-Governor. The leading spirits of the Electoral League want seats in the legislature, but they are so numerous that there are not enough constituencies in and around Vancouver to accommodate them all.

The pie brigade is composed of free traders on all occasions.

The Miner is of the opinion that it is infinitely better to support the present government than to turn to an opposition which we know not enough of—Roseland Miner.

A SLOCAN KLONDYKER.

An eight ounce nugget on Forty-Nine creek! Will the Victoria Colonist please give our little home Klondyker a boost. Outfit in Victoria you know, Kootenian.

ROSELAND SATISFIED.

It is very satisfactory to know that the provincial government has decided to purchase the local school educational facilities. The letter from Col. Baker, the minister of education, to the Chairman Lalonde, of the local school trustees has been obtained every thing they asked for.—Roseland Miner.

THE OPPOSITION FIRMAGE.

Messrs. Maxwell and Templeton had been led to believe that the Kootenian was up in arms against the local government, but upon their arrival here they discovered that no one was so much opposed to their policy as their own organization to Hon. Mr. Turner's government.

The reason was that the responsibility of organizing a meeting to criticize and censure who it is that becomes of men who are led away by false prophecies.

The responsibility was thrown upon the shoulders of the government in Nelson which was hedged in a manner that is at once humiliating and significant.—Nelson Economist.

**BY WAY OF VARIETY.**

The young diplomat looked at the lovely girl and said, "Do you love me?"

She answered, "No, but your father was of Russian descent?"

He said, "Yes, he was."

She said, "And my great-grandfather was a Frenchman, isn't he?"

He said, "Yes, he was."

She said, "What a queer coincidence!"

He said, "I don't know."

She said, "I'll be married shortly after the leaves begin to turn.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Some days nothing will "come out right," from the time you rise till you retire. Ten to one, the trouble is in yourself. Your blood is in bad condition, and every organ suffers in consequence. What you need is the cleansing, invigorating influence of Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

**A Claim**

AND

**An Offer**

WE CLAIM there is only one preparation in Canada today that cures BRONCHITIS, and that is CHASE'S SYRUP OF LIME AND TURPENTINE. It is MOTHER'S cure for her child when it is all stuffed up with CROUP and coughing its little lungs out with WHOOPING COUGH. One small dose immediately stops that cough. By loosening the phlegm, puts the little one to sleep and rest. Dr. Chase composed this valuable syrup so as to take away the unpleasant taste of turpentine and lime. WE OFFER to refund the price if Dr. Chase's Syrup will not do all that it is claimed to do. Sold on a guarantee at all dealers, or Edmondson, Bates &amp; Co., 45 Lombard St. Price, 25c.

**GOLD IN THE LARDEAU.**

A Promising Strike Made by Three Sons of a Nova Scotia Preacher.

Three Nova Scotia preachers' sons are feeling quite well these days over a gold strike made by them 8,000 feet above sea level near the summit which divides the drainage of the Lardo and Duncan rivers. They are the Lade brothers—Vincent, James and William. They also have a fourth partner, A. E. Gunn. Vincent and James Lade have been in Kaslo superintending a mill test of two tons of the ore, which they brought down with them. The ore is partly free gold and partly gold in tellurium.

The pocket samples they showed contained specks of free gold, plainly visible, as big as a pin head. A large telluride sample was taken to Nelson, which was pronounced very remarkable by all who saw it.

These discoveries are generally spoken of as at the head of Gainer creek, but are said to be really just over the divide half a mile above timber line on the Duncan river slope, and at the head of the west fork of the Duncan river. The proposed Kaslo and Duncan River railway would thus pass within eight miles of their claims. The find will doubtless stimulate the building of the talked of wagon road to the Hall creek and Duncan mines. The two tons of ore brought to Kaslo for a mill test were packed out in sixty sacks, on horses, and shipped via the Arrow lakes and Sandon. It has the distinction of being the first ore shipped out of the Lardeau region. Other properties, like the Silver Cup, are so far, filling up their ore waiting for better transportation facilities.

The Lade brothers have had gold mining experience in Nova Scotia. In prospecting they were accompanied by their practiced eyes saw gold signs and they proceeded immediately to locate their claims. Other gold signs had been noted thereabouts by the Lades. McFadden had found free gold float on Hall creek this year. The Banockburn group has produced ore running 80 cents gold, besides from 50 to 60 cents in silver and 65 per cent. less in tellurium.

The formation of the claims is gray slate and seem to indicate a blanket level under numerous small leads, cross leads and fissures. The vein of the Olive Mine is a foot wide and yielded five tons from an eight foot shaft, out of which the great amount of tellurium were selected and shipped.

The vein of the Olive Mine runs under a glacier a short distance from the shaft.

**BANKS ISLAND MINE.**

From an Iron Capping the Ledge Gets Gradually Richer in Copper and Gold.

Messrs. A. T. Donaldson, A. Smith and F. G. Pell, who have just returned from developing a mining property in Banks Island, are very well satisfied with the showing of mineral made for their season's work. They started in on March 9, and as already mentioned in yesterday's issue returned home on the Princess Louise.

The Banks Island mine has for a long time been known to have a great body of ore, and this year was to get out a small shipment for testing in the chemical works to find out if the ore was suitable for the manufacture of sulphuric acid.

Mr. Donaldson, however, is now satisfied that the mine will develop into a rich copper-gold property. The vein, which is covered with an iron capping, is at least fifty feet wide on the outcrop, and is exposed by a creek which partly cuts it away. It is only 900 feet from salt water and is consequently shipped by sea. The party sank a shaft which was 150 feet deep, and 56 feet on the ledge and drilled 15 feet more with the result that from iron and copper ore was obtained. As the shaft went down, the samples brought out showing about 5 per cent. copper. This carries out through entirely, it seems to point to a richer vein below. In fact Mr. Donaldson is quite confident that the mine will turn out very rich.

A Great Book Free.

When Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y. published the first edition of his great work, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adversary," he announced that 680,000 copies had been sold at the regular price, \$1.50 per copy, the profit of which would repay him the cost of producing it. He would thus contribute the next half million copies to the number of copies already free, 500,000 copies of this most complete, interesting and valuable common sense medical work ever published—the recipient only being required to mail to him, at the health department, a cent stamp, to cover the cost of mailing only and the book will be sent post-paid. It is a veritable medical library, complete in one volume. Contains 1,000 pages, fully illustrated. The Free Edition is precisely the same as that sold at \$1.50, except only that the book is in strong, manilla paper covers instead of cloth. Send now before all are given away.

Mining Companies' office stationary a specialty at the Colonist office.

**OPERATIONS ON "CHANGE."**

A General Decline in Stock Quotations—Coolers Looking Up—Firmness in Money Market.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—The reactionary spirit which prevailed during the morning of yesterday in the stock market after a brief period of higher prices during the morning due to sympathy with sugar, which advanced at