The Colonist.

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THE DAILY COLONIST

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ELECTION FORECASTS.

There is now only one more week of the election campaign and already numerous forecasts of the result throughout the province are being made. We do not see how any accurate forecast can be made with new lists, new constituencies and a new alignment of parties, by the ordinary methods of political computation. There are a few constituencies in which it may be said for certain that a candidate on the one side or the other will be elected or defeated. But as to the general result forecasts based upon previous action, or an imperfect canvass, are only blind guesses in the dark, and are not worth the paper on which they are printed. But at the same time there are other considerations which make a sweeping Conservative victory a fair anticipation. The Conservative party has a brighter and more united lot of candidates in the fields. It is showing some of the elements of a political party in the field. Its candidates are not men carrying on guerilla warfare in their separate sections, but a solid battalion united by a common purpose and conscious of a common aim. As such they have a great advantage over their opponents. Where is there one campaigner in the Liberal ranks whose voice is carrying beyond the limits of his own municipality? The organ of the Liberal party, which might be expected to rally the forces of Liberalism upon some general principles of action, seems to be making its campaign largely upon personal record of one of the candidates in municipal affairs. True, by doing so the Times is daily improving Mr. Hayward's chances of heading the poll. The general consensus of opinion in this city is that in his municipal career Mr. Hayward showed brains, energy, public spirit and administrative capacity. And there are others besides Conservatives who resent that a man so much respected, one who has deserved so well of his fellow-citizens, should be abused and vilified simply because he has taken such a part as his opinions justify him in taking, in party politics. It is not, however, the unfairness of this campaign, but its poverty of idea to which we wish to draw attention. The Liberal-Conservative party in British Columbia is not bound up in the personality of Mr. Charles Hayward. We do not believe that, outside the city of Victoria there are two Liberal-Conservatives who would care a button whether Mr. Charles Hayward of Victoria was elected or not, provided some other good Conservative were elected in his place. Yet, according to the Times apparently, the Liberal party in British Columbia is bound up in opposition to the personality of Mr. Charles Hayward of Victoria. That is beginning to dwarf all other issues in its columns, and it is supposed to be the chief organ of Liberalism in British Columbia. We are justified surely in inferring from such a poverty of campaign material an inability on the part of the Liberal party to attract enough voters to ensure it of a majority. Another of the great stock in trade arguments of the Liberal party is the dredge King Edward. The persistence of this machine in politics is one of the most laughable things we ever heard of. A mud dredge has apparently been elevated as the sacred symbol of all that Liberalism can do in the field of politics. That ponderous engine for the manipulation of mud heeds the beck and call of Mr. Riley as Caliban bowed before the magic wand of Prospero. We have heard of "parish pump" politics as a metaphorical expression; but the Liberals of the city of Victoria come near to its literal acceptation, and the dredge King Edward is their parish pump beyond which their ideas do not stray. The disunion of their candidates and the pettiness of their campaign constitute good grounds for the anticipation that the Liberals will meet with a general rout throughout the province. There is another general ground, however, from which the same inference can be drawn. It is the noticeable reaction against the larger ideas of Liberalism visible generally throughout the West of Canada which this attempted absorption in petty local issues is designed to cover. The West of Canada is sick of the treachery, dissimulation and tergiversation of the Liberal party. It is sick of that party's broken promises and sectional indifference to the needs of the West, and it proposes to take every means in its power of registering a most emphatic protest. It has already done so in Manitoba, and it will do so in British Columbia no later than this week. It would not by any means surprise us to see the Liberal party annihilated in British Columbia on the 3rd of October, although that is perhaps too much to hope for, or upon any basis of reasonable anticipation to expect. But there are currents of common feeling and unanimity of sentiment which sweep through the length and breadth of a country and of which careful observers may dimly grasp the intention. Such a current is sweeping through the West of Canada, and it bodes no good to the party that has systematically broken its promises to the West and betrayed the confidence of the people.

THE HOTEL CONTRACT.

We hope the Hotel contract is satisfactory to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. It is quite satisfactory to the citizens of Victoria. They have shown that in a way about which there can be no mistake. There is a political lesson about this transaction which should be laid to heart by the government and people of British Columbia. It is that where it is necessary to deal with corporations it is better to deal with them directly and not through intermediaries. This hotel contract was arranged between Sir Thomas Shaughnessy for the C. P. R., and the city of Victoria as directly as any such matter could be arranged. The result is a mutually satisfactory agreement. A responsible corporation has agreed to build a tourist hotel, and the hotel will be built. The moral is that when a corporation wants anything from British Columbia, or when British Columbia wants anything from a corporation, the more direct and open the dealing is between the two, the more likelihood of a successful result. For the transaction of bona fide business there is no need of intermediaries, grafters and lobbyists. The people of British Columbia do not require to be bribed, bullied or cajoled into a deal which is good for themselves, just because it is going to be good for somebody else. They look to their own interest. They do not blame other people for doing the same.

We learn that Mr. Hickey's candidature in Alberni is regarded as a joke. It is a joke which is keeping Mr. William Wallace Bruce McInnes at home to ponder over. He will see the full humor of it in rather less than a week.

The Times puts the extraordinary statement into the mouth of C. H. Lugrin that in Nanaimo and Newcastle the Conservatives are in the field in the hope of electing a Socialist. In Newcastle and Nanaimo the Liberals offered to help to elect a Conservative if the Conservatives would help to elect a Liberal. In Grand Forks and Greenwood the Liberals offered to elect a Socialist if the Socialists would help to elect a Liberal. The result of the four compromises would have been two Liberals, one Conservative and one Socialist. Funny people these Liberals, are they not? The result of the elections will be four Conservatives in the four constituencies, no Liberals and no Socialists. The Liberals must think the Conservatives as deficient in gray matter as they are themselves superfluously supplied with brass.

A very acute analysis divides British politicians into preferentialists, headed by Mr. Chamberlain; retaliationists, headed by Mr. Balfour; wobblers and free traders, or rather free importers. The Imperial idea bulks largest in the minds of the first, is less prominent in the minds of the second, struggles to overcome free trade prepossessions in the minds of the third and is non-existent in the minds of the fourth. It is easy to see that the parties will finally resolve themselves into Imperialists and anti-Imperialists, that the latter will be immediately successful, but that the former will eventually triumph. They have possession of a formative idea making for the development of the British Empire as an organic unity. The anti-Imperialists are obstructers of growth, and as such in the course of time must give way in their opposition to what has to be.

Mr. R. L. Drury has given his reason for entering the provincial campaign as a candidate for Victoria city. He has entered the fight "from a sense of duty and because there was need of self-sacrifice in the interests of the people." These are high motives and noble sentiments. Unfortunately they appear in Mr. Drury's mind to be based upon the conviction that he is himself an honester man than his opponents; because later in his speech he told the electors that it was their opportunity in the words of Oliver Cromwell, "to make way for honester men," by which he could only have meant himself as he was asking the electors to turn down his opponents and elect himself. Now we should like a few particulars as to the specific way in which Mr. Drury is sacrificing himself as a candidate in this election. We can assure Mr. Drury that the general estimate of him by the people of this city, one in no way dishonorable to him, is entirely erroneous if he is making any sacrifice in allowing himself to be nominated as the candidate of his party. He is regarded as a bright young man, who, in the pursuit of an honorable ambition, is endeavoring to advance his own career, and his view of the interests of his country, by participating in politics. The common understanding is not by any means that Mr. Drury is in any way sacrificing himself. Of course, the common understanding is often wrong in such matters, but we are quite sure that the electors of Victoria are most unwilling to accept any serious sacrifice from Mr. Drury. They look upon election to representative office as an honor bestowed, not as a favor received, and can be trusted to relieve anyone who regards a nomination as a question of self-sacrifice from any necessity of completing the oblation. As for the Cromwellian flourish about "honester men" we are willing to believe that to have been a mere piece of rhetoric, referring in a vague way to these "Conservative rascals" and "pure Liberals" and that Mr. Drury did not intend to assert that he is himself an honester man than Mr. Hayward, Mr. Helmcken, Mr. Hunter or the Hon. A. E. McPhillips. But if we were not thus generous to Mr. Drury, his language would contain a very improper personal implication. We dislike and abhor personalities in politics, and we are quite sure Mr. Drury does not consider himself an honester man than the good men we have named. So we let it go at that. But this idea of Mr. Drury's self-sacrifice is rather different. It is altogether too good of him. We suppose, if he insists on continuing to sacrifice himself till October third, we will just have to put up with it, but we hope he will be relieved of the necessity of making further sacrifices after that date.

The Liberal party is, as usual, yapping blue ruin to the province of British Columbia if the Conservative party is returned to power. But it does not do to take the Liberals too seriously. Everyone of them will be sunning himself in prosperity as soon as the country has shown its intention of returning a stable Conservative government to power. But it will be a prosperity they have to work for, and not one they will be able to enjoy through the tax eating proclivities they betray whenever they get the opportunity.

REVOLUTION IN SIGHT.

For at least a hundred years the relations between the Crown in Great Britain and the Crown's confidential advisers have been shrouded in secrecy. The general principles which govern that intercourse are well understood, and long established. But the personal opinions of no British monarch have ever been divulged by himself or betrayed by others. The King accepts and acts upon the advice of his minister. Whether he ever exerts any influence in deciding what that advice shall be, is a matter which depends upon his personal character and the amount of deference which his individuality commands, apart altogether from the prerogative of his position. The minister of the Crown must assume the entire responsibility, and if he permits the Crown to overrule his judgment, he does so entirely at his own risk and responsibility. All this we learn is now to be changed. We learn that King Edward "has spent the last few days in constant conference with Mr. Balfour as to the advisability, from the point of view of the welfare of the nation, of the latter's suggested appointments." "To such an extent," we are also told, "is the King holding his power of veto in reserve that he is now almost regarded by the inner circles as more the cabinet maker than Mr. Balfour himself." Now, we should like to know who it is who has given away the substance and character of Mr. Balfour's conferences with the King. It is not likely that it has been Mr. Balfour. The only supposition upon which he could do so, would be that he was trying to shift responsibilities on to King Edward's shoulders. The idea of such a thing is too inexpressibly comic to be soberly suggested on the part of a British Prime Minister. It must then have been King Edward himself. We are reduced to supposing that King Edward's deadly purpose is to subvert the British constitution, and take his ministers under his personal supervision after the American model, and that he has chosen as his confidant an anonymous American journalist. Why do we say "American" journalist? For this reason. The correspondent from whom we are quoting speaks of the King as "holding his power of veto in reserve." Now, that is an impossible expression in British constitutional politics, while it is an expression common and with a defined meaning in American politics. The British sovereign has a right to request the exclusion from the cabinet of any person personally objectionable to him, but not objectionable on the grounds of the sovereign's views of national policy. And there are occasions in which personal objections would almost necessarily have to be suppressed. However, there is something which might be expressed as a "power of veto," but only by a person from another hemisphere. The expression is an attempt to express something with which the writer is not familiar, in terms of something with which he is familiar, and, therefore, we conclude with certainty that King Edward's confident on this occasion is an American journalist. What then? Well, we are asked to believe that an extremely popular, and extremely tactful monarch is taking advantage of a parliamentary crisis to substitute a personal for responsible and constitutional government, and is inspiring an inkling of his intentions in the newspapers of the United States. The request for our belief of any such thing is made in vain. We do not believe that King Edward is repeating, or is at all likely to repeat, the errors of King George the Third, and we do not believe that if he had any such intentions he would choose this particular method of divulging them. To an analytical mind the idea is simply a stupid absurdity. But there is more than absurdity in it. It is being assiduously circulated in more than press despatches, that King Edward is ready to trespass upon the limitations of a constitutional monarch. It is a dangerous idea to get abroad which, without having any foundation in fact whatever, might nevertheless threaten the balance of the British constitution. Some ingenious people have put forward as a political speculation, a resort to the Crown as a means of escape from the occasional tyranny and general inefficiency of government by departments, which parliament is yearly showing itself less capable of controlling. But that way is barred. It is impossible to put back the clock. Still, the inefficiency of parliament, and the speculations to which it has given rise, are no doubt the inspiring source of the grotesque absurdities regarding the conferences at Balmoral which come to us by way of news.

MR. CHARLES HAYWARD.

It is the misfortune of a strong individuality to meet with personal emnity and opposition when it happens to be exerted in directions unpleasing to people of smaller scope. Only upon that consideration can we explain the series of virulent attacks made upon Mr. Hayward by the Times newspaper. The curious thing about it is that it was only when the Liberal party, or rather the Liberal clique which claims to speak for the party, made a deliberate attempt to capture the municipal machinery of Victoria in view of forthcoming Dominion and provincial elections, that the demerits of Mr. Hayward became visible to the organ of that clique, the Times newspaper. Prior to that Mr. Hayward was an honor to his city and a capable administrator of its affairs. Since that time he is a man who cannot be expected to stick to facts and we know not what else is repulsive and mean. Now what we should like to know is whether it is Mr. Hayward who has changed, or whether it is the attitude of the Times newspaper towards Mr. Hayward which has changed? We find that the fact that the Times is now opposed to Mr. Hayward on political issues has entirely changed the estimate held by that newspaper of his personal character. We are bound to conclude that that newspaper's estimate of a man's personal character depends entirely upon whether it agrees or disagrees with him on politics. Political opinion as the touchstone of moral rectitude and good citizenship is something we refuse to recognize. We imagine that the people of Victoria in general refuse to recognize it as any criterion either, whether they are Liberals or Conservatives. To flog political opponents with scurrility is a justifiable cause of resentment to all good citizens. Is it because the Liberal clique in this city have always refused to play the game with dignity and good temper that they have never been able to play it with success?

ON RECORD.

The Laurier government is on record on the question of employing Mongolian labor on railways subsidized from the taxes of the people of Canada. In committee on the Grand Trunk Pacific Bill, Mr. Bennett, one of Mr. Borden's lieutenants who accompanied his leader to British Columbia last year and saw what conditions were in this province, moved an amendment debarring Chinese from labor on the Western section of the railway. Mr. Bennett was supported by Mr. Macpherson, of Vancouver, but Mr. Macpherson was not supported by the party in whose interests he was elected to parliament. He suggested that the amendment be made to apply to Japanese as well as Chinese. THAT AMENDMENT WAS SUPPORTED BY THE ENTIRE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, AND WAS VOTED DOWN BY A SOLID VOTE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY NOW IN CONTROL OF PARLIAMENT. Mr. Macpherson was the only Liberal who raised his voice in support of the amendment. The provincial Liberal party is today tied hand and foot to the Ottawa government. Mr. Macpherson was no doubt allowed to support this amendment in the knowledge that it would not be carried. But there was nothing to compel the members of the Conservative opposition to vote for this amendment. Yet they did so. The Conservative party stands for the retention of Canada as a white man's country, and has made a party question of it. It was one of the most momentous divisions in Canadian history, and, as usual, it is the good old national party that, awake to this Western issue, has decided to stand for our country as the heritage of our own people.

It appears more than likely from present appearances that British Columbia will reject the Liberal party as emphatically as did the province of Manitoba. No Conservative has dared to prophesy, or do more than hope for so sweeping a victory. There are twenty-two seats that are Liberal-Conservative certainties, and the Liberals know it quite as well as we do. No one who is in the serious business of politics on either side has ever denied that anything short of a miracle could prevent the Conservatives from carrying those constituencies. The fight rests entirely upon the other twenty, and present indications go to show that the Liberal-Conservative candidates will carry the majority of those. Naturally, a party that goes into a fight with a certainty of being sustained stands a very good chance of being sustained by an enormous majority. There are a few Liberal candidates who will be elected on local considerations, but they are very few. The number of men to whom the Liberals can point as certain winners is limited in the extreme. The number of men to whom the Conservatives can point as certain winners gives them a clear majority of the next legislature. Of course, our Liberal friends will say that is merely the "bluff" put up by every political party on the eve of an election. Let it be regarded as such. We do not care. So far as our information serves us, the Conservative party has a certainty of the majority of the members of the next legislature, and the probabilities are that they will elect so many members as to practically annihilate the Liberal party in British Columbia.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

To the Editor.

SIR:—I have awaited several days in the expectation that some courageous member of the civil service would have replied to Colonel Gregory's most uncivil and totally uncalled-for attack upon that body, as published in your report of his speech. Their reticence is probably due to the fact that a member of the service who would have the temerity to resent the aspersions cast upon them would be marked for dismissal when opportunity offered for so doing. Having formerly occupied a place in the service, I quite understand the humiliating position they occupy in being unable to defend themselves without serious sacrifice, for no matter how valuable or faithful their services may have been to the province during a long period of years, this would count for nothing with the small-minded politician once he had attained to power. There now being no substantial reason why I should remain silent, on behalf of the service, in which I held but a modest place, I beg to unqualifiedly assert that Colonel Gregory's strictures are both cowardly and undeserved. Cowardly, because he was fully aware that no civil servant, for the reason advanced above, would dare to defend himself, and undeserved because untrue. It is all very well for Colonel Gregory to deny that he uttered the language imputed to him, and endeavor to place the blame on the reporter. It is as contemptible and on a par with his attack on the civil service. There are any numbers of those present who will vouch for the correctness of the report, but the general condemnation he has received has compelled him to take this method of "crawfishing." It is the prevailing opinion among small-minded politicians that when anyone from choice, Hobsonian, or otherwise, takes a position in the civil service he thereby surrenders his individuality. He is not expected to hold or express an opinion on public questions. He is, in fact, becomes a nonentity among his fellows, the meanest of whom may, like Colonel Gregory throw at him any kind of insulting epithet or criticism. The penalty for any independence on his part in thought or act would cause his dismissal by the aforesaid small-minded politician, if he were in power. Colonel Gregory knowing this position of affairs and being among the aforesaid class, has wantonly bespattered them with the vials of his wrath. Smarting from the unhealed wounds of political defeats, and armed with slanderous invective, he rushes bravely to the attack of the defenceless. Reform of the civil service is ever a stock cry of the politician on the "outside," while his real motive is his desire to get on the "inside" and secure the patronage of the government or some position in the service that he covets. If I remember aright, it is not so many years ago that Colonel Gregory charged and was paid $900 for acting for the Crown in a criminal case, taking less than a week of his time. Here is an excellent instance for him to quote of reckless waste of public money. Is there any individual outside the legal union who will not agree that in this instance he was wofully overpaid? Contrast this payment with the salaries paid experts in the civil service—the Deputy Attorney-General, the Deputy Finance Minister, the King's Printer, the Superintendent of Education and others—any one of whom is the peer of the fiery Colonel in point of ability. Perhaps the memory of this fat fee is the basis of the Colonel's anxiety to "turn the rascals out," and again place himself and his friends on the "inside." Whatever his motive, every fair-minded man condemns him for his utterance against the civil service, among them many Liberals, who would have been glad indeed if he had betaken himself the tall timber while at Chemainus the other day, and remained there until after the election. It is stated that Colonel Gregory took occasion on the street to apologize to H. D. Helmcken, K. C., whom he also slandered while giving vent to his spleen during this remarkable speech. Such apology is on a par with the regret of the man who threw a brick at another and seriously injured him. It is now up to the Colonel to apologize to the civil service, and like the fool in the gun accident, claim he "didn't know it was loaded." That there is room for re-arrangement and greater economy in the civil service will be granted by all having acquaintance therewith. This condition of affairs is no fault of the civil servants, and under a wise Conservative regime will, without question, be remedied; and that such a government will be returned to power on the 3rd of October is almost as certain as the date of the election.

APPLES.

CRINGE OR GET HURT.

We observe that Alderman Cameron is the first of the Liberal candidates to make use of the argument "cringe to Ottawa or get hurt" style of argument in this campaign. He instanced the Songhees reserve question, indicating apparently that the reason why it is taking long to settle is the fact that Ottawa under the control of the Liberal party, could not be expected to be just and fair, and expeditious in its treatment of any province whose government was not controlled by the same party also. That appears to us to be the obvious inference from his remarks, and indeed we have often heard a similar argument before. But in this particular instance, and in this particular campaign it has a special interest, for it means that if the Liberal party is returned, this province will cease to demand justice from the Ottawa government, and begin to ask for favors instead. The first thing the province would have to do would be to cease to advocate the Natal Act and its right to pass such legislation if it chooses. In return for the sacrifice of a great principle of policy on which everyone in the province is agreed, we might be justified in asking a few even more extensive favors than the presence in our harbor of a dredge. This is an attitude towards politics so contemptible that we do not know how to characterise it. We do not believe there is one elector in British Columbia whose vote would be influenced by considerations of that character. If there is, we have never met him in a somewhat extensive political experience. We have often met electors who thought that other electors would be influenced by them, but never one of whom we thought so little as to imagine that he would be so influenced himself. This programme of submission to the Liberal party because it controls the government at Ottawa, and not because it recommends itself to the people of British Columbia, is one upon which we should like Mr. Joseph Martin to make a specific and definite statement during this campaign. We had it reported that his speech in New Westminster was tame. We believe the report. It must have been tame, when he either cannot say what he thinks, or has in a most sudden fashion changed the root principles of his political career. We should like also to have his unreserved opinion as to how the Liberal party is going to win in this campaign when it has abandoned any definite stand upon provincial policy, and when half its candidates are not merely ready to be subservient to Ottawa, but are advocating such subserviency as the main reason for their election, and also what good it would be to the province, or to anybody, if the Liberal party did win. Granted that Clifford Sifton now controls the provincial Liberal party in the interests of the Ottawa government and has broken its back, is that any good reason why the people of British Columbia should allow the Liberal party to control the provincial government and thus do away with all possibility of independent action? We have had personalities and trivialities enough and to spare already in this campaign. But this is neither a personality nor a triviality. It is the crucial point, the central principle of British Columbia politics. Are we to assist the gradual absorption of all the material functions of government by the Ottawa parliament from which we live at a long distance, and in which we are feebly represented, and the rapidly expanding prerogative of the Dominion government? Or are we to jealously preserve the right to independent action in provincial matters of our local legislature, as the only means by which the province can be harmoniously developed in accordance with the wishes of its people and the true principles of representative government? That is the issue of Provincial Rights, and it is the issue of this campaign. It is taken between the provincial Conservative party and the provincial Liberal party. At the very outset of the campaign we stated it as clearly as we could, and demanded from the Liberal party a definite statement of its position. That statement has never been forthcoming. The Liberal party attempts to obscure and evade this issue, but it cannot obscure it in the minds of the people of British Columbia descending upon personalities or the discussion of parish pump politics. Politics is not the science and art of personal popularity, but the triumph or defeat of ideas, and the definition of legislative development in the personal province of British Columbia to remain a purposeless concatenation of geographical sections and warring factions paralysed by mutual hate, incapable of accomplishing anything themselves, and at last, in the indifference of impatience, falling under the control and direction of a cabinet at Ottawa, or is it to round out within its own boundaries a noble provincial development securing equality, freedom, and prosperity to all sectional and class interests? To these questions the Liberal Conservative party gives one answer, and the Liberal party another. Their answers are in accordance with their traditions, principles and methods. There is the issue upon which the electors of British Columbia have to vote. The Liberal party's stand is shown by the lack of unity and agreement among its candidates to which we have repeatedly drawn attention, it is shown also in its attitude to the policy of the Ottawa government in relation to the matters of our province, a policy which it dare not attack, yet cannot defend. Let those who would betray the province vote for the Liberal party. There are loyal and true men enough in British Columbia to decide the fight.

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RISIBILITIES.

Little Ozro—Paw, what is a chamber of horrors? Farmer Bentover—Wa-al, good land, Ozzie! Don't you know what your maw's spare bedroom looks like?—Puck.

How it happened: Rooney—Where did ye git th' black eye, Moike? Clancy—Why, Tim Dolan's just back from his honeymoon—an' 'twas me advised Tim 't git married.—Judge.

Nodd—I told my wife to let me know at least a week ahead when she was coming back to town from her vacation. Todd—Why so far ahead? Nodd—I wanted a chance to get back myself.—Ex.

Brannigan—The doctor told me to get a porous plaster for me stomach. Druggist—Yes, sir; what sort do you want? Brannigan—'Tis little I care what sort it is so long as 'tis aisily digested.—Catholic Standard and Times.

"Language was given for the concealment of thought," quoted the wily citizen. "That is perfectly correct," answered Senator Sorghum; "if every man voted the way he talks we'd have all kinds of reform in no time."—Washington Star.

"Mr. Nozzleton," she said, "if you try to hug and kiss me again I shall call papa." "Where is your father?" he asked. "He's in the Yellowstone Park, and will be beyond mail or telegraphic communication for three weeks."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The man with the most gigantic correspondence is the Czar of Russia, who, if he read all the communications that are addressed to him, would have no leisure from one week's end to the other. Five hundred letters, exclusive of something like a hundred petitions from people with grievances, reach His Majesty daily. The contents of all these effusions are carefully noted by the secretaries, who have strict injunctions to inform His Majesty of every complaint lodged by a Russian subject, be a man of peace or a Nihilist.

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