

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1897. THE ORIENTAL LABOR BILL.

The statement is made in regard to the Oriental labor bill, on the strength of an Ottawa telegram, that Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney withheld his consent either of his own motion or because of the advice of the provincial ministers. This may, perhaps, be the subject of some observations from the Lieutenant-Governor, but he is absent from the city and it is therefore impossible to learn if he has anything to say on the subject. We can speak with positiveness and say that he did not act upon the advice of his ministry. The Ottawa telegram says that he did consult the federal authorities and was informed that they could do nothing until the matter came before them in an official way. If this is true, and we are very much of the opinion that it is not the whole truth, the Lieutenant-Governor took the only course open to him, and that was to throw the whole responsibility upon the shoulders of the Dominion government. The question involved is of more than provincial interest. It touches the relations between Canada and two friendly nations. If the bill had become law it certainly would have led to controversy with the Japanese government. Under these circumstances, the bill was peculiarly one for the federal authorities to pass upon, and while it may be quite possible that the Minister of Justice declined to give the Lieutenant-Governor explicit instructions in the premises, it is quite supposable that he conveyed the impression that the ultimate fate of the bill was a matter of doubt. It is easy to understand the Lieutenant-Governor's position. Here was a bill which was not of emergent character. It would not make much difference whether it came in force in May or September. Its purpose was of such a nature that if he permitted it to come in force, it might be disallowed. He communicated with the Dominion authorities, and while he may have received no direct instructions in the premises, he was given to understand that the fate of the bill is an open question. Under these circumstances his wisest course unquestionably was to reserve his assent. The measure is now before the Dominion government. If that body believes the law to be one that ought to come in force, it can bring it into force at any time. The Times has invented a story about a report being circulated from Victoria that the Lieutenant-Governor had been instructed from Ottawa in the premises, and calls the circulation of such a report "a crooked proceeding." Nobody ever heard of any such report. At the time it was stated in the Colonist that presumably the Lieutenant-Governor was acting under instructions. This was a plain inference, and we shall hesitate about believing that it had not a good foundation.

CANADA'S EAST DOMAIN.

Reference was made in the COLONIST a few days ago to the pamphlet issued by Col. Harris, in which he said, among other things, that Churchill, on Hudson's Bay, would one day be a great city. A statement of this kind is apt to be received by every one with a great deal of incredulity, so contrary is it to our preconceived notions. Yet there is nothing intrinsically improbable in it. The surprise, when the facts of the case are investigated, is that such a possibility should not long ago have been recognized.

Corresponding in some respects to Hudson's Bay is the Baltic Sea, and its arms, the Gulfs of Bothnia and Finland. Hudson's Bay is much the larger, being more than three times as great as the European sea. It lies for the most part in a more southerly latitude. James Bay, which is the southern extremity of Hudson's Bay, reaches more than two degrees further south than the Baltic Sea, and the northern boundary of the Canadian inland sea is nearly three degrees south of the northern extremity of the Gulf of Bothnia, which is the northern extension of the Baltic. The greatest breadth of Hudson's Bay, i.e. at Fort Churchill, is approximately at 58° N. latitude, which is south by at least one degree of the Gulf of Finland. The navigation of the Baltic is interrupted by ice for from three to five months every year, that of Hudson's Bay is certainly not more interrupted. The great difference between the two inland seas is that while the entrance to Hudson's Bay, though wide, is at its northern extremity, that to the Baltic, though tortuous and narrow, is at its southern extremity. But both are interfered with to a considerable extent by ice, although that of the Baltic is very much less so than that of Hudson's Bay. All the harbors of the Baltic are usually completely blocked with ice from the latter part of December to early in April, but sometimes the ice forms earlier and continues later. From this comparison it will be seen that Hudson's Bay possesses advantages quite equal to those enjoyed by the Baltic Sea, and that its communication with the ocean, though open for a shorter period than that of the Baltic, is quite as safe. Hence there are no reasons on the point of navigation why an extensive commerce should not be built up on Canada's great inland sea. The drainage basin of the Baltic is 200,000,000 square miles, and that of Hudson's Bay is 1,000,000,000 square miles. The population of the Baltic basin is 100,000,000, and that of Hudson's Bay is 1,000,000. The climate of the Baltic basin is temperate, and that of Hudson's Bay is arctic. The soil of the Baltic basin is fertile, and that of Hudson's Bay is sterile. The commerce of the Baltic basin is extensive, and that of Hudson's Bay is limited. The future of the Baltic basin is bright, and that of Hudson's Bay is dark.

more than one-third the area of that of Hudson's Bay. It is described as being "remarkable for the small proportion of its area that consists of mountainous country," and as "consisting of land of no considerable elevation, which slopes down gradually to its coast line, and of which a large proportion is covered by lakes." This description suits the drainage basin of the Hudson's Bay as well as if it were written for it. In a general way the mean annual temperature of the two areas is much the same, but the land surrounding Hudson's Bay is probably a little colder in winter and a little warmer in summer than that surrounding the Baltic; but the greater cold of the winter is not to be taken for granted. Dr. Robert Bell, in his last report on the land around the head of James Bay, describes a country not greatly dissimilar to Prussia in climate and productions. It is a little more southerly than most of Prussia. The coast of Hudson's Bay is quite equal in soil and climate to the Baltic coast of Sweden and Russia, and the prairie lands of Canada lying between Hudson's Bay and the Rocky Mountains extend to the provinces of Russia lying between the Baltic and the Ural Mountains. Yet these Russian provinces contain more than 45,000,000 people. Let us make a few comparisons:

Stockholm lies in the same latitude as Churchill. It has more than 160,000 population, and is the seat of wealth, culture and refinement, and the headquarters of a great commerce. St. Petersburg lies still further north, and has a population of 700,000. Moscow lies more than a hundred miles further north than Prince Albert, N.W.T., and Nijni Novgorod is further north still. Berlin with its million people is in the latitude of Edmonton. A hundred million people live in the drainage basin of the Baltic, which, as has been said above, is only one-third as large as the great Canadian area included in the drainage basin of Hudson's Bay.

Facts such as the foregoing are certainly calculated to challenge public attention. They not only show that Col. Harris has expressed as the possible future of Churchill, but they give us new ideas of the almost infinite potentiality of Canada. In truth we do not as yet half understand what this great Dominion may become. We only know that it is equal in area and greater in natural resources than all that part of Europe which gave to the world its conquering races, and to-day is the home of at least five of the great nations.

NO DISPUTE ABOUT YUKON.

In the Seattle Times there is an interview with one of the agents of the Alaska Commercial Company, in which occur the statements that the British government is endeavoring to get possession of the Yukon, and that the Duke of Teck's company has made application to that government for certain rights in that district. We are surprised that in so well-informed a paper as the Seattle Times such extraordinary misstatements should be made. Only on Saturday the Seattle gentleman said in the Colonist office that he supposed the ownership of the Yukon gold fields depended upon the settlement of the boundary question. Such misconception of the plain facts of geography, as is exhibited in the cases just mentioned is the cause of much of the animosity displayed in the United States against Great Britain. During the Venezuelan dispute some sensational writers saw their opportunity to earn a few dollars by sending East statements that were ludicrously false. As a sample we may quote the copy sent from Fort Townsend to the effect that the people of Juneau slept with loaded rifles at their side ready to resist the British redcoats, who were preparing for a descent over the mountains, and the report added that the glare of the searchlights of British gunboats on the Yukon rivalled the Northern Lights. Can the imagination conceive of more exquisite tomfoolery. Yet in more than one leading Eastern paper this monstrous rubbish was printed with "scare heads" a quarter of a column, and at least one very prominent Boston paper treated it editorially as exhibiting British greed in a new quarter of the globe. Columns of editorial appeals were written to show that just as Great Britain was seeking to acquire the territory of Venezuela because of the gold that was there, so she was seeking to possess herself of the gold fields of Alaska. Incredible as it may seem, this alleged policy of Great Britain was coupled with the known intention of the British government to adhere to the gold money standard, and the result was a series of appeals to popular passion and prejudices which one would have thought impossible in a country where the free school is everywhere found.

When will the newspapers of the United States learn that not one rod of the Yukon can be a subject of territorial dispute? The surveyors may not agree as to the location of the 141st meridian by the matter of a few feet, but this can and will be settled by observations and calculations. The exact position of a meridian cannot always be fixed with absolute precision; but when representatives of the two countries meet to fix the location of that which separates Alaska from the Yukon district, they will decide upon the meridional point, put up a monument and settle the matter,

so far as the Yukon and its tributaries are concerned, for all time to come. The open question as to the boundary between southeastern Alaska and British Columbia has not the remotest bearing upon the ownership of the Yukon. If the maximum claim made on behalf of the United States were allowed it would not affect the ownership of a square yard of land in the Yukon valley or a drop of water in the Yukon river.

We print these statements, though not with much hope that they will lead any American paper to cease publishing the ridiculous stuff which they delight in when discussing the Alaskan matter. The fact is that these papers do not want the truth. About two years ago, that is, when the discussion of the Alaskan boundary was at its height, a leading New York paper asked a Northwest newspaper man for an article on the subject. The instructions were: "Write anything you please as long as it is anti-British." The truth is not sufficient for those papers which introduce everything with half a yard of headlines and illustrate the most ordinary events with pictures that are veritable nightmares. We should have thought, however, that a paper printed on Puget Sound would not be so careless as to permit any one to say in its columns that Great Britain is seeking to get what she already owns beyond the shadow of a question. As to the statement about the Duke of Teck's company, we are not quite so much surprised, for the average citizen of the United States is in doubt whether a Canadian can sneeze without first laying a petition asking for permission at the foot of the throne.

SETTLING THE NORTHWEST.

During the last few months over three thousand Galicians have arrived in Canada and been forwarded to their future homes in the Northwest. The last party numbered 600, of whom 195 were men. They had with them over \$13,000, not a very large amount per family, but rather more than any of their predecessors had. We are not prepossessed in favor of Galician immigration. They are Slavs by nationality and have not by any means reached in their European homes that stage of advancement which is calculated to commend them as colonists in Canada. We are told that the Dominion government is averse to Japanese immigration, but fail to see wherein the Galicians are superior to the Japanese, judged from any standpoint that can be suggested.

If we are to have assisted immigration, and even on this point there is room for at least a difference of opinion, the assistance should be confined to British, Scandinavian and perhaps German immigrants. The best settlers are those from the United Kingdom. It is not very easy to get many of these just now. The English tenant farmers are at present doing pretty well, at least it is so stated by correspondents of the Canadian Commission in London. English farm laborers are, as a rule, indisposed to emigrate, according to the same authorities. There is little or no emigration from Scotland, and most of those who leave Ireland go to join friends in the United States. South Africa, the Argentine, Southern Brazil and Australia are very strong competitors with Canada for emigrants. Nevertheless the correspondents referred to think that there is a reasonably good prospect of attracting a very considerable number of first class settlers to Canada. One of them says it would be an easy matter to establish a strong Welsh colony in the Dominion.

Next to people from the United Kingdom, Scandinavians, including in that term Danes, Swedes and Norwegians, are most highly to be esteemed. In the Northwestern States there are many of these people, and excellent settlers they make. They are eager to become land owners. They are industrious, economical and adapt themselves immediately to the conditions of their new homes. The possible supply of Scandinavian immigrants is limited, although there is very little reason to doubt that if a few colonies could be located in Canada under favorable circumstances they would be soon strengthened by many of the same race from the United States. The German emigrants as a rule do not come to America for the purpose of engaging in farming. They are usually artisans or tradesmen. What we want in Canada at present is farmers. It is to the farming class that the arguments of the immigration department should be directed.

That the inauguration and carrying out of a successful immigration policy on a large scale is a matter of very great difficulty must be conceded. It would be unpatriotic to seek to interpose mere captious objections to any plan that may be tried. At the same time it is not easy to find anything commendable in an expenditure which results in dumping upon our shores a heterogeneous lot of people, who are absolutely unfamiliar with our methods of living and are utterly stolid in their mental make-up ever to learn how to adapt themselves to their new surroundings. It may be that the Galicians are better than we think they are, and that under the conditions existing in the Northwest they will greatly improve.

"Is Miss Strathearn circumspcct?" asked Miss Pert. "Circumspcct?" cried Miss Causid; "why, she won't accompany a young man on the piano without a chaperone."—Tit-Bits.

This statement is made that Sir Charles Tupper is not going to the Diamond Jubilee. From this it is to be inferred that the story about a peerage being offered him is without foundation. We are inclined to the idea that it is undesirable to create colonial peers. There is such a thing as having too many titled people in a democratic country. Say what you will, it gives a man an artificial standing to make him a knight, except in very rare cases, although, as a rule, it makes very little difference to the man himself. Sir Charles Tupper has undoubtedly earned a peerage if a Canadian can earn one. As one of the few survivors of the provincial leaders who brought about Confederation, he is entitled to special recognition. An exception might have been made in his case, but we repeat that as a general proposition the creation of colonial peers is undesirable. It is out of harmony with our social and political conditions.

The most interesting news from Greece is the statement that the British Government has ordered forty men-of-war to rendezvous at Pharum. All news from that quarter of the world must be received with a good deal of allowance; but there is some ground for believing Great Britain to be preparing for a very decided stand. Of all the European powers, her position in the Eastern Mediterranean is the strongest. She can concentrate a strong fleet and an efficient army at any point on very short notice. It is said that she can land 35,000 men at any point in Turkey, Greece, Syria and Egypt within two or three days after orders to that effect are given.

The Moncton, N. B., Transcript grows excited in its demand for the dismissal of Dominion official. It is to be hoped that wiser counsels will prevail and that the spoils system will not take deep root in Canadian politics. If a public officer becomes an active partizan he has no reason to complain of dismissal, but it is questionable if he should be dismissed in case his partizanship has not interfered with the discharge of his official duties.

The Revelstoke Herald wants a petition circulated asking the Federal government to veto the Cassiar Railway Act and the subsidy to the Coast-Cariboo railway. It also wants the government impeached. Let us be thankful that our hysterical contemporary does not ask to have somebody hanged for having the hardihood to differ with it on some public question.

GOLDWIN SMITH thinks a collision between the Kaiser and the Czar one of the possibilities of the existing political situation in Europe. One need not be an ex-Oxford professor to see that far into the European millstone. Any sort of a collision may be regarded as among the possibilities of that very much involved situation.

A WRITER in the North American Review says a part of McKinley's programme is to annex Canada. Is it? Well, a part of the Canadian programme is not to be annexed. There never was enough annexation sentiment in Canada to be worth talking about, and there is less now than ever.

The Times of this city is quite right in thinking that the next Provincial elections will not be fought on Dominion lines. The sole issue will be good government, and Mr. Turner and his colleagues can face the contest with perfect equanimity.

It is proposed to pass a law in the Transvaal imposing a penalty upon any one who makes out a note, receipt or bill in any language but Dutch. If this sort of nonsense prevails there the Transvaal will have to be snuffed out.

On June 22nd slavery is to cease in all the semi-independent states which acknowledge British control. A fitting memorial this of a reign which has been characterized by the expansion of the true principles of individual liberty.

GREENWAY'S scheme for a railway from Winnipeg to Duluth is meeting with opposition from the press all over Canada. But Sir John Macdonald once said: "You cannot check Manitoba."

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"I Am Convinced That Paine's Celery Compound Has No Equal."

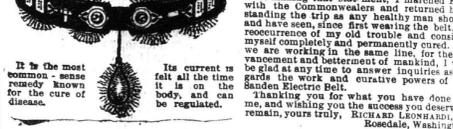
The Only Medicine that Produces Positive and Permanent Cures.

The declarations above are made by Mr. Charles B. Holeman, 202 King street, West Hamilton, Ont., a young man known to hundreds in the ambitious city. Mr. Holeman's declarations are honest and from the heart. After a siege of sickness and failure with other medicines, friends who had been cured by Paine's Celery Compound recommended him to use the same life-saver and health restorer. Mr. Holeman, who had been so often deceived, had yet faith to do as he was advised, and a glorious reward was his. The dangerous cough, his debility, his weakness and depression of spirits that were dragging him to the grave were all banished, and he was made a new man. He writes about his cure as follows:

"In the spring of 1895 I was troubled with a cough, debility, and general depression of spirits. During the summer and autumn I used a number of medicines, but received no benefit from them. About the beginning of November I was advised to use Paine's Celery Compound. I procured the preparation and began to use it with the intention of benefiting myself. After using several bottles of this wonderful medicine, that no other can compare with it in any respect. 'I am now a changed man; my health is renewed, depression of spirits is gone, my appetite is good, and I sleep well. I will always gladly say a good word for Paine's Celery Compound.'

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NEWS OF THE

Romantic Story of Gold Deposits Takooch

An Old Murder Case Japanese Visits at Westminster

(Special to the Colonist) VANCOUVER, May 31. Ingoulet left yesterday for to inquire into the rich strike made in the mill. A bank official handed two or three dollars and an entering man lying on the bank in the cabin was much excited. Questioned said that the thing for several he had the appeal demented. The variation turned on much agitated and over again. "I've found it!" He finally returned in the cabin and pulled and cubby holes many men of free milling gearist was there. The of the vein. He decli wide and the ore glit like a case full of jews some difficulty that it induced to get a curson boat and cover. Before the taken off the maseen by a COLONIST riddled around and gold as if bound with woven golden cord. The specimens of the kind cover if not in Ame is dead white, which is very attractive. The out of two claims only ery being made, how wind of it and staked vicinity.

The Governor-General Christ church, for the two dozen copies of the containing the Psalm Canticles and Hymn printed for chanting. Mr. A. C. Stewart, wounded by a bullet returned from South benefited in health, assume his duties in a school. Detective William Mahoney men at spending a few days in connection with an eating case. Eight Mansell was sentenced imprisonment at Sand. Two or three Judge Campbell, of coived a letter from it was state over "Thomas Ambrose," was done by a person probe for other offences connected heretofore case. With the ho may be procured to the chief of the sought the assistance bureau. Mr. Humph that Thomas Ambro myle. He is the son of Ontario and sister-in-line Schenck, princis school, Ottawa.

WESTMINSTER New WESTMINSTER Saturday afternoon M who was terribly bu night, succumbed to a residence of her son, Armstrong. The decol lamp, and the oil cat to her clothing. Mr. to her assistance. He smothered the flamed terrible injur break, hands and eye. Owing to her years' her recovery deceased was a native but had resided in the Besides Mrs. Armist Farrer of Vancouver ceased. Mrs. Schen the wife of the Hon. Ontario and sister-in-line Schenck, princis school, Ottawa.

FORT STEELE, May 2. aster which befel the river below here sot have retarded the ad for in this district numbers of prospect coming in over the frontier, while travel from Golden is a tax tion in that direct Steele itself there are progress, those who ago noticing a man in the appearance Building is limited of lumber, and much caused by the incapac hereabouts to meet terial. Had this not buildings and half a houses would be no nearing completion. lack of hardware, a building was suspens nail; but freights forward and now, wit men are busy in all up homes and more a long ride by stage or Kallapel, and only hardy will undertake The gratifying intes Jennings that one of Wendoline, was onl in her collision with she has been dry doc whence site was anno river on the 25th. T construction is aist route, so that with better service than ev on the river. There provent in the G shape of a mail se This will mean a fast the therefore speedier tra coming from the Pa Canadian Pacific rail Properly served th