

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1899.

THE DISMISSAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The first thing that will occur to most persons on perusal of the correspondence relating to the dismissal of the Turner ministry, as laid before parliament, is that the ex-minister asked for an inquiry on personal and not on political grounds. They appear to have desired chiefly to protect their reputations from the charge of having abused or attempted to abuse their official position.

So far as these questions are concerned, they seem to be fully disposed of. Only two could by any construction, no matter how forced, be considered as an imputation upon the honor of the gentleman who were then His Honor's advisers. They were the matter of the so-called blank warrants, and the alleged advice of Attorney-General Eberts as to the necessity for the Lieutenant-Governor's signature to warrants.

In regard to the advice alleged to have been given by ex-Attorney-General Eberts, there is happily no dispute as to the facts. It is claimed by the Lieutenant-Governor and not denied by his late ministers that Mr. Eberts did direct His Honor's attention to the section authorizing the auditor to issue warrants on the advice of the Attorney-General.

The removal of these two matters from the case greatly simplifies it and leaves the constitutional question by itself to be dealt with by the people of British Columbia at the next general election. It is a question that must not be allowed to drop out of sight. The personal aspect of it has disappeared entirely, and it will be for the people of the province to say whether it is right for the Lieutenant-Governor of the province to take the administration of affairs out of their hands and force a political crisis whenever he sees fit.

OUR TRADE WITH CHINA.

We present herewith some statistics of our trade with Hongkong and China for the year ending June 30, 1898. These are the latest available, unfortunately, for a full year. The chief lesson taught by them is that this branch of Canadian commerce is only in its infancy.

Table with columns: Val., Val., Val. and rows for various goods like Gold dust, Silver, Tea, etc.

Canada to... \$18,150 \$362,481 \$148,028

Proportion fr. B.C. \$17,071 \$5,848 \$141,110

It will be observed that our trade with Hongkong is very small, which is all the more worthy of notice because very much of what Hongkong imports is sold in Southern China. It is easy to pick out lines of goods for which Canada ought to be able to find a market in Hongkong, and the same observation applies to China and Japan.

JAPANESE EXCLUSION.

Colonist readers may have gathered from what appeared in this paper that the act disallowing the Governor-General was introduced during the last session of the legislature, and that the present government were responsible for its introduction. The paragraph referring to the disallowance in yesterday's paper originally written explained this, but the portion of it mentioning the fact was unintentionally struck out in the copy, and therefore the comment was calculated to create the impression that the present government were responsible for the bill.

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A little common sense and less hysterics will settle the Alaskan boundary question to the satisfaction of all concerned, except a few people in Seattle, who fancy that their notions are so ought to be the law of the Universe.

EXCLUSION OF CAPITAL.

Our correspondent "Canadian" puts Mr. Cotton in rather a tight place over the action of the government in refusing to give free miners' certificates to incorporated companies. Mr. Cotton told a Colonist reporter that there was no reason why companies could not appoint trustees to hold licenses for them, pending the making of regulations by the government to meet their case.

It appears that the United States government lays great stress upon possession in disputed areas. Whatever may be said in regard to long continued possession, such as has been exercised at Wrangell and Juneau, there can surely be no sound claim based upon recent possession, that is any possession dating from a time since the first parties were sent out to take preliminary steps toward the delimitation of the boundary.

CONNECTION WITH VANCOUVER.

It is important, in considering the various schemes suggested for providing more rapid connection with the Mainland that the C. P. N. service and what it means should not be lost sight of. The C. P. N. is peculiarly a Victoria enterprise. By far the greater part of its stock is owned here and substantially all its disbursements are made here.

IGNORANCE RESPONSIBLE.

The attitude of the United States press in regard to the Alaskan boundary is due to the ignorance prevailing in that country of the real nature of the case. The map-makers are largely responsible for this ignorance. They have drawn the boundary line for the last fifty years from the head of Portland Canal in a great sweep to Mount St. Elias, taking care to avoid the heads of the inlets.

A TROUBLESOME PEOPLE.

Cuba is proving a source of trouble to the United States. Even the greatest enthusiasts in the cause of "Cuba Libre" are beginning to admit that they wasted their sympathy upon a worthless lot of people. The native Cuban, who is a composite creature of Indian, Negro and European blood, is usually idle, shiftless and impatient of restraint.

The United States government stands pledged not to annex Cuba. It was a foolish pledge, but the people would never have consented to the war if it had not been given. It cannot be kept. To hand the island over to the wretched people who would control it, if the strong hand of the United States were removed, would mean another civil war.

The Canadian press ought to unite in an attempt to dispel the ignorance prevailing in the United States upon this important question, for this is the principal obstacle to a just settlement of the dispute. No matter how much misapprehension the United States commissioners might have regarding the reasonableness of the Canadian claims, they will find it difficult to fly in the face of a public opinion that has been educated to think those claims to be without the shadow of a foundation in justice.

A NEW PARK.

As the Colonist has on several occasions mentioned the desirability of providing a park for the recreation of the people in the North Ward, it need hardly say now that the effect being made in that direction meets with its warm approval. Beacon Hill park is a delightful resort, but it is just a little too far away for the people in the other end of the city to derive full benefit from it, and if some arrangement can be made whereby a park can be secured in the latter portion of the city, without entailing too much taxation, we are sure it will meet with general approval.

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Advertisement for ROLLED OATS by Dixie H. Ross & Co. featuring an illustration of a person with a large sack of oats.

Advertisement for BOATING AND TENNIS FLANNELS by B. WILLIAMS & CO. listing prices for pants, jackets, and shirts.

Advertisement for COFFEES, DISCRIMINATING BUYERS, and SPICES by STEMLER & EARLE, IMPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS.

Advertisement for 'We'll Help You' by THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS COMPANY, featuring an illustration of a paint can.

Advertisement for The Columbia Flouring Mills Company, ENDBY AND VERNON, Premier, Three Star, Superfine, Gaham and Whole Wheat Flour.

Advertisement for R. P. Rittet & Co., Proprietors, Victoria, listing various services and products.

Advertisement for B.C. Year Book 1897 by R. E. GOSNELL, listing prices for cloth and paper covers.

Against Roy Comm

Lieutenant Governor His Ex-Minister's for an End

And Argues the P Letter to the Genera

From the Victoria Times.

Following is an epitome of a petition sent by Messrs. Pooley & Lord Abing to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, dated August 18, 1898.

Your petitioners were government of British Columbia on the 15th day of August, 1898. Appended to this petition which passed the House of Commons, and the petition which passed the House of Commons, and the petition which passed the House of Commons.

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