

THE NOR-WESTER. WARNER & CO., Publishers. TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1884. REPRESENTATION FOR THIS DISTRICT.

By this we do not mean representation at Ottawa, but a voice for Calgary and the country immediately tributary to it. We have been informed by good authority that preparation has already been made for this particular sub-district, and that it is only a question of a few weeks when Calgary will be erected into an Electoral District.

The council at present comprises the following members:—The Lt. Governor, Lt. Col. Richardson, Lt. Col. McLeod, ex-officio. The nominated members are:—Col. Irvine, Mr. Hayter Reed. The elected members are:—Capt. McDowell, Prince Albert; Francis Oliver, Edmonton; Mr. C. C. Hamilton, Broadview; Mr. T. N. Jackson, Fort Qu' Appelle; Mr. W. W. White, Regina; Mr. Jas. H. Ross, Moose Jaw.

It will thus be seen that Calgary has no representative, though we suppose that Mr. Oliver represents Calgary as well as Edmonton as he is the exponential sign of a thousand miles square, and when a man represents as many miles square as one thousand he must certainly include quite a district, but a readjustment of this business necessary and the NOR-WESTER calls for it more than delay. A man can represent the moon. It is well enough to divide districts into square miles when there is no population worth considering but in these days when centers of population form rapidly, something less primitive is needed than "square mile representation" in order to give people local self Government according to the Canadian idea.

THE OBJECTIONABLE CLAUSES. The clauses of the mining regulations which do not meet the approval of the miners are clauses 5, 6 and 7. These clauses read as follows:—

Clause 5.—"At any time before the expiration of one year from the date of his obtaining the agent's receipt as aforesaid, it shall be open to the claimant to purchase the location on filing with the Local Agent proof that he has expended not less than five hundred dollars in actual mining operations on the same: such proof to consist of his own sworn statement accompanied and confirmed by the affidavits of two disinterested persons, setting forth in detail the nature of such operations and the amount expended."

Clause 9.—"Provides the price to be paid for a mining location shall be at the rate of five dollars per acre, cash."

Clause 7. On making the application to purchase a mining location and paying the price therefore as heretofore provided, the claimant shall also deposit with the Agent the sum of fifty dollars which shall be deemed payment by him to the Government for the survey of his location; and upon receipt of the plans and field notes, and the approval thereof by the surveyor general, a patent shall be issued to the claimant in the form D' in the schedule hereto.

If on account of its remoteness or other cause, a mining location cannot at the time of the deposit of fifty dollars by the applicant for the purpose, be surveyed by the Government for that sum, he shall be subject to the alternative of waiting until the employment of a surveyor by the Government on other work in the vicinity of the claim renders it convenient to have the survey made at a cost not exceeding fifty dollars, or of sooner procuring at his own cost its survey by a duly commissioned surveyor of Dominion Lands, under instructions from the Surveyor General; in the latter case, on receipt of the plans and field notes of the survey and the approval thereof by the Surveyor General, as heretofore provided, the claimant shall be entitled to receive his patent, and to have returned to him the fifty dollars deposited by him to defray the cost of survey."

The exaction of an expenditure of \$500 "in actual mining operations" during the year is looked upon not only as a hardship but in most cases as an impossibility. It is contended that it compels the poor miner to sell out to the capitalists on their own terms.

So far as clause six is concerned we do not see that there is anything wrong in requiring a claimant to pay \$5.00 per acre cash. The miner should not expect the Government to give him his location for nothing. The cost of location and of improvements \$200 and \$500 each, making \$700, is not a small item. When to this is added \$50 for the survey and \$5 for entry fee, the total cost is swollen to \$755, which it must be admitted is a considerable sum for a practical miner to invest on prospects which are not always promising.

We hope the Hon. Mr. Macpherson will see his way clear to reduce the amount required to be expended during the year, and in some way modify clause 7, which at best bears heavily on a worthy class of men. It is important that the mineral wealth of the Rockies should be developed, and that every encouragement should be given to that class without which capitalists themselves would never undertake to invest a single dollar.

The HERALD is not satisfied with condemning the mining regulations in toto, but it is after Mr. Hilliard's scalp. It affirms that he does not know anything about mining or mining laws. That is too bad, but what does the writer in the HERALD know about it anyway. He is evidently jealous of Mr. Hilliard's position or he would not write in the strain that he does. We are no apologists for the mining regulations, as will appear from our own utterances, but we see nothing in the Regina Leader's prophecy to scare anyone except a tender-foot. It is not a little amusing to see our contemporary quoting the Regina Leader as an authority on mining matters. It is going a long way for news, though we suppose it was necessary for the Leader to say something about the mining regulations for appearance sake, but its predictions in this respect are not likely to be verified.

The Manitoba FREE PRESS complaining about the attitude of the Dominion Government towards that province says:—"We are told that newly formed districts in the North-west, some of which have hardly a hundred civilized men in them, and none of which have a representative in the Federal Parliament would object to the bestowal of additional territory on us." To what districts does the FREE PRESS refer? If it means this district or Saskatchewan, or even Assiniboia it is very much mistaken. The FREE PRESS is a live paper we admit, but it appears to have no idea of the rapidity with which these districts are being filled up, and the people too are just as much civilized as are any of the denizens of Main street.

Mr. Browning whose letter appears in another column, in our opinion deals with the squatter question intelligently and fairly. He says:—"Upon certain conditions stock men have no desire to interfere with bona fide settlers upon their leases, but squatters, who deliberately enter upon and take possession of the choice portions of their leases merely with the view of being bought off or selling out their pretended rights to the land we are determined to keep off and in doing so we think we are acting not only in the interest of honest settlers but of all others having a stake in our western country." Quite so, and it is the duty of the bona fide settlers to aid the lease holder in this matter. Mr. Browning does not forget to explain the "certain conditions" mentioned. He says:—"What the stockmen or lessees require,

and think they have a right to demand is, that parties desiring to settle on the leases shall first ask and receive permission to do so, and I shall say for the two companies I represent, and think I may say the same for most stockmen, that unless there are special reasons for refusing to allow their request of locating when they desire, we will not only permit them but be glad to have good industrious neighbors."

This certainly opens the door to the bona-fide settler, but not to the "speculative squatter," and it is the latter that is making most of the fuss. So far as this feature of the question as Mr. Browning puts it is concerned we are with him heart and soul and we think he makes out the case to the point and satisfactory. The other questions we shall discuss by-and-by.

The GAZETTE in a vigorous article objects to the probable reduction of rations to the Indians. It fears an uprising and an indiscriminate massacre of the whites. The picture which it draws is clothed in sunset colors, hardly more flaming than the war paint with which the savage will have to prepare himself in order to accomplish his bloody work which the apprehensions of our contemporary have circumstantially described.

Manitoba is now facing a deficit of \$200,000. A few years ago it had a cash capital of about half a million. It has now nothing but a handsome deficit, but it is better to have a deficit than nothing.

TOWN INCORPORATION. It is almost superfluous to say that the property holders and residents of Calgary are waiting anxiously for the Lieut. Governor's fiat announcing the fact of town incorporation. There has been some delay, but we suppose it has been unavoidable and therefore excusable. The necessity for immediate incorporation may be doubted by a few, but the great majority of the people consider that it is a necessary step to crystallize as it were, this settlement into an incorporated commonwealth. The charter may issue at any time now, and those who are interested in the welfare of the place should best themselves in the matter of selecting candidates for the mayoralty and the council.

The selection of candidates should not be left to any clique or corner politicians. The proper way to begin is for the people to have a mass meeting, an operation will be the best, and let the candidates be chosen in that way. The proclamation will no doubt provide for the manner of holding the official nominations, well as the elections, but this should not prevent a convention of the people before hand. Such a gathering will enable the public to see who are likely to be the best men. At all events the meeting can be held without expense. We believe there is a town committee, which has heretofore been acting in a semi official capacity. This committee could easily call a mass meeting of the people and informal nominations could be made. The public could then hear the views of the different speakers, some of whom would doubtless be candidates. No time should be lost in making preparations for the election of municipal government. The eyes of the people of the other provinces, will soon be turned here closely in this matter, and there will be some sharp criticism. The first council should be composed of the very best material that can be selected. To shape the destinies of our infant metropolis is no slight task. To begin aright is the utmost moment. Let no serious mistakes be made. Let no one be nominated just because he is Mr. So-and-So, but rather because he will make a good man for the public interest. To elect men who merely want position for the name of the thing, or to elect men who want to be elected in order to serve their own selfish interests, will be to do what cannot afterwards be undone. Those who have interests here must take hold. If they are really friends of the place as well as true to their own interests they will not hesitate. They have asked for incorporation and they will have its duties and obligations. To have these discharged in an efficient manner is the problem before the people. Let them not shrink it.

Clause 3 of the Mining Regulations is also very strongly objected to on account of the due north and south lines and the underneath boundaries. That clause reads:—"A location for mining, except for iron, or silver, lead, or ledge of quartz or other rock or place, shall not exceed forty acres in area. Its surface boundaries shall be straight due north and south, and east and west lines not more than four in number. Its length shall not be more than three times its breadth. Its boundaries beneath the surface shall be the vertical planes in which its boundaries lie."

The Winnipeg SIX asserts that there are only 35000 head of cattle on all the ranches. We don't know where the SIX obtains its figures, but it has been misinformed. There are, at present no fewer than twice that number, and a great many thousand heads now on the way. The SIX as an authority on ranch statistics is equal to the SIX on cabinet making. A change in the management will not hurt it.

It is probable that Professor Stewart of Cambridge will be Liberal candidate for Dundee, in place of Mr. Armistead. Mr. Stewart unsuccessfully contested the University against Mr. Rocks in 1872.

It is thought likely that Sir Alexander Campbell will succeed the late Chief Justice Sprague in the Court of Appeal. Sir Alexander is at present Minister of Justice, and if he desires to retire from the government of the Dominion, the vacant position of Chief Justice is open to him. It is over forty years since he was called to the bar, and over a quarter of a century since he first took part in the active politics of the country. His elevation to the Bench would be hailed with satisfaction by his many many friends. It would also open a door in the cabinet for some Ontario man to enter.—Toronto TELEGRAPH.

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