Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 2ND, 1888.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SEALERS.

A short time ago the Provincial Secretary telegraphed the authorities at Ottawa, enquiring what was being done about the Behring's Sea matter; calling attention to the refusal of the collector at this port to clear vessels for there, and urging the duty of sending a warship to protect British interests in that sea. We learn that the reply is far from satisfactory. It states that the matter is still unsettled; that sealers must go on their own responsibility, and that the Federal Government cannot guarantee protection. The latter part of the Federal answer is extremely unsatisfactory. It is a complete surprise. To be told that British subjects much go afishing on the high seas at their own risk, so far as exposure to unjustifiable and piratical seizure and plunder, committed under the flag of a professedly friendly nation, is concerned, is, indeed startling. It is a strange doctrine to emanate from "John Bull," and we cannot help thinking that, whatever sympathy it may find at Ottawa, it will meet with none at the Court of St. James. Apart altogether from the important abstract principle involved, this is a very serious question so far as this province, and more especially this community, is concerned. Our sealing fleet is now preparing to go to sea for the season's fishing, and to be told plainly that they must go on their own responsibility, that they cannot look to the great and powerful nation to which it has been their pride and boast to belong, for protection in the exercise of their ordinary and undoubted rights as subjects of that nation, is both alarming and humiliating. The seal fishing industry, although still in its infancy, is one involving hundreds of thousands of dollars to this community alone, and it may involve life too; for it does not seem unreasonable to suppose that our sealers will, under such circumstances, be driven to adopt such measures of self protection as may be within their reach, and there may arise reprisals and bloodshed, and the sleeping lion will be *compelled* to arouse itself from its present condition of somnolency.

H. M. L. OPPOSITION.

The resolution of Mr. Beaven asking that the Hon. Mr. Turner be removed from his position as an adviser of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor because of his attaching his name to a document recommending Mr. William Duncan to the good graces of the American people, was voted down by a large majority of the Legislative Assembly. Fifteen members of that body declared their confidence in the Hon. Mr. Turner while eight raised their hands against the amendment moved by the member for Kootenay, Lieutenant-Colonel Baker. The Finance Minister, of course, abstained from voting while Mr. John, whose sympathies are understood to be with Mr. Turner, was unavoidably absent. The trumpery charge made against the Finance Minister has received the treatment it merited and the Opposition move only succeeded in wasting the time of the House and bringing down its censure upon their heads. Long before the by-election when the Hon. Mr. Turner went before his constituents for re-election and was returned by a handsome majority over Hon. Mr. Humphreys, the document which has so troubled the mind of the leader of the Opposition was in the possession of the public. We had it from the best authority at the time that a gentleman who is in the confidence of the Opposition urged upon one of its leaders the advisability of making use of it then, but that gentleman said the matter was one of too little significance to parade before the intelligent electors. Notwithstanding that the facts were at the time well known, and the member for Cassiar acknowledges that he was aware of them, the electors of Victoria city showed their confidence in Mr. Turner's integrity and loyalty by sending him back to the Legislature as Finance Minister. Since then an epidemic of assumed loyalty has made ravages in the ranks of those faithful and devoted servants of the Queen—Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition. First the Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir was the object of their attack. It is true that his detractor was one who has no character to lose in this community and that several of the more honorable members of the Opposition regarded his course as an ill-advised one, but the effort to stamp the President of the Council as disloyal nevertheless was made and much of the infamy of it must attach to the Opposition as a whole. Mr. Beaven, who had a character to lose in this community, has besmirched it very greatly by following in the lines laid down by his rival in the Opposition leadership race. From him better things were expected, but as he has made his bed he must lie on it. When he again comes before the electors of this city we have every reason to believe that so far from being honored by them as he has in the past he will be relegated to private life, when he will have ample opportunity to review the incidents of this session and regret his folly in being led into making so grievous an error. The proceedings of the House, as related in another column, tell the result of his charge against Hon. Mr. Turner. It was condemned by a vote of almost two to one. As there are no other members of the Executive whom the Opposition can, by the greatest stretch of their imagination, accuse of high crimes and misdemeanors they have turned their batteries on a private member of the House, Mr. Simeon Duck, claiming that he was elected by bribery and corruption. Could madness go further! On January 25th in consequence of the resignation of Mr. Prior, Mr. Duck, the Government candidate, defeated Mr. Williams, the Opposition candidate, by 242 votes—one of the largest majorities on record in British Columbia, and yet in the face of so decisive a victory an attempt is being made to insult the manhood of this city by claiming it was bought. Three figure-heads, one of whom, if it will be believed, was recently Mayor of this city, but who dared not go before the ratepayers again for re-election, have been put up by the opponents of the Government asking an opportunity to prove that the voters of this city can be purchased like so many sheep. What a humiliating position to be placed in! What a shameful exhibition for citizens of Victoria to make of themselves! As charge number one has gone, and charge number two will go, so charge number three will only reflect in the end upon those who have brought it and destroy whatever slight feeling there may still be in favor of the Opposition here. Were it not that the legislation of the province is seriously delayed by these trivial charges, necessitating long debates in the House and the stagnation of all other business, it would be amusing to watch the antics of these political mountebanks who are making of the Legislature of this province a laughing stock in the eyes of all sensible people.

UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

Undoubtedly the most important event that occurred in 1788 was the British occupation of Australia. Before 1770 that southern continent was virtually an unknown land. And even then, Captain Cook only partially explored its eastern coast. It was not until January, 1788, that any attempt was made at colonization. On that date Captain Arthur Phillips arrived at what is now Sydney, with some 750 convicts, and first hoisted the British flag on the shores of the island continent. A century has since elapsed, and to-day Australasia is an embryo empire of 3,169,389 square miles, with an estimated English speaking population of 3,500,000—as prosperous, happy and loyal as any similar number of people under heaven. The fact is one of the most stupendous in history. Should it continue to progress in like ratio, it will have, by 1008, a population of over 200,000,000. Of course no reasonable person expects that it will have half that number; but according to Yankee methods of computing the fucure population of their country, that is what Australians would be justified in expecting a century hence. But there is no doubt that our fellow subjects under the southern cross have achieved surprising results, and have a brilliant future in store for them. On this side of the world Australia is best known as a producer of gold and wool. And unquestionably in these products she has few if any equals. Since 1851 she has produced gold to the enormous value of about $2,000,000,000 and is still producing it at a rate of $35,000,000 annually. (The estimated value of the total output of gold in the United States during the same period is $1,600,000,000, with an annual output of $33,000,000.) Of sheep she has (according to Mr. Griffin, United States consul at Sydney) 82,000,000—probably more than any other country in the world. The clip of wool in 1887 is estimated at 1,161,574 bales, of the estimated value of $132,667,000. (The Argentine Republic, her principal competitor, only produces about 241,000 bales annually.) These facts show that Australia's reputation as a producer of gold and wool rests on a solid foundation. But while, as we have said, she is most famous for these products, they are by no means her only ones. New South Wales and New Zealand are developing rapidly as wheat growing districts. Queensland already produces 60,000 tons of sugar annually, while several of the other provinces are also large producers. Grape growing is also an important industry, to which is closely allied the production of wine. The little island of Tasania exports tin to the value of $1,500,000 annually, and New Zealand frozen meat to the value of $2,000,000, while Victoria, that has adopted a protective fiscal system, has already 45,000 operatives employed in her factories. Indeed the resources and industries of Australasia are such as to render any doubt respecting her great future an absolute impossibility. But while Australasia has assuredly had a marvellously successful past, and has abundant reasons to anticipate a great future, there is no reason why Canadians should feel at all jealous of her, or shrink from comparisons with her. Take the matter of population, the increase of which in Australasia is regarded as phenomenal. The record in the southern group of colonies has been as follows:—

1788	1,030
1801	4,590
1821	31,000
1841	211,000
1861	1,265,611
1881	2,883,442
1888 (estimated)	3,500,000

In Canada, for about the same period the figures are:—

1784	156,013
1806	429,364
1844	1,697,889
1861	3,185,229
1881	4,324,810
1888 (estimated)	4,900,000

Thus, while Canada has not increased in population in quite the same ratio as Australia, she is not very far behind her. As a matter of fact the ratio of increase in both is much in excess of that in the United States, where boasting over increased population is one of the principal industries of the country. Then again in the matter of debt; that of Australasia is stated officially at £157,000,000 sterling, or over $750,000,000. The debt of Canada is $227,000,000. In the first case the debt *per capita* is $214; in the latter a little over $46. And Australasia has not as much to show for her debt as we have. At present, in all the provinces, including New Zealand and Tasmania, there are only 7,540 miles of railway in operation, while in Canada we have about 12,000 miles. In telegraphs the proportion is about the same; while of canals she has none, and we have one of the finest canal systems in the world. Of course in the production of gold and wool she far outstrips us, and is able to grow sugar cane and other tropical products, that, until we annex the British West Indies, we are under the necessity of importing from abroad. But on the other hand we (with Newfoundland) own about one-third the fish that swim in the sea, and are the fourth maritime power in the world. Taking all things into consideration, neither Australia nor Canada has any reason to complain of the heritage allotted her by the God of nations, or to feel ashamed of the measure of success she has achieved. We both possess great countries, and as important sections of a world-wide empire must gradually come to take a deeper interest in each others development and prosperity, and to regard the achievements of each as those of a common country.

A FRENCH EXAMPLE.

A French judge has been disgraced by the Minister of Justice for making use of improper means to secure evidence against prisoners charged with crimes. The act is hailed with general satisfaction by the French papers. The method pursued has not been peculiar to the judge disgraced, and it is believed that the example made will have good effect. In one case a man and woman were convicted and executed on the evidence of their six-year-old daughter, who was taken into the judge's room and persuaded, with cakes and confections, into making the admissions required. In another case a radical leader, who was accused of being concerned in an attempt to upset the government, was taken into the private room of the examining judge, where he was addressed by that official as "my dear fellow," and invited to forget for a moment that his interrogator was a judge and to talk with him freely "like two men of the world." "Suppose," said the judge, "that I were to conspire to overturn the government and you were in my place, what would you do with me?" The prisoner replied that the attempt would be of such a hair-brained character that he would be disposed to place his questioner in confinement as a lunatic. The conversation was abruptly broken off, and the following day the accused was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for having insulted a judge in the exercise of his judicial functions. The shameful revelations in the Maxwell-Preller case where a man allowed himself to be convicted of an offense in order that he might consort with the prisoner and "pump" him is only an instance of other disgraceful tactics which have been practiced in the United States and Canada. The officials who permit such a scandalous ruse ought to be treated as they do it in France. The Minister of Justice has set an example which might well be followed on this continent.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

THE ponderous Senator from Soda Creek is always "at his 'point' of duty."

IT IS a wonder John Grant did not get up and deny the imputation that he is a poet. The spirit of song is strong within him.

BY A vote of 15 to 8 the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia declared the charges of "high treason" against Mr. Turner untrue. And so ends a "tempest in a teapot."

LIFE is too short to be spent in listening to the dreary, weary speeches of the leader of the Opposition. Mr. Beaven is, after John Grant, the most *tiresome* speaker in the House.

"STRAW-SPLITTER" BEAVEN thought he had a big thing yesterday on the wording of Col. Baker's amendment. The leader of the Opposition must have been born technically. What an exhibition for the leader of a party!

MR. BEAVEN has always previously been understood to be a fairly honorable man. His character for honor has been badly soiled this session. His reply to Hon. Mr. Turner's question as to the "incidentals" of the agent-general's office placed him in a bad light before the House and country.

THE pharasaical Beaven is always prating of his desire to keep personal matters outside of the realms of political discussion. No man is more prone to this style of warfare than he. He is continually attacking members of the House privately. A case in point occurred yesterday, when Messrs. Turner, Beeton & Co.'s business affairs were made to do duty for argument.

MR. FRY put the case of Mr. Humphreys very neatly in this way. The committee occupied the position of a judge, say in a case of assault. The person who charges the assault is notified to be present and fails to attend; the person against whom the assault is alleged, however, puts in an appearance. It is then, as no evidence is forthcoming, the manifest duty of the judge to dismiss the case, and that is just what the committee did.

THE *Times* last evening stated in a "legislative note" that "the member for Comox fastened to the satisfaction of every gentleman in the House on Thursday a wilful mis-statement on the President of the Council." It is presumed this has reference to the "boodle" charge made by Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir. Far from the assemblage being convinced that the hon. gentleman had stated what was false, it was the general opinion that, as the question of truthfulness was between the two, it could only be decided in favor of the Hon. President of the Council. The latter also stated that there was an occasion coming when he would go further into details.

IT'S very well for Mr. Beaven in talking about the delay in the business of the House, to say that it costs the country little since any additional expense falls upon the members themselves. Mr. Beaven, who is comparatively wealthy, and has nothing to do, Mr. Humphreys, whose chief business is to loaf around town smoking twenty-five cent cigars, and others of that ilk can well afford to sit in the House and talk nonsense, but the majority of the members of the Assembly, who have something to do in life, and more especially the interior and mainland members, who are away from their avocations and who are put to great expense, are anxious to see the work of the Legislature expedited, not impeded by useless motions, windy talk and low invective. They are anxious to reach their homes at the earliest moment possible, consistent with the business of the Province being transacted.

WE believe we would be committing an unpardonable sin if we attempted to give the *Times* any information as to the $1,000,000 loan. The paper which gravely told us a few days ago when the public accounts were brought down that "of the million dollar loan there were £150,000 negotiated, realizing $4.85 per pound, equal to $727,500," when it was an occurrence of *ten* years ago, knows too much about the loan for us to teach him anything. We don't mind giving it a few "pointers" when it wants them; but not on the loan; oh, no!

THE leader of the Opposition seems to fuel annoyed that THE COLONIST did not notice the daily abuse which was showered upon Hon. Mr. Turner by the *Times*. There is really no ground for the honorable gentleman's disturbed feelings. THE COLONIST, like the Hon. Mr. Turner, treated the childish attempt to accuse one of Victoria's most estimable and most loyal citizens of high treason with silent contempt. The matter seemed to us to be so inordinately silly as to demand no notice on our part. The debate in the House and the decision of the House amply bear us out in the conclusion to which we came.

THE *Times* continues to stick to its mis-statement that the Hon. Mr. Robson termed Portland an "obscure" city. To any one with ordinary common sense it would seem absurd that the Provincial Secretary could make use of such a term in connection with the metropolis of Oregon. But our contemporary evidently believes in swearing to an untruth once he has uttered it. Hon. Mr. Robson has something else to do than read through the stale reports of the *Times*, and consequently had not noticed that he had been incorrectly reported. Upon his attention being called to the matter yesterday he took the earliest opportunity of rising to a question of privilege and declared that he had never said what was attributed to him. The *Times*, he said, had first misreported him and then built several articles on that foundation. The Provincial Secretary having gives his decision we freely accord the *Times* the honor it covets—that of being the "most colossal fabricator in this vast Dominion"—in fact, "the principal Ananias in this matter."

THE KOOTENAY RAILWAY.

TO THE EDITOR:—The cry of the country is for railways. Cariboo, Kootenay, Okanagon; the mining districts and the agricultural settlements, all are asking for help in providing means of transportation and travel. It is evident that the government cannot give money subsidies to all of these, and in many well settled portions of the province they have not the land to give. But in the mountains, where farming can only be done upon small and isolated patches of delta land, where travel is almost an impossibility except in the Indian canoe, or over dangerous trails where there is but little value attached to the soil except for its mineral wealth or its timber, it seems to have become a well recognized policy of our government that if lands unapproachable and almost valueless from their isolation can be used to aid in the construction of railways, it is better to let them go to the builders of the roads which create their value.

It is understood that a proposal is to be made by some of the promoters of the former Kootenay Railway Co., to again undertake the construction of a railway connecting the waters of Kootenay Lake with the Columbia River, and to establish lines of steamers upon the waters of both. By this means the ores which will probably soon be mined upon the Kootenay Lake, and in the newly discovered Toad Mountain district, will find their natural outlet by way of Revelstoke and thence over the Canadian Pacific Railway to whatever smelters may at first be erected in the province. As in the former act, this company ask for a grant of land, but the quantity of land will be considerably less than the original grant. The time in which they propose to construct the railroad and build the steamers will be placed at two years after the passage of the Bill. As the company have formerly made thorough location surveys of the line, no time will be lost in this preliminary preparation; but work will almost immediately follow the enactment of the measure should it pass. It is not proposed to reserve and lock up large blocks of land as was done before but to make some arrangement by which the railway company can take up their lands during construction, giving them no preference over other settlers. The title to these lands will convey no interest in the precious metals, and the lands will be taken in small sections instead of giving over to the company a township at a time.

It is now evident that the Kootenay district is attracting more attention at present than any of the interior districts of the province. It seems destined to be its richest mineral section. The wonderfully large coal deposits recently found in Crow's Nest Pass, which show veins of semi-anthracite and bituminous coal of excellent quality and perhaps not exceeded in size by any upon this continent, ask for assistance in finding a market. Nature seems to have provided this upon Kootenay Lake. If the lead and silver mines upon the banks of this body of water, and the rich galena and gray copper ores of Toad Mountain are to be worked within the Province, the two interests will aid each other. At a trifling expense, coal and coke can be laid down by rail on the lower Kootenay River and then will fill the greatest want which has hitherto retarded smelting operations in that region. The existence of coking coal fields within a hundred miles of Denver made that city a smelting centre of 80,000 population. A second Denver might arise in the now depopulated Kootenay.

At present this extensive region is as entirely shut off from the rest of the province as if it bordered upon the North Pole. The journey to reach it is one of time and danger. From the Columbia to the Kootenay, the miner must take the frail bark canoe, and even this he is compelled to carry on his back around three or four dangerous rapids, in one instance a distance of three miles—of course it is useless to talk of transporting supplies over this route. Therefore, the miner who visits this section is at present forced to import all goods from Washington Territory and Idaho; to employ American teams or pack trains to haul his food and tools, and to carry everything in America can boats down a long stretch of the Kootenay river. It is learned upon good authority that if the proposed Kootenay railway is dropped, an American company will at once proceed to build a branch railway from near Sand Point to the Kootenay River. If they succeed in once getting hold of the trade of that section it will be a long while before we are able to regain it. Probably a thousand miners will rush to the Toad Mountain mines early in the spring and this number may be largely increased during the summer. The business of a mining community of this size is a prize well worth striving for.

The two principal objections to the former Act were 1st—the amount of land granted—2nd granting the land in such large blocks. The amount of the grant should be materially diminished and be made in smaller sections. If this is done a Bill might be introduced which would be satisfactory to the country. It would certainly be a bad policy to refuse reasonable requests and drive away the first approach of foreign capital in the construction of provincial railways. KOOTENAY.

GORDON HEAD ROAD.

TO THE EDITOR:—Suffer me to draw attention to the deplorable state of the above road, so called, a state which has barred the development of the district, rendered living in it at times a harassing burden; food got in by pack-horses in the absence of balloons—and its staple industry—cordwood teaming suspended for months. A mill erected there is to be taken down for removal to some place with a road always available, and all this but five miles from the capital of the province in a district containing its main wood fuel supply and which apart from its charming scenery and favoring climatic conditions (sheltered by Cedar Hill, Mount Tolmie and Cadboro peninsulas) would have been long since settled up if it had but average road facility. At best the district must ever be handicapped from the unparalleled way in which the road was first laid out zigzag, doubling its distance and up and down Mount Tolmie; not once only but twice the Queen's highway, a very high way indeed, from which its designer could view his own greatness, and the administrative and engineering capacity employed for it, when it is remembered what a road is made for, and that a line over an uniform level constitutes a first essential; however, all this cannot now be altered, but the road, such as it is, could, under competent supervision, be properly mended. For instance, in places it has a magnificent width of ten feet!!! With a skilfully devised drop of two feet at its side, to break travellers' necks and prevent two wagons from passing each other, it could be properly ballasted and gravelled as Cedar Hill road was fifteen years ago, a road that never had, nor never will have, the same heavy traffic over it or importance to the city for its fuel; but patching here and there is a waste of public money. Thus last year there was the spectacle, and not a dry eye looking at it, of a couple of men—and all the way from North Saanich too—daintily filling up about half a dozen holes out of the thousands that ornament this model route. Recently the "sojers" have been surveying it, doubtless for strategic possibilities, but they will not occur if the enemy, the "spalpeens," attempt to invade the district; they will all be ingloriously engulfed in the slime and quicksands of which the highway is made, unless indeed they endeavor to accomplish their nefarious design by sailing down the road in a flotilla of mud boats piloted by some wily ancient mariner learned in all the shoals and dangers of this highway. Therefore, if those having the paid responsibility—if there be any such—in these matters, are unable or incompetent to act, nothing more remains but a Royal Commission to sit on the road with power to call for stone and gravel for its entire length.

RESIDENT ELECTOR.

P. S.—I send this by carrier pigeon.—R. E.

IMPROVE THE LAND.

TO THE EDITOR:—A resident of Vancouver Island—a twenty-five-year-old one at that—wishes to throw out a hint or two just while our local legislature is in session.

Hint first: Is it the intention to ask members of the government to take some steps towards opening the Pochena river valley this coming spring; that is, to cut out the big jam and let the river take its natural channel, so that a large portion of that fertile valley will not be flooded. The map calls this river "San Juan river," but what ever river it should be called there could be quite a good settlement of farmers located in that valley this summer if the big jam could be taken out soon.

Hint second: Will there ever be any notice taken in our local house to form some scheme to reclaim the hundreds of thousands of dollars that we have lost in British Columbia by the destruction of thousands of acres of our timber lands by fire. Yes, fire has, without any extravagant calculation, destroyed thousands of acres here on Vancouver Island and will, no doubt, destroy many more in time, for it does seem that we cannot offer any plan to stay the element which burns down our lofty furs and stately pines, and our much admired cedars, with other valuable timber. Only some charred pieces are left in many places where those valuable timbers stood. Then what are those thousands of acres of blackened lands worth? asks some one, worth nothing, and leave them as they are in their blackened state. But I, for one, offer one scheme to help to reclaim them. Here is the reclaiming scheme: Sow grass seed. It will do it in a very few years; grass that will grow on those lands will feed thousands of cattle and also keep the land clean and be safer from further ruining by fire. Canada has lots of grass seed and the C. P. R. will soon fetch it to us.

W. M. H.

THE LEGISLATURE.

TO THE EDITOR:—The provincial parliament, has now "been in session," in plain English sat, exactly fifteen times. There are twenty-five heroic members in it. What actual *bona fide*, down-right business of the country have they done? It is time there were a stop put to this sort of thing. What are we tax payers paying these people for? When I take up your paper day after day to see what has been done, I find practically nothing but a miserable, uninteresting, record of petty quarrels, personal abuse, an unlimited amount of questions and risings to privilege. (Privilege! God save the mark!) About three days or so were wasted over a humbugging, never-meant-to-be-brought-on, resolution of the Cemox wind-bag. For Heaven's sake let the men get to business and "do summut." How would the P. of the C. stand this sham at his collieries? Was it thus he collared his dollars? At this rate how long would it take ministers to get through their interessional work? Here we are paying men to manage a little one-horse shay and we find nothing but talk, talk, talk. Mr. Beaven wants to have it out at night even! Does he get double pay for this like the doctors? Or is it only a scratching my nose to vex my face sort of vicarious infliction of *gratis* martyrdom? Why don't the government bring in a coercion bill and pass a statute, or, as the Soda Creek elephant would call it, a statue, making it penal for any member to "stop the coach" under a fine of perpetual talking for twenty-four hours. Such bosh seems to me disgraceful, and the public say the place is fast becoming a *charivari*. TAX-PAYER.

Victoria, Feb. 24th, 1888.

JUBILEE HOSPITAL PLANS.

TO THE EDITOR:—In this morning's COLONIST I see two sets of plans mentioned, "Theory and Practice" and "Work and Win." If it comes to an issue between these perhaps the statement that in the former 1000 cubic feet of air per patient are allowed; while in the latter 2000 are given, will facilitate the decision. Let the Doctors now decide. LEX.

VICTORIA, Feb. 5, 1888.

THE ELECTION PETITION.

TO THE EDITOR:—Will you oblige by stating whether the ex-mayor of Victoria signed the petition to the Provincial Assembly respecting the recent election. I wish to settle a small wager that Mr. Fell could not resist so favorable an opportunity of slandering his neighbors. B. S.

[The names attached to the petition are; B. C. Pettingell, Jas. Fell and John Hawkins. ED.]

LETTER FROM INDIAN CHIEFS.

TO THE EDITOR:—Will you, in your paper, let the people know that we do not want an Indian agent, and that we will not have anything to do with one.

We gave our words to the commissioners that came here last October, and they told us to wait for an answer. Now we do not take an agent to be an answer, and we want to see the answer before we see an Indian agent, for we can go to the American side and get what we want in peace if we cannot have it here. It was a "Boston" ship that first came to Naas river and found us.

(Signed) CLAIGETUCK,
SCOTEIN,
SABASSA,
YAT-CA-OEKS,
Chiefs.

Naas River,
February 17th, 1888.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

A report issued shows receipts of inland revenue last year were $6,958,000.

Erastus Winman approves of the Fisheries treaty. He believes it is probably the best arrangement that could have been made.

It is said that work on the Ontario, Manitoba & Western railroad will shortly be commenced. The road will run from Port Arthur to Winnipeg and have two branches, one of which will run to Turtle Mountain.

There seems little doubt it was only the brave action of Engineer Hutchinson that prevented an awful disaster in the Hamilton collision. Conductor Vince, of the freight, who was responsible for the accident, has disappeared.

An agreement was made before the Master-in-Ordinary that the counting of the treasury in the Central Bank be proceeded with. After this is finished and the result reported to the court, ex-Liquidator Campbell will be asked to hand over the keys now in his possession.

Annie Sheppard was before the Toronto police magistrate charged with stealing a skirt. She pleaded guilty and the magistrate was about to pass a light sentence when she was identified as the woman who cashed four cheques of $112 which had been forged. She was remanded.

Chancellor Boyd gave judgment in the petition to remove Campbell from the liquidatorship of the Central. The judge declined to take the responsibility of dismissing him, but authorized a meeting of creditors to be called to decide whether he be retained. This means he will have to go.

The westbound freight train on the Canadian Pacific, three miles below Ottawa, on Tuesday morning ran into the down Winnipeg express. The Winnipeg train came to a stop in time, thus avoiding a serious disaster. Nobody was killed, but both engines were wrecked and the passengers got a bad shaking up.

Counsel for Gamble, convicted of the murder of a girl whom he had seduced at Toronto, has gone to Ottawa with a petition for commutation of sentence, which will, after the precedent of "Doctor" Davis, probably be granted. There is less chance for Neil, the central prison murderer, who has been visited by Howland and Gooderham, the only spiritual advisers he seems disposed to tolerate.

Sometime ago the officers of the Ottawa League of the Rose, forwarded to the Prince of Wales copies of the platform of the society with the intimation that the league would consider it a great honor if he would accept the position of Honorary patron. A reply was received from the Prince of Wales' secretary, to the effect that His Highness has made it a rule not to become connected in any capacity with any society formed for political purposes.

At the annual meeting of the County Lodge of the Loyal Grand Association, of Carleton, it was unanimously resolved that this county lodge of Orangemen of the Metropolitan County of Carleton and the city of Ottawa desires to express its warm admiration of undaunted and heroic firmness with which the Marquis of Salisbury and Secretary Balfour have maintained in Ireland the union of empire and liberties of the people, Roman Catholics as well as Protestants, and have by wise legislation relieved the tenantry from oppressive rents and have punished the rebels and broken the strength of a treasonable organization. Copies of the resolution were sent to Salisbury and Balfour.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The agitation to secure the Dominion exhibition at Halifax this year is taking definite shape.

A. Smith, dry goods, Halifax, who compromised with his creditors last year, is again in financial difficulties and is likely to assign. His liabilities are under $50,000, mostly with English houses.

Fire at St. Pierre, Miquelon, destroyed the warehouse of J. Eatringer in the centre of the town. Loss, $6,000; insured in the Queen's.

Dr. Rigby, a well-known physician, died at Halifax aged 48 years.

Colonel George Grattan Biscoe recently died at Sydney, C. B. He served through the Canadian rebellion of '37.

A man named White while on the way from Pugwash to Maitland called at a Mr. Lindsay's house and asked for a glass of water. It was handed to him. He drank it and dropped dead.

Peter Jack, cashier of the People's bank of Halifax has passed away, after an illness which began to show serious symptoms near the close of the last year.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

Charles Young sowed four acres of grain at Moose Jaw on January the 27th.

A Rare Combination.

There is no other remedy or combination of medicines that meets so many requirements as does Burdock Blood Bitters in its wide range of power over such chronic diseases as Dyspepsia, Liver and Kidney Complaints, Scrofula and all humors of the blood. tu-th-sat-dw

L'Etendard states that Hon. Mr. Garneau declares that there is no truth in the assertion that he and Mercier had gone to Europe for the purpose of interesting the Provinces of Quebec in the centennial of French revolution.

A DOUBLE ROBBERY.

Mr. Michael Young and the Victoria Loan Office Robbed of a Quantity of Valuable Jewelry.

On Thursday afternoon about 4 o'clock the residence of Mr. Michael Young, Quebec street, James Bay, was feloniously entered during the absence of the family and a quantity of valuable jewelry stolen. When Mr. and Mrs. Young returned home they discovered the robbery, and upon examination found that a diamond pin, a pair of bracelets and other jewelry to the value of about $200 had been abstracted. A further examination revealed the fact that the thieves had effected an entrance through the scullery window, which was unfastened, and after obtaining an entry thus, they removed a portion of the lock on the street door, evidently to afford a speedy means of exit from the premises. The back door was also tampered with, a portion of a key being found broken in the lock, as if the intruders had first tried to gain an entrance this way before trying the scullery window. When some of Mr. Young's neighbors heard of the robbery they remembered to have seen during the afternoon two or three flashy-looking individuals loitering about the premises, ringing the door bell and otherwise making sure that no one was at home. Mr. Young communicated with the police without delay, furnishing the officers with a description of the articles stolen, the appearance of the men seen loitering about his house and other particulars of the robbery, and Sergeant Sheppard with his usual promptitude took the matter in hand.

Somewhat later in the afternoon, shortly after 5 o'clock, two men entered the Victoria Loan Office, Johnson street, kept by Messrs. Kirschberg & Landsberg. The proprietors had just stepped out for supper, leaving a boy ten years old in charge of the store, and it was this opportunity the thieves had evidently been waiting for. The pair of sharpers asked to look at a tray of costly gold and diamond rings which was on exhibition in the show case. The boy, unsuspicious of any evil design, handed out the tray of rings, when the two men commenced trying them on, placing a couple of the rings on each finger and then doubling the finger thus ornamented into the palm of the hand, whilst with the other fingers they picked up and examined other rings. In this ingenious manner they managed to conceal six of the most valuable rings without the knowledge of the boy, and handing back the remaining rings to the lad they left the store, remarking that they would call again when the "boss" was in. Mr. Kirschberg did not become aware of his loss until late in the evening, when, as he was placing the jewelry in the safe for the night, he missed six rings, valued at $240, from one of the trays. He questioned the lad, and from what he then heard of the visit of the two strangers, he concluded they were the guilty parties, and at once placed the police in possession of the facts of the case. Fortunately for the ends of justice, Sergeant Sheppard happened to be looking through the window during the time the two men were examining the tray of rings, and although he did not observe them to be engaged in the theft, their actions were sufficiently suspicious to make the sergeant take good note of their appearance, so that when late in the evening the robbery was reported at the police station Sergt. Sheppard knew at once the men he wanted. Their appearance also tallied with the description given of the men seen loitering about Mr. Young's premises, and the officer at once began to work up the case. He succeeded so well that yesterday at noon he arrested both men on Yates street, and after being handcuffed they were taken to their cabin on Humboldt street, when a search was made for the missing articles. Although none of the rings or other jewelry were found, the officer discovered three tooth brushes ascertained to have been stolen from Langley & Co.'s drug store, one ivory-handled shaving brush stolen from Mr. Thos. Shotbolt's store, and half-a-dozen damask napkins stolen fom the Occidental hotel. The prisoners were then taken to the lock-up, where they gave the names of E. Clark and John Dawe, and upon being searched a large bunch of keys was found in their possession. The keys are about thirty in number, of every description, and suitable for opening almost any description of lock, some not being more than an inch in length and of very fine workmanship. Both men are flashily dressed, wear large, showy jewelry, and are believed to have recently arrived from the American side, under circumstances which lead the police to believe they were requested to leave the neighboring Republic in a hurry. They will be brought up for examination in the police court to-day.

ROYAL JUBILEE HOSPITAL.

A meeting of the general committee of the Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital was held yesterday at the office of the board of trade, to receive the report of the building committee on plans. Present: A. McLean, Chairman; Secretaries J. S. Yates and Wm. Chudley, and Messrs. Lubbe, R. Finlayson, R. P. Rithet, C. Hayward, W. C. Ward, A. Wilson, A. A. Green, R. Ward, C. Redfern, T. R. Smith, Jas. Fell, H. F. Heisterman, C. Bossi and others.

The report of the committee stated that ten sets of plans had been received by them and had been carefully considered; all of them, however, had failed in coming within the means ($35,000) at the disposal of the committee. The committee had selected two sets of plans, one with the motto "Theory and Practice" and the other "Work and Win"—both of which had many good points. The committee had referred the cost of these buildings (designed for the accommodation of 125 patients) to Mr. Keefer, C.E., who reported the cost of the former, approximately, at $60,000 and the latter at $80,000.

Mr. R. Ward, seconded by Mr. R. P. Rithet, moved that the report of the committee be received and adopted.

Considerable discussion then ensued.

Mr. A. Wilson objected to the adoption of the report as it finally settled the acceptance of the plans of "Theory and Practice." Mr. Keefer had assured him that his estimate of the relative cost of the two plans was not to be depended upon—and that he had adopted the rule of thumb in arriving at his conclusions. Mr. Keefer suggested that the question be referred to a practical builder. It would be a pity if the subscriber's money was sent abroad for these plans.

Mr. Hayward pointed out that although the committee had practically recommended two sets of plans, the effect of the resolution would decide the question in favor of one. The committee had shown that the question of cost had influenced them. He felt sure that the estimates of cost had not been prepared carefully enough to have a decision upon them.

Mr. C. Redfern, sec. by Mr. J. S. Yates, moved as an amendment that the plans of "Theory and Practice" and "Work and Win" be referred back to the building committee, with instructions to have them altered to come within the means of the committee and accept the plan which could be altered with the least detriment to the original design.

Mr. James Fell decidedly objected to the amendment, it meant calling in experts and all that nonsense and would result in a repetition of the water scheme business. There was no use talking, the plan of "Theory and Practice" was the best. He knew that, the very moment he saw them.

Mr. Ward here obtained leave to withdraw the original resolution, and on Mr. Redfern's motion being put was declared carried and the meeting adjourned.

"MAN'S PLACE OF SALVATION VERSUS GOD'S."

The following is a synopsis of a sermon delivered at the Gorge Road Methodist Church on Sunday evening last by the Rev. J. W. Wadman. Text: "I thought, He will surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God and strike his hand over the place and become the leper." 2 Kings 5:11.

The chapter begins thus: "Now Haaman captain of the host of the king of Syria was a great man, &c.—but he was a leper." Through a little Jewish maiden in his household he learns of the old prophet Elisha down in the land of Palestine and after much deliberation he decides upon an interview in order to see if the "man of God" can help him in his trouble. Whereupon with letters of commission off he starts with great pomp and dispatch till at last he dismounts from his chariot at the door of Elisha's home. He knocks and a messenger inquires the cause and as soon as Elisha is apprised of the errand of his visitor he simply sends down his servant with the message: Tell Haaman "go wash in Jordan seven times."

The message and the manner in which it was delivered naturally made the general mad, and so off he goes in a rage muttering to himself, "*I thought*," etc., etc.

As a man thinks so is he—not as he acts, nor speaks, but as he *thinks*. Tell me what you are thinking about now and I can guess what you will be doing to-morrow. The deeds of to-morrow will be but the embodiment of to-day's thoughts. By nature a man is so constituted as to partake largely of the things he is looking at. We are influenced by our surroundings to a greater extent than one may suppose. When then *is* a thought? Is it an impression made upon the mind through the medium of one or other of the five senses? If what we see, what we touch, what we taste, what we hear, etc., opens the mind to thought, how careful we ought to be. One cannot help evil thoughts, but you must not nurse them and nourish them until they develop into purposes. Bid them depart as soon as they enter. When they enter the front door ask them not into your parlor and lay them to feel at home, but quietly say, "There's the back door, now, be gone."

"*I thought*." What? "I thought he will surely," etc. So men are always setting up their own plans of salvation. Anything they will do—anywhere go—to any extent suffer, rather than do what God wants. Here is a man who asks, "What must I do to be saved? God answers, "Believe in me with all thine heart." "Oh!" he replies, "why I thought—I thought it was necessary for me to shed a great many tears, offer a great many prayers, pass through a great deal of self-torture, etc. I thought." Take a child, for instance, who disobeys you. "Come," you say, "come my child and kiss me and promise me not to do so again." "Oh no, I can't—would rather not kiss you. Let me go to my room, let me weep," etc., etc. Thus a great many people treat God, etc. God says, "Come." They reply, "*We* thought."

Now Naaman was a leper. He needed healing. Came to Elisha. The old prophet says, "Go wash." "What, what, go wash. The mischief if I will. Does he take me for a tramp? Go *wash*. Does he think I never wash? Go wash *seven* times. The mischief! My! am I so foul and dirty as to need so much washing. Go wash in *Jordan*—that muddy stream yonder. No, Sir!" So *you*, my friends, again and again say. "Repent! No. No."

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