

A ROSSLAND COMPLAINT.

The Rossland Miner complains bitterly that the town does not get enough money from the Government. It says: As to our system of sewerage, we will repeat that while this camp will have paid into the Provincial treasury nearly \$100,000 for the calendar year it has not got one-tenth of that in return—not one dollar for sewerage and but a paltry \$200 for fire protection. The condition may be a "disgrace to civilization" but the fact remains that Rossland is one of the most healthful towns in the world, and the disgrace lies with the Turner Government and its supporters.

Our contemporary seems to think that whenever the "Turner Government" wants money for any purpose whatever all that has to do is to draw an order on the Provincial Treasury to get what it needs. It is not necessary to say that this is a mistaken notion as to the power of the Government. The theory of constitutional government is that the Executive cannot spend a dollar of the people's money without authority from the representatives of the people in Parliament assembled. The strings of the public purse are held by the people. In cases of emergency and in unforeseen contingencies the Executive can draw money on the Governor's warrant, but it must afterwards apply to the people's representatives for indemnity for taking that liberty. It will have to be admitted that constructing sewers and making and repairing roads are not works of emergency. If Rossland's contribution to the revenue were ten times as great as our contemporary says it is, and if it was all contributed by Rossland for Rossland the Government could not, until the Legislature meets, constitutionally appropriate one single dollar of it for Rossland's purposes. Our contemporary should bear this in mind.

If after the meeting of the Legislature the Miner finds that Rossland has been dealt with unfairly in the distribution of appropriations it will then be in a position to complain, with the constitution, at any rate, on its side. But for a journal which professes to be an upholder of the rights and privileges of the People, to complain because the Government does not favor Rossland or any other part of the Province, is hardly consistent. When the House meets, Mr. Kellie may be depended upon to look after the interests of Kootenay, and the representatives of the whole Province will be present to decide whether his demands are reasonable or unreasonable. We have no doubt in the world that the Government will do all in its power to aid in the development of Kootenay. It is its interest to do so and we are very sure that it is its intention.

A ONE-SIDED ARRANGEMENT.

When the terms of the Manitoba settlement were published we refrained from criticizing them because, in our opinion, the dispute was between the Protestant majority of Manitoba and the Roman Catholic minority, and if they, the parties concerned, were satisfied it was not for any outsider to interfere. Since then we have found, to our very great surprise, that the denominational minority in Manitoba were not regarded by the negotiating Governments as a party to the dispute. The terms were not submitted to the Catholics of Manitoba or to any one authorized to represent them. Although it is they who, under the constitution, plead for a redress of what they regard as a very great grievance, and although judgment has been given by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in their favor, they, as a body, have been completely ignored in the whole proceedings. They have not been asked whether they liked the proposed terms of settlement or whether they thought them fair or unfair. This is, it must be admitted, a very singular way of settling a question amicably. What would be thought of a tribunal which undertook to settle a dispute by conciliatory means between two parties that negotiated with only one of the parties and had not a word to say to the other party, whose rights and interests were at stake? Would such a tribunal be considered impartial? Did it show any desire to do justice to both parties? Is it the custom of judges or arbitrators, when they undertake to settle disputes, to deal with one party to the dispute only and to consult his interests and his alone?

Our readers will naturally want to know how those who form the minority who have been thus ignored think and feel about the settlement which is given out—whether they regard it as fair or unfair.

Archbishop Langevin, who is a religious sense represents the Roman Catholics of Manitoba, in an address which he delivered in the St. Boniface Cathedral on Sunday, the 22nd, said: The negotiations which have taken place between the local authorities and the authorities at Ottawa have culminated in an agreement which is given out as the settlement of the grave school question. In the first place I protest against this word "settlement." In a question in litigation nothing is settled if the two parties do not come to a mutual understanding. We are, I venture to say, the party the most interested in

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

And what has happened? Instead of treating with us they have bargained with those who wrested our rights from us, and when it came to a conclusion it was not to us that this so-called settlement was submitted or shown but to our worst adversaries, to ascertain if it was agreeable to them. And when the men who have for their programme the abolition of separate schools in Manitoba first and next in Ontario said: "It is well, this settlement is satisfactory to us," it was published abroad "The question is settled," and the text was given to the newspapers.

I would like well to know if the Catholic minority authorized any man or any group of men to accept this pretended settlement? Let me say to you, moreover, my dear, beloved brethren, that I for a moment nourished the hope that we would receive the full and entire justice solemnly promised us. We would have accepted with joy an equitable settlement, and even, we would have accepted substantial, genuine concessions, at the same time continuing to claim our entire rights, but what is the contract to which they propose to bind us?

There are very few who will say that the Manitoba Catholics had no right to a voice in the settlement of this question, in which it is proposed to take away from them forever rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the Dominion and the Province of Manitoba. Who will say that the Archbishop was wrong or unreasonable in maintaining that when the question in dispute between the Catholic minority and the Protestant majority came up for settlement the Catholics had a right, through some one duly authorized by them, to take a part in the negotiations? Very few, we think.

It seems that we were wrong when we concluded that the Manitoba minority would in some way be asked whether or not they approved of the terms of settlement. We see now that they as a body have nothing to say in the matter. They must accept the settlement made for them by Messrs. Laurier, Tarte, Greenway and Sifton whether they like it or not. It is to be forced down their throats whether they believe it to be just or unjust. They have been allowed no say in the matter. Whether they are satisfied or dissatisfied is a matter of indifference to the powers that be in Ottawa and Winnipeg. Yet the motto of those who treat a small and weak minority in this way, during the late election campaign, "No Coercion!"

THE TEXAS.

The United States battleship Texas has proved a signal failure. The reason given for the shortness of her career and her ignominious end, by some American newspapers, is that she was built on designs made in England. This is a very funny excuse. English warships are not generally failures. Both as regards model and workmanship they are as a whole the finest ships afloat.

The reason why the Texas went to the bottom while lying in the still water of a dock was because a valve gave way and watertight were very far from being watertight. In view of these facts would it not be more reasonable to say that the Texas failed because she was dishonestly built under dishonest inspection? It is evident that it was scamped work and not defective designs which caused the premature loss of the Texas.

It seems that she was from the very day in which she was launched with the sailors call an "unlucky ship." She met with accident after accident, and was continually getting into trouble. That there are ships that never do well, every old sailor will tell you. No matter who commands them or how safe the voyages they make appear to be, they are sure to come to grief in some way or other. Old salts are shy of such ships, and will not sail in them if they can help it. Was the Texas one of this class? Was she hoodooed while she was on the stocks? It is quite as reasonable to believe this as to imagine she sank alongside a wharf because she was built after a British model on designs drawn in Great Britain.

NOT LOGICAL.

Our contemporary chops logic on the Manitoba school question in a very peculiar way. It seems to think that because the Bowell Government introduced the remedial bill it was preceded from coming to an amicable settlement without the intervention of Parliament. But this is a mistake. It was always open to both Governments to settle the question, provided the parties to it were agreeable, outside Parliament. There was nothing inconsistent or unconstitutional in the Bowell Government making a compromise with the Manitoba authorities. Compromises are made every day after suits have been commenced. Of course, the Bowell Government proposed to make a settlement that both parties might regard as fair. It did not deal with one of the principals while it wholly ignored the other.

ALB. BROS & SONS give notice in the Gazette of yesterday of the formation of a company which will seek incorporation by private act at the approaching session of the legislature, with power to build a line of railway from or near Glenora on the Stickeen river to the southern end of Stickeen lake.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

C. P. R. Repair Shops—Municipal Charters to Be Surrendered—Diocese of Westminster.

Majority Candidates—Prospects for Range Cattle—Among the Mines of Kootenay.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.
VANCOUVER, Nov. 27.—The transfer of the repair shops of the C.P.R. from Donald to Revelstoke will mean, it is claimed, a reduction of the population of the former town by at least one half. Golden, from present appearances, bids fair to be a big supply town for East Kootenay.

Word has reached Vancouver that the Maple Ridge, Mission and Dewdney municipalities are seriously contemplating surrendering their charters to the government owing to the widespread injurious effects of the Fraser river floods.

The exceptionally severe winter weather with its accompanying heavy snowfalls will cause much loss of cattle in the Nicola and Lillooet ranges. The ranchers have been unable to round up their herds or supply them with adequate food or shelter. Old-timers assert that the severity of this early arrival of winter is unprecedented within living memory. Some hope, however, that the winter, having begun early, will break up earlier than usual. The increased demand owing to the wants of many mining camps, together with the severe weather, will augment the value of potatoes and poultry, which should encourage large shipments to the province.

Tenders for the waterworks extension will be opened to-day and the work of construction will probably begin early in March.

The watches to be presented to the lacrosse boys will be formally handed over on Wednesday next in Dunn hall. Arrangements are complete for a concert in connection with the presentation.

Enquiries are being made for the missing watchman, Mr. W. W. Wrede, who was systematically conducted, letters being transferred from one station to another until they reached the interior points, where Wrede is supposed to have gone in search for gold. C. L. Behrens is conducting the search.

The executive committee of the diocese of New Westminster, which includes most of the British Columbia mainland, has urgently appealed to churchmen in England and Eastern Canada to send towards the rapidly increasing needs. Immediate help, amounting to £500 sterling, is asked, but \$10,000 would be inadequate to meet the needs caused by the rapidly increasing immigration.

W. H. Armstrong has secured the contract for the water works extension. A Chinaman was run over by the C.P.R. two miles east of North Bend on Wednesday last, resulting in a fatality.

The Methodist parsonage was damaged by fire to-day. The caretakers of the public free library gave dinner to the children on Thanksgiving Day. The children of the public schools also collected nearly a ton of tin cans for the poor children, which were judiciously distributed.

In an item under Vancouver news yesterday by a clerical error it was made to appear that the profit of the Vancouver waterworks for the year amounted to \$5,000, whereas the correct figures should be \$15,000.

WESTMINSTER.

WESTMINSTER, Nov. 27.—The Automatic Car Co. by-law was finally passed at a special meeting of the board of directors. Messrs. Thomas Orens and W. J. Armstrong will be candidates for the mayoralty, while Mayor Shiles will stand for re-election.

It is reported that Rev. W. B. Allen, of Chilliwack, may be asked to succeed Rev. H. H. Gowan at St. Barnabas church. Mr. Allen is, like Mr. Gowan, a very effective preacher and an energetic local worker.

ROSSLAND.

(From the Rosslander.)
The largest transaction relating to Salmon river properties, and among the big ones of the district, was the transfer of the Tamarac group, which was closed on Saturday morning, when E. N. Bouche and Dr. Campbell bonded that property to R. W. Morkill, Jr., of Montreal, and J. St. Clair of Rossland, for \$60,000, of which \$15,000 was paid down.

The Saylor claim in Camp McKinney has been sold to a Victoria syndicate. Charles Wreid located the claim several years ago and in a quiet way had done considerable work upon it. The Saylor is situated to the north of the famous Caribou mine, and is destined to make a good mine, as the fine showing is excellent and the ore of good quality.

Res showing on the Palo Alto has amply justified the opinion of E. Bouche, the superintendent, as to how the property should be developed and the value of it. There is now a vein of ten inches in the bottom of the shaft from which assays as high as \$41 have been got. This will give a return of \$100,000 per ore for the cost of carrying the shaft farther.

The shaft on the Iron Horse is down 66 feet with ore showing more than 100 feet depth. Quartz is appearing among the ore. In the Novelty splendid surface rock was brought in on Monday from an iron shaft, which is yet down only a few feet. The shaft is being sunk to determine the pitch of the vein, and it is expected that the previous owners will be turned so as to cut the vein on which the shaft is.

The Butte shaft is approaching the 75 foot level. Two ore bodies of good size and excellent quality have been passed through, and there can be no doubt about the existence of a strong body of merchantable ore next the hanging wall.

Tenders have been called for continuing the shaft in the San Joaquin, now down 74 feet, for 100 feet further, giving an entire depth of 174 feet. At the bottom of the shaft ore is coming in stringers, which assay \$28, and the gangue runs about \$7.

Two shafts are working in the shaft on the north vein in the Sunset No. 2 ground. The shaft is down about fifteen feet, and excellent ore is coming in. It is generally understood that this property, together with the Alabama and Gold Hunter, will probably be controlled by the Canadian Gold Fields Syndicate. The Sunset is on Deer Park mountain above the Homestake, Phoenix and Nest Eggs, and is directly opposite the Le Roi, Jose and War Eagle, at about the same elevation above the town.

The crosscut tunnel on the Northern Belle is expected to break into the ore body at any time.

The machinery at the Homestake is all in position, but the air pipes have not yet been connected up.

The shaft on the Silver Bell is down twelve feet. The coming of close texture with depth. The following directors have been elected: G. A. Pounder, M. O. John A. Pounder, W. J. Green and the Exchequer Gold Mining Co., operating the Exchequer and Cleopatra, on its rich. Their last assays have struck a dump of their No. 2 tunnel were \$88.46, \$106.45, and \$102.93 in gold. There are three strong quartz ledges running across both claims.

WEYLER FINDS MACEO.

Spanish Men and Horse the Victims of a Terrible Explosion.

Seven Hundred Killed—Long List of Wounded—Great Carnage.

CHICAGO, Nov. 27.—The Tribune's special from Jacksonville, Fla., says: Col. Jose Reyes, aide-de-camp of General Maceo, wounded and en route to New York for medical treatment and with dispatches to the junta, passed through here yesterday. He says the fighting in the Rubi hills of Pinar del Rio was the most sanguinary battle of the war. He claims 2,000 of Weyler's men were killed in two days and twice as many wounded.

Captain-General Weyler has issued orders to the farmers in the province of Pinar del Rio, Havana and Matanzas to carry the crop of corn to the garrisoned towns, and the railroad officials have been instructed to provide the farmers with cars and mules with which to facilitate the transportation. The corn will be sold to the soldiers of the Spanish column and will be used for military purposes.

Antonio Lopez Colina, formerly leader of the revolutionists in Matanzas, was shot this afternoon, having remained for twenty-four hours previously in a chapel, according to reports.

Col. Zamora, in command of the Cardenas district of the province of Matanzas, has caused the arrest of Dr. P. Edro Levid, Benito Jose Marinova, a lawyer, and Leandrico Orbe, an employee of the Cardenas railroad, as a result of disclosures contained in letters recently found upon the persons of some captured insurgents. Additional arrests are expected.

Weyler went to the field with 35,000 men in the morning. One of 15,000 under himself, one of 10,000 under Gen. Estigarribia, a third of 10,000 under Gen. Munoz. They found Maceo entrenched in a crescent-shaped range of hills. Weyler, who was in the hills the Spaniards were met with a withering fire that cut gaps in their ranks.

Maceo's men shot from behind rocks and trees, and gradually gave way before the Spaniards, who, encouraged by what they thought to be a victory, pursued them.

Suddenly a deafening explosion rent the air, and a scene followed like the mine horror at Petersburg during the civil war. Horses and men were blown high in the air, and fell to the earth dead and mangled. The dynamite mine was touched off by John Linn, former mayor of this city, who is Maceo's electrician.

Maceo then loosed his dynamite guns, prepared by Linn, and more havoc was wrought.

In the mine explosion Col. Reyes says Weyler lost 700 men killed, and 500 more in charging, besides 1,000 wounded.

The next day, Maceo, knowing of the reserve force under Weyler, retreated to even stronger position. There he was attacked by the column under Echaguen, who was roundly thrashed and driven from the field, losing 800 men killed, besides 1,300 wounded.

Next day Maceo retired again, manœuvring all the while to entrap Weyler into a field that had been honeycombed with dynamite.

Meanwhile, however, General Weyler, hearing that there was danger of an uprising in Havana because of his failure to crush Maceo, hastened back to that city. HAVANA, Nov. 27.—An engagement has been fought in the Rubi hills, between the Spanish forces under Capt. Gen. Weyler and the insurgents under Maceo. The Spanish commander-in-chief and staff were without provisions for thirty hours, the train with supplies having been detained. Gen. Weyler urged the troops onward, regardless of the absence of the provision train.

SALMON SEASON CLOSED.

The Seattle Canneries Put Up 45,000 Cases This Year.
SETTLE, Nov. 27.—The salmon season is over, the canneries have quit fishing for canning purposes until August or September. The output of the Myers cannery for the season is 30,000 cases, against 80,000 cases last year. The Ainsworth & Dunn cannery in this city, which was built last year, put up about 15,000 cases. This makes the total output of the Seattle canneries 45,000 cases, against 80,000 cases last year. The run during the season which has just closed was not quite as large as it was in 1895, but there were more fishermen, and almost as many fish were caught. The market for fresh salmon is high in the interior, fish were sent to interior points than in any previous year, and consequently fewer fish were offered to the canneries for canning purposes.

AN IMPORTANT PRECEDENT.

"The New York Court of Appeals has handed down a decision yesterday in the case of Thomas Earle and the Union Steamship Co. against the United States, whereby the latter loses nearly \$1,000,000. The outcome of the suit is particularly interesting to seafarers and shipping men, because it establishes a precedent for the loading and unloading of vessels within the territory controlled by Uncle Sam."

"It appears that in June, 1892, the steamer Coquitlam, with a cargo of 6,190 seal skins, was seized by the revenue cutter Corwin, near Alognac Island. The vessel was taken to Sitka, and held subject to the payment of a fine equaling the value of the cargo. A suit for the confiscation of the latter was immediately instituted, the principle contention being that the skins had been taken from certain seafarers within the Collection District of Alaska. The basis of this action was found in section 3,190, Revised Statutes, prohibiting vessels bound for American ports exchanging cargoes within four leagues of any territory owned or controlled by the United States."

"The suit was tried in the district court of Alaska, and resulted in a victory for the government. An appeal was taken to the court of appeals, and that tribunal now reverses the decision of the lower court, and orders the action dismissed. Judge Gilbert, in rendering the opinion of the higher court, reviewed the case at length, citing many authorities in support of his position. It is held by the court of appeals that the government did not establish its principal contention, namely, that the vessels transferring the alleged dutiable seal skins to the Coquitlam, were bound for the United States—hence the whole action falls to the ground. While it was shown that the several seafarers, all flying the English flag, had transferred their cargoes to the Coquitlam within seven miles of the shore line, there was nothing to indicate that these cargoes were intended for American ports."

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