

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1893.

BRITISH COLUMBIANS SLANDERED.

There are some wonderfully discerning people in the world. Although it takes a person of fair powers of observation a long time to find out what are the national tendencies and partialities of a people, these very sagacious persons find out all about them in a week or two. For instance, those who have lived in this Province and mixed intimately with its inhabitants believe that they are eminently loyal, and that they have no love for American institutions and American ways. An intelligent old-timer will tell the inquiring stranger that the British Columbians love the Old Flag intensely and that they could not be prevailed upon to change their allegiance for any inducement which the Americans have to offer. This, we venture to say, is the deeply-rooted conviction of ninety-nine out of every hundred British Columbians who have lived long enough in the country to be able to form an intelligent opinion as to the feelings and opinions of their fellow-countrymen. But it seems there is at least one man in the Province who has come to a very different conclusion. He professes to be convinced that the love which British Columbians bear their Mother Country is cupboard love, and that they are ready to forswear their allegiance to their Queen as soon as there is trouble between Great Britain and any maritime power. He thinks he has reason to believe that British Columbians are only fair-weather friends of Great Britain, and that should a storm arise they would with one accord fly to the United States for shelter.

This British Columbian calls himself "Comox," and he writes as follows to the New York Sun: "British Columbians have come to the conclusion that if England should ever again be engaged in a maritime war, the safest card for them to play will be to get out of danger by amercing themselves to the United States and leave Eastern Canada to shift for itself."

We would very much like to know where "Comox" obtained his information. No British Columbian who has a position to maintain or a character to lose has ever publicly expressed himself in the way "Comox" describes. He has never seen such sentiments as he attributes to British Columbians in any British Columbian newspaper or any other publication. He may possibly have heard some whitewashed Yankee express himself in private, in the way he points out, where he felt sure that his words would not be repeated, but the very circumstance of his not having the courage or the impudence to give expression to his disloyal and cowardly sentiments in public ought to have convinced "Comox" that they would not find acceptance with British Columbians. If, as "Comox" asserts, British Columbians have come to the conclusion that they would be better off in peace and in war under the Stars and Stripes than they are under the Union Jack they would soon find some way of giving publicity to their preference and their determination. They have done nothing of the kind, and, therefore, it is fair to conclude that "Comox" misrepresents and slanders British Columbians.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

The session of Congress which commenced yesterday in Washington is one of the most important ever held in the United States. Congress has been convened to devise measures to extricate the country from the financial embarrassments with which it is at present struggling and to prevent their recurrence. It is generally admitted, not only in the United States, but in other countries, that the President has acted wisely in calling the representatives of the people together at the present juncture. It is believed that Congress has in its power to do the country a service of incalculable value, and that now is the time to do it. Delay, it is contended, would be exceedingly dangerous to the most important interests of the United States.

The President, then, has done his duty in calling an extraordinary session of Congress. It remains to be seen whether or not Congress will do its duty. There will, no doubt, be a fierce opposition to the repeal of the Sherman Law. Those who believe in that law are numerous, able and influential. To judge by what they have already said, they are prepared to fight determinedly for its continuance or for the enactment of a substitute law. It is, however, not likely that they will gain the day. The President is strongly in favor of repealing the Sherman Act, and the President, at this present moment, possesses immense influence. He does so because in this matter he represents the convictions of a large majority of the intelligent men of the country. It is not difficult to see that the people are overwhelmingly with President Cleveland, both as to the wisdom of calling the extra session and the necessity of repealing the Sherman Act. The politicians of both parties know this well. Many, who in their hearts do not approve of the President's policy, know that it is as much as their political lives are worth to attempt to oppose that policy. It is said that there is a section of the Democratic party in Congress who hate Mr. Cleveland with a bitter hatred, and who would delight in frustrating his plans if they dare do as they are inclined. But they know that the President is master of the situation, and that, therefore, must submit to the inevitable with the best grace they can. This is why it is believed that the Sherman Law will be repealed in a few days.

It is not expected that anything of importance will be done towards the reform of the tariff before the December session. The bill to be submitted to Congress must be

drawn up with the greatest care. It would never do to introduce a crude measure. Every item of the tariff must be duly considered. Care must be taken not to treat great interests with injustice. It will take time to do this. There are some who say that the Democrats will not carry out their pre-election pledges in this matter of tariff reform. There is, no fear of this. The party is too strongly pledged to do that work to show any sign of bad faith now, and the President will use his influence to have all promises fulfilled to the letter. He is not the man to break his word, or to suffer others to do so, if he can prevent it.

AN ENGLISH OPINION.

There are some in the United States, and even in Canada, who stoutly maintain that the Sherman act and the policy of the United States as regards silver are the causes of the present stringency. They declare that the politicians and the goldbugs have made a beggar of the Sherman act. If this is the case, it is singular that so many distinguished and intelligent men have traced the American financial troubles to the same source. This is what the London Economist says in a recent issue on the subject:

"The constant dwindling of the reserve and increase of the liabilities against which it is held have for some time past caused serious doubts to be entertained as to the ability of the Treasury to maintain gold payments. As a consequence, the flow of foreign capital to the States has been arrested, while within the country there has been a good deal of hoarding of money, so as to be prepared for future contingencies. Thus not only has the stock of money within the country been considerably reduced, but that diminished stock a portion has been temporarily immobilized and rendered unavailable for business purposes. And it is here that we have the root cause of the monetary stringency that has prevailed, and seems likely to continue for some time longer."

Hundreds on this side of the Atlantic, before and since the above passage was written, have said the same thing in almost the same words. It would be singular, indeed, if they were all mistaken, and if the only persons who have made a correct diagnosis of the complaint from which the United States has suffered, and is still suffering, are the members of the Chicago Convention.

UGANDA.

Since the arrival of Sir G. Portal in Uganda peace and quiet have reigned. The Times correspondent gives a long and very interesting description of the present condition of the country. He speaks very highly of the Roman Catholic missionaries. He considers their organization far better than that of those of the C. M. S. He says "the organization of the C. M. S. up here is far from perfect, and there is urgent necessity for reform. The deferential obedience which one might naturally expect the various members of the mission would accord to their Bishop is conspicuous by its absence, each one seeming to claim the right of holding his own individual opinions, which is a glaring contrast to the unquestioning confidence reposed by the French priests in their executive head." The Times correspondent is a strong advocate of the one man power and of concerted effort under such conditions as exist in Uganda. He does not seem to think that much can be done in the country in the way of the introduction of an improved system of agriculture just now. The country has been devastated by war, pestilence and famine, and the people are too busy repairing the mischief done, too weak to think of doing a great deal towards making improvements. He does not think much of the commercial capabilities of the country as long as it remains in its present state, but he does believe that the possession of Uganda by Great Britain is required to put an end to the slave trade and its attendant miseries and horrors.

What is required to develop Uganda and to strengthen British influence in that part of Africa, is a railroad from the sea to Lake Nyanza. The extraordinary expense of transport from and to the sea coast is an almost insuperable barrier to improvement of any kind. At present the freight from the sea-coast to Uganda is from £8 to £10 per load of sixty-five pounds. This, at the lower rate, is about half-a-dollar a pound. No commerce can stand this expense. If the railway were built the cost of transport, it is calculated, would be about £10 per ton, or less than two cents a pound. The road is pronounced feasible by engineers. It has already been surveyed, and the report of the engineers has been published. Its length, from the Indian Ocean to the north-east shore of Lake Nyanza, is 657 miles, and its estimated cost will be \$11,200,000, or \$17,245 a mile. The physical obstacles are said to be small; there would be no tunnels and no expensive bridges. If that road were built, Uganda would be brought into immediate contact with civilization, and an immense region of Central Africa would be opened up. The railroad would, without a doubt, give the African slave trade its death blow. It will certainly be built some time, if not by England but by some other country.

OBEDIENCE TO ORDERS.

Reference has been made to memorandum written by the late Sir George Tryon pointing out that there are cases in which disregard or disobedience of orders is, in a naval officer, justifiable. This memorandum bears date as late as January 1, 1893. It is as follows: "It may frequently happen that an order may be given to an officer, which, from circumstances not known to the person who gave it at the time he issued it, it would be impossible to execute, or the difficulties or risks of the execution of it would be so great as to amount to a moral impossibility. (Duke of Wellington's dispatch, November 11, 1805.) While an order should be implicitly obeyed, still circumstances may change and conditions may widely vary from those known, or even from those that

presented themselves, at the time the order was issued. In such cases the officer receiving orders, guided by the objects that he knows his chief has in view, must act on his own responsibility. When the literal obedience to any order, however given, would entail a collision with a friend or endanger a ship by running on shore, or in any other way, paramount orders direct that the danger is to be avoided, while the object of the order should be attained if possible. Risks that are not only justifiable, but which ought to be incurred during war, are not justifiable in peace."

G. TRYON, Vice-Admiral, etc.

THE AUSTRALIAN SITUATION.

Times are still hard in Australia. The effects of the crisis are felt all over the country and in every grade of society. The Governments find it necessary to economize. They have learned by unpleasant experience that their credit has been badly strained, and that it has not even commenced to recover. The Treasurer of New South Wales has been forced to withdraw his proposal for converting five per cent. debentures, falling due next January, owing to the inability of the Agent General in London to make the necessary arrangements, and this, notwithstanding the fact that the rate of interest for the proposed new issue had been raised from three and a half to four per cent."

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works called for tenders for a loan of £500,000, and only £72,320 were subscribed. The salary of the Governor of Victoria has been cut down from £10,000 to £7,500. Most of the reconstructed banks have reopened, but confidence has not been anything like restored. The people will have to accommodate themselves to the new state of things as cheerfully as they may. Their case is not hopeless by any means. The country is rich in resources. "It," as a resident of Queensland writes, "can produce every mineral, every textile fabric, every article of food, drink and medicine, every necessary and every luxury in the world in a climate that ranges from that of Edinburgh to that of Demerara." All that the Australians want to be better off than ever they were is time and the energy to make use of their natural advantages. New Zealand destroyed its credit by borrowing too largely from Great Britain. It went through a crisis similar to that from which Australia is suffering now, and has come out of it stronger and richer than ever. It ceased borrowing. The people were compelled to depend upon their own resources, and, after a period of suffering an era of prosperity has set in. The Treasurer of the Colony could this year boast of a surplus of \$650,000, last year the surplus reached nearly \$1,500,000, so the Government have this year, without borrowing and without depleting the Treasury a million and a quarter to devote to public works. All this shows the Australians that a young and rich country, if its people set to work with a will, can recover from financial disaster, and may in a few years be able to take a position of financial independence. It is interesting to see that the Australians do not sit down and whine over their misfortune. They possess both British pluck and British endurance, and it is more than likely that the severe lesson which they have lately received, and from which they are now suffering, may be to them a blessing in disguise.

AN ANXIOUS TIME.

It is beginning to be known now how critical were the relations between Great Britain and France during the negotiations respecting the Siam blockade. The attitude of Lord Rosebery was firm. He did not bluster but he gave the French Government to know that Great Britain was prepared to defend her interests in Siam. It is now known that nearly the whole of the trade of Bangkok is in British hands and that to interrupt the commerce of that city would be very nearly in its effects, the same as blockading a British port. Great Britain had not injured France in Siam or anywhere else, and Lord Rosebery determined that British subjects should not be compelled to suffer loss simply because France wished to terrorize the King of Siam. Besides, France had not declared war against Siam and it was most extraordinary to institute a blockade against a country with which the blockading nation was at peace. The British Foreign Minister did not claim a right to interfere in the dispute as regards territory between the two nations. If the King of Siam was willing to concede to France the territory on the left bank of the Mekong he was quite free to do so, but Great Britain would not suffer France to interfere with the rights of British subjects residing in or trading with Bangkok. The French Government were in an unpleasant position. They were hounded on by the Paris newspapers to take what was called a firm stand and to pay no attention to the remonstrances and the protests of the British Government. The President of the Republic knew that the triple alliance, which was already more than a match for France, if Germany joined England in resisting the unreasonable demands of France it would have to face a terribly strong combination—strong both on sea and land. They, too, were not sure of the righteousness of their cause. It might happen that the electors of France would not approve of their incursion into the empire of England, and they might condemn them for making extortionate demands on a nation that was not in a position to defend its rights. The last days of July were anxious days for the Government of France. They, after some indecision, decided to take the prudent course, which was, in this case, the more honorable one. They instructed Admiral Hamann to raise the blockade, and they accepted the submission of the King of Siam. But it is by no means certain that France is now in as good a position as she was before the dispute with Siam reached

the acute stage. The Government of England, seeing how ready France was to proceed to extremities on a matter comparatively unimportant, may consider it prudent, in order to be prepared for a similar emergency, to join Germany, Austria and Italy, in their efforts to keep the peace of Europe. The Triple Alliance may possibly become, before very long, a quadruple Alliance, and France may see, when it is too late, that she may pay very dearly for, on so slight a provocation, or, rather, on no provocation at all, showing her teeth to England.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The President's message is characteristic. It is replete with sound, common sense, and an earnest and an enlightened regard for the public welfare is plainly visible in every line of the document. The President shows with great clearness the working of the Sherman law and the results it has already produced. He points out the consequences which, if continued, it is certain to produce, and he recommends Congress to do what is necessary to avert the disaster he foresees. The following sentence should make a deep impression upon every American citizen who has at heart the honor of his country: "Given over to the exclusive use of a currency greatly depreciated, according to the standard of the commercial world, we could no longer claim a place among nations of the first class, nor could our Government claim a performance of its obligations, so far as such an obligation is imposed upon it, to provide for the use of the people the best and safest money."

The message, as such an important document ought to be, is free from any tinge of party coloring. It is plain to be seen that the good of the people, and that only, is what the President had before him when he dictated the message. It will, therefore, be as welcome to Republicans as it is to Democrats. We would not be at all surprised to find that it is more acceptable to the men who opposed his elevation to the presidency than it is to a very large proportion of those whose votes placed him at the head of the Executive. But it is only just to President Cleveland to conclude that he did not wait to consider whom his message would please or whom it would displease. It is clear that he did what he believed to be his duty utter regardless of all considerations which are generally regarded as political. It is this impression which the message is certain to make on every intelligent and unprejudiced man who reads it, which will give it weight both in Congress and in the country.

We cannot think that a recommendation so earnest, so modest, and yet so forcibly made will be disregarded by the representatives of the American people. The President's message is not, it is true, authoritative, but supported as it is by sound reason and backed by the moral strength of the nation it has a force which, we are fully convinced, will be found to be irresistible.

ANTHROPOMETRY.

Anthropometry is a very long word, and the general reader may well be excused if he does not know exactly what it means. The dictionary meaning: "Measurement of the height and other dimensions of human beings, especially at different ages or in different races, occupations, etc.," give the inquiry a very imperfect idea of its true significance. It has been found that no two persons are exactly alike in the size and proportions of different parts of the body, and that the markings of the inside of the hand, particularly of the finger tips, are not exactly alike in any two human beings. The French, who are very ingenious, have taken advantage of these facts to devise a system for the identification of criminals, which has been found to be almost mathematically exact. Photographs have been found to be useful for the purpose of identification. They are not always to be relied upon, but anthropometry never fails.

In France not only is the prisoner photographed, but he is carefully measured. By means of calipers and other instruments, measurements are taken of the length and width of his head, of the length of the middle finger, the left foot, the forearm, the height, the stretch of arms, the height of trunk and the length of the right ear. When all this is done and properly recorded, his ten fingers are dabbed on an inked slab, his impression is rolled off on a card and he is registered for all time. The measurements of no other living man will exactly coincide with his and the pattern of the rings and arches, whorls and apparently meaningless lines of his fingers cannot possibly be duplicated.

When the authorities want to know whether a suspected criminal has ever been in the hands of justice before, all they have to do is to measure him in the way we have described and take an impression of the lines on his fingers. If these coincide with those of a man who had previously passed through their hands the prisoner is certainly that man. The measurements are all classified and registered and referring to them is to the proper official by no means a difficult matter. "So sure, in this method," it is said, "that prisoners come to give alibis and some idea of its infallibility may be gathered from the fact that in 1892 only three failures were recorded." Ravachol, the French anarchist and assassin, was discovered by means of these measurements.

Efforts are being made to have anthropometry adopted as a means of identifying criminals in England and if it is anything like as effective and as simple as it is described to be it is certain to come into use not only in England but all over the world.

A pale or sallow complexion may be overcome by the use of Eesley's Liver Lozenges. They purify the blood and give tone to the complexion.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Vancouver Council Vote Down Proposal to Purchase the Electric Tramway.

Hail Storm Does Heavy Damage—Fraser River Cannermen Getting Anxious.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Aug. 7.—A severe thunder storm broke over the city yesterday. The hail did considerable damage in the gardens, and temporary street crossings were washed out. The storm did not extend ten miles beyond Vancouver. Only one severe accident occurred. Lightning entered the house of Mr. Prefontaine, an open door and struck Mrs. Prefontaine, paralyzing one side of her body. A trestle was washed out on the C.P.R. on Saturday, and Saturday's and Sunday's combined express were two days late.

The ship Georgina, Capt. Stanley, is en route from Chill. One of the generators of the Vancouver Tram Co. was destroyed by lightning during yesterday's storm. The ship Georgina, Capt. Stanley, is en route from Chill. One of the generators of the Vancouver Tram Co. was destroyed by lightning during yesterday's storm.

The second by-law to purchase the Electric Tramway and Lighting Company's plant for \$350,000 was lost on the first reading. Mayor Goss gave his casting vote for the six months' halt.

The Council declined to endorse the resolution of the Vancouver Bar on account of the alleged objectionable clause: "That it was necessary to the administration of justice in the Province to appoint a judge from the East to be resident at Vancouver."

VANCOUVER, Aug. 8.—Mrs. C. M. Beachler is on her way East to friends and the World's Fair.

The ship Amalia has been refitted and leaves on Thursday for the Sound with Major Cope, City Clerk McGilgan, Dr. McGilgan and others.

A party of Eastern capitalists are spying the country from the deck of the steamer Nagasaki with a view to settling.

The steamer of the L. O. L. line is to carry all the freight that is waiting for her here. There are 14 carloads of agricultural implements and 1,000 barrels of lime in the consignment for Australia.

The supply of water is equal to the demand, the first time for twelve months.

The new metallic telephone system is now in operation in the city. Telephone communication was stopped for a day.

The members of the L. O. L. attended the funeral of the late David Glasgow on Sunday afternoon. The cortege was a long one.

J. W. Horne, M.P.P., was detained by business from taking a trip to Japan, as intended, by the Empress of India.

There are some people in Vancouver who still think the Blair Act is not lost.

Steamer Comox left for the North yesterday.

At the School Board meeting to-night, Miss Murdoch and Miss Agnew were proposed to be the third assistants at \$75 and \$70; Miss Ethel Lucretia Page was appointed to be a fourth assistant. The other teachers remain as they are. G. W. McRae was appointed sixth assistant at Fairview, and Miss Lillian Fisher, fifth assistant, Mount Pleasant. The Sparring master was brought up again, and Secretary McGowan said he would move at a special meeting, Thursday, to dismiss Mr. Sparring, principal of the East end school, for irregular conduct.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Aug. 7.—The charge against Charles Graham for holding up and robbing Joseph King of \$40, near Port Neville, has been dismissed owing to the contradictory nature of the evidence.

A large number of Royal City people go tomorrow to Victoria tomorrow to take over in the fair.

Members of L. O. L. No. 1 went over to Vancouver in a body yesterday afternoon to attend the funeral of Bro. Glasgow, the well known logger who died in the city hospital at Vancouver, last Thursday.

An Italian named Pardo, named James King escaped from that institution, yesterday morning, about 11 o'clock, up to the hour of writing has not been recaptured.

King, not being considered dangerous or likely to escape, was allowed to walk in the grounds at will, and taking advantage of this liberty left the premises.

An Indian named Pardo, is supposed to have fallen into the river and been drowned on Saturday, while drunk.

The salmon catch last night was again very disappointing. After the thirty-six net close season it was supposed the river would be full of fish; but when the nets were put out last night no more fish appeared to be running than on Friday.

At the mouth of the river many of the boats did not get more than a few fish on the first draft. The result was so discouraging that not a few nets were withdrawn for the night. The boats which came in this morning brought in an average of about sixty fish each. The cannermen are beginning to feel anxious, as their cans are not nearly filled, and there does not appear to be any immediate chance of the run improving.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Aug. 8.—A man, name unknown, dropped dead at Spuzzum yesterday of heart disease. Word was sent to Government Agent Dodd, at Yale, who reported to Captain Pittendree, county coroner, who will go up tomorrow to investigate and hold an inquest.

At Holy Trinity church, this morning, John R. Bowman was united in matrimony to Miss Jessie Wood, eldest daughter of the late B. J. B. Wood, of this city. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. Irwin, Bishop of Vancouver. The honeymoon will be spent in Victoria.

George Truitt, of the Public Works Department, states that the depth of water in the channel through the Sand Heads is now sixteen feet at extreme low tide, giving a depth of twenty-two feet at high tide. This supplies water enough to accommodate any vessels in the merchant service.

Owing to the steady falling off in the salmon run during the last few days, many nets were hauled out yesterday and their crews laid off until an improvement showed itself. This move was justified by the catch, which was very small on all days above Desha Island. Up to midnight all the catches between Ladner's and the mouth of the river were small, and a majority of the fishermen drew out their nets. After that hour, however, the advance guard of the fresh run of salmon entered the river, and many boats made fair catches, some as high as 100, before morning. One of the best authorities on the river has made a careful estimate of the

pack up to Sunday last, placing the total number of cases at 185,000. Alexander Ewen leading the list with 23,000. A number of free fishermen have asked for an increase in the price of fish to ten cents each, and decline to fish until the run improves at the lower figure. Up to noon to-day this demand had not been acceded to.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, July 7.—Thomas Brown, for a short time lessee of the Windsor House dining room, has cleared out, leaving the usual number of unpaid bills. He rented the dining room about a month ago. He set a splendid table, raked in a pile of cash but left last week for Victoria, giving out that he had gone to fetch his wife. Before going he gave the proprietor of the hotel what appeared to be a large roll of notes, which when opened yesterday proved to consist of dollar bills rolled round an old copy of a newspaper.

The Northfield miners went to work this morning.

Mrs. Samuel Gray died at Chemainus this morning.

No settlement has been reached at the East Wellington colliery yet. A settlement will be held to-morrow, and it is expected work will be resumed on Wednesday.

A new lodge of Free Masons has been instituted at West Kelowna under a dispensation. It will be known as St. John's W. Stewart, worshipful master; J. Frame, senior warden; Dr. Roberts, secretary.

At a meeting of licensed victuallers the question of the sale of the New Vancouver saloon keepers generally were opposed to the innovation, but as a start had been made in that direction it was left to each one to do as he pleased.

NANAIMO, Aug. 7.—McBain has gone East; he will be away about a month and will probably visit the World's Fair before his return.

Rev. J. H. Torrey, pastor of St. Allan's, left this morning on a visit to Tacoma and other Sound cities. He will be away three weeks.

Building operations now in progress in town represent an outlay of over \$100,000.

The harbor now contains six sailing vessels and one steamer loading and waiting to load New Vancouver Coal Company's coal. The ships India and Commodore arrived yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon a man named Walsh forced an entrance into the Union brewery and helped himself to a barrel of porter. Walsh carried the barrel into the back and then returned for bottles. Having secured a good supply, he started to draw off the liquor, and whilst so engaged he was spotted by Sergeant Gibbs and at once arrested. He is now in jail.

No. 3 and 4 shafts, Wellington, will be in working order by the end of the month.

NANAIMO, Aug. 8.—Arrived—Steamer Costa Rica, bark St. John. Sailed—Bark Rufus E. Wood, steamer Montserrat.

Harry Walsh pleaded guilty in the Police court this afternoon to a charge of stealing a keg of porter from the Union brewery. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment at hard labor.

The East Wellington miners met again to-day to discuss the proposition of Manager W. Chandler, which is the same as that which was accepted by the New Vancouver Coal Company's employees. This surface men agreed to accept the terms of the management. The miners were not at all likely to accede to their manager's proposition, and there are abundant signs that until new hands can be employed to take the place of the former employees.

DEWICK.

DEWICK, Aug. 7.—Indian Agent Lomas returned from Victoria on Friday and Government Agent Wellburn came down on the Nanaimo train from inspecting the Cowichan Lake and Alberni Trail lately constructed by Mr. John McPherson. The latter reports that the trail is 33 miles long, passing at the south end through some good agricultural and timber country and throughout the nature of the trail is a mixture of bear, wolf, elk and deer. The distance from Duncan to Alberni via Cowichan Lake and the new trail is 80 miles, part of which, on the north half of the trail, is very rough travelling.

N. P. Snowden and Dr. Pearson drove to Cowichan Lake and Julius Bretlaw, J. Braden and J. Braden, Jr. took the stage to the same point on Saturday. The latter reports that the trail is 33 miles long, passing at the south end through some good agricultural and timber country and throughout the nature of the trail is a mixture of bear, wolf, elk and deer. The distance from Duncan to Alberni via Cowichan Lake and the new trail is 80 miles, part of which, on the north half of the trail, is very rough travelling.

Four narrow escapes from drowning within the last few days are reported from Cowichan Lake. Dennis McMahon and J. MacMahon, two of the English & McFaynes loggers were rescued near Price & Ryan's Lakeside Hotel after clinging to the bottom of a capsized boat for nearly an hour, and Capt. and Miss Morrison, falling into the lake, were rescued by the same boat.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dickie returned to Duncan and Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Dole, Capt. and Miss Morrison went down to Victoria on Saturday.

The fine weather, only marred by the heavy showers of yesterday, has caused an outbreak of camping fever in the neighborhood.

NAKUP.

NAKUP, Aug. 3.—Assisted by the Government, the Nakup & Sloon Railway company have taken a lively hold of the construction of the line. Four hundred men are already at work and 800 more will be employed to soon as tools and provisions can be got on the ground. A large wharf and warehouse have been erected, and the right of way is dotted with contractors' tents. In a few days a mile or two of the road bed around Nakup will be ready for the tracklayers. This is one of the chief public works going on in the Province at the present time, and the Government have acted wisely in thus holding out a helping hand to the large number of unemployed, who would without doubt have become chargeable to the Province had the present depressed state of the labor market continued. The something of the kind necessary to relieve the pressure is plainly to be seen from the number and class of the men who are already hastening to the work. Owners of mines are hastening to the work, and many are on the dump. The company have been promised transportation of over 10,000 tons this fall, and since the starting of the work the whole of the Kootenay country is alive.

KASLO.

KASLO, Aug. 3.—Hon. T. M. Daly, Minister of the Interior; A. M. Burgess, Deputy Minister; Col. Prior, of Victoria, and party arrived on the Spokane Saturday. Mr. Daly expressed much pleasure at the beautiful scenery of the lake, which he considered unsurpassed. Having heard much of the advancement shown in the Kootenay district this year, he had been particularly

desirous to see the various towns, more especially Kaslo. The results of the trip had exceeded his anticipations, and the substantial nature of the buildings would do credit to any place. Mr. Daly paid a visit to the planning mill, sawmill and lumber yard, all of which he felt sure would prove of great benefit to the city. He afterwards made an inspection of D. Kane's new house on Nob hill, complimenting its owner on his taste and enterprise. Mr. Daly said he trusted it would soon be settled by the American Congress. Provided such action was taken as would put silver on a firm footing, he was sure the Kootenay country would be one of the first to derive the benefits accruing. He felt that Canada had it within her power to do much to alleviate the financial distress by redeeming all the \$1 and \$2 bills with silver dollars, establishing her own mint at Ottawa and drawing her supply from British Columbia. This scheme might meet with opposition in some quarters, but in the main the country would be benefited.

NELSON.

(From the Tribune.)

T. H. Griffin, of Nelson, formerly mining recorder and assessor and collector of taxes, has been appointed "district registrar under the Supreme Court Act." No official in Kootenay is held in higher regard by the people with whom he has come in contact. He is succeeded as mining recorder by W. J. Goepel, of Nelson, and as assessor and collector by O. G. Dennis, of Kaslo. Mr. Goepel is a thorough business man, and will make a first class official. Mr. Dennis will make as efficient an assessor and collector as Mr. Goepel. The mining recorder, and if the Government continues to make such appointments in this district, the people will have no just cause for complaint.

Both the banks at Nelson have decided to discount American paper money five per cent. after the 15th instant. The reason given are that there is so much American money in circulation that the bills of the two banks remain in the vaults, instead of being in circulation, and that there is a demand for drafts on points in the United States. American silver will be taken at par, as heretofore.

The steamer from Will. Horne in Scotland, Big Bertha and Bon Ton, claims in Scotland. The work done was on the Bon Ton ground and the ore extracted will go to the owners of that claim. The Bon Ton owners will pay for the work and for transporting the ore to Kaslo. Some six or seven tons of ore that will go \$500 to the ton are at Kaslo awaiting shipment to the smelter. The owners of the Bon Ton are W. H. Brandon, M. P. Adams, and Captain Adams.

GOLDEN.

(From the Golden Era.)

Prospectors are coming in daily from Idaho and Montana. The steam dredge is up the river and by this time should be doing much useful work. Building is going on rapidly at Fort Steele. Several new buildings have recently gone up.

A. W. McVittie came down on last Monday's steamer and spent over a half day's time everything flourishing in camp and gold prospects good.

The pay roll at the White Horse mine is about \$60 per man, spread over about 30 men, half of whom are Chinese, bringing it up to some \$2,240 per month.

REVELSTOCK.