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SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1894.

## ALL THE WORLD OVER.

*"I must have liberty,  
Withal as large a charter as the wind—  
To blow on whom I please."*

THE dates for the nominations and the  
polling in connection with the gen-  
eral elections for the British Columbia  
Legislature have been fixed. Nomina-  
tion day is to be the 23rd instant, and  
the elections in most of the constituencies  
will take place July 7th. This matter  
being settled, it may be said that we are  
in the midst of what will prove to be one  
of the most exciting campaigns in the  
history of British Columbia.

Notwithstanding the fact that against  
the Government are arrayed twenty-five  
or thirty candidates, each with a policy of  
his own, it will not occur to the true be-  
liever in good government that the party  
led by Mr. Davie has anything to fear.

The Opposition, if the different  
elements opposed to the present Govern-  
ment can be dignified with the name,  
have so far failed to enlighten the voters  
as to what policy they will pursue in case  
they score a victory at the polls. One  
candidate believes that too many profes-  
sional men and capitalists have made or  
influenced the making of our laws; but  
avoids the great questions of the day. He  
does not say whether or not he is in favor  
of the development of the illimitable re-  
sources of the Province, a question of vital  
importance to British Columbians, but  
remarks that he believes in what exists  
already, viz: "The establishment of a  
Provincial labor bureau for the purpose of  
gathering reliable information on the  
labor situation, so that intending immi-

grants may be made fully acquainted with  
the true state of the labor market in the  
Province."

It must be confessed that the alleged  
Opposition labors under a serious dis-  
advantage. The leader, Mr. Cotton is in  
jail and is unable to direct the movements  
of his party. Mr. Beaven, the deposed  
leader, naturally feels diffident in dictat-  
ing a policy for the Opposition. In fact  
there are many who believe that there is  
only one plank in Mr. Beaven's platform,  
and that is to get into the House and let  
the others swim for themselves. The  
elements of which the Opposition ticket  
in this city are composed certainly lead  
to that belief. No one in the world regards  
Mr. Dutton in the light of a successful  
candidate. Mr. Beaven has a theory  
that Mr. Dutton controls a factor of the  
labor vote, and that by placing the latter  
on the ticket the former will gain consid-  
erable strength. If Mr. Dutton has many  
friends among the laboring men, they  
certainly will not vote for the man who  
when he was mayor of the city refused to  
appoint Mr. Dutton sanitary officer. Mr.  
Cameron found a place on the Opposition  
ticket for the reason that he is a promi-  
nent Single Taxer. No one is so dense as  
to believe that Mr. Cameron can be  
elected; but he may bring a few votes to  
Mr. Beaven, which is about all the latter  
cares for Mr. Cameron or his Single Tax  
theories, no matter how commendable  
they may be. Dr. Milne, it appears to  
me, has taken the wisest course. He is  
evidently disgusted with the other mem-  
bers on the ticket. According to his  
address, he is in sympathy with the gen-  
eral policy of the Davie Government. In  
this respect, the Doctor shows his good  
sense, and if he had only voted in the  
House as he now writes, he might have  
secured another term in the Legislature  
easily enough. It is to his credit, even  
at this late hour, that he denies any con-  
nection whatever with demagogism in  
any form.

There are but few who do not think  
that Victoria will return four Government  
supporters to the House. From Nanaimo  
comes the cheering report that Tom  
Keith's ambition to "move in the best  
circles" will not be achieved. Nearly  
every one of the Island constituencies  
have, in meeting and otherwise, expressed  
a decided preference for the Davie Gov-  
ernment, and the reports from the Main-  
land are of the most satisfactory character.

It is not often that I have to offer the  
*Colonist* a compliment, but I would be  
neglecting my duty if I failed to com-  
mend the article in the Thursday morn-  
ing issue of that paper headed "Juvenile  
Offenders." I agree with the morning  
paper when it says that it is hard to  
find language sufficiently strong to charac-  
terize the law which compels a merciful  
and sagacious judge to sentence youths  
whose characters are far from being  
formed, to associate in the common jail  
with offenders more or less hardened.  
The chances are ten to one that they  
come out of it, even after a short term  
of imprisonment, graduates in vice and  
crime. Young Walker has not the ap-  
pearance of a vicious boy and the  
chances are that he had little ap-  
preciation of the seriousness of his act.  
In good environment, he might yet be-  
come an ornament to society; but placed  
in companionship with hardened law-  
breakers, his chances of becoming any-  
thing but a criminal are as one in five  
thousand. When young Musgrave, who  
was much older than Walker is now, set  
Mr. Spencer's store on fire, Chief Justice  
Begbie let him off with a reprimand.  
Society did not suffer, and every one  
commended the wisdom of the action of  
the Chief Justice.

If there is one thing that makes the life  
of a housewife a burden more than an-  
other, it is the visits of the peripatetic  
vendor of "cheap" merchandise, the  
Chinese peddler. That they are a worry  
and a nuisance is the universal verdict of  
all householders, but how to suppress  
them is another story. Kicking the in-  
terloper out of the house may relieve an  
individual case, but those who come after,  
and their name is legion, do not seem to  
be deterred by the inhospitable reception  
given to their compatriot, but persist in  
their calls as long as the neighborhood  
gives them patronage. The class of cus-  
tomers who encourage the peddler are  
often caught by a sly insinuation from the  
cunning dealer that the goods may have  
been smuggled or secured by fraud or  
thieving to explain their cheapness. But  
if the woman who welcomes him to her  
house paws over his wares, buys his goods  
and encourages him to repeat his visit  
could view the surroundings of the ped-  
dler when at home and before he starts  
on his pilgrimage, she would hesitate  
before allowing him to encumber her room