THE WEEKLY WORLD

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1895.

PRAIRIE POT POURRI.

This is the title of a souvenir edition of Northwest affairs, from the pen of "Mary Markwell," a gifted and exceedingly clever writer of Regina. The work was issued and put into circulation during the late Territorial fair and met with a considerable sale then and the demand still continues. She has been a resident of the Northwest for a number of years. "Prairie Pot Pourri" is not by any means her first effort, but it is her most elaborate and best production. It is gratefully inscribed

To the early days and the weary ways
Enshrined in the sunset land;
To a kindly voice that bade rejoice,
And the clasp of a friendly hand.

The only engraving in the work is the frontispiece, which is a bunch of prairie flowers representing a group of young children, the first-born of well-known personages in and about Regina. The Lode-dah from London is portrayed to the life and evidences close study of character. Next are four six-line verses on Riel, followed by an interesting chapter entitled an Episode at Clarke's Crossing During the Rebellion of 1885, and a short poem, Prairie Verses. How the End Came, is a short but clever article, then follows another poem, On a Butterfly, three verses of six lines each. But the most interesting of the whole work is The Light of Other Days: A Story of the Rebellion and After, in several chapters, occupying about 100 pages. A poem, Rough Ben: An Incident of the Northwest Rebellion, reproduced from songs of the Great Dominion is given. Next we have Slumberland Shadows, a Christmas drawer for the wee ones, finishing with the poem At Barracks. This brochure is intensely interesting and is certain to meet with an extensive sale, especially throughout Manitoba and the Territories, the scenes and incidents being familiar. The authoress was awarded the first prize for a poem and song, in competition with other literary people. Mary Markwell is a nom-de-plume, the gifted lady's real name being Mrs. Kate E. Hayes, originally of Bathurst, N. B. She is the efficient librarian for the Territorial Legislature.

GOLD EXPORTS.

The continued large outflow of gold from the United States to Europe causes considerable consternation in business, and especially in financial circles. On Saturday no less a sum than $4,550,000 was taken away by the outgoing European steamers, making a total for the week of $7,280,000, nearly all of which was withdrawn from the treasury reserve. This had a bad effect on the stock market, besides considerably discouraging the financial community, reminding them as it did of the gold shipments a year ago. But they should also have remembered how very different the present times are from those then. Commenting on the situation the Scottish-American says:

Just eight months ago confidence in finance was completely shaken and trade generally was paralyzed, with no hope or sign of revival. Stagnation prevailed in every industry, for manufacturers and traders confined themselves to supplying immediate requirements. Foreign capital has been withdrawn from this country, and the treasury's gold reserve was down to $41,000,000, and the gold-coin holdings had fallen below the outstanding gold certificates. Since then there has been a complete change. Confidence has revived so that seven idle workmen have got employment at greatly increased wages. For the eight months ending with August, 1894, the bank clearings were 24 per cent. less than in the corresponding period of the previous year, while for the eight months ending with August last the bank clearings showed an increase of 16 per cent. over last. The cause of the great drain upon the treasury is simply the increase by $153,000,000 of Government notes under the Sherman act. These notes have become a serious embarrassment. It was thought last spring that, with gold shipments checked and the treasury reserve protected through the syndicate, before the expiration of the contract interior trade would expand sufficiently to employ, for the season at any rate, the excess of the currency. This hope, however reasonable, has not been fully realised, though preliminary signs of such action in regard to the currency are visible. The huge accumulations of idle money in the cities (a potent cause of the outflow of foreign capital) have for the last few weeks been almost equally depleted by transfer of funds against gold exports by shipment of currency to the West. Former experience has been that the pressure was in due time relieved by the reduction in the local supply of money. But for the unfortunate shortage of the winter wheat crop and of the early cotton, such an adjustment would have taken place before this. Meantime the syndicate continues to reimburse the treasury gold reserve of all gold export withdrawals, although the contract requiring it to do so has expired. Western city banks, too, have combined to maintain the gold reserve, as they did on two previous occasions. There is thus no cause for getting alarmed.

AT OUR VERY DOORS.

There is a good deal in the bold assertion of the St. Paul Globe that a marked characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon is the desire that everyone should conform to his notions of the conduct of life. Everywhere he is a reformer. Satisfied that some things are good or some are bad for him, he would persuade or compel every other one to adopt what he deems good, and eschew what he regards as bad. This disposition manifests itself in every direction. It crops out everywhere. It interferes with the tastes and customs of people. It attempts to regulate pretty nearly everything. Its plea is the general welfare. Once it attempted to regulate the clothes people should wear and the food they should eat. An English monarch fulminated a blast against tobacco; another prescribed diet and apparel. Believing that religion was essential to the good behaviour of the subject in this life and his only salvation from an eternity of torment thereafter, it was attempted to compel everyone to be religious. As sects differentiated, that one which could wield the arm of the State used it to oblige submission to its dogma. But this is long past. The futility of those efforts was long ago seen and they were abandoned. But the same activity runs out in other directions, as yet unchecked by any realization of its usefulness. Failing to recognize immutable facts, the progressive races whose development was either arrested at a certain stage or has never begun, and the sentimental in them have wasted time and money and lives in trying to mold them over into our civilization; undaunted, as yet, by the complete failure of their purpose. Prof. Petrie startled the members of the British Association in London the other day by his sharp criticism of the efforts of the sentimentalists to spread our civilization among the inferior races of the world. Civilization is a matter of character, and that cannot be either created or changed by outside pressure. There may be a servile imitation as long as the pressure remains, but when this is removed there is a speedy relapse to original conditions. The Indian pitches his tepee alongside the house a benign Government has built for him. He doffs the raiment of civilization and resumes the freedom of his blanket. "We may despitefully force a bald and senseless imitation of our ways on another people," says the professor, "but we shall only destroy their life without implanting any vitality in its place. No change is legitimate or beneficial to the real character of a people except what flows from conviction and natural growth of mind." We try to impose on simple peoples, whose development is far below ours, our system, "the most complex, unnatural and artificial that has ever been known." The outgrowth, our development of our own racial character, adapted to our climatic conditions, "we attempt to force on the least developed races, and expect from them implicit subservience to our illogical law and our inconsistent morality. The result is death. We make a death house and call it civilization. Scarcely a race can bear the burden, and then we talk complacently about the mysterious decay of savages before the white man." Sentiment will take offense at the plain, blunt truthfulness of this professor, who speaks from the abundant experience as an Egyptologist and anthropologist, but common sense recognizes the force of his judgment. Our race is confronted with a weightier and more difficult problem in its own development. We boast of our civilization, with evidences of barbarism all around us. We weep over the conditions of the contented native of Borrioboolagha, and send our missionaries to reform and reconstruct him, while at our doors are our own Anglo-Saxon savages needing our attention. Here we have a character that can be aided to better conditions by a better environment and happy in it. Until we give their place to these inalterable facts, a great part of what is attempted to be done in the name of civilization and progress will continue to flower only into sentimental futilism.

GOING TO THE PEOPLE.

At the last session of the Legislature of New Brunswick several counties were given additional representation and since then vacancies have been created, through death and otherwise, in a number of constituencies, so that the Government felt the necessity of going to the country, according to a well known British precedent. Friends of the Premier had received intimation that he would visit this city, but it is quite improbable now that he will be able to come West this year. We incline to the belief that Hon. Mr. Blair will be largely sustained in the country and that he will resume office with even an increased majority. The local Opposition, there as here, is in a hopelessly demoralized condition, and has failed to gain the confidence of the public. It is composed entirely, we believe, of Conservatives, while the Government is rather Liberal than otherwise in its tendencies, though at least two members of the Executive, Hon. James Mitchell and Hon. L. J. Tweedie, Provincial Secretary and Surveyor-General respectively, are supporters of the dominant party in the Dominion. Hon. H. R. Emmerson, on the other hand, who is Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and a powerful Minister, is one of the most advanced Reformers in the Province. We learn that influential Liberals are making an effort to run the coming election on straight party lines, as in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, though it would seem to us that some difficulty would be experienced in bringing this to pass. It appears to be taken for granted that if Mr. Blair wins he will resign and contest probably Westmoreland for the House of Commons as a lieutenant of Wilfrid Laurier. He possesses great force, and, like all men of strong character, has virulent enemies, but his friends admire him and continue to follow his command. The campaign will be short and lively. October is a pleasant month in New Brunswick and both sides in that respect will have a fair show. We do not think it is possible for the Opposition to succeed. If such were the result it would be regarded as little short of a miracle.

UNDER FREE TRADE.

The British Board of Trade has prepared a very able paper showing the progress of British merchant shipping, and the London Times in its summary points out lucidly what Free Trade England continues to hold more than her own in the carrying trade of the world on the high seas. It smashes into kindling wood the pessimistic structure raised by Sir Chas. Hibbert Tupper, and forms excellent campaign literature at this time. It disposes altogether the erroneous view held by many that foreigners are supplanting English seamen. One frequently hears it said that with the use of steam and mechanical appliances our vessel owners are dispensing with many of the hands which they once employed, and that the day of the A. B. is over. While there is an element of truth in this, it is an exaggeration, especially in regard to some classes of the mercantile marine. From an analysis of the composition of the crews of certain selected British steam vessels in 1880, compared with a similar analysis for 1890, there was in port a slight increase; the figures for the former year were 44.19 and for the latter, 2,461. In the case of sailing vessels it was different. A similar comparison showed that 629 men all told in 1890 worked sailing vessels which ten years before required 735. Undoubtedly the tendency is to economize labor in the merchant navy, and the broad result is that in 1894 about two men did the work of seven on steam vessels in 1854, and on sailing vessels two did the work of four. The decline has taken place chiefly among able seamen and apprentices. The number of the latter enrolled last year was only about one-seventh of those enrolled in 1854. The English shipowner, no doubt, finds it cheaper to employ foreign labor to man his vessels but even in the number of foreign seamen alleged to be in English vessels there is much exaggeration. It is true, however, they are supplanting the English, for statistics show that in 1853 only 4.4 per cent. of the crews were foreigners, while in 1894 it had risen to 16.95, not counting Lascars and Asiatics, who have increased until they are about one-eighth or one-ninth of the entire number. How far the last class of seamen compare in point of efficiency with the English A. B. is a much debated question. That Englishmen are being displaced out of the merchant marine by foreigners is denied. The reason assigned for his giving up the sea is that he finds employment more to his taste elsewhere with higher wages. In almost every trade in the past 40 years wages have risen nominally and really—some trades in that interval increased 50 per cent. No similar advance is found in the returns furnished of seamen's wages. On the contrary, some of them show a decided decline. For example, the wages of a first, second and third engineer on board a vessel of 1,000 to 1,500 tons were in 1850 respectively £17 15s., £13 and £10 a month; in 1894 they were £14 15s., £11 and £7 15s. A first mate on a sailing vessel of 1,500 to 2,000 tons received 160s. a month in 1860, and 155s. in 1894. The wages of mates and all petty officers had moved slightly downwards, yet the amount of seamen's deposits in the savings banks had increased. Continuing its comments the Times points out that alarmists often will cry that the carrying trade of the country is passing out of our hands, and that more and more foreign vessels are to be seen in Liverpool, Hull and Glasgow. But the returns furnished by the Board of Trade paper show that England has no cause to murmur. In 1850 of the total tonnage entered and cleared in the United Kingdom 65.1 per cent. was conveyed by English ships, and last year it was 72.9 per cent. No other country in the same period has done so well. In comparison with other lands the English mercantile marine shows up wonderfully. In a little over 40 years it has about trebled, and that, too, at a time when tonnage of rival countries remained stationary. English superiority is most striking in the case of steam vessels. "Made in Germany" is not, yet a correct designation of any appreciable number of vessels sailing under the British flag. Nor, what is often doubted, has England lost her position as builder of ships for foreign countries, although that portion of free trade is in a very sensitive condition. It fluctuates from year to year, but, notwithstanding the vicissitudes in the shipbuilding trade, England last year supplied foreign customers with three times as much tonnage as she did in 1858. There seems, however, to have been no increase in the building of warships for foreigners in English shipyards. While it is a fact that the Englishman, so long as he makes money out of the transaction, has not the slightest compunction in building battleships for foreigners even to fight against his own country, yet the patriotic Englishman may find some solace in the fact that English guns will not have to batter down the ships that are the product of the master mechanics of the old home land. Notwithstanding the establishment of subsidized foreign lines running between ports hitherto served exclusively by British steamers, and the construction or purchase of a large and swift vessel by foreign companies competing with English shipowners, yet the carrying trade of the world was never more in the hands of the British than now. It is a proud boast and we of the greater Britain beyond the seas glory in it. And it was Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper who spoke as follows: "Who will say for one moment that the hostile tariffs surrounding that country (Great Britain) in every quarter of the globe have not been successful in forcing her out, step by step, from the position of vantage which she one held in the various markets of the world. What is the whole policy of the motherland to-day? Driven from the civilized markets of the world, steadily and every year finding their output to those markets decreasing, they spend millions on their navy, and millions on the maintenance of a force their wares and their goods and their merchandise into the uncivilized markets of the world, which they are endeavoring to occupy, to settle and to control, driven there by the deadly effects upon them of the tremendous competition coming from the protectionist nations in the rest of the world." What do loyal Canadians think of it?

ON BELLINGHAM BAY.

A Day's Jaunt Among Our American Cousins.

The cars were filled to their utmost capacity when the excursion train left at 8 o'clock yesterday morning for Whatcom, over the C. P. R., carrying expectant visitors to the annual fair of the Northwestern Agricultural and Industrial Association. Dan. McKellar conveyed the party, which is sufficient to say that not a hitch occurred. The grounds are large and commodious, and the exhibits were capital, especially in vegetables, fruits and poultry. These would do credit to any country. One of the most interesting sights, however, because novel, was the flax display, an industry that promises to assume large proportions, and that British Columbia farmers should turn their attention to. This department was in charge of Dr. Thornton, the pioneer flax man of Puget Sound, ably supported by Mr. McConnell, of Whatcom, who has been engaged by the Board of Trade to work up the flax in a practical manner with the ordinary resources. Mr. McConnell gave working illustrations of the method followed in Ireland. Louis Polson was engaged in a separate room preparing flax for the Board of Trade prize, after the Swedish fashion, and a German, Mr. Woocher, worked down flax on the German system. Mrs. Svenson, of Lynden, spun flax on the old-fashioned spinning wheel. Among the exhibits were a large number of fine samples of flax straw, also some worked up "line" and tow, the product of Dr. Thornton's experimental work for the Department of Agriculture this season. Dr. Thornton also exhibits some splendid samples of hemp grown on his ranch. Among the other things of interest may be mentioned some very beautiful patterns of damask table covers and napkins made by Mrs. Svenson, of Lynden, from flax which was grown, retted, scutched, hackled, spun and woven by her; also a shirt of an old French farmer, made 70 years ago, and a table cloth made 60 years ago, both as strong and sound as when first made. Great hones are held out that the Puget Sound country will yet raise flax on a large scale. The Ferris wheel was a big attraction. Marriages took place each night, and much enthusiasm was aroused. Interesting sports were held in the afternoon. The officers of the society are Edward Fischer, president; Capt. S. P. Connor, vice-president; M. C. Latta, treasurer, and Wm. Reilly, secretary, and the visitors are indebted to the president and secretary for kindly favors. The board of trustees comprise Messrs. W. M. Frizell, L. B. Carter, Lester W. David, C. W. Worthen, J. Simpson, H. A. Smith, C. H. Stoltenberg, R. L. Kline, Roland G. Gamwell, T. W. Gillette, J. J. Edens, T. C. Darnell and Edward Fischer. The Whatcoms appear to be congratulated on the pluck and energy evinced. They are sanguine of the future of their town, and intend bending their energies to its advancement. Next year's show will, it is predicted, prove much better and closer to morrow. We trust it will, and no doubt British Columbia will send a larger contingent over on that occasion. The representative of The World has to thank E. W. Purdy, county treasurer, a St. John, N. B., boy, who has prospered in business in the West, and his amiable wife, formerly Miss Marcella Storey, of Victoria, for unremitting attention and thoughtful courtesy. Mrs. Purdy succeeded in winning most of the prizes in the flower department, as she is in fruit, and richly deserved them. Their home, with its spacious grounds, and orchard adjoining, is one of the most beautiful in the Northwest.

Among former Vancouverites met with were ex-Mayor Cosgrove, of Hatzic, and Mr. Picken, both of whom look well and are well-to-do and prosperous, Mr. Cosgrove being largely interested in the street railway. A trip was made to Fairhaven, but its glory, notwithstanding the 100 trains a day departed, the magnificent hotel built by the Land Company in "boom" days remaining in lonely splendor as a monument of departed fame. It is still maintained on nearly as expensive a scale as when the place was booming, but it must be a very expensive luxury. Rumors of a gold find in the immediate vicinity are giving the people hopes, and it would help Fairhaven out wonderfully if these should be gratified. They are a friendly lot, people along Puget Sound, Bellingham Bay, and have the best feelings towards British Columbia. They were especially pleased with the showing made by Vancouver at the Fair, and The World was told by a number of leading citizens that it was the best for forgotten next Dominion Day. "Fourth of July, or no Fourth of July," said one gentleman, "we are coming over in hundreds to see you and reciprocate your neighborliness." That they will be heartily welcomed goes without saying. Vancouver was reached shortly before midnight, everybody well pleased, glad they had crossed the border, and looking forward to a similar pleasure in 1896.

DEPUTY MINISTER BURGESS.

A. M. Burgess, Deputy Minister of the Interior, accompanied by other gentlemen, arrived yesterday at Mission Junction from Albuquerque, N. M., and proceeded eastward. They had been attending an irrigation convention there, where they went to acquire all information possible on irrigation matters, on behalf of the Dominion Government, who contemplate encouraging the irrigation of lands in the vicinity of Calgary, and other parts of the Northwest territories. T. S. Higginson, Crown timber agent, was invited and accompanied them as far as North Bend, with the object, no doubt, of discussing matters with the Deputy Minister, connected with his own department. This irrigation matter reminds us that in what is known as our dry belt, from North Bend to Kamloops, we have hundreds of thousands of acres of as fertile land as there is in the world, thirsting for water, of which there is an ample supply in our lakes and mountain streams, were it preserved for irrigation purposes. We confidently look forward, at an early date, to see large areas of this belt producing not only cereals of all kinds in abundance but also tobacco and tea. Our readers may feel surprised when we say "tea," but from conversation with a gentleman from China some months ago, he remarked for soil and climate, our dry belt will yield as fine tea as can be produced in the world.

OKANAGAN FLOUR MILL CO.

A very large and representative meeting of the shareholders of the Okanagan Flouring Mills Co. was held at Armstrong on September 23rd, Donald Matheson presided and J. Wright was appointed secretary pro tem. The chairman briefly stated the object of the meeting, and J. Hamill then explained very fully the manner in which the municipality proposed granting a bonus to the company, and read a copy of the by-law which would go before the ratepayers at an early date. Armstrong was made the chief place of business of the company; that the company should be limited liability, with a capital of $60,000, divided into 600 shares of $100 each; be operated on the co-operative system; and that the mill should have a capacity of 100 barrels per diem. The provisional directors were then nominated and Mark Hill, D. Rabbitt, D. Matheson, C. O'Keefe and D. Graham, M. P. P., were elected unanimously. A committee was appointed to draft the by-laws; the directors and Messrs. Clinton, Seydell, Hamill and Cummings were chosen. The directors were requested to immediately proceed with the erection and construction of the mill buildings, etc. A call of $5 per share was made due and payable on October 1st next, and as quite a number wished to pay at once Donald Graham was appointed treasurer pro tem.

Dyspepsia or Indigestion is occasioned by the want of action in the biliary ducts. Want of vitality in the stomach to secret the gastric juices, without which digestion cannot go on; also, being the principal cause of headache. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills taken before going to bed, for a while, never fail to give relief and effect a cure. Mr. F. W. Ashton, Ont., writes: "Parmelee's Pills are taking the lead against ten other makes which I have in stock."

OUR AGENCY IN LONDON.

CHANGES THAT WILL ENHANCE ITS USEFULNESS.

Agent-General Vernon Fully Alive to the Duties Thrust Upon Him—Active Campaign in the Interests of the Province to be Instituted.

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, Sept. 12.—About a year ago The World published some remarks, written from this city referring to the British Columbia Government agency. Since then three important changes have taken place and it may, therefore, be of interest to pay another visit to the Provincial office and note the value of these alterations. In the first place, an additional allowance for the maintenance of the agency was made at the last session of the Legislature. The urgent need of better financial support was very apparent to all who were acquainted with the circumstances under which the office was being carried on, and it is a matter for sincere congratulation that a larger amount has been allowed. Secondly, a change has taken place in location. The old offices were situated at 33 Finsbury Circus, E. C.; the new are in Albany Buildings, 39 Victoria street, S. W. For many reasons the removal was desirable. Whilst it is true that the former offices were in the heart of what is called "the city," it is also true that Finsbury Circus is not a leading thoroughfare, and that it is not the recognized locality for colonial agencies. No better situation could be desired than that in which the offices are now, as Victoria street is the street on which almost all the leading colonial representatives are to be found. Its centrality will be recognized when it is stated that it is a thoroughfare leading to and from the Houses of Parliament, and it may also be to the point to say that the agency itself is within five minutes' walk of these historic legislative buildings. Going westward from St. Stephens, the first building passed is the ancient church of St. Margaret's, a church which has grown into great popularity on account of the ministry of the Ven. Archdeacon Farrar, now Dean Farrar. Next to St. Margaret's stands a still more renowned edifice—Westminster Abbey. Then comes a long terrace in which are the offices of the Agents-General for the Australian colonies, New Zealand and South Africa; also that of Sir Charles Tupper, High Commissioner for Canada. This latter is No. 17, a minute's walk beyond it being Albany buildings, on the ground floor of which the Hon. Mr. Vernon has established himself.

The Agent-General for British Columbia has three rooms. The first, occupied by the office boy, who is engaged in learning typewriting, is a spacious one, intended for the use of visitors using the waiting room. It is large enough to hold an attractive display of minerals, samples of timber and other Provincial resources. The second room is occupied by Mr. Vernon's secretary, Mr. Henry A. Barton, a barrister who has traveled extensively in British Columbia, was formerly deputy Attorney-General of the Province, and who is therefore in an excellent position to give correct information to people who call upon them. The third room is the private offices of the agent-general. All three are nicely fitted and furnished, Mr. Vernon having been to considerable personal expense in order to have his offices pleasant and attractive. The admirable location of the agency is the first good feature that attracts the attention of the visitor; next to which its cheerful and cleanly appearance are certain to be noticed.

The third change which has taken place in the 12 months is the appointment of the Hon. F. G. Vernon to be agent-general in the place of H. C. Beeton, resigned. Undoubtedly Mr. Beeton did excellent work for the Province, but his successor has begun to do better. With an increased allowance, and more convenient office, he certainly has a better chance, and it will be seen from what follows that he has already begun to follow up and improve upon the efforts of his predecessor. I called to see the agent-general a few mornings ago. No duty could be more pleasant, for Mr. Vernon, as is his custom, received me very cordially. The hon. gentleman talked quite entertainingly about the work which he contemplates doing in London, and seemed especially pleased to show me over his offices. He called attention to the files of Provincial newspapers which are kept up regularly for the convenience of visitors; to the supply of maps and pamphlets which he had just received from Victoria; to a collection of minerals, the specimens of which unfortunately lost in the old offices, but which he hopes to have nicely arranged and labelled; to the office register, showing all letters received and copies of those sent out, as well as names of callers; and to a host of other attractive features all of which indicate the thorough business style in which the agency is conducted. Mr. Vernon had just finished reading his letters when I called, and he willingly consented to tell about his position and work.

He spoke first of the removal from Finsbury Circus. "When I arrived in London to take over the duties of agent-general," he said, "I at once decided to select more suitable offices, as the old ones seemed to me not only to be inconveniently situated, but unsuitable in every way for office purposes. I tried many places, but found none more convenient than those which I have taken in Victoria street. You see, Victoria street is the known locality for all the agents-general, being near the colonial office, and as the High Commissioner's office is close by, people naturally come this way in quest of information regarding the colonies. We are very accessible to the city, as besides the constant stream of buses which pass near to, there is the underground railway only a few minutes walk from here. We are, moreover, in the neighborhood of the army and navy stores. These stores are frequented a great deal by people who travel and by army and navy officers, some of whom have been in British Columbia and others who have sons and relations out there, and who are, therefore, much concerned in the Province. People often go to Sir Chas. Tupper's office to enquire about British Columbia, and as we are almost next door to him he can easily send them in here for maps, pamphlets and fuller information. When I first arrived in London, I found that the Province was very little known, except by persons who had been out there. The general public seemed not to have heard of such a place, and little interest was, consequently, being taken in us. During the early part of the year I was unfortunately laid up with a severe illness, but as soon as I had sufficiently recovered I set to work to alter this state of affairs as far as possible, and at once advertised extensively the change of offices and circulated 1,000 copies of such pamphlets regarding the resources of the Province as were provided. I did not consider it advisable to distribute these broadcast or indiscriminately, so had them sent out through agencies which know where to send information. The class of people most needed in the Province at present are people with money, and it has been to this class that our pamphlets have been sent. We require men with capital to invest in our industries, and young men with a little at any rate to go on with. Several have gone out lately, and I am hoping to add to their number. We get a good many inquiries from parents anxious to select suitable locations for their sons. Of course we find out what pursuits they intend to follow and advise them to what part of the Province it would be best to settle in. I am doing all I can to discourage laboring men and mechanics, without in any means, from going out. There are quite sufficient there now for some time to come, and I think it would be very unwise to advise any more to go, and thus increase the difficulties of those who are there. I have already prevented several from starting, and shall do all I can to discourage this class of emigration."

This opened the question of correspondence and Mr. Vernon volunteered the information that nearly 100 letters per month were beginning to be sent from the office, irrespective of printed pamphlets. The quantity of correspondence was daily increasing—a fact which proved that it was bringing good results. Recently a further 500 copies had been sent out to be advantageously distributed in addition, of course, to the daily distribution to callers, and through the post, and it was proposed to follow this up in the hope of arousing that interest in the Province, which the value of its resources justifies. Mr. Vernon, spoke of the unattractive nature and quantity of the printed literature, with which he was supplied, and informed me that he had communicated with the Government and urged the advisability of getting out treatises relating to different departments of Provincial industry, such as (1) agriculture, (2) fruit culture, (3) hop-growing, (4) mining, (5) fishing, (6) forestry, and (7) general industries, and he has reason to believe that the Government, who are fully alive to the desirability of assisting the office, will procure and forward what is required, which in due course will be judiciously distributed. This is an important matter, and one which, when properly carried out, will result in the Province becoming as well known as the Australias and South Africa. The principal official pamphlet upon British Columbia at present is one entitled British Columbia: Its Present Resources and Future Possibilities. It is an excellent, carefully composed and nicely illustrated work. No other colony or Province makes any charge for the information it distributes, and though the pamphlets referred to is rather better than what is provided by other Governments, it has been considered advisable to abolish the charge. A few days previous to when I called, Mr. Vernon had posted 500 pamphlets to well-known bankers throughout the country, and another 500 to wealthy country gentlemen and others. In the selection of suitable people to send these to care had been taken to chose influential persons who are likely to make good use of the information thus received. A number of answers had come to hand and the Agent-General was sanguine of being able to do some good in this way. Hand books have also been distributed on the chief railway bookstalls under the agreement with Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons, and also over the continental car system.

"Have you had enquiries from financial people who are likely to establish any industries in the Province," I asked.

"Yes," Mr. Vernon said, "interest is being exhibited in our deep sea fisheries. One gentleman, who is extensively engaged in steam trawling on this side, is contemplating embarking in this industry along the coast of British Columbia. He has received all the information which he could desire, but I am not yet able to say what will be the outcome. Interviews have also taken place with gentlemen interested in the frozen salmon trade, and in lumbering. The interviewers have been people of means and experience."

Turning to mining matters, Mr. Vernon said that there was not that amount of interest taken in the British Columbia which he would like to see—though during the last months it has greatly increased—this being accounted for by the fact that Provincial mines are practically unknown in England. Only one British Columbia mining company is quoted on the Stock Exchange, and only those which are listed are likely to meet with any great attention from financiers. Picking up the Daily Telegraph, Mr. Vernon pointed out what was meant by "listing," and what are its results. All the prominent journals of England contain a column or two daily, giving particulars regarding the returns from different mines, the latest prices for mining shares and details of the previous day's transactions in the leading mining markets. By this means all the mines registered at the Stock Exchange are brought to public notice, these being arranged under the headings: "West African Market," "South Australian Market," etc., and until British Columbia mines are quoted, Mr. Vernon contends it is not to be expected that capitalists will know much about its great mineral wealth. To help matters, however, Mr. Vernon frequently sends clippings from British Columbia papers to the editors of financial and commercial journals published in England. By so doing, he is endeavoring to pave the way for results which cannot be long delayed, and indeed in the last month serious inquiries from capitalists have been made at the office with a view to investment in the mining industry of the Province. Two large firms have been inquiring about contracting the shipment of ore to England to be smelted and are about to send agents out to the Province to examine the mines and report as to the feasibility of so doing. A firm from Hamburg are also sending a representative for the same purpose. A private London syndicate is sending representatives to British Columbia this week to look up mining properties and another strong financial company has just been formed to actively prosecute mining. Enquiries have also been made as to yellow cedar, and a company has been formed in England to prosecute this branch of the lumber industry. Many enquiries are being received for maps and information regarding the land laws. Mr. Vernon having been Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a number of years is in an excellent position to direct enquiries as to the most suitable districts.

On being asked about the Provincial court at the Imperial Institute, the Agent-General said that he was not yet in a position to say anything of value regarding it, although he could quite see that there was room for some important improvements to be made. All the Agents-General in London are, by virtue of their office, Governors of the Institute. They are appointed for a term of five years—Mr. Beeton's term does not expire until next year, so Mr. Vernon could not, of course, be actively identified with the management of the court. He had, however, given letters of introduction to Harrison Watson, Canadian Curator of the Imperial Institute, who was making a trip through Canada with a view of arousing more interest in the work of the Institute. Mr. Watson will give his views to the Government of British Columbia. With a little expense, the British Columbia court could be made one of the most attractive in the buildings. Immediately after coming to London the Agent-General had, on the proposition of Mr. Beeton, been elected a member of the Colonial Institute—an influential society which has its home on Northumberland avenue, and which is composed of residents in England who are in some way interested in the colonies. It will be remembered that it was at the Colonial Institute that the late Sir John Thompson delivered his eloquent defence of Canada which proved to be his last public utterance. Mr. Vernon has under consideration a paper which he may possibly read before the Institute. In it he will deal with the proven and the practical and avoid all those time-honored platitudes regarding the Province's latent resources, untold wealth. Every colony is full of these. What is wanted is actual facts.

Speaking of the new loan Mr. Vernon said, "Before Mr. Turner's arrival in England, I had been engaged in making the preliminary arrangements for placing the loan on the market, and was greatly surprised to read the letters written by certain gentlemen in British Columbia, which appeared in some of the London papers, notably Truth and the Statist, attacking mischievously the credit of the Province. The bankers and others who were interesting themselves to obtain the best possible price were astonished, as no instance of such a line of conduct had ever before, in any country, come to their notice. Such a stupid and suicidal course to emanate from Provincial tax-payers, whose interest it was to relate the largest amount possible, passed their comprehension. Their conduct was dastardly in the extreme. The Legislature having decided, in its wisdom, that the loan should be obtained the only course open to the Government was to get the money as cheaply as possible. Whatever differences of opinion there might be amongst the members of the Legislature, with regard to matters of Government policy, I feel quite sure they will all deprecate the utterance of private and irresponsible writers which can only result in injuriously affecting the Province, and of course themselves. It had been Mr. Turner's intention to have placed the loan at 96, and there seems to be no doubt but that this figure would have been obtained only for the damaging and erroneous statements referred to, and which were of course eagerly seized upon by interested parties here to the detriment of the Province. Mr. Turner then considered it safer to have the loan underwritten and offered at 95, which was done. The loss of one point means a loss of some $20,000 to the Province, and this must be attributed to the effect of the letters to which I have alluded, as they were freely talked about on the Stock Exchange on the eve of the loan being offered. However, at 95 the sale was an excellent one. The New Zealand and Australian colonies have to pay a good deal more for any money they require. Mr. Turner had been doing good work for the Province during his visit, but most unfortunately he had been laid up for a lengthened time through illness and from which he is only now recovering.

Concluding the interview Mr. Vernon spoke strongly of the good work being done for Canada by the High Commissioner, who, he said, had expressed the pleasure it would afford him to always co-operate with him in advocating the interests of British Columbia. Arrangements had also been made to work in harmony with the London office of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Having only been in office a few months, of course he had not had time to accomplish a great deal, but he hoped before long to make the British Columbia Government agency an important and creditable institution.

THE ROYAL CITY.

Happenings in and About the City of New Westminster.

New Westminster, Sept. 26.—At a meeting of the Westminster Kennel club executive it has been decided to build at once a benching house at Queen's Park Exhibition grounds. The new building will be an octagon with three wings. In the centre of the interior, raised about six feet from the floor of the main building will be a judging ring, so arranged as to allow spectators to see the judging outside and between the wings. The new house will be situated across the race track south from where the old one stood and on the present site of the poultry house which is to be removed. Much interest is being taken in the dog show. The full particulars in this connection may be found in an advertisement in these columns. Several fine dogs are promised from Victoria and Nanaimo, and everything at present points to a most successful exhibit. The committee which is composed of rustlers is making every effort to make a good showing at the club's bench house in October.

Four men were arrested about 11 o'clock last night by Chief Carty and Constable Miller. Emerzen Wells, a white man, and F. Zuripee, C. A. Hilmer and Pat Edwards, half-breeds. The charge against them is laid by Hogan Bros., of the Telegraph hotel, and states that about 10 o'clock last night Wells came to the hotel alone just as the house was being closed. William Hogan told him he was just about to close up and requested Wells to leave. Wells got ugly and refused to go out. After waiting a while Hogan put him outside and locked the door. In a short time the four men above named came to the house, and, after trying and finding the door locked, kicked it in and entered, holding possession until the arrival of the police. The men will be tried in the police court to-morrow morning.

New Westminster, Sept. 27.—The Brunette Saw Mill Company are clearing their decks preparatory to action. They mean to start their mill as soon as some certain negotiations now pending have been satisfactorily completed. In this connection it may be said that the saw milling interests in this Province have not had for any means a fair show. Neither from the Provincial authorities nor from the municipalities in which they operate have the saw mills of British Columbia received practical encouragement. On the contrary, they have been handicapped by heavy taxation and allowed to pull against the strong current of foreign competition alone and unaided. The most important industry in the Province, the lumber interest, should receive the encouragement of the Government, Boards of Trade and our local councils to make the mills to do a successful and at least fairly profitable business. They should be exempt from taxation, either Provincial or local, and it would be in the public interest were the Boards of Trade to take a deeper and more practical interest in the question of lightening the burdens now imposed upon the saw milling industry of British Columbia, in which are employed the greater proportion of the mechanics and laboring men of the country, and most of which are being carried on at a loss. For Westminster it may be said that the saw mills employ over 75 per cent. of the total laboring forces of the city. The Board of Trade has a strong influence, which, if developed and brought to bear upon the Federal cabinet would in all probability induce the Dominion authorities to give the business interests of the Fraser river section at least part of the money due them for clearing and deepening their great natural waterway to the sea. It is a crying and most disgraceful injustice that the vast trade of the Fraser should be allowed to suffer year after year for the sake of the comparatively small sum that would, if scientifically applied, render the lower Fraser available for navigation with vessels of the largest ocean tonnage. This would be asking no favor of the Dominion either; not only is it appropriation due us, but interest is due upon a very considerable amount.

The Lily of the Valley has been up to her old tricks again, and is wasting her native sweetness on the desert air of the police station, while her friends are taking up a collection wherewith to transport the festive Indian maiden to her native heath at Langley. She only weighs 87 lbs., and the chief has instructions to get the best rate he can from the steamship companies, and send her up by freight. This is the same girl whom the late lock-up-keeper Smith, who was a big strong man, but rather stout, attempted to carry up to the station from Front street two years ago, and burst a blood-vessel in the operation, from which rupture he never recovered.

Negotiations are pending to have the Whatcom Ferris wheel at the exhibition grounds during the Fair. Duty will have to be collected upon the machine, but collector Clute thinks if the committee wire Ottawa they may get the duty remitted.

New Westminster, Sept. 28.—C. F. Pretty was sworn in to-day by Capt. Pittendrigh, S. M., assistant Provincial constable, for Harrison River district.

Judge Bole yesterday recorded an important judgment in a case reserved, of which we have given particulars from the inception of the suit, which was an appeal by L. Guichon and Wm. H. Ladner against an assessment of their lands, in the Delta, under the dyking law by the municipal assessor, upon the valuation of civil engineer Green. The ground of appeal contained all the elements of a most reasonable objection, viz., that appellants had been at large expense in years past upon private dykes, which had answered their purpose, and protected the assessed lands from overflow. Upon this ground they claimed a right to a substantial rebate, or total exemption. The case was very ably argued by A. J. McColl, Q. C., for the Delta Council, R. L. Reed for Mr. Ladner, and Alex. Henderson for Mr. Guichon. In his decision the learned judge notes that he has personally inspected the lands on which the case is involved, has seen the old dykes, and the lines of the proposed work of reclamation, and says great stress was laid by appellants on the fact that there was no necessity for the proposed dykes. With respect to this contention he did not feel called upon to pronounce on opinion, as if that view were sustained it might affect the validity of the by-law made in this connection, and the by-law was not before him for the purpose of being quashed. The evidence which has been taken before him was not sufficient to sustain the contention of appellants. The estimate appears to have been carefully made by A. R. Green & Co., well and favorably known in the Province, who states that he fairly assessed these lands with regard to all circumstances, and in his opinion evidence had not been adduced which woul warrant him in displacing the engineer's assessment. He did not think Major Vaughan, C. E., although a most competent professional gentleman, who had given evidence for the appellants, had given the matter sufficient time and attention to to make accurate estimates. Further there was no evidence as to what figure the