

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1888.

THE GRANTS DECIDE.

The Opposition organ announces that the Liberal Conservative standard-bearer for the Dominion franchise will have no opponents, at least that no Grant can be induced to tackle him. This is well, that is for the Grant. It is well known, however, that every effort was quietly made to bring on a contest between the two. The late of being the \$200 deposit evidently prevailed. It is very amusing, however, to find our contemporary patronizing Mr. Prior, who, if it had its way, would never grace a seat in Parliament.

ABSOLUTELY UNTRUSTED.

In twisting the remarks of the late M. P. for this district, Mr. N. Shakespeare, into a condemnation of the Dominion government, the Press is only making use of its usual disingenuous tactics. Mr. Shakespeare has now gone into privacy and his connection with active political life ceases. It would have been only ground on the part of our contemporary, which has hounded him on every possible occasion, to have "called off the dogs" when that gentleman assumed the position of Postmaster. We have Mr. Shakespeare's authority for stating that the Times' references to him are absolutely untrue, that the tenor of his speech, as given by the Opposition organ, and that his speech was very justly in praise of the present local government—the party of truth and progress and reform. The public will have little difficulty in judging between one of our most honorably citizens and the mendacious Yates street sheet.

FOOT AT "PIGGERS."

Our esteemed evening contemporary has taken some time on four days in which to elaborate a reply to an article of Sunday last on the financial position of the province. And what a reply! It does not attempt to deny any of our statements which "he" runs any road. It is a mere display of knowledge, fully \$100,000 worth of "hypocrite" towards the maintenance of the mounted police in Kootenay. It has probably learned its error in enflaming Dominion with Provincial expenditures, but in justice to itself, it ought to acknowledge its ignorance. It is wonderful that a knowledge of our contemporary has of "correspondence" going on between the two governments, greater indeed than that of the Executive. The Times cannot crawl out of the ridiculous position in which it placed itself by its article on the subject of the mounted police. Having completely shown the sound position of the province financially by refuting every one of our contemporary's assertions, the latter endeavors to conceal its retreat behind a mass of words which, if they do not do anything else, will make an impression on the electorate in view of the coming election, it will be obliged to pursue a different line of policy. It continues to grapple with a subject of which it exposes its utter lack of knowledge at every step. It is not that it is ignorant, some time trotting out will unquestionably be elected to stay at home.

A FINANCIAL BLUNDERER.

The Times, worsted in argument, resorted to the old tactics of abuse last evening. The public have long since grown weary of its slanderous assertions, preferring argument to invective. If vilifying please our contemporary, we can assure him it does not injure us. Yesterday, in briefly noticing the column and a half of space expended by a writer on the subject of the subject of the financial condition of the province, we noted the fact that no attempt had been made to controvert a single one of our propositions. Like that interesting little marine creature called the ink-fish, he doubtless hoped by emitting a cloud of words to obscure his awkward retreat from the utterly untenable and glaringly unparliamentary position previously taken. In referring to that article now, we almost feel as if we should cure the indulgence of the reader, but there are one or two points respecting which it is, perhaps, just as well the public should be put right. Completely beaten and exposed, our contemporary betakes himself to new ground and indulges in fresh charges, but it will be a very simple matter to drive him from his last ditch. "The civil list expenditures," exclaims this arch falsifier, "has been increased under their management by a sum which is positively astounding, the increase being fully \$50,000 a year." Now what are the facts? There has been a steady increase in the cost of civil government since 1882 is admitted, but that the increase has been in a proportion that the necessity of arising out of the progress of the province may be safely and successfully maintained. But let us see what the other side has to say. The expense of civil service gradually rose from 1882 to \$63,171 in 1886; 1887 it was reduced to \$50,000. The reader will see, therefore, that the increase since 1882 is admitted, but that the increase has been in a proportion that the necessity of arising out of the progress of the province may be safely and successfully maintained. But let us see what the other side has to say. The expense of civil service gradually rose from 1882 to \$63,171 in 1886; 1887 it was reduced to \$50,000. The reader will see, therefore, that the increase since 1882 is admitted, but that the increase has been in a proportion that the necessity of arising out of the progress of the province may be safely and successfully maintained.

CABLE NEWS.

The Report of the Suppression of the Irish National League Denied by Balfour. Edward Harrington, M.P., Released From Prison To-day—Conference of Musical Professors. Mr. Sexton's Condition Critical—An American Bark Wrecked—Was Like Propaganda.

MAINLAND WEATHER.

Victoria Above Zero Registered at the Royal City—The Fraser Full of Ice on Both Banks—The Columbia, a Steamer, Arrived at the Mouth of the Fraser—An Ice Block Reported Above Langley.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Special to The Colonist. New Westminster, Jan. 5.—The thermometer this morning registered 15 degrees below zero, this being the lowest recorded temperature so far this winter. The river is full of ice, about a foot thick, and much floata up and down with the tide. The ferry service will stop for a few days, as the ice is so thick that the boats cannot pass. The steamer Adelaide is being fitted up with iron plates for breaking the ice and is chartered by the city council for the purpose of clearing the river above Langley, and the up-river steamers have been laid up, pending a thaw.

CABLE NEWS.

London, Jan. 4.—It is stated that in recognition of his services to the Government in Ireland, Mr. Balfour has been promoted to a higher position in the cabinet than that of chief secretary for Ireland. The rumor that the British branch of the Irish National League in Dublin is to be suppressed is ascertained to be wholly groundless, and that the question was not one of the topics discussed during the visit of the Hon. John Balfour to Ottawa. We are in a position most emphatically to assert that the proposition is false. There is not a grain of truth in either. So much for the disingenuous tactics of our contemporary, who is so anxious to make statements which constitute the stock in trade of the Opposition.

THE OPPOSITION CAUCUS.

The Opposition caucus and convention has at last found a candidate. Mr. E. B. Carmichael, who represents important eastern interests, has accepted the position of standard-bearer and will oppose Mr. Dick. It is reported that Mr. W. A. Robertson, ex-M.P., who has strong claims on the Opposition, was ignored by the caucus and that his friends are not at all pleased with his treatment. At the last general election for the local parliament, Mr. Robertson stepped aside with the understanding that he would be supported by the caucus. When the election for the Commons came off it was found that Mr. Robertson had been deceived, and that he had obtained no poll sufficient votes to save his deposit of \$200.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

President Cleveland presented his jubilee gift to the Pope through Cardinal Gibbons. The privy council has resolved to suppress the National League in London, and thus cripple the central executive. Count A. de la Roche, of France, has resigned his seat in the Chamber of Deputies, and has been succeeded by M. de la Roche. The Princes of Wales has instructed his private secretary to deny the report that he is a member of the Dominion franchise. A Reception in Preparation. John Morley is at Torquay, and elaborate preparations are being made for his reception in Dublin. Recognition of Services. In connection with the services rendered to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in respect to both colonial and foreign relations, the late Governor of New York, Mr. John Jay, has been honored with a reception in the city of New York. An American Bark Wrecked. An 1,800 ton bark and ballast, bound for America, was wrecked to-day at the entrance of the Waterford harbor. The crew, numbering twenty-five, were drowned.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

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LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

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