

HOOLEY'S DECOY DUCKS.

Not until the collapse of Mr. E. T. Hooley was the company-promoting business in London seen in its proper light and true proportions. They are decidedly astonishing. More than sufficient time having elapsed since Hooley made his charges to enable the accused to offer any denials they might think fit, and in the majority of cases no denials or explanations having been forthcoming, the charges laid by Hooley may be accepted as substantially correct. The general nature of these accusations will be better understood when it is explained that men moving in the highest ranks of society, and hitherto regarded as patterns of probity and all the many virtues, have apparently bartered their names, their honor and their influence with a little compunction as any bravo takes a bribe. One earl received \$250,000 for allowing himself to be named as chairman of a company; another earl was paid \$80,000 to become a director of another company; an "Honorable" got \$10,000 for soliciting a lord as a director, and the solicitor of an earl got \$50,000 for introducing the promoter to his master. Hooley says the profits of this company were reduced through those heavy bribes from \$8,500,000 to \$1,000,000. The disclosures made have greatly shocked British middle class investors, who have been only too ready to take stock in any company provided it had its directors of one or two of the names of the middle class investors. Hooley has learned that the leading newspapers are as ready to traffic in his name and titles as in any other merchantable commodity. There will be a noticeable tightening of middle class purse strings, and the value of those titles may drop to its proper level. That those men who have thus traded in their names and reputations are the hereditary legislators of Great Britain is not the least unpleasant part of this disgraceful affair. Those companies to which they have sold their names and titles have proved to be of more than a questionable reputation; it was the duty of the lords and earls and "Honorable" to make careful enquiry before committing themselves for the sake of a few thousand pounds. Perhaps they have made their enquiries in the same burlesque manner as Hon. Mr. Turner and Hon. Mr. Pooley made theirs, as related in that pathetic but laughable "manifesto," that is after the press had protested against the companies' methods—a kind of "accident-on-purpose" style of enquiry. Did Messrs. Turner and Pooley finger a handsome solution for the use of their names? Q. E. D. At any rate the company-promoting and company-mongering lines of enterprise have got a nasty knock on the head through Mr. Hooley's disclosures, and it is probable that even the names of Hon. Mr. Turner and Hon. Mr. Pooley could not detract the heart of even a servant girl with ten pounds or so saved from her wages and seeking investment. The Hooley smash-up has put a beacon light of a billion candle-power upon the long, low, dangerous reef of doubtful speculations and mushroom companies that has wrecked so many vessels, humbled and proud, faring forth to the ocean of stocks and bonds, and the quest of the Postmaster General and the land, where it is always afternoon, and the lucky investor shall do no more work forever.

SMELTING OF SLOCOAN ORES.

A well informed resident of Kootenay, who was present in the Senate during the debate on the Nakusp & Slocoan Railway bill, which incidentally involved smelting of the galena ores of the Slocoan district, has sent us the following letter. The facts as therein presented are indisputable and sustain the stand taken by those members of the Senate who maintained that the silver-lead ores of the Slocoan were all smelted in the United States: "I notice 'A Critic Criticized' in the World. I have no report of what you (Senator Templeman) said in the Senate as therein mentioned. In the Kablo-Shaw railway debate the point made was that the Pilot Bay smelter was not working, neither could the O.P.R. smelter at Trail or any other smelter work on silver-lead ores in Canada at the present time, owing to the effect of the Dingley tariff. The ores of the Slocoan camp are with the exception of silver-lead ores, and noted for great fatness in lead. The argument was that it was not necessary to carry them when the time came that lead could be handled in Canada the Slocoan ores could be treated at Pilot Bay, where a smelter is standing idle, as well as at Trail. "It is said that your statement is contradicted by the published statement of Mr. Crossdale, of the Hall Mines, viz., that close upon 150,000 tons of silver-bearing lead ores had been treated at their smelter. If you will look at the report of the smelter for the year 1897, page 439, you will see that the Nelson mining division, in which the Hall mines are situated, produced no lead in 1896, and 7,291 pounds (not tons) only in 1897, worth \$261. The ore that Mr. Crossdale smelted was copper-silver ore. (See page 468.) I quote: 'So far all this silver-lead ore has had to be exported to the United States for treatment, etc. "The Pilot Bay smelter ran for two years smelting lead ores, but even before the Dingley tariff upon lead came in force had made its failure of it chiefly because the ore of the Blue Bell mine was poor in grade and closed down. "There are no problems except such as new machinery in connection with the smelting in British Columbia, of gold ores, or silver ores, or copper ores, or any mixture of them, that the smelter can use a proportion of lead ores in smelting these others, because of the value of the lead. For instance, the sum of \$6 of lead per ton, at \$12.50 per ton, is sacrificed on every ton of lead smelted in Canada so long as it has to be exported to the United States for smelting as a fair rate for smelting is \$6.50 per ton the smelter would be working for nothing and losing \$6 per ton besides, loss, of course, something saved in freight. "The Hall mines smelter in 1897 produced 65,538 lbs. of silver, 453,544 lbs. of copper, and a little gold from 47,560 tons of ore. Their ore treated in former years was similar. "The Rossland ores, roughly speaking, are copper and gold; the Nelson ores, roughly speaking, are copper and silver; the Stuart ores, roughly speaking, are lead and silver; the Armstrong ores, roughly speaking, are silver with a little lead. In the K. & S. railway matter it

THE LE ROI MUDDLE.

How the B.C. Got Control of the Big Mine. There was a new Le Roi sensation yesterday. The B. C. A. furnished it, says the Spokane Spokesman-Review. The minority would not accede to the wishes of the parties who have acquired control of the majority of the stock, and the managers of the big syndicate applied to the court at Rossland for an order to dissolve the company, and to place the property out of the hands of the trustees, who were working at cross purposes with the Rossland syndicate, and placing it in the hands of the Le Roi syndicate, who was appointed by the court to take charge of the mine. The regular monthly meeting of the Le Roi trustees was held last Tuesday evening. The gentlemen were unanimous in asserting that the meeting was over that nothing had been done. "We must not be deceived," they said. In a strictly parliamentary sense the meeting did nothing, and thereby hangs the whole matter. The legal representative of the British America Corporation, which bought the Peyton interests a few weeks since, was present at the meeting, and introduced a proposition which was introduced providing for the appointment of W. A. Carlyle, the chief engineer for the B.A.C., as manager of the mine. The proposition was that it was done at the request of the holders of the majority of the stock. The motion was carried by a large majority, and the Le Roi trustees, who are still on the board, notwithstanding that they have disposed of their holdings in the company. Colonel Judge Heyburn was present at the meeting, and a threat was made to put the motion and carry it without regard to the man who had placed the motion on the floor. It is said that the motion was carried by a large majority, and the Le Roi trustees, who are still on the board, notwithstanding that they have disposed of their holdings in the company. Colonel Judge Heyburn was present at the meeting, and a threat was made to put the motion and carry it without regard to the man who had placed the motion on the floor. It is said that the motion was carried by a large majority, and the Le Roi trustees, who are still on the board, notwithstanding that they have disposed of their holdings in the company.

A POSTAL ANOMALY.

Koochiching, Minnesota, and Fort Frances, Ontario, are opposite to one another on the Rainy River. The distance separating them is one-half mile. If a child of Koochiching sends a letter to a friend in Fort Frances the Canadian will receive the letter eight days after it has been posted at Koochiching, and after it has travelled 1,250 miles. First of all it goes 150 miles by stage to the end of the branch railway line; then it goes 100 miles by rail to Duluth; then 500 miles north and west to Winnipeg; 200 miles more by rail and 200 miles more by steamer and canoe and it finally reaches Fort Frances. A half-cent is used to carry a mail across the river between Koochiching and Fort Frances in a bark canoe, but the United States government, for reasons of economy, abolished this relic of a primitive age. The absurdity of the position of the people in that part of the frontier is being made known to the government, and a plan of fun being posted at the United States G.P.O. for making a change without making an improvement. Meanwhile the inhabitants of Koo, etc., and Fort Frances, while waiting for some action on the part of the postal authorities, have to communicate with one another by the old-fashioned but useful medium of "hollering" across the river on still evenings. The case of these two unique and unique points of the postal service of the United States and Dominion.

YUKON ADMINISTRATION.

Should it be proved, after judicial examination into the charges against the officials in the Yukon district, who are alleged to have exceeded their duty in so flagrant a manner, that the facts are as stated by the persons who have just returned from that quarter, we have no doubt the Dominion government will signify their displeasure in a manner that will put a stop to such practices wherever that government's powers extend. It is no secret that the government that some of its officials should be unworthy of their trust; such conduct, it is the boast of Canadians, is almost wholly unknown in the annals of the Dominion, and no one can doubt for a moment that severe punishment awaits the accused if they are found guilty. In a region remote and a spot so mixed and generally so rough-and-ready temptations to indulge in petty aggression and overstep the letter of the law as well as violate its spirit, the officials are often too much for officials of weak morality, but no region of the Dominion is too remote for the government to detect and punish such unworthy servants.

Commenting upon the British Columbia elections the Canadian Gazette, (London, Eng.) says:

"In British Columbia there can be no question as to the real significance of the result of the provincial elections which have just concluded. The Yukon ministry has been distinctly worsted. The united opposition, after a night which may be truly described as the fiercest of the century, has secured a victory of the day that, if their unity is maintained when the assembly meets, they will appear to have secured a more complete confidence in the ministry. A doubt as to the result of the election is a second appeal to the constituencies may be expected to follow. The charges of extravagance which were freely levelled against the cabinet are by no means a novel feature of colonial election campaigns, and hardly warrant special remark. But more serious import attaches to the allegations against Mr. Turner and Mr. Pooley regarding the names of certain Klondike enterprises. These charges and Mr. Turner's unfortunate reference to the Klondike in the House of Commons in the Times in particular, were certain to attract attention on this side of the Atlantic, and the manner in which they related to promote Canada's good name, to facilitate the investment of English capital in the development of the mineral wealth of the province."

The article from the London Times, regarding the statement made by Mr. Turner during the election campaign, to the effect that the Times had raised criticisms of his connection with the Klondike companies after it had been given a page advertisement, is reproduced in another column. The Times contents itself with finishing proof that Mr. Turner's statement was untrue. The charge of extravagance was introduced in the Times on October 25, and on November 4, a week thereafter, an article condemning Mr. Turner's connection with the company in question appeared in the Times. The article was signed "Canada." What will Mr. Turner say in reply? "There is a big 'row' going on in the Old Country over the appointment of Herr Herr Schwabach, as British consul at Berlin. Mr. Curzon, in defending this action of the government in the Imperial House a few days ago made the grave and almost incredible statement that: "The German in question is the son of his father." He also said that trade considerations had influenced the appointment. Herr Schwabach, but those reasons have failed to appease the wrath of the patriotic press, who demand the cancellation of Schwabach's appointment and the selection of a Briton born and bred.

THE GREAT VELVET MINE.

Breaking Clean Ore in Three Places—Richest Taken From the Mine. After a period of anxious development work and waiting the Velvet mine has again become a source of interest to rich-ore, says the Rossland Leader. The most satisfactory feature is that ore has been discovered on the 155 foot level, and it is said that this level is looking splendid.

THE GREAT VELVET MINE.

On the hundred foot level the north drift is in grand ore, and a pile is mounting up in the great majority of instances, for the government to profit by the unsetting of their opponents. If they could do so, on account of the overruling majority by which so many opposition seats were carried against the government. The government professes to be therefore, the looker-upon, in the main, as a mere "divine bluff" by a "consciously 'gone in' party."—Columbian. THE WATER WORKS QUESTION. To the Editor:—Alderman Williams, in the Times of Wednesday, 30th inst., kindly inquires that in the stand I have taken on the water works question, I am actuated by a desire to spite the riotous because they did not grant the \$5,000 necessary to complete the works. I will therefore ask you to publish the following opinions from Mr. M. H. T. Brown, foreman of the Victoria water works; G. Glover, who was for eight months superintendent of the work carried on at the filter beds; and T. W. Patterson, of the Victoria & Sidney railway, who has had large experience in the action of bodies of water on embankments. The report of the city engineer has already been published. A careful perusal will enable the interested parties to satisfy themselves whether I am acting in their interests or out of spite. I might remark, in conclusion, that the six aldermen who take the other side of the question have not brought forward anything to support them in their position, but depend entirely upon their own knowledge of engineering and hydraulics. CHAS. E. REDFERN.

THE WATER WORKS QUESTION.

Dear Mr. Mayor:—In answer to your note of the 27th inst., I am perfectly content that the general approval of hydraulic engineers, and the fact that the water works have been completed, will be sufficient to satisfy you. I am, sir, yours truly, E. MOHUN.

A GAME OF BLUFF.

The government's attempt to reply to the action of the opposition in filing protests against some of the newly elected members, is a piece of "bluff" which will impose on no one. It will not cause any change in the opposition ranks if the government should desire to protest every seat which the opposition won. The fact that no step in that direction was made by the government, is a piece of bluff against Mr. Hume was filed by Mr. Farquhar, who for the life of him, cannot yet understand why the voters of the Nelson riding did not see fit to elect him. Several protests had been lodged by the opposition, is the best proof that it had no grounds for the course which it has pursued. It is probably the most ridiculous of all the protests is that against the four members for Vancouver city and not a few of the voters who voted for them in the present election, are of the opinion that the members of the government have been so demoralized by their defeat that they are objects for commiseration rather than criticism for anything they may do. We are ourselves inclined to take this view.—Vancouver News-Advertiser.

LIKE MASTER, LIKE MAN.

The "Colonist" in a violent attack on our article in Tuesday's issue on the incidents connected with the Cassiar election, is in a reply to your request that I give you my opinion as to the advisability of using the reservoir at the Beaver lake water works in its present condition. I beg to state that I do not think it would be advisable to do so for the following reasons: The action of the water, if left in for any length of time by the current created and the action of the wind on the surface, would have the effect of injuriously affecting the slopes, by causing them to slip. This would necessarily affect the purity of the water, by the admixture of the clay matter composing the slopes with the water, thereby making it unfit for use. This would be sufficient to cause many unthinking people to condemn the whole works; whereas, if the slopes were consolidated, this would be obviated. Besides, I think it would be unsafe to rely on the action of the water, for the reason that a great deal of water would be wasted in percolating through the slopes, which would not be the case if they were properly covered with concrete. Yours respectfully, GEORGE GLOVER.

THE ELECTION PROTESTS.

A new factor in this province, has been introduced into British Columbia politics, namely, the election protest, which has not figured in our political past history of the province, we believe we are correct in saying, was a protest against the election of Mr. Cassiar in the general elections of 1894, by a majority of one; and in this case the protest was not made until after the election had been drawn by a mutual arrangement providing that the member-elect should resign before the meeting of the assembly, and be re-elected again, which was done. The late general election, however, which was the hardest and most important of the century, has been followed by a complete change of policy in regard to protesting of protesting a large batch of elections on both sides. The opposition have taken the initiative in this work, having, in fact, filed twelve protests to the government's one, though, according to the Vancouver World, the government are now making a list of another life steps having been taken, on Wednesday, according to that paper, to protest the election of the four Vancouver opposition members, as well as Messrs. Kidd, Forster, and Munro, of Richmond, and Mr. Chisholm, respectively, and, in fact, all the opposition members elected either on the Mainland or Island. The opposition insisted proceedings in the provincial court, but the government, others which they will file, advisedly and for the best reasons. The government (including the so-called "independent" campaign) in every constituency, was of the same unscrupulous and corrupt character, so far as the election of the members of the "Pleasant Pellets" has entirely restored my wife's health. We cannot say enough in thanks for these valuable medicines. It may save a life. Send 31 one-cent stamps, to cover cost of stamps and mailing only, to World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., for a paper-covered copy of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Advice, cloth binding, 160 pages. Contains 100 pages, over 100 illustrations, a valuable medical library in one volume. It will thus be seen that the opposition

THE LIET-GOVERNMENT.

This Action Taken by Mr. Beaven. Lieutenant-Governor Beaven has assumed communication with opposition party, and to announce his call to the Ontario Legislature. Proceedings at the Special Session—Toronto, Aug. 5.—The Ontario Legislature is in session at Toronto, Aug. 5. The session is the first since the meeting of the Legislature in 1897. The session is the first since the meeting of the Legislature in 1897. The session is the first since the meeting of the Legislature in 1897.

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Provincial News.

AWSON'S SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

Interesting Chat With One of the Fortunate Klondikers.

On Friday next the second anniversary of the discovery of gold at Dawson will be celebrated. It was on the 22nd of August, 1896, that "Siwash George" and "Chick" reached the first claim on Bonanza creek.

DONALD.

The citizens of Donald are making strenuous efforts to capture the big trout. Twenty-eight men are now employed in rebuilding the old log dam.

GRAND FORKS.

To get relief from the extreme heat of the past few days almost the entire country for three years, and who is now in Victoria together with a party of six.

VERNON.

Harvesting is now in full swing, the fall wheat being ripe in most parts of the district. The coming season is expected to be a very successful one.

NELSON.

The marriage has taken place of Miss St. Denis of Montreal and Duncan Millar McDonald of Nelson.

MORE GOLD COMING.

The City of Topeka is expected to bring in One and a Half Millions.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

New Westminster, Aug. 8.—The directors of the British and Industrial Society met on Friday night and got through a large amount of business.

MRS. DUNSMUIR'S ASSESSMENT.

The Valuation of Residential Property Reduced To \$45,000.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In the matter of the Municipal Classes Act, and in the matter of an appeal of John Olive Dunsmuir from the assessment of the court of review.

TRAFFIC ON LONDON BRIDGE.

It is computed that about 200,000 pedestrians and 20,000 vehicles cross London bridge every day.

THREE THINGS.

"Three things are hard to follow: The flight of a gull in the mist, And the secret of a woman."

Cross of St. Andrew.

Toward morning the stranger broke the silence that had reigned in our compartment since we left Moscow.

ROSSLAND.

Rossland, B. C., Aug. 8.—The most noticeable event of the week here in mining circles was the move of the British America Corporation.

VERNON.

The Trail smelter will start up in a few days. There are about 10,000 tons of ore at the works awaiting treatment.

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to a street wrangle. I excused my intrusion and stepped aside to let the Russian and the woman pass.

"They walked on through the Thiergarten, I following at a short distance. After a while the group began to disperse."

"I had had some reason for denying his property. Why did he tremble at the very sight of it, and why were his companions' terror struck?"

"The Russian tramped along in peevish fashion, as if one were a prisoner, the other his wife."

"I heard a great deal of Russian secret service. I was in a position to know many a man who was rash enough to acquiesce to their speech or probable threat."

"I am going to talk to some one," he said. "You, coming from the land of the free, do not know that it is to be murdered."

"The Pole ignored the insult. In this Holy Russia, he continued, it is to be murdered of late very much like a hunted animal."

"So I hurried in the Kremlin when the despotism of my country declared war on the world."

"I heard you say yesterday that of all the ceremonies you witnessed in Moscow during the war, nothing impressed you so much as the picture of the young Czar when, in an interval of the procession of gorgeously arrayed soldiers, he had been brought into sight on his milk-white stallion."

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road to Alexandrow. Once in Russia, his chances are desperate. The arrest and abduction were the result of a conference between the Russian ambassador and the chancellor. Bismarck, I understand, acted upon the Czar's personal request."

"I went from Berlin to Vienna, from there to Warsaw, an object of interest to Russia's secret service men and the police agents everywhere. When I finished my studies in the ancient capital of my native land and prepared to enter upon a political career, was told by the governor, so many points not to waste my time."

"You are a compromised man, Henryk Franciszek," said that worthy, the highest post the imperial secretary holds out to you is that of everlasting superintendent assessor at some court in the Caucasus, or Siberia."

"I had meanwhile assumed possession of my inherited estates in Poland. In 1892 I accepted a commission from the St. Petersburg government to rehabilitate, if possible, the Here are passports and letters of recommendation to all the governors and military authorities."

"Of course I saw the trap laid for me! The authorities had been commanded to put the establishments under their charge into a state of readiness. In any circumstances was I to be allowed to see below the surface."

"I started on my journey. I visited hundreds of fortresses. The courts, concluded, had either overdrawn their pictures of misery and despondism, or else they had indulged in some kind of wishful thinking."

"One day we were walking on the ramparts of a small Siberian fortress—a soft, high-keyed voice called me by my Christian name, Sascha sees you."

"The sounds came from above and there, at one of the barred windows, I saw the woman who had been my wife. Like an apparition it vanished in an instant."

"When I lowered my eyes I saw the tower of inspection, fixed upon me. I had heard that voice, and was trying to recall the thoughts? I should not be in doubt."

"I beg your pardon, Grigori," he said. "I forgot that this is our prison. I should not be in doubt."

brought to book. The cross alone they cannot take away, but to paralyze its inherent character—the sovereign rights it confers upon its possessor—the ribbon is exchanged for one of blood red."

"And Sascha?" "Was the Grand Duchess concerned in the nihilistic propaganda of the seventies. I have heard it said that she had a hand in the assassination of Alexander II."

"The Count leaned back in his seat, and closing his eyes, fell into a reverie. I had not the courage to question him further, as the train drew up at a little wayside station a hundred miles or so from Warsaw the secret service man, whom he had pointed out to me, entered our carriage and made a sign to him."

"Use?" (already?) queried the Polish gentleman. The detective bowed and loaded himself with the distinguished suspect's traps. They left the train on the off side and presently reappeared to view, the Count in a rustic frock, the secret service man on the box."

HENRY W. FISCHER. TURNER'S TERRIBLE TUMBLE. In an evil hour Premier Turner, smarting under his stinging but merited castigation by the London Press, for the worse than dubious speciality with which he had promoted a candidate to which he and his president of the council lent their names and official titles, turned vindictively, like a viper gnawing a file, upon less exalted a critic, namely, the London Times, and, in his impotent and petty rage, charged that great, eminent, respectable and influential hourly paper with the grossest calumnies, and, by leaving blackmail against him, John Herbert Turner, peasant premier of British Columbia! The charge in substance was as previously noted, that the Times had adversely criticized the company which the "Golden Triangle" process, Turner and Pooley, made illustrious by their "unique connection," but after receiving a full page advertisement of the concern, had caused its strictures.

At the naming of the terrible thunderbolt by the "James Bay" "prototype" of Jove, "there was a silence deep as death," and the "oldest inhabitant" for a while. It was a shock that sent the blood hurtling back upon the heart of the Empire, pale the cheek of the most renowned Briton, and a panic on "change and a drop in consols, shook the Tower of London to its base, cracked the British constitution, and paled the official face of the lights of London bridge. After the cataclysm had somewhat abated, the Times considerably moderated the ground swell by quietly remarking in effect, that the Premier of British Columbia had merely made a deliberately or stupidly false statement, and incidentally pointing out its fallaciousness by producing even more severe criticisms from its (the Times's) columns of the dubious promoting concern in question. After the naming of the terrible thunderbolt by the "James Bay" "prototype" of Jove, "there was a silence deep as death," and the "oldest inhabitant" for a while. It was a shock that sent the blood hurtling back upon the heart of the Empire, pale the cheek of the most renowned Briton, and a panic on "change and a drop in consols, shook the Tower of London to its base, cracked the British constitution, and paled the official face of the lights of London bridge. After the cataclysm had somewhat abated, the Times considerably moderated the ground swell by quietly remarking in effect, that the Premier of British Columbia had merely made a deliberately or stupidly false statement, and incidentally pointing out its fallaciousness by producing even more severe criticisms from its (the Times's) columns of the dubious promoting concern in question. After the naming of the terrible thunderbolt by the "James Bay" "prototype" of Jove, "there was a silence deep as death," and the "oldest inhabitant" for a while. It was a shock that sent the blood hurtling back upon the heart of the Empire, pale the cheek of the most renowned Briton, and a panic on "change and a drop in consols, shook the Tower of London to its base, cracked the British constitution, and paled the official face of the lights of London bridge. After the cataclysm had somewhat abated, the Times considerably moderated the ground swell by quietly remarking in effect, that the Premier of British Columbia had merely made a deliberately or stupidly false statement, and incidentally pointing out its fallaciousness by producing even more severe criticisms from its (the Times's) columns of the dubious promoting concern in question.

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