

CERVERA WAS ABSENT

Spanish Admiral Was Not With His Fleet When Americans Fired on Santiago.

Otherwise He Might Have Gone Forth to the Battle Which He Desires.

The Associated Press and other dispatches here printed reached Victoria by steamer yesterday. Havana, June 1.—From a Spanish correspondent...

Kingston, June 1.—A despatch from Port Antonio says that the British cruiser Indefatigable returned from Santiago de Cuba yesterday...

New York, June 2.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: Commodore Schley's reconnaissance at Santiago Bay...

It is true that Commodore Schley's exchange of shots with the shore batteries has demonstrated that they were not as good as they are reported to be...

The he did not follow up the tremendous advantage he gained in the utter demoralization of the Spanish land fortifications...

The approach of the cyclone season, and the necessity for speedily relieving Commodore Schley of his vigil, are of high importance...

The Panther, with nearly 800 marines aboard, under Lieut. Col. Hullington, has been under steam at Key West for fully three weeks...

PLAN OF WAR UNFOLDED. Washington, June 1.—For the first time since the beginning of hostilities there appears to be something in the nature of an official statement of the plan of the United States government...

Some significant recommendations were submitted to congress today by Secretary Alger. Through the medium of a letter accompanying his recommendations, he outlines, in a general way, the steps contemplated in the campaign against Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Griffith's Magi c Liniment relieves headaches, rheumatism and neuralgia, and is freely used in the manner directed in the circular. It is so valuable to the house as this remedy, 25 cents, by all druggists.

TRIAL FOR MURDER.

Martha Wolf Arraigned for Having Caused the Death of Mrs. Marsden.

She Claims the Burning Was Accidental—Evidence in the Case Finished.

Martha Wolf, accused of the murder of Mrs. Charles Marsden, was put upon her trial yesterday when Mr. Justice McColl took his seat upon the bench...

Washington, June 1.—Secretary Long, when asked to-day what protection he proposed to give the fleet when the Monadnock was removed, said Admiral Miller in San Francisco had been instructed to furnish an auxiliary fleet...

AN ALLEGED ENGAGEMENT. Discredited Report of Fighting Off Santiago de Cuba.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, May 31 (5:15 p.m.)—Advises just received from Havana say that since two o'clock this afternoon the American fleet at Santiago de Cuba has been cannonading the batteries at Morro Castle, La Zopaga and Punta Gorda.

Morro Castle is at the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. La Zopaga is a short distance inside the harbor entrance of Santiago de Cuba, showing that the American fleet has entered the harbor according to the Havana advices via Cape Haytien, and has engaged the Spanish fleet in those waters.

High Prices Have Produced Too Large Offerings and May Close Weak. New York, May 31.—The May wheat deal at Chicago and New York ended rather inconspicuously to-day. Extreme weakness instead of the "fire works" expected marked the closing scenes of one of the most famous corners run in years.

INSURGENT FORCES PROSPER. Garcia's Army Better Equipped Than Ever—Spanish Troops Concentrating.

Key West, May 31.—Couriers from Cuba to-day brought a highly encouraging report from Gen. Calixto Garcia's army. Garcia alone, it is said, has 10,000 men better equipped than ever before, except in the matter of clothing, and they are in excellent spirits.

HEADACHES RELIEVED IN ONE MINUTE. Griffith's Magi c Liniment relieves headaches, rheumatism and neuralgia, and is freely used in the manner directed in the circular. It is so valuable to the house as this remedy, 25 cents, by all druggists.

TRIAL FOR MURDER.

Martha Wolf Arraigned for Having Caused the Death of Mrs. Marsden.

She Claims the Burning Was Accidental—Evidence in the Case Finished.

Martha Wolf, accused of the murder of Mrs. Charles Marsden, was put upon her trial yesterday when Mr. Justice McColl took his seat upon the bench...

Washington, June 1.—Secretary Long, when asked to-day what protection he proposed to give the fleet when the Monadnock was removed, said Admiral Miller in San Francisco had been instructed to furnish an auxiliary fleet...

AN ALLEGED ENGAGEMENT. Discredited Report of Fighting Off Santiago de Cuba.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, May 31 (5:15 p.m.)—Advises just received from Havana say that since two o'clock this afternoon the American fleet at Santiago de Cuba has been cannonading the batteries at Morro Castle, La Zopaga and Punta Gorda.

Morro Castle is at the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. La Zopaga is a short distance inside the harbor entrance of Santiago de Cuba, showing that the American fleet has entered the harbor according to the Havana advices via Cape Haytien, and has engaged the Spanish fleet in those waters.

High Prices Have Produced Too Large Offerings and May Close Weak. New York, May 31.—The May wheat deal at Chicago and New York ended rather inconspicuously to-day. Extreme weakness instead of the "fire works" expected marked the closing scenes of one of the most famous corners run in years.

INSURGENT FORCES PROSPER. Garcia's Army Better Equipped Than Ever—Spanish Troops Concentrating.

Key West, May 31.—Couriers from Cuba to-day brought a highly encouraging report from Gen. Calixto Garcia's army. Garcia alone, it is said, has 10,000 men better equipped than ever before, except in the matter of clothing, and they are in excellent spirits.

HEADACHES RELIEVED IN ONE MINUTE. Griffith's Magi c Liniment relieves headaches, rheumatism and neuralgia, and is freely used in the manner directed in the circular. It is so valuable to the house as this remedy, 25 cents, by all druggists.

TRIAL FOR MURDER.

Martha Wolf Arraigned for Having Caused the Death of Mrs. Marsden.

She Claims the Burning Was Accidental—Evidence in the Case Finished.

Martha Wolf, accused of the murder of Mrs. Charles Marsden, was put upon her trial yesterday when Mr. Justice McColl took his seat upon the bench...

Washington, June 1.—Secretary Long, when asked to-day what protection he proposed to give the fleet when the Monadnock was removed, said Admiral Miller in San Francisco had been instructed to furnish an auxiliary fleet...

AN ALLEGED ENGAGEMENT. Discredited Report of Fighting Off Santiago de Cuba.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, May 31 (5:15 p.m.)—Advises just received from Havana say that since two o'clock this afternoon the American fleet at Santiago de Cuba has been cannonading the batteries at Morro Castle, La Zopaga and Punta Gorda.

Morro Castle is at the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. La Zopaga is a short distance inside the harbor entrance of Santiago de Cuba, showing that the American fleet has entered the harbor according to the Havana advices via Cape Haytien, and has engaged the Spanish fleet in those waters.

High Prices Have Produced Too Large Offerings and May Close Weak. New York, May 31.—The May wheat deal at Chicago and New York ended rather inconspicuously to-day. Extreme weakness instead of the "fire works" expected marked the closing scenes of one of the most famous corners run in years.

INSURGENT FORCES PROSPER. Garcia's Army Better Equipped Than Ever—Spanish Troops Concentrating.

Key West, May 31.—Couriers from Cuba to-day brought a highly encouraging report from Gen. Calixto Garcia's army. Garcia alone, it is said, has 10,000 men better equipped than ever before, except in the matter of clothing, and they are in excellent spirits.

HEADACHES RELIEVED IN ONE MINUTE. Griffith's Magi c Liniment relieves headaches, rheumatism and neuralgia, and is freely used in the manner directed in the circular. It is so valuable to the house as this remedy, 25 cents, by all druggists.

SANTIAGO UNDER FIRE

American Squadron Engaged the Land Batteries as Well as One Spanish Vessel.

Insurgents Gathering in Force and Great Events Hourly Looked For.

Cape Haytien, June 2.—(1:15 a.m.)—The Spanish government, acting on advice received here from Havana intends to cut the cables which connect the city with Key West, if the other Cuban cables are cut by the Americans.

Madrid, June 1.—In the senate to-day Count de Valencia asked if the news of the American repulse at Santiago was official. The minister of marine, Captain Anson, replied affirmatively.

Kingston, Jamaica, June 1.—The West Indian and Panama Cable Company is cables are not cut. De Cuba and the company avers the Spanish fleet, however, still remains in the DASH BY TORPEDO BOATS.

Report of Attempt on United States Ships Off Santiago. New York, June 1.—A despatch to the World from Port Antonio, Jamaica, says: The first engagement between the American ships of Cervera and the Spanish ships of Cervera took place on Sunday night about midnight. Two torpedo boats made a desperate effort to destroy the American ships.

CHINESE PRINCE'S ADVENTURE. Peking, June 1.—It was definitely announced to-day that Prince Kung, president of the Tzungli Yamen (Chinese foreign office), is dead, and the Emperor has issued a proclamation ordering the Chinese court to go into mourning for a stated period.

MANITOBA IN LUCK. A Present of Half a Million Dollars Promised by the Ottawa Government. (From Our Own Correspondent.) Ottawa, June 1.—The finance minister to-night gave notice of a resolution awarding the province of Manitoba the sum of \$250,000 to reimburse the province for the construction of the legislative building and government house of the province, and interest is to be added to this at the rate of 5 per cent. for about fifteen years, which will bring the total of this donation to the prairie province to about half a million dollars.

THE EDMONTON ROUTE. Report of Committee Adopted by Senate Though Belittled by Government Leader. Ottawa, June 1.—The senate to-day adopted the report of the Edmonton route committee after a lengthy discussion. Mr. Mills said the report was especially valuable, as the evidence was mostly hearsay. More accurate information would be available when a survey of the route was made. He criticized the senate's action on throwing out the government Yukon railway bill.

CHAFED SKIN, PILES, SOARDS, CUTS, CHILBLAINS, CHAPPED HANDS, SORE EYES, SUNBURN, ERASCH, NEURALGIC and RHEUMATIC PAINS, THROAT COLDS and SKIN AFFECTIONS are Quickly relieved by the use of CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT. Large Pots 1-1/2 each (English Rate). Editor "Household Words" says: "We are constantly appealed to for remedies which can safely be used in domestic practice for such ailments as sunburn, neuralgia, rheumatism and rheumatic pains, as well as colds on the chest. In all these cases we have found CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT invaluable."

SANTIAGO UNDER FIRE

American Squadron Engaged the Land Batteries as Well as One Spanish Vessel.

Insurgents Gathering in Force and Great Events Hourly Looked For.

Cape Haytien, June 2.—(1:15 a.m.)—The Spanish government, acting on advice received here from Havana intends to cut the cables which connect the city with Key West, if the other Cuban cables are cut by the Americans.

Madrid, June 1.—In the senate to-day Count de Valencia asked if the news of the American repulse at Santiago was official. The minister of marine, Captain Anson, replied affirmatively.

Kingston, Jamaica, June 1.—The West Indian and Panama Cable Company is cables are not cut. De Cuba and the company avers the Spanish fleet, however, still remains in the DASH BY TORPEDO BOATS.

Report of Attempt on United States Ships Off Santiago. New York, June 1.—A despatch to the World from Port Antonio, Jamaica, says: The first engagement between the American ships of Cervera and the Spanish ships of Cervera took place on Sunday night about midnight. Two torpedo boats made a desperate effort to destroy the American ships.

CHINESE PRINCE'S ADVENTURE. Peking, June 1.—It was definitely announced to-day that Prince Kung, president of the Tzungli Yamen (Chinese foreign office), is dead, and the Emperor has issued a proclamation ordering the Chinese court to go into mourning for a stated period.

MANITOBA IN LUCK. A Present of Half a Million Dollars Promised by the Ottawa Government. (From Our Own Correspondent.) Ottawa, June 1.—The finance minister to-night gave notice of a resolution awarding the province of Manitoba the sum of \$250,000 to reimburse the province for the construction of the legislative building and government house of the province, and interest is to be added to this at the rate of 5 per cent. for about fifteen years, which will bring the total of this donation to the prairie province to about half a million dollars.

THE EDMONTON ROUTE. Report of Committee Adopted by Senate Though Belittled by Government Leader. Ottawa, June 1.—The senate to-day adopted the report of the Edmonton route committee after a lengthy discussion. Mr. Mills said the report was especially valuable, as the evidence was mostly hearsay. More accurate information would be available when a survey of the route was made. He criticized the senate's action on throwing out the government Yukon railway bill.

CHAFED SKIN, PILES, SOARDS, CUTS, CHILBLAINS, CHAPPED HANDS, SORE EYES, SUNBURN, ERASCH, NEURALGIC and RHEUMATIC PAINS, THROAT COLDS and SKIN AFFECTIONS are Quickly relieved by the use of CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT. Large Pots 1-1/2 each (English Rate). Editor "Household Words" says: "We are constantly appealed to for remedies which can safely be used in domestic practice for such ailments as sunburn, neuralgia, rheumatism and rheumatic pains, as well as colds on the chest. In all these cases we have found CALVERT'S CARBOLIC OINTMENT invaluable."

Important notices, advertisements, and other miscellaneous text on the right margin.

THE C.F.R. TELEGRAPH AT THE ASSIZE COURT.

Important Reduction in Rates Announced From Victoria to United States Points.

A Short History of the Service Since It Was Inaugurated Here.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company's telegraph yesterday announced some important reductions in its tariffs to various American points, which will be of interest to local business men and those who have occasion to use the wires for the purpose of obtaining quick communication with cities of the United States.

A brief resume of the telegraphic history of the line since the C. P. R. took over the British Columbia telegraph system from the Dominion government in 1882 is given in the following.

The rates for telegrams to San Francisco were reduced 50 per cent. San Francisco was put down to \$1 and Seattle to 75c. In 1887 San Francisco was reduced to 75c. with 60c night rate, Seattle 60c day and 40c night, New York and San Francisco \$1 day and 75c night, and San Francisco \$1 day and 75c night.

THE WATERWORKS. Ald. Kinsman to Move That the Main be Connected With the New Reservoir.

Ald. Kinsman will move the following resolution at the next meeting of the council: That the council is of the opinion that the water commissioner should at once take steps to connect the water main with the newly constructed reservoir and the recently constructed filter beds, so as to bring water from Elk lake into the city through the reservoir and filter beds, and direct from Elk lake coming into the city direct from Elk lake, without removing the pipes connecting therewith.

NORTHERN TRANSPORTATION. Three Companies Join Interests and Announce New Freight Rates.

F. C. Hammond, president of the Klondike Transportation Company, has been in town for the past few days negotiating a deal which has just been consummated and which brings his line, the Chilcotin Railway, and the Alaska Railway Company into consolidation.

THE ADVENTURE. It was definitely announced that Prince Kourou, prince of Yamen (Chinese name) and the Emperor's son, had arrived in the city.

REMEMBER IN COOKING. That most vegetables should be put on to cook in fresh boiling water, says the Woman's Home Companion.

SCALDS, CUTS, CHILBLAINS, SORES, EYES, THE NEURALGIC AND RHEUMATIC PAINS, THROAT COLDS AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE SKIN ARE QUICKLY CURED BY THE USE OF... FERT'S OINTMENT.

RESUMES BUSINESS. The old firm of Wing Chong & Co., of 19 Store street, having effected a settlement with their creditors, have resumed business at the old stand.

Barratta Found Guilty of Attempted Murder but the Jury Recommend Mercy.

Grand Jury Bring in a True Bill in the Nichol Label Case.

At the assizes yesterday the docket was cleared with the exception of the Wolf murder case and the criminal libel suits. The grand jury had the indictment for libel against Mr. Nichol, editor of the Province, handed to them for consideration and late in the afternoon brought in a true bill.

The trial of Martha Wolf for the murder of Mrs. C. Marsden opens this morning at 10 o'clock. The charge against Joseph Barratta, accused of attempting to murder Joseph Grosse, did not take long, all the evidence being in in less than an hour.

The defence called no witnesses. Mr. Powell making the plea to the jury that Barratta owing to the blow on his head and the drinking he had done was not in a responsible state of mind when he fired the shot.

Mr. Justice McColl in charging the jury said that the fact of the man having been drinking was not the slightest excuse for his deed, nor had the least evidence been shown in his favor. After an absence of three-quarters of an hour the jury returned with a verdict of guilty with a recommendation to mercy.

ASKED BY THE COURT AS TO THE GROUNDS on which the recommendation to mercy was based the foreman of the jury, Mr. P. F. Raitt, stated that it was on the account of the provocation received by the blow on the head, which caused the blow on the combiner effects of the blow and the whiskey he had been drinking.

SHORT DESPATCHES. Fishermen Rescued After Eight Days Drift—A Run on the Bank of Spain.

President McKinley yesterday formally opened the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha, Neb., by touching an electric button at 1 o'clock in the telegraph office in the White House.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY. The issues for the month of May and the books that have been added.

Henry, in cross-examination by Mr. Robertson, said he had lived 18 years on a Manitoba farm and had never before his life nor shaken by several other witnesses were called by the prosecution, which was conducted by Mr. Smith for the crown.

TWO JUNE WEDDINGS.

Mr. Crickmay of Vancouver and Miss Agnes Dawson Married at St. Barnabas.

The Former Pastor of James Bay Methodist Church Wedded to Miss Spencer.

A wedding that attracted more than usual interest was that of Mr. Alfred Crickmay, Vancouver, and Miss Agnes Dawson (L.R.A.M., London), of Victoria, which was solemnized yesterday afternoon at St. Barnabas church.

By the adoption of the new railway policy British Columbia shoulders a pretty heavy liability, but there can be little doubt as to wisdom of the move. The vastness of the country may be gauged by the fact that the money markets of the province demand a bold and extensive policy of development on the part of the government.

One of the fashionable events of the season, and judging from the many in attendance, an event that has attracted much interest with much expectancy, were the nuptials of Rev. T. J. McCrossan, B.A., D.D., of Prince Albert, Manitoba, and Miss Charlotte Spencer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Spencer, of this city.

DOCTRINE OF ABSORPTION. Living Nations to Emerge Upon Territory of Decadents.

Lord Salisbury's speech at the annual meeting of the Primrose League Wednesday contained some very interesting remarks upon present international conditions and tendencies.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

TWO JUNE WEDDINGS.

Mr. Crickmay of Vancouver and Miss Agnes Dawson Married at St. Barnabas.

The Former Pastor of James Bay Methodist Church Wedded to Miss Spencer.

A wedding that attracted more than usual interest was that of Mr. Alfred Crickmay, Vancouver, and Miss Agnes Dawson (L.R.A.M., London), of Victoria, which was solemnized yesterday afternoon at St. Barnabas church.

By the adoption of the new railway policy British Columbia shoulders a pretty heavy liability, but there can be little doubt as to wisdom of the move. The vastness of the country may be gauged by the fact that the money markets of the province demand a bold and extensive policy of development on the part of the government.

One of the fashionable events of the season, and judging from the many in attendance, an event that has attracted much interest with much expectancy, were the nuptials of Rev. T. J. McCrossan, B.A., D.D., of Prince Albert, Manitoba, and Miss Charlotte Spencer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Spencer, of this city.

DOCTRINE OF ABSORPTION. Living Nations to Emerge Upon Territory of Decadents.

Lord Salisbury's speech at the annual meeting of the Primrose League Wednesday contained some very interesting remarks upon present international conditions and tendencies.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

WEDDINGS.

Mr. Crickmay of Vancouver and Miss Agnes Dawson Married at St. Barnabas.

The Former Pastor of James Bay Methodist Church Wedded to Miss Spencer.

A wedding that attracted more than usual interest was that of Mr. Alfred Crickmay, Vancouver, and Miss Agnes Dawson (L.R.A.M., London), of Victoria, which was solemnized yesterday afternoon at St. Barnabas church.

By the adoption of the new railway policy British Columbia shoulders a pretty heavy liability, but there can be little doubt as to wisdom of the move. The vastness of the country may be gauged by the fact that the money markets of the province demand a bold and extensive policy of development on the part of the government.

One of the fashionable events of the season, and judging from the many in attendance, an event that has attracted much interest with much expectancy, were the nuptials of Rev. T. J. McCrossan, B.A., D.D., of Prince Albert, Manitoba, and Miss Charlotte Spencer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Spencer, of this city.

DOCTRINE OF ABSORPTION. Living Nations to Emerge Upon Territory of Decadents.

Lord Salisbury's speech at the annual meeting of the Primrose League Wednesday contained some very interesting remarks upon present international conditions and tendencies.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

NEWS OF VANCOUVER.

Opposition Members Before the Public—Aspirants for the Coalition Nominations.

Westminster's Prospect of Further Railway Connection—Feature of the Show.

Vancouver, June 1.—The opposition members for the city, Messrs. Macpherson, Williams and Cotton, were fairly well received at the opposition meeting last night, which was not, however, very large.

Mr. Williams announced his temporary retirement into private life and explained why on several occasions on labor legislation and on the Kettle River railroad issue he supported the government rather than the opposition policy.

Mr. Williams, however, made at the meeting a very bitter denunciation of the provincial government policy in general. The opposition coalition party is at present in a very sanguine mood, and Mr. Cotton in particular claims that his party will carry 25 out of the 35 British Columbia seats.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

NEWS OF VANCOUVER.

Opposition Members Before the Public—Aspirants for the Coalition Nominations.

Westminster's Prospect of Further Railway Connection—Feature of the Show.

Vancouver, June 1.—The opposition members for the city, Messrs. Macpherson, Williams and Cotton, were fairly well received at the opposition meeting last night, which was not, however, very large.

Mr. Williams announced his temporary retirement into private life and explained why on several occasions on labor legislation and on the Kettle River railroad issue he supported the government rather than the opposition policy.

Mr. Williams, however, made at the meeting a very bitter denunciation of the provincial government policy in general. The opposition coalition party is at present in a very sanguine mood, and Mr. Cotton in particular claims that his party will carry 25 out of the 35 British Columbia seats.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

THE MANNER in which British Columbia has within the last year risen to first place in the opinion of the press and reading public of the eastern United States is a matter of no small interest.

Leather coats with sheepskin lining, made specially for the Yukon country. B. Williams & Co.

The Colonist.

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1898.

NAVIGATION OF THE YUKON.

Reliable reports from the Yukon represent the snowfall of last winter as very light. The Yukon has opened considerably earlier than usual. This means that there will be less water than in average years to run down the river, and that much of which there is will have run away before the season of navigation opens at St. Michael's. In northern countries a light snowfall and an early spring are always followed by low water.

We take the earliest opportunity of directing attention to this information, which, if borne out by events, as we are confident it will be, is of the utmost importance to the Yukon country. The navigation of the lower part of that river is attended with a great many difficulties under the most favorable circumstances, and if it is to be additionally handicapped by unusually low water, the season may be a very disappointing one as well to the transportation companies as to those persons who are dependent upon freight being taken up the river.

It is the duty of the Canadian government to inform itself upon the exact condition of affairs. Whoever else may be deceived by the specious representations of transportation companies, the government of the Dominion should not be. It has its officials on the river who can give trustworthy reports. Such reports should be obtained at the earliest possible day and given the widest publicity. If there is danger of the river being stranded upon the Yukon, the fact ought to be known, so that steps may be taken to get in supplies by some other route. The Colonist has never taken the part of an alarmist in these matters, but it desires to give

THE LEADERLESS OPPOSITION.

The Rossland Miner chaffs the opposition for being without a leader. Our contemporary takes it for granted that Mr. Semlin has been, or is to be, depicted and says his deposition leaves a so-called party "a rudderless ship, a mine without any indication of pay ore." It is not very clear that under the chieftainship of the member anything better than opposition was gained at the election. The Miner says they now are. It was only in a complimentary sense that Mr. Semlin could be said to lead his party. He spoke first in reply to ministerial statements made in the house; he performed the routine work, which custom has cast upon the opposition chieftain, with courtesy and dignity. But he never was a political leader. Of unfeigned courtesy in the house he was a conspicuous example. He displayed on several occasions considerable oratorical powers. He made many friends. But on no occasion did he ever give a suggestion of the qualities which are expected of a party and to whom the country would turn with confidence in an emergency. That he is unacceptable to the old oppositionists and that he is repudiated by the new aspirants for office is easily understood. The former recognize how hopeless it is for them to expect success with him at their head; the latter have no use for any of those who have been at the front heretofore.

A sample of the former is Mr. J. C. Brown, of New Westminster. Mr. Brown has not the least intention of serving under Mr. Semlin in the legislature, either on the left or on the right of Mr. Speaker. Mr. Brown is personally acquainted with a gentleman, whom he regards as an ideal leader for the present opposition and the government which he fondly hopes to see formed after the election. A letter sent to the Postmaster at New Westminster will find the gentleman referred to without any further address. As yet no marked symptoms of anxiety on the part of the opposition to submit itself to the dictates of this New Westminster gentleman, who, according to his own organ, is not popular, have been manifested.

The Miner is probably astray in attributing to Mr. Cotton a desire to play the role of Moses. Mr. Cotton reached the Fiscal top of his political career during the session of 1897. He got a glimpse of the promised land at that time. Since then he has been chewing the bitter end of disappointment. His latest plan is to fraternize with Joseph Martin, lately of Winnipeg, for whom, as a so-called independent he until recently entertained feelings of the most profound contempt. There is only one thing more remarkable than Mr. Cotton's alliance with Mr. Martin and that is Mr. Martin's alliance with Mr. Cotton. A still more remarkable thing will be the manner in which both of them will be turned down by the electors of Vancouver.

Mr. Joseph Martin is ready to be sacrificed on the altar of opposition leadership. In fact Mr. Martin came out to the Coast to be leader in something, he was not particular what. He was willing to lead the government. He is willing to lead the opposition. He is willing to lead something. Mr. Martin says to the benighted people of British Columbia: "Behold me. I am Fighting greater conveniences at less cost in closely settled localities than in others. Progress must be the watchword. The great interior belt, lying along the Western slope of the Rocky mountains from Southeast Kootenay to the sixtieth parallel, must be brought into touch with means of communication. One of the great objects of the government during the next few years must be to devise ways and means of opening this vast region in a manner keeping with its well known resources. The southern section has been pretty well provided for;

semin beneath his wheels. Meanwhile the rest of British Columbia is looking on with amazement and men are asking themselves what would have happened if Mr. Martin had not found the political arena too warm for him in Manitoba or if the Dominion government had hearkened to his prayer for the chief justiceship. It is painful to think that the country might have been ruined, while all the while there was available this new political El Mahdi.

As yet no other leaders have announced themselves for the opposition, but the campaign is young and there is yet time for more to be hatched. So far as can be observed Victoria will have no aspirant for the position. There is a very general feeling in this constituency that the squabble in the opposition ranks over the leadership is unmistakable proof of a sweeping government victory.

PROGRESS THE WATCHWORD.

The testimony of all observers is that British Columbia is rapidly advancing to the front industrially and in every other respect. For several years, ever since the great discoveries in the Kootenay commanded the attention of the world, the eyes of investors and public men in all English-speaking countries have been directed towards this province, and the United States contains and has contained hundreds of expressions of the warmest appreciation of its prospects. British Columbia's credit stands high in the money market. British Columbia investments are rapidly growing in favor in the financial centres of the world. The natural wealth of our domain is becoming widely appreciated. The province has an enviable reputation for the manner in which its laws are administered and order is preserved, even in the most remote sections. Persons who come from other countries, and especially from the United States, bear testimony in the strongest possible way to the manner in which the public service is carried on, whereby every effort is made to afford remote districts every possible convenience in the way of schools, roads, bridges and other public improvements.

Confronted with the exceedingly difficult problem of administering a province of imperial dimensions and a scattered population, the government has been able to discharge its duty in a manner that has not only elicited the hearty approval of all persons from other countries having business here, but also so as to gain for British Columbia a very high character. The people of the province can safely trust their affairs in the hands of men who have made such a record for themselves and the province, and we have the fullest confidence that they will do so. The policy which the Hon. Mr. Turner and his colleagues have pursued is the best guarantee that can be asked that in the future they will devote themselves to the advancement of the material interests of the people. They can point to a great number and variety of instances wherein they have exhibited a knowledge of the needs of the country, and sufficient foresight to know how to meet them. They have been actuated by no spirit of sectionalism. It cannot be truthfully alleged against them that they have sought to promote the welfare of one locality at the expense of another.

Progress must be the watchword for the future. British Columbia cannot afford to stand still. Its vast resources must be brought within the reach of the world. We have a territory, large enough and rich enough to support a population of millions. Under a wise policy, our sea coast will become fringed with cities and the interior will be gridironed with them. Railways will be built, and the fertile valleys will be occupied by farmers. The mountain regions will be the scene of extensive mining operations. No man can undertake to fix a limit to the capacity of this province to sustain a population in prosperity. Its potentiality in this regard is very large. The practice of some people is to say that this is not a farming country. Possibly it is not in one sense of the word. There is a large area that cannot be profitably farmed. But if account could be taken of the innumerable districts where agriculture could be profitably carried on, and the towns that could be reared in acres, the public would be amazed at its conception of the agricultural capabilities of British Columbia.

Progress must be the watchword. There are in the province large areas that only need to be irrigated to become of enormous value from a farming point of view. The government have arranged for an inquiry into this subject. It is one that involves a good deal of examination and very great care in order that the plan ultimately adopted may not impose too severe a burden upon the people. That it would be of enormous advantage to every one in the province if every belt can be successfully irrigated, every mining development fulfills the promise of the present year, hundreds of thousands of people will flock into British Columbia. It is of the greatest importance that the wants of these people should be supplied as far as can be from the farms of our own people. It is especially desirable that the land adjacent to the mines shall be occupied, whenever it is or can be made profitable. Population must be consolidated, if possible; for it costs less to administer public affairs, and the people can have greater conveniences at less cost in closely settled localities than in others.

Progress must be the watchword. The great interior belt, lying along the Western slope of the Rocky mountains from Southeast Kootenay to the sixtieth parallel, must be brought into touch with means of communication. One of the great objects of the government during the next few years must be to devise ways and means of opening this vast region in a manner keeping with its well known resources. The southern section has been pretty well provided for;

so has the northwestern and the central; but there remains a vast region, containing hundreds of fertile valleys, hundreds of mineralized ranges, scores of streams whose sands carry gold, that is yet very remote from the highways of commerce and for which only very moderate expenditures have been provided.

Progress must be the watchword. The Dominion government must be made to see how intimately the interests of Canada as a whole are bound up with the advancement of British Columbia. This can be done by no one so well as by the men who have been identified with the progress made during recent years.

The sinking of the schooner Jane Gray, of Seattle, and the loss of so many valuable lives constitute another tragedy of the sea to be attributed to the reckless disregard of safety displayed by some vessel owners, and the scandalous neglect of duty which marks the conduct of some of the United States officials. Seeing that not a life has been lost out of the thousands who have shipped northward bound on Canadian bottoms, and in view of the terrible death roll of the Sound, it seems useless to deny that in the case of the gross neglect permits frightful risks to be taken by passengers eager to get to the gold fields. The Seattle Times has made a brave fight for better inspection and a more rigorous enforcement of the law, but to very little purpose. It has a sad endorsement of its position in the terrible fate of the Jane Gray.

When Uncle Sam's soldiers get down to fighting the fivers of Cuba, they will find them a far more dangerous enemy than the warships of Spain. The invasion of that island is no small matter. General Blanco has a large force of men under him, who are better accustomed to the climate than the United States troops can possibly be. The most heroic courage and the most leadership cannot compete with sickness.

THE COLWOOD MEETING.

In the hope of putting its readers in possession of the grounds upon which the opposition intend to conduct their campaign the Colonist gives a very full report of the proceedings of the convention at Colwood. Mr. Higgins, one of the oldest members of the legislature, Mr. Hayward, who claims to speak for the farming community, were the orators on that occasion, and it seems reasonable to suppose that between them they would cover the ground which the opposition is likely to occupy. Referring to Mr. Hayward, it is quite easy to understand how in view of what he says with regard to his desire to be a candidate for the legislature; but why he should be an opposition candidate he most certainly does not know. He objected to Mr. Pooley's acting as counsel in cases involving the constitutionality of anti-Chinese legislation, but this is a matter which is not in the hands of the government, for it would be folly to hold the ministry responsible for the line of argument adopted in law cases handed down by the courts. He also questioned the wisdom of the E. & N. railway grant, but admitted that he was not an expert on that subject. His criticism upon the Nelson & Fort Sheppard land grant is not of such a nature as to necessarily place him in a hostile attitude to the government, and the several lines of policy which he declared he would follow would be quite content with the position of any government supporter. The weakness of Mr. Hayward's position consists in the fact that he has not been able to put forward any definite proposals, but only to oppose, not only with the opposition, but with the most indefensible section of the opposition, to wit: Mr. D. W. Higgins. His error is to cast doubt upon his own fitness for a representative position, and therefore whilst holding the most kindly feelings toward him, and admitting that he is not an expert on the subject, the Colonist advises the electors of Esquimalt to permit him to remain in private life for the present.

As for Mr. Higgins, that gentleman in his speech added additional variety to his already sufficiently variegated performance. He spoke very confidently, sufficiently to tell them at least three times that he had been "read out of the party." He spoke very confidently of his own fitness for the position, and his former friends was his own deliberate act performed in the most unbecomingly manner. He said that the mere fact that he opposed the Cassiar Central railway need not have sent him into opposition any more than Mr. Joseph Forster's refusal to accept the Yukon railway policy sent him into opposition. The trouble with Mr. Higgins was that, in common with a number of the members of the opposition, he believed that if he would step in upon the position which he fancied that he and his trust themselves to his guidance. Mr. Higgins may be many things, but he is not a fool. He knew very well how his action would be interpreted by everyone. Long experience in journalism and in the legislature has made him familiar with political matters, and it is perfectly idle for him or any of his friends to contend that when he made his pronouncement in Kootenay he did not desire to be understood as aspiring for the leadership of the opposition party and as bidding for a Kootenay constituency. He spoke very emphatically at Colwood about his telling "the little world of the Esquimalt district" of his intention to withdraw his support from the government. The world of Esquimalt district is good; but it is curious that Mr. Higgins should have gone all the way to the heart of Kootenay to tell his next door neighbors in Vancouver Island what his intentions were. He was bidding for opposition leadership. He was bidding for Kootenay. He was bidding for neither, and the electors of Esquimalt will accord him the treatment which his cavalier conduct toward them deserves.

But if Mr. Higgins was read out of the party as he now says, wherein consists the virtue of his going into opposition of which he prated so much? He says he might have been a minister in Mr. Robson's day. He claims to have been a member of the cabinet, and to the legislature. There appears to have been nothing according to his own showing, which the government had to give, which he had not have had and yet he was read out of the party? Had Mr. Higgins told us all these wonderful things about his influence and his position, and then had added that he had left the

party voluntarily, his statement would have had the semblance of consistency; but according to his own language he would have been with the government now if he had not turned their backs upon him. There are two positions and can logically occupy. One of them is that he deliberately left the government after voting with it on all measures, making the Cassiar Central charter his excuse for his new departure, and in the hope that he would be selected leader of the opposition and chosen by some Kootenay constituency to represent it, or that he was driven out of the party and hence finds himself compelled to oppose the men with whom he has always acted in accord except on the particular occasion above mentioned.

In regard to that particular occasion, the Cassiar Central Railway bill, Mr. Higgins' burden of complaint is that it locks up a certain piece of territory for five years. In the first place this is not true, for the rights of the Cassiar Central Railway company are not of such a nature, nor is their exercise of those rights of such a character that the territory out of which their leasehold is to be taken can be said to be locked up. The company has sent a great many men into the reserved district, all of whom will derive much benefit from their discoveries. In the second place, the district in question was dormant and had been dormant for a great many years. A large portion of it had never been prospected at all. Therefore the policy of the government has really been calculated to open out a portion of the province instead of locking it up from the public. A portion of the Cassiar district was lying unoccupied; the Cassiar Central Railway company said to the government "If you will permit us to select for lease for the term of thirty-five years 700,000 acres of land out of that portion and will give us five years in which to make our selection, we will send in large parties and fully prospect the country on terms that will be advantageous to the prospectors, and will build seventy-five miles of railway." Mr. Higgins calls this locking up the country. Most people will call it the opening of the country on very easy terms to the public. One of the five years has already passed away. The public has not been injured to the value of a dollar, while the company have spent many thousands of dollars in the purchase of supplies and the employment of labor. The operations of the Cassiar Central railway have so far been highly beneficial to the people of British Columbia and not the slightest injury or injustice can be shown to have resulted from them.

Mr. Higgins told the people of Colwood that British Columbia was face to face with such a financial catastrophe as overwhelmed Newfoundland. This was a disgraceful statement for Mr. Higgins to have made. Fortunately his opinion will not count in any of the final circles. If it would, no greater injury could be done British Columbia than has been seen it to do by making such an observation. The absolute sincerity of the statement is proved by the fact that he himself supported every measure under which the permanent indebtedness of the province has been increased, and voted for every appropriation which has helped to swell the large annual expenditure. Even after he had been "read out of the party" he spoke and voted for the loan bill and for every item in the estimates and supplementary estimates of last session. The people have a right to at least a show of consistency on the part of public men, and when they find a representative supporting, advocating and voting for measures to increase the permanent debt of the country and to add to its annual outlay on current account, they have a right to expect something else from him than a prophecy of financial catastrophe and an effort to destroy its credit. By his extraordinary remarks upon this subject Mr. Higgins has put himself with the worst enemies of the province, and the worst feature of the whole of it is that he must have known when he spoke that he was doing British Columbia an injury.

In regard to his statement as to the estimated income of the province, he is in no better position to judge of that than anyone else, and that he will express opinions without having the necessary knowledge upon which to base them is shown by his condemning the cheap money bill, although he admitted that he had not studied it with care, and that he was not able to discuss it. It is surprising that Mr. Higgins should go before the electors of Esquimalt unprepared to discuss one of the principal measures of last session, and confess to them that he did not believe in the measure, which he himself supported in the house. What manner of representative is he who says now, two weeks after the session is closed, that he does not understand a bill upon which he has several weeks before it was voted upon, and who declares his lack of faith in the measure to be based upon his belief that a member of the cabinet "cares no more for the working man than he (Mr. Higgins) does for a block of wood." If one so desired, he might suggest that a fellow feeling inspired Mr. Higgins' affection for the block of wood, but he is entirely astray as to the responsibility of the Hon. Col. Baker for the cheap money bill, and he is wholly wrong when he alleges that Col. Baker has no sympathy for working men. To have administered the educational affairs of this province so as to bring a good education within the reach of the poorest child in the province would be worth ten times as much to the working men as the blatant speeches of demagogues like Mr. Higgins and his "brave little Mr. Forster." Col. Baker's record as a friend of the people will bear the closest examination beside that of the gentleman who has ventured to criticize him.

Of a permanent policy, Mr. Higgins gave no indication whatever, except in his promise to see that settlers whose wood piles are burned up by locomotive sparks would get paid, and that cattle guards would be put on the railway. Whether Mr. Higgins is willing to pay for the wood piles out of his own private pocket, he did not say. The rights of the owners of the wood piles to the question are as full now as they can possibly desire. The courts are open to them and Mr. Higgins can provide no other remedy. We may be permitted to doubt whether the putting on of a few cattle guards on a railway is a matter of sufficient importance in the eyes of the electors of Esquimalt to lead them to desire to turn out the present government. The Colwood meeting places Mr. Higgins in the position of the politician as a low comedian of the present campaign.

Mr. Dreams-John have you thought how you would leave me if you should die? Don't you think you ought to take out some life insurance? John A. Dreams-Life Insurance? Great Scott! Haven't you noticed you've been accepted for publication? periodicals? Brooklyn Life.

Wallace-I haven't noticed you discussing your own life. Don't you take any interest in such things? Perry-Oh, yes, but I've got such a weak voice that I stand no show in an argument.—(Cincinnati Enquirer.)

Washington notices the regularity of the officials' importance, for it immoderately which they could have with the Spaniards at Santiago, which the Co. greatest consolation towards admiring place the that possibly earthworks them which the president has the harbor. ever, with the second command at force; that these are facts that no one in Tampa, as at the war. The insurance in the north through Capt. has not only them, but has good weapons and ammunition. The of the Cuban front from 35 miles, so that strong enough assault by sea fleet and the Tampa. The to Washington during the assault this belief, so the expectation portant information shortly.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF

Chas. H. Fletcher

IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA



900 DROPS

CASTORIA

A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

INFANTS - CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Prepared by *Wm. L. Chas. H. Fletcher*

NEW YORK.

646 months old


35 Doses - 35 CENTS

EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

Castoria is put up in one-ounce bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose." See how that you get O.S.T.-O.B.I.-I.

The fac-simile signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* is on every wrapper.

THE VALUE OF ONE BATTLESHIP




IS PAID EVERY YEAR INTO THE BRITISH REVENUE

JAMES WATSON & CO'S LTD.

CELEBRATED DUNDEE WHISKY.

HAPPY YOUTH!



'Oh, Had I Known the Value of Health—Why Did Not Some Friendly Hand Guide' Me?

THIS IS THE CRY OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN—victims of careless, reckless youth. The vital spark is dimmed by the loss of that priceless boon, nerve strength. Life seems full of trouble because the nerves are weak and the spirits depressed. Pains are felt in the back, the head is dizzy, and there are hot and cold flushes. Nervous debility is approaching.

RESTORE HAPPY YOUTH

By using Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. Get back all the joy of youthful vigor. Feel the life bounding through your veins and carrying ambition to your brain. There is a new pleasure in living when you are wearing Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. It replaces the nerve strength. It pours vitality into the body for hours at a time. Thousands of young men and women owe their happiness to it. So will you. Write to Dr. Sanden tell him of your troubles, and he will send you a book for men or for women, which will tell you how to regain vital nerve strength. Send to-day. Address

DR. A. T. SANDON, 156 James St., Montreal, Quebec

LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

OBSERVE THAT THE SIGNATURE OF *Lea & Perrins* IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF THE ORIGINAL WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Sold Wholesale by the Proprietors Worcester; and Export Oilmen generally. RETAIL EVERYWHERE.

Agents—J. M. Douglas & Co. and Urquhart & Co., Montreal.

Semi-Weekly Colonist

SCHLEY

He Simply ies With Eu

Sampson's and M

Valuable Co From

Washington notices the regularity of the officials' importance, for it immoderately which they could have with the Spaniards at Santiago, which the Co. greatest consolation towards admiring place the that possibly earthworks them which the president has the harbor. ever, with the second command at force; that these are facts that no one in Tampa, as at the war. The insurance in the north through Capt. has not only them, but has good weapons and ammunition. The of the Cuban front from 35 miles, so that strong enough assault by sea fleet and the Tampa. The to Washington during the assault this belief, so the expectation portant information shortly.

ESQUI

Proceedings at the Opp

The following figures in the report of the investigating commission Messrs. D. W. ward were charged with the investigation. Mr. Terday's Vance Having expressed firm belief in the principles of Mr. strong forces in the present in the past two days had been government work "we've lots of or threats and in the present now that the act at last, we before, "thanking" Mr. Forster. Passing with confidence in an emergency. That he is unacceptable to the old oppositionists and that he is repudiated by the new aspirants for office is easily understood. The former recognize how hopeless it is for them to expect success with him at their head; the latter have no use for any of those who have been at the front heretofore.

Mr. Pooley's assertion was that one of the best estimates of his constitution would show that estimated, by be increase tion. The should never, estimated revenue great bulk of must now be works loan. would the combined with in taxes. He admitted that he was supporting the budget speech promised a success though that a nor would so grant was to be long, for to be bought or election act more than ever in fighting interests of his. In his interest, for formed and would not co involved any of his constituents. As to the which Mr. W which Mr. W speak at least as two intricate ditutions to be a catch of Utopian con introduced by about as much as Mr. Hig be (Mr. Hig In his pered, if he a were returned to it that destroyed, when woodp from the the le guards E. & N. Mr. Hayward said to speak forty-five miles and to the for a catch of mending Me the electors that their greater than gins or him say that his and his child not admit the interest. I termed larg Pooley's, for muric acids, the Dramau for a people ple. His pendency the better super costs would be obt the divisi and that the rcly in the Chinese exc and as to how that ge fully defende ple in twice

The Colonist.

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1898.
COME OUT IN FORCE.

The friends of the local government, and that surely includes nearly every one in Victoria, ought to see to it that their names are enrolled in the membership of the Provincial Political Association. It makes no difference what a voter's preferences in federal matters may be, if he is for British Columbia and believes that the administration of the Hon. Mr. Turner has been such as to merit public confidence in his ability and readiness to fight the battle of the province in the future, he will find nothing in the plan of the association to which he cannot subscribe. The office of the secretary of the association on the corner of Fort and Broad streets is open every day, where any persons who desire to do so can examine the by-laws of the association and subscribe their names to them. They will entitle them to a vote at the convention for the nomination of candidates, to be held on the 9th instant. A large convention is hoped for, because it is the wish of the executive committee that as many persons as possible shall be consulted as to who should be put in nomination for the city. Every one will be welcome, provided he is willing to agree to abide by the choice of the convention and vote for the candidates selected. A broader invitation could not be given. At the same time to avoid mistakes it has been decided to adopt a rule under which admission to the convention will be regulated by ticket issued to each person who subscribes the roll of membership, or, in the case of those persons who have not time to attend at the secretary's office, an application card, to be procured from any of the members of the executive committee. While there can be no reasonable doubt as to the result of the election in this city, the friends of the local government and all who wish well for British Columbia should come out in force at the convention. The effect of a strong convention in this city will be felt in all parts of the province. Though victory is certain, every one should work as though he felt that there is imminent danger of defeat.

AS TO SELF-SEEKERS.

Mr. Cotton stated at the opposition meeting at Vancouver the other night that what the province wanted was a government composed of "men who are not self-seekers." This is one of Mr. Cotton's phrases. He has a taste for such things. Last year his pet expression was "stupid people." Every one who did not agree with him was "stupid." He has indulged in a little variety, and every one who does not see eye to eye with him in politics is a self-seeker. It is not very clear how this term can be applied with truth to the present administration or any of its members. It implies that the men who are characterized by it are looking for personal advantage. A self-seeker is a man who is seeking to promote his personal gain. There are five members of the provincial cabinet. Will Mr. Cotton take some opportunity, either in his newspaper or on the public platform, to show which of them has used his official position to advance his personal interests, when he did so and how he did it. He must either do this or stand condemned as a mere phrase-maker, which in point of fact describes him about as well as any other words that can be suggested. He invents sounding phrases and believes that he is enunciating great principles.

The charge that anyone is a self-seeker comes with a mighty and poor grace from the gentleman, whose supporters thought so little of his quality that they required him to give them a pledge in writing that he would be true. It comes with a specially poor grace from a man, who spent a whole session of the legislature in seeking to get into the government, which he now so bitterly opposes. Mr. Cotton's whole ambition for years has been to get a place in some government, any government, so long as there was a salary attached to the position. With this object, he played the most ignoble part ever taken by any man in British Columbia politics. While he was openly standing in with the opposition, he was secretly plotting against them. Self-seekers, indeed! Mr. Cotton ought to leave epithets like that to be employed by some one else.

THE CASSIAR CENTRAL.

Yesterday's Colonist contained a news item regarding the shipment of a large amount of supplies to Cassiar by the Cassiar Central Railway Co. This is not the first time that such news has been published. The company is engaged extensively in operations in the north although very little is said about them, the plan of Mr. Hirschel-Cohen, the manager, being to avoid publicity so far as is possible in connection with his business transactions. The public will remember what dire misfortunes to the province by reason of the passage of the bill to aid this company in the construction of its railway were foretold. As was pointed out yesterday in the Colonist, one-fifth of the period in which the company must select its land has expired and there is yet to be heard the first complaint from a single individual that his plans have been interfered with in the slightest degree by the concessions granted to the company. On the other hand, a large number of prospectors have secured employment at good pay coupled with an interest in their discoveries. Many thousands of dollars have been spent in the purchase of supplies and transportation, and an efficient business establishment has been maintained by the company. These things mean very much for the province, and they are only the beginning of the company's very extensive operations. It will not be long before railway construction will be begun on the road to Dease Lake, whereby

employment will be given to a very great many people, and a market will be provided for many thousands of tons of farm produce. As between the gain and loss to the public resulting from the government policy as exemplified in the Cassiar Central grant, the balance is on the side of the former. Indeed, there is really nothing at all upon the other side of the account; and yet we have been told that this Cassiar Central railway plan was a sufficient reason for turning the government out of office.

Let us consider just what this scheme is. It is not a grant of any land, but only a lease subject to conditions which are to the advantage of the general public and eliminate from the bargain any of the features of a monopoly. The area embraced in the prospective lease is comparatively small when the extent of unoccupied land in northern British Columbia is taken into consideration. What is the territory lying between the fifty-sixth and sixtieth parallels of latitude. It is an area which for convenience of calculation may be said to be 500 miles wide, measuring east and west, and 300 miles wide measuring north and south. That is to say, it contains an area of 150,000 square miles or 96,000,000 acres. So far as is known, all this enormous extent of country is as well worth prospecting as is the reserve out of which the Cassiar Central Co. is to select its leasehold. The amount of that leasehold is considerably less than one one-hundredth part of the whole area of northern British Columbia. In the estimated area given above no portion of the province below the head of Portland channel on the west, and the Peace river on the east is taken into account. The leasehold is not to be taken in a single block nor is the company at liberty to select land wherever it pleases. The selections must be made in blocks four miles square and the blocks must be not less than four miles apart. This provision gives the company one block of four miles square to two blocks of four miles square remaining to the crown. That is to say, instead of getting half the area, as they would under the ordinary plan of granting alternate blocks, they get only one-third of it. It will be seen from the terms of this subsidy that it does not give the company anything like a monopoly of the 10,000,000 acres reserved to them. After the company has selected its land and located claims thereon, it at once becomes a direct contributor to the revenue of the province. It pays taxes upon its property of any kind precisely as any private individual or any mining company does. It pays \$50 per annum as a specific tax for each mining claim which it holds, and it at any time it transfers a claim or any portion thereof, it must pay \$100 to the revenue. In case its cuts timber on any of its leased lands, it pays the same royalty as is charged to a one-half interest in his discoveries provided it shall decide to accept the same within 60 days after notice of discovery. If this option is not accepted, the discoverer may at any time within two years sell his property to any person who chooses to buy it. After the expiration of the two years, if the discoverer has not disposed of it, the company may take charge of it, develop it and sell it, paying the free miner for his one-half the proceeds of any bona fide sale. These are the legal restrictions surrounding the company's lease, and in addition thereto the public have the protection of the business interests of the company which will lead it to encourage the development of all properties within the reserved district.

In consideration of these concessions from the legislature, the company is to build 75 miles of railway, which will connect the waters of the Stikine with the Dease river, which in turn is a tributary of the Laird—a river flowing to the great Mackenzie and having tributaries through a vast extent of territory in British Columbia and the North West Territories, concerning which not much is known further than that the indications are favorable to the discovery of valuable minerals within its borders.

Such is the Cassiar Central railway agreement which has called forth such various adverse criticism from the enemies of the government. So far from being a measure calling for condemnation at the hands of the electors, it is one deserving of their heartiest endorsement. There is no guess work about the advantage it will be, for, as was said at the outset, the company is already expending its money liberally in the employment of labor and the purchase of supplies.

LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN.

Lost, strayed or stolen, two things called platforms. One of them was made by Charles A. Semlin, Francis L. Carter-Cotton and Donald Graham. It was a remarkable thing. There never was anything like it before. There never will be anything like it again. It passed across the political horizon like a Queen's birthday firecracker and disappeared in the gloaming of his darling, and has never since been heard of. What has become of it, no man knoweth. An ancient legend tells of the disappearance of the Pleiades: Arthur Sullivan has sung of the Lost Chord; Andree has gone some where—no one knows where; yet we can at least guess at the whereabouts of that thing called a platform, which the three opposition Tailors of Tooley Street evolved from their in-

ner consciences or elsewhere on that fine summer day in 1897, there is neither trace, scent nor echo. A faint memory lingers in the minds of people who are interested in curiosities that such a thing once was. What is it? Will not Mr. Francis L. Carter-Cotton, if he has safely recovered from the shock of his embrace with Mr. Joseph Martin, late of Winnipeg, take some convenient opportunity of suggesting a theory that will fit the case? The other thing called a platform was adopted before it was born by an alleged convention of Liberals held in Westminster. Subsequently it was brought to the light of day by the united efforts of a special committee, but it has gone. Like the shadow of a vision, it has left not a wrack behind. Where oh! where is it gone? The anguished heart of the average oppositionist, when he thinks of its untimely departure into the regions of the unknown must feel like solacing himself with that classical song beginning, "Where, oh! where has my little dog gone?"

It is really cruel on the part of the inventors of these two extraordinary creations of the human intellect to suffer them to be at large, untraced, for and alone in the wilderness of political doubt and uncertainty. Is there none of them, like that fellow in Shakespeare, that could call up spirits from the vasty deep, who can by some magic power bring back from the limbo of forgetfulness these two marvellous productions of human ingenuity which have vanished.

"Like a snow flake in the river;
A moment white; then melts forever."
THE FARMERS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

If the agricultural population of British Columbia withholds from the government an expression of confidence at the forthcoming election, it will not be because a painstaking and intelligent effort has not been made to promote their welfare. It may be said without fear of successful contradiction that no provincial government in Canada has done as much in the same length of time for the farming interests as the British Columbia government has done during the last two years. It has made a successful effort to deal with the dyking question on the lower Fraser. It has provided for a beginning of a system of irrigation. It has afforded the farmers means of protecting themselves from ruinous competition and of securing the best possible facilities for marketing their produce by the establishment of farming institutes. It has aided the important work of education in subjects not dealt with in schools, but in which men of mature years are interested, by the establishment of travelling libraries. It has provided a plan whereby the farming communities can secure money for immediate development upon the most favorable terms. It has encouraged dairying, fruit raising and sheep husbandry. It has not simply waited for the farmers to ask for measures of relief, but has anticipated their demands. For which of all these good works do the opposition ask that the government shall be condemned? Will the opponents of the government throughout the agricultural community state what it is that the government has not done which it ought to have done and what it has done that it ought not to have done? Has it not adopted a policy in other respects that is calculated to open the eyes of the province to new and extensive markets?

'The claim will be made that the government, in refusing to abolish what is known as the mortgage tax, has incurred the resentment of some so-called champions of the agricultural interest. On this point a few things may be said. The mortgage tax so-called is not a burden borne peculiarly by the farmers. Indeed, it is probably more of a burden upon the owners of city property than upon anyone else. That it is a tax which is defensible upon principle cannot be successfully denied. It is quite right that money invested on mortgage should be taxed as well as money invested in anything else, but it must be admitted also that money lenders have been able to take advantage of borrowers and compel the latter to pay a tax upon investments when the same are in the form of mortgages. How to relieve the borrower from this tax, and at the same time compel the lender to contribute his share to the revenue is a problem of great difficulty, notwithstanding the airy manner in which it is dismissed by such great political economists as Messrs. Forster, Higgins and Cotton. But there is an evil exists, which must be remedied, is conceded and by no one more than by the government, which asked the house to appropriate a sum of money for the appointment of commissioners, who will look into this and other subjects between now and the next session of the legislature, and see what can be done to relieve the mortgagor without giving the mortgagee privileges enjoyed by the possessor of no other description of property.

Some of the extreme champions of farmers' interests will doubtless seek to make it appear that the government ought to have arranged for the redemption of all outstanding farm mortgages and the substitution of new ones bearing lower interest, but this is not reasonable. The cheap money law, as it is called, goes quite as far in this direction as is safe. It is utterly hopeless for the government of any country to undertake to redeem outstanding mortgages in the manner suggested. If the opposition were in power to-morrow they could not undertake to do it, and, what is more, they have never said that they would. They have contented themselves with growing at the government for not doing what they know perfectly well cannot be done. The true remedy is a community of farmers burdened by debts, incurred during a period of inflation, is to do what can be done to bring about good times again, and place within the reach of the farmers means whereby they can convert their credit into money at a

enable them to take advantage of the new opportunities of becoming prosperous. The farmers of British Columbia are not a lot of mendicants begging at the door of the legislature for favors to be doled out either by the government or the opposition. They are industrious, hard-working men, suffering, in many cases, from over-confidence and a desire to get ahead a little faster than the conditions of the country warrant. All they asked was that something should be done to open new markets for them, and that they might be placed in a position to get money for business purposes on as reasonable terms as other business men can get it. If this were done for them they would take care of themselves without coddling on the part of the government or mawkish expressions of sympathy on the part of the opposition. It has been done.

If poor British Columbia is on the high road to destruction, how comes it that so distinguished a citizen of Manitoba as the Hon. Joseph Martin was willing to risk his future here? Since the Hon. Joseph has been in the province he has, according to himself, been strictly out of politics, he has also been a candidate for the Chief Justiceship; he also has been an aspirant for a position in the present cabinet; he has also been the leader of the independents, and at the last accounts he was a confirmed oppositionist of the Francis L. Carter-Cotton stripe. We do not know if there is anything else in the political merry-go-round that the Hon. Joseph can be; but if there is he will be it. Our own impression is that he will shortly go back to where he started, that is to being strictly out of politics. The voters of Vancouver will give him a boost in that direction.

Mr. Francis L. Carter-Cotton expressed the desire the other night in Vancouver to meet Hon. Mr. Turner face to face and discuss the financial situation with him. There is an impression here in Victoria that Mr. Cotton sat opposite Mr. Turner for three long months in the legislature during the session just ended. He was face to face with him every day and several times for nearly all night. Why did he not then discuss the financial situation with him? More noteworthy still is the fact that the financial position of the province came up for discussion several times while he was face to face with the antagonist whom he now burns to meet. Mr. Cotton is the bravest debater in Christendom when there is no one around to answer him.

It is said to be the intention of President McKinley to administer Cuba after the fashion adopted by Great Britain in Egypt, and that a complete study of the British method is being made by the treasury officials. The great difficulty about this is that under the American system, the chief administrator is likely to be changed every four years, a condition of things which would be almost prohibitive of good government.

Mr. S. Perry Mills is a candidate for the suffrages of the electors of Esquimalt. He told the people at Colwood that he was in favor of Mr. Turner but against his government. Query: How will Mr. Mills be classified politically? A year's subscription to the Semi-Weekly Colonist will be given to any one sending in the first correct answer.

The Rossland Record pleads for the observance of the Fourth of July at Rossland in reciprocity for the observance of the Queen's Birthday there. The Colonist believes in doing everything reasonable to promote international good feeling, but it would draw the line at a Canadian celebration of the Fourth of July.

The resolution of the Chicago Irishmen against closer relations between the United States and Great Britain does not appear to have been received with much favor by the American press, which rightly regards the interests of the whole English-speaking race as infinitely more important than the prejudices of discontented Irish-Americans.

We observe that the opposition papers are quoting with approval the statement of Mr. Higgins to the effect that, when the electors vote this time, they will not be voting for him but for a change of government. To ask people to vote for Mr. Higgins seems to be rather more than any one thinks is reasonable.

All is alleged to be serene between the Brown oppositionists and the Martin oppositionists. Whether the lion has swallowed the lamb or the lamb the lion, or whether, like the Kilkenny cats, they have swallowed each other, has not yet been made public. Possibly time will tell.

The Columbian says that Hon. Mr. Turner informed his friends in Vancouver that the election in that city would be on strictly Dominion lines. This is wholly untrue. Mr. Turner informed his friends in Vancouver that it was his desire that the election should not be run on Dominion lines.

The Toronto Globe thinks that Rossland should become a large and flourishing city. There is no doubt about that. Rossland will grow, but its growth will keep pace with the development of the mines surrounding it. There will be no mushroom work.

The United States papers now refer to the operations at San Juan de Porto Rico as a fiasco, and it is alleged that the President has directed the commanders of the squadron not to risk any more such performances.

There are various grades of political immorality, but the sort that finds expression in ballot-box stuffing is by far the worst. The man who will stuff a ballot box ought to spend a few years in the penitentiary and be forever after disfranchised.



JOLLY GOOD LARK

Defeating water works by-law. Now they CAN'T expect us to drink Chicago.

The Chicago corner in wheat is broken—to meet it we make a cut in flour for this week.

Hungarian Hudson's Bay . . . \$1.80
Hungarian Alberta . . . 1.65
Snow Flake . . . 1.50
Car Load of Fruit Flours, Overdue

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

COLUMBIA FLOURING MILLS CO.
Enderby and Vernon.
Brands
HUNGARIAN, PREMIER, SUPERFINE AND *** SPECIAL
R. P. RITHET & CO., Victoria Agents.

E. G. PRIOR & CO.

Limited Liability



Sole Agents for Massey-Harris Co's Wide Open Binders, Boin Wagons, Etc., Etc., Iron, Hardware, Miners' Supplies.
VICTORIA. VANCOUVER. KAMLOOPS.

Kiondyke Outfits
PRICE LISTS NOW READY
B. WILLIAMS & CO.,
CLOTHES and HATTERS,
97 and 99 Johnson Street,
Victoria, B.C.

Can a grand jury find a true bill without any evidence? This point was raised in the case of the Queen vs. Nichol. The presiding judge did not express any opinion, and the Crown officer thought best to have the indictment sent back and some evidence submitted. But is it not good law that a grand jury can make a presentment without calling any witnesses, that is, based upon the knowledge possessed by the members of that body? We think so. Moreover there is no means of ascertaining whether or not the grand jury had evidence before it. The proceedings of that body are secret. What a member of it may tell his fellow members, they are sworn not to divulge. The presentment is the end of all inquiry as to how it came to be found. The grand jury may make a presentment against any one, without the Crown knowing that anything of the sort is intended, and it is in the duty of the crown officer in such a case to prepare an indictment, to which the accused person can be called upon to plead. While the practice is for the Crown officer to send in indictments to the jury, this is not essential. The jury may return such presentments as they believe proper, and the court may amend such presentments so as to make them accord in form with the requirements of procedure.

Mr. John Bryden, M. P. P., has received a requisition from 230 voters in North Nanaimo asking him to allow himself to be again nominated for that riding and he has consented. In his card he declares his approval of the policy of the government and promises to continue to work for progress and development. Both personally and as a member of the legislature, Mr. Bryden is a gentleman, whom to know is to highly respect, and North Nanaimo is fortunate in securing his services in the legislature.

Recommendations to mercy are very well in their place; but there is such a thing as running them into the ground, and it is a good thing that our judges do not allow themselves to be unduly influenced by them. Every lawyer knows that often a recommendation to mercy is simply a means used on the part of sensible jurymen to bring stubborn men to consent to a verdict.

The Midway Advance, opposition, thinks the opposition press has a good deal of reason for refusing to regard the commission to inquire into the lands and works department as necessary. Seeing that the charge appeared in the Times, we are not sure that there may not be very much in which the Advance says.

In to-day's Colonist will be found an extremely interesting letter from J. B. Mercer, of Nanaimo, on co-operative fruit raising. There is no doubt that his suggestion has a genuine business value.

The Rossland Miner urges the citizens of that riding to be very careful in the selection of a representative to the local legislature. The advice might well be taken by other ridings.

Seven years for a "confidence" game will not afford much encouragement to the floating criminal element on the Coast who may contemplate coming to British Columbia.

The call for troops in the United States has demonstrated that the National Guard is a perfectly useless military organization. It was never anything more than a sort of a club.

FOR IN SEAR French Ba couver a Nor Reasons the In Vancouver French ball has been tal Nearly two tists, headed arrived at and were s Vancouver, day that the capt the lea where they Hotel Vanco Terwagne a and Louis N continent wa of negotiat the final ret for the purp balloons for M. Varicle is day now an balloon will Mr. Varicle able reputati in balloon a second to no sonal friend plorer, as is kindly conse sensitive an evening. M been classed scientists an with balloon perfect as t tleman of v was only too illustrations interview prog led long ene countries to friend kindly "You see," history of b people of nea sidered that tion is more else, but it s now parks a of the syste very interesti and other E now serve us times of war, menting has hands of me The bicycle h has lea course the bal enormous an does not ad means stritly tal and ener name was br tific societies Sweden and patrons and t give him eve being only a was not exp ence of an or twice und by balloon. on. M. Stru fessional, ha trips with M. let. Natural one or two t an ordinary many times, b that they we take travel of ing not had could not for "According which will b good deal of the old style while the de the conseque the pressure stronger the Then you be come to the loon floated lower, havin prevent strik out ballast, and the ball bye you ha ballast and your balloon to descend t undertaken his gas as "My princ to a certai it at will on an aeri 150 yards t the balloon, on the bal to become t weighs a gr ac first the is thrown i to a conven trailing alo course sup While the much more run through house for t end. As v lighter and reses on t reach a pl from the gr hold up th extremely s if you know experience "Now, An of the rop would do j would severa if the end of call the bal of the dyad the rope, s can be app down to t point and leaving Spi termaked a balloon, be metres, and 600 pound away to a not been m but this i out for h come down down to the wind a had he use the reckon was drifted