

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1889.

THE TARIFF.

There has been quite a number of deputations in Ottawa whose business it was to persuade the Finance Minister to make changes in the tariff. They all, of course, had the good of the Dominion in view, but it is not to be expected that they will have any success. The gentlemen were not selfish, they had no axes to grind at the public expense. They were all disinterested patriots, who took the long journey to Ottawa for the sole purpose of benefiting their fellow citizens. Last year Sir Charles Tupper made the hearts of these patriots sad by announcing at a very early day that he did not intend to make any change in the tariff, and they knew that when Sir Charles once makes up his mind it is not easy to persuade him to change it. That announcement had quite a salutary effect on business. Merchants do not feel easy when they know that about the 1st of March important changes, which will perhaps affect them seriously, may be made in the tariff. The uncertainty has an unpleasant influence upon them, and whether the apprehended changes are made or not, a derangement of their business is inevitable to take place. One of the great factors in the successful transaction of mercantile business is stability. When a merchant knows that he has nothing to fear from governmental interference, he goes to work with confidence and completes the transactions which, at the time, appear to afford him a fair prospect of profit. But if he has reason to expect that extensive changes will be made in the tariff, he does not feel himself warranted in running any risks. He cannot sell but that the change may affect the very commodity he is dealing in, and that change may be so great as to completely alter the nature of the transaction in which he desires to engage. He does not know where the blow may fall, and he consequently refrains from doing what, if this element of uncertainty were eliminated, might be a successful stroke of business. This annual uncertainty is felt most unpleasantly by all who are engaged in foreign trade, and it is, therefore, the duty of Government, having once revised the tariff, afterwards to make as few changes as possible. We have no means of knowing what influence the numerous deputations have had on the new Minister of Finance. But we do not think that he will be inclined to make any very important changes. He is a prudent man, and will be most likely disposed to let well enough alone. We are confirmed in this belief by the tone of an article which appeared in the Montreal Gazette of the 11th inst. The article begins in the principal commercial city of the Dominion is, we suspect, intended to foreshadow the course which the Government intends to pursue. It says: "Stability of business conditions is regarded on all hands as of the first importance to the continuity of commercial success. This is a fact thoroughly recognized and which the Government should not fail to keep in mind. It was especially evident last year by the reception of the early public intimation that during the current session there would be no changes made in the customs duties. A doubtful element was at once removed from the trade situation, and merchants were able to proceed with their business plans for a year ahead. It would have been well if that intimation had been made to cover the period of the present Parliament at least, instead of the single session. It is not to be pretended that the tariff is perfect, but it might not be advantageous to modify it; but it is held with strong reason, that all interests being considered, it is better that it should remain permanent in all its essential particulars, rather than that the probability of its annual change should constitute a continuous disturbing element in the commercial situation. The Government could not well make a more satisfactory announcement than that it fully recognizes this principle, which would at once relieve business men of a cause of anxiety, and ministers of the pressure of delegations looking for special consideration. The Gazette would not, we think, express these views in this way if it were not pretty sure that it is the intention of the Government to pursue the course it favors. That journal has not been in the habit of offering the Government advice which it has reason to believe will be disregarded. It is much more probable that it takes this attitude because those who inspire it know that what it modestly gives in the shape of advice is really the determination of the Ministry. Mr. Foster, however, has not seen fit to give the country the assurance which Sir Charles Tupper did last year in the plainest terms. If it is, as we suspect, not his intention to make important changes in the tariff, he would have done well to have followed his experienced predecessor's example.

THE ESTIMATES.

We have received a copy of the Estimates for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1890. We have not been able to examine them closely, but a hasty look through them reveals the fact that there is to be a slight decrease in the expenditure. The expenditure for the current year was estimated at \$36,739,237, the total for next year is \$35,410,380, being a decrease of \$1,328,857. The greater part of this reduction is in public works chargeable to income, which of itself is a little over a million dollars. The estimate for public buildings has been cut down \$377,000, that for harbor and river improvements has been lessened by \$236,000. There is \$40,000 less to be expended on the telegraph next year than there has been during the current year, \$40,000 on experimental farms, and \$70,000 on roads and bridges. Some items of expenditure do not appear on this year's estimates because the work for which they were intended to provide have been finished. This has been the case as regards the winter steamer for Prince Edward Island, \$183,000, and the equipment for the new printing bureau, \$165,000. There is an anticipated increase in the expense of operating the government railways of \$263,000, and there is an addition of \$45,000 as interest on the public debt. The expenditure on capital account

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Fifth Parliament.

TENTH DAY.

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Prayers were read by Rev. P. McF. Macleod.

REPORTS.

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Mr. Davis—To ask leave to introduce a Bill to amend "An Act to amend the Provincial Controversial Elections Act."

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OUR SOLICITIOUS NEIGHBORS

The condition of Canada is giving our neighbors across the line a good deal of anxiety just now. They appear to think that Canadians are greatly dissatisfied with their present political condition, and that they are longing for a change of some kind. One respectable San Francisco paper has it that Canadians are becoming so desirous to be annexed to the Great Republic that their Government has become so scared that they have sent for a son of the Queen of England to become their very own King. How giving a people who are desirous of becoming the citizens of a republic a king is going to cure them of republicanism our columnists do not say. Sir John Macdonald is not the kind of political doctor that some of our neighbors across the line appear to believe him to be. He is better than any man on the continent, knows how to suit the cure to the political disease. He is not the man to aggravate it by giving the patient just the very opposite of what he wants. But as it happens he is not called upon to treat the people of this Dominion for annexation fever. They have not got it and they are not likely to catch it. They are quite satisfied to remain for an indefinite period as they are. Queen Victoria is a good enough sovereign for them. They don't want to change her for either a King or a President. They have just as much independence as the great majority of them want just now. They make their own laws, they regulate their own commerce, and they impose their own taxes. Canadians feel themselves to be about as free a people as the sun shines on. They are under no restrictions that they do not impose on themselves, and their connection with the mother country, though so firm and so strong, is hardly ever seen and never felt to be irksome. Their good Queen rules them with a wand of the very lightest kind. She is associated in their minds with nothing that is harsh or unpleasant. On the contrary, the mention of her name and the recollection of all that she represents, call up nothing but feelings of admiration, pride and gratitude in her subjects on this side of the Atlantic. Sir John Macdonald is not required to do anything "to rehabilitate the waning allegiance of the Canadians to the mother country." The process would be indeed a peculiar one, but no one criticizes western metaphors too severely. The allegiance of Canadians has never waned. If it had it is hard to see how rehabilitation would bring it again to its original dimensions. But we are quite sure that neither the land of their origin nor their Sovereign ever held a higher place in the love and respect of the people of Canada than they do today. Canadian loyalty needs no stimulating, and no one knows this better than Sir John Macdonald. He has very properly characterized all the stories that have been invented on this side of the line about Canadian dissatisfaction and the means that he intends to take to cure it, as "rubbish." But it is hard to convince our neighbors that Canadian discontent exists nowhere but in their own minds.

A SINGULAR CONTEST

The religious world in England is greatly interested in the trial of the Right Rev. Dr. Edward King, Lord Bishop of the diocese of Lincoln, who has been summoned to appear before the Archbishop of Canterbury to answer for alleged violations of ecclesiastical law. The language of the citation is "to answer truly to certain articles, heads, positions, or interrogatories to be objected and administered to him touching and concerning his soul's health, and the lawful correction and reformation of his manners and excesses." The matters in dispute are not new. The Archbishop called upon to settle the feud between the High Church and the Low Church. The Bishop of Lincoln is High Church—apparently very high indeed. The charges against him are all of them relating to practices which are commonly called "ritualistic." They have to do with candles on the communion table, mixing water with the sacramental wine, with postures taken in the different parts of the service, with the tone of singing or saying the "Agnus," with the mode of pronouncing that benediction, and other matters of this kind. The conduct of the Bishop out of church is not called in question, and he is not accused of preaching heresy from the pulpit. From anything that can be seen to the contrary, the Bishop may live a godly life, he may be faithful in the performance of his duties as a minister of the Church of England and a zealous and able preacher of sound doctrine. Nothing is said in the indictment about these essentials. But the whole trouble is about forms and ceremonies which, to the outsider, seem to be of no importance whatever. To those who have not made a study of what we hope we are not wrong in designating ecclesiastical etiquettes, it appears of very little consequence so long as the clergyman is a good man and is faithful and zealous in the performance of his duties, whether there are candles on the communion table or not, or whether the "elebrant" stands this way or that when he reads certain parts of the service. These seem to be small matters for Christian men and women to fight about. If one is offered food that is good and nourishing, it does not matter a very great deal whether it is on a silver dish or on one of the plainest earthenware, whether he presents it on a stand or on a bowl, or refrains from bowing; and the nature and condition of the food is the one thing needful, all else are matters of comparatively little consequence. But it seems with both the contending parties the form is regarded as of greater importance than the substance. The presenting party appear to be able to think of nothing but the ceremonies that are to them offensive; the pious and zealous last night of; and the Bishop and his party seem to regard these forms and ceremonies of more im-

portance than peace and concord. Neither party appears disposed to make any concession to the convictions or the prejudices of the other. This is a singular state of things, and is not calculated to create the impression on the minds of the spectators that the contestants set any very high value upon religion itself when they are ready to sacrifice what is regarded as its essential principle to their love or their hatred of ceremonies, which many are unable to see as a necessary part of the religion which both the parties profess. To the great mass of even Christian people this quarrel that is creating such a disturbance in England seems very little better than the feud between the Bigendians and the Littleendians. It is just possible that those apparently unimportant ceremonies are outward and visible signs of inward radical differences of opinion between the contending parties, and that they are, so to speak, party badges of no importance of themselves, but significant of something most important. Even if this is the case, it would be best for both parties to place the symbols out of view and speak in plain terms about the thing which those symbols are supposed to represent.

AN ILL-USED INDUSTRY

We are glad to see that the Legislative Assembly passed unanimously a resolution declaring that "it is desirable that representation should be made to the Federal Government requesting them to exempt from taxation all such machinery which is not made in Canada which may be imported into this province for quartz mining purposes." The interest of one of the most important of the industries of the province demands that every obstacle in the way of its speedy and complete development be removed. Nature makes the work of the quartz miner difficult and expensive enough without Government interfering to retard his progress and lessen his prospects of success. For this is exactly what the Government does when it imposes a tax on mining machinery which must be imported from the United States. Quartz mining is an infant industry in British Columbia, it is not by any means a strong infant, and it promises to be a very hard one to rear. Those engaged in this infant industry, on the success of which the prosperity of the province in a very great measure depends, have the very best claim to look to the Federal Government for help. The leading feature of its policy is to foster infant industries. It does this with respect to many industries which may be said to have passed the period of infancy. It shields them from outside competition at the expense of the consumers of the Dominion. The tariff has been revised expressly for their benefit. The manufacturers of sugar, of cotton, of hardware, of iron, of woollen cloth, and of a hundred other articles, are protected by the Government. Why, then, should an exception be made against the worker who toils and laboriously extracts gold from the rocks of a mountainous region. None of the producers we have named is required to work under such unfavorable conditions as the quartz miner. None of them have to encounter one-tenth part of the obstacles which the quartz miner must surmount, or to bear one-hundredth part of the hardships and privations which he must endure. Yet they are assiduously cared for by the Government, while the miner is not only neglected, but discouraged and oppressed. We can hardly believe that the Government is so narrow-minded and so pedantic as to believe that there is no way of fostering an infant industry but by imposing a tax in its favor. But from the policy hitherto pursued, we are almost forced to that conclusion. Other industries of far less importance to the province in which they are carried on, than quartz mining is to British Columbia, find no difficulty in getting a high duty placed on the products of foreign industries of the same kind; but when the British Columbia infant, modestly asks for an exemption from a most burdensome tax it is coldly heard and meets with a direct refusal. Exemption from federal taxation is just as necessary for the development of the quartz mining industry as the imposition of a protective tax for that of the eastern manufacturer. This must be plain to every man who is capable of forming an intelligent opinion on the subject. The object of the Government is to give the infant industry a chance. This is done by removing obstacles out of its way and giving it a clear field to work in. The obstacle in the way of the manufacturer is the foreign competitor. He is kept out of the way by a heavy tax. The obstacle in the way of the quartz miner is, strange to say, one of the Government's own creation. The Government places on the shoulders of the British Columbia infant, long before he can walk alone, a heavy burden of taxation and then cruelly and unreasonably leaves him unaided to climb over impediments of no ordinary nature with that load on his back. The thirty-five per cent. duty on mining machinery which is not manufactured in Canada, is a load which the infant industry of British Columbia ought not to be asked to carry. The only way in which the Government can help it is to take that load off. A tax in its favor can do it good, it does not ask for or expect a bounty, all that it requires is that the popular and widely known editor of the *Bulletin*, the marriage ceremony performed by Rev. Father Van Nerve, the groom being supported by Mr. Alex. MacDonald and the bridesmaids being the two sisters of the bride. The newly married couple were the recipients of many warm and hearty congratulations, upon the conclusion of the marriage service. The bride has been a resident of the city since childhood, and is one of Victoria's most estimable and popular young ladies, while the groom during his residence here has made hosts of friends, all of whom unite in wishing Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald a pleasant and happy journey down the stream of life, a sentiment in which *The Colonist* sincerely joins.

THE NEXT PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION

The fund for the Westminster Provincial Exhibition, to be held in the Royal City next fall, is going up now by leaps and bounds. The *Colonist* started the subscription last fall. It is now amounting to \$730—a very creditable sum indeed. Our evening contemporary of the Royal burg is to be congratulated on the success of its efforts to make the forthcoming show a great success.

THE BRIDGE OVER THE FRASER RIVER

The bridge over the Fraser River at Lillooet has been accepted by the government superintendent, Mr. Arthur Stevenson, and is pronounced by that officer to be a first class structure and creditable in the highest degree to the San Francisco Bridge Co., who designed the plan and secured the contract. This is the same company that constructed the Ashcroft bridge, and which, notwithstanding the disaster of last year, has proved to be of a substantial and enduring character, fully establishing the high reputation of the San Francisco Bridge Co.

A NIGHT IN CAMP

A decidedly novel and interesting entertainment, entitled "A night in camp," was given by the Y. M. C. A. in their rooms last evening. Last night the ball room was transformed into a miniature forest by the plentiful use of young evergreen trees, and tents were pitched beneath the branches. Several members of the reception committee were invited in border costume and accorded the visitors a hearty welcome to the camp. Mr. R. J. Plummer represented "Buffalo Bill," Mr. W. Deo, "Cowboy," Mr. W. Roper, "Kit Carson," and C. B. Harris, "Jesse James." The borders treated their guests to fruit, popcorn and other light refreshments, and the evening was passed very pleasantly with songs and recitations, including an athletic exhibition by the gymnasium club. The "night in camp" terminated with all singing the National Anthem; and then three singing men and a singer were given by Mr. Teague, the energetic secretary, who was the promoter of the entertainment.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF VANCOUVER

The city council of Vancouver met on Monday night, and after a stormy dispute adjourned without even reading the minutes. The cause of the disturbance was the question raised by Ald. Salisbury as to the mayor's right to vote in the various committees of the council, which, he claimed should be submitted to an arbitration. This the mayor declined to do, claiming that he had acted in the manner which he considered he was entitled to do by the rules laid down in the Procedure By-Laws, and therefore, while he had no objection to any alderman taking any outside advice upon the matter, he refused to be bound by any opinion which might be expressed, much less to submit the matter to arbitration in the way proposed by Ald. Salisbury. Several of the aldermen on the other hand claim that if the mayor should repeat the action of which they complain, he practically abdicates the office of mayor. The meeting abruptly terminated by five of the aldermen rising and leaving the chamber, being vigorously teased by the audience.

McDONALD-CAMPBELL

A very quiet but very happy wedding was celebrated at St. Andrew's Cathedral yesterday morning, when Mr. James MacDonald and Miss Virginia Mary Campbell were united in the bonds of holy wedlock. Both parties are well known and highly respected, the bridegroom, who is a native of Prince Edward Island, having been for several years in Victoria, where he has been for some time. The bride being the eldest daughter of Mr. Francis Campbell, the popular and widely known editor of the *Bulletin*. The marriage ceremony performed by Rev. Father Van Nerve, the groom being supported by Mr. Alex. MacDonald and the bridesmaids being the two sisters of the bride. The newly married couple were the recipients of many warm and hearty congratulations, upon the conclusion of the marriage service. The bride has been a resident of the city since childhood, and is one of Victoria's most estimable and popular young ladies, while the groom during his residence here has made hosts of friends, all of whom unite in wishing Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald a pleasant and happy journey down the stream of life, a sentiment in which *The Colonist* sincerely joins.

Mr. Richard Hough, of Barkerville, visits Victoria after a long absence in the Mountains of Cariboo.

Mr. Richard Hough, who has been engaged in mining on Williams' Creek since the days of '62, arrived down on the Island last night, after a visit to the Victoria, and a few days' rest.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, Feb. 20.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

San Francisco Coal Market.

A San Francisco dispatch says, Wellington coal fell \$3 per ton to-day, and in sympathy all other coals a light drop.

A Victim of Diphtheria.

Edwin William, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Robinson, of Nanaimo, died on Sunday of diphtheria.

A Summer Hotel.

A number of prominent gentlemen have taken up the question of erecting a \$250,000 hotel for the purpose of accommodating the large increase in tourist travel that is taking place.

TOWN TOPICS TRERESELY TOLD.

Local and General Happenings Gathered up and Presented in a Readable Shape.

Mr. James Dixon, late of the Royal Engineers, writes a note to the effect that he is still in the land of the living.

Several liberal suits were offered for sale yesterday, with a discount off for cash, and no takers.

Two more of the unshapely verandahs on Government wharves and one on Johnson are being torn down.

Mr. Peterson, wife of the steward of the French Hospital, died yesterday afternoon of typhoid fever.

John Anderson, a Swede, employed at the Union mines, Comox, died at Nanaimo on Sunday, of typhoid fever.

The *Colonist* states that the owners of the *Golden Rule* loads on Texada have been offered the sum of \$60,000 for that property.

A splendid programme is being prepared for the concert of the Victoria Episcopal church on Tuesday evening next.

Messrs. Bishop & Shorbome have been awarded the contract for erecting a new building for St. Charles street, Regent's Park.

The two young men of this city who assaulted John Black, of Beaver Lake, and the members of the church, are now in the provincial police custody this morning.

Lost—a bunch of keys. The finder will please leave the same at the office of Mr. Roycroft, superintendent of the city police. A suitable reward will be given.

Supt. of Police Sheppard has an oval-shaped gold pocket in his possession, which he has been unable to identify.

The trinket was found on Johnson street, near Wharf.

In renewing his subscription for the *Weekly Colonist*, Mr. Jno. Bevellet, of the *Golden Rule*, says: "We are much pleased with your valuable paper and find we can hardly do without it."

Tom and Jerry, two dusky natives, who were charged with the murder of a man, were yesterday brought to the bar.

The Indian reservation, situated on the coast of the Fraser River, is being visited by the natives of the Chinaman, Kuper Island and other coast points, are holding a grand pow-wow, which will continue for three days.

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It is rumored that the smugglers, Miller and Lundy, confined in the Seattle jail, have made their escape. They were imprisoned on a charge of smuggling opium and Chinamen from Victoria, and were to have been tried to-day.

Richard H. Hough, who died at the residence of his parents, 2622 street, yesterday morning, aged 26 years. The deceased was a just popular young man, with all who knew him, and one of the most prominent citizens of the city.

It is said that the motive which induced Hopkins to assault Belcher, the late strip down of the *Unattala*, 45 pounds of opium was found in the room of the partyman, who is a friend of Hopkins. The latter assigned Belcher had given the partyman away, and openly threatened to kill him. Belcher expected the attack, but did not think Hopkins would stab him when his back was turned.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS THREATEN TO LEAVE THEIR PARTY—BETTER GENERALSHIP REQUIRED.

YONGSTOWN, Ohio, Feb. 19.—Three business blocks were burned early this morning, destroying the stock of seven merchants and manufacturers. Loss \$30,000.

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CAPITAL NOTES.

Opposition Members Threaten to Leave Their Party—Better Generalship Required.

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OUR CAPITAL LETTER.

The San Francisco Mail Subsidy Stated in the Estimates.

The Probable Successor of the Minister of Railways—The Jesuit Bill—The First Brush.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 18.—This morning George Kirby, who has been sentenced to 18 years for robbery, stood at the court with Matt Sullivan, who was recently sent up for three years for robbing a Chinaman, was innocent, and that he, Kirby, had committed the burglary. The sentencing judge will present the facts to the jury, and Sullivan may soon be released.

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WESTMINSTER NEWS.

Half a Million Salmon Fry for Pitt Lake—The Exhibition and Athletic Grounds to Advance in City and Suburban Property.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WESTMINSTER, Feb. 19.—The park committee have decided on a number of improvements necessary to the city and park recently transferred to the city into an exhibition and athletic grounds, amounting to the sum of \$5,000 for immediate work.

A fire hall will be erected at the corner of Mary street and Royal avenue, and the hand engine placed therein for fire protection. The cost of the hall will be \$25,000.

The annual meeting of the Westminster board of trade will be held on Friday evening.

The city council will request the Provincial Government to appoint D. McGregor, immigration agent at this city.

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