

MR. CHAMBERLAIN EXPLAINS

The Colonial Secretary Finally and Definitely Refuses to Disallow the R.I. Railway Contract in Newfoundland.

Local Legislature Must Be Supreme Authority - Governors' Obligated To Be Advised by Responsible Ministers.

St. John's Nfld., Dec. 29. - Governor Murray has made public the text of the message received by him from Mr. Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, in relation to the railway contract, or to interfere in colonial affairs, the purport of which had already been made known.

The present position has aroused the deepest public excitement known since the Jameson raid, and it is plain that something must be done quickly to terminate a humiliating and intolerable situation.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Thursday, says: "Yesterday's issue of the 'Bind Post' contains further inflammatory articles. The paper calls Saturday's proceedings a rebellious plot against the existence of the republic, and styles the petition as a 'brazen insult to the British agent's office.'"

The step which I am urged to take is one for which there is no precedent in the history of the administration.

The measure of disallowance of which is sought, is not only of purely local concern, but one the provisions of which are almost exclusively of a financial and administrative character.

It is not now alleged that the interest of any other part of the colony is involved or that the act is in any way repugnant to imperial legislation.

It is asserted indeed that the contract disposes of assets of the colony over which its creditors in this country have an equitable, if not a legal claim, but apart from the fact that the assets in question are mainly potential and that the security of the colonial debt is in no way affected, I cannot admit that the creditors of the colony have any right to complain of the interference of Her Majesty's government in the matter.

It is not the duty of Her Majesty's government to attempt the task of deciding whether the act of the legislature has been in accord with the opinion of the electors.

Even a governor who was to some extent in touch with local opinion would be taking a serious step if in response to petitions such as have been addressed to me, and against the advice of his ministers, he refused to assent to a measure of local concern, which has been duly passed by the legislature, and if he failed to find other ministers prepared to assume responsibility for his act and able to secure the support of the legislature, his position would become untenable.

It is not the duty of a governor to take entirely on his own motion. It is the duty of a governor to whom attention is attached to a ministry amenable to the colonial legislature, which preclude me from advising Her Majesty to disallow the act equally to the alternative request that I should defer tendering advice to her majesty in regard to it until the people of the colony have had an opportunity of expressing their views on the matter.

My action has throughout been governed solely by the constitutional principles on which I am bound to act, and I think it desirable that it should be made quite clear to the colony, in accepting the full responsibilities inseparable from the exercise of self-government, if the machinery provided for the work of legislation and administration has proved defective, or the persons to whom the trust is entrusted have failed to discharge their trust, they cannot look to Her Majesty's government to supplement the defects of these defects, or to judge between them and their duly chosen representatives.

"I have, etc." CHAMBERLAIN.

THE TRANSVAAL TROUBLE

"Oom Paul" Tries to Smooth Matters - Appeal to the Queen.

London, Dec. 30. - The Johannesburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, who utters a warning against the optimist reports cabled to London in the Kruger interest, says: "I have interviewed the British consul, who says that the Saturday demonstration impressed him as based upon deep public feeling, while the deputations which presented the petition was of high character and standing."

The Johannesburg correspondent of the Times, telegraphing Thursday, says: "Yesterday's issue of the 'Bind Post' contains further inflammatory articles. The paper calls Saturday's proceedings a rebellious plot against the existence of the republic, and styles the petition as a 'brazen insult to the British agent's office.'"

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CURZON LANDS IN INDIA

The New Viceroy Receives a Royal Welcome Upon Arrival at Bombay - The City Gaily Decorated.

Bombay, Dec. 30. - Baron Curzon of Kedleston, the new viceroy of India, who arrived yesterday noon, was welcomed by Lady Curzon and their children, landed today.

The viceroy in port fired a salute. The city was decorated with flags and Lord Curzon was received by the heads of the military, naval, legal and civil departments.

An address of welcome was presented to the new viceroy by the corporation of Bombay. It was enclosed in a silver casket of Indian workmanship and expressed the keen and intense gratification experienced by all classes at his appointment.

Lord Curzon replied, thanking those present for the graceful welcome extended to him and his wife, who he added, came to India with sympathies as warm as his own, and who looked forward with earnest delight to a life of happy labor in their midst.

At the conclusion of the reception Lord and Lady Curzon were driven in an open landau to the Government House, escorted by the Bombay Light Horse.

Immensely large crowds of people assembled in the native quarter. They were demonstrative, but evidently keenly interested.

Lord Sandhurst, the governor of Bombay, and Lady Sandhurst received Lord and Lady Curzon on the steps of the Government House, and says that Lord and Lady Curzon will start for Calcutta to-morrow evening.

DREYFUS GOING HOME. It is Reported That He is Now En Route to Paris.

New York, Dec. 30. - A special to the Herald from Paramaribo, via Havre, says: It is reported here that former Captain Dreyfus, who for the last three years has been kept in the Devil's Island, has been removed from his island prison to Cayenne, and sailed from there for France on the 22nd inst. last on a convict transport. No details regarding the departure of the prisoner or his ultimate destination can be ascertained. It is believed he will return to Paris to await the order of the court of cassation.

Paris, Dec. 30. - The minister of the colonies denies the report that Dreyfus has been deported to Cayenne on his return to France, adding that the only question now on the agenda is the question of the return of the prisoner.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30. - Ambassador Romero, of Mexico, died this (Friday) morning at 4 o'clock.

Washington, Dec. 30. - Senator Romero, probably was the best known member of the diplomatic corps in Washington, and was for some time its youngest.

Washington, Dec. 30. - The war investigation committee held a brief session today and adjourned until January 3rd.

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THE TROUBLED PHILIPPINES

Advices From the Madrone Islands Received at Manila.

Manila, Dec. 30. - The British schooner "Emeralda," which has just arrived here from the Madrone Islands, reports that after the United States cruiser Charleston left the island of Guam in June last, the Spaniards refused to acknowledge the authority of Francis Portocarrero, who was verbally authorized by Captain General to continue his former regime as governor, and Jose Sieto, a former public administrator, was declared governor. He armed part of the native guard, collected a tax of dollars a head, and secreted fifteen tons of powder and a small stock of ammunition, when the island was taken by the Americans.

The schooner also reports the massacre of the Spanish garrison on the combined native force of Panabo, Caroline Islands. Henry Naves, an ex-chieftain, has been elected as ruler.

He is reported to be favorable to the Americans. The British cruiser Bonaventura has gone to Iloilo to protect British interests there.

The Spanish steamer Romulus, which has arrived here, reports insurgents at Iloilo are including the possibility that Americans if they are satisfied with the form of government which will be accorded them.

Two Obnt Postage. Canada To Have The New Rate After January 1st.

Ottawa, Dec. 30. (Special) - The Canadian government have decided to give a two cent, instead of three cent domestic rate after January 1st.

Capt. Bowie, who has been sailing on the Ottawa river for the past 35 years and is 64 years old, died here this morning. He has been ill for several weeks. The assistant sergeant-at-arms of the House of Commons is a son of deceased.

A BIG STEAMSHIP DEAL. Montreal, Dec. 30. - There is evidently something in the wind in regard to the Richelieu & Ontario S. S. Co. For weeks past the directors have been in conference with an American syndicate from Chicago and New York had its eyes on the big island steamship company.

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RUSSIA AND THE CANAL

Evidently Beginning a Campaign Against the Nicaragua Project and Favoring the Panama Scheme.

New York, Dec. 30. - A Paris dispatch says: The Herald's European edition contains the following: Russia is evidently beginning a campaign against the Nicaraguan canal. The Novoye Vremya publishes articles not only warmly advocating the Panama scheme, but filled with bitter dislike of the United States. The writer says the predominance of the United States would have been desirable for Russia a few years ago, but all this has changed since the last war.

The writer goes on to say that, having despoiled poor Spain, the United States has become a colonial power. Regarding the Monroe doctrine, America for Americans, implies the other doctrine that American domination must be confined to America.

The writer declares the Panama route to be more beneficial to Russia than the Nicaragua route. This latter canal, he adds, even supposing its completion possible, would be purely an American undertaking, whereas the Panama canal remains in the hands of our allies, the French, or it may become an international enterprise with the addition of a strong American element in its shareholders.

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Absolutely Pure! Made from pure grain cream of tartar.

PERSONATION AT ALBERNI.

The Conviction of Two Men at Alberni - How the Turkeys Fought the Election.

Alberni, Dec. 27. - The court-house here was crowded to-day, great interest being taken in the trial before J. P. S. Forrest and Justice of the Peace, of two men charged with personation at the recent by-election.

On information laid by A. W. Neill, Frank Fraser and W. Cooper were charged with having at Alberni, on the 15th inst., applied for ballot papers, and having voted in the name of some other persons. Constable Cox discovered the fraud in the name of some other persons.

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Halibut Boat Volunteer Has a Thrilling Experience - Caught in a Storm While the Boats Are Off Fishing.

None Aboard Save One Sailor - Boats Driven Ashore - Men Substituted Musicians and Clams.

The halibut fishing schooner Volunteer and her crew reached Ketchikan during the week after a terrible experience at sea. The wreck of the schooner and the starvation of most of the crew.

For eight days the Volunteer, in charge of only one man, a Swede known as Nels, drifted about in the open sea, and the remainder of the crew, consisting of eight men, were driven ashore on a small island.

The Volunteer is a small schooner, owned by Charles G. Gentry. She had gone out fishing for halibut about Dixon's entrance with a crew of eight men in charge of Capt. Frank MacDonald.

About two weeks ago, while they were fishing the storm which raged up and down the Alaskan coast for a week or more; the boats were out, while the schooner, as usual, awaiting their return.

The schooner and the fishing boats were separated. The storm blew harder and harder, until Capt. MacDonald saw that the boats would mean certain death.

He therefore headed the boats for the shore. In fact, the wind was blowing so fiercely that they were swept to land.

In the meantime the schooner was laboring at sea. The lone man in charge said that he must keep to sea to be smashed against the many reefs that project from the islands about Dixon's entrance.

He remained at sea for eight days, alone on the schooner. There was no one to relieve him, night or day, but through all that time he stuck to his post as best he could.

The schooner was picked up by the Volunteer after she had been beating about for eight days. It is not known whether the Volunteer towed her into Ketchikan or not.

The vessel is now being repaired and fitted preparatory to going out again. The names of the crew are as follows: Captain MacDonald, Nels, known as Nels Anderson, and five others.

NEWS FROM SYDNEY. Christmas Festivities in the Country - Some School Treats.

Sydney, B. C., Dec. 30. - The festivities commenced on the 19th with the school examination and children's entertainment. The prize-winners were Lilie, Bertha and Maud.

On Wednesday, the 21st, the children of the Sunday school had their Christmas party at the school. The children were very happy and enjoyed the party very much.

LOCAL NEWS. Cleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

His Honor the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. McInnes will be at home to New Year callers on Monday afternoon next, at Government House, from two to six o'clock.

The list of candidates for municipal honors is still growing. Frank R. Reitz, mayor of North Park street, announced himself as a candidate for alderman for the North ward.

A Chinese jewelry store at 37 Fisgard street was entered last night and \$38 worth of jewelry and other articles were taken. The first obtained entrance by means of a duplicate key.

Rev. Ralph W. Trotter, the talented pastor of Calvary Baptist church, received a call yesterday from the management of the First Baptist church in Rossland to become pastor of that congregation.

The funeral of the late James Harris took place this afternoon from his late residence on Franklin street to the Roman Catholic cathedral, and later to St. Joseph's cemetery. The Rev. Father Leane officiated. The pallbearers were J. McLean, J. Sullivan, M. O'Dea, M. Torman, J. Sheehan and C. Lombard.

Emmanuel Reagles was fined \$25 and costs for an infraction of the fire prevention by-laws. The brigade having had to respond to a call to his place for a chimney fire a few days ago.

A golden wedding was held yesterday at 135 Yates street, it being the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Clark. The nuptials were celebrated in the most sumptuous manner.

Rev. R. W. Trotter, pastor of the Calvary Baptist church, has declined the offer of the First Baptist church in Rossland, and has accepted the offer of the Calvary Baptist church in Victoria.

The police commissioners and their attitude to law, the coming election and what Christ would do, will be the subject of a lecture by Rev. R. W. Trotter, at the Calvary Baptist church, on Monday evening.

Walter Wilkinson, employed as a farm laborer in South Saanich, was brought into the city yesterday suffering from a severe case of influenza.

A. E. Heathorn, local agent of the Chilcoot Railway Company, returned from a tour of inspection in Tacoma, and reports that the company is now ready to take time freight for shipment over their tramway from January 8th.

At the last meeting of the Columbia Lodge No. 1, L.O.O.F., one candidate was initiated, and the appointive officers were filled by the Noble Grand and Deputy. The officers will be installed on Monday night by Grand W. A. Henderson, after which luncheon will be served in the library.

The man with the "hooker" visited the boot and shoe store of James Maynard, Douglas street, last night, and stole about \$35 worth of goods. The robber effected an entrance from the rear by breaking into the back door, and moving a panel, and then proceeded to take the goods.

With the beginning of the New Year to-morrow the Canadian Pacific railway will reduce their rates from Victoria for the following points in the Kootenay country: Nakus, Rosebery, Three Forks, Sarnia, Rossland, Hobson, Trail, Rossland and Nelson. The rates to these points will be the same as from Vancouver, and \$2.50 less to each point.

Along the Waterfront. The late sailing schooner Labrador, which was seized at Honolulu and her cargo of sugar, is to be sold at auction by the Hawaiian marshal on January 14th.

Within the past twenty-four hours three large ocean liners have reached port. Last night the Warrimoo arrived from Melbourne.

An extraordinary case. A Yates Street Jeweller Charged With Stealing From a Retail Store.

It is not often that a well known business man is accused of theft. In this case, however, the charge is a serious one, and the accused is a man of high standing in the community.

The charge against the accused is such a grave one, and is so markedly at variance with the reputation he has hitherto enjoyed, that it is a matter of some interest to the public.

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1899 A NEW YEAR, 1899. May it be a happy and prosperous one for all of us.

Heartily thanking our friends and customers for the generous patronage of the past year we shall in 1899 make special efforts to maintain a continuance of the pleasant relations now existing.

1899 DIXIE H. ROSS & CO. 1899

COLUMBIA FLOURING MILLS CO. HENDERBY AND VERNON BRANDS

Hungarian, Premier, R. P. RITHET & CO., Victoria Agents

J. PIERCE & CO. Wholesale Dry Goods

SHIRT AND CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS. Full lines of Winter Underwear, Clothing, Top Shirts, Fur Robes and Fur Caps.

25, 27, 28 and 29 Yates St. VICTORIA, B.C.

THE BEGGAR STUDENT. A Packed Home Greets Dorothy Morton, and Her Supporting Company.

There was a "Gaiety" home at the Victoria theatre last evening, every seat being taken. The production of the opera which has been looking forward to with a great deal of expectation was distinguished by the dramatic relation of the costumes, with but few exceptions.

It could not be said, however, that it was an extraordinary success. The production of the opera which has been looking forward to with a great deal of expectation was distinguished by the dramatic relation of the costumes, with but few exceptions.

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SCHOOL TRUSTEES CONSIDER THE WITH A TIMES EDITORIAL AND INTENDENT WILL ENQUIRE

Chairman Hayward Announces Resignation After Fifteen Years of the Board.

A special meeting of the school trustees was held last Saturday afternoon. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Hayward.

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Chairman Hayward Announces His Intended Resignation After Fifteen Years' Membership of the Board.

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There was not a vacant seat at the board at 4:15, when the minutes having been read, Chairman Hayward

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In possession of certain information he intended to disclose later, when he had investigated somewhat further.

A communication was read from the superintendent of education regarding the proposed board to defer opening the schools till the 31st.

Miss P. A. McDaniel, who was selected as teacher for the North ward school at the last meeting, was

Dr. Hall reported the installation of the electric light in the grammar school.

Before selecting a teacher Mr. Belyea requested to know whether the board wanted a male or a female, and the superintendent said he thought the present rather unfavorable time for adding another male teacher to the staff.

Before proceeding to the selection of a female teacher, the chairman rose and said that he had now been a member of the board for 15 years, during ten of which he had occupied the chair.

The British American corporation, on paying for all the stock, will turn the property over to the new Le Roi Mining company.

As to the quotation of Le Roi stock at \$7.25, that was the decision of the board, and was purely a nominal figure, and no deal in the stock is reported.

Crabrook, Dec. 22.—This place has grown wonderfully since 1871, the time it boasted of one hotel, scattering of shacks and a couple of stores.

The Canadian Pacific railway has a large force of men at work constructing buildings, principally a 10-story hotel, a station house and offices.

Mr. McKicking observed that he didn't want to take Mr. Hayward's remarks too seriously.

Mr. McKicking said that the chairman's long experience had peculiarly qualified him to give the best advice.

Trustee Belyea said he felt sorry he was not able to retire, though he had been offered a position in the city.

Trustee Marchant said that when he mentioned the matter to the school board he did not state where he had received his information.

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Mines and Mining

What is the status of the Le Roi company? How does the sale of the property to the English syndicate affect the small shareholders?

Edwin Durant, the office manager for the British America corporation, explained the situation.

That was the price paid for the majority of the stock, and it was the price which the remaining minority holders of the stock will receive upon the dissolution of the old Le Roi company.

The value of it was estimated at \$200,000, although that is an approximation, and the real value cannot be stated until definite figures have been obtained.

Therefore, the price which the remaining minority holders of the stock will receive upon the dissolution of the old Le Roi company is \$200,000.

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Provincial News

Several of the tradesmen of the Royal City are reported to have done more business during this Christmas season than have done for several years past.

Yesterday morning, in the St. Barnabas Church, Mr. R. Oddy and Miss Lilly were united in marriage by the Rev. A. Shillock.

By all accounts the cannies on the Fraser river are not satisfied with the new regulations and threaten to shut down during the coming year.

Dear Parks has been steady, and during the week made an advance of half a cent. They were quoted yesterday at 39 and 40.

Iron Coils advanced from 104 to 113 cents during the week, and are now quoted at the latter figure.

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Free Art Classes

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Sporting Intelligence

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THE NEWS OF THE ORIENT

Reports of an Uprising of Convicts in Siberia - The McCallough Coming to Behring Sea.

A Steamer Founders and Only One of Forty Passengers is Saved - More Missionaries Murdered.

Steghner Yamaguchi Maru, which called here this morning from Yokohama, brought a budget of late news of the Orient.

The Japan Gazette says: Since the attack on the Russian troops at Andino some time back, discontent and dissatisfaction have been rife throughout the province.

Not more than two or three hundred fanatics were engaged in the attack on the Russians, yet in one town, it is asserted, every man, woman and child was one time or another arrested, although it was known that very few of the convicts lived there.

The American steamer published at Manila, has the following: Thursday at 1 o'clock the revenue cutter McCulloch broke from her pier at home.

The steamer Shoko Maru on her way from Fuzhou, Formosa, to another port, was swamped and sunk by a huge wave near Dalakan on the 24th.

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A Serious Conflagration Destroys One of the Best Known Business Buildings of Government Street.

Brigade Engaged at Fire at Rocabella - Handicapped in Fighting the Flames by Unavoidable Loss of Time.

Two alarms of fire were turned into the department within an hour and a half last night, and the damage resulting from the fire to which they were summoned will take more than all the amount lost by all other fires in the city during the year just closing.

The first alarm was received a few minutes after 10 o'clock, and the brigade made all possible haste to the Rocabella, the well-known private boarding house on Victoria Crescent.

The fire was not until the amount lost by all other fires in the city during the year just closing. The first alarm was received a few minutes after 10 o'clock.

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Ten Thousand Dollars Due Them in Wages - The Story of the Ill-Fated Steamer's Adventures.

Among the passengers from Honolulu by R.M.S. Warrimoo were Mr. Jacobsen and a number of the crew of the ill-fated steamer City of Columbia.

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PUBLIC MORALS.

Magistrate Hall Commended - Mayor Redfern Criticized - Commissioner Helmecken Denounced - Indignant Protest.

To the Editor: The report of the police commissioners' proceedings is published in your issue of yesterday.

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POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

Conclusion of Yesterday's Proceedings - Shameless Advocacy of Prostitution.

As foreshadowed in the report of the Times last night, the resolutions submitted by Police Magistrate Hall to the board of license commissioners, instructing the chief of police to rigidly enforce the law in regard to houses of gambling and prostitution, were rejected by the other commissioners.

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NOTICE.

Rectification of Crown Grant.

Whereas, on the 3rd day of February, 1888, a Crown grant was issued to William Ross Dick, for Lot 4, being subdivision of Section 42, Lake District, and the said grant was therein erroneously described by the name of "Lot 4," that it is the intention to cancel aforesaid Crown grant, and to issue a corrected one in its stead, the same from the date hereof, unless good cause is shown to the contrary.

Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, Victoria, B.C., 3rd Nov., 1888.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at the next session thereof, by the Canadian Land & Survey Company, for an act amending chapter 10 of the Statutes of the said Province of British Columbia, relating to the Yukon Railway Company, by striking out of said chapter 10, section 40, by inserting the words "and the figures 1000 in lieu of the figures 100 in the sixth line of said section 40."

Noticed at Victoria, B.C., this 7th day of December, A.D. 1888.

Solicitor for the Canadian Yukon Railway Company, the applicant.

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By the Wayside.

After a spin along the country roads, there is nothing so refreshing and revivifying as a teaspoonful of

Abbey's Effervescent Salt

in a tumbler of water. It refreshes and revives you, and adds fifty per cent to the pleasure and healthfulness of

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