THE NELSON ECONOMIST.

VOL. III. NELSON, B. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY [illegible]

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NELSON ECONOMIST

VOL. III. NELSON, B. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1900. NO. 42

THE NELSON ECONOMIST is issued every Wednesday at the City of Nelson, B. C., by D. M. Carley. Subscription : $2.00 per annum ; if paid in advance, $1.50. Correspondence on matters of general interest respectfully solicited. Only articles of merit will be advertised in these columns, and the interests of readers will be carefully guarded against irresponsible persons and worthless articles.

Pay! Pay! Pay!

NOTICE.—There are several hundred readers of THE ECONOMIST behind in their subscriptions. No doubt this is attributable to neglect and all that will be required to ensure a hasty response is this gentle reminder.

SO FAR as outward appearances go, there are no indications of any change in the political situation. Joseph Martin's visit to the interior has not strengthened his position. Nowhere has he succeeded in winning a following, and it will be something in the nature of a miracle if he carries one seat in the Kootenays. Although his meetings have been well attended, his reception was not encouraging, from his standpoint, at least. The Vancouver *World*, however, professes to see strong indications of Martin success, as a result of the campaign thus far. It is strange that these signs escaped the observation of everyone who attended Mr. Martin's meetings in the Kootenay. The truth is, no one has any faith in the Premier, and while some planks in his platform meet with general approbation, the universal impression prevails that they are there only to trap the unwary. Mr. Martin is a dead politician in the minds of the people of the interior of British Columbia, and it is satisfactory to learn that the other portions of the Province do not contemplate seriously his pretensions for support.

WE rather fear that perhaps the greatest issue in the present campaign is being lost sight of through consideration of minor issues. We refer to the action of Lieut.-Governor McInnes in turning his office into a political machine. It was admitted by Mr. Martin, in his speech here, that the Lieutenant-Governor in dismissing the Turner administration, was guided by the published reports in the papers, and that the parties were evenly divided at the time with the Cassiar election pending. Cassiar afterwards returned two supporters of Mr. Turner, which, if he had not been dismissed, would have given him a majority of two in the House. The dismissal of Mr. Turner, of course, caused one or two others of his followers to flop, but the fact remains, according to the statement of Mr. Martin, that the dismissal of Mr. Turner at that time was a flagrant violation of official duty on the part of the Lieut.-Governor, presumably to either gain notoriety or advance the interests of his friends. Perhaps the dismissal of Mr. Semlin was not so high-handed a proceeding, but it served to show the extremes to which the Lieutenant-Governor is prepared to go. These should be among the most discussed questions in the campaign, and they certainly supply the best material for the arraignment of Hon. Joseph Martin. The fact that he accepted office under existing circumstances, places him in the position of being compelled to defend the conduct of Lieut.-Governor McInnes.

THE visit of Queen Victoria to Ireland has ended, and Her Majesty no doubt feels pleased with her reception in the Emerald Isle, after an absence of 39 years.

THE attempt, last week, to blow up the Welland Canal has created considerable excitement in Eastern Canada. The miscreants have been apprehended, but there is some doubt as to whether the Government feels disposed to prosecute them vigorously, fearing the prisoners may plead that their attempt to blow up the canal was only a political offense, and so raise an international question. It would be a rather deplorable condition of affairs if foreigners were permitted to enter Canada and commit crimes of the character mentioned, with a feeling that they could not be punished, because they were citizens of another country, and thus evade due punishment of their crimes by pleading that their act was a political offense. Canada has laws made for the protection of all, and the administrators of justice should not be deterred in the performance of their duty on such a flimsy pretext.

IF Premier Martin has the principles of the Liberal party so much at heart, why did he try to form a combination with Conservatives? What would be thought of a Conservative who would intrigue with Liberals and when discovered boast of his party loyalty?

THE Nelson Conservative Association has nominated Mr Frank Fletcher as its standard-bearer at the forthcoming Provincial election. In doing so, the association has placed its strongest man in the field, and this is not said by way of disparagement of any other aspirant for the nomination. Mr. Fletcher is

not only strong with his own party, but he has also many friends, who, although they may differ from him in politics, will regard him as a safe man to send to the Legislature. The association has now placed Mr. Fletcher in the field, and no doubt, as in duty bound, will make every honest endeavor to secure his election. THE ECONOMIST heartily endorses all the pleasant things said of Mr. Fletcher by the two morning papers.

"A BROTHER JOURNALIST" writes as follows regarding the death of the late George W. Steevens: They told me there was no hope, though they did everything that was possible to save him. When they had gone I returned to the sick room, sent out the two nurses, and together we passsed through the great ordeal. I said: "The doctors think you are very ill. I will cable home; do you wish to send a message?" "Yes, write it out and read it to me for my approval," he replied. I wrote: "Steevens dangerously ill." "Do you mean that I am dying?" he asked. "They think it very serious," I answered, for I was afraid. Again, "Am I dying? "Yes." "Soon?" "Soon!" He was looking straight into my eyes. He never flinched. There was no trace of fear in that brave heart. Death had no terrors for him. He dictated the message which I sent to you. . . . After that he turned toward me saying, "Well, this is a sideway ending to it all—let's have a drink." "Right, old boy, I will open a fresh bottle of champagne," and I did so. "But you are not drinking," he said. I made some excuse. All the morning we had been giving him a teaspoonful of it every ten minutes, also brandy and milk. About one o'clock he commenced to rally, and took nourishment so freely that my hopes bounded up again. I left him in charge of both nurses and lay down to sleep. They called me an hour latter, and I saw at a glance that the end was near . . . . . He imagined himself back at Merton Abbey. Dr. Davis was present all the time, but there was nothing more to be done. He was asleep breathing quite quietly and regularly. At 4:30 in the afternoon he passed away peacefully—so peacefully. There is nothing more to tell—save this, that all through his sickness he was so patient, and he fought splendidly against it to the very end.

THE hungry office seeker is strongly in evidence at Kaslo and numerous applicants for the vacancy created by the resignation of John Keen are willing to throw off on party and friends and join the Martin procession, provided the promise to secure the office of mining recorder is forthcoming.

THE Vancouver *Province* has the following: "Mr. Martin has decided to be a candidate for election in Victoria, his running mates to be Minister Yates, a prominent Conservative whose name is not mentioned and a labor representative whose identity is also unknown. There is naturally some speculation as to why the premier should have decided to be a candidate in both Vancouver and Victoria. One theory of course is that he is more than doubtful as to success here, the canvass so far made by his supporters having afforded every poor encouragement. Another possible explanation is that no man of any prominence can be found as a Martinite candidate in Victoria, hhence the necessity of placing the premier himself upon the ticket. In any event, this double condidature serves well to illustrate the hopelessness of Mr. Martin's cause. It is in fact a confession that men prossessing even a moderate share of influence cannot be attracted to his side, no matter what efforts he may make. It is also a confession that he cannot depend on any one place to accept him as a representative. As his colleagues, if he were to be quite candid he would admit that not one of them has a prospect of election."

THE alleged arrangement by which Mr. Ryder was to keep a seat in the Cabinet warm for W. W. B. McInnes comes dangerously close to a conspiracy to subvert the rights of the people. At the time Mr. Martin was entrusted with the task of forming a government, it was hinted that an understanding existed with the Lieut.-Governor that W. W. B. McInnes should be a member of the Provincial Cabinet. Should it transpire that Mr. Ryder has decided to abandon Comox to the son of the Lieut.-Governor, the people will draw their own conclusion as to the game in the wind.

MR. HOUSTON is out in a most elaborate address to the electors, in which he discusses all the issues of the day. Owing to pressure on our space we are unable to print the address this week. As a matter of fact, it is one inch too long for the pages of THE ECONOMIST, and Mr. Houston will either have to curtail the document by the removal of a paragraph or so, or we shall be compelled to lengthen the pages of this publication.

IT is amusing the curves some of the would-be politicians are making these days.

OF the number of candidates in the field for political honors it may well be said that many are called but few are chosen.

THE following books have been received at the public library: No. 5 John Street, by Richard Whiting; Scarlet Woman, Joseph Hocking; Mary Paget, Mina Smith; More Cargoes, Jacobs; Resurrection, Tolstoi; James Meredith, Paul Leicester Ford; From Cape Town to Ladysmith, Steevens; Joan of the Sword Hand, Crockett.

THE Kootenay Cigar Manufacturing Company is extending its business all over the Province. This firm is even shipping goods to Vancouver, and the lovers of the weed at the Terminal City will now have an opportunity of smoking good cigars.

VENTS AND GOSSIP

THE event of the past week in Nelson was the presentation by amateurs of Gilbert & Sullivan's ever popular comic opera, "Pinafore." I would not like to say that it was the most artistic production of this opera ever given in British Columbia. In the first place, that would leave me open to the ch rge of flattery, and in the second place, I have not seen every production of this opera given in British Columbia. But I will say, that in 22 years, I have seen this opera as many times, and although perhaps a dozen times by amateurs, I have not seen a more acceptable amateur production of "Pinafore." It may have been local interest that created this appreciation, but I rather think it was the real merit of the performers, coupled with a desire to do their best. The whole interest of the opera surrounds the captain's pretty daughter, Josephine and it is only a due appreciation of merit to say that Mrs. Macdonald did the part justice. It has been customary to say that so-and-so was equal to a professional. In the case of Mrs. Macdonald this can be asserted without overstepping the mark. This lady not only sang sweetly, but she also gave evidence of dramatic inspiration not found in one amateur in a thousand. At no time did she overdo the part, and she left little, if anything, to be desired. She deserved every bit of the applause she received from a most appreciative audie ice. Mrs. Goepel is also an amateur of more than ordinary ability. She sang according to the score, and, like Mrs. Macdonald, did not attempt to improve upon the text, an error into which one or two others frequently lapsed. Little Buttercup is rather a trying role, but Mrs. Goepel won repeated applause, which proved that her efforts were duly appreciated. Mrs. Whalley sang well and acted even better. She well understands that much depends upon maintaining the interest of the audience, and with this object constantly in view, she distracted attention from what might have been distressing "waits" on the part of others. As Sir Joseph Porter, K. C. B., Mr. Freeman-Lake was simply inimitable. It is a role for which this gentleman is peculiarly adapted. Mr. Williamson has a good voice, which, in conjunction with his excellent acting, demonstrated that his selection for the part of Capt. Corcoran could not have been improved upon. To Mr. Lochore the role of Ralph Rackstraw was assigned. This gentleman has an excellent voice, which was perhaps most acceptable in the duet with Josephine. It was a sweet blending of voices. Of all the gentleman, perhaps not one comprehended more what was required of him, and supplied the demand more conscientiously and appreciably than Mr. Winters. His make-up was in strict accord with the part of Dick Deadeye and his singing and acting were only what the people of Nelson have come to expect of him when he appears on the stage. In the duet, "The Merry Maiden and the Tar," Mr. Winters was at his best, and was repeatedly encored. Mr. Lawrence, as Bill Bobstay, had not much singing to do, but did that little well. Mr. Lawrence is above the average amateur and knows well the value of keeping things moving on the stage. He sang well and was awarded liberal applause. The chorus contributed their share toward the success of the production, and if space permitted, much could be printed in their praise. The same might be said of the orchestra, which was under Mr. Steiner's leadership Indeed, the orchestration was a most enjoyable feature of the production. The dancing of little Miss Quinlan should not be overlooked. She is a very clever little miss, and from a terpsichorean point of view, she may be regarded as almost a prodigy. She well earned the almost boundless applause with which sh was received. The tableau "Britannia," was really an artistic conception. It was a pleasing innovation and the selection of Mrs. K. C. Beaton for the representation of "Britannia" was a happy suggestion. The singing of "Rule Britannia" by Mr. Lennox, in which the chorus joined, was spirited and evoked pleasing comment. The scenery, painted by Mr. Halton, was beautiful. As intimated before, there was very little for unfavorable criticism in the whole performance, and the participants have every reason to congratulate themselves on the success of the first production of amateur opera in Nelson, and my only regret is that lack of space does not permit of more extended notice.

The Pope has two hobbies in life. The grounds of the Vatican have a special corner devoted to birds. Every one of these is known to His Holiness, and the Pope's great delight is, when the weather permits, to sit in the aviary and listen to the singing of this famous collection of the feathered tribe. The Pope has been known to admit that whilst so engaged he has been enabled to turn over and settle in his mind some of the most important matters. His other hobby is chess, and even at his advanced age he is an exceedingly expert player of the classic game.

On a trip which the Gladstones, Tennysons and other distinguished people made in one of Sir Donald Currie's ships around Scotland and over to Denmark, this story is told of a beautiful woman. In the party was the beautiful Miss Tennant, who became the heart and soul and glory of the whole party, and entranced every body from the sailors to the Prime Minister, with her charm and cleverness, her good-humor, and her overflowing spirits, which placed everybody at her feet. One of the sailors whom she asked whether he was married, looked at her and said, "Yes, ma'am I am sorry to say I am"; and this, she said, was the highest and most subtle compliment she had ever received.

It is going a little too far for Mr. Martin to ask the whole province of British Columbia to assist him in his policy of revenge on the Canadian Pacific Railway. What would British Columbia be to-day had it not been for the enterprise of the men who built the great national highway? P. G

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS, 1900

To the Electors of Nelson Electoral District:

GENTLEMEN AND FELLOW-PARASITES—I beg to offer myself as a candidate at the coming general election to represent you, but more particularly myself, in the legislative assembly of the Province, and herewith submit my platform for your most serious consideration:

1. The abolition of the $200 deposit for candidates for the Legislature. In fact, I believe that each and every candidate should receive $200 from the Provincial Treasury, as there is more or less expense connected with a well-conducted campaign.

2. The redistribution of the electoral districts of the Province. In am in favor of increasing the representation so that each and every constituency may have as many representatives as there are candidates. This would do away with elections and save the Province a large expenditure of moneys annually.

3. The establishment of an institution, with a staff of proficient professors, where ladies could take a course of lectures and lessons in cookery and house keeping. This would have the effect of discouraging Chinese immigration, and would also probably result in a great reduction in the death-rate from dyspepsia and kindred causes.

4. To re-establish the London agency of British Columbia. I th nk it is only right and proper that some ardent supporter should receive this office, the duties of which are chiefly to draw the salary.

5. With regard to the eight-hour law, I am heartily in favor of same. As a matter of fact, if the miners want to work only six hours per day, I believe they should only work that time; and if some do not wish to work at all, I am strongly in favor of the principle. On the other hand, if the mine-owners can show me, and I am open to substantial conviction, that the mine-owners are capable of working ten or even twelve hours per day, I am favorable to their doing so, and will not oppose them.

6. The exploration of the Province, I think, would be a wise provision, inasmuch as the officials sent out would be in a position to give "pointers" to friends and supporters of the Government, and thus enable favorites to acquire valuable mineral lands to the disadvantage of the miner, prospector, wild cat speculator and other grasping monopolists.

7. The adoption of a system of Government ownership and operation of railways. In this connection I would favor the purchase of the Nelson tramway lines and transcontinental railways, as I believe it would be a good investment, and the Government would then be in a position to control the rate. The acquirement of the Nelson tramway would be a source of great and lasting revenue to the people.

8. The establishment of an institution for the education of the deaf and dumb. I think it is proper that every person should be able to converse in the deaf and dumb alphabet, and I would favor a compulsory attendance at this institution. Also, for the convenience of all, that the proceedings of the House may be printed in the deaf and dumb alphabet.

9. I believe in the encouragement of a free press, and with that end in view, would subsidize, by advertisements and otherwise, such papers as would be in complete sympathy with any Government of which I may become a member. All papers now owned by Mackenzie & Mann would be t ken over at a valuation.

10. I would strongly urge the establishment in Nelson of a school for the training of amateurs, both in opera and the drama, and in which the higher branches of elocution might be taught.

11. I am heartily in favor of Home Rule for Ireland, and think that a substantial sum should be provided in the annual estimates for furthering such object.

12. I am in favor of the amendment of the Municipal Clauses Act, so that the mayors of cities shall not have complete control, but that the aldermen shall have some voice in the cities' affairs.

13. I am prepared to support whatever party succeeds in carrying the country. It matters not to me whether it be Conservative or Liberal, Martin or anti-Martin, the People's party or the Labor party, provided I am given the portfolio of Finance Minister; otherwise, in the interests of my constituents, I may feel constrained to offer my services as leader of an opposition party.

14. I believe the British War Office should be reorganized, and that in case of trouble with any other nation, the settlement of the trouble should be let by contract. For instance, if the British Government had awarded the settlement of the South African trouble by contract to Mackenzie & Mann, they would have secured a large portion of the Oriental labor in this country and have shoved them to the front, backed up by an army of Canadian soldiers. This would also assist in the settlement of the Chinese-Japanese immigration question.

15. The increase of the sessional allowance to at least $5000. It can be readily understood that a member cannot remunerate his supporters on the small sum now allowed.

16. I would favor the establishment of night schools for the compulsory education of Cabinet Ministers, labor agitators, mine-owners, grafters and aldermen.

17. I am heartily in favor of the adoption of a system whereby corporations and monopolists would be compelled to contribute a substantial sum for any charter or concession granted, and at the close of each session the amount so collected should be divided equally amongst the government members, as their perquisites of office.

18. I am an Imperial Federationist and will be prepared to accept a seat in the British House of Commons when Imperial Federation is an accomplished fact.

19. I am in favor of removing the P rliament Buildings from Victoria and the establishment of the capital at Nelson. These buildings would add much to the architectural beauty of this city and if erected

at the head of Josephine street would increase the value of property in that vicinity very materially.

20. I would give to each and every supporter and friend any position sought for in the government service, and if necessary would create new offices to supply the ever-increasing demand.

21. If elected, I will so arrange the patronage of my Government that in law firms where one member is Conservative and the other Liberal, each member thereof in his turn shall have equal division of the spoils of office. The advantage of such distribution should appeal to the members of the law firms so constituted.

22. I would inaugurate a system of immigration in lieu of that now in vogue, which has been so unsatisfactory and expensive to previous Governments. I would advocate the granting of a subsidy to encourage matrimony, and would be prepared to pay out of the Provincial Treasury the sum of two hundred dollars to each and every couple who married and settled in this Province

23. I will appropriate a sum for the establishment of a home for the aged, infirm and indigent politicians who may be in this Province now or who may hereafter come from Manitoba.

In conclusion, I warn my friends and supporters to be ever on the alert, for the enemy is not slothful, and in troublous times like these will double his endeavors to blacken my character. Meet him at every turn and drive him into the wilderness. In due time I will address the electors throughout the constituency, and if any changes are required in this platform all that is necessary is to intimate the same.

Yours in the sacred cause of good Government, and lots of it. THE JUDGE.

Sir Henry Irving has the finest collection of swords used by theatrical celebrities in days gone by on the stage than any other member of the theatrical profession. When he is in London they are always arranged in as pecial corner of his study, and when touring in the provinces or visiting America they are specially looked after until his return. The great actor particularly prizes a sword which once belonged to Edmund Kean, and has on many occasions used it himself on the stage.

Charles Bradlaugh, the English freethinker, once engaged in a discussion with a dissenting minister. He insisted that the minister should answer a question by a simple "yes" or "no," without any circumlocution, asserting that every question could be replied to in that manner. The reverend gentleman rose and said: "Mr. Bradlaugh, will you allow me to ask you a question on those terms?" "Certainly," said Bradlaugh. "Then, may I ask, have you given up beating your wife?"

Thackeray once told Sir John Millais this amusing story of Carlyle: He had spent a day in the reading-room of the British Museum and had given a great deal of trouble to an official, sending him up and down ladders in search of books to satisfy his literary tastes, and on leaving the room he had gone up to the man and told him that it might be some satisfaction to him to know that he had obliged Thomas Carlyle. The official hesitatingly answered him, with a bland smile and ths usual washing of hands in the air, that the gentleman had the advantage of him, but that probably they might have met at some mutual friend's house. He had never heard of Thomas Carlyle.

The new form of ballot to be used in the Dominion elections ought to give the voter few chances of making mistakes in marking. The spaces containing the candidates' names are separated by black bands about half an inch wide and in order to make an ambiguous mark extending into two compartments the pencil must pass over the whole of this black margin. The other part of the system is the attachment to the paper of two counterfoils, each bearing one number, say 1,020. As the deputy returning officer gives the voter his ballot he tears off one of these counterfoils and lays it on the table in view of the the scrutineers. When the voter returns the deputy and scrutineers examine the outside of the ballot in order to see that the number on the counterfoil still atached is the same as that which lies on the table. This is to prevent the substitution of a bogus ballot, not to identify the voter or to interfere in any way with the secrecy of the ballot.

Passengers to the Cape who have never taken the trouble to go up to the high ground at St. Helena can have little idea, says a correspondent of the *Daily News*, of what a beautiful combination of semi-tropical and temperate growth is to be found there. The hills range up to about 2,000 feet above the sea. There is no harbor, but only an open roadstead off Jamestown, sheltered from the South-east trade wind, which blows ninty-nine days out of the hundred. At one time the population of St. Helena approached 20,000, and it managed to get along somehow by supplying water and fresh provisions to homeward-bound vessels returning round the Cape. But the opening of the Suez Canal led to fewer vessels calling there, and those that anchored off the island frequently only came there to correct their Greenwich time. The salvation of the place has been the development of the South African goldfields for though the population is now under 4,000, there isnowork for them except to take off watercress and cabbages to passing ships. The local rate of pay of a telegraph clerk is fifteen shillings a month, i.e., for a nigger boy who works the "police pattern" instrument and takes his turn with other boys running with messages. A feature of the island is "Jacob's Ladder," a wooden stair-case of 699 steps, with an average slope of 39 degrees to the vertical. There is a knack in climbing this with comparatively little fatigue in about sixteen minutes, but a novice starts at too high a speed, and is sorry for it.

FROM THE CAPITAL

(Special Correspondence of THE ECONOMIST.)

VICTORIA, APRIL 30.—The political campaign is now in full blast. The anti-Martinites in convention assembled have nominated "The Big Four", viz.:– Messrs Turner, Helmcken, McPhillips and Hall and the Martinites have placed the Premier, Hon. J. S. Yates and Messrs Brown and Beckwith in the field. The battle cry of "The Big Four" is "Progress and Prosperity versus Stagnation and Ruination."

It is unnecessary to give the biography of the Hon. Joseph as it is well known, suffice to say that his reputation does not improve with age.

In regard to Hon. J. S. Yates, although comparatively unknown before he assumed the coveted position in Martin's cabinet, little further can be added to what has already appeared in the provincial press since his elevation to that exalted position, except that he was one of the assignees of the defunct band of Green Worlock & Co., which paid the munificent dividend of four per. cent., under the able and careful management of this gentleman and his co-assignee. It seems a great pity that the Premier overlooked Mr. Yates' ability in this direction when dealing out portfolios and did not make him Finance Minister.

J. G. Brown has apparently been pressed into service against his will and your correspondent has nothing further to add to what has already been published in THE ECONOMIST as to this gentleman except that the friends of Mr. Brown, and their name is legion, are very sorry to see him in such bad company.

J. C. Beckwith, although comparatively unknown outside the North ward, has a record. Mr. Beckwith claims to be a Conservative but this assertion is denied by the rank and file of the Conservative party and it would require a vast amount of evidence, and documentary evidence at that, to convince a Conservative that J. C. Beckwith belongs to that party and even then there would be a grave doubt in the minds of many. On the other hand the Liberals claim that they know him not. Two years ago Mr. Beckwith suddenly awoke to the fact that he was destined to become a great statesman and a leader among men, and as the municipal elections were coming on, he decided that J. C. Beckwith was a fit and proper person to represent the intelligent electors of the North ward on the aldermanic board. There were about a dozen candidates in the field and in some way he succeeded in getting a place. Since that time this gentleman has been continually endeavoring to impress his profound knowledge on the people of this city by extensive correspondence to the newspapers. It is unnecessary to add that these letters are very seldom read. Mr. Beckwith's actions on the aldermanic board have proved him to be very weak and narrow-minded. He is one of those good living men, so much is read of in these enlightened days and was the father of a notorious bylaw to prevent any business from being transacted or carried on in this city on Sunday. Wiser heads prevailed and vetoed it otherwise the wise legislation of Mr. Beckwith would have had a most disastrous effect and Victoria would have been the laughing stock of the whole country. He does not appreciate music and opposed the granting of a sum out of the city treasury for the purpose of having music in the park on Sunday. He it it was who endeavored to foist on the people of this city a bankrupt railway. After serving one term on the aldermanic board, he now has the audacity to set himself up as a candidate for legislative honors. It is unnecessary to state that the electors will accept Mr. Beckwith at his actual value, not at what he estimates he is worth and when the ballots are counted he will realize that fact.

As was anticipated, John McMillan started out to stump the Island constituencies on behalf of the Martin government but has given up in despair and returned Home. Mr. McMillan discovered that the electorate did not coincide with his views on the Chinese question. Be it remembered that on the public platform John McMillan stated that John Chinaman was his brother and was as good as a white man.

The anti-Martinites should succeed in electing their four candidates in this city. They realize, however, the absolute necessity for thorough organization and a systematic canvass. It is absolutely necessary that all anti-Martin associations throughout the Province should be impressed with the fact that Joseph Martin is a professional politician and that an election is never won until the ballots are counted.

Arrangements are well under way for the celebration of the 81st birthday of Her Majesty the Queen and the citizens are sparing neither trouble nor expense to make the celebration this year eclipse all former efforts. The festivities will extend over three days and several new attractions will be added. The North Pacific fleet of warships will return from the South and be in port at Esquimalt early in May and a big sham battle is promised. A substantial appropriation has been made for a display of fireworks, which will excel anything heretofore seen on the Coast. A large number of visitors will no doubt partake of Victoria's hospitality during this gay and festive season.

Contracts have been awarded for the erection of several substantial business blocks and private residences and from present indications, building operations in Victoria this season will be greater than for several years past. T

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A Snap Shot---and After

JACKSON ST. AUBYN, attired in a faultless and spotless yachting suit, ran up the steps of the Casino at Newport and approached a charming-visaged girl and her father, who were seated on the broad piazza watching the people.

"Good morning, Miss Van Ness," exclaimed the young man, airily, by the way of greeting. "Miss Coretta, have you any plans for this morning?"

"Yes, sir!" snapped the old man before his daughter could reply. "My daughter has made plans for the morning. She intends to spend it in a boat, with no other company but her own."

A quick crimson mounted to the young man's face, but turning to the speaker, he composedly replied: "Your daughter surely could find no more delightful company. Pardon my intrusion."

And with a graceful bow and a half-amused half-questioning glance at the young lady, he strolled away.

Coretta watched him go down the smooth walk, with easy, swinging strides, until he was out of sight, and then turned to her father.

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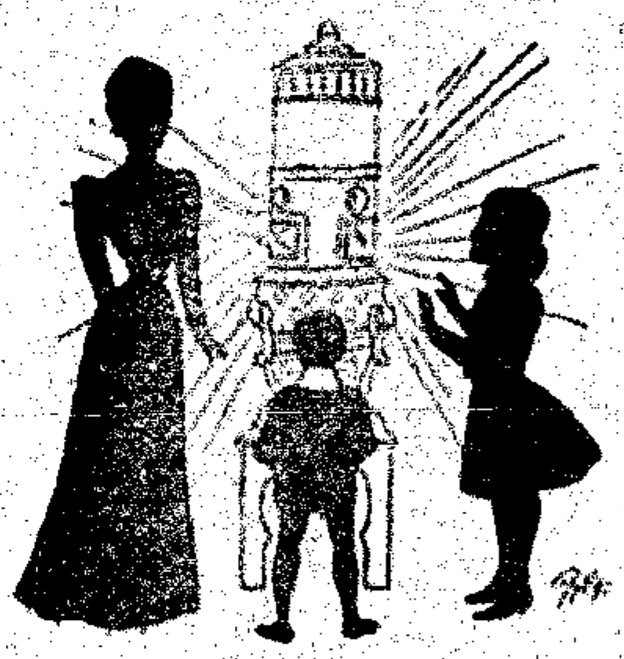

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"Daddy, why are you always so brusque and disagreeable to Mr. St. Aubyn, when you are kindness itself to any one else?"

"Because he is an ass," growled Mr. Van Ness with a scrowl of displeasure.

"I'm sure he is nothing of the sort," argued his daughter, flashing and drawing herself up rather stiffly. "He is courteous, well-bred, handsome and has a splended position for a man of his age; and all through his own exertions too."

"That's just it," replied her father, testily. "That's what makes me so blamed mad—the prig is so confoundedly proud and independent. Did it all himself, and has nobody to thank. Bah! He makes me sick, he does. All those high and mighty airs, just because he struck a little luck, when there's many a poor devil worth his weight in gold, who is grubbing at starvation wages."

"Well, under the circumstances, I think he has a right to be proud; if he is, you cannot say he is either vain or haughty."

"Oh! You know all about it, do you? Well, I'm off; I'll suffocate if I stay on this veranda another minute. There's not a breath of air. What are you going to do with yourself this morning dear?"

"You have made my programme, and I shall abide by it," said Coretta, meekly. "I'm going to row on the harbor all the morning."

"All right. Hurry along, than, and I'll see you safely start."

Half an hour later Mr. Van Ness' eyes glowed with fatherly pride as he watched the light boat shoot out over the placid waters of the harbor, skillfully propelled by the steady, trained stroke of his daughter's oars; and after waving his handkerchief to her, addressed himself to the enjoyment of his latest and most enthusiastic hobby—snap-shot photography. It was comforting to that old plutocrat to think that Corretta was alone on the water, where that young scrub, St. Aubyn, could not get at her.

"——St. Aubyn, anyway," he muttered to himself. "Why don't he keep away from Coretta? The Lord knows I've given him hints enough and pretty broad ones too, but men of his stamp never will take a hint. And you can't make him mad. Why if I had been in his place I'd have thrashed myself long ago. He's always got some sugar-coated speech ready that makes a man feel like a fool."

On the following night papa Van Ness was in his element. He had arranged a little entertainment in the hotel drawing room for the benefit of the family of a poor man who had been drowned in he surf. All the talent in the hotel was pressed into service. The programme was to include vocal and instrumental music, recitations, legerdemain and what not.

Mr. Van Ness was the moving spirt of the whole affair and his portly form was seen everywhere—now among the audience applauding vigorously, now at the temporized box office near the door of the drawing room—a moment later in the impromptu green-

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room, overhauling the properties. He not only ran the curtain up and down, but operated it himself and acted as prompter from the wings, in a hoarse whisper, audible throughout the capacious room. Indeed, he exerted himself so unceasingly that before the evening was half gone he was puffing like a fish out of water, while a tiara of perspiration beads stood out on his rubicund brow.

The last number on the program promised to be very interesting and amusing; for Mr. Van Ness was to show a series of lantern slides, with aid of an electrical stereopticon, of instantaneous photograph which he had taken. He called them "unique postures," and all were taken to be local hits.

The first view showed a well known villager, standing on a seawall apparently in deep dejection, while his colossal wife was ostensibly chastising him with an umbrella. In the distance two young girls were laughingly gazing on the spectacle. The second picture was that of the interior of a typical Newport cottage, evidently taken through a window, and revealed a prominent clergyman in the act of petting his dog. The third represented a New York belle in her bathing suit, being carried out of the surf in an exhausted condition by two male bathers.

"Here is one," said Mr. Van Ness, as he adjusted the next view, "of a couple of turtle doves I caught spooning in a boat on a harbor yesterday. The distance from the shore was so great that the figures came out very small on the plates, but the magnifying lens may help matters."

The picture was focused on the screen, and presently a storm of applause burst from the audience. With a grasp of horror and dismay, Mr. Van Ness turned off the electric current and fled from the scene.

. . . . . .

"You see," said Jack St. Aubyn to a friend the next day, "the old fellow took that way of announcing my engagement to his daughter, Coretta. Rather an old idea, wasn't it?"—*Chicago News.*

CURRENT COMMENT

About Cultus People.

New Denver Ledge.

It used to be the custom in the East when a boy was good for nothing that his parents made him a parson. Here in British Columbia if a man is utterly worthless he aspires to represent the community in the local legislature, and occasionally, through the apathy of good men, succeeds. In a young and progressive Province, worthy men do not care to neglect their business in order to represent their riding at

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Victoria for $600 a year, and abuse thrown in. For this reason we have a weak legislature, composed principally of cheap human material that values self above everything else, and prefers to look after personal interests and quarrels instead of the general welfare of the Province. As long as the B. C. legislature is composed of this kind of material just so long will the people suffer.

In the Slocan we know of two men who are aching to represent this riding at Victoria. One has an oily tongue attached to a droue's constitution, which he uses to slander and backcap his neighbors. He is too week and cowardly to be a road agent, and too lazy to pay his debts. The other is a geyser who cannot stand alone in the financial world and whose reputation for paying his bills is so rotten that many wholesale houses refuse to ship him goods, even c. o. d. He is a man loaded with envy to the roots of his unkempt hair. He is an enemy to labor, and for a smell of filthy lucre would knife the interest of the miners, and follow the band wagon of his employers, much the same as a tramp cur runs after a swill barrel on wheels.

These are a couple of samples of men who like to represent us legislatorily. Their gall is supreme, and they should tie it up. If it should get away from them the Slocan would be deluged with an epidemic of swelled heads with nothing in them, except nits.

Plain Talk.

Kamloops Standard.

Referring to our books the other day, we find tha the *Standard* may be reckoned as a philanthropic institution. The amount of accounts that are unpaid are large and the amount of free advertising we have given to worthy objects is enormous. It appears that the churches, charitable institutions and entertainments with good objects get their free puffs from us

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May and Jennie Mineral Claim, situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District.

Where located: On the easterly slope of Fortyniine Creek, about five miles from its mouth

Take notice that I, John McLatchie, P.L.S. of the City of Nelson, acting as agent for William A. Arnold, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 13,374, John Paterson, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 11,620, and John Campbell, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 12,151, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this 3d day of February, A. D., 1900.

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and take most of their job work to Mr. Bostock's institution at the other end of the street. Possibly they recognize that gentleman has spent vast sums of money with a prodigality that is unprecedented, and they feel they are welcoming the prodigal son in giving his printing establishment profitable work. We would point out that we, too, are very bad; we have wasted our substance in printing establishments and other nineteenth century luxuries; we have given our space in a criminal way gratis to others better off than ourselves. We hereby repent and inform the public that we will give no space in the future for nothing—no free puffs. We must be paid, and the most we will do is to give a large discount to more deserving objects than ourselves.

Gen. Wolfe

Andrew Lang in Longman's

A disagreeable story of Wolfe occurs in a letter written by a lady at Aberdeen in 1746. Cumberland lodged at her house. She reports that Wolfe came from Cumberland "to let me know that I was deprived of everything I had but the clothes on my back." He informed her that her tea was confiscated, and that, being "very fond of china themselves," Hawley and Cumberland meant to loot her china closet, which they did. In fact, the lady draws up a long inventory of her losses, and mentions people who had seen her property at London in Hawley's possession, while the china was packed up and directed to Cumberland's house in London. In London a Mr. Jackson (who knew the poor plunder in its owner's Aberdeen house) found it in a china shop. Cumberland had given it to a woman of the town, and the woman had sold it. It is not pleasant to find the great Wolfe serving two such masters as Cumberland and Hawley in their barefaced robbery. I had never seen any contradiction of the story until recently, when I found in a MS. diary of 1746, a statement that a lady had seen the missing articles, china, glass, and other things in their owner's house months after she described the looting of the same. One lady or the other must have been a most impudent liar. We have the owner's, Mrs. Gordon's, signed lament and inventory; of the other lady's narrative we have only the casual mention by the keeper of the diary, a Whig. For what it is worth I give the denial in the interests of Wolfe.

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