

The Pirates of Alaska.

Describing the Alaska Commercial Company, Governor Swinford, of Alaska, in his official report, says:

"Clothed by the Government with a monopoly of the seal fur trade, by which it has profited to the extent of many millions, it has, octopus-like, thrown out its great tentacles and gathered to itself about all the islands of value in the fur trade of the whole territory."

Going on to describe the company's cruel oppression of the natives, he says:

"Its insatiable greed is such that it is not content with robbing the poor native in the price it sets upon the product of his dangerous toil, but it robs him also in the exorbitant prices it exacts for the goods given in exchange."

But this band of robbers does not confine its operations to the natives, for the Governor says:

"While all this and much more is true concerning its treatment of the native people, instances are not lacking where it has boycotted and driven away from the Island Government officials who intend upon the honest, faithful discharge of their duties, have incurred the displeasure or refused to do the bidding of its agents. In fact, it possesses the power to compel compliance with its every exaction, and wherever it has obtained a foothold, neither white man nor native can do more than eke out a miserable existence, save by its sufferance."

And these are the people with whom the United States ostensibly, but probably in fact a few influential men in Washington are in partnership, for the Governor says:

"Its paid agents and lobbyists are kept at the national capital to oppose any and every effort that may be made to promote the welfare of Alaska."

The Governor supports his own official report by statements from others. Mr. Dall, of the U. S. Coast Survey, says:

"Let us examine for a moment the condition of the territory. There is absolutely no law, no means of protection, no redress for injury for any citizen of the United States even, to say nothing of natives. A number of murders among the whites have occurred during the past few years. Only one man was ever apprehended, and I am informed that he was discharged by the courts of Washington Territory for want of jurisdiction. That acts of oppression have occurred between the traders and the company I have abundant evidence."

Another appendix is an extract from the Alaska Free Press, in which it is said:

"That a few men, Jews and foreigners, should have exclusive right to the exclusion of about 60,000,000 of American citizens, to about one-fourth of the possessions of the American Government is worse than anarchy. Not only is their possession of it an outrage on the American people, but through the instrumentalities of these same foreigners a war with England is very liable to be brought about that will cost us thousands of lives of good American citizens and millions of dollars that have been ground out of the American laborer by taxation."

It is, however, obvious that the Jews and foreigners would not be allowed thus to disgrace and endanger the country if they were not backed by influential accomplices at Washington.

There is also an account by the Governor himself of an interview with a Yukon chief, describing the manner in which the natives are oppressed by this piratical company. The Governor relates how they gave the Indians two boxes of matches or thirty cents worth of tobacco for skins worth \$4, a blanket for skins worth \$20, goods, to the value of \$2.50 for skins worth \$50, and so forth threatening to leave them to starve if they objected. And these scoundrels, robbers and out-laws are the people for whose benefit U. S. naval officers have to act as pirates and U. S. judges forfeit goods stolen from Canada.

The Governor gives the defense of Mr. Drake, the Canadian consul who demurred to the forfeiture of his seized sealers, because they had not killed the seals in the waters of Alaska but on the high seas.

Then follows the extraordinary case of one of the pirates, A. K. Delaney, who acted as their counsel to sustain the seizure. In this he makes the wildest assertions and adduces the most absurd arguments. For instance, to make out that Behring Sea is an "inland water," he says:

"From the extremity of this peninsula, in a long, sweeping curve, the Aleutian Islands stretch, in a continuous chain, almost to the shores of Kamtschatka, thus enclosing the sea."

The "continuous chain of islands," if anybody out of Bedlam could contrive the idea of islands being continuous, consists in this case of some scattered islands with wide intervals, and "almost to Kamtschatka" means some hundred miles off. This is "enclosing" a sea. Then in the west the encasement of the United States portion of Behring Sea consists of a line of longitude, which hardly makes it an inland water, and to the north the encasement is a line of ice. Then this learned pirate has another argument. "Its waters are notoriously much more shallow than those of the Pacific Ocean." If shallow water is to confer territorial rights on the high seas, sounding apparatus will be in demand. How about the banks of Newfoundland? Then geology is called into play and we are informed that

"From the peculiar physical formation of the Aleutian Island, and the fact that volcanic action is frequent among them, there seems to be much reason for accepting the geologic theory that they are the tops of submerged mountains, and that the bottom of Behring sea is a submarine plateau."

If submarine plateaus and volcanoes are to confer territorial rights, we will have to remodel international law. And then this branch of the piratical argument concludes:

"Remove the Aleutian chain, and Behring Sea becomes a part of the Pacific main; as it is, it is an inland water, cut off from the main ocean and essentially land-locked."

An inland sea, land-locked on one side by a very broken chain of islands, on another side by a line of longitude, and on another side by a line of ice!

From Rev. H. P. Torsey, D. D., LL. D., late President Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College, Kent's Hill, Me.: "Dr. P. W. Kimball—Dear Sir:—For five years the students under my care have used Adamson's Balm. I have had, and have, I think, found it second to no other remedy for throat and lung troubles." Trial bottles 10 cents. feb17 24, ood

Over 10 cents—3 for 25 cents—cigars are the best goods sold. See the kinds: Pinaro, N. Y. Co., Tequila, Ultramarine, and Smoking Drug Store. feb17 24, ood

Mr. Creighton's Lecture on Palestine.

A very respectable audience—both in size and quality—assembled in Mr. J. D. McLeod's Hall last evening to hear the lecture of B. E. P. Creighton, Esq., descriptive of Palestine. Lewis Carvell, Esq., presided. Mr. Creighton led his hearers, in imagination, from Halifax to Liverpool, thence to Southampton, and from Southampton to Joppa by steamer; thence, on horseback, by way of Arimathea, the Valley of Sharon and the Valley of Eglon, to Jerusalem. On the way he stopped to point out the house (or the house that is said to have been the house) of Simon the Tanner, from the roof of which St. Peter saw the vision. In these latter days it is occupied by nuns, who hospitably entertain travelers and those in need, and for the maintenance of their establishment depend upon voluntary contributions. At Arimathea, a house said to have been the house of Joseph who begged the body of our Lord and placed it in his own new tomb, was also pointed out. But upon this house, as upon the ancient tanner's house, and many other points of interest in the Holy Land, Mr. Creighton placed the stigma of a doubt. Passing through the Valley of Sharon, its wonderful beauties were described; and in the Valley of Eglon the spot said to have been the very spot on which David fought Goliath, was seen. Thence the traveler—mounted on the top of a broad saddle—a cross between a Mexican saddle and an arm-chair—on the back of a skinny but wiry and sure-footed horse, climbs the trackless mountains which surround Jerusalem. From the tops of these mountains, he can discern in the distance the minarets and towers of the Holy City. But the city itself cannot be seen until he is within a few minutes ride of it; and, when seen, the feeling is one of disappointment. The visitor is met by stone walls, from five to ten feet thick, guarded by Turks. Passing these, he goes to the "Mediterranean Hotel," with its open courtyard, rooms all around, and a terrace on top, from which the stranger can view the chief points in the city. The rooms are, however, too low, too badly ventilated, and too thickly inhabited to be comfortable. At the recent exhibitions of a mesmerist, those under mesmeric influence suddenly began to scratch themselves with great vigor when the operator cried out "fleas!" and the scene recalled, vividly, latter day experiences in the Mediterranean Hotel of the Holy City. But the food supplied is of the best quality, and there is plenty of it. Fruit and vegetables are abundant and cheap. A basketful of oranges can be bought for two cents, and the poorest people can afford to eat grapes. Dates, figs, bananas, apricots, etc., are abundant. Only apples are scarce—as much as 80 cents are paid for an apple. While other vegetables are easily obtained, and universally used for food, potatoes are almost unknown, nor can the people be persuaded to eat them. Mutton is the favorite meat, and a very large sheep can be obtained for a dollar. As to milk, the people of Jerusalem use that of the goat, which is supplied by milkmen who drive their flocks of goats to their customers' doors and milk them on the streets in presence of the purchasers, who are thus assured against adulteration. The flour obtained in Jerusalem is good, and the bread "very, very nice."

The services of a dragoon, or guide, can be obtained for about five piasters a day. By him the very much interested Christian may be taken along the *via dea rossi*—the way of sorrow—the road our Saviour is said to have trod just before his crucifixion, and to hold a great many stories—all too thin, and see a great many spots held sacred by thousands of faithful and credulous pilgrims. He will be shown one of the stones which cried out; the rock on which our Saviour fell, with the indentation made by His arm, when He fell, still in it; the pillar upon which He rested His weary shoulders; the courtyard of the house of Pontius Pilate in which He stood; the pillar to which He was tied when He endured the scourging; the spot on which St. Peter stood when he denied our Lord; the place where the cock stood when he crowed, etc. Arrived at the Temple—now the Mosque of Omar—a permit signed by the British Consul acts as an "open sesame," and under the guidance of a Mohammedan Priest, the traveller can see the seven hairs of Mahomet's head, and examine into the mystery of the great rock—80 feet wide, 96 feet long, and 13 feet thick, upon which (as the faithful believe) the Mahomet mounted into heaven and returned after refusing to taste the wine, and from which he jumped to greet his waiting followers just before it touched the earth, and which, in consequence, still floats in space! From the Mosque of Omar—which the Jews dare not enter—the visitor may wend his way to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre—an immense structure capable of holding from 30,000 to 40,000 pilgrims at one time. It is in charge of Mohammedan soldiers. The ceremony of the crucifixion is performed every year within its walls; and many other ceremonies. But the faithful who come with their savings to worship at this shrine are misled when they are told that it covers the very spot in which our Lord was crucified, and in which His body was anointed for the burial. The exact spot on which the Divine tragedy was enacted will never be known.

Mr. Creighton described the beauty of the Garden of Gethsemane and the desolation of the Valley of Jehoshaphat, once the scene of valorous deeds on the part of the proud and intolerant Israelites and the favorite resort of the daughters of Jerusalem! The lecture was graphic, and in some parts amusing; but the feelings aroused by it were, on the whole, the reverse of pleasant. The Holy Land, with all its sacred scenes and reminiscences, is, indeed, an unpleasing subject for the Christians' contemplation, while it is in the hands of Unspesakable Turk.

Tax our 5-cent cigars—Hero, Bell, Sarah Bernhard, Leader, Princess, all favorite brands.—Reddin's Drug Store. feb17 31, eod

Nine cables connect Europe and America. Altogether there are now in use 113,000 nautical miles of cable.

The "Bell Cigar," wholesale at factory prices. Big profit to retailer.—Reddin's Drug Store. feb17 31, eod

CRACKED FEED FOR HORSES, cows and pigs—barley and oats mixed—only \$1.10 per 100 lbs., also Bran and Shorts.—Henry T. LePage, Glasgow House, Queen Street, ja 28, 24, 25

Judge Gray on Commercial Union.

The February number of the *Overland Monthly* contains an elaborate and able written article by Judge Gray, of Victoria, B. C., at present in California for the benefit of his health, on "Commercial Union between the United States and Canada." The subject is exhaustively discussed from the various standpoints from which it can be approached, and an unanswerable case is made out against the proposal. Concluding, he briefly summarizes the position as follows: First, Canada, by Commercial Union with the United States, is to gain a possible market for her products and manufactures under the disadvantage of a competition of 12 to 1 and a handicap in the burden of public taxation of 54 to 23 against her, with the assurance that if, notwithstanding these disadvantages, she is successful, and the Union worked unfairly towards the United States, it would be immediately determined by Congress. On this point Mr. Hill, of Illinois, is quoted. Under these circumstances, Judge Gray remarks, it might well be called a "phantom market," instead of a possible market. Second, in consideration of having such a market Canada is to give up: (1) the absolute and entire control of her customs and internal revenues for all time to come, and to accept such duties as would be in accord with the policy and interests of the United States only. (2) To have no voice, power, or influence in determining the nature of the subject or the extent of the imposition, or the object for which the public taxation of customs or inland revenue is to be raised. (3) To have no power to enter into any arrangements with England, France, Germany, or any other Power whatever, that might be advantageous to Canada, if such arrangement in any way whatever involved a departure from the fiscal policy of the United States as to the customs or inland revenue. (4) To have no power whatever in the classification of customs duties or internal revenue to consider arrangements that might materially benefit Canada though not necessary for the United States. (5) To lose all control of our foreign commerce and of our carrying trade, and to build up the great American ports of entry and departure on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts to the ruin of Montreal, Quebec, St. John and Halifax, on the Atlantic, and the rising cities of British Columbia on the Pacific. (6) Practically to hand over the whole of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific as a field for the surplus production of the United States, to the entire destruction of all internal Canadian industries. (7) To create most embarrassing complications between the separate provinces of the Dominion and general governments as to provincial subsidies and departures from the provisions of the Constitutional Act—the British North America Act, 1867. (8) To lose all control of the country as Canada, and to hand it practically, if not in name, to the United States, to become a nominal if not an actual dependency of that country. After pointing out that in his opinion all responsibility rests with Canada in forwarding the movement, as to the United States such a union, though desirable, is not essential, and that to the mass of her people it is a matter of indifference. Judge Gray remarks that "it would be an impossibility, not an improbability, that England could retain as a part of her Empire a people that had legislated directly against her interests and taxed her productions, while at the same time admitting free the productions of her greatest rival in trade, and doing all that was possible to advance that rival's interests to the detriment of her own." No true Canadian, he contends, should hold so degraded a position or advance so dishonorable a proposition. "If Canada wants to do that, let her openly separate from the Empire." Judge Gray believes that if submitted to the people for their approval or rejection, ninety-nine out of every hundred, thoroughly understanding what the proposal involves, would reject it. He makes a brief reference to the Reciprocity Treaty question, and in a few sentences disposes of American objections to its renewal on the ground that during the twelve years the treaty of 1854 was in existence the advantages were on the side of the United States. He concludes as follows:—"One thing, however, is to be borne in mind—such a treaty is not now of the vast importance to Canada that it was in 1854. The country then was but a congeries of disjointed provinces, separated by immense distances of unbroken forests, with little knowledge of each other, with diverse interests, under diverse Governments, with no power of combination, and very little credit or influence abroad. This is all changed. Canada is now touched by one electric cord from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and has opened for herself fields of labor which give her in the markets of the world a credit, a power, and an influence which in 1854 were unknown. If it were a mere question of the present day, the discussion might here be dropped; for no sensible man, be he American or Canadian, can for one moment believe that such a Union, on such conditions, could or would be accepted by Canada, assuming that Canada was to remain a distinct nationality. But the discussion has forced into view the future of Canada. What will that be? "Nullam numer abest.—sit Prudentia." This article of Judge Gray is one of the most valuable contributions that has been made to the literature of the subject, which at present is attracting public attention.

The Butterworth Bill.

(The Empire.)

There is not the slightest chance of the Butterworth Bill, for which the *Mail* and *Globe* are touting, passing the United States Congress. It is in a great measure opposed to the policy which Washington politicians have been adopting towards Canada, and foreign to the fixed policy of the United States. It is scarcely possible that the Congress which last year passed the Non-intercourse Act, will this year open wide its arms to take in Canada and all her products. There are, however, points of similarity between this new movement and Mr. Butterworth's Commercial Union scheme which might recommend it to some in Congress, although the protection party in that body will, no doubt, see it decidedly buried. It is, of course, a measure to stop Canadian importations from England, and to divert the trade to the United States. It is proposed that everything Canada needs from the outside world shall buy from the United States. It is expected that the development of Canadian manufactures may in this way be arrested and that wo-

will become entirely dependent upon the United States for everything in that line.

Supposing it were assumed that it is bill became law and that Canada would, say next year, come under its operation, what would be the effect of it on our revenue? We now collect the greater part of our customs revenue—say an average of \$21,000,000 a year—from our imports from Britain and the United States. The moment we accept Mr. Butterworth's scheme we lose \$7,000,000 of revenue a year. How is this to be made up? By adding to the duties on imports from the mother country? Why, these imports will shrink at once without the duty being increased, by reason of free trade with the United States; while a large increase of duty on what would be left of British imports would prove prohibitory, and our trade with Britain would be a thing of the past. Practically we would have no customs revenue, and the \$21,000,000 to \$23,000,000 a year which we have been collecting for our public services in this way could only be raised by direct taxation. This means a tax on income, on tea and a few necessities of life and on the lands of the farmers. For ten years to come we would require to raise in this way at least \$220,000,000 to \$250,000,000 in order to enable the manufacturers of the United States to slaughter our native industries, to help the farmers of the United States to feed the operatives who are to manufacture for us in the United States, and to destroy our trade with Great Britain, a country which takes from us an average of \$43,000,000 to \$47,000,000 worth of our products every year! And we are to throw in our fisheries and tolerate the smuggling of Yankee fishermen, turned traders, along our coasts, in addition to all this and without the slightest compensation! This is what would be accomplished under Mr. Butterworth's scheme of Unrestricted Reciprocity, which the *Globe* and *Mail* are trying to force on Canada.

Even if the protectionists in the United States Congress were willing to pocket their fears that under Free Trade with Canada British goods would enter the United States via Canada, it is abundantly clear that the Canadian people will not accept any such monstrosity. It would not be accepted before we became a manufacturing people, much less will it be accepted now when free trade means a financial and political revolution.

Markets.

A Wisconsin farmer, in Watkesha County, who has "lived in the country on the same farm for forty-five years," sends the *New York Witness* an interesting letter in which he says:

"Being near a city of 160,000 inhabitants (Milwaukee) and a number of other thriving villages, we can always obtain fair prices for articles (farm products) of this kind. Present prices are:

Wheat.....60 to 70c. Live hogs.....84.00 to 84.00  
Corn.....50 to 75c. Cattle.....2.50 to 4.00  
Oats.....32 to 34c. Eggs.....17 to 18  
Barley.....60 to 65c. Butter.....18 to 20

The Ontario farmer similarly situated—say, near a local market in Toronto (population 150,000 or so)—will notice that he can do considerably better than the Wisconsin farmer is doing. The following were the prices ruling in Toronto on Monday:

On the Street. Carload. On bush. On the bush.  
Wheat.....78 to 80c. per bush.....73 to 83c.  
Oats.....43 to 45c. ".....45 to 47 c.  
Barley.....70 to 82c. ".....82 to 83 c.  
Live hogs.....85.00 to 85.00 per cwt.....87.00 to 87.00  
Cattle.....2.50 to 4.50 ".....3.50 to 7.00  
Eggs (whole) 114 to 18c. per doz.....22 to 30c.  
Butter.....12 to 22c. per lb.....18 to 25c.

Wisconsin is one of the finest of the Western States, and Milwaukee is certainly a good market as the Western markets go. Still, the Ontario farmer in the vicinity of any of our cities is getting better prices than farmers are getting in Milwaukee.

THROUGH TICKETS

TO ALL PARTS OF Canada and the United States —AT THE— Lowest Rates and by the Shortest Routes.

To be convinced of this call upon G. A. SHARP, Station Master and Ticket Agent, E. I. Railway, Ch'town. feb17—law & wky 3m

Charlottetown Roller Mills

FLOUR, Equal to the Best Imported, NOW FOR SALE AT THE PRINCIPAL CITY GROCERY STORES.

WHOLESALE BUYERS

Can obtain Samples and best Prices at the Store of the undersigned,

QUEEN STREET

GEORGE E. FULL. feb15—91 3aw pat

SOLE LEATHER.

IN STOCK: 200 Sides HEAVY No. 1, 75 Sides LIGHT No. 1, GOOD No. 2, Wholesale at special prices. FENTON T. NEWBERRY.

FLOUR.

IN STOCK: 500 Barrels "Kent," "Jewel," "Diamond," "Queen City," "Gold Medal," and other choice brands. FENTON T. NEWBERRY. feb14—dy 51 wky 21

TENDERS.

SEALED TENDERS for the construction of a Public Hall, in the vicinity of the St. Peter's Road Church, will be received by Committee up to FEBRUARY 27th. Plan and specification to be seen at the residence of Angus Darrach, Esq., Marsfield. Two good securities must accompany each tender. ISAAC CROSBY, Secretary of Committee. Feb 14, 1888—15 12w wky 11 pat

Dry Goods at Popular Prices, PERKINS & STERNS.

We Continue to Sell the Best Goods at Lowest Prices.

WHITE COTTONS, GREY COTTONS, PRINT COTTONS, DRESS GOODS, CORSETS, GLOVES, COLLAR, RIBBONS, TABLE LINENS, LINEN TOWELS, LINEN TOWELINGS, BED TICKINGS,

White and Colored Counterpanes, American Knitting Cottons, Cheap Shirtings and Gingham, Pillow Cottons and Sheetings, Carpets and Oil Cloths.

PERKINS & STERNS. Charlottetown, Feb. 14, 1888.

Dress Goods, cheap, at James Paton & Co's.

Ladies' Jackets and Dolmans at reduced prices.

Mens' Overcoats, good value, at Jas. Paton & Co's.

Corsets, all kinds and prices.

The Best Place on the Island to buy Carpets.

Gloves, in Kid and Cashmere.

Table Linens and Table Napkins, extra good value.

The best value in Cambric Embroideries.

Mourning Goods of all kinds.

Millinery made to order on short notice.

JAMES PATON & CO.

WATER STREET, Summerside. MARKET SQUARE, Charlottetown. February 6, 1888—dy & wky

J. B. MACDONALD

—WILL SELL OFF CHEAP—

Dress Goods, Dress Goods, Dress Goods, Cloths, Cloths, Cloths, Flannels, Flannels, Flannels,

Carpets, Carpets, Carpets, Knit Wool Goods, Knit Wool Goods, Knit Wool Goods,

Overcoats, Overcoats, Overcoats, Mens' Suits, Mens' Suits, Mens' Suits, Boys' Suits, Boys' Suits, Boys' Suits,

Underclothing, Flannel Shirts, Cotton Shirts.

100 CHESTS CHOICE TEA,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, CHEAP, AT

J. B. MACDONALD'S.

Ch'town, Feb. 7, 1888.—dy & wky.

ANOTHER LIST.

OUR LAST SPECIAL OFFERS brought hundreds of extra customers to our Store, and in order to still keep up the supply of Bargains, we have prepared a new list, and ask you to read every item.

As only a few DOLMANS, REDINGOTES and SACQUES remain, we will, in order to make a clean sweep, offer them at ridiculously low prices—so now is your chance. In FANCY ULSTERS and SACQUE CLOTHS, you can have your choice at large discounts, and in TWEEDS our values are of the very best.

Our DRESS GOODS trade has been very large this season, owing to the excellent value we have been giving; but our new reduced prices we expect to cause a genuine rush. Remember, our Stock is Fresh, and we are offering the most Fashionable Trimmings at Large Discounts, and you only need see them to find just what will suit you.

We are to the front with a Choice Stock of HAMBURG EMBROIDERIES and INSERTIONS, CASH'S FRILLINGS, EDGINGS of all kinds, and a Stock of WHITE COTTONS—the best value we have ever offered.

It Pays to buy your Dry Goods and Millinery at

BEER BROS.

Charlottetown, Feb. 10, 1888.—eod 2w