

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, May 16, 1865.

THE PROPERTY QUALIFICATION.

"The object," says Von Humboldt, "to-wards which every human being must ceaselessly direct his efforts, and on which especially those who design to influence their fellow men must keep their eyes, is the individuality of power and development." The philosophy here laid down by the celebrated German has been followed by nearly all our present English metaphysicians and political economists, until to-day there is scarcely a writer of note but believes that the great element of human progress is individuality—and that every restriction placed in the way of its development is inimical to social and intellectual advancement. Wherever we find this policy opposed—wherever we observe generalization stepping in and curbing the growth of individual specialities—forcing the whole intellect of a people into old worn-out channels—there we shall see civilization in a backward state, and man but a few steps ahead of the brute creation. It is against this principle of the feudal times that all our modern reforms have been leveled—against this presumptuous dictation—this quiet ignoring of the views of the masses by the few who were in power. In times gone by one class, and it alone ruled—the landed aristocracy. It made laws for all, did the whole thinking of the country, and left the common people, which meant all the wealth producing population, nothing to do but to work, pay their taxes, and fight when called upon. This was very correct, no doubt, and nobody could blame the landed aristocracy very much; for it is what most other classes would do, if they had undisputed power. The parties that were the most censurable were the thousands who suffered themselves to be converted into automata, and their reasoning faculties, like the feet of the Chinese women, dwarfed and stunted by outrages against the physical laws. As nature is, however, sure to vindicate her cause in the end, it is not surprising that the common people, after long and persevering efforts, should finally overthrow the power that was crushing out their manhood, and force from class legislators a participation in the Government of the country.

Unfortunately, however, the reforms fought for and obtained in England do not always make their way, like articles of commerce, to other countries. Young communities are too often like young children, and will only accept knowledge by dear-bought experience. In this way the valuable experience of others is lost, and so we have, in the early history of nearly all the British colonies, the same evils that our forefathers labored under centuries ago. We see a small body of landholders in power, whose ambitions are enough to do all the intellectual work of the country; but they have this misfortune, their thinking is generally all on the one side, and their particular passions are frequently favored at the expense of the rest of the community. This is natural enough, as we have shown before, and we cannot be surprised that the large landed proprietors of Vancouver Island, with their myrmidons, should endeavor to retain that power which they have exercised hitherto, to the unmistakable injury of the colony. When we see them striving with might and main against the introduction into the governing class of new blood, when we see them opposing any change in the qualification of membership of the Assembly, we know that to them we are indebted for that uncultivated and unenlightened state of the country which strikes the traveler everywhere in the face, and for the absence of colonial settlement. We know that to their judicious policy of making the thousand-acre lots the golden calf before which every body must bow down, and which they themselves worship with a kind of heathenlike superstition, are we indebted for nearly all the misfortunes that have happened to the country. They cling with a tiger-like tenacity to the power they hold, and shrink from any extension of political privilege. Individuality is to them a detestation; what they desire is that the world should come down, and revolve on their little axis, and that no ideas should be entertained unless furnished by them. When they strove yesterday to destroy the Franchise bill and failed, when they attempted to commit the whole measure in order to expunge the property qualification abolition, and were discomfited, we saw and understood their feelings, and what herculean efforts they will make to obtain another disinterested adherent or two when the matter again comes up for a third reading. It will be all of no avail, however; whether the bill is carried through the present session or not, the necessity of the qualification amendment is too deeply felt by every thinking person who has been in the colony for the last few years, and who has witnessed the ruin brought upon the country by the short-sighted avariciousness of land jobbers and land monopolists.

ARRIVED AT SAN FRANCISCO.—A private despatch received at New Westminster states that Surveyor General Trutch had arrived at San Francisco two hours after the departure of the Orizaba for Portland and Victoria.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday, May 16th.

SHOOTING AFFAIR.—Two Men Wounded.

Last evening about eight o'clock, Mr. Seelie, hotel keeper, near James Bay Bridge, and a Portuguese named Manuel, employed by him, were both shot by a man named Dillon, and severely wounded. Mr. Seelie receiving a ball through the fleshy part of the abdomen, and Manuel being shot through the knee. It appears that Dillon, who is a cabinet maker, and has a shop on Humboldt street, a few doors from Government street, is crazy, and is subject to occasional violent paroxysms of rage, during which he assaults any one he happens to meet. Last evening in one of these fits, he sallied out armed with a small revolver, and began abusing Seelie, alleging that the latter had poisoned him, and at length drawing his pistol fired at him; the ball striking him about the navel, and glancing round under the skin till it lodged in his side. Manuel ran to Seelie's assistance, but was also fired at by the infuriated maniac, the ball passing through his knee, but fortunately breaking "no bones." Dillon was at once seized by Seelie and a bystander, but managed to discharge a third shot at some young men passing on the opposite side of the street, though happily without effect. A gentleman who happened to be passing on horseback at the time, at once rode up to the police barracks, and gave information of the occurrence, when Sergeant Wilmer hastened to the spot, and arrested the would-be murderer, and conveyed him to goal. Dr. Powell was speedily in attendance on the injured men, and dressed their wounds, which fortunately are not serious. The ball, a small pellet about the size of a buckshot, was readily removed from Mr. Seelie's side. Had it taken a different course, however, he might have been killed. Dillon, who is the same man who was reported missing a short time ago, was generally believed to be insane, and when the fit was on him, was the terror of the neighborhood, having frequently committed violent assaults on persons who happened to come near him. If his dangerous character was as well known as it seems to have been, the authorities are to blame in allowing him to remain at large, endangering the lives of the people.

EXPLORATION.—An effort is being made to fit out another exploration expedition with a view to the discovery of gold in other localities of the Island than those in which it is at present known to exist. Movements like these should receive the hearty support of all interested in the prosperity of the colony, as indications all point to the existence of large deposits of the precious metal somewhere on the island, and it is the opinion of geologists that the mountain range forming the backbone of Vancouver Island is rich in mineral treasures from one extremity to the other.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—His Excellency the Governor requested a few gentlemen to meet yesterday at the Government Buildings and confer with him as to the most suitable manner of celebrating the approaching anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday. A provisional committee was formed with power to add to their number, and it was decided to give a Ball under the patronage of His Excellency at James Bay. Due notice will be given through our columns of the programme as soon as it is completed.

ELECTION CLASS.—The election of officers for the ensuing session, took place last evening. For the office of President, Mr. B. Wallace; Vice-President, Mr. Babbitt; Secretary, Mr. S. J. Weeks; Committee Messrs. Seelie, Cranford, Dissett, Dombey, and Pratt. There were a few recalcitrants. E. G. Alford, Esq., president.

THE SHOOTING CASE.—Edmond Dillon, the maniac who entered the Australian House and discharged a loaded revolver at the inmates on Monday night, was charged yesterday in the Police Court, yesterday, with shooting at and wounding William Seelie, and Emanuel Bayard, and on the application of Inspector Welch, was remanded for one week to admit of a medical certificate as to the state of his mind. Dillon is an old resident of this colony, and was the contractor who erected the stands, &c., for the Jockey Club, on the Beacon Hill Racecourse. Failing to obtain payment upon the completion of the work, Dillon was sued for the same, and subsequently imprisoned, since which time we understand that he has been subject to periodic fits of aberration of intellect.

ORDER FOR THE SUNDAY.—The debating and election class in connection with the Mechanics' Institute has suspended its meetings during the summer months. The class has been well maintained since its institution, and has afforded much gratification and amusement to many. The President and members of the Institute, through the Secretary, have sent us a handsome acknowledgment of our eight services to promote from time to time the interests of the class. We can only state that we shall always deem it a pleasure and duty to forward so useful a movement, and we hope that when the class reopens, it will have acquired additional strength and importance.

FROM THE NORTH WEST COAST.—The schooner Surprise, Capt. Spring, arrived yesterday from a trading voyage along the outside coast of the Island. There is no news of interest from that quarter. Capt. Spring reports having spoken the H. B. steamer Ouer at the mouth of Clayoquot Sound yesterday week. Trade on the coast is very dull, the Indians being too well off to work.

THE WOUNDED MEN.—Messrs. Seelie and Manuel, the men shot by the madman Dillon, are doing well, and no serious results are anticipated from their wounds. Manuel is however in some danger, the ball not yet having been extracted from his leg.

GOV. KENNEDY accompanied by Capt. Layton left for Leech River yesterday morning.

THE EXCHARGE SUIT.—The hearing of the action instituted by Chas. Verdyghen against Mayor Harris for ejectment, by reason of the alleged encroachment of four feet of the brick tenement on Fort street, occupied by D. B. Ring, Esq., on the boundary line of the plaintiff's property, was resumed yesterday in the Supreme Court. Mr. McCreight, instructed by Messrs. Drake & Jackson, for the plaintiff; Mr. Cary, instructed by Mr. Bishop, and Mr. Ring, in propria persona, for the defence. At the conclusion of the plaintiff's case, Mr. Ring asked for a non-suit, and while addressing the jury denounced the present action as more injurious to the town than a swarm of locusts would be to the country, were it to be successful, as there would be no end of suits on the same principle. The jury stopped the learned counsel, and said they had made up their minds to a verdict in favor of the defendant, as the plaintiff had not proved his case.

THE DREDGER.—The tug yesterday towed out two of the punts, the hoppers of which have been altered so as to make the sides with a sharper incline, and they were found to work most satisfactorily, their contents being shot out instantaneously on the opening of the trap-doors. One of the punts which has not yet been altered, yesterday took four men exactly thirty-five minutes hard work to shovel it out.

PUNISHED.—The half-crazy scamp, McIntosh alias Dupuy, was sentenced yesterday by Mr. Pemberton to three months in the chain gang, for insulting ladies in the street.

ACCIDENT.—A pair of horses backed over the wharf at Kavanagh's wool yard yesterday, and were precipitated into the water, from which they were with difficulty rescued.

GOING HOME.—We understand that Archdeacon Wright and family will leave for England by the steamer after next.

COURTESIES OF THE HIGH SEAS.

The following diplomatic and polite letter from Captain Jenny Jones, of the steamer Jenny Jones, now on her way to ports unknown, was handed to Allen Francis, Esq., on the 9th instant by the master of a vessel from the North. The papers referred to go forward by the Eliza Anderson this morning.

STEAMER JENNY JONES, April 26th, 1865.

To U. S. Consul, Victoria, Sir.—I have the honor to forward you the enclosed papers left on board by the U. S. Marshal for Washington Territory.

I beg to express my most sincere regret for any inconvenience caused by delay and detention of the same.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

John P. C. Jones, Captain Jenny Jones.

CIRCULAR.

Consulate of the United States of America, Victoria, May 10, 1865.

The following Circular has been received at this Consulate, and is hereby made public that captains of American vessels and passengers may govern themselves accordingly.

Department of State, Washington, March 15th, 1865.

To the Consular Officers of the United States.

United States Consular Officers residing abroad, with the exception of those resident in Canada, are required to inform all captains of American vessels on delivery of their papers that in order to prevent the occurrence of embarrassment on their arrival in this country it is necessary that each and every passenger, other than emigrants, and the wife and minor children of any gentleman accompanying him, should be provided with a passport duly issued of the United States, and that each passenger be a citizen of this country, by a diplomatic Agent or Consul of the United States; but otherwise to be placed by the proper authority of the country of which they are citizens, and counter-signed by a United States diplomatic Agent or Consul.

Instructions have been issued to the Consular Officers of the several ports of entry in the United States advising them in all cases where passengers arrive at any port in the United States without a proper passport, such passengers shall not be permitted to land, nor any permit be given for the landing of their baggage, until notice shall have been given to the United States Military authorities within the district, who will dispose of such passengers and baggage under instructions from the War Department.

EXAMINATION OF MARRIAGE.—An Oregon contemporary states the following sentences pronounced to a notice of marriage which appears in its columns: "Good! We know of none whom we can more heartily congratulate upon such an important step. William, we wish you and yours long life, happiness and prosperity, and may you be never worse treated and treated than the Printers have done in the above occasion for you."

EXPORTED FROM CHINA.—We learn from Lee Chong, of the firm of Kwong Lee & Co., that a vessel is now on the way from Hong Kong, direct to this port, with freight and passengers, and is expected to arrive in about a fortnight. Another vessel would in all probability follow soon afterwards.

NANAIMO NEWS.

[COMMUNICATED.]

NANAIMO, 4th May, 1865.

THE GOOD TIME COMING.

Times are good here in the way of trade; business of every kind seems to be improving. Unlike many of the residents of the Capital, the folks here have faith in the country, and that its resources and demands will ere long be found sufficient to combat the present depression, and to clear away the general stagnation experienced throughout the country.

THE COAL TRADE.—We have here an area of coal field enough for the supply of the whole coast for an indefinite period, and the indications are that, if warranted by the market, the Vancouver Coal Company will prosecute works for the production and delivery of ten-fold the quantity of coal now annually taken away. With the addition of new works at Harewood, and consequent employment of a great number of men, a large increase in the trade of this town is looked for; indulging this hope, Nanaimites are tenacious of their prospects, and consider themselves safe from bankruptcy. Another somewhat favorable omen to Nanaimo is the anticipation of the mail steamer about to run to New Westminster, calling here to coal, which of course would tend to brighten things a little. Our harbor and wharves have presented quite a busy appearance of late.

IMPROVEMENTS.—Not the least feature in the catalogue of improvements recently made at Nanaimo, may be classed the ways and wharves of Mr. Bolton, at which every facility is afforded for the repair or building of vessels.

THE LIFE AND HISTORY of this great, good and honest man, formed the subject of a highly instructive lecture delivered by the Rev. E. White, in the Wesleyan Sunday School Room, on Tuesday night last. The lecture was intended for the children of the Sunday School, but the well known ability of the reverend lecturer rendered it equally interesting to "children of a larger growth."

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The steamer Enterprise returned from New Westminster Wednesday evening with 15 passengers and Dietz & Nelson's Express with a small amount of treasure. The weather was very hazy during the passage, but Captain Mount saw a steamer with a white funnel steering either for Fraser River or Burrard's Inlet. It was either the Fideliter or Forward.

The buoys are being replaced on the Fraser River said heads. The south said head buoy is already laid.

The Reliance took up to Yale on her last trip 115 tons of freight being the largest quantity ever taken up at one time.

The Lillooet had gone up to Yale and might go through to Douglas, as the water was rising fast.

The Government is pushing forward the Yale road with spirit. The Reliance took up a number of workmen and horses.

The North Pacific Times has collapsed after an existence of three months.

ACCIDENT AT BURRARD INLET.—A man named Smith, employed at Moody & Co's mills, got his hand cut with the trimming saw on Saturday evening. He was conveyed to the Royal Columbian Hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Black who found it necessary to amputate three of his fingers. The patient is doing well.

LABOR PRACTICE.—The Bibles have target practice every Saturday afternoon. Last Saturday the Colonial Secretary and the Grand and former gentleman made the highest score. We stated a few days ago that private Powers made the best shooting on Saturday week; but we learn that although he made the highest score of any of the private yet Lieut. Wolfenden made the best shooting. We understand His Excellency the Governor will try his hand next Saturday.

CUSTOMS.—RECAPITULATION for week ending Saturday, May 6th, 1865.—Duties (import) \$2,679.00; Duties (export) \$45.62; harbor dues, \$31.15; head money, \$44.12; tonnage dues, \$161.56; inland navigation license, \$25.42. Total, \$2,987.25. No. of passengers entering this port during same period, 223.

PIRACY ON THE HIGH SEAS.

The Nanaimo Packet arrived in this port on Sunday, having been plundered by Taroko and Cakes Indians near Bella Bella, on the 6th April last. The following condensed summary of the affair is from Captain Phillips, of the Nanaimo Packet: Left New Westminster on the 26th March with a trading cargo. Arrived at Bella Bella, which place we left on 2nd April. While making for Bella Bella about five o'clock p.m., on the 6th, saw three northern canoes coming towards us from the other side, one being in advance of the other two. When the foremost canoe came up I enquired where they belonged. They replied that they belonged to Sekin, that they left Victoria six weeks ago, and were out of provisions, but had plenty of skins and wished to trade. Meanwhile the other two canoes had come along side also, when all hands, about 40, and all strangers to us, came on board. They threw their skins on deck, and wanted blankets and moccasins for them, which I gave, making a present of a pipe and tobacco and a biscuit to each after the trade was concluded. When this was done one of them drew a paper from his pocket, and threw it at me, demanding payment for it in flour. The contents of the paper were as follows: Victoria, September 7th, 1864.—Engaged this Indian for the sum of (\$10) ten dollars, for a month from date (26 working days) for outfitting wood etc.

"H. U. Tideman." Another Indian, the chief, said that a Victoria policeman had "cappedawalled" \$55 from him, and he was going to have it out of me, that if I did not pay their demand they would take it. They immediately secured my person, lashing me to the main rigging, at the same time others

of the party lashed one of the crew to the helm, and binding the other hand and foot, left him helpless on the deck. They then proceeded to break open the hatch, and went into the cabin, removing the goods, skins, bedding, arms, etc., into their canoes. They even stripped us of our hats and boots, and out the main halyards. I succeeded in freeing one of my hands, with which I managed, by means of a penknife, which I took from my pocket, to cut the ropes and free myself. I then rushed aft and liberated the two men, and went below to look for my arms, which were gone. Seeing us at liberty the Indians made off quickly. Their canoes were loaded very heavily, so much so that I thought them in danger of swamping. We succeeded in pushing the vessel off the rocks on to which she had drifted while the scene above described was being enacted on board. She was considerably damaged, and we made for Bella Bella, where we got some blankets, etc., from friendly Indians there. We then proceeded on to Bella Bella, where we repaired the vessel. And here I desire to testify to the great kindness with which Mr. Ogilvie treated us. He supplied us with provisions and clothing, Mrs. Ogilvie with her own hands making up underclothing for me. Leaving for New Westminster, we fell in with H.M. gunboat Forward, in Encounter Bay. I narrated the affair to Captain Lascelles, who advised me to proceed here and lay the case before the Government. We also fell in with the Jenny Jones at Fort Rupert. She had on board the cargo and crew of the Deerfoot, which sprang a leak and went down off Nanaimo, while in tow of the Jenny Jones. The Indians by whom my vessel was plundered belong to the Tarokos and Cakes, who live in the Russian possessions, about 200 miles above Stekin. The value of goods taken away by them was also \$3,250, to say nothing of arms and articles belonging to the vessel. There was also \$250.50, in money, concealed in the mattress which they carried off.

A full statement of the affair, of which the above is a brief outline, was made under oath before the Police Magistrate yesterday, and submitted to the Government. It is presumable that a demand will be made upon the Russian Government for compensation.

OREGON NEWS.

[FROM THE OREGONIAN TO THE 5TH.]

THE RIVER.—The Columbia River on the 1st inst. is reported to have risen three feet at the Dalles; for the twenty-four hours following, being up to Tuesday at noon, it rose 20 inches higher, and for the succeeding 24 hours gained but little more than ten inches. The Willamette, at Conch's wharf, in this city, had risen but 13 inches during the preceding forty-eight hours, up till noon yesterday, being but four inches for the last day. Portions of Conch's, Ankeny's, and Knott's wharves are now under water, but it does not in the least interfere with business. If the water should rise no faster than it has for 3 days past, it will run off gradually and spare us the trouble incident to a flood in the streets.

Bierstadt, the artist, who traveled through Oregon some time since, seems to have clarified the world of fine art with his magnificent portraitures of Mount Hood. If he has succeeded in transferring to canvas the sublime view that so impresses all lookers on, it is well worth the \$20,000 which Alexander L. Stewart is said to have offered him for it.

THE BRAD RIGGS IN IDAHO.—A friend has received a private letter from Boise, giving full particulars of the late bread riots in Idaho City, which appears to have amounted to nothing in particular. Flour was very scarce, and on the 30th of March, the merchants put it up \$30 per sack of 50 lbs. The miners called a meeting, and notified them that on a Sunday they would give them a fair price if willing to take it; if not, they would force them. An old-time leader of the roughs, named Duncan, tried hard to raise a mob; that the miners might take what they wanted, telling the crowd that there was "plenty of provisions afloat in the cellars," and went so far that the Sheriff had him arrested, which stopped the mob on that day, and "Old Dunk" finding no one to help him when it came to the pitch kept still. On the Sunday following April 1st, a gang attempted to make a raid on the stores; when an investigation of the matter took place by the best citizens, to learn the exact state of the case. Men were questioned concerning their condition, one of whom, who was reported as starving, said he had "lived on beans and bacon four days, and he wouldn't do it any longer; he was bound to have flour." The ring-leader in the last mob was very hungry; he had flour enough to last him another day, however, and that is about the extent of the starvation. He was arrested. At the time of the excitement, he resisted, drew his revolver, and obeyed his company to rescue him, but they did not follow, and he was looked up. Flour has since settled in price. There has been considerable importation, and a very large quantity is now on the way. At Boise City much want was felt among the last fall emigration; and our fellow townsman, Mr. J. M. Blossom, is spoken of in high terms, for commendation for the interest he took in relieving the wants of the suffering.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.—As considerable misapprehension exists regarding the alleged claims of the United States Government against England for losses occasioned by the Confederate cruisers, the following questions with the replies given in the House of Commons may not be uninteresting: Lord C. Cecil inquired whether any communications had been received during the last six months at the Foreign Office from the American Government or the American Minister demanding compensation for losses occasioned to citizens of the United States by the operations of the Alabama or other vessels commissioned by the Government of the Confederate States. Mr. Layard replied in the negative. Mr. Bright followed up Lord C. Cecil's question with another—Whether it was true that the British Government had very numerous claims against that of the United States arising out of circumstances connected with the war. Mr. Layard said that there were many such claims, and that they had been forwarded to the Government at Washington.

The great fine Wanglebury due we may presume parties concerned now vanished as The House has, in its adhesion Cardwell in relation possibility of all Governor and accepted the mo patch from the has undertaken revenue even t pursued on the take was made bility of the sala Mr. Cardwell the coolness to the suppo Crown officer, are, that the mines will co expenses of s were, however some of them their willingness with a clerk. After all th are really affa voted a great be received th Treasury. I and sanction easy enough nial requirem evitably arri voting or wri quired to lig Looking at light, we ca Assembly th December a Government satisfactory or civil list the colony's representatives give up the d ment, and c nery of a Go theory of dep but effectual to the conse and people fair the pa size of the capacity. In our is to show h held by s leading jou fairs, how despotism nourished v outlive all ever, in it for its eve incompati London T Northern that if a little through th and on soon as th Washingt One migh through abounding should b sufficiently wealthi audity. strike the some of t the same same con iterated. The over, an the Eur ployment of this pates her It is use tion wh dollars a upon its but one years of United S than it battle-f to anoth from a Souther w perity No pol cannot fluence ingly s the be people by fore