

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE

Saturday, August 28, 1869

Our Maritime Interests.

Cursey allusion was made yesterday to a condition of things which assuredly ought not to be permitted to continue, if there be a remedy within reach. To unreflecting persons it may appear a trifling matter that, in the short space of a single week three ships laden with the products of our forests, and destined for distant markets, should go all the way to San Francisco for crews. To our thinking it is a matter of the most vital importance, one which demands instant attention and thorough investigation. Taking the most circumscribed and mercenary view, it is clearly to our interest that ships should seek crews here; for where they get crews there also they lay in stores for the voyage, and a voyage to Australia or China, or even to South America, involves no inconsiderable amount of supplies. Every ship, therefore, that leaves these waters to seek a crew elsewhere is a serious loss to this place. But the subject must be viewed from a higher stand-point. It is greatly to our interest that this should be a favourite resort for shipping. Most ships have a choice of destination and cargo. In the lumber business we are placed in direct competition with Puget Sound, where they have things upon a much larger scale, and enjoy the very decided advantage of a free entry to the growing market of San Francisco. We are, in fact, very much in the position of a merchant establishing himself in business alongside of one who, having been long established and having a regular run of custom, boys to greater advantage, and is enabled to send his wares to better markets. True, our lumber is superior to that manufactured on Puget Sound; but, then, we operate at a decided disadvantage in many respects. Under these circumstances the greatest care should be taken to establish a good reputation, and render Burrard Inlet a desirable resort for ships seeking cargoes of lumber, and Victoria a favorite place for ships to come to for crews and supplies. Having a reputation to make, may more, we fear, a bad reputation to get rid of, and having to create a maritime trade, there are many things which we cannot afford to leave undone that an older place with an established trade might treat with indifference. We have said that in the case of this Colony there is more than a good reputation to build up; there is a bad reputation to get rid of. How many ships have come to grief in our waters? It has grown into a proverb abroad that whenever a ship becomes entangled in the legal meshes of the Colony it is done for. Our Courts are regarded as a huge whirlpool which sucks down any ship drawn within its fatal vortex, and it is considered a rare streak of fortune if captain and crew are not sucked down with it. So much is this the case that we are assured insurance agents shrug their shoulders at our risks and shipping agents turn away from our cargoes. Without stooping to deal with the question as to how far we deserve all this, let us glance at one very recent circumstance which we are disposed to think has had its share in sending three ships to San Francisco for crews in a single week. Not many months ago the mate of the American ship Alaska, then lying in our waters, was left in charge, with strict injunctions from the Captain to be on the look out for crimps, as it was expected an attempt would be made to take off some of the crew which had been secured. At dusk a crimp came alongside for the purpose of demoralizing the crew, and refused to leave, although repeatedly warned off. The mate fired a gun, intending, it is alleged, to shoot over the head of the crimp and scare him away. Unfortunately several stray grains of shot struck the fellow, inflicting more or less serious wounds. The mate at once gave himself up, and stated the case just as it happened. He was tried, the jury returned a verdict of "common assault without intent," and he was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labor! Now, we are not going to justify the shooting. Most persons thought the sentence excessive; many persons thought the man should have got off with nominal punishment; some persons thought he should have got off Scott free. A most influential petition from this community was presented to the Administrator of the Government, praying for White's pardon. The prayer was not granted, and the unfortunate man was made to parade the public streets in chains! It is scarcely surprising, under the circumstances, that such a result should have

been regarded as a sort of outrage upon public sentiment. Nor is it surprising that the case of White, who is respectably connected and stands well in his profession, should cause ships to give Victoria a wide berth. Considering the verdict, the sentence and the ample punishment already inflicted, we venture to think His Excellency Governor Musgrave would only be performing an act of simple justice in extending the Royal clemency to White. It would certainly be a graceful and happy commencement of his administration in this Colony.

Thursday Aug 26 Civic Address to Governor Musgrave.

At noon yesterday his Worship the Mayor and the members of the City Council waited upon His Excellency Governor Musgrave and presented the following address, which was read by the Town Clerk: To His Excellency Anthony Musgrave, Esq., Governor of British Columbia and its dependencies, and Vice Admiral of the same. May it please your Excellency—We the Mayor and Councillors of the city of Victoria, beg to offer our hearty congratulations on your safe arrival in the Colony, and to express to your Excellency our loyal attachment and devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. We feel that in your Excellency the Corporation will have a warm friend and advocate in all measures brought before your Excellency for the welfare and good government of the capital of the youngest of Her Majesty's possessions; that with the experience your Excellency brings with you and your able management of older Colonies, we have no doubt that a new era will soon dawn upon this Colony, and that wise measures may be induced which will be in accordance with the genius, the capabilities, and the necessity of the general public. During your Excellency's residence amongst us, we trust that your efforts to govern the country may be crowned with success; and when, in the course of events, it will be the pleasure of Her Majesty to remove you to a more lucrative and honorable position, that you may have the good wishes and kind regards of every inhabitant of this Colony. Given under our hands and seal of the Corporation, this 25th day of August, A. D., 1869.

JAMES TRIMBLE, Mayor. T. S. Allatt, J. G. McKay, J. Russell, G. C. Gerow, A. Bunster. (Members of the Council.) W. Leigh, Clerk of the Municipal Council.

REPLY. Governor Musgrave received the Mayor and Council in a very cordial manner and replied as follows:

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—I receive your cordial greeting with much satisfaction, though I scarcely needed to be assured of your loyal attachment to our Gracious Sovereign, or of your readiness to accord to me, as Her Majesty's Representative, a hearty welcome on my arrival among you. You do no more than justice in believing that in me the corporation will have a warm friend and advocate in all measures conducive to the welfare and good government of Victoria. Such experience as I have acquired in other places, I am both ready and anxious to use for the benefit of the community over which I now have the honor to preside. I wish that I could believe that my administration of the government may be coincident with the dawning of a new era. Of this at least I am certain, that I am most willing to work for the colony to the full extent of my power and capacity. But that my labors should be successful, it is necessary that the community should work with me. It is from a spirit of frank and cordial co-operation and inter-reliance between the government and the people, that we may most confidently expect that success which you are so kind as to hope may crown my efforts. These, I assure you, shall be directed to discharge my duties faithfully to the Colony, and thus to obtain the approbation of our beloved Queen, who only desires the welfare of her people.

From the Mainland.

The steamer Enterprise, with 25 passengers, Bernard's Express and about \$40,000 in treasure, arrived at half past three o'clock yesterday afternoon from New Westminster. The fires on the lower river have gone out before the copious rains that have fallen lately. The "run" of large salmon has commenced about New Westminster. A respected citizen of the late Capital was awakened by a noise in his house early the other morning, and on rising discovered a cow rummaging by a table in his best room! The news from the Cariboo diggings is very good. The old Downie claim paid 43 oz for the week; the Barker washed up 168 oz; the Cariboo 56 oz; the Foster Campbell 32 oz. On Stout Gulch the Taffvale co washed up 144 oz; the Combs co 71 oz; and the Floyd co 30 1/2 oz. None of the other companies made much over expenses. On Lowhee Creek the laborous yielded 52 oz in three days; the Danbar co on Lightning continue to do well. On Conklin's Gulch the miners are making from wagon upwards. The money for the best quartz mill is all subscribed and the order came down yesterday. Mr. Lean, late of Victoria, fell down a shaft (60 feet) in the Foster-Campbell claim, and received very serious injury. Snow has fallen on Bald Mountain. Salmon are very plentiful in Antler Creek and the Fraser. One miner secured four hundred pounds of the fish with a sluice-fork. Travellers report salmon at the Rocky Mountains. The Sentinel asks if they travel the overland route.

DEPARTURE.—Mr W. H. Smith, of St. Louis, one of the Seward party, departed yesterday for his home via Puget Sound.

From Alaska—Return of the Seward Party.

The steamer Fly arrived from Nanaimo yesterday morning, bringing among her passengers Mr W. H. Smith, of the Seward party, who reports the arrival at Nanaimo of the steamship Active, with Mr Seward and party, on Tuesday afternoon. The party are all in good health and spirits. They went nearly as far north as the 60th parallel of latitude and witnessed the total eclipse of the sun. The Active came to anchor at the base of a mountain some 3000 feet high. Where the steamer lay intense darkness prevailed; but from the lower portion of the sun's disc two brilliant, rose-colored lights shone like lanterns hung in the sky and threw a soft, weird light upon the distant snow-capped peaks of the mountains. The effect was sublime, and, as Mr Smith says, perfectly indescribable. The Indians were greatly alarmed and excited during the progress of the observation. Those professing the Greek religion dressed themselves and cried incessantly, "This is God! This is God!" Professor Davidson is on board the Active on his way to San Francisco. He is said to have made some very important observations of the eclipse. Mr Seward subsequently ascended the Chilcat River in a canoe and on his way down embarked in another canoe and ascended Stekin river. He also visited other points of interest in the Alaska Territory and expresses himself highly pleased with what he saw and heard. At the town of Sitka Mr Seward delivered an eloquent address to the townspeople. No sickness or accident of any kind has occurred to the excursionists. Mr Seward will call at Victoria and Portland, Oregon, on his way to San Francisco. The Active reached this port at 10 1/2 o'clock last night, and will sail on Saturday for Portland. Mr Seward remained on board during the night.

GOVERNOR MUSGRAVE AT NEWFOUNDLAND. In his reply to an address from the Executive Council of Newfoundland, his Excellency said:—"It has been my privilege to take part with you in the consideration of the great project for the Union of British North America, and in the proceedings of the part of this colony towards that end, which will, I trust, very soon be completed. The subject is one which will probably still continue to engage my attention in my new field of duty; but I can scarcely avoid the expression of regret which I feel that circumstances have not allowed me the gratification of finishing with you the work which you have so well begun during the term of my administration. I know that I need scarcely assure you of my conviction that no labor for the good of the country of your birth or adoption is likely to bear richer fruit in the future than that which is bestowed to consolidate the union of these provinces."

THE TEST MILL.—We understand that the order for this pioneer mill will be forwarded by the next express. The following is a list of the shareholders or subscribers: Meacham & Nason, \$300; C. Strous, \$200; Patterson & Goodrich, \$200; R. H. Brown, \$100; J. H. Todd & Co., \$1000; F. Lallier, \$100; F. Neufelder, \$100; Hon. R. W. Carrall, \$200; G. Byrnes, \$100; Van Volkenburgh & Co., \$100; J. Wark, \$100; N. Grunbaum, \$100; W. Rennie, \$60; R. Lipsitt, \$50; John Dixon, \$50; Wm. Fores, \$60; Wm. Bown, \$25; A. Vignolo, \$25; C. Beak.—Cariboo Sentinel.

UNDERSELLING NEW YORK.—Chicago (Ill) merchants have arrived at San Francisco and are offering goods per railroad at a much lower rate than the same goods can be obtained at New York and shipped by the Panama steamers or round the Horn. Consequently prices have greatly declined at San Francisco, and a complete revolution in trade is threatened. It is probable that New York and Boston will lose the California trade which they have long found profitable for many articles.

THE LUMBER BUSINESS.—The hard times at San Francisco are reacting on the lumber interests on this northern coast. The mills on Puget Sound, for many months crammed with orders and running night and day, have knocked off their night shifts and are barely making full time. Building at San Francisco has ceased and all the dealers hold large stocks of lumber which they will hardly work off before next spring.

THE BASE BALL MATCH.—The match played yesterday between the Pensacola Nine and the Vancouver Nine resulted in a victory for the Pensacolas by four runs. The game was well contested and the victory of the Pensacolas hardly-earned. The score foots up:—Pensacola, 56; Vancouver, 52.

ELOPEMENT.—It is reported that the daughter of a pioneer citizen and hotelkeeper yesterday eloped with a young gentleman whose name often appears in the papers as the bearer of dispatches from one of the mining districts. The father, it appears, withheld his consent to the match, and the pair will accordingly be married at the first American port where the boat touches.

THE Active will sail on Saturday for San Francisco and will bear away Mr. Seward and friends.

Extraordinary Article from the London "Spectator"—The New Zealanders Recommended to Rebel and Place themselves under the American Flag.

[London, July 24.]

The Colonists of New Zealand will certainly not be prevented from declaring themselves independent by the debate of Thursday night. The disposition of English officials to treat their complaints with scorn and themselves with insolence was as fully displayed in the House as it is in the new Blue-Book, which is from end to end a repository of carefully worded and apparently intentional contempt. The department evidently dislikes and despises New Zealanders, as it once despised and disliked the people of the Thirteen Colonies, treats their arguments as those of Massachusetts were once treated; and receives their envoys as Fraaklin was received, in a spirit which converts them rapidly into bitter opponents of the Imperial connection,—and we do not see that the temper of the Government is much better than that of Mr. Mother country. The friends of the colony consider it in danger, and on Thursday night embraced the last opportunity they will have before the prorogation to bring its claims before the House of Commons. They expected, of course, no concession, for the Empire outside England commands no votes; but they hoped for a definitive explanation of the policy of Government; for serious discussion, even, it may be, for an expression of sympathy with their clients' desire to remain Englishmen. New Zealand is, at all events, a faithful ally of Great Britain, gives her ports and harbours, allows her to recruit, humbly accepts any share that may fall to her in the misfortunes of war, while abstaining entirely from any claim to influence external policy, even by an opinion or a remonstrance. Had any other ally, so faithful and so unexacting, fallen into a similar strait—had Portugal, for instance, asked assistance against invasion—the Government would have listened, at all events, with the deepest respect, would have been profuse of sympathy, would have impressed on its subordinates the duty of patient courtesy. New Zealand, however, is filled with Englishmen, and the Government did not even care enough to appear interested for five minutes. No Cabinet Minister thought the colony important enough to require a word. The task of reply to the formidable case made out by Lord Bury, who pointed distinctly enough to the coming revolt, was entrusted to a very estimable but quite second-rate person, who is Under-Secretary because it was necessary to show that Catholicism is no longer a barrier to office; and his only reply consisted of a long-drawn and feeble argument that the colonists knew nothing of their own affairs, that they were in no particular danger, that they did not want British troops, that if they did they should not have them, that they did not want money, being, wages for wages, less taxed than Englishmen—an assertion totally at variance with the facts—and, finally, that "the British taxpayers had no more to say to the internal affairs of New Zealanders than New Zealanders have to say to the internal affairs of Great Britain." In other words, the British Government, which "reluctantly" accepted the Island, and which has for twenty years controlled its policy, which even now refuses to the majority of its people the right of dealing with the minority, asserting that it has treaties with the latter, which appoints the Governor, and which claims the right of vetoing every law and of forbidding any alteration in the constitution, declares formally that it has no responsibilities towards the people of New Zealand, in fact, would be glad to be rid of them, so glad that it is willing to accelerate the separation by the sort of insult, hints about laziness, and cowardice, and selfishness, which, far more than any acts, embittered the minds of Americans before their independence, and infused into them that permanent soreness towards Great Britain of which we are now reaping the fruits. Mr. Monsell's tone, like Lord Granville's tone, like Sir F. Rogers' tone, like the tone of every Ministerialist, is that of a man who does not care to dismiss a servant, but who dislikes him so much that he will be delighted if he gives warning and takes himself out of the house. No tone is so calculated to alienate colonists, because none jars so harshly with their exaggerated reverence for the mother-country, their over-weening desire to be recognized as loyal subjects of the Empire. It hurts them as a snub from a superior hurts the subordinate, irritates them like the rejection of a proffered friendship, drives them into enmity as a condition of continued self-respect. We have often exposed, perhaps too often for our readers' patience, the utter injustice of this treatment, the wanton unfairness of a policy which insults colonists for the failure of operations entirely controlled by the Home Government, which refuses pecuniary aid to a dependency ruined by our own mismanagement, and which, while driving the whites to a war of extermination, de-

clares that it does so in the guaranteed interests of the native population; but there is something worse than all this. It is clear that Mr. Goldwin Smith's colonial "policy," the policy, that is, of shaking off the Colonies as too burdensome, the policy of Honorius in the last days of Rome, has not only been accepted by the existing Government, but that they are acting on it. It is not only New Zealand which is to be dismissed, but Australia, not only Australia, but the Canadian Dominion, all that ring of Anglo-Saxon States which, with a little trouble, a little patience, and a little consideration for men who, even in the presence of a Colonial-Office clerk think themselves vertebrate animals, might be converted into a chain of faithful and most powerful allies. With the exception of India, Ceylon, the Mauritius, and the costly Crown colonies retained as military stations, the Empire is to be surrendered as a burden too heavy to be borne. That may be a wise policy, or even a necessary one. The nation may have lost the strength to govern or defend distant possessions, even with the aid of their inhabitants. The million or two the colonies cost may be too much for the tax-payer, who pays seven millions to keep paupers alive and idle, and a concentration of all strength and brain on parochial affairs may, even in England, where men's eyes are already microscopic, be the highest wisdom. But, at all events, we venture to submit that the country should be asked whether it approves, whether it really desires to become a Holland; whether it is willing, after all its sacrifices, and in spite of its history, to reduce its dominion once more to a couple of petty islands in the north-west corner of Europe; to surrender willfully and once for all its status in the world. The people have, as yet, no suspicion that such a policy is in contemplation. It has never been presented to Parliament, never discussed, never made the subject of hustings' speeches, never been explained in one Ministerial address to the electors. A vague idea may be abroad that such a policy is approved by Mr. Bright, and is not dreaded by Mr. Gladstone; but the fact that it is in operation, that it is more than a speculation, a resolve upon which the Government is even now shaping its course, has never yet been realized by the constituencies. They may approve it, of course. Far be it from us to decide to what extent the lassitude which paralyzes the courage of public men may be spreading among the electors, how far the spirit of imperialism has died out of Englishmen, or where the limit of political indifference may be found, but we may venture to assert that in opinion constitutional courtesy their opinion should be asked. New Zealand may be, doubtless, a very contemptible possession. It will be eagerly welcomed by the Union, supposed to contain men of some shrewdness; but still, though it would maintain in comfort all our paupers, we may admit that it would not at auction sell for much. Still it belongs to the people, and honesty suggests that they or their representatives should be asked if they wish it given away. They might say they would rather hold it, might regret its loss, or possibly even consider the deliberate sacrifice of empire not fully compensated by the destruction of the Irish Church. At all events, they might insist that the sacrifice, if it is to be made, should be made deliberately, after debate, and by the Cabinet, not advanced in a casual way by a third-rate official, who talks of the grievances of a possible kingdom with less respect than he would show to the claims of a supernumerary clerk with a cousin inside the House, and will not treat colonies which are the admiration of the world with the consideration that would be sure to display to the smallest principality in Germany, or the pettiest prince who comes over from India with a grievance about his pension. We cannot but think that when about September it is known that New Zealand, despairing alike of justice, of sympathy, and of common courtesy at home, has proclaimed its independence, and sought the protection of a Government not yet too decrepit to value empire, the amour propre of the British people will be wounded as since the Peace of Utrecht it has never been wounded yet; that even this Government, powerful as it is, will wince under the question "What have you done with the British Empire?"

KOOTENAY POPULATION.

The population of Kootenay is 738, divided as follows:—On Perry Creek, 249; on Wild Horse Creek, 255; Ryder Creek, 28; St. Clair and Dutch Creek mines, 36; prospectors, 45; engaged in packing, 100; floating population, 50; ranchmen, 25. The number of animals engaged in packing is 1000, comprised in 25 trains. We are indebted to Mr. J. Johnson, express and mail carrier, for these statistics. The whole of this large trade—British trade, remember—falls into the lap of the Americans, because there is no money in Colonial hands to build a road through British territory to the diggings!!! A RETURN of Colonial Governors to whom pensions have been granted, has been published in London. Sir James Douglas is set down as receiving an allowance of £500.

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GLADSTONE would be the man for Ireland the most critical seem to have the following need lean work of which ing the Irish Church as merely the first was taken to keep thinkers saw from disendowment could and omega of Irish cancer had attained and far too deep root to be removed together. But it might together prudent. Inhibit his whole effort. The knowledge proved too much anxious relations; fatal to the patient a little dissembling cessary. True, but very near letting maturely out; but out. But it is of that we would try last saw it as it came the Lords, so altered difficult for the fact cognize their pet them to own it. Wments tacked to them touching vital in fact a totally proposed to put of disendowment should to the disendowed fifteenth of its present endowment and Presbyterian the destination of secular into ecclesiastical, in his course "Give me back my nation restored it. amendments the whipped out thirty-third, and retained the nonsectarian, merely there is a compromise promise which goes bill, although it is on establishment may be in a pecuniary sense, beyond the value of that is to say, if 1660 taken; but if 1660, Opposition, be taken, cess. This sum is not as a bonus, but endowments of an era of commutation have favor the to the Church raised from seven to it is to be given four-fifths, of the class to commute; but it only a concession in the interest of the should commute, and cent. may be regarded an inducement to do. most curious part of at is that which provision of the surplus. Peers, took the most dollar of Church revenue devoted to secular objects with equal firmness of success, it shall stand, the nation has emphatic wish that surplus shall be a concession. Obviously, could do as to the debt. It will now be perfect erment, if it chooses pal in aiding a land of of the words insistment may be accepted a question which would by a future Parliament and nurse could be enjoyment of the surplus has succeeded in doing done on this point; if ing it formally recorded native was fairly put choice was made against and in favor of. When the bill was sent to the House of Lords Peers were in anything conciliatory mood. They most eager for a storm mortified by the rapid almost contemptuous thought, the Commons amendments. They amendments would be of serious and length the Commons did ver with best hesitation, re Bot, when Gladstone's loped holder-seller there was no more concern been the crude suggestion club, and who authors to people in a of the Peers rose to the be so unceremonious enemy is bad enough by him is beyond indignation and outrage therefore, to show fig