

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle. Saturday, July 3, 1869.

In the discussion which the presented imminence of Confederation has evoked, there is one subject which has not received the attention at the hands of our public men which its importance deserves. We allude to Reciprocity—a commercial policy which, were it extended to this Colony, would produce immediately more solid and substantial benefits to the whole country than any other change that could be devised.

Our East Coast is one vast deposit of fossil wealth; we have dense forests of the finest timber, and rejoice in a climate unsurpassed in the world for salubrity. We have rich and extensive gold fields and veins of the baser minerals which "crop out" on all sides. Yet this great wealth lies comparatively untouched. Poor men come to the country, walk over their fortunes and go away again; capitalists visit our shores, inspect our resources, pronounce themselves satisfied with their boundless extent and great richness, and then—follow the poor men out of the country. Why, we are many times asked, is "this thus?" Because, we answer, although our wealth is magnificent—our geographical position and climate unsurpassed, and the few people we have energetic, and self-reliant—we want a market. Give us the advantage of a large and increasing market for our native wealth—open to us the sealed door of San Francisco, and we shall at once occupy a commanding position, because ours, in all that contributes to make a people great and prosperous, is the richest country on the Pacific. Geographically, we are so near to a great market, that we almost touch it in a day's travel; commercially, we are as distant as the frozen regions of Alaska. Our case is nearly parallel with that of a company of California miners many years ago who, with "sawags" of gold in their possession, starved to death because there was no food in the country. The natural wealth of this Colony is our awag, but except we are to find an outlet for that wealth, we should be better off without it, because its existence only creates bright anticipations that are never realized. With the present Chinese-wall policy of the Americans in force against us, it is the excellence of our products alone that gains for them an entrance. Without Nansaimo coal, San Francisco nor any of the large California and Oregon cities could be lighted with gas; and without Burrard Inlet or Saanich to draw upon for the finest qualities of wood the Eastern States would be required to furnish at an enhanced cost the necessary article, which is only found on the coast in British Columbia. Throw off the prohibitive duties on coal and lumber, and the British Columbians would compete, and compete successfully, with the Americans in the articles of exportation we have named, besides building up, by the increase of mines, mills and population, large home markets for the agriculturists who, with their products grown on the spot could bid defiance to imported products even if the latter should come in free of duty. Viewed from every standpoint, we really believe that the greatest good we could possibly derive through forming a political union with our brethren East of the mountains would be our admission to share in a treaty of reciprocal trade with the United States. It has been said that the United States will never consent to reopen her ports to Canadian goods; but when American Statesmen consider that that is a game two can play at, and that if they can shut Canadian goods out of their markets Canadian can drive American fishermen from their fishing banks, we fancy they are too practical a nature to withhold their assent to the renewal of a policy where the gain would be clearly mutual.

Cariboo Mining Summary.

We regret to learn from the Cariboo Sentinel of the 18th that the scarcity of water is beginning to be felt throughout the Mining District; the agriculturists have been suffering some time from the same cause, which will probably reduce considerably their products for the year. The mines have nevertheless yielded extremely well for the week, some of them even largely, so that, if a regular supply of water could be obtained, the extraction of gold would reach a point hitherto unattained in this Colony, in its best days. On William Creek the Six-toed Pete washed up 33oz; the Wilson 113oz; and the Cornish for 3 days 55oz; A Chinese Co. on the other side of the Creek 50oz. The Foster Campbell washed up 89oz; the Barker 173oz; the Canadian 20oz. Other Companies were

growing in size with the little stream of water that still was obtainable, some were putting in prospect tunnels. On Walker Gulch a company thought they had struck the lead from which the old Comet Co. took such good pay, years ago. Stout Gulch still keeps up its repute. The Taffvale washed up 176oz, the Coombs 170oz, the Floyd 116oz, the Mucho 80oz; the other companies are prospecting. Conklin Gulch is not yet all that was hoped for. The Felix Co. got off the lead and only washed up 16oz; the Bentrow 41oz; the other companies are prospecting. The prospectors for the Felix lead on French Creek have got down to the depth of 120 feet, but have found nothing so far. The Kelly Co. on Lowhee Creek appears to be the only one that cleaned up anything during the week, owing to the scarcity of water; they took out 120oz; the other companies are prospecting. On Mesquito Creek a great difference is perceptible. The Tabb Co. washed up 44oz, the Minnehaha only 14oz, and the Hooking Co. a little over expenses; the water had fallen very low that little or nothing could be done. Several Cos. were prospecting. The Tom and Jerry on Red Gulch, washed up 30oz; the other companies were stopped for want of water. The Discovery Co. on Slate Gulch were ground staving and expected a good wash up. The bed rock tunnel on Canadian Creek is now 1582 feet long, and four or five of the companies interested, will be enabled to go to work at once. The Gronse Creek Flume Co. washed up 103oz; other companies were sinking, drifting or preparing to bring in water from Antler Creek. On Canon Ravine, Antler Creek, Anderson Creek, Little Snow Shoe Creek, Keibley Creek, Cedar Creek, Kangaroo Creek, South Fork of Quosnel River, Moorhead Creek, Little Lake Creek, Four Mile Creek, Eighteen Mile Creek, Beaver Creek, Lightning Creek, and Eagle Creek were to be found the various companies of gold seekers plying the pick and shovel, and all satisfied with their prospects; but every where the want of water was more or less the cause of limited operation or a total stoppage of such portions of the work as required the assistance of that useful element. From the Sentinel of the 19th instant, we glean the following results of the wash-ups during the 3 days subsequent to the previous issue. The Barker Co. washed up 90oz; the Foster Campbell 55oz; Taffvale 70oz; Coombs Co. 50oz; Floyd Co. 102oz. The Barker Co. washed up again on the 18th (two days) and obtained 50oz. The scarcity of water is daily reducing operations, and the amount of gold taken out is proportionally less; Miners are generally looking for another year like the last one. The death of Governor Seymour has created much regret; and great sympathy was every where expressed for Mrs. Seymour. The Grand Jury had brought in a true Bill for manslaughter against Jesse Pearoe, the man who escaped from Jail. Yeg's establish had thriven wonderfully on the creek and excellent crops of Radishes, lettuce, potatoes &c. had been produced. Large supplies of goods were on the way up, and prices were generally moderate. We regret to observe that Mr. F. V. Lee has lost his infant daughter a few days old.

Monday June 28

CONFIRMED.—The Government Gazette announces that the Queen has been pleased to confirm and allow the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council of this Colony: Health Ordinance; An Act to allow the Queen Charlotte Coal Co. to change their Registered office from New Westminster to Victoria; Appointment of Commissioners to take affidavits and bail and for making statutory declarations; Conveyance of Vancouver Island to the Crown; Extension of the Harewood Railway Company's Act; An Ordinance respecting Stipendiary Magistrates; An Ordinance to amend the law of partnership; An Ordinance to provide for the maintenance and the construction of roads in British Columbia; An Ordinance respecting the practice of surgery and for the encouragement of anatomy. The same are therefore declared and proclaimed to be confirmed and allowed accordingly.

CITY COUNCIL.—This body held a short session on Saturday, June 27, at the Chair, the only business of importance transacted being the appointment of the following gentlemen comprising the Committee of the Masonic Order have sent Capt Delacombe, R. M., commander of the British Garrison, San Juan Island, a note acknowledging the courtesies extended by that gentleman and his officers on the occasion of the late picnic.

THE CALIFORNIA GATHERING.—Our citizens will be afforded a pleasant day's amusement on the 5th at a trifling expense, and in the case of ladies and children, relieved from the disagreeable features of a steamboat excursion. The distance from any part of the city or suburbs, is not greater than may be walked without inconvenience, if so minded. At this season of leisure, with delightful weather, making outdoor exercise of the first importance, we cannot imagine any pleasanter way of turning a day to real account, for old and young, than at the Californian meeting.

DEPARTURE OF THE ACTIVE.—The steamship Active sailed from Brodrick's wharf at one o'clock yesterday afternoon for San Francisco direct, with 30 passengers and a quantity of freight. Amongst those on board we observed Capt. Irving and daughter, Mrs. J. Fried; Capt. Arthur, Mr. Frankel, Mr. A. Watson, Inspector of the Bank of British Columbia, and Mr. G. Creighton. The steamer was advertised to sail at 9 o'clock, but was detained until 1 o'clock in consequence of low water.

FROM COMOX, NANAIMO, AND WAY PORTS.—The Sir James Douglas, Captain Clarke, arrived on Saturday afternoon bringing about 10 passengers and a number of cattle and hogs. She had also some grain and other farm produce. She brings all the implements from the station of the Royal whaling adventures which is abandoned, and the enterprise given up for the present. There were no ships at Nanaimo, but two were expected, one of which, the Cowper, is supposed to have passed up last night.

BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Mr. W. Ward, manager of the Bank of British Columbia in this city, will shortly proceed to Portland to take charge of the branch office there; Mr. Francis, accountant of the Portland branch, will come here as manager; and Mr. Russell, manager of the branch at Portland, will go to San Francisco as manager of that branch. We have not learned whether the arrangement is temporary or permanent.

THE DROUGHT.—From a gentleman just down from Cariboo we learn that stock in the Upper Country is suffering severely from the existing drought, and heavy loss may result to the farmers. Copious rain would be of the utmost value to every part of the Colony. We trust, however, that the loss to our farming interests will not be so great as stated.

EARTHQUAKE.—Mother Nature is becoming impatient with our lethargic disposition, and took an opportunity last evening at 8:05 to shake us up. The peculiar subterranean disturbance was distinctly perceptible to a number of our citizens, but particularly so to Messrs. Moore & Co., whose shelves were partially emptied by the unaccustomed movement, a number of Porcelain lamps being tossed on the floor produced the impression by the crash that an opening had arrived for the Colony. No other disasters were heard of, up to going to press, but several dwellings were emptied by their occupants in double quick time.

BASE BALL.—A new Base Ball Club has been formed here and will shortly commence practice with the view of playing the supposed invincible Olympics of this city.

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Eastern New York, June 21—rested Cubans are endeavoring to overthrow the government of the new Republic. A large expedition was sent to Cuba on Thursday has been ordered but it is thought the movement will be made at a more early date. The steamer pinwall, has arrived. Mr. Minister Webb had an interview with the Brazilian Consul on the Brazilian Consul announced the authorities have no more respect for Hayti, he thinks we are good thrashing in consequence the President fully trusted by Webb, it is presumed carrying out instructions. It is presumed a comment will make an agreement on the arrival of the successor.

MEXICAN, June 23—The citizens of West Alabama are called to meet on July 1, to take measures for the production of Chinese and Japanese. Mr. Webb signed the secret treaty with George M. Robertson of Attorney General of the United States, the point in his speech, was pointed to day. He will consider this point. Remember the antagonistic feeling toward England, etc.

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