

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, June 7, 1864.

THE COAST EXPEDITION.

We are glad to learn from the British Columbia that Governor Seymour intends despatching at once a properly organized force by way of Bentinck Arm to co-operate with the party already on their way from Alexandria.

The *Columbian*, in alluding to the subject, says: "The expedition is to be a small one, but its object is to reach the mouth of the Columbia, and to co-operate with the party already on their way from Alexandria."

Admiral Kingcome has volunteered to place his flag-ship *Sutlej* at Port Moody, the head of Burrard Inlet, and the *Tribune* in this port, but his Excellency's object is to procure the *Columbian* for the expedition to Bentinck Arm on account of her speed.

We understand that Lord Gifford declined to send the *Columbian* on the expedition in the absence of his superior officer, and now a correspondence is going on between Governor Seymour and the Admiral upon the subject.

A definite reply was expected up by the steamer last night, but should it be favorable the expedition, consisting of a party of men and 80 volunteers, now enlisted here, will probably start immediately. But Inlet has been abandoned as a base of operations on account of the impossibility of penetrating to the interior from that point.

The small party just gone up to that place will make arrangements with the Homathco Indians to notify the Government should any of the Chilcooten make their appearance in that locality, or should they obtain any information respecting their movements likely to be of use to the Government. They also bring to Nanaimo the two Indians, "Squint-eye" and "Little George," where the war ship will pick them up on her way to Bentinck.

It will thus be seen that Governor Seymour is doing all that can be expected. He is organizing a force to leave for the coast immediately, and we consequently can take no umbrage at His Excellency's courteously declining our proffered aid. We learn from good authority, that upwards of sixty of the old detachment of Royal Engineers are among the volunteers who are to leave New Westminster. With marines and others, the force will probably be over a hundred. It is needless to say that it will be difficult to obtain a better set of men than these. (The Royal Engineers have had abundant "roughing" experience, while on the other hand they possess habits of discipline and obedience, which are of the very greatest importance in an expedition of this kind, and which we fear might be sadly wanting among volunteers from the Victoria volunteers. It is not desirable that every Indian north of Victoria should be killed; but it appears to be the idea of some of the heroes that are "spitting" for a fight, amongst us, that all they had to do was to elect their own officers and start out on a general hunting expedition, in which the Indian race generally were to be the game. If we wanted to bring about an Indian war, we couldn't do better than indulge this highly irresponsible and anti-disciplined element. While, however, there were at the same time a goodly number of valuable men ready to start from Victoria, we are glad to hear that Governor Seymour, by having so effectual a force ready to leave, is able to dispense with extraneous assistance.

THE OVERLAND TELEGRAPH.—From Mr. Haines, Superintendent of the State Telegraph Company in Oregon, we learn that the line to this city will be pushed forward with the utmost possible despatch. The poles are set up on each side of the Willamette river, and half a day's labor would run the wire across. Contracts have been let for poles for the entire route, to be delivered by the 25th inst. Mr. Haines has suggested the route across to Olympia, and informs us that it is quite as favorable as that through Oregon, although at present a portion of it is flooded by the high water. Some thirty miles of the wire came up by the Oregon, and will be laid down from Olympia southward, to save carriage. The line from Portland to Olympia is expected to be finished in August. Mr. Haines has recommended that from the latter place the line be carried via Steilacoom, Seattle, Port Gamble and Port Discovery to Port Angeles, thence across to Brevity Head and Victoria, whence it will be carried to New Westminster. This route will have 45 miles of line, although requiring about 24 miles more of submarine cable, if the cable is now on the way from England in the ship *Tebe*.

FIRE IN NEW WESTMINSTER.—The bush fire continues to rage in the vicinity of New Westminster, and the town is in the greatest danger of being consumed. The fire breaks out first in one place then in another, and the inhabitants are kept constantly on the alert. The smoke is so dense that one cannot see across the river opposite the town, and the heat is so great that many have had their faces and hands scorched in endeavoring to arrest the progress of the flames. The forward brought down all the gunpowder from the town and stored it in the magazine at Esquimalt, as Governor Seymour feared it left in New Westminster it might be impossible to preserve it from ignition. Should the town be rendered untenable it is to be hoped the volunteers will generously afford a shelter to the homeless ones, and thus heap coals of fire (of another kind) on their heads.

WE learn that the British Columbia expedition to punish the Chilcooten murderers, will be under the guidance of Mr. McLean of the Bonanza valley. Mr. McLean is married to a Chilcooten woman and both he and his sons are thoroughly acquainted with that region and with the nature and habits of the tribe. He is well known as a man of great energy and determination, and is probably the most suitable man for such a charge in the new colony.

DR. LIVINGSTON.—The public will be glad to learn that this distinguished traveler is alive and well, and in communication with his friends at the Cape. The origin of the report of his death is not yet accurately ascertained, but it is believed to have been a misapprehension.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Thursday, June 2.

REMAINDER.—*Jim alias Cholenton*, the Indian arrested on Tuesday charged with the murder of John Holmes at Bentinck Arm, was yesterday at the request of the Superintendent remanded for one week in order that the authorities at New Westminster might be communicated with on the subject.

INDIANS AT THE MEETING.—Several Indians were at the meeting last night and remained at the meeting till the close. If they understood the purport of the speeches made they cannot fail to be impressed with the determination of the community to mete out swift vengeance to their savage brethren.

A number of large northern canoes filled with Esquimaux Indians, and bringing a quantity of furs, entered the harbor yesterday.

WAGES SUITS.—Orders were yesterday made in the police court for payment of the sums of \$49 and \$31.50 in the matter of *Ritchie vs. Clarke and Mires vs. Clarke*.

SHIP GRANA.—We are requested by the Harbor Master to state that the port charges claimed from the ship *Grana* have not been remitted by the Governor.

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE, we learn, will not be ready to resume her usual trips to Fraser River for six or seven weeks.

WE learn that H.M.S. *Tribune*, Capt. Lord Vincent Gifford, is about to proceed to New Westminster.

THE CONTAKER COPPER CO.—A very fine specimen of peacock ore from this company's mine was shown yesterday.

THE STEAMER G. S. Wright, we understand, will not return to Portland.

Friday, June 3.

TRIAL TRIP.—Captain Moore's splendid steamer *Alexandra* made a short trial trip yesterday evening, which resulted in the most satisfactory manner to her owner, and also to a numerous party of his friends who were on board. The machinery, manufactured by Spratt & Kriemler of the Albion Iron Works, worked to a charm, the wheels making a revolution with only six pounds of pressure on the boiler. No attempt was made to test her speed, as it was deemed unfair to do so, till she had made two or three trips and got into good working trim. She answers her helm admirably, and Captain Moore says he can turn her in any part of our harbor. He also says he will guarantee to take her straight through to Yale with a full cargo at any stage of the river. She sails for New Westminster and Douglas this evening.

LOVE, JEALOUSY, AND POISON.—A well known gentleman (in the pecuniary line) and wife have a matrimonial squabble—wife rushes off in disgust to Esquimalt, never to return—husband follows in a fine carriage and tries to reclaim his fickle spouse, but in vain—comes back disconsolate and wretched, invests two bits in a "cup of cold poison," and carefully measuring the dose, takes it, and the fatal draught—wife, hearse of the rash deed and returns to her home distracted—husband takes a strong emetic and "All's well that ends well."

ALARMED.—A settler from Cowichan, who came down by the trail yesterday, states that the Indians there have heard all about the Buie murders, and are becoming very saucy and troublesome, and the settlers are beginning to feel alarmed for the consequences. Our informant states that he will at once bring down his wife and family for fear of an outbreak.

MALICE.—Some villain cut loose the pile-driver from her moorings at Anderson's new wharf on Wednesday night, and she beat against the piles till she went to pieces and sank. All same scoundrels also broke open the tool house and stole the contractor's tools, leaving the workmen at a loss. It is conjectured that it is the work of some scamp who has an ill will towards the contractor.

THE SUBSIDY.—The U. S. S. revenue cutter *Shubrick*, Lieut. Com. Scammon, arrived in Esquimalt harbor yesterday evening, from Port Angeles. She will return to Port Angeles this morning at eight o'clock.

Saturday, June 4.

TAN ALEXANDRA.—This fine steamer, which has just made her first trip up the river, is by far the largest stern-wheel boat on the Northern coast, and when completed as the owners propose will also be the handsomest and most commodious. Her dimensions are as follows: Length, 167 feet; breadth of beam, 29 ft. 10 in.; depth of hold, 8 1/2 ft.; nominal horse power, 145; carrying capacity, 400 tons; with state room accommodation for 38 passengers. She is very strongly built, the keel being all natural crooke and the timbers unusually heavy. Her wheel is built in three sections and is 26 feet in diameter with 18 ft. 6 in. face. The after part of her hull will be fitted up as a ladies' cabin; the centre is occupied by the main saloon, along each side of which are the state-rooms, 15 in number. There is also a large pantry and kitchen adjoining the saloon, immediately forward of the saloon are the boilers and fire rooms, while in the bows will be a second cabin capable of containing 40 passengers. On her main deck, the after part will be occupied by the engine room, forward of which is the bar, very neatly fitted up, and the companion ways to the saloon and upper deck. The upper deck is taken up chiefly as a promenade, the captain's and purser's rooms and the pilot-house occupying the forward part. The latter is equipped with a steam gauge, a new feature in Fraser River boats.

THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—Dr. Brown's public exploring expedition will set out from Victoria on Monday morning next, starting from Cowichan, and crossing the island to the neighborhood of Port San Juan, where they will be met by a gunboat. We understand that the party will be well armed, and will exercise due caution in their intercourse with the natives.

FOR BENTINCK ARM.—The steamer *Labouchere* will be ready to sail on a trading voyage next week, calling at Bentinck Arm, where the Chilcooten Indians are expected to meet her for their annual sale of furs, &c. It is, however, unlikely that many if any of them will be in attendance, on account of the recent atrocities perpetrated by their tribe.

NEW WAREHOUSE AT YALE.—The Otter carried up yesterday morning a number of workmen and a quantity of material for the construction of a large store, warehouse, and dwelling, for the Hudson Bay Company at Yale.

Monday, June 6.

A DESPERATE ENCOUNTER.—On Saturday evening, two colored citizens with more valor than discretion, were indulging in the ignoble art of destroying each other's facial beauty. The encounter took place on Blenheim street, and we are sorry to say that the aggressor, bore the illustrious name of the author of "Paradise Lost," being stung by an exceedingly hard brick in his opponent's head (which latter by the way proved of good material), he no doubt fancied himself one of the poet's belligerent angels dealing destruction against the rebellious host. He, however, came off without his hair, for the brawny antagonist, being a well known contractor, contrived by his means insignificant digits, and planted them against the poet's frontispiece. An enterprising water-carrier being near at hand, however, the damage of both belligerents was quickly reflected by the contractor, being a well known contractor, contrived by his means insignificant digits, and planted them against the poet's frontispiece. An enterprising water-carrier being near at hand, however, the damage of both belligerents was quickly reflected by the contractor, being a well known contractor, contrived by his means insignificant digits, and planted them against the poet's frontispiece.

THE GUNBOAT GRAPPLER arrived in the harbor yesterday afternoon having received orders from Admiral Kingcome to be in readiness to accompany the exploring party to the starting point of their labors, which will be at Squawish Village, Cowichan. Here the party will engage guides, and proceed to the Great Cowichan Lake, after exploring that region they will strike across the island to the west coast.

THE CARIBBOO STAGE LINE.—We have received a letter from a traveller by Barnard's stage line to Caribbo, complaining in rather severe terms of negligence and delay in the management of the stages. Judging, however, from Mr. Barnard's well known carefulness and business habits, we refrain from publishing the charges unless confirmed by more dispassionate parties.

HON. FAIR.—The sum paid by Governor Seymour for the Levathan was \$2300—rather a stiff price, but the Governor, having taken a trip on her while in Portland, on route to this city, doubtless took a fancy to the stately craft, and had her brought to the inlet.

THE FUGA STRAIT COAL MINING COMPANY (Limited), has been registered under the Joint Stock Companies Act, with a capital of \$170,000, and the following gentlemen elected directors and officers of the company:—Allen Francis, Esq.; Jules David, Esq.; Henry Weston, Esq.; Victor Martin, Esq.; George Hart, Esq.; John Pickett, Esq.; Lionel Varley, Esq.; John Pickett, Esq.; Alfred Allan Francis, Esq., President; Herbert Gaston, Esq., Secretary.

MORE INDIAN DISSENTIONS.—On Thursday it seems that the Indians at Chemainus settlement, of the Dada tribe, received a plentiful supply of *Pyre* (Fire water) from some person coming from the neighborhood of Salt Spring Island; as usual, the "animals" became infuriated, and set to work damaging one another as much as possible with various kinds of weapons. In the course of the general melee two of the number were killed.

THE TINY LITTLE LEVIATHAN, whose purchase for Governor Seymour we have already noticed, arrived in port early on Saturday morning, after a quick run from Astoria. We are indebted to Capt. Spencer for late Portland papers. The *Leviathan* will probably sail for New Westminster to-day.

THE ALEXANDRA.—Capt. Moore's fine steamer *Alexandra* arrived from her experimental trip to New Westminster yesterday afternoon, having left that port at 3:30 a.m. Capt. Moore informs us that when seen by the Otter on Saturday evening he was running his boat over the sands in order to free her bottom from the accumulation of marine productions which had gathered on it for the last 10 months, during which she has lain in this harbor. On Sunday, Capt. Moore took a run up from New Westminster to Pitt River, and expressed himself highly satisfied with the performance of the boat in the rapid currents of the Fraser. She came down yesterday morning under 20 pounds of steam, which, however, was allowed to increase to 35 pounds as she came into the harbor. Capt. Moore expects to be able to make the run from New Westminster to Victoria in 5 1/2 hours.

THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—His Excellency Governor Kennedy has been pleased to appoint Dr. Robert Brown, commander of the exploring expedition, so be agent for the government during the exploration. His Excellency has also signed all the other orders and the regulations of the expedition. The party will start from this city to-day, at 12 o'clock, in the gunboat *Grappler*. His Excellency will go down to the wharf to see them off, and will address them a few words of advice and caution before they go on board.

CITY COUNCIL.—A meeting of the Council was called for last night, to receive His Excellency's despatch in reference to the \$6000 advanced to the city by the Government; there was not, however, a quorum present.

D & D.—Michael Kearney was brought up in the Police Court yesterday charged with being drunk and disorderly in the streets on Sunday night. Michael denied the charge indignantly; he admitted that he had been drinking a good deal, indeed he always did so, "but shure, Yer Honor, a man may drink a good deal of whisky and not get drunk!" The Magistrate—Have you any witnesses to show that you were not drunk?

Kearney—Yer Honor, there wasn't a livin' soul there but the police—two specials and five of them regulars, an' they made a combination agin me and locked me up all night!

The Magistrate—Well if you have no witnesses, I'm afraid I must fine you \$5.

Kearney—Well, 5 shillins isn't much, but how do I know they won't take me up agin, as soon as I'm out?

Magistrate—Then they will probably fine you \$5 more!

Michael, here "polished" the fine very grumblingly, and was allowed to depart.

A HUMAN CATAPULT.—A brawny savage was brought up before Mr. Wood yesterday, charged with throwing a large stone at a man in the street. The stone missed the man aimed at, but struck a bystander on the shoulder, and glancing off gave another man a severe blow on the leg. The missile was held with great force, and had it been a few inches higher might have fractured the bystander's skull. The magistrate dismissed the case, as the complainant had not been struck intentionally. Verily, stone-throwing in the public streets is a cheap amusement, and will doubtless become a favorite pastime with the savages when they see that it may be practised with impunity, even when it is at the expense of white men.

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THE BUTE EXPEDITION.

Governor Seymour declines to accept our Volunteers.

The following is the reply of the Governor of British Columbia to the offer of assistance from this colony to punish the Chilcooten murderers:

BATIKEN COLUMBIA,
New Westminster, 4th June, 1864—S. A. M. Sir,

I had the honor to receive late last night your letter of 2nd instant, forwarding a copy of certain resolutions adopted at a public meeting held in Victoria to consider the state of affairs growing out of the late massacre on the Buie Inlet trail. May I request that your Excellency will have the goodness to convey in any manner you may think fit to the people of Vancouver Island, my thanks for the resolutions passed at the meeting, and the consequent enrolment of volunteers to serve if called upon against the Chilcooten Indians in this colony.

These volunteers will, I have no doubt, attribute to none but proper motives their hesitation I feel in accepting their offer of assistance. The time may perhaps come when I may have to call for their services; but it has not yet arrived.

There is nothing unfriendly or disrespectful to the people of Victoria in my declining to avail myself immediately of their offer of assistance. I have already pressing upon me for employment in support of the law, the New Westminster Rifle Volunteer Company, and the Hyack Fire Brigade, two bodies of men of admirable efficiency. Individual officers of service have likewise poured in upon me to an extent which would enable me to enrol a force greatly exceeding in numbers the whole Chilcooten tribe.

The meeting in Victoria was held, gathering from the public prints of the island, in consequence of tidings of a fresh Indian massacre having just been received from Nanaimo, brought down it was said to that town by Mr. Brew. New Mr. Brew's information respecting the alleged second massacre in the interior of British Columbia, was derived solely from the Vancouver Island newspapers. Thus the rumor which caused so much excitement and led to the public meeting, was merely the echo from Nanaimo of Victoria news. We have no authentic intelligence of any Indian outrage having occurred the measures of the road party on the Buie Inlet trail. Unquestionably, however, ever, while the gang of murderers is at large, to the lives of the white men about the Chilcooten coast, there is an imminent danger, if they have not already been sacrificed.

On the much delayed receipt by me of the intelligence of the melancholy affair at Buie Inlet, I at once placed myself in communication with my predecessor, as to the measures which should be adopted. His Indian experience and reputation for energy pointed me to the course I should take. As my best friend, he told me that the party should be at once sent in the gunboat to the inlet to pick up survivors, and to give information of the Indians' movements. Then a party should be organized, to consist of about 30 men, well mounted, equipped, and provided with ammunition, under a proper leader, to go round Alexandria, and that rewards for each man concerned in the murder should be offered—say \$100 to \$200. He thought the catching of them would be certain, but a matter of time—three months or so.

In every respect my predecessor's suggestions have been exceeded by my actions, and additional steps, equaling at least in vigor any yet taken, would long ere this have been adopted had I received the co-operation I anticipated from a branch of Her Majesty's service, slow in protecting the lives of my fellow-countrymen, and supporting the authority of the law. I trust that I shall ere long, without any more wearying delay, have the means placed at my disposal for penetrating into the Chilcooten country from Bentinck Arm, and forming a junction with the force from Alexandria, near Buie Inlet.

I may possibly accept for this service some of the Victoria volunteers, but I scarcely think that I shall have to do so. Should, however, any of these gentlemen join the expedition, I would inform them at the outset that their duties will not probably be of that exciting kind which tempt young men from their homes. We are not at war with the Indians, and the energy of the volunteers, restrained by their oath as special constables, will probably have only to be directed towards making passable for themselves and packers the many swamps and rocks which impede their progress. We apprehend no serious resistance from the small band of assassins who even though excited by ill-usage would not have dared to face the men who tell their victims.

Should circumstances change, and isolated massacres prove contrary to my expectation, to be the prelude to a general insurrection among the tribes between the upper Fraser and the sea, I shall earnestly invoke the assistance of the Victoria Volunteers. I have no doubt that in such a case they will promptly respond to the call, and render me good service side by side with their brother-constables of British Columbia.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant, FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

His Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy, C. B., &c., &c.

MAXIMILIAN AND THE HOUSE OF HAPSBURG.—There is a view held in the Mexican arrangements. The House of Hapsburg, it appears, think that if Archduke Maximilian accepts a throne in Mexico he ought to give up his rights in Europe, which are considered able, he standing next in succession after a child of six; but the Archduke is not willing, and furious quarrels are the result. The Emperor of the French even has been compelled to intervene, and has, it is believed, addressed sharp remonstrances to the Kaiser and his brother. According to the latest telegram the differences have been composed, the Archduke being placed second instead of next in succession after the Kaiser's child, but the question being still for the future of Mexico. Men who accept thrones should be willing to die on them.

NORTHERN INDIANS.—Several large war canoes filled with Fort Rupert Indians arrived in the harbor yesterday morning.