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THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 7.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1866.

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ment's Lane, Lond

The News. Within the past forty-eight hours. intelligence of more than ordinary interest and importance has winged its way hitherward by wire. It is not because the distance to veled and the present expense of train mission renders tersity a sine qua non, that we should lightly pass by an announcement so momentous as the maturity of the plan for the confederation of British North America. "It is announced to-day," Thursday, August 15th, says a cable item which we published on Saturday, "that plans for the confederation of the British Provinces of North America have been definitely arranged by the Government." There is no reservation, no ambiguity in this statement. If it means anything, it means nothing more nor less than the independence of British North America. The new ministry have shuffled the colonial cards, and the first insight they give us of the game they intend to play augurs well for the future, should the abinet succeed in retaining the pub lic keys. We have before said that a Tory government may prove our best friends, as they have previously shown, paradoxical though it may sound, more liberality in their colonial administration thu, the Liberal party. They teel a procesome English pride in their distant countrymen, and glory in seeing the Anglo Saxon up-lifting his head and wielding a strong arm in his ultra-mundane home. Their ears are open to the grievances, remonstrances and res quirements of the colonists, and their colonial policy was long since declared by their veteran leader, when Lord Stanley, to be "to sever the tie binding parent and offspring the moment the desire was expressed by a majority of the British colonists, but, till then, to expend the last shilling, if need be, in defending any of the Queen's possessions." The confederation scheme has for some time been the pet theory of prominent men in Canada, and has now taken a firm hold of the public mind. The maritime Provinces, though at first stoutly opposed to it, have been gradually yielding ever since the successful mission of the Hon. George Brown and the other delegates to England, and at the last elections the "vexed question" was finally settled by the triumph of the Confederation platform. In the perfection of one of the grandest measures that modern colonial history will record, we may naturally enquire, seeing that we belong to British North America, whether these Colonies are to be embraced in the Confederation? We think not. Situated as we are at a remote distance

hoped, without striking a blow, he Presbyterian Church, including the pastor, nds himself snubbed by Bismarck, were present. Owing to the warm temperaand his draft on Prussia for territory, ture within the building, one of the congregadishonored and returned to him with refreshing sang froid. With his usual tact and prescience however, the Em- that an address is in the course of signature, peror deems it wiser to make a merit for presentation to the Rev. E. Evans, D. D. of necessity, to "acknowledge the on the occasion of his change of ministracorn" and "knuckle down," by re-tion. The Reverend gentleman has become nouncing in the interests of peace, his endeared to a large circle of friends during supposed claim to the coveted Rhine his residence in this City, and in his high territory. One of the good effects of calling, has been a faithful and zealous the present order of things in Central Europe to which we recently alluded, has succeeded in building up in these. Colohas shown itself: Prussia is now nies. The address will be presented this powerful enough to preserve the evening at half-past seven o'clock in the balance of power, and to resist any basement of the Wesleyan Church. encroachment, either on the East or West of her present boundary line; CATHEDRAL SERVICES—The Rev. Mr. Doo-lan, of the Northern Indian Mission field, who

between Prussia and the Kingdom of Bavaria. What King Maximilian can hope to accomplish however, by reference to the threatened enforcement by Prussia of the contribution levied at Frankfort. A commission had, however, been appointed at Berlin, to enquire into the levy.

President Johnson has sounded the first note of warning to the Emperor of Mexico by his proclamation issued at Washington on Friday, annulling the decree closing the port of Matamoras, and Max will do wisely to take the hint and pack up his traps before he gets a walking ticket given.

Cholera is making rapid strides in the States. At Cincinnati, the number of deaths in one day (Friday last) reached sixty-seven.

LOCAL INTELIGENCE.

Monday, August 20. THE DOUGLAS DIGGINGS-We were shown

on Wednesday a sample (2½ ozs.) of gold easy steam. from the new diggings on the Lillooet river 24 miles out of Douglas. The gold was sent down by Mr. J. Franklin, and is fine flour gold, very similar in appearance to that taken from the bar diggings of the lower Fraser. We understand the few men who are at work are well satisfied with the appearance of things. The miners are engaged in bringing in a ditch. The hon Mr. Brew has just shown us a letter from Chief Constable White, in which the writer says respecting Alexandra, with 15 passengers and a small these mines "there is no humbug at all about the gold. Perret, Gowan and Chapman are taking from four to six dollars per day from the bench alluded to in my report."

FROM NANAIMO-The steamer Emily Harfrom Canada, and separated by a bare ris, Captain Frain, arrived on Friday night rived at New Westminster on Thursday, rier so formidable as the Rocky Moun- from Nanaimo with a cargo of coal for the having crossed over from Nanaimo on the tains, it is questionable whether it would U.S. steamer Saginaw. H.M.S. Scout was sloop Ringleader. The Reverend gentlesuit their interests or our own to be at Nanaimo. Governor Kennedy on his ar- man's departure from Nanaimo occasioned included just now in the bund; at any rival was received with salutes, bonfires, and the keenest regret of his flock, by whom he rate we have never expressed any de- other public demonstrations. The Scout was was highly esteemed. to visit Cowichan on her way down.

| sire to become members of this great | Logic-Mr. Bishop objects to the use made | new Anglo Saxon nationality, and the of his name in the cow question, and denies we find ourselves prepared to forego apologize, and, at the same time, we will ask the protection of the Mother Country and to assume the conditions and mises is not logical and strictly orthodox: A responsibilities imposed by the comof the bovine genus, cow must therefore be From the Continent, the news is of the masculine gender. Q.E.D. We dare satisfactory to the cause of peace. not put the other proposition as to a more be-

CATHEDRAL SERVICES-The Rev. Mr. Dooarrived on Thursday by the Otter, assisted world that he has found it out, the in the ministrations yesterday at Christ rest of mankind may accept it as an Church, both morning and evening. Some natives, presumed to be members of Mr Dun-The process of annexation and re- can's mission at Metlakahtla, attended servorganization, continues in Prussia with ice last evening and caused an agreeable evident success, but it was reported urprise to those near them by correctly folthat hostilities would be resumed lowing the responses and singing the hymns.

COAL-The newer coal is, in a geological prolonging the struggle, we are at a sense, the poorer it is, for the coal of the carloss to conceive. Possibly the renewal boniferous formation is much more compact of war referred to in the telegram, has and richer in carbon than tertiary and other late coals. This is unfortunate for the gold and silver-bearing Territories; for the coal of California, Colorado, and other regions in the West is young in this geological sense. It lies in cretaceous and tertiary rocks as far as

> ACCIDENT-A boat containing three persons capsized one day last week while crossing from Discovery Island to San Juan Island. The sloop Ocean Queen, which happered to be near and witnessed the mishap, fortunately rescued the men from their perilous condition, and, having righted the boat, started them again on their adventure

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE has been thoroughly overhauled and painted, and looks as gay as a peacock. She will resume her place in the New Westminster trade this week. The Alexandra will require some overhauling. Her tubes leaked badly on her last trip, and she was consequently put under very

DISCHARGED .- The unfortunate man who was arrested for stealing a coat while in a drunken fit, from the clothing store of Messrs. Wilson & Co., was on Saturday liberated with a wholesome caution from the Bench. We understand that he communicated some information of value to the head of the department before his discharge.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer river express, arrived at 11 o'clock on Saturday night, having been up to Langley to bring down a number of barrels of almon cured at the H. B. Company's farm by Mr

new Municipal Council met at New West most that we can expect or ask under that he argued that a "cow" was a bullock minster on Wednesday evening, when Mr more for it in order to support people in the existing circumstances, is that a place because a mare was a horse. Well, we give be reserved for our admission when our legal friend the benefit of the doubt, and journed on the invitation of the President, to

> THE STEAMER ACTIVE left San Francisco consequently be expected on Wednesday night or Thursday morning.

> > The Land Question.

tection. Farmers do not need protection on Saturday at 5 p. m. for this port ; she may year, those who have cultivated their lands had but little when commencing I their flocks and herds, comforted barns, and what not, they are an off compared with their former compared with their forme

France to the Rhenish Provinces, but the scheming Emperor has, for the use first once, found more than his matter is seem on the death of the late Mrs Todd in the Prussian Minister, and has been most effectively checkmated. The air and design of Napoleon Heorgh. The evening Dr Evans, the respected pastor at mand design of Napoleon Heorgh. The evening Dr Evans, the respected pastor at the Complications between the his departure for Nanaimo preached a fare well sermon of Christian love and wholesome out-generalled, and instead of extend
and out-generalled, and instead of extend
by the Royal of the late Mrs Todd (blind) with a statement in the Colony for articles we could raise ourselves, and does not work himself and other people to imagine that three Powers lately at war, were truly surmised, but he has been cleverly out-generalled, and instead of extend
bis text King Agrippa's remark to St. out-generalled, and instead of extendhis text. King Agrippa's remark to St.
himself acquainted with facts, ought to have cultivation. In fact, as a rule, the
known that by far, the greater portion of the
himself acquainted with facts, ought to have cultivation. In fact, as a rule, the
known that by far, the greater portion of the ing the frontiers of France at the termination of the war as he fondly christian." Most of the members of the Colony to other places, such as British Col-the reason is obvious, for the members of the Colony to other places, such as British Col-the reason is obvious, for the members of the Colony to other places, such as British Col-the reason is obvious designed from this duce, the greater the cry for projection, and the reason is obvious the reason is obvious to other places, such as British Col-the reason is obvious to other places, such as British Col-the reason is obvious to other places. umbia, and that the money sent away to the small income derived from pay for them, comes from British Columbia. It is not a tariff that is wanted or other places where they have been con pose, but more cultivated, and in some insumed. His statement therefore is not "a stances cultivateable land, for many have fact" and his statistics only mislead. If any farms that will never pay tariff or no people have a right to complain, it is not Mr tariff. There is no doubt Alston or the people of this Island, but the who have not any capital will suffer much for people of those countries to which those articles are sent and in which they sufficient to maintain themselves, but at the are consumed. How does it happen same time no farmer can expect to live by then, that British Columbia, with her cultivating a dozen acres of land, excepting heavy tariff and the natural protection of the he has also plenty of stock, or cows or herds country, does not raise all those things in or poultry or something of that kind in addistead of requiring them to be imported? tion. I am not speaking of twenty acres close As far as the people of this Colony are con- by Victoria suitable for market gardening. cerned they ought to be pleased at being in but of say 10 or 20 miles away. Twelve a position to do the trade of other places, acres under wheat will produce say 30 bushs and to derive profit therefrom, for from that els per acre, or say even 400 bushels for the profit in a great measure not only does he whole. He may receive for it \$500. How receive his salary but it likewise helps can a man expect to live sumptuously upon to support a great many others, and the such an amount of production? Yet many country and Government generally. Then do exist, yea and some even of those make no comes Dr Davie who complains that capital complaint, but hope with health and strength from abroad had been spent in digging gold, that they will produce more in future seasons and the gold had been paid to people living and be better off; and so they will. Now in another land. Is there anything to com-plain of in this—those who supplied the cap-himself and the country—the man who works, ital have, it is hoped received a profit, for and works well and joyfully, he is the man assuredly the country has. The people are who does not make complaints or talk about always calling out let us have capital from a tariff, but goes on constantly improving his abroad, but do they expect to get it excepting the capilalist can make a profit here as struggling neighbor. These are really the he can do elsewhere? He might as well have three clases of farmers. A Tariff is not wants complained that the Nanaimo Coal Co., ed for protection, look at the price of butter, ought not be allowed to work the mines there eggs, poultry and most kinds of produce? Why because that company existed in England even the farmers themselves confess them to and spent the profit, if they get any, there; be high enough, but they do complain that The choir gave Nares' service in the morn- would the Colony be any better off if those ing and evening—the latter for the first time. when they wish ing and evening—the latter for the first time. any better off, if it refused to allow an Ameri ter, for instauce, is not made? A very simple ican company to work the coal mine at Comax? But Dr Davie again makes a mistake island to produce more. Very many farmers the gold is not the produce of this Colony-it cannot get more cows, because they have is not the production of this Colony-it mere, not the money to buy them with, and the ly comes here in transitu just the same as the poorer the man the more this holds good, goods for which it is in payment of. Surely and that is probably the reason why five he has no wish to stop so profitable a transaction. As to speculations in land, the Governthey come to the island—a very excellent ment sold those lands without any stipulation, plan, indeed, of preventing butter being it is bound to adhere to its agreement. It is made. It is quite true that farmers cannot another matter altogether, whether the agree. always sell their produce when it is brought ment was bad; if so do not fall into the to town: But is not that the case everysame error again, but make a law, not to al- where? How often, even in England, do low any land to be sold excepting for, the farmers have to carry their produce back purpose of occupation. Even such a law is from the market on market days? Legislaimpracticable and could easily be circum- tion will not cure this; it is a mere matter of vented, but to come to the truth supply and demand; but a commission it is very doubtful whether there has agent to sell that produce, probably would, been so much speculation in land as people for he would watch the market. Now, it suppose. With respect to the resolution may be truly stated that where any man has proposed by the Doctor, the way to carry it a good piece of land, and tolerably clear, with into effect, is for him and his coadjutors to do industry, and perseverance, and good health, a little more than he had done with the land and a little luck, he will be sure to do well: they possess, for the worthy Doctor has declared over and over again that farming will pay, aye, and pay without a tariff. He has this lies the main reason for the backwardproved it upon his twelve bundred acres. Then we come to J. D. Pemberton, and it is as impossible now as it ever has been, to una

derstand what he means or what he wants. t seems however, he would like American farmers to come here and settle. Well, the way to do that is to unite the Island to the United States instead of British Columbia, for assuredly Americans will not leave their own country for this, without, but probably, J. D. P., means the same thing, or he would have said, encourage Englishmen or Irish to settle. He thinks that a tax upon wild lands, and upon lands held by absentees would do no good, and would be prejudicial, and in this he is right; but he follows it up by the queer practice, that he would tax them so much per acre, because that would have the effect of throwing the land into the market. He would tax, and he would'nt, speculators should hold land, and they should not. He wants speculators in shiploads, but he wants to force the lands they buy into the market. Well, he is not likely to get his shiploads. But singularly enough a law think will be applicable for any other district, because there they want a fence law-well. a pretty good waylof fencing the subject. He Vancouver Islander has certainly the advantage of his American neighbor. As to roads, J. D. P., has no cause of complaint, but he may blame the Legislative Council, because they threw out the hay bill, hay being about the only thing he produces—he being about the only thing he produces—he some day.

NEW WESTMINSTER CIVIC COUNCIL. The personally may have suffered a little, but has the country? Is it right that people who like other people must work and not expect to be supported by subscriptions from the public, in the shape of a tariff for progo round the country and see how year after year, those who have cultivated their who wisely and well, have improved; those who wisely and well, have commencing have now

one, that there are not cows enough on the but, unfortunately, much of the land is not clear, but densely wooded and poor, and in ness of settlement. Hundreds have settled upon this land, but have been obliged to leave on account of the difficulties and expense of clearing, and practical men now know that it will not pay to clear heavily timbered land. Men will not slave for ten years, and starve for the greater part of that period, for the sake of a homestead at the end of that term, when they can get a farm elsewhere that they can cultivate at once. Much is said about the United States, but any one who knows anything of Washington Territory or Oregon will say that there the people do not clear woodland, but chiefly confine themselves to prairie. In Vancouver Island it costs at least fifty dollars to clear an acre of timbered land. Will any one do so who has the money, or will he invest it otherwise? How many so-called "speculators" do hold such land-to their sorrow If it were open to-morrow, no one would settle upon it; in fact, plenty of equally good

land has been open for years to pre-emption, (for lands are now, as they have been, open to pre-emption,) and yet no one has taken it that will be suitable for Victoria, he does not up, or, if they have, they have dropped it again. It is well for the Government that 'speculators" do hold such land, for from it taxes are received as a sort of income: For complains that Americans can come by water. Well, it is probable that the people of Vancouver Island can do likewise, there is nothing to hinder them, both have to get to the water, and in the latter respect, the to the water, and in the latter respect, the to the water are not in the latter respect, the ten per cent. Upon its value. Even if it has almost valueless land—say 100 acres—the owner pays, what? Why, nine dollars per annum road tax and one per cent. upon its value. So, supposing it to be worth one dollar per acre, he pays taxes at the rate of the per cent. this almost valueless land-say 100 acres-Vancouver Islander has certainly the add ten per cent. upon its value. Even if it be