

The Weekly British Colonist, Wednesday May 31st 1871

Customs Tariffs.

The question of a choice between the retention of our present Customs Tariff and the acceptance of the Canadian one is far from new in these columns. Indeed we almost hesitate to revert to what the reader may possibly be disposed to regard as a worn-out subject.

Yet the protraction of some and the faithless selfishness of others in the Legislative Council conspired to throw this very important subject back into the hands of the people.

There is reason to fear that an attempt will be made during the approaching session to use this question for mere party purposes. Already has the unscrupulous demagogue announced that he will give the people a better tariff than either the one or the other.

We will not deny the liberality of the arrangement, for it is difficult to decide the extent to which equalization, the judgments of some men, but there need be no hesitation in challenging the ability of any man or any set of men in this Colony to do anything of the sort.

The reader is already aware that the Report of Union presented to British Columbia a choice between the present local tariff, as it stood at the time of the negotiations, and the Canadian tariff.

The reader is also aware that during the debate upon the Terms in the Canadian Parliament the apparent disposition of British Columbia to cling to the present tariff was constantly used on the Government side of the House as an argument in favor of the Terms as proposed by a Federal standpoint.

It was argued that British Columbia, by the retention of her present tariff, would contribute much more largely towards the Federal resources proportion to her population than would the other Provinces.

It is now, we put it to the intelligent mind whether it is at all reasonable to suppose that, after having fought such a hard battle to secure to British Columbia terms which are admitted on all hands to be highly favorable to her, the Canadian Government will turn round and ask Parliament to agree to material modification and reduction of our present tariff, thereby relinquishing that very source of revenue which was urged as an argument for making large concessions which, in fact, formed a part of the financial basis of Union?

Life Assurance. Life Assurance is gradually becoming understood. It is coming to be recognized as the means best adapted to the condition of the masses whereby fitting provision may be made for old age and for those whom nature and Providence have made dependent upon us.

To devote a bit of a day towards making provision for his wife and children. Do this and then you will be able to meet death like a man. Of all the insurance companies in the world, perhaps none present a stronger claim upon the confidence of the public than the Standard Life Assurance Company of Edinburgh, Scotland.

Reader, think of the opportunity of life, the meanness of depending upon you, and resolve at once to take out a policy. In all matters duty, delay is dangerous, procrastination is fatal.

Glancing over the report of the Standard Life Assurance Company for last year, we find that 2293 proposals were made, representing the sum of £1,498,689 8 10 sterling. Of these there were accepted 1938 for £1,181,399 3 10. On the 15th November, 1870, the existing assurances amounted to £16,691,088 19 2 sterling.

Sunday, May 26th. PERSONAL.—The next steamer will bear away from this colony the Rev Mr White and family. Mr White is the last of a band of four Wesleyan Methodist Missionaries sent out to this Colony by the Canadian Conference in 1858.

White visiting Cariboo and nearly all the settled parts of the United Colony. Mr White's twelve years' missionary labors on the Pacific have been mainly divided between New Westminster and Nanaimo, and his name will be intimately and honorably identified with the history of both of these important communities.

At Resound Hill on Tuesday next, 30th inst, a cricket match will be played between eleven Victorians and eleven of Esquimaux and the Fleet. Following are the names from which the Victoria eleven will be chosen: Richardson, Drake, Pardon, Hubcock, Tolmie, Austin, Hemmingway, Berkeley, O F Cornwall, H F Cornwall, Curtis and Rome.

CARIBOO ITEMS.—The Spinning announces the arrival at Barkerville of a real live canary. The Soda Creek steamer makes but one trip each week. Complaint is made by a correspondent that the collector of registration fees for Vancouver is an American citizen.

SOCKS.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Capt Clarke, went to Sooke yesterday morning, returning in the evening with a few passengers and a deck load of bark and lumber. NORTHERN INDIANS.—Ten canoes filled with Indians of a tribe near Fort Simpson, arrived yesterday. Each canoe displayed a British flag.

AWARDED.—The contract for building Nanaimo Gaol was yesterday awarded to Mr Finlay of Nanaimo. To ARRIVE.—R F Pickett & Co announce heavy consignments of new goods, to arrive at Sooke Pearl.

The Keyser Failure.—Yesterday the Sheriff and assistants were engaged in superintending the return of the goods removed on Friday from Keyser's premises. Thirty-seven drayloads were brought in by J P Davis' men on Wharf street and five crates of crockery or glassware were hauled from Davies' cart on Fort street.

New Westminster.—The loyal people of the 'Royal City' as they delight to term it, were chiefly engaged in celebrating the Queen's Birthday. Although commencing on Wednesday, the programme had not been got through with when the steamer left yesterday.

Talk Concerning.—We are indebted to Mr Garesche, who acted as Treasurer to the Orphan's Benefit Concert, for the following financial statement: Sale of Tickets, \$107 00; Donations, 47 20; Total Receipts, 154 20; Expenses, 105 70; Net Proceeds, 48 50.

Tax Enterprise returned from New Westminster yesterday afternoon, bringing Barnard's Express with \$30,000, a Cariboo mail and the following passengers: Mr Dobin and wife, Miss Inley, Col Lane, C F Cornwall, H P Cornwall, J Dickinson, A N Richards and Messrs Hessey, Johns and Riley.

OMINGA.—Mr W Wolf has received a letter from a resident at Quesnelmouth who states that miners at Ominga have struck a New Creek on which they are making from \$40 to \$100 a day to the hand.

Letter from Paris. REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE 'COLONIST.' PARIS, April 29th, 1871. Humanity had eight hours breathing time by the suspension of hostilities in the neighborhood of Vesoul.

British Columbia, as Viewed by a Canadian. A member of the 'Fusion' party corresponded with the Toronto Globe during the tour to the Pacific.

Quebec it seldom rains in summer and seldom snows in winter. California has a climate mild as that of Northern Europe, with extremes of heat and cold never greater than 7 or 8 degrees.

By Electric Telegraph. SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST. EUROPE. PARIS, May 23.—Versailles troops occupy the Place Vendome, Tallieres, Hotel de Ville and Issy.

These in the 'belt of desert' created by the Prussians in their huge operations. Casks of toilet requisites, open half-consumed pianos and elegant furniture are scattered about and smoking around.

The physiognomy of the city becomes terrifying—how can it be otherwise?—when huge atrocities are everywhere being perpetrated, like Dutch dykes, and armed with artillery and machine-guns.

Change in order to keep their hand in. The Clubs are so harmless that they are taken notice of. One of these popular resorts has decided to leave Paris for the night.

As to the journal I think those of Versailles beat their contemporaries of Paris in lying. As a rule it is best to believe neither.

Paris, May 22.—Over 70,000 Versailles troops have entered the city. They marched in all night by six gates, meeting but slight resistance.

London, May 23.—A special correspondent writes from Paris that the Communists have abandoned the Place Vendome.

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These climate features, so marked as accounted for by the configuration of the country. Here is an enormous slip of land on the western side of the continent that is bounded on all sides by the waters of the Pacific.

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