

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, July 18 1868.

Leech River Mines.

After all, this section of the country promises to turn out of far greater value, both as to the richness and extent of its auriferous ground than has hitherto been imagined. So many reports, however, have in the past been put forward, asserting the same thing, only in the end to prove fallacious, that we should hesitate to write upon the subject again did not our information come from a source that cannot be questioned with propriety. During an official visit to Leech River, made this week by the Assistant Surveyor General Mr. Pearce, his attention was drawn to some ground in the neighbourhood of Lamey & Co's, claim, which it was stated would pay very handsomely under the hydraulic system. This gentleman took several prospects from different places a long way back from the creek, and where the bank of pay dirt is twenty-five feet thick, and got as high as a cent and a half to the pan, and never less than enough to pay excellently under this system of working. Such banks of dirt are stated to exist sufficient to give most profitable employment to a large number of men. There is abundance of fall along the river for hydraulic washing and in some two months there will be abundance of water. So strong has the conviction, that valuable hydraulic diggings may be permanently opened at Leech, become of late, that we believe it is the intention of a number of gentlemen who feel interested in the advancement of the Colony to raise a sufficient fund to give the system a thorough trial, and thus settle the question finally one way or the other. The idea is a good one. The expense of putting the hydraulic apparatus up properly, would not exceed a few hundred dollars, so that with the prospects obtained by Mr. Pearce, there could be no fear of getting the money back even if the pay dirt did not last longer than a couple of days. The discoveries recently made by Lamey & Co., in their ground, of coarse gold (some pieces of which weigh \$5,) far back in the banks, give weight to the ideas now prevailing about the resuscitation of Leech, and afford substantial reasons for believing that before next summer an extensive and profitable system of hydraulic washing will be introduced along the river.

The Queen and the Rival Politicians.

Under this caption a pretty little episode is made, we suppose, on no better foundation than rumor, not only as regards the Queen and the two great leaders of the day, but other members of the Royal family. At one time Her Majesty was known to entertain so strong a dislike to D'Israeli that it was feared she would never receive him as Premier without a protest, and in order to smooth matters over for his reception Lord Derby had to exert his eloquence in his friend's behalf. Since that the Queen is reported to have so thoroughly changed as to regard the Premier as the saviour of the throne. What produced this great change. It happened Mrs. D'Israeli was ill, and the Queen thought it her duty to visit her, and there was the chance the astute minister wanted. He first essayed his shallow truisms in politics, but that plan failed because Victoria dislikes political talks. For a moment Disraeli was nonplussed, but the Royal visits continued, and so he went in on the "good husband" dodge, and talked so glibly about the union of hearts, conjugal responsibility, and that sort of thing, that the Queen was captured thoroughly, and now places entire dependence in him because, as she thinks, a good husband cannot make a bad politician. The Prince of Wales was won over by the hatred of the Duke of Cambridge to Gladstone, who considers him, not only an enemy to all order, but also to many of the privileges of the Crown, and so by that means the Prince was captured. But the good fortune of the Premier does not stop here; he has gained over also the Princess Christian, who is reputed by far the most clever of all the royal children. This young lady possesses great interest in politics; attends the Commons' debates

regularly, and flatters the speakers she likes, and sometimes those whom it is policy to flatter. She also has imbibed a great hatred to Gladstone, and a corresponding admiration of his rival. Now all this is very pretty gossip, but we doubt whether it is anything more. So far as the Queen is concerned, we cannot think she has given just ground for these statements. She has never hitherto set up her personal feelings when Parliament has spoken, nor do we believe she ever will. It may be all very well for a time to strengthen D'Israeli, by a reported concurrent resolution in the Royal Family to uphold him; but it is not sound policy. Such an opposition would only drive Gladstone along faster, and as things stand, it would be a great mistake in royalty to push him to extremities.

Our Mineral Resources.

The Nanaimo Coal Mines are looking up. Our neighbours are beginning to find out the superiority of the Nanaimo Coal over any other which has yet been discovered on the Pacific Coast. The California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Company have now established a depot for our coal, for the use of their ships, at Portland in Oregon, and the Active is now employed carrying coal between Nanaimo and Portland three times a month. The Diabolo coal is found to be not only more destructive to iron furnaces on account of the quantity of sulphur contained, but its shipment is attended with some risk because of the tendency when it is not looked after, to ignite spontaneously in a ship's hold. Previous to the present arrangement the ships of the C. O. & M. S. S. Company have actually used Diabolo coal on the up trip to Portland, and cord wood on the down trip. What prevents our merchants from laying down Nanaimo coal at Manzanillo, Acapulco and the Sandwich Islands, at all of which ports we understand our coal may be entered without being subjected to the high duty of a dollar and a half a ton which is exacted by the United States Tariff?

Direct Trade with the Sandwich Island.

The mercantile community of Portland are talking of establishing a direct line of ships between that city and the Sandwich Islands. With great propriety they say that the State of Oregon, whose population are now large consumers of the produce of those Islands, would derive advantage by direct trade with the Islands, rather than through San Francisco houses. Our own merchants now supply, through the Sound and also by way of the Columbia River a portion of the consumption of Oregon, and it seems a pity that the growing trade with the Sandwich Islands should be allowed to slip through our fingers, more especially as, on account of the superiority of the maritime facilities of Victoria, a ship engaged in the Honolulu trade would be able to make at least one additional trip per annum by running to Victoria instead of to Portland.

These is but one opinion as to the ability shown by Sir Robert Napier on his consummate prudence, his cool, judicious delay, and the rapidity of his movements, when all his measures being taken, it became necessary to strike the decisive blow. I have had occasion to make the acquaintance of Sir Robert Napier, to converse with him and to observe him closely. The idea he at first gives you of him is that of calm power. The first time I ever saw him what struck me in his person was the gentle expression of his features, the gentleness of his manners, and the softness of his voice. I remember hearing him say that he had always an aversion to sporting, from a repugnance to killing poor defenceless animals. I know nothing more admirable than the love of humanity in an energetic nature. One is not the less a soldier for being a man, and Sir Robert Napier is an instance of it.

The POLICE OFFICER was attended yesterday by only one or two of the convivial order, but who mingled violence and pleasure together, for which little diversion they were fined five shillings each.

REAL ESTATE PURCHASE.—The Occidental brick building was purchased yesterday from Messrs Robinson Bros. by Mr J G Norris, of this city.

The steamer California arrived yesterday afternoon after a long and boisterous passage. The gale, it is said, met her soon after leaving San Francisco, and for three days was very severe. The passengers speak in the highest terms of Capt. Windsor during the gale. She brings 41 passengers, 16 in the cabin and 25 in the steerage; amongst whom we observe Capt. T. Wright, Messrs Copland and Jungermann returning home from their trip below. A gentleman from this city says that many of the old Victorians in San Francisco would be very glad to return; that a much better feeling is existing amongst Americans towards this Colony; and that if the fares were down, a large number would visit it, both for pleasure and with a view to permanent location. The list of passengers and consignees will be found in the proper column. The California's cargo consists of general merchandize; 116 tons for Victoria and 30 for the Sound. She is expected to leave for Port Townsend on Monday.

The steamer Active left for Portland early yesterday morning. She took away about 20 passengers, cabin and steerage, several of whom were Oregonians with return tickets little or no cargo except 260 tons coal. Amongst the passengers were Mr Eugene Thomas, L'Hotelier, Esq, and wife, Messrs McConchan, Callingham, Moody and Crozier. Some of these names recall associations of the most pleasant character, which now probably belong to the past for ever. In leaving the Colony, it must be satisfactory to men so young to know their memory will long be treasured, for the good they did, and that they carry away with them the respect and good wishes of the community.

On the 22nd May last, the Governor-General proceeded to the Senate of the Dominion Parliament, and after assenting in the Royal name to a great number of bills, closed the first session of the first Parliament of the Dominion in the following congratulatory words: "I rejoice that I am in a position to congratulate you on the general prosperity which prevails throughout the Dominion, and I feel assured on your return to your homes you will exert yourselves in promoting obedience to the laws, and indicating attachment to the free institutions under which it is your happiness to live."

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Legislature of this Kingdom has just granted to the California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Co. the sum of \$50,000, in consideration of running a steamer every twenty-one days between Honolulu and San Francisco, at a stipulated price for freight and passage, carrying the mail free of charge to the Hawaiian Government. Ben Halliday, Jr., has been there for several weeks piloting the bill through the House, and the skillful engineering displayed in the operation, reflects credit on the business capacity of so young a man.

The Toronto Globe of 29th May, states that some anticipations of another Fenian raid still exist, and complains that the American Government, though at peace with Canada, is not doing the right thing exactly. However, with the present vigorous and watchful government, the Globe sees no particular danger, and rather than otherwise, invites 'the bold Faynains' to come on if they want a good thrashing.

PACIFIC RAILROAD FARES.—The fare from New York to Denver is at present \$103. From this it is safe to conclude the fare through to San Francisco, when the line is complete, will not be over \$250 or \$300 even at first. Considering the time and comfort saved, this is not exorbitant.

The Bishop of Natal has lately printed a translation into the Zulu language of the first part of the Pilgrim's Progress, which he has prepared for the natives. He is proceeding with the remainder, the work being highly prized. This is about the last part of the world for John Bunyan to penetrate.

DURING a thunder storm at Trenton, Canada, recently, the telegraph office was struck with the lightning, which played queer pranks with the apparatus, almost destroying it, and setting the building on fire. It was however quickly extinguished.

From Central and South America.

Dates to June 14th; South American dates to May 29th.

In accordance with a decree of the President of the State, the Herrera monument was duly inaugurated at Panama on Wednesday afternoon, June 10th. The wing of the Plaza on which the monument stands was handsomely decorated with evergreens and the flags of different nations and presented quite a gay appearance.

In the Church of Las Monjas, Panama, which has recently been dismantled, a number of boxes containing the remains of deceased persons, and deposited there as is customary, have been broken open, and the bones and skulls now lie strewn over the floor. The doors of the Church have been thrown down, and the place exposed to all sorts of profanity.

A grand banquet was given to Gen Prado at Santiago, Chile, on the 2nd May. It was a very brilliant affair. A body of troops sent to the south of Chile to punish some Indians for horse stealing, was attacked by a large force of Araucanos and badly beaten. Several assassinations and robberies have been committed in Valparaiso, which city appears to be getting quite notorious for such outrages.

Mon Edmund de Lesseps, French Minister to Lima, died at Cherrillos on the 18th inst., of yellow fever, Don Toribee Pacheco, Minister of Foreign Affairs, died of the same disease at Lima, May 15th. The yellow fever remains much about the same as at last accounts, some 200 dying daily in Lima. The disease appears to be spreading along the coast having reached Islay.

A FRENCH LINE on the PACIFIC COAST. There appears to be very little doubt that the French line of steamers from Panama to Valparaiso, talked of for some time, will soon come into operation. It is to run in connection with that already established between Aspinwall and San Nazaire, and to be carried on by steamers of 450 horse-power. A convention between the French Minister of Finance and the Compagnie Transatlantique to this effect has been entered into and become a project of law. This convention proposes that the Government should advance the Company four millions of francs to facilitate the construction of three screw steamers, and pay an annual subsidy of 750,000 francs as a postal subsidy; and further guarantee from the 1st of July 1868, an interest of 5 per cent on capital of the Company already invested in the present service, as well as on that to be employed in carrying out the new line. The entire capital will be nearly sixty millions of francs, and the Government appropriate for the fulfilment of the guarantee the sum of two millions.

THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET CO. We observe by a notice of the Secretary of the Royal Mail Company that on and after 2nd ultimo the steamers of the line will run from Southampton to Aspinwall, thus conveying the passengers through without change and saving the freight from the damage of the extra handling required to have it transferred from one ship to another.

H. M. S. steamship Cameleon, Captain Anselmy, sailed hence for the coast of Mexico on the 11th June.

The P. S. N. Co's steamer Panama left Taboga for Callao on the 12th June, where she will take her place in the new line to England, via the Straits of Magellan, under command of Capt H Bivell, R. N.—Star and Herald.

China.

[DATES TO JUNE 5th.] The Shanghai News Letter says: The rebels showed themselves in Tientsin during the latter part of April and the 1st instant to the number, it was estimated, of 30,000 men, led by a Tartar brave, only about fifteen years old. The usual scenes of burning villages and slaughter of the country people were enacted very near here. The grain junks in the Peiho River appeared to be the object for approaching Tientsin; as the place was not attacked. On the 17th inst. rumors of rebels being at Poo-Ting-Foo were again circulated.

The United States steamer Shenandoah, which left Shanghai on the 18th of March last for the Corea, via Chefoo, and returned to Chefoo on the 19th of May, reports that after spending four days in sounding among the islands which lay off the coast of Corea, the vessel anchored inside the river Ping-yang. From this point surveys were continued till the 21st of April, when a point about 25 miles from the mouth, where the natives have established a military station, was arrived at. This was the farthest point reached. The river is upwards of a mile wide, and from six to eight fathoms deep. The boat in which the Shenandoah's officers were taking soundings was here fired upon, and as Captain Febigier's instructions did not warrant the use of force, further progress was abandoned. A short distance above, the Ping-yang River proper enters, and about 30 miles beyond or 60 miles from the open sea is situated the City of Ping-yang, the capital of the province, and estimated to contain about 60,000 inhabitants. From all that could be learned it is believed that none of the ill-fated party on board the General Sherman survive. The natives in their statements vary so much that they betray a wish to conceal the real facts of the case, but they fully agree in stating that all who were on board perished.

The report of the President to the stockholders of the Pacific Mail Company, which came to hand by the Costa Rica, has been freely and favorably noticed in the Shanghai papers. The Daily News says that it will be perused with deep interest even in China, and that as the Pacific Mail Company have appropriated a new route, it will be decidedly to their advantage to develop it in such a way as to defy opposition. For the future a trade of gigantic proportions is looked for between Asia and America.

A proclamation has been issued notifying the disarmament of all Chinese fishing junk trading at Hong-kong. This measure has been adopted in order to suppress piracy in these waters, it having been found that under cover of trading, numerous junks met yet continue their old practices as freebooters. Sir H. Keppel, commanding the British naval forces in the East, has arranged the matter to his own satisfaction and that of the Chinese officials at Canton, and the British gunboats are not likely again to be called out of harbor, without knowing what work they have to do.

Trade in the interior of China is dull. The constant incursion of rebels in the North has nearly making a living. Business on the Yangtze River was so dull that the steamer line has been reduced to two boats per week.

Considerable attention has been again directed to the coal and iron mines in the North of China, and they are in a fair way of being developed. These near Peking are to be opened at once, and the News says:

Tsun-Kwo-Fan has, it appears, really advised, in an official despatch to the Government at Peking, the immediate opening of some five coal mines, or pits, near and in the region about Nankin, subject to treaty actions, in so far as foreigners are concerned, but practically for the future benefit of China alone. As the Viceroy has already stated for Shanghai, via Soochow, the proof of his intentions, good or otherwise, may shortly become officially recognized.

The Shanghai Recorder of May 14th takes a gloomy view of the prospects of putting down the rebellion. It says: Even those Chinese who have been reticent hitherto to admit the possibility of such a rebellion occurring as could be supposed formidable enough to threaten the stability of the Imperial throne, are now beginning openly to

express their fears as to the probable turn of events in the north. The spasmodic successes which are reported on the side of the Imperial forces are no longer sufficient to convince those who watch the progress of events that there is sufficient strength left to cope with the present disaster. Whatever the minor details of the state of affairs, those broad facts, which cannot be gainsayed, present to the most sanguine an ugly appearance. Meantime Li-Hung-Chang, upon whom the whole of the Imperialists' hopes were centred, tarries at Tientsin, and appears afraid to leave that city. It is rumored that a portion of the grain designed for Peking has already been seized, and that the Mohammedan rebels friendly to the Nienfen are in enormous force to the southwest of Peking.

The reports of mineral wealth in the Shaantung Hills are beginning to assume greater consistency; gold in considerable quantities has been found, and prospecting is being actively pursued. The diggings are about 15 miles from Chefoo.

The Shanghai Daily Press (British) is puzzling its wits with the question: Why the Chinese Government should have arranged to pay Mr. Burlingame \$40,000 a year to help them to resist the progress of foreign ideas, when Sir Rutherford Alcock, the British Minister, is always ready to do this for nothing?

The Hongkong Daily Press of May 6th says a piracy case occurred near the harbor the day before. A junk of 2,000 piculs was attacked by a couple of two-masted fishing junks, who threw stink pots on board of her, and killed one and wounded another of her crew.

In the North China Daily News we read: For six days past numbers of dead human beings, men, women and children, have floated past this settlement down the river without any clothes on them. We hear that the soldiers and people in several places up the river have been fighting, and that the bodies belong to some of the combatants and their families. It is a horrible sight for the next few months. The dogs are to be seen in several places between here and Takoo, lying beside the bodies gorged.

Japan.

The war and political news is not satisfactory or clear, but the Japan papers claim that a reaction in favor of the Tycoon has taken place, and that the temporal authority of the Mikado is still disputed by the friends and retainers of the Tycoon, whose adherents are continually meeting those of the Mikado in hostilities. Stotobashi, the Tycoon, was truly and entirely submissive, however, to the Mikado, and the contest is carried on by the friends of each, and fighting was still going on near Yedo.

The foreign Ministers were still at Yokohama, Yedo being considered unsafe. The imperial castle at Yedo is in possession of the Mikado's Envoy and a military guard, but the public business is still in the hands of the late Tycoon's officials. Per contra, the city of Yokohama is held by the Mikado's officers and diplomatic intercourse is held with them only.

The ram Stonewall is still under the American flag, the United States Minister having declared his intention not to deliver her to either party until he received orders from Washington. Her crew have been paid off and sent home.

The Hermann, it appears, took the intelligence that Aizu and other Princes were marching to Yedo with a force of 200,000 men; and that the Admiral, with seven vessels of Stotobashi's fleet, kept up steam night and day for the purpose of co-operating with Aizu.

On receipt of this intelligence seven Danios were ordered at once to put their forces in order for a march on Yedo, and report says that already 60,000 men are actually advancing on Yedo from all directions. Prince Higo, one of the great Southern Danios, is reported to have refused to fight for the new Government, and with his troops is leaving for his own territory. Steamers are in demand for the conveyance of troops to Yedo and the Kin Shiu may be expected in a few days with a full cargo of them.

The general news is very scanty. A ship load of Japanese cooies had been sent to the Sandwich Islands by the Hawaiian Consul, E. M. Man Reed, for the purpose of growing sugar on the Islands.

Sir Harry Parkes, the British Minister, had been presented to the Mikado, whom he recognized as the head of the Government. British residents in Japan celebrated the Queen's Birthday in a becoming manner, and a review of the British troops at Yokohama came off on that day.

THE CRUELTY ON BOARD THE BRITISH SHIP LYDIA.—This long and painful investigation, which has occupied the stipendiary magistrate of Liverpool for several days, was brought to a close on 2nd June. A number of witnesses were examined, whose evidence clearly substantiated the evidence given at former hearings, as to the horrid barbarities and revolting cruelty exercised towards the black men on board the vessel. The second mate cross-examined the witnesses at some length, and elicited that the white men of the crew were in the habit of thrashing and ill-treating the coloured men. Mr. Bradley, senior, house surgeon at the Northern Hospital, who had examined the complainants, spoke to their having upon their heads and bodies many marks of recent wounds. Upon the feet and ankles of Williams were several ulcers, which would be accounted for by his being hung up by the heels in the rigging as described by witnesses. The prisoners were all committed for trial at the assizes for inflicting grievous bodily harm.—English Paper.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Sick Headache.—Thousands suffer from this worrying annoyance when the body and brain are depressed in warm, damp weather. Holloway's purifying Pills present a ready means of cure for indigestion, biliousness, and flatulency. In debilitated constitutions and nervous habits these Pills are the best restoratives they correct all the unpleasant consequences of torpidity of the liver; they remove the bowels, and never fail to obviate all obstructions of the bowels, and to induce their regular action. For all abdominal ailments Holloway's Pills are the safest possible medicine, they at once give ease and comfort, and naturally strengthen the whole series of organs concerned in the process of digestion, and will be found useful in every household.

Saturday, July 18 1868.

San Francisco.

We sometime since obtain certificates in three leading and we Francisco, in favor of land over all others of residence in summer. valids and those seek residence during the mestic reasons. We the matter is now at tention in San Franci upon the most reliab had there been a cplying between the p summer, we should h from fifty to a hundr from San Francisco amonogt us. It is a Victoria lost by this calculation, from \$50, nor is it improbable th \$300,000. The famili coseo, (which this sum pox, measles, and sca midat, and every sum mic), now talk in th hear so much about summer residence, we about her beautiful a climate, that numbers oceeding anxious to s mer there, but we will ilies in such boats as ply ports. Give us a good motious boat, and re will be crowded. Our nothing by going in here, and in every resp cheaper for us to Victoria for the season that the people and th do not unite upon som proper boat on the li could make the experie Here, then, is the te neighbors below, upon grave importance to us of that unity of purpos people themselves, an people and the govs would soon supply the munication is the evil labor; and in proportio nary; by virtue of her m forcing herself into notice, the want of unit disgraceful and the mo Colony cannot do every self to improve its coo party differences and s ets are forgotten and a time, that all classes m one great object of Every year some 10,000 San Francisco to obey fashion, they get out of ionces of that city into ignce of the country, w admit is only a change o have incomes ranging \$20,000 a month; they liberal in their exp moreover a large propo come and spend the sun there is no boat to Ought such a thing to b difficulties in the way w they are not insuperable the Hudson Bay Comp itiative, in connectio ists below in the pur Moses Taylor, which is and which by being an sel would save nearly o expenses over an Englis toms', Pilots' and oth Francisco, and get a sub Government. The coo consist of English an conjointly. The marit of San Francisco rend on account of the expen be thereby saved. Th project is inquired into, sition among the wealth eliseo to support it, the and important it will b at the present time. W first to move? In bring forward again we feel pliability of the statem does not rest entirely v information. In every e even further than we h shall be supported by g