

The Weekly British Colonist, AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, July 17, 1869

A MOVEMENT is on the tapis to bring the question of compensating official real estate owners at New Westminster before the Administrator of Government and the Executive Council and press it to a settlement before the arrival in the Colony of Governor Musgrave. We wish to protest, upon public grounds, in the strongest terms, against any such step. Undoubtedly the decline in value of real estate at New Westminster bore heavily upon that community; but what has the Colony at large to do with that? Have the investors in Victoria property upon the presumed pledge that the port would always remain free, any claim upon the Government for compensation because a tariff was substituted and their property has decreased in value? The man who would put in such a claim would be laughed at for his pains. How much more ridiculous does it appear, then, to find a number of officers of the Government, whose real estate speculations at the late Capital have proved unprofitable, coming forward and asking to be compensated for their losses! The claims of the private lot-owner at New Westminster, or that of the real estate holder at Victoria, are a thousand times more entitled to attention than those of the public officer, so cause in the case of the private individual, business and property were swept away by the change; but the official, although he lost his property, retained his situation, and with this important advantage over his less fortunate fellow-citizen we are amazed to find him hat-in-hand knocking at the door of the Council Chamber for "compensation." The principle of compensation is an iniquitous one. It should never have been recognized by the popular members of the Legislative Council; and we hope that Mr. Hankin—notwithstanding two-thirds of his Executive are gentlemen who "trusted not wisely but too well" in the permanent location of the Capital at New Westminster—if he do not, by his vote and influence, stifle the compensation monster at its birth—will at least insist upon it being deferred until after the arrival of Governor Musgrave. Mr. Hankin occupies the position that Shakespeare refers to when he says:— "There is a tide in the affairs of man, that taken at its flood, leads on to fortune." It is for the Administrator to decide, in this very crisis, whether he will take the tide at its flood and float on to an honorable and respected career; or whether, by throwing himself into the breach between the officials on the one side and right, justice and honor on the other, he will quietly submit during the brief period of his "reign" to an act of spoliation which nothing except "The good old rule, the simple plan; That they should take who have the power And they should keep who can," will justify.

SOME Eastern American papers do not agree with their cotemporaries on this coast as to the commercial benefits that are to flow from the completion of the railway across the Continent. While they admit that the railroad renders the rapid settlement of the country lying west of the Mississippi an assured fact, they are not so positive that the United States is destined to monopolize the eastern trade and New York to become the commercial center of the world. The York Times, one of the most respectable authorities in the United States, thus speaks of the road and its anticipated results: "The enthusiasm in respect to the Pacific Railroad has undoubtedly entered into the excitement in real estate on this island. Many expect lines of marble palaces in our streets, built up by the profits of new trade with the Orient, and that New York is to become a kind of Venice in connecting the products of the Indies with Europe. Chicago has caught the enthusiasm, and is awaiting a new prosperity as the center of the carrying trade in teas, silks, and all the most profitable products of China and Japan, on their way to New York and London. The way to the Indies is said to be already posted up as an inscription somewhere on the Pacific road. We regret to say that

cool reason characterizes these expectations as mere dreams of hope. The cool and shrewd business men engaged in Oriental trade doubt if it will ever pay to forward teas from San Francisco overland to New York, except, possibly, a single cargo of some exceptional article. The freights will be to high. Already it costs as much to send teas from New York to Chicago as by water from Hong-Kong to New York. Moreover, the time now from China to England by canal and steamer, on the old route, is somewhat less than by rail and steamer on the new American one. Japan alone is brought nearer to Europe. The Pacific roads, with 3,600 miles of travel, can never deliver with profit any California or Oriental freights on this coast except such as are very light and costly such as silks or light manufactures. And even with these they must compete with the water freights of the Pacific Mail which will only be a fortnight longer in time. Land transportation can seldom compete successfully with water. Undoubtedly, Oriental travel will take this route, at least for half its journey; but Oriental trade with this coast and Europe will be more likely to take the Isthmus or the old routes. The Pacific Road will feed and clothe the interior of the Continent; it will pour an increasing stream of pleasure seekers, business travellers, and emigrants from one coast to the other; it will build up Colorado, Montana, and Nevada, and supply California with cheap labour; but as a link between the far Orient and the Atlantic Coast or Europe we are persuaded its importance has been much exaggerated.

Thursday July 15
THE Lords have passed the Irish Church Disestablishment Bill; but so much modified that it is very improbable that it will be received by the lower House in its present form. It will be observed that the Lords would fain be let off with the dose as far as swallowed and throw a *bonne bouche* to the dissenters in the shape of furnished residences and glebes to Catholics and Presbyterians; we doubt very much the value of the sop; the ministry have made up their minds to make law of the Bill in the form in which it passed the Commons, and they are too confident in their strength and influence to permit of the alterations being made, proposed by the Lords. What the result will be is difficult to say: the Lords must either give way, or a deadlock must result, which would have to be settled by an appeal to the nation. If the Lords give way and pass the bill in nearly its original form it will be destructive to their prestige and must result in the abolition of the upper Chamber entirely, as its existence as a nullity would be too much for nobility to submit to.

ENGLISH LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.—An interesting return has just been made to the House of Commons of all the life insurance companies which have been registered under the acts of 1844 and 1862. We find that the total number that has been so registered is no fewer than 272, but that of this number only 74 are now in existence, while not less than 198 have succumbed, their career having terminated either by amalgamation with other companies or through the unhappy medium of the winding-up court. The widest possible divergence is presented in the amount of actual capital of the several companies. Certain of them present to their assured the solid guarantee of a large paid-up share capital, among whom the Royal, Commercial Union, and the Queen are conspicuous for solidity in this important particular; while the larger number are contented to seek the support of the public with resources greatly disproportioned to the liabilities they are prepared to incur. The Commercial Union has a nominal capital of £2,500,000, of which £2,500,000 are subscribed for; the Royal and Queen each show a nominal capital of £2,000,000 £1,922,300 of which are paid up. Some of the companies show a nominal capital of only £10,000, but £8000 of which are paid up; and one company [the United Brothers] with a nominal capital of £1500, has only £230 paid up.

In reply to "Cromwell's" letter of yesterday, we are told that the entire funeral expenses of the late Governor amounted to \$1800, and that there were no extra charges amounting to \$2000. This explanation is satisfactory, inasmuch as it has been hinted that certain expenses of a private character, which had not the slightest connection with the public obsequies, were charged in the general bill and allowed.

SUCCESSFUL WHALING.—Mr Lipsitt came down yesterday from Howe Sound, where he has been engaged in whaling. On Thursday of last week the party took a whale and on Sunday another. The two yielded upwards of 3000 gallons of oil, or about 100 barrels. Mr Lipsitt has come down to engage hands. He thinks they can secure three whales a week.

Cariboo Mining Summary.
We have the Cariboo Sentinel of the 30th ult. On William creek the Downie Co have cleaned up 40 oz for two weeks. The Wilson Co took out 415 oz in five days astonishing everybody. Most of the gold was taken out a few feet from an old drive. The Cornish Co took out 144 oz in a week. A Chinese Company report \$4600 for the season. The Tyack, San Francisco and Black Jack Cos were all doing well. The Barker Co for this week took out 184 oz; the Foster-Campbell, 64 oz; the Canadian and Bald-head failed to get expenses; the Caledonia got out 85 oz. A couple of new "obums" washed out 62 oz from the tailings of the Baby claim. On Stout Gulch the Mecho Oro Co washed up 35 oz; the Taffvale Co, 26 1/2 oz; the Coombs Co, 16 1/2 oz; and the Floyd Co, 146 oz. The Jim and Joe, the Keystone, Jenkins, and Alturas Cos are prospecting. The Jenkins Co have run across a channel over on the right side of the gulch and expect to bottom soon. At the mouth of the gulch the High-low-Jack Co are making wages by ground sluicing. On Conklin Gulch very little is doing. The White Pine got \$243 for the week; and the Felix Co about \$22. "Op-Is-wah" Creek things are slow. From Mosquito Creek and Red Gulch the reports are good. On Lightning Creek and its tributaries times begin to brighten up a little. The yield of gold is increasing. About \$1400 were taken out during the last week, as far as we could learn, and more claims are expected to get advanced into a paying condition at an early day. Among the best of the claims taking out pay are the Dunbar, Lightning, Wisconsin and Montgomery claims. Yesterday the Ross Co were driven out of their shaft by water. Machinery will be erected as soon possible. The reports from Canadian, Grouse Keithley, Harvey, Goose and Cunningham Creeks are very favorable.

From the Cariboo Sentinel of 31 July
The Wilson Co, above Richfield, took out 160 oz up to Friday morning. The Barker Co washed up 85 oz on Thursday. Up to Wednesday at noon the Taffvale Co had washed up 76 oz, and the Coombs Co 32 oz. From Canadian Creek we have encouraging information. The Miller Co, who are sinking a shaft, have come to gravel and are getting a little gold. After the great expense which they Miller and three other companies together combined have been put to in the construction of a tunnel, it is gratifying to learn that prospects indicate the utility of the work. The washup of the Minnehaha Co, Mosquito Creek; for last week, amounted to 120 oz, instead of 65 oz, as we reported. On Lightning Creek Flynn & Co commenced to wash early this week. Prospects of \$3; to the pan have been obtained, and they have got the water high enough to enable them to hydraulic and ground-sluice the extensive bench near Boyd & Heath's house. \$8,000 have been expended in getting in the ditch, which is about three miles long and carries the water 300 feet above the creek. Pay is found three feet from the surface, and there is also a deep channel running through the bench. The Discovery Co continue to take out good pay—35 oz a day, it is said. The Mabring Co have laid over their claim on McArthur Gulch, for the season, in consequence of the water in their diggings, and intend to commence by hydraulizing the ground next year.

WATCHING AND PREYING.—It is not often that the bearer of so significant a name as Nathan Wiese is found so devoid of common sense as to fall within the meshes of the law—at least, not without leaving a small loophole through which on occasion he may wriggle himself. Yet it sometimes so happens; and no longer ago than yesterday was placed in the Police dock a man bearing that cognomen, who is charged on very direct testimony with being a constructive thief. He is last from Portland, and represents himself to be an itinerant watchmaker. His plan was to accost a stranger in the street and ask him if his watch or jewelry required repairing and, strange to say, he found more than one dupe, even in this wide-awake community. One person upon whom he called complained that his watch would not go. "Give it me," said the sharper, "and I'll make it go!" And he kept his word. The watch went to a pawnbroker's where it was pledged. Returning shortly afterwards the fellow, observing a seal ring on his victim's little finger, asked him if he did not want his name cut upon it. Victim said he did, and handed it over to the sharper, and the ring was keeping the watch company at the pawnbroker's in a twinkling. A partial examination of the Wise man was had yesterday before Mr Pemberton, and he was remanded for further testimony.

FUNERAL OF MRS. O. W. WALLACE.—The remains of Mrs. O. W. Wallace were, consigned to the grave yesterday. The attendance was very numerous. The services were conducted by the Very Rev. Dean Cridge, and, in compliance with the request of the deceased lady, made just prior to her death, the cathedral choir sang the 256th hymn, commencing: "Oh, where shall rest be found?" The pall-bearers were Hons. Helmcken and Ring, Capt. Lewis, and Messrs. Nicholson, Graciani and Thorpe.

FROM THE MAINLAND.—The steamer Enterprise, Captain Swanson arrived from New Westminster yesterday afternoon with about 30 passengers, among whom were Sir James Douglas and daughter, Mr Newton, Mr J. McDowell, Mr and Miss Fisher, Mr Franklin, E. Tynon, Mrs Neufelder, Mr Sweeney, Fritz from Lillooet and others. She brought a mail and express and about \$150,000 in treasure. The Yale Examiner had terminated its existence: its decease must have been looked for, for some time, as its light had begun to flicker. The rain had extended to Yale and had nearly extinguished the fires in the woods, which however, continued to smoulder and emit a large quantity of smoke. There were five miners with \$60,000 in treasure from the Taff Vale and Floyd Companies on Stout Gulch; they are on their way home to Wales. Bill Pollard, while under the influence of liquor, broke into Capt. Deighton's house at 11 o'clock last evening and attempted to cut him with a large carving knife. Deighton caught his hand and calling assistance, had Pollard arrested.

MR. MUSGRAVE.—We have been shown an extract from the Toronto Globe which strengthens our statement that Mr. Musgrave was in Newfoundland when the news of Mr. Seymour's death reached him. For confirmation on excellent authority we learn that shortly before his death Mr. Seymour received a note from Mr. Musgrave, dated early in May. Mr. Musgrave was then in London. However, there is one consolation connected with all this uncertainty: he will be here when he arrives and not before.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE FOR JUNE comes to us more than usually interesting. The light reading is excellent; but the chief feature is a spiritedly written article on American reasons for peace, which should be read by everyone interested in either England or America. It shows very distinctly that there is no likelihood of any evil consequences arising from the discussion of the Alabama claims.

Snow fell at Cariboo on Dominion Day, and all the vegetables were destroyed by frost. The Sentinel "regards the fall as a heavenly gift to the country in token of a blessing upon the Dominion of Canada." Very good; but we hope the Dominion will not bring its climate with it across the Rocky mountains. A blessing of that description can be very well dispensed with.

THE band of P. Astree will perform on Foster's wharf this evening, commencing at 5 o'clock. The officers of P. Astree will dine to-morrow with the officers of H. M. S. Satellite.

RAFFLE.—A raffle for several articles of value for the benefit of the Sisters of St. Ann, will take place at the American Hotel this evening at eight o'clock.

DISMANTLING THE DREDGER.—The "Elephant" is undergoing the process of dismantling. The machinery, we believe, will be packed away.

COAL LADEN.—The ship Cowper, laden with 1700 tons Nansimo coal for San Francisco, was towed into the Straits yesterday by the Isabel.

THE Government Assay Office on William Creek, it was announced, would be ready for business on the 5th inst.

THE bark Delia Carlton, bound for the B. C. and V. I. Mills, arrived yesterday.

A COUNTRY WHERE EVERYBODY STEALS.—A Vienna paper relates the following occurrence which recently took place in a provincial city of Moldavia:

A merchant there has received several thousand ducats in gold for goods he had sold. He brought the money to his house. On the same evening two gentlemen, with masks before their faces, came to him, and threatening to shoot him with their revolvers, ordered him to give them the gold. The merchant although he was greatly surprised had sufficient presence of mind to resolve upon the best course to be pursued under these singular circumstances and said to them, "The money is in the old chest yonder. Here is the key; open it, and help yourselves to all you want to take from me." While the two villains were doing so the merchant seized his double-barreled gun, which was standing in a corner. It was fortunately loaded; he aimed, and shot both of them. Without losing further time, the merchant hastened out of the room, locked the door, and ordered his servant, who was just coming home, not to allow anyone to enter or leave the house, whereupon he repaired to the Chief of Police, and not finding him at home, to that of the Prefect, and, as he was absent, too, the house of the Police Commissioner. After informing the latter of what had occurred, the merchant returned with the Commissioner and some policemen, to his house, where the servant told him that, during his absence, no one had entered or left the house. The door was opened. The two masked thieves were lying before the open chest, without giving any signs of life. Their masks were removed and the thieves were found to be the Chief of Police and the Prefect.

Expedition up the Nile.

The New York Journal of Commerce has the following exposition of the purposes of the forthcoming expedition up the Nile under the patronage of the Viceroy of Egypt: The Baker expedition up the Nile is announced to start about the first of July, at which date the annual rise of the river commences. This will be the best appointed, and probably, in its effects, the most beneficial enterprise ever undertaken for the civilization of savage men. About 1,300 infantry and 200 cavalry, Arabs and Nubians—good soldiers, and seasoned in the African climate—will compose the expeditionary force, all under the absolute command of Sir Samuel Baker, one of the most intrepid and successful African explorers, a man whose coolness, skill and judgment have been tried and proved in the furnace of adventure. Iron steamers, which can be taken apart and transported on the backs of camels, fourteen mountain howitzers, ammunition and supplies unlimited, have been furnished out of the overflowing exchequer of the Viceroy of Egypt. The motive of that enlightened prince in sending out this costly expedition is one that bears the closest scrutiny, and challenges the admiration of the Christian world. Though a true and consistent Musselman, his object is not—like the Prophet's—to propagate his faith. There is no pretence of any proselyting purpose in the scheme—though, had the Viceroy declared that to be his motive the expedition would still have reflected honor upon him. Morally speaking, he has a much-right to push forward Mohammedanism by the sword as Christians have to advance their systems of religion by the same means; and it certainly would be better to bring the savages of equatorial Africa under the sway of the crescent than to let them continue in their present bondage to the most degrading forms of heathenism. The former, bad as it is in Christian eyes, is infinitely preferable to the latter. There can be but little doubt, that in omitting the element of a religious crusade from this expedition, the Viceroy has designedly deferred to the sentiments of that civilized part of the world which is Christianized; and in doing so he has shown how the Christian spirit may truly dwell in the heart of a follower of the Prophet.

Next to religion as a motive—or we might say associated with it—its handmaid it is sometimes called in such enterprises—is the extension of commerce. To open up the field of trade in products which the world wants, and so promote the comfort and happiness of mankind in general, is itself an object most highly to be commended; and if that alone were the design of the Viceroy, the Nile expedition, if humanely and wisely conducted, would receive the hearty approval of every civilized nation under the sun. Of course the Viceroy expects to reap some substantial advantages in return for his heavy outlay of money. He means to establish trading posts in the land of gold, ivory, gum arabic, beeswax, and camphor; and he has an eye to cotton growing at any points that may be favorable for it. He would not vindicate the business capacity he displayed as a builder of railroads and telegraphs, and promoter of the Suez canal, if he did not also look to the enrichment of his treasury from the Nile expedition. But beyond and above this, the true objective point at which he aims is the breaking up of the slave trade which has its home in the east and its most hideous development in the country which his troops will penetrate and make their own. If he can break up that horrible trade, in such portions of Central Africa as he can reach with his troops, he will receive the gratitude of Christendom.

Japan.

The Japan Gazette has the subjoined intelligence: On the 29th of April the Keang-su, Stonewall, and several other steamers belonging to the Mikado's fleet, arrived in Nambu harbour (Mirako) for the purpose of taking wood and coal. This might have been very well done in two days, but the officers and men left their ships and went ashore to amuse themselves for a few days. Whilst thus engaged, three steamers belonging to the Northern Confederacy entered the bay and one of them the Eagle, steamed close up to the Stonewall, leaving the Ashuelot and another, name unknown, at the entrance. She fired seven shots and lodged three bombs upon the Stonewall's deck; and then steamed past all the other ships in succession and fired into them. She then returned and joined her comrades, and steamed away again. This occupied about forty-five minutes.

It was doubtless the intention of the commander of the Ashuelot to run alongside and take the ram by surprise with boarders, but owing to bad steering the vessel went stem on and sustained great damage. At the moment the two vessels came into contact, four of the Ashuelot's crew dropped on the decks of the ram, and a few minutes after were headless corpses. The leader of this daring attempt, seeing how hopeless matters were, now ordered a retreat. The Ashuelot, however was too much crippled to proceed to sea; she steamed a short distance and was then run on shore and set fire to. A French officer, who was on board the Eagle directing the fire was shot through the arm and thigh, and now lies at Hakodate past recovery. Seventy-two of the Ashuelot's crew, with one Frenchman, escaped on shore after the steamer was in flames, but were shortly afterward captured by some of Satsuma's troops who were on the march to Awamori.

That Enomoto and his misguided companions acted under foreign inspiration of designers in making the movement they at length did, there is now no reason to doubt. To Brunet, that illustrious French filibuster and his companions in arms, is Japan indebted for the investigation of hostilities, as criminal as they are foolish. It may well be asked what rational object the soldiers of fortune have in allying themselves with the broken remains of the Tokugawa party? The Mikado has returned to Yedo, and the city is as full as it can be of armed men who have come up as remisers of the daimios summoned to attend upon his Majesty. The position of foreigners was precarious.

AGUE CURE, Intermittent Fever, Bilious Fever, etc., PERRINS' SAUCE, GOOD SAUCE, AGAINST FRAUD, PERRINS' SAUCE, BOTTLE AND STOPPER, ADDITIONAL FARM, J. D. PEMBERTON, Victoria District.