

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

Europe.

LONDON, May 3—It is said to-day that Disraeli tendered his resignation yesterday, but it was not accepted.

LONDON, May 1—The Cabinet crisis monopolizes public attention. It is thought if the measures which are in effect approved by both parties are not opposed by the Liberals, the present Cabinet will not resign or dissolve Parliament until an appeal can be made to a new constituency.

The Times to-day editorially recommends this course. The journals all comment on a vote on Gladstone's resolution. The Times says no one can deny the great significance of the event since the motion to go into Committee. The Times have gained three seats in the House of Commons, yet the 60 majority has grown to 66. The dissolution is talked of merely to frighten the members.

NEW YORK, April 29—A battle took place on the 14th of April, between the Cretons and Turks, which lasted all day. The battle field was near Apocirona. The insurgents claim the victory. The Turks are said to have committed great outrages.

The Herald says the House of Commons by a vote of the importance of which cannot be denied, affirms that it is just that the Church should be disestablished, but the House does not speak the voice of the country, as the late elections show.

The Daily News says it is satisfactory to find that the premier disclaims any design of advising the Queen to act against the vote of the House of Commons. His duty is not to dissolve Parliament or to resign, but to aid the progress of its resolves.

The Standard deprecates a vote of want of confidence as compelling dissolution, but fears the Liberals intend to pursue that course.

LONDON, May 1—Evening—Belief has become general that after passage of the Reform Bill for Ireland and Scotland the Ministry will dissolve Parliament and appeal to the people on the Irish Church question. The Globe in an editorial confirms this opinion.

CORK, May 1—By an order from the Lord Lieutenant, Mahoney, Fenian head centre and several other Fenians, have been released from custody.

LONDON, MAY 4, midnight—There was a very full house at the opening of the session of the House of Commons to-night. The Prince of Wales and Prince Christian of Schleswig Holstein were among the distinguished visitors present. The Premier and Gladstone were loudly cheered as they entered and took their seats. After some unimportant business Disraeli rose and was greeted with cheers from the ministerial benches. He reviewed the course of the Tory administration which at its outset was without a majority of supporters in the House, and spoke of its uniform success; so entire indeed that even its opponents acknowledged it, and on two occasions when Lord Derby expressed a wish to resign they urged him to remain in office; financially its record was faultless in foreign affairs. Lord Stanley has raised the prestige of the nation vastly, preserving peace with the continent and with the Great Republic in the west and in Ireland the ministry have triumphed at every point and at the same time conciliated the people. In Abyssinia a great deed of arms for humanity had done credit not only to the officers and soldiers engaged, but also to the ministry who planned it.

Thursday last on the vote upon the first of a series of resolutions, the ministry encountered a new question which threatened confusion in Ireland, and ultimately the overthrow of the English Church, the effect of which would be that all would be absorbed by the Church of Rome. To this measure he could not assent, and he had asked the House for time to advise with the Queen on the new attitude of affairs. Her Majesty had heard his statement, and not only declined his resignation but urged him not to dissolve Parliament at present or until an appeal could be made to new constituents. This he hoped to do with the aid of the House. Her Majesty deprecates the urgency which Gladstone pressed his resolution, and hoped that the suspension of the order of the day would not pass now. He was ready to give some other member of Government the right to carry on the discussion if debate there must be.

Mr Gladstone said the Premier's praise of the Tories was not only in bad taste but untrue, especially that portion respecting the finances. Lord Derby he remarked was not asked to stay in office in 1859.

Gladstone doubted whether the eulogium passed by the Premier was a challenge to the opposition or a rap to the Tories to persuade them to remain in office. He laughed at the cry of danger to the established Church; and at the other, that the Church of Rome would absorb all other sects. It was unprecedented that a ministry which had been beaten by sixty-five majority should talk of dissolving Parliament. It might be right to elect a new Parliament to settle this question of the Irish Church, but its first duty when chosen would be to settle the Ministry itself. Their previous course was unconstitutional. The House was hostile to the Ministry and yet the Premier wanted to govern the country until the fall; in the meantime the fate of Ireland and other great questions would remain in suspense. The duty of the Liberals was clearly to follow up their resolutions with a suspensory bill, thus clearing the way for a new Parliament; they must go on; they had no bargain to make; the Premier had said nothing that would change the purposes of the Ministry. He (Gladstone) would therefore urge a suspensory order as his right; or if the Ministry would not allow it, then at the earliest possible day for consideration of the resolutions, if they passed the House, a bill should follow suspending appointments in the Irish Church.

Mr Lowe said after the Ministry had nullified the will of the House they had better ask for the control of Government for months to come. Such a course was as unconstitutional as absurd. Were the executive and legislative distrusting each other, to maintain a show of amity until next year?

John Bright said the Premier's statement would not assuage the country at large. He asked the House to examine the usage of the constitution, that he might keep office by acts not the most worthy, and hold office by adopting the dogmas which he had bitterly denounced.

Mr Bright showed the inconsistency of the Tories and the various differences of opinions among the members of the Cabinet and said the adverse vote was no disgrace to the ministry; but in holding office after such a vote, there was no reason why the constitutional practice should be dispensed with in favor of Disraeli, who knew well enough that no Irish or Scotch Reform bill, not of a nature to suit the Irish and Scotch Liberals, could pass the House.

Disraeli fixed 17th of May for debate on the Irish Church question. The House then took up the budget and consideration of resolution, to amend the income tax sixpence on the pound sterling.

In the House of Lords, a statement was made by the Minister similar in tenor to that in the Commons.

Eastern States. New York, May 2—The Herald says it is believed if the President be removed the members of the Cabinet will refuse to quit on the ground that the acting President had no right to remove them.

The Tribune's Atlanta special says, the Republicans have made a clean sweep, elected Governor, ratified Constitution and have a majority in both Houses.

Richmond, May 2—Jefferson Davis' bail bond was renewed to-day, binding the accused to appear on such day next term as the Court shall fix. Chief Justice Chase promises to be in Richmond to preside with in two days after the conclusion of the impeachment trial. It is thought the trial will commence on the last of May.

New York, May 4—The Herald says a Hong Kong letter, dated February 26th, says Prussia is negotiating for the cession of the island of Choochan to Germany, which will thus place the Confederacy in command of the great highway to China and Japan.

In the impeachment trial Stanbury concluded his argument for the President. Washington, May 6—In the impeachment question Bingham began the final argument for prosecution.

Cuba. The Herald's Havana special says a monster stock company is forming at Renfengas, for importation of coals to that district and places. There was a great conflagration at Napieramas; town reduced to ashes.

Frightful Calamity! VOLCANIC ERUPTION AT THE SANDWICH ISLANDS!

100,000 LIVES LOST!

Sandwich Islands.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7—The bark Comet, from Sandwich Islands, arrived last night, bringing the following intelligence: The volcano of Maunaloa has broken out in the most terrific eruption known in history. The eruption was preceded and accompanied by two thousand shocks of earthquake at Kau district. Every house prostrated with the exception of one or two. Land slides were innumerable, and furiously rushing downward like avalanches, burying people's houses and cattle beneath them. Along the beach came a tidal wave over thirty feet in height, which extended along the coast a distance of fifty miles. This came in washing right over the cocoa-nut trees and running some distance inland, carrying out a small native village and all persons that were within reach at the time; some 37 souls. The crater of Maunaloa has been enlarged and broken down on one side, so that it is now about two miles in diameter, from which vast jets of lava are emitted. A lava stream from the crater on the summit of the mountain has gone underground and broken out on the slope far below about only six miles from the sea. At this point four jets of lava have forced themselves through the earth, throwing themselves and rocks 1000 feet in the air, and a stream of lava 1000 to 1500 feet wide and six miles long is flowing down to the sea at the rate of 12 miles an hour. The excitement is immense, and large numbers are flocking to the volcano. The damage by earthquakes upon the other islands was considerable but not serious.

California. RENO, May 4—The track and telegraph was laid to this place at 12 o'clock to-day, making 45 miles of track in operation east of the Sierra, this place having been selected by the railroad company as the permanent location of Virginia City junction. The construction of depot buildings will commence immediately. Passengers and freight will be landed here to-morrow. The site is unsurpassed, being at the lake crossing of the Truckee and the head of a seven mile tangent. The sale of town lots takes place on Saturday, May 9th. Owing to the difficulty of transporting material from Oro, Colonel Trainor has at present but a small force on. After the connection is made across the summit iron will be laid at a rate of speed unparalleled in the history of railroads.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 4—Arrived, steamer John L. Stephens from Portland; brig Tanner, 10 days from Seabeck.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 3—Sailed, steamer Continental last evening for Portland.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 5—Steamer Nevada sailed for Panama with a full load of passengers. Overland telegraph line not in working order. Legal Tenders 7 1/2 @ 72. Flour, superfine hf sks, \$6 25 @ \$6 50 qr sks \$6 50 @ \$6 75; Extra hf sks \$7 @ \$7 25; qr sks \$7 25 @ \$7 50. Wheat, 1500 sks good milling at \$2 25; do, sks choice, \$2 35; market dull. Barley, 2000 sks, \$1 37 1/2; market quiet at \$1 40 @ \$1 50. Oats continue dull at \$2 25 @ \$2 55. Arrived, bark Gem of the Ocean, from Port Blakely; bark Zephyr, from Burrard Inlet via Victoria.

Cleared, bark Vidette, Port Orford. SAN FRANCISCO, May 6—The Golden City sailed for Panama this morning. The steamship Sultan sailed from New York yesterday with 700 passengers. The bark Ocean, from Port Blakely, loaded with lumber, while entering the harbor last evening, was carried by the current on the Mile Rock, where she lay for an hour. She was got off with the loss of her larboard anchor and 30 fathoms of chain. Damage to vessel slight.

The Oregonian sails for Panama on May 20th, and the Nebraska on June 5th, opposition steamers. Arrived, May 5th, ship Helois, from Seattle; bark Milan, from Teaklet; bark Adelaide Cooper, from Port Ludlow. May 6th, bark Ocean, from Port Blakely; ship Dublin, from Port Madison; bark Kutsoff, from Port Gamble. Cleared, May 6th, ship Shooting Star, Nansimo.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 6—Arrived, ship El Dorado from Nansimo; ship Dublin from Port Madison. bark Kutsoff from Port Gamble. Cleared May 7th, bark W. H. Gawley, Port Townsend.

Our Canadian Letter.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

HAMILTON, Ont., March 2, 1868. Some time ago a general meeting of the stockholders of the Commercial Bank of Canada was held, at which the Chairman read a report stating, among other things, that an offer had been received from the Merchants' Bank to amalgamate with the Commercial on the basis of one share to three; i.e. taking the stock of the latter at 33 1/3 per cent. of its par value. The offer was accepted, the banks amalgamated, and to-day (March 2d) an announcement was made to the effect that Commercial Bank bills would be redeemed in full in gold. This is doing very well; but of course the shareholders will not be very much profited thereby for the present.

The Ontario Legislature has been in session now for two months, and almost the only important result is the 'Free Grants and Homestead Act,' brought in by Government. A tract composed of the districts of Algoma and Nipissing, and of the lands lying between the Ottawa River and the Georgian Bay, to the west of a line drawn from a point opposite the southeast angle of the township of Palmerston, north westerly along the western boundaries of the townships of North Sherbrooke, Lavant, Blithfield, Admeston, Bromley, Stafford and Pembroke to the Ottawa River, and to the north of the rear or northerly boundaries of the townships of Oso, Olden, Kennebec, Kaladar, Elzevir, Madoc, Marmora, Belmont, Dammer, Smith, Ennismore, Somerville, Laxton, Carden, Rama and of the river Severn, has been thrown open to settlers on (amongst others) the following conditions: No person under 18 years shall locate nor shall he locate more than 100 acres; the land shall not be valuable for its minerals or timber. No patent to issue until after five years' occupation nor until 15 acres shall have been cleared and cultivated. A house 16 by 20 feet must be erected and the locator must not be absent for more than six months in any one year. All minerals reserved to Her Majesty, and also the timber, with the exception of that which must be removed for the purposes of cultivation. All timber remaining on the land when the patent is issued passes to the patentee. No locator can mortgage his land until the patent is issued, and no mortgage after the patent has been issued is valid until the expiration of 20 years from the date of location, and for the same period it is not liable to seizure for debt. Such in short form is this wonderful production of the Government. How it will work remains to be seen.

The great topic in agitation during the past month has been the distress amongst the Nova Scotia fishermen. When intelligence was received that in consequence of the failure of the fisheries numbers of people who followed that occupation were thrown into a state of destitution, if not actual starvation, a public meeting was called in this city to take measures for their relief. In an incredibly short space of time nearly \$2,000 was subscribed; and transmitted in produce and cash to the Secretary of the Relief Fund in Halifax. The skating rinks were called into requisition for beneficiary carnivals and the theatre for performances and concerts; and every exertion was made by the citizens for the furtherance of this worthy object. Still it seems the destitution is very great, and last accounts state that great distress yet prevails. The weather during the first part of last month was delightful; but last week we were visited with a furious snow storm, which had the effect of blocking up all the railroads in the Province, with the exception of the Great Western in parts. For four days the roads were impassable, the snow having drifted in places to the depth of 20 feet. After hard work the roads were cleared on Tuesday last, only to be again blocked by yesterday's storm; however, as that was not a very severe one they were soon cleared, and to-day communication is restored.

Business is still dull, and has not been at all improved by the failure of several retail houses, which, though not very important, made a show in the city and contributed to the liveliness of its aspect. People are, however, looking forward to the spring with confidence, relying upon the old adage that 'when matters come to the worst they must mend.'

A paper entitled The Busybody has just been started here. It professes to deal freely with the faults and failings of the community, but not to invade the sanctity of the home circle. Notwithstanding this liberality it is expected to live but a very short time.

March 18—Since writing the above the House of Commons have met at Ottawa. Nothing of importance as yet has come up. The position of co-delegate with the Hon Mr Tupper has been offered to Mr Cartier, to proceed to England to watch the actions of Mr Howe, who has gone thither in the anti-union interests of Nova Scotia. He has declined the appointment.

The winter has completely broken up. We were visited with a few heavy storms of wind and rain, which have caused the snow to disappear. Several serious accidents, attended with loss of life, took place in Toronto in consequence. We are now enjoying delightful weather.

Shipping Intelligence

PORT OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ENTERED. May 2—None. May 4—Ship Active, Floyd, Astoria. Senr Geo S Wright, Langdon, Astoria. Ship Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Ship Adeline, Valleur, San Juan. Ship Surprise, Spring, West Coast. May 5—Ship Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Townsend. Ship Eliza, Middleton, Salt Spring Island. Ship Forest, Butler, San Juan.

CLEARED. May 2—Ship Mayflower, Maxwell, Salt Spring Island. Ship Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. May 4—Ship Adeline, Valleur, San Juan. Ship Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Ship Bingleader, Hewitt, Comox. May 5—Ship Emma, Holmes, New Westminster. May 6—Ship Geo S Wright, Langdon, Astoria. Ship Surprise, Spring, West Coast. Ship Forest, Butler, San Juan. Ship Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Townsend. Ship Oter, Lewis, Burrard Inlet and Tongas.

PORT OF PORT TOWNSEND, W. T.

ENTERED. April 27—Am. Ek Camden arrived from Honolulu, 25 days out. May 1—Brig Admiral, from San Francisco. 4—Br Emma Augusta do. CLEARED. April 30—Br Vernon sailed for San Francisco.

PASSENGERS. Per star G S WRIGHT from Portland—J M Beach, S S Schmidt, P O Dwyer, W Palmer, H Orono, Wm Jones, Henry Laughlin, John McEvoy and 3 others. Per star ACTIVE from Portland—John Boyd, Tremblin, Col. H. C. Hodges, wife and child, Capt. J. H. Gragg, H M Woodard, F J Bassom, Mrs J L Butler, T H Gragg, C F Pratt and 16 others.

CONSIGNEES. Per star G S WRIGHT from Portland—Fromis, James, Schmidt, Order, H B Co, Elard, Francis, O'Dwyer, Grunbaum, Bros. Per star ACTIVE from Portland—A M L, W J A, W S, L & Co, P & M, J Parazo, A B, Grubbs, & Co, Lowe Bros, Thomas James, J C, John Clark, John Bigne, J Jackson.

EXPORTS. Per star G. S. WRIGHT from Portland—56 sds oats, 2312 do flour, 74 do bacon and hams, 115 bxs apples, 1 cs lard, 63 cs wheat, 16 do butter, 18 bxs eggs, 2 cs mds, 2 cs tallow, 11 cs middlings, 11 do feed, 41 do bran.

GOODS ON THE WAY. Per bark RIVAL from San Francisco, April 24—26 sds dried apples, 74 sds barley, 51 cs books, 4 dcs brooms, 10 sds butter, 8 sds do, 220 bxs candles, 5 sds coffee, 86 coils cordage, 20 sds crockery, 25 do drugs, 71 do firecrackers, 130 do groceries, 10 do hardware, 30 bxs macaroni, 10 kits Mackerel, 50 cs matches, 50 kgs ha-la, 16 sds nuts, 50 bles oakum, 94 bxs China oil, 10 dox pails, 12 sds paper, 16 do paper, 2 bks quillsilver, 1500 mats rice, 25 pigs salt, 170 bxs soap, 10 kgs sugar, 30 cs do, 130 chests tea, 100 bxs tea, 27 nests tubs. Value \$23,214.

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