

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday August 31 1870

Nation-Making.

We by no means put it forward as an original remark when we say that Nature does her greatest works of construction in silence. Although, at the same time, it must be admitted that at the present day what Carlyle calls the Silences are the least honored of all the minor gods, and strength too often exhausts itself by mere flux of words. The birth of a new nation sometimes passes almost unmarked amid the hum and bustle of local politics and everyday life. It is not easy to fully realize the fact in all its magnitude that a nation has just been born on this continent—a nation in territorial extent larger than all Europe. The birth of the Greater Britain of America has truly been one of Nature's silent works. Other nations have for the most part sprung from Mars. Ours is a child of Concordia. While other nations have only extended their territory and established their dynasties through surging seas of blood, ours has been stretched from ocean to ocean without a sword being drawn or a shot fired—save that alone which pierced the heart of poor Scott. The circumstances surrounding its birth are indeed of peaceful and happy augury. But one cannot help remarking the little attention such an important event has attracted in the Mother Country, and even on this Continent. The truth would appear to be that people have scarcely yet begun to regard the subject in the light of the future. The idea that "Westward the star of Empire takes its way" is, in truth, but little realized. The millions already stretching their hands hither from Orient and from Occident are still unseen to those who will not look beyond the present. But this new nation of British America, although the first, is only the first to be constructed out of Her Britannic Majesty's scattered possessions. The great work of Nation-making ends not here. From the Southern Continent is now heard the Macedonian cry "Come over and help us." The great Australasian Colonies are ripe for national agglomeration. The progress of Confederation here has been watched with anxious interest by our brother Colonists in the South, and more recent indications tell us of their desire to be the next. Hitherto, in Australasia as in other individual endeavors and the mere assertion of bald abstract principles have produced little fruit. But now that the subject has been earnestly taken up by the Ministry at Victoria, we may not unreasonably assume that practical discussion will speedily evolve itself into practical action. With the recent defeat of the Maoperson Administration comes the restoration of Sir James McCulloch to power, but rather at the head of a moderate coalition party than as a leader of extreme Democracy. A Ministry so formed has wisely chosen Confederation as one of the great rallying points for its supporters; and the circumstance of the re-election of every member of the Government shows that they had not miscalculated public sentiment. In seeking re-election, on accepting the position of Premier, Sir James McCulloch issued the accustomed address to the electors of Mornington. The address contained the following sufficiently pronounced passage: "The Federation of the Australasian Colonies is a subject of growing importance, and the Government will heartily co-operate with any or all of the other Colonies in order to secure the advantages of a union on many points of common interest." There is in all the Australasian Colonies a disposition manifested to labor for the one common end; and, with the initiative thus taken by the strong Government of the influential Colony of Victoria, we may expect to see the scheme very soon assume a practical shape. And who will question the wisdom of such a movement? Australasia, no less than British America, will find strength in such a union,—strength alike for internal development and external resistance or defense. We have just seen Canada animated with all the martial spirit of a nation, and the vigor of the chastisement inflicted upon the Fenian filibusters may be accepted as the first fruits of Confederation; and although the Colonies of Australasia are less likely to be menaced from without, yet circumstances are conceivable in which the safety of the British settlements in the Southern Seas could be effectually secured only by the coalesced forces and confederate spirit of all others, they being now independent of any tie, except the almost nominal and sentimental one which connects them with the British Crown. The precise scope of Australasian Confederation may admit of question; but we are disposed to think and hope that the scheme may

be wide enough to embrace all the British possessions in the Southern Seas. Tasmania, we learn, has proposed a conference, with the object of extending the benefits of the Intercolonial Customs Union. And the Treasurer of New Zealand has been engaged in negotiations with the Governments of Queensland and New South Wales for a like object. The circumstance of New Zealand being separated by more than a thousand miles of rough sea from the Australian coast, may be regarded as a difficulty in the way of any more intimate union than that of a mere Zollverein; but even that difficulty must not be regarded as insuperable. One of the very first duties of an Australasian Empire would be the organization of an effective force for home defense, and a small but well-equipped fleet, which may undertake the charge of keeping the peace in Southern waters. It is quite possible that in Australasia, as on this continent, Confederation may not, in the first instance, take its widest range. But, in the four peopled Colonies of the Continent by themselves—Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and Southern Australia,—or adding to them as a natural adjunct the island of Tasmania, there would be presented all the requisites of a great empire—ample material for the construction of a nation, with no contemptible measure of present strength and with unbounded promise of future power. The resources of the various Australasian Colonies supplement one another to a degree perhaps not equalled by our own wide-spreading Dominion. The subtropical wealth of Queensland consists in its future sugar, cotton, and spice cultivation, superadded to the limitless pastoral lands of the Darling Downs. New South Wales, in part also a pastoral country, possesses, besides, a chance of immense development in the coalfields that stretch down to her commodious harbours. Victoria has already chosen her destiny—the busy prosperity of a commercial, mining, and manufacturing community. South Australia, with her broad wheat-fields and her sunny vineyards, equals in resources, though not in extent the great valley of our own magnificent North-West; and the Western Colony can send timber to Melbourne and Sydney, while Tasmania, the Ireland of the South, rich in agricultural and mineral resources and blessed with a genial climate, and New Zealand, with her more distant, but not less productive acres, will complete the picture. If Sir James McCulloch and his colleagues prove themselves equal to the glorious work upon which they appear to have entered with so much promise, the present generation will see another great British Empire lifting its proud head high above the waves of the Southern Seas, joining hands with the Empire of the North, and both uniting with the Mother of Nations in grasping the commerce of the seas, and in pushing onward the highest civilization and liberty which have become synonyms of British Institutions.

Cariboo Intelligence.

From the Sentinel of the 20th we glean the following summary of MINING INTELLIGENCE. On William creek the San Juan co cleaned up 13 oz from an experimental wash, Downie co 30 oz, Cornish co 37 oz, Cariboo co 231 oz, St George co 40 oz, Forest Rose co 55 oz, Caledonia co 20 oz. On Stout gulch the Telford co 25 oz. On Valley Mountain the Discovery co 23 oz. The Valley Mountain co, for Thursday, \$100. On Lightning creek the Lightning co 84 oz, Ross co 23 oz. Jack claim looking well and paying wages. Great Western and Fall-me-Never are both on their claims. On Anderson creek the Warren co washed up 63 oz, and same for the previous week. On Grouse creek, Salt Spring co 15 oz, and several companies making wages. On Keithly creek the Gold Flat co had run a drain 1,300 feet long and expected soon to get pay. For the half-week later, the following wash-ups were made on William creek: Cariboo-co 205 oz, Forest Rose co 40 and the Caledonia co 17 ounces. AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS: The weather had been intensely hot, on the 16th the thermometer ranging as high as 124 in the sun and 98° in the shade—the highest ever known in Cariboo. On the following day, however, the weather became quite cool. The miners on Lower creek have offered to subscribe part of the money necessary to construct a new trail to the creek, and it is hoped the Government will come to the rescue, as the trail is greatly needed. The following feat of pedestrianism came off on the 18th: The point for starting was Rogers' store, on Grouse creek. From thence the pedestrian, whose name is Richard Wright, was to cross the country to the peak of the high mountain overlooking Antler creek valley, place a flag thereon and complete the distance, which is about 12 miles, in four hours. The starting trail between the mountain and the starting point and the country is very difficult to travel over. FROM Q. O. ISLAND.—The schooner Favorite, Capt McKay, arrived from the West Coast on Friday night, bringing N Morrison as passenger and a freight of furs and oil. The schooner touched only at Grumbach where a trading post has been established. The Indians have been quite obstreperous of late, but have refrained from any overt acts. Threats, however, they freely indulge in. The Favorite was becalmed four days, during which time she was surrounded by whales, large schools of which are sporting in the Gulf.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise, Capt Swanson, arrived from New Westminster at 3 1/2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Among the passengers were Judge Cross, Registrar Rooley, Messrs McGreigh, Robertson, A. Munro, H. Nelson, Capt Fleming, C. Hughes, W. Bondwick and Officer McNellan. A Garbo express and mail and \$46,000 in gold were brought. ISLAND SCHOOLS.—Inspector-General Allison will visit next week Cowichan, Nanaimo and Comox with the object of inspecting the schools there, and, if necessary, re-organizing them. THE CALIFORNIA will not sail for Portland before the 5th of September. After returning here and discharging freight she will go to Nanaimo and take in a cargo of coal. The first telegram from the Mainland over the new line will be found beneath the usual heading to-day. The line is in perfect working order and the long circuit is worked easily. APPOINTMENTS.—Saturday's Gazette announces the appointment of Mr. J. McKenzie as postmaster at Kamloops, in lieu of Mr. W. Charles, resigned. ECCLIASTICAL.—The Rev. Dr. Lindsey, of Portland, will occupy the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church, this morning, and he will preach in the Wesleyan Methodist Church in the evening. THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.—In the Mail Summary which we publish this morning will be found a very important statement made by a Canadian Minister touching the Railway. RELEVIN.—The Sheriff yesterday seized the circus property under a writ of relevin obtained at the instance of Robt Nelson, and the sale did not take place. NEXT DIRECT STEAMER.—Mr. Garesche left San Francisco on the 26th to return via Portland. This would seem to indicate that the next direct steamer will not leave San Francisco for Victoria before the regular sailing day—4th or 5th of September.

THE BATES TROUPE are playing at Portland. Melville has just had a big benefit and Bates is about to have another. The steamer Onward started from New Westminster for Yale on Saturday morning with a full load of freight. EUROPEAN MAIL SUMMARY. We have English papers to the 30th of July. The Spectator says that the ruin worked by the war on 'Change has been terrible, but not, perhaps, unhealthy. It seems that a mania for speculation had set in; quiet people all over England were buying and selling time-bargains, and when the crash came could not meet their engagements. Thirty-six brokers and dealers had failed, and there was a rumor of a terrible failure on the 29th ult, but the worst would not be done till the 4th inst, when the Consol account would be cleared off. That once over values ought to recover, but what with the war and the rise in the rate of discount to 5 per cent and the explosion within the 'Homes,' brokers will be more careful, and the public, it is hoped, a little more moral. An armed European force has been sent to Tientsin in consequence of recent massacres. There have been serious inundations in Eastern Bengal. The Amer of Cabul has obtained from the native chiefs a pledge to guard the Khyber Pass. The Captain, iron-plated turret ship on Capt Cole's principle which has proved her to be the most formidable vessel afloat. Experiments have been made at Plymouth with a new kind of torpedo, which is described as being most efficient for the protection of harbors and ports. The harvest was in full operation throughout the southern counties of England. The average yield would be good. A French corvette was in the Channel, off the Isle of Wight, boarding all passing merchant vessels. The Hon F Charteris, eldest son of Lord Elcho, had died from the effects of a wound inflicted some days before by himself. The Arches Court has pronounced judgment in the prosecution against the Rev J E Bennett of Frore, deciding that there are no legal grounds for condemnation. Notice of appeal was at once given. A handsome testimonial was presented on the 23rd ult at the Carlton Club to Col Taylor, M P, late "Whip" of the Conservative party. Mr Dimsell eulogized Col Taylor's services and expressed his satisfaction that so able a successor had been obtained in the person of Mr Noel. The 'National' press of Ireland rejoices at the European war and sympathizes with France, plainly indicating its opinion that Great Britain will be drawn into the quarrel when Ireland will have an opportunity of exacting her own independence. The feeling in favor of a separate Irish Legislature is still noticeable among a portion of the moderate and Protestant population. DOMINION MAIL SUMMARY. We have Canadian exchanges to the 10th. Lieut-Governor Archibald took his departure from Ottawa for Fort Garry on the 8th and it was anticipated he would reach the seat of his Government along with the main body of the expeditionary force about the end of the present month. The system of government about to be inaugurated in Manitoba is, of course, that known as Responsible Government, similar to that of the old Provinces. Among the first acts of the Governor, therefore, will be the formation of a Cabinet and holding a general election; and one of the chief difficulties Ministers will have to encounter in the first election, will be prejudicial of race and creed. The Lieutenant-Governor has been for the present entrusted with the management of the public funds belonging to the Dominion situated in Manitoba as well as in the still unorganized territory of

the great Northwest; and it is presumable that he will, for the present, provide for the necessary surveys, as well as sales, reporting to the Dominion Government. The return of Sir John A Macdonald to Ottawa, about the end of this month, for the purpose of re-entrusting upon his active duties as Premier, was announced. Adjutant-General Robertson rose arrived at Ottawa on the 8th of August, bringing with him the sword to be presented to Colonel Chamberlain by the Ottawians. It is described as a splendid weapon. The handle is gold and ivory, with heavy gold sword knot. There are two scabbards, one for full dress the other for parade; both are of elegant design, the former being beautifully ornamented with national emblems, and is very elaborate. On the right side of the sword blade is the inscription: Presented by the citizens of Ottawa to Lieut-Col. Chamberlain, M P, 60th Massachusetts Volunteer, for gallantry in repelling the Fenian Invasion at Rolet's Hill, Canada, 25th May 1870. On the reverse side is the motto of Col. Chamberlain's regiment, Watch the front, watch well, together with the Chamberlain coat of arms and national emblems. The beaver and maple leaf, as well as the number and name of the regiment and date of the engagement at Rolet's Hill. Accompanying the sword is a handsome, and at the same time a very serviceable sword belt of silver lace. The Harvard boat crew arrived at Montreal on the 7th and put at the St. Lawrence Hall. They would shortly go into training for the approaching international boat race to come off at Lehigh. The Hon Peter Mitchell, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, had been making a tour of Ontario, and the city of Hamilton entertained him at a public banquet. In the course of his speech on that occasion, Mr. Mitchell referred to the interests of the Department under his charge, and intimated that there was no reason to apprehend any trouble with the United States on the fishing question. He also stated what had not been before stated from authority, that the arrangement with British Columbia, that a Pacific Railway on British territory must be immediately constructed. He also satisfied the meeting that the Government of Canada could not constitutionally have intervened in regard to the events antecedent to the proclamation handing over the Red River territory to Canada, and, as a matter of fact, had not given any advice to the Imperial Government on the subject of a general amnesty.

Marshal Canrobert. Marshal Canrobert is over sixty years of age, having been born in 1809. His military celebrity, like that of most of the French Generals, was commenced in Algeria and was perfected before Sebastopol. He is of an ancient family in Brittany, his father having been an officer in the Royalist army of the Prince of Condé. In 1825 he was admitted pupil of St Cyr. He took his sub-lieutenancy in 1828, was made lieutenant in 1832 and in 1835 was sent with his regiment to Algeria. He was engaged here in some of the hardest fighting and most trying expeditions of the French occupation. He was in the Mascara affair, at the siege of Tlemcen, in the fight at Sidi Yaweb, Talaia and Sikkak. At the desperate assault on Ouedstant, when the Arab sheiks and their followers fought with daring though unavailing bravery, he was wounded, and Colonel Combes who fell by his side, recommended Captain Canrobert to Vallee in his dying words. There is a future in that young man. He returned to France and got the Legion of Honor, and had charge of the Foreign Legion after the fall of the Carlist party in Spain. He was again sent to Africa with his men and was employed in a large number of those destructive enterprises which were thought to be the necessary though cruel policy of the French Government to subjugate and keep in order the reckless valor of the Arab tribes impatient under a foreign yoke. The rising of Bou Massa gave the French army of occupation no rest, and the principal part of the contest fell on Canrobert's regiment—the sixty seventh of the line. Eight months of constant fighting and bloody reprisals broke the spirit of the refractory tribes, and in 1847 he got his colonelcy. The promotion did not bring idleness, it only led to increased activity, until, after chastising several minor tribes to no purpose, the grand insurrection of the Kabyles and the natives of Jurjura commenced. This like all the rest, was terminated after immense fatigue and great losses on both sides. In 1849 he relieved the Arab fortress of Zaatcha, leading his men into the assault. This last achievement brought him recall and his employment on scenes of more wide spread honor and less work. At the nomination of Louis Napoleon as President, Canrobert joined his party. He became a general in the New Republic, and in the coup d'etat had command of one of the divisions of the Army of Paris, and assisted in the repression of the popular dissatisfaction. Some political functions of considerable importance were assigned to him, and in 1858 he became general of division. Canrobert was sent to Turkey in 1854, in command of the first division of the Army of the East. The introductory campaign of the Dobruza was unfortunate, and this division suffered terribly from cholera. Subsequently, when the centre of military operations was changed to the Crimea, he was at the battle of Alma and was slightly wounded. Two days afterwards, when St Arnaud, commander-in-chief of the French, was dying, he turned over the command to Canrobert, who moved immediately on Sebastopol, constructed several batteries and opened fire with the intention of carrying the fortress by direct assault, but finding this impracticable he forthwith laid down a plan of gigantic investment. An Inkerman he was again wounded. His mode of procedure not being satisfactory to Lord Raglan, the British commander, Canrobert was relieved by Pelissier from the chief command and resumed duty at the head of his own corps. In 1866 he was made Marshal of France. In the Franco-Austrian war he was at the head of the third corps. He was at Magenta and Solferino. Since the close of that war he has been engaged in several offices in France of no special interest to the general reader, and even his vote in 1861 against the temporal power of the Pope must be regarded rather as a matter of military obedience or policy than of any personal opinion.

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Big Bend Express, REGULAR MAILS. The Express leaves for Vancouver, Fort Kamloops, and other points on the coast, and returns to Victoria on the following dates: For Vancouver, leaves Victoria on the 1st of September; for Fort Kamloops, leaves Victoria on the 8th of September; for other points, leaves Victoria on the 15th of September. The Express is a reliable and comfortable mode of travel, and is highly recommended for all business and pleasure travel.

NOTICE. The undersigned, J. F. BARNARD, has been appointed by the Government of Victoria, to receive and deliver the land under the name of the 'Big Bend Express'.

FOR SALE. A large quantity of choice wine, brandy, and spirits, for sale at the lowest prices. Apply to J. F. BARNARD, Victoria.