THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

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do	Lytton
do	Vanwinkle
do	Richfield
do	Barkerville
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Geological Survey.

One advantage to be obtained under Confederation, and it is by no means an unimportant one, is a thorough and systematic geological survey of the country. Here we are, in the eleventh year of the mineralogical history of the colony, so to speak, still profoundly ignorant of its geological structure and mineral deposits, for although full sixty millions of gold has been taken out, and although rich quartz and silver and copper veins have forced themselves upon attention, yet we only know enough to show us our profound ignorance. Nor can anything like an intelligent knowledge of the mineral wealth of this country be acquired until a geological survey has been made. Such a knowledge once acquired would prove of incalculable value in many ways. In the matter of road-making alone it is important that we should be guided in a certain measure by a knowledge of the position and extent of mineral deposits. Hitherto our road-making has been carried on very much in the dark in this respect, and many thousands of revenue have been utterly wasted, enough, in all probability, has been thus frittered away to meet the expense of a survey. Then, again, in the matter of attracting population and capital, how allimportant it is that a survey should be made. It is believed that this country is enormously rich in minerals of all kinds. That belief is founded upon the general configuration of the country, as cursorily viewed by the unscientific eye, well endorsed, doubtless, by the outcroppings and the shallow diggings everywhere perceptible. Yet a belief of this kind, however firmly grounded in our own minds, must be regarded as altogether too vague and hypothetical to attract population to any large extent, and notoriously too much so to attract that most cautious, coy and sensitive of all things, capital. But, let a thorough geological survey be made by a staff of competent men; and assuming that the result would be such as to justify present expectations and belief in regard to the mineral wealth of the colony, we would not have long to wait either for population or capital. Both would flow in as fast as they could be employed. Another eminently practical advantage to be derived from such a survey would consist in its operating as a guide to prospectors. Now they have 'to go it blind,' to employ a localism, and very much of the energy, time and means of the hardy prospector are now wasted, simply from the want of anything like a knowledge of the general geological conformation of the country. In this respect incalculable waste might be avoided. The Canadian Government has already given practical proof of its appreciation of the importance of a geological survey of the country committed to its charge. In its employment is found a most efficient staff of surveyors, under that eminent Canadian geologist, Sir William Logan; and the earnestness with which it is proposed to prosecute a survey of the Dominion may be inferred from the circumstance of one hundred thousand dollars of Federal revenue being specifically set apart for that particular service. Now, there is no part of British America presumably so important as this, considered in a mineralogical aspect; and whenever British Columbia becomes a Province of the Dominion it will be alike our own interest and that of Canada that the mineral wealth of this section should no longer remain under the dark cloud of ignorance and uncertainty which has up to the present moment enveloped it. These considerations will entitle us to ask, and it is not too much to expect the Canadian Government to extend to us the early benefits of a thorough geological survey, not only as having a direct and important bearing upon local wellbeing, but as a certain and ready means of rendering the colony a more worthy, prosperous, and profitable member of the great British American family, by attracting population and capital from contiguous countries, and enabling its dormant wealth to be developed. Should British Columbia, by any possibility, remain out of the Dominion for any lengthened period—a contingency, however, too remote to be entitled to serious consideration—it would, in that event, become the duty of the local government to consider how the important work of carrying out a complete geological survey could be accomplished by the colony. And, here we may, perhaps, be permitted to remark how very much better employed certain gentlemen would be in pointing out to the people of this Colony the very numerous and extremely obvious advantages attainable under Confederation, instead of racking their brains and straining facts in order to discover and magnify hypothetical disadvantages which may possibly accrue to us under that system. We are not foolish enough to claim for Confederation unmixed blessing, complete freedom from all possible objection; but we do claim for it such a decided preponderance of good as to make all objectionable features kick the beam. Is the present system an unmixed good? Are we so well pleased with the plan of being governed through the Colonial Office that we are averse to all change? But it must not be forgotten that the present system has had *ichabod* written upon it by Imperial fingers,—that it is to come to a speedy end, and that we cannot, if we would, continue to hang on to Britannia's apron-string. Our good old mother is determined to make men of us, whether we will or not; although it is not intended that, by becoming men we shall cease to be her children. How contemptible, then, in view of all the facts and circumstances of the case, for colonists to persist in whimpering and cringing about what they falsely call separation from the Mother Country. How ignoble to wish to hang on to the Imperial skirts, in all the recklessness of infancy, when we are invited, *commanded* to stand upon our own legs and hold up our heads like men! One experiences a feeling of sickening disgust, *loathing* when one hears men in this colony advocating that we should still hang on to unwilling skirts—continue to occupy a political position but one degree removed above serfdom. There are, we blush to confess, such men in British Columbia; but, thank God, their number is infinitesimal, and their influence is *nil*.

Tuesday Dec. 21st

The Governer and Committee of the Hudson Bay Company, in their Report state, with reference to the transfer of the territories to the Dominion of Canada, that it is understood that on or before the 1st of December next the sum of £300,000 will be paid to the credit of the Company at the Bank of England. When this is done and the transfer completed, a special meeting of the Company will be called, and a resolution submitted for approval authorizing the return of £3 per share to the proprietors. In consequence of the decrease in the year's returns, the interim dividend to be paid in January will not be more than 4s per share. The issue of the report was looked upon as unsatisfactory, and the shares fell 3/ yesterday.—*Economist, Nov* 13.

The Mysterious Murder at Esquimalt.—In the case of Henry Hewitt, who surrendered himself for examination upon a charge of murdering James Smith, near Esquimalt some two years ago, Inspector Bowden yesterday testified that when the body was found he had a conversation with Hewitt, and asked him to go and see the body of Smith. He said he would not, as he did not like to see dead bodies. He afterwards went to the Coroner's Inquest and identified the clothes of the deceased. The case was still further remanded until Friday, to allow the Doctor who examined Smith to attend.

Christmas Presents.—We hope no good parent or friend of the young will complete his purchases of presents before visiting and inspecting the elegant assortment of seasonable goods displayed by Mrs. Johnston at the well known English Bazaar, on Fort street. There will be found everything, from a jewsharp to a concertina, from a jumping-jack to a most beautiful doll, ornaments, cuttlery as sharp as the ideas of some of our young friends, workboxes suited for nimble fingered ladies or buttonless bachelors. In short, for a complete list, we must refer our readers to the store and the polite attendants.

The schooner Kate, from Cortez Island *via* Nanaimo, arrived on Sunday with the Dawson whaling party. The whaling season having closed, the whole party were brought down by the Kate, which vessel also left 100 barrels oil at Nanaimo for shipment to San Francisco.

The Politofsky.—This steamer, Capt Guindon, arrived from Port Madison, yesterday afternoon, having on board as passengers Mr and Mrs Westervelt, Mrs G A Meigge, Mrs Guindon and Miss Ordway. The Politofsky leaves to-day for the scene of the wreck of the bark Maria J Smith, near Barclay Sound. The bark will be towed to Meigge' Mills, Port Madison, discharged, docked and repaired. Her damages are slight.

The steamer Enterprise returned on Sunday from Barrard Inlet, having towed the ship Nation's Hope to the B C & V I Mill's. The brig Coquette at Moody's, and the bark Maud Ellen at the B C & V I Mills will be ready for sea in a few days. The Enterprise reports a wild nor wester in the gulf on Friday last.

Great Holiday Sale.—Messrs J P Davies & Co. will commence their great holiday sale at 11 o'clock this morning. The goods will be sold by catalogue. They comprise a great variety of articles, both useful and ornamental, among which we may mention silverware, jewelry, watches, clocks, and cabinet ware and fancy goods. Sale positive.

The Masonic Ball.—The Masonic Ball on the 27th promises to be a very brilliant affair. Only a limited number of tickets will be sold. The various committees have gone to work in good earnest and have nearly completed their arrangements.

The Highest Score.—A Volunteer writes to correct the statement in Sunday's Colonist that 65 is the highest score ever made in the Colony over the ranges fired at on Saturday last. He says that Ensign Wolfenden, at the New Westminster butts, in September, 1867, over the same ranges, scored 68.

Have you seen those beautiful ornaments just imported by Hibben & Co., for Holiday Presents? No! Then you *have* missed a sight worth seeing. Go, by all means, before they are all sold, and while you are in the store, ask to be shown the copy of Holy Writ and the copy of Dante, illustrated by the great Gustav Dore.

Gone Down.—The ship Cowper disappeared from Cowper Rock, on Friday, during a heavy nor'wester. The Enterprise passed near the spot and saw no sign of the wreck. About 300 tons of coal, in all, were saved.

'Julia L'estr.'—Your communication on the Christ Church controversy, like your own sweet self, is charming: but is a little too personal in its tone, and then, you have forgotten to enclose your card, without which, no communications can appear in these columns.

The steamer Olympia arrived from Puget Sound last evening, bringing about 40 passengers and a freight valued at $5700. In the passenger list we observe the name of Henry Rhodes, Esq.

Ice formed in the kennels to the thickness of an inch and a quarter on Sunday night, and the first snow, a sprinkle, fell on Saturday night.

No Lives Lost.—The wreck on Trial Island proves to be that of the sloop Ironsides, a derelict from San Juan Island. The Annie is safe at Orcas Island.

Caledonian Society.—The annual sermon will be preached to the Caledonian Society by Rev Mr Somerville, Chaplain of the Society, on next Sabbath morning, at 11 o'clock, in St Andrew's Church.

Skinner's Bottom, we understand, is frozen over and offers a surface as smooth as glass to Skaiists. If the ice holds till Christmas there'll be lots of fun.

The tide fell unusually low last night, and the steamer Olympia touched on Shoal Point in entering.

The Verona.—A decision in the case of the runaway steamer Verona will be rendered this morning.

An Austrian Fleet is reported on the way from Japan to Sandwich Islands.

The wires worked remarkably well all day yesterday.

"Honor to Whom Honor."

Editor British Colonist.—I read in your paper of the 19th a letter signed B, which states that without the existence of a certain committee, the past concert in aid of Christ Church Building Fund would have been a fizzle. Allow me to state, sir, that I am of quite the contrary opinion.

The reason why that concert was not a fizzle was through the talent of the performers.

The only thing the Committee did, that I could see, was to provide miserable accommodation for ticket holders, and engage a piano that was an insult to ask any musician to play upon or sing to.

I would like to ask B. why the concert was not advertised? If it had been, the proceeds would have been doubled, as many persons did not know anything about it who would have gone if they had; and many who did know thought it was a private affair, and only those expected to be there who were asked to take tickets.

Who the members of this Committee were, I do not know, but from appearances I should say they were not musicians, although they might be good ticket sellers.

And when I turn out at night to hear a concert, I don't want to see or hear the efforts of our best amateur musicians spoiled by either ignorance or bad management.

LOOKER-ON.

A Word to Brewers.

Editor British Colonist:—According to the 'Excise' law of Canada every person who manufactures malt either for his own use as a distiller or brewer, shall be deemed a maltster and as such is required to take out a maltster's license—viz., under 25,000 pounds $100 per annum; between 25,000 and 100 000 pounds $150; and if above 100,000 pounds $200 per annum. If a brewer he must also pay a license of $50 per annum additional.

Any brewer or maltster wishing for a licenses must apply for the same in writing to the Collector of Inland Revenue, and must give a precise description of the premises proposed to be used. A maltster must give security for two month's duties, and a brewer for $1000. They must keep books detailing all their transactions; and no grain must be moved, either to steep it, to dry it, or store it except between the hours of 8 a m and 5 p m. Maltsters about to remove grain for any of these purposes must give 24 hours's notice. A bushel of malt is to be reckoned at 26 pounds—Customs duties 40 cents per bushel.

Every maltster must pay 1 cent per pound excise duty upon all the malt he manufactures, in addition to his license.

The British Columbian tariff imposes a duty of 15 cents per gallon upon beer and 30 cents per 100 pounds upon malt.

The Canadian tariff imposes a duty of 5 cents per gallon upon beer and 10 per cent *ad valorem* and 15 per cent upon the casks or bottles. The duty upon malt is $1 20 per 100 pounds. If this colony then came under the Canadian laws the duty upon beer would be reduced one-half, but the duty upon malt would be increased by nearly 90 cents upon every hundred pounds of malt! It remains for the brewers to decide whether they could continue their business under such an adverse arrangement.

Probably every brewer in Victoria uses one hundred tons or 200,000 lbs of malt per year. The duty upon that amount of malt would be $2200. He would have to pay that and $250 more for a brewer's and maltster's license, or altogether $2450 per annum.

Under present circumstances he pays [if he imports his malt] $650. One thousand eight hundred dollars per annum less than he would do if living under the Dominion of Canada—in addition to which he enjoys protection from foreign competition to a much greater degree than the Canadian tariff affords, and is not annoyed with the expense, inconvenience and drawbacks of the Canadian excise laws and regulations.

If the brewer should make up his mind to brew beer in whole or in part from any other substance than malt he must then pay an excise duty of three cents and a quarter per gallon.

This is not a question which affects merely half a dozen brewers—it takes a much wider range, viz, their employees, the farmers and others who profit thereby—a not insignificant portion of our population. Verily the excise laws of Canada require looking into!

There is nothing to prevent the Canadian Government levying an excise or other export duty upon gold, coal, or other productions of this colony. Even now in Canada there is an excise duty upon petroleum or coal oil, and no one can grow tobacco for sale excepting under the most stringent regulations with regard to inland revenue, and upon the manufacture of cigars there is a heavy excise duty. Spirits manufactured in Canada pay an excise duty of sixty-three cents per gallon, whilst the customs duty is eighty cents. How are all these evils to be remedied? Britsh Columbia cannot have a population unless that population can live by having profitable employment. To attain this end the tariff and excise regulation of British Columbia are infinitely preferable to those of Canada.

H.

'Anglican Line.'

Editor British Colonist.—The Christian public will, I feel assured, have experienced no little relief upon perusing the letter from Dean Cridge, published in your Sunday's edition. People were beginning to marvel at the variety of form assumed by the ingenuity of the congregation formerly worshiping on the hill, in this money-getting business; and it was, therefore, very reassuring to find Mr. Cridge stepping boldly forward and drawing a much-needed line—declaring that whatever other expedients may be resorted to, money shall not be *danced* into the treasury of the Lord, that whosoever else may fall under the whip of the Divine Master, its lhonge of 'small cords' shall never lacerate the voluptuous shoulders of the fair Terpsichorean devotees.

In regard to the origin of this rather odd newspaper discussion, I am bound to conclude either that Mr. Cridge has been kept in blissful ignorance of the intention to hold a ball on the 24th or that he has, by an adroit use of words, been singularly successful in evading the disagreeable point, for there is no doubt whatever that the ladies of Christ Church congregation *did* intend holding such a ball, and it is equally certain that that intention was relinquished not over gracefully by a portion of the committee. But this is all rendered of mere secondary importance by the fact that the 'line' has been drawn, and that *balls* are founded on the outside, amongst other things carnal,—that there is to be no more dancing under the ægis of Christ Church.

Yet, although this sacerdotal line has been drawn, and although it cuts off *balls* as a 'method of accomplishing the sacred object,' there is still some curiosity to know what 'methods' fall within this 'line'—whether, for instance, legerdemain, sorcery and that species of gambling known and legislated down under the appelation of the 'lottery,' are still to be considered as remaining within the 'sacred' circle, and are to continue to flourish and rejoice under Episcopal benediction. Perhaps it would be too much to look to Dean Cridge for information upon this point; but I can assure that gentleman that if he should see his way clear to do this it would tend greatly to allay anxiety in many a Christian breast, and might tend to counteract pernicious influences possibly already created.

ANGLICAN.

'Druid' Sandpapered.

Victoria, Dec 18th, 1869.

Editor British Colonist,—In the Colonist of the 18th I saw a letter signed 'Druid,' in reference to Michigan street, which I wish to say a few words about.

1st—'Druid' says 'the owners and occupiers of houses on Michigan street, James Bay, contributed out of their own purses sufficient fund to grade the road, which was accordingly done with the expectation that Government would gravel it.' Now, I have been an householder on Michigan street nearly five years and I have no knowledge of any such voluntary subscription, and, consequently, believe it was never graded by such means.

2d—Expectations were indeed great when, a few months since, a posse of workmen were busily engaged grave'ing the road from Mr Gribbe' premises, then and now occupied by the Hon Colonial Secretary. The work proceeded to the boundary line of the Colonial Secretary's residence and there stopped, much to the chagrin of taxpayers and those who contributed to grade the street.'

Now, his assertion that it went to the boundary line of the Colonial Secretary is not true, and 'Druid' is either ignorant, or wilfully blind to say so. His next assertion that it was 'much to the chagrin of taxpayers, &c,' I cannot believe to be true, because the part that is graveled is the only part of the street that ever gets very bad. Two years ago I saw a wagon loaded with wood mired nearly to the axletrees, and the driver had to throw about half the wood off before he could get it out. It was on this very part 'Druid' complains about that is graveled, and about ten twelve yards from the street end, or more properly crossing. Now, I think such a thing could not occur in any other part of the street, for it is naturally so well drained that it could not cut into such deep ruts with its present traffic as 'Druid' or any one else may see at present, after all the rain we have had for the past two months. I dare say the taxpayers would like to see the road gravelled the whole length, but they expect the Road District authorities have more knowledge of the wants of the district as a whole than they have, and so trust that Michigan street will have equal justice done to it with the other parts of the district.

3d—If Government or the Road District authorities did it, why not have prosecuted the work to the end of the grade, as in justice should have been done?

Upon the name of an absent juror at a trial being called, one of his brother jurors said, 'I have twenty-one reasons to offer why he is not here—1st, he is dead; 2d—' 'Stop!' said his Lordship, 'one such reason is sufficient.' Perhaps twenty-one reasons might be offered why the street was not gravelled. 1st, Not sufficient funds. Why were not Pandora, Douglas and Blanchard streets all graveled as far as graded? No doubt, for the same good reason.

Not a Druid.

The 'Street Begging' Controversy.

Editor British Colonist.—I may premise that I am not a member of the congregation being at present the Pandora street church, and, therefore, do not from partisanism notice the letter in your to day's impression signed in the rather self important and bombastic shape 'one who has the moral courage to say no.'

If gruffly to say no to a request for a dollar, and for which, by the way, 'vilde' was returned, modestly made by the ladies for what they supposed a good cause, sufficiently satisfies your assistive correspondent that he possesses courage in its highest and noblest form, let him hug the idea and rest contents with the praise he thus bestows upon himself, no one else would force it upon him. He leads off with uncharitable remarks and then gets untruthful and ungentlemanly. People who are guilty of certain faults are usually those whose denunciations of like faults in others are loudest and most public. Possibly 'Moral Courage' has not exhibited himself to those societies, &c., he condemns the trustees of the church for ignoring. How any one with a grain of sense could suppose that the proposed ball was to be got up 'in opposition to the Mason's ball,' I cannot imagine; neither could the object be to swell the funds of the Church Committee; but 'Moral Courage' use words in their proper signification, and as one who possesses a knowledge of the English language.

If 'Moral Courage' had signed his own name to his letter he might have walked the street in safety, and have rested assured that the privacy of his home would not have been invaded and his hard earnings wrung from him.

I am yours,

Vancouver.

A Litchfield, Conn, clock dealer lately sold a small clock to an Irish woman, who walked with it under her arm. on her way she turned it bottom upward, and a wire dropped from its position, causing the clock to strike without intermission. Thereupon she returned in trouble, complaining to the merchant, 'Sure, an it's cryin' after ye already.'

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Wrongs and their Remedies.—When the safe treatment of disease, by these purifying preparations, is so simple, and the good results so fully known, it seems almost unnecessary to ask the ailing to give them a trial. The Ointment is infallible in curing skin diseases, healing ulcers, arresting inflammations, reducing enlargements, and removing almost all external maladies. In all affections of the joints, gouty, rheumatic, and scrofulous attacks, by which the health of many is daily draining away, Holloway's Ointment and Pills will afford indescribable relief, and will gradually, if they are used as recommended in the accompanying directions, bring about a thorough and lasting cure. These medicaments are suitable for both sexes, and for every age and condition.