

The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, April 3, 1869

It is, as a matter of course, impossible to please everybody, whether the subject be female immigration or anything else; everyone has some favorite idea on the subject which he conceives would render the matter very easy of arrangement. It will, however, be satisfactory to the multitude to know that whatever is undertaken in respect to the subject above alluded to, will be carried out in a manner advantageous to the best interests of the country. The desirability of female immigration having been decided upon, the next step is to determine the class of females required, and therefore to be selected; they should be chosen amongst those who would be most useful, and the most likely to become permanently settled in the Colony. Fortunately these requirements go hand in hand, as we have a permanent class of settlers—the farmers; they require wives, and by marriage the destination of such immigrants would be fixed. That they would be useful and productive, may be at once seen by looking at the list of imports and observing how much of dairy productions are included in the enumeration. Thus, the class of people mainly required are females from the rural districts of England (those who have been educated and accustomed to the manufacture of productions peculiar to the soil). To obtain such a class, recourse must not be had to Immigration Commissioners, but should be invited through the inhabitants of this Colony. How frequently men have been known to say that, if they had a little money, they would bring out their wives, sweethearts, or relations, as the case may be. Hence these ought to be the people the Government should offer assistance to. When the immigrant arrived, she would be met by her friends, and thus make it certain that she would not have to be supported by the Colony; and, what is more, the kind of persons coming would be almost certain to be of a character that would shed lustre upon the country. It would not be necessary to bring them out in batches of forty; they could be sent out in every vessel that came direct, a few at a time, as every vessel has accommodation for a dozen at least, so that they could be easily provided for in service or otherwise. If the colonists themselves would only use their influence by showing their agricultural friends the advantages the Colony holds out; that there is a good and profitable market for everything that can be raised, and plenty of land and room for all, there would be little need for Government just now to apply to the Board of Commissioners, and still less need for a local Board in the Colony. The necessity for such machinery, however, exists, and with the sum granted by the Government for the object in view, it will be necessary that whatever may be required in relation to any such local Board, should be contributed gratuitously, and that the whole sum available for the purpose in view be applied in the way prescribed. We are at a loss to see how any advantage could be derived from an agency being established at San Francisco, as that would entail the payment of a salary to some one, and would do very little towards sending us help, and still less in regard to permanent population. The local Board is in a manner necessary in order to afford a specified means of obtaining information on the part of our own settlers, and also to negotiate the terms upon which immigrants can be obtained from the old country. We still hold to our original views on the subject, viz., that \$150 will be required for each adult immigrant, and of this sum the Government should pay \$50, the applicant here, paying \$100—\$50 on receipt by the mercantile firm in this city of advice of the vessel's sailing with the immigrant on board, and the remaining \$50 on the arrival out of the ship. An additional \$25 might be advanced by the government, (making the contribution from the fund \$75) to be applied for each of the girls in the purchase of little necessities for the voyage. Fidelity and capability in service should for these

girls be understood tests of fitness for matrimony—the great end and aim of all their exertions; and this conclusion to a term of faithful service would not be objected to by the employers, who would ultimately be benefited by the increase of permanent population in the Colony, but particularly if the continued arrival here of new recruits by every ship admitted of other girls being obtained to replace those happily settled in comfortable homes. The amount appropriated, small as it is, will accomplish a great deal for the present and future advantage of the Colony, so that the gentlemen forming the local Board should not object to a little extra exertion in so good a cause.

Friday, March 26
Later from Leech River.

We were much pleased to hear last night that Mr. Harnett has at length completed his works, or at least that portion of them that will admit of his commencing to wash immediately. Owing to the isolation of the river, and the difficulty of obtaining men, he had been delayed beyond all anticipation. The works, it appears, are of greater magnitude than we supposed. The great difficulty has been to get the water across the river to wash the ground selected. In the first place, it was found impossible to obtain, as expected, cedar trees long enough to make stringers 100 feet, and all other timber when hewed down to the necessary dimensions would bend so much in the centre when raised sixty feet that no system of bracing could make them straight, or render them safe at that height for men to work upon them. Hence another plan had to be adopted. It became necessary, as a foundation to build the upper works upon, to throw across the river two sleepers strong enough to bear the superstructure; and this has been done. Two spars, each 100 feet long, 10 by 16 inches, were prepared, and these ponderous timbers were drawn by Mr. Harnett, three white men and a Chinaman, some four hundred yards from the side-hill inch by inch through the underbrush, over fallen trees, across the river to their position twenty feet above the river—so as to be safe against all freshets. From these sleepers three sets of strong and solid beams, forty feet high, to sustain the upper stringers on which the water boxes rest, the whole being as firmly as possible braced to a cedar tree on each side of the river, which have been used as piers. No one on the river thought the huge lower timbers could be handled by so limited a force, but Mr. Harnett seems to have unbounded faith "in muscle and the watch tackle" and the thing was done without a single mishap. The work still to be done is trifling, and Saturday night will see the last timber in position. So far the party have repaired over 700 feet of the flume, built 300 feet of their own, cut down the timber on the ground, taken up by the company, and paid all incidental expenses for a little over \$400. In that respect certainly he gives a good account of his stewardship. As opportunity offered prospecting was continued, and our informant is more than ever convinced from the prospects he continually gets, that the west side of the river will yield a handsome remuneration to several hundred of men for years to come, if properly handled. Some of these prospects were shown us last night, and we are more than ever inclined to adopt Mr. Harnett's opinion.

The steamer Wilcox G. Hunt arrived from Puget Sound at 3 1/2 o'clock yesterday morning. She was detained several hours at Port Townsend by the gale. Her passengers only numbered twelve; freight small. She leaves at 5 o'clock this morning, upon her return, and will leave Olympia upon her regular day next week. Capt. Myrick advertises through tickets to Portland for \$11.

A ROGUE AND A VAGABOND.—George Williams, taken into custody some days ago as a suspicious character, and discharged on his own recognizance, yesterday re-appeared in his old place in the dock charged by Sergeant Bowden with stealing some trifles and with being a rogue and vagabond. He stands remanded for three days.

THE PIC-NIC.—The Committee of Arrangements yesterday extended an invitation to the Admiral and the Officers of the Fleet, which was accepted. The Zealous Band, we learn, will perform on the occasion. A site for dancing and other amusements has been selected near Henley's Point, just beyond Beacon Hill. The guests will be brought around in the H. B. Co's steamer Enterprise and landed at Foul Bay.

The bark John Bright, lost on the east coast in February, should not be confounded with the ship John Bright which lately arrived at San Francisco from a South American port.

For the future the steamer Wilson G. Hunt will sail from Victoria on Thursday morning at 5 o'clock.

The cargo of the barkentine Free Trade is being discharged in good order on the Hudson Bay Company's wharf.

LOBBYING IN WASHINGTON.

A Romantic Story.

Correspondence of the Oberlin Commercial.

There are two sorts of process through which fraudulent legislation is perfected. One is called the "ring," which means a combination of rogues for some one purpose, and the other is called the "lobby," and designates agents living here, and employed by rings and individuals to push their evil schemes through Congress.

I was turning this over in my mind the other day, when I happened to cast my eyes into the ladies' gallery above, and out of the gloom saw a memory come in the shape of a fair face. These galleries were not constructed with an eye to effect so far as female beauty is concerned; as the dim light from above gives a ghastly paleness that not only destroys the beauty but seriously damages the expression. Upon the circumstances the face failed to locate itself, and my memory was as dim and uncertain as the flashes of a former life that come to us at times between sleeping and awake.

I was so disturbed and haunted by my memory that I left my seat and scurried into the gallery and seated myself near my fair friend, and without rudely staring I found my memory gradually gathering up the disjointed fragments of the past, until the fair face was framed in and located. It was a very sweet face, not so young as it once was, but with a prevailing expression of child-like innocence. Add to this a manner of great refinement, set off and adorned in the extreme of the fashion, but subdued to the best taste, and the most artistic harmonizing of colors, and we have our old acquaintance before us. Although I looked my fair friend in the face I saw that either she had forgotten me or was not disposed to renew the acquaintance. She was talking in a quiet, easy manner to a well known member of Congress, and I considerably withdrew, as if I had been looking in the face of an utter stranger instead of one well known to me in times gone by. An hour after I happened to be upon the entrance to the Senate Chamber, when the multitude of marble steps seemed to run out and flow down, when my fair friend came out, accompanied by her Congressional escort, late of the gallery, and almost brushing me with her dress as she passed, the two descended. I saw a neat private carriage, drawn by a coachman in livery, roll up. My friend, of the law-making power, helped the lady in with a bow; the door swung to with a bang and the fair lady drove away, while the Solon came up the steps, humming a tune to himself, and snapping his law-making fingers, as if especially pleased with himself. Having a speaking acquaintance, I begged pardon for my curiosity, and asked Solon the name of his friend.

"Mrs. —, of New York," was the quiet response.

The whole of these surroundings were so entirely different and apparently so life-long and respectable from those that I believed formerly hedged in the lady, that I was in doubt. But no, the longer I thought upon the matter the more I felt satisfied of the identity. And the remembrance was singular. While detained in Washington during the war awaiting orders, I was invited by a brother officer to a wine supper. The people giving the entertainment were strangers, but taking my friend's word for it that I would be welcome, I went with him. The house was a plain, unpretending affair, but offered a display of upholstery rather uncommon about Washington, and I learned that the house and furniture belonged to a "geese" family that had hastily left the city before the battle of Bull Run, putting their property in the care of friends. The friends assembled on this occasion were questionable. The parlors were in a blaze of light, and under the glass globes about the gas jets were some very pretty women and a number of young men in and out of uniform. The bare necks and arms of the women indicated a party; but my friend told me that this was a sort of thing that went on every night. We had a rich repast, garnished with choice wines, and a lively flow of talk the last named generally brings out.

I was particularly struck with two of the guests—one a slender youth with dark, large eyes and a broad, thoughtful forehead, whom I took for an Italian or Frenchman; the other a beautiful woman of twenty, in fact, but much younger in appearance. I found this young lady exceedingly charming, as she was not only lovely in person but lively in mind.

We broke up at a late hour of the night, or rather an early hour of the morning, and being ordered away a few days after the wine supper and the merry people there assembled, soon passed from my mind in the hurried, eventful life of the camp.

It was shortly after the assassination that a friend sent me a photograph of J. Wilkes Booth, and I recognized in it the young man I had mistaken that night for a foreigner.

While we were in command at Baltimore, and after Col. Fisk got into his difficulty with Baker, so that I had for a time immediate control of the

Provost Marshal's office, I received a card, at the White House, from a lady waiting to see me in the public parlor. On replying thither I found my fair friend of the wine supper in Washington. So far as her beauty went she remained the same, but her wardrobe evidenced straightened circumstances, if not poverty. She gave me a long account of her troubles, and wound up by offering to go to Richmond in the employ of the Government, and return with all the information she could gather up for the use of the War Department in Washington. I at once engaged her, but did not send so suspicious an agent into the enemy's country until after I had given her a fair trial in Baltimore. She proved the most adroit, self-possessed, cunning detective I ever saw or read of. She afterward made two successful trips to Richmond, returning with valuable information; although Mr. Stanton had no question but that she carried to the Confederates as much as she brought away.

I left the army and saw and heard no more of my pretty little detective until the day I saw her in the ladies' gallery, so elegantly gotten up, and surrounded. That is, if it were really the same. A month or two before I moved the next day by a note I received inviting me to an interview at the fair woman's lodgings. I found her framed in by elegant upholstery, and yet more fascinating in the delicate morning robe that so adorns a beautiful woman by the concealed efforts to adorn. A tall, square built, iron-gray man, of an intensely respectable look, was introduced as her husband; and so long as he was present no allusion whatever was made to the past, other than a few words of introduction, as an old and valued friend. Soon as he left, however, she turned and said:

"How kind of you not to recognize me yesterday. My poor heart was in my mouth when I saw you approach. But you have such tact—you have such a kind heart—I was relieved in a minute when I saw that you stared as if only attracted by my charms."

"Why, wouldn't your husband put up with the part you are, I suppose, concealing from him?"

"My husband—and she gave a silvery little laugh—"my husband, that fellow! Why, he isn't my husband. We only make believe. But if the Hon. — you saw me with yesterday were to suspect for a moment, I would be ruined."

"Come, now, this is interesting; tell me all about it. What little game are you up to? Believe me, I won't betray you."

"That's clever; you never have, and I don't add to the risk by telling you. Well, I am no longer a detective—a spy; I am a lobby agent. It is my business to persuade honorable members to vote for our bill."

"What is your bill?"

"The one I am employed to worry through."

"Well, does it require a sham husband, a handsome carriage, and all that sort of thing to set up a lobby agent?"

"Certainly. Without a husband I would not be respectable; without a carriage and all this evidence of wealth I would not be attractive. It pays, however. I could retire now on a hundred thousand. But I'm horribly ambitious. I want a million—only think of it, I must have a million. I have sold myself for money and I want a good price."

"And do none of the honorable Representatives know who you are?"

"Why, you goose! I thought you knew better than that. Why, the ring always reaches into the House and Senate, and some of our directors are the most respectable and pious men in Congress. There is one—the most benevolent, pious, philanthropic individual in the world. He is so intensely pious that he never speaks to me—nevertheless he pays me heavily. Here is another, a most respectable gentleman, who bows to me profoundly, in the gallery and on the avenue, and presents me to his family with a lofty air, who would look at me with intense astonishment if I were to thank him for my clothes, carriages and servants. Yet he contributes."

"Why, this is damnable, I can scarcely credit it."

"Yes, it is very wicked; and I'd rather you wouldn't believe it. But after the schooling you gave me in deceiving, you ought not to wonder. You mean that for a bit—forgetting that that service was in behalf of your beloved country, and this—"

"Is in behalf of my beloved self."

"But do you mean to say that men in high positions connive at this wickedness?"

"Look about you; see the enormous fortunes realized by officials, and you will find that mine is not the only carriage rolling about Washington that is a fraud, and I am but one among the host of the wicked. You are too much a man of the world, Colonel, to be astonished at finding a good deal of sanctimonious respectability covering rascality. It is the cheapest cloak to get and the easiest to wear."

"And how do you influence these Solons?"

"Sometimes one way, sometimes another, but always in being very quiet and exclusive. The game we play for is cautious and cunning. The men bought cheaply are the men not worth buying. My business is among the higher sort that will not stoop to common cares, and carry with them great moral character, that not only covers themselves, but all the little rogues who vote with them."

"And you often fail?"

"Sometimes; not often. You remember the temptation of St. Anthony: 'Devils, devils, devils! I am the greatest devil of them all.'"

"My mission is to capture the leaders. The lesser lights are left to coarser men. Some surrender to delicious little suppers—others again to love. There is General —, proud, sensitive and suspicious—he comes to me with all his griefs; and I listen. You'd be astonished to know how little the tongue and how much the ear has to do with this business. Then there is Mr. —, who began life with a homely unrefined wife, and is now ashamed of her. Poor man, he is really in love with me."

"And will all the money you make pay you for the degradation you suffer in return? You are a woman of fine intellect—an intellect that approaches genius; you can command admiration, respect, even wealth, by devoting your grief to an honorable pursuit."

"Her face flushed for a second, and then starting to her feet and pacing the floor in some excitement, she exclaimed:

"I learned my power when it was too late. But you are the first man to up-braid me. Do you know when I discovered my powers as an actress? I will tell you. Under your tuition while in Baltimore I came to you starving, and you sent me into private families to worm out their secrets and betray their intention."

"There you go again. That was in the service of your country, and the people possessed of those secrets were our enemies."

"What was the difference, so far as my character went? But I do not regret—I have nothing to regret. I have no friends, no relatives, no country. I never knew a man who did not either cheat me or insult me. I never knew a woman who had not a stony heart, and claws like a cat. I hate them all—I despise them all. They would hunt me down, and so I hunt them down, when I can."

"But you have made money enough; why not leave this horrible business and from this out try and possess your soul in peace? You are young yet—you can have many years of happiness before you."

"You want me to desert?" she said, interrupting me. "I have two good reasons for going on. It is not avarice; although, having sold myself to the devil, I am right in getting the best price for my poor soul. But let me show you my two reasons for going on."

"She walked into an arched recess, and, pulling aside a heavy curtain, showed me, playing on the floor, two beautiful children."

"There," she continued, dropping the curtain again, "there are my two reasons; I cannot give my children a good name, but I will give them that which is more precious than a good name, in this mean, wicked world of ours—I will give them wealth, and I will try to teach them to be anything on earth but what their unfortunate mother was; so now, if you betray me, you betray them."

"I left the detective business when I quit Baltimore. I try moral suasion now."

"And so I took my leave, and I give this imperfect sketch as a specimen of the way laws are made, through the lobby, in our beloved Capital."

SINCE the war, land is rapidly increasing in value at the South. In Georgia lands have added from one hundred to five hundred per cent. to their market value in the last twelve months. Even in the older countries they sell from four to eight dollars per acre, where a dollar would gladly have been taken a year ago. In the richer and fresher cotton lands of the southwest, even a greater appreciation has taken place. A gentleman informs the Macon Telegraph that last year he was offered a hundred acre place in Southwestern Georgia for one hundred dollars, and this year the owner demands three thousand dollars, and can get it. This is, no doubt, an exceptional case, still the rise is manifest and material in every section of the State. The fine grain lands of Cherokee, Georgia, which were desolated by war and could have been bought for a song two years ago, are now commanding readily from ten to twenty dollars per acre.

In a recent trial for bribery in an English election it is reported that the evidence only showed that the accused had been "imprudently charitable," which is rather good.

A rucger of gold worth \$9,000 was recently washed out of the bowels of the earth in New South Wales. It was found near a spot where three weeks before a lamp of the auriferous metal valued at \$6,000 was revealed to the searchers.

Preserved Meats.

By News, January 28d.

entertainment was given at the Depot of the Anglo-Norfolk. In opportunity of testing the quality of the preserved Agency into England, manager, had issued in engaged in several of meats in London, and a add their wives sat of preserved beef and beef and mutton pies, puddings, Australian pe, gelatine of mutton potted meats. Dr. B. sed the chair, and both who was among the y to the fact that the d retained all the naging to beef and mutton this point may be ; and it is but just to e guests spoke in fa- shee of which they had aling that one or two flops especially, were hat can be said in favor

d by this agency is all d, and, despite the cirs- disses served last eared by a very ex- were almost all of a decidedly disagree- as or smokiness. The ere the stewed beef, taste of the meat was d by the vegetables, which accompanied it. In a few observa- sed to his guests, Mr. mitted that the pro- perfect, but i formed e of the English mat- ges several improve- use of sugar, in the he had no doubt that e could be of a superior nt so far as to express hat he should before fresh meat into Lon- y imported is sold, free- pond, and these an- extensve introduction d be a great benefit to their families, many ly from the want of ame time, its flavor is ficulities which stand d palatable are likely e it from the tables o- one of whose greatest ignorance, of even the okery.

In Items.

By News, January 28d.

s.—The Pall Mall ouicault startled us a disclosure of the atrector of sensation by them. It would ate branches of the ess remunerative in- ears from a case in- that the manager of ets a box and ticket £300 to £400; that t is from £10 to £4 ammes he disposes of apital, selling from ge—to 2s. 6d.; from to that of a Fraser, solitary opera glass est annuity to Mr. res it out at from 2s. 2s. and 1s. 6d. else- charges for the same asses of clients re- as Jerrold's inkeep- he sold for 3s. 9d. n and 2s. 6d. to the r. Hirschfeld's labor n taking charge of recompensed by over If these things are ee what may we not dry?"

nes who was with Dr. Africa, has painted forty pictures in oil of "They were all painted by just been placed in Crystal Palace. eda Banderia anno- sittings of the Portu- ultimo that the King nisters to remain in the Council of State resolve the Chambers

the third part of his th opens in four parts, ights for performance, quarium is required who have to swim ween water and rocks. Pleasant work for

Mr. B. to his wife, entenance indicated having done a good had my life insured. "Well, I declare," looking around upon "just to think of and particularly of a have been and had hile, your poor wife y insurance on hers. id expect of you?" d, and was only re- n injustice and abn an uncontrollable around her.

ave invented an "ed- the motive power of the rider.

India is over £40.