

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday June 21st 1871

Impending Changes. Now that we are under the very shadow of the Dominion, good, thoughtful persons exhibit considerable solicitude about the immediate future.

It is not to be expected that the new machinery will be set on foot at once. But it is not to be expected that the Governor will be able to approach the first work of organization under the most favorable circumstances.

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Death of Dugald McTavish.

We regret to have to announce the sudden death of Dugald McTavish, late Chief Factor of the Hudson Bay Company.

Mr. McTavish, who has been entrusted with the discharge of the most important offices in the service of the Hudson Bay Company, was a man of great intelligence, plain and unassuming in manner, and possessed of sound common sense.

He entered the service in 1833, passing his first winter at Moose Factory; from thence he went to Lake Superior, where he spent another year, then to Quebec, where he remained until 1838, under Mr. Keith.

In 1838 he was transferred to the Columbia District, crossing the Rocky Mountains by the Boat Encampment, to Port Vancouver, where he acted as accountant for several years, making two or three voyages during that period to and from York Factory on Hudson Bay with the annual accounts of the Columbia District, which in those days had to be transported with these off-Rupert's Land.

In 1845 he was sent to San Francisco to look after the business in consequence of the death of Chief Trader W. G. Rae, the Company's agent there, and returning in 1846 he received his promotion to the rank of Chief Trader, and was transferred to Honolulu, where he represented the Company until 1852.

In 1852 he went to England on furlough receiving his promotion to the rank of Chief Factor, and in 1853 he was ranked to Port Vancouver to assist the late Chief Factor Ouden in the management of the business. On the death of Mr. Ouden in 1854, Mr. McTavish held charge of the Department of the Columbia until the discovery of gold on the Fraser River in 1858.

When he was directed by the late Sir George Simpson to repair to this place and assist Governor (now Sir James) Douglas as Chief Factor, he was in the management of the Company's business here and finally succeeded in being the chief representative of the Company at Victoria.

In 1862 he was sent to Washington to observe the proceedings of the Commission sitting there to decide on the claims of the Company in Oregon under the treaty of 1846, the settlement of the claims of the Hudson Bay Company requiring the presence of a man thoroughly acquainted with the business and who possessed besides the capacity of representing it properly.

He discharged the duties devolving on him in a most satisfactory manner. The labors of the Commission terminated about two years ago by the decision of all points in dispute. Immediately thereafter Mr. McTavish left for London, but had scarcely been a month there when he was recalled to take the place of Chief Factor in Montreal in the room of Mr. Donald A. Smith, who was about to be dispatched to Red River by the Canadian Government in the winter of 1869-70.

Mr. McTavish had been in the investigation of the troubles that had arisen here. Here Mr. McTavish has remained until the death, which we now record, of the Hon. Isaac Buchanan of Hamilton, an old friend of his, who was on the spot at the time of his death, and with the officers of the Hudson Bay Company made arrangements for the funeral.

THE NORTH PACIFIC.—This new vessel, which has been recently completed by San Francisco workmen, is now fitted and equipped for sea, and will make a trial trip around the Bay to-morrow.

ARRIVAL OF THE PRINCE ALFRED.—J. Rosenfeld's steamer Prince Alfred, Captain Fred Sholl, from San Francisco on the 12th June, arrived yesterday afternoon, bringing 120 passengers and 175 tons of freight.

OUR FLAG.—The first flag of the Dominion which has reached this coast came in the possession of Dr. Powell, yesterday.

It is the Blue Ensign or flag of the Dominion Navy. It consists of a blue field with the Union Jack in the upper, left-hand corner and the arms of the Dominion in the lower half of the field.

FRESHETS.—It appears from our Exclusive Dispatches that considerable damage to property at Sarnia and Chillywash, from the unusually high stage of water, is apprehended. It is to be hoped these fears may not be realized.

MEETING OF DOMINION PARLIAMENT.—The Toronto Telegraph says, with a ring of authority about it:—The Dominion Parliament will not be called together until February next. There will be no Fall session, as has been said.

THE VICTORIA DISPATCH.—Speaking of the Morning Jubilee, the Pacific Tribune says:—Indubitable were the responses to this glorious greeting. The boat we have yet seen was following, sent from the district. It is a tribute as deserved as it is appropriate and beautiful.

GOODS ON THE WAY.—The bark Zephyr, property of the Dispatch Line, sailed from San Francisco on the 12th inst. for Victoria. The manifest will be found under the usual heading.

FREED'S OYSTERS.—These celebrated bivalves, in 1 and 2-lb. cans, may be obtained at Loope & Haas, importers and wholesale grocers, 216 California street, San Francisco.

AN EXCURSION PARTY.—The steamship O'Higgins, sailed from San Francisco on Tuesday for Portland and there is some talk of her extending the trip to Puget Sound and Victoria with an excursion party.

THE PLATE.—The sale of Plate advertised by Messrs. Plummer & Pagden was attended with good results and will be continued to-day. We advise all housekeepers to invest.

THE 'J. R. KEELER.'—Capt Fletcher with a party of divers and a diving apparatus, arrived yesterday for the purpose of raising the ship 'J. R. Keeler,' lately sunk at Port Leith, W. T.

NEW CHURCHES.—A Presbyterian church will be erected on Lopez Island and another church of the same denomination will be erected on Orcas Island.

THE ZEALOUS AT SAN FRANCISCO.—H. M. S. Zealous arrived at San Francisco yesterday evening from Honolulu and will sail on the 20th inst. for Esquimaux.

UNUSUAL MIND.—A man by the name of Edward Evans was yesterday before the Police Court charged with being of unsound mind, and was remanded for one week.

THE ISLANDS OF THE CANAL DE HARO are being quickly settled up by good, thrifty farmers. A large number of fine farms have been located recently.

COURT CASES.—Two cases only came before the County Court yesterday and both were postponed for a week.

H. E. TAX.—Monday will be the last day on which appeals will be heard by the Tax Sale Commission.

THE PRINCE ALFRED goes to Nanaimo to-day and will sail for San Francisco next Thursday.

THE PROPELTER CALIFORNIA, from Portland, passed up yesterday afternoon.

THE NORTH STAR OF THE MERCHANTS' LINE, sailed from San Francisco for Victoria on Monday, consigned to R. F. Pickett & Co.

THE SEVEN young lady tourists from New York and Chicago left with their friends in the Isabel yesterday for the 'other side.'

TAX SHIP Wm Wilson has sailed from Cassidy, Wales, with coal for the use of H. M. ships on this station.

DESERTED.—Several of the crew of the steamship Prince Alfred deserted last evening. They want to go to Omoooa.

DOMINION MAIL SUMMARY.

The Canadian Press would appear to be equally impatient with that of British Columbia to see the great work of building the PACIFIC RAILWAY commenced.

The following are a few of the terms which appear in our Canadian exchanges upon the subject:—We understand the different engineering parties for the Pacific Railway survey are being organized very fast, and that the whole line will be explored and examined this season in order that Parliament may next session have a general idea of the country and line to be followed.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe says:—The different surveying parties for the Pacific Railway survey are being organized very fast, and the whole line will be explored and examined carefully this season.

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THE OTTAWA DISPATCH.

John J. Fraser of Fredericton has been appointed to the vacant seat in the Legislative Council and has just returned from the West Indies.

The feeling against the ratification of the fishery treaties of the Washington Treaty is gaining strength every day. Hardly a day has passed since public opinion has been so strongly expressed.

Lord Ligon has gone on a fishing expedition to Cape Breton and Alaska. He goes to Lake of Two Mountains to meet with the ladies concerning their title to certain lands on the Western Railway.

The general excitement of the railway ticket agents, for sale at all the more important stations, is certainly increasing. The number of vessels of the Royal Navy have been recently dispatched for the protection of the Canadian fisheries, to act in conjunction with the Dominion cruisers.

Upwards of ten thousand dollars were collected at the Ottawa House in the city of Quebec on the 1st inst. The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Telegraph, under date of May 30th, has referred to the Treaty of Washington, and has reference to believe that Sir John Macdonald does not consider that he is in a position to enter into a public discussion or explanation concerning it until it has been ratified in England, when he will cease to be an Imperial Commissioner, and not until then.

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Advertisement for 'FALLS' hair restorer and 'PERRINS' hair sauce. Text includes 'FALLS', 'ETABLE SICILIAN HAIR RESTORER', 'PERRINS' Hair Sauce, and 'PERRINS' SAUCE'.

Advertisement for 'FELL & FINLAYSON' Family Grocers, Tea, Coffee, & Wine Merchants. Text includes 'FELL & FINLAYSON', 'FIRST CLASS', 'Family Grocers', 'Tea, Coffee, & Wine Merchants', and 'MINERS' SUPPLIES'.