

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, January 16, 1869

The honorable member for Yale yesterday asked the hon Attorney General whether a bill had been prepared to provide for the adoption of a uniform system of education in the Colony? And the hon Attorney General, with that inimitable know-a-great-deal-but-won't-say-much air of his, replied that, "so far as he was aware, no such bill had been thought of." If it really transpired that a bill has been "thought of" without the knowledge of the hon Attorney General, we sincerely trust it will be brought forward without delay and a stop put to the present anomalous state of education in the Colony. On the mainland the schools are partly free and partly denominational—precisely the system to suit rigid extremists of the Exeter Hall school, but not at all adapted to the wants or requirements of this new Colony; whilst on the Island free schools are grudgingly supported by Government aid. This anomaly grew from the union of the Colonies. Each section has preserved the system in force within its limits before union was consummated until the present day; and that the modes have not been assimilated, and a uniform plan adopted for the entire colony would appear to indicate that little or no interest is felt by the Executive in a subject which is at this moment agitating all classes in the mother country. During the late elections the addresses of most of the candidates on both sides favored the adoption of the American plan. In England public opinion has undergone a change so radical that the father who avails himself of a Ragged School to have instruction imparted to his child is no longer regarded as without the pale of respectable society. His action is applauded; while that of the man who suffers his children to grow up in ignorance and vice is condemned, and he is looked upon as an enemy to his country. This is a sensible state of public sentiment to which England has attained at last—a sentiment we should like to see grow and increase in this Colony, so that the finger of scorn might be pointed at any man found placing obstacles in the way of the adoption of a plan that would make the girls and boys now growing up around us bright ornaments to society, instead of loathsome moral lepers and public pests. This all-important question should not be allowed to stumble with the answer of the Hon Attorney General. If the Government have no intention of introducing a measure to place the children of all colonists in every section of the Colony on an equal footing in this respect, then let the member for Yale, or some other member, bring in a bill and by trying the temper of the official majority in the Council, ascertain how far they are behind the age in educational matters.

GOVERNMENT seems determined to push through its Savings Bank absurdity. Hon. Mr Helmecken opposed it as too cumbersome and expensive in its machinery, and the Hon. Attorney General remarked that one clerk added to the present staff would transact all the business. If one clerk will be enabled to transact all the business of half-a-dozen savings banks scattered over a vast extent of country, he must display a greater amount of energy—to say nothing of ability—than has yet distinguished the Hon. Attorney General in the discharge of his official duties. Perhaps the clerk will be endowed with ubiquity, and while receiving a deposit from a rosy-cheeked servant girl or a hardfaced mechanic at Victoria, he will at the same moment receive a well filled sack of dust from an honest miner at Cariboo, and a month's savings from a handler of black diamonds at Nainaimo. Either ubiquity or seven-league boots will have to be called into requisition to effect the desirable object of having one clerk in half-a-dozen places at the same moment. Seriously, this Savings Bank system, wherever it is worked by the Government, will result in loss to the Colony. It will require at least one clerk at Victoria, and an additional one at each of the places where branches are established. These clerks must all be respon-

sible men, and, consequently, will require large salaries, or what security will there be for the money placed in their hands? The bill is objectionable in many respects, and in none more so than in the heavy additional expense it will entail.

Monday, Jan 11. EQUIMALT PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL. On Thursday evening last the children of this school and their friends were entertained in Yates' building by the well-wishers of the institution. The Rev Theo Somerville exhibited the magic lantern, and told several interesting stories, which, together with the singing, &c, made the evening pass very pleasantly. The inclemency of the weather did not deter people from attending, the room being well filled. The tea-tables for the children were tastefully and plentifully supplied with all that could conduce to their enjoyment, and all present spent a pleasant evening. Prizes were awarded to some of the children for singing, reciting hymns, &c, and the happy assemblage separated at an early hour.

A Jury was empanelled yesterday by Mr Pemberton to enquire into the causes attending the death of Peter Maguire, of Cariboo, who was shot at King's Farm on Thursday. The evidence proved conclusively that the poor man shot himself accidentally while climbing a fence. Upon being shot he fell, and his dog began to worry King's sheep, and when King appeared ran back to the spot where his master was lying weltering in his blood. King, following the dog, discovered Maguire and did all in his power to save him. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

DEATH OF A CUSTOM HOUSE BOATMAN.—Edward Jenkins, custom house boatman and watchman, died on Thursday night at the Hospital of small-pox of the confluent type. Deceased was set to watch the steamship Continental when that vessel was in quarantine at Esquimalt, and is thought to have contracted the disease while in the performance of his duty. Jenkins only complained of being ill on New Year's Day. He was a native of England and was regarded as a faithful and energetic officer.

FATAL RESULT OF THE JAMES BAY BRIDGE ACCIDENT.—'Louis' the colored man injured by the fall of the pile-driver at James Bay Bridge on Monday, died yesterday morning, as is supposed, from congestion of the lungs, his decease being accelerated by the shock sustained by his system at the time of the accident. Deceased was a hard working man and was regarded as one of the best bridge-builders in the Colony.

The road leading to the residence of Admiral Hastings is in an awful state. The lightest vehicles when driven over it sink to the hubs, and it is only with extreme difficulty, not unattended with danger, that Admiral Hastings and the members of his household are enabled to reach town. Could not the necessary repairs to this much-used road be made without delay?

The ball of the indomitable Tigers will come off on Tuesday evening, the 19th inst. His Excellency the Governor and Admiral Hastings have been invited and have signified their intention of being present; and the freemen are determined that it shall eclipse any previous effort of the kind this season.

The Coroner's Jury, in the case of the squaw found dead, returned a verdict of death from the bursting of a blood vessel. Sufficient proof was adduced before the Magistrate to establish that death was hastened by an indecent assault perpetrated on deceased by another native woman, and she was fined \$60 which she paid and was liberated.

THE WRECK.—The bark Delaware sustained no injury from the fierce gale of Thursday night, and yesterday was found still in the same position as when she went ashore. The work of launching her will be commenced immediately by her purchasers. When launched she will be taken to Burrard Inlet for repair.

The Tiger engine house will be braced and strengthened to insure it against destruction by the new steamer, which was yesterday safely housed. The kindling is laid and the duty of the first man at the house in case of an alarm will be to start the fire under the boiler, so that there may be no delay in getting up steam.

THE GALE of Thursday night was the most severe experienced here for some years and vessels near shore must have ran narrow escapes of being cast away. The weather this winter has been unusually windy and wet, reminding us of the winter of 1860-61.

The Good Templars appeared in large number yesterday, notwithstanding the rain, and followed the remains of the late S Jennings to the grave. The Good Templars request information as to his nativity and relatives that they may be informed of his decease.

DIVINE SERVICES will be permanently resumed at the First Presbyterian Church, Pandora street, to-morrow (Sunday) morning and evening, by the Rev W Aitken, at the usual hours.

The steam-tug Merrimac, Capt Leonard, arrived yesterday afternoon from Port Discovery, whence she sailed at 4 o'clock yesterday morning. She reports no damage at that point from the gale, nor did she observe any signs of a wreck on her way across.

The steam-tug Merrimac in leaving the harbor yesterday evening ran upon Middle Rock and remained there until the tide changed. We believe she sustained no damage.

Mrs Wilson Brown's School will reopen on Friday the 15th inst.

The Otter only reached New Westminster at noon yesterday.

Legislative Council Proceedings.

Thursday, 7th Jan, 1869.

The Council met at one p.m. Present—Hons Helmecken, Hamley, Walkem, Crease, Wood, Havelock, Davis, Ball, O'Reilly, Bushby, Carrall, Humphreys, Drake, Pemberton, Trautob, Alston, Ring, Young, (presiding).

Hon Davie presented petition from the settlers at Cowichan, and neighboring districts, praying that \$8000 be appropriated for the purpose of making roads in that and adjoining districts. The petition was read, and leave granted to call it up at the next meeting of the Council.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Hon Carrall, would move for leave to bring in a bill to incorporate a loan and investment association.

Hon Helmecken would move for leave to bring in a bill empowering the Customs authorities to supply ships with stores free of duty.

Hon Carrall.—That he would ask the Hon presiding member if the school teachers of Vancouver Island had received their salaries due for services before the Union of the Colonies.

Hon Havelock.—To recommend a uniform system of education for the Colony.

Hon Davie.—To ask what steps had been taken (if any) for the discovery of the perpetrator of the murder on Salt Spring Island.

Hon Helmecken had laid before the Council a day or two previously a petition from Mr J O Nicholson. As far as the petition was concerned, he knew very little, and that was not the subject that occupied his mind at the moment. He referred to a report which appeared in the Colonist of that day of the proceedings at the Supreme Court relative to a case referred to in the petition. The hon member read the extract. He was charged with having introduced to the House a petition containing a slanderous reference to the Chief Justice. He considered that it would only be justice to himself and the gentleman for whom the petition had been presented, and also the Chief Justice, that a Committee should be appointed in order to enquire into the truth of so serious an allegation as that of having introduced to that House a petition of a slanderous character. It was only justice to the Council that it be made known to the Colony at large that House could not be used for such improper purposes; he therefore moved that a Committee be appointed to investigate the matter with power to send for persons and papers.

Hon Crease thought the motion premature as the accuracy of the report had not been ascertained. It was necessary to find out whether the words contained in the report had been actually used by the Chief Justice or not.

Hon Helmecken.—It was quite enough for him (Hon Helmecken) to know that the substance of the report was correct.

Hon Hamley thought the enquiry should stand over till after the 19th, the day on which the case would be tried at the Supreme Court.

Hon Helmecken could not see what the Council had to do with the trial of the case. He would strongly advise hon members to allow the Committee to be appointed, as they must remember that the petition would be printed along with the journals of the House.

Hon Alston conceived such an enquiry as that proposed altogether premature as the report in the newspaper might be incorrect. Hon Carrall it was a matter of justice to his Honor the Chief Justice that the enquiry should go on; the House had nothing to do with the case in Court. The Chief Justice was at the head of the highest tribunal we have and deserved every reparation at their hands. The respectable gentleman also on whose behalf the petition had been presented should be cleared from any blame in the matter. The fact of the case being tried should in no way modify the action of the Council.

Hon Crease doubted the propriety of placing much reliance on a newspaper report. The Council should be possessed of the fullest information before taking serious action in a matter of such importance. It was necessary for the sake of justice that a more dependable proof than this language had been given by the Chief Justice should be before the House.

Hon Walkem.—The appointment of a Committee at this time was premature; in fact, it would be a dangerous proceeding to enquire into allegations respecting the Chief Justice, who had ordered the case to be tried on the 19th. The Chief Justice should have been made acquainted with the fact that such a petition was before the House; it would be rather hasty action on their part to be actually trying the Chief Justice in that House while he was trying the case in Court.

Hon Pemberton had not had time to read the petition, and therefore thought any action at that time would be inadvisable. More time should be allowed in order that hon members might make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the facts of the case.

Hon Havelock did not see how such an enquiry would in any way prejudice the case in Court. The House was not responsible for such results. It would only be justice to the hon member who introduced the petition; and whether the case in Court would be prejudiced or not was not a question for that House.

Hon Ball.—Any inquiry into the circumstances would be improper until after the case had been decided before the Chief Justice.

Hon Helmecken felt sorry that hon members should not have more respect for their position and for the Chief Justice than to allow a matter of such serious import to lie on the table for the next three weeks. It should be gone into at once. It could in no wise prejudice the case before the Court. He could not see how they improved matters by leaving the enquiry as to whether the allegations were true or not till by and by; or ascertaining the facts at once, they would be just as much in the dark then as now. According to the report in the paper, the Chief Justice considered himself slandered, and the sooner such a stain was wiped off the better; or, should further proceedings be necessary, the sooner they were taken the better.

After some further discussion, the hon Helmecken asked leave to withdraw his motion, which, on leave being granted, was withdrawn accordingly.

FENCE BILL.

Hon Crease.—Although this bill might not be of so much consequence on the mainland, it was very important to agriculturists in the vicinity of Victoria. He was prepared to overcome that when the advantages of the bill were understood. Such a law was not necessary for settled countries, but it was absolutely necessary here. The difference between this and the English law was that in England the cattle were fenced in, whereas here we desired to fence them out. Parts of this country were thickly wooded, part prairie, and part agricultural land, hence different descriptions of fence were required. The hon and learned gentleman then proceeded to explain the effect of certain clauses in the bill.

Hon Trutch seconded the motion of the hon Attorney General for the second reading of the bill. The English law was not applicable to this colony. The great feature of the present bill was that it did not make the fencing in of cattle imperative. He, however, believed that the bill might be altered with advantage, and trusted that in committee it would assume a different shape. He thought the House should assume the responsibility of defining what a legal fence ought to be, the height and materials chosen being left to the agriculturists themselves. Fence viewers were not requisite; the machinery was too cumbersome.

Hon Davie, Carrall, Pemberton and Alston spoke in favor of the bill, and Hons O'Reilly, Drake, Ball, Wood and others opposed. The bill was ultimately read a second time and committed for to-morrow.

SAVINGS BANK BILL.

Hon Crease said that the great value of the bill was that it encouraged the principle of thrift in a class that have not now the means of exercising it. The bill would not affect the banks in the least. It was not intended to carry out any large scheme—a small commencement would be made, and the establishment could afterwards be extended if required. Depositors could put in a dollar, and the entire deposits for one year must not exceed \$500; no interest would be allowed in any case over that amount. The institution would be supplemental to the present system of banking, as the small economies would lead to larger sums, and the present Banks would then come into requisition. Sums of \$1000 may be put into the Treasury, the Government thus becoming responsible to depositors, and in the interim would have the use of the money. The Commissioners were empowered to return the money to depositors, if there was not sufficient business to make it worthy of continuance; the whole establishment would only require a single clerk so that it would be inexpensive.

Hon Helmecken agreed with the principle of the bill. Savings should be established everywhere, but particularly in a country where economy was ridiculed, and extravagance supposed to be the right thing. But he objected to the bill as it stood, the machinery being perfectly unfit for the city of Victoria. The Commissioners should be selected from the Government officers, and all the business should be done by officers of the Government. The bill may or may not prove a success, but they should not go into expense to try it. The bill was too cumbersome, too expensive, depositors should be allowed to put twenty-five cents in the bank.

Some further discussion ensued, participated in by Hons Helmecken, Crease, Alston, Carrall, Wood, Davis and Trutch. The second reading was carried, and the bill committed for Monday.

DESTRUCTION OF WOLVES AND PANTHERS.

Hon Davie asked leave to bring in a bill providing for rewards being paid to persons for the destruction of wolves and panthers. These animals committed great depredations on the farms in Vancouver Island, making it impossible to raise sheep. The hon gentleman read the bill. Leave was granted, and the bill was then read a first time; the second reading on Wednesday next.

ALTERATION IN CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL.

Hon Helmecken moved that the house do now go into Committee, to consider a resolution relative to the alteration of the Constitution of the Executive and Legislative Councils. There was a portion of the resolution referring to power of the Executive Council which he did not mean to press; the other portions he thought should pass.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Hon Ball in the Chair.

Hon Walkem supported the first section [requiring four members of Executive Council] to be chosen from Legislative Council. The connection between the Legislative and Executive Councils at present was of an extremely slender nature; had the connection been more intimate, many of the differences that have occurred from time to time would never have happened. The grave questions that arose between the Executive and Legislative Councils, during the existence of the old House, was owing, no doubt, to the want of harmony between the two branches of the Legislature. The alteration would give greater confidence in the Executive Council; the people would feel that they were not barred out as hitherto. It was quite true however that the Executive members of the Legislative Council had never been constrained to vote other than as they chose, and their opinions were always expressed with the greatest freedom. It was a great mistake to suppose that these gentlemen were at the beck and

call of the Governor. He opposed the bill last session in which the very same principles were involved; that bill had been brought forward in a very able manner; he should vote for the first section of the resolution.

Hon Helmecken had learnt from experience that no representative Government can work unless there exists the closest connection between the Executive and Legislative Councils. This was the reason why the Government of Vancouver Island could not be carried on because such antagonism existed; they must be allowed to know what was going on in the Executive Council; people did not like to be excluded. The Government would be strengthened, and would learn from their representatives the desires of the people.

Hon Carrall said there was a want of confidence on the part of the people who were taxed and had no word in the disposal of the money. If the Government refused to comply with this most reasonable request of the people the most serious consequences might ensue.

Hon Wood would not support the clause as it stood; it was proper to have the assistance of those possessing experience in the Executive Council, but he did not see that resolution would meet the want in a proper manner.

Hon Ring supported the resolution.

Hon Davie concurred in the principles of the resolution.

Hon Trutch favored the admission of non-official members into the Executive Council, but he did not consider it wise to alter the constitution in any considerable degree, particularly as the Governor had expressed his desire to add two non-official members to the Executive Council. He feared that the alteration proposed in the resolution would not be so beneficial as the honorable proposer thinks; he thought the object might be attained much better in another way, he would therefore move an amendment to the first clause. [The Hon member here read the amendment.] He did not think it safe to entrust all the voting to the representative members. If he thought the Colony was ripe for such action, he would desire to see the whole body elective. There were practical difficulties in the upper country that were insurmountable, and he could not conscientiously vote for the resolution.

Hon Crease seconded the amendment of the Hon Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and concurred in the general terms of that amendment. He approved of the general principles of the resolution; it was quite evident the people should have a voice in the disposal of their money, but the hon for full representative power had not arrived, the difficulties in the way were insurmountable. He should like the people to come in and look for themselves. The Legislative Council, also, should not be interfered with; it was not the people he feared, as they were quite competent to judge for themselves, but they must recollect that the present population of the Colony is not above one-third of that which it was in 1858, and it did not then extend above Yale. Now the decreased population was scattered all over the country. If the principle contained in the resolution was good in part it was good in the entirety. If the Council was composed entirely of representative members, the responsibility would fall on them. The Governor had already proposed to open the Executive Council to representative members, so that resolution was only an afterthought, and he could not see what object it would serve.

Hon Ring moved an adjournment of the debate, he was at a loss to know by what rule in arithmetic the Hon Attorney General had arrived at the age conclusions he had come to, since the population was 30,000 when he [the Hon Attorney General] graced the Colony with his presence. He thought he could show that the representative institutions possessed by this Colony had never been legally changed. There were representative members not present who should express themselves on the subject, he therefore advocated adjournment.

The adjournment being carried, and the business of the House for the day being concluded, the House then adjourned till 1 p.m on Friday.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Glad Tidings.—Some constitutions have a tendency to rheumatism, and are throughout the year bothered by its protracted tortures. Let such sufferers take the affected parts with warm brine, and afterwards rub in this soothing Ointment. They will find it the best means of lessening their agony, and assisted by Holloway's Pills, the surest way of overcoming their disease. More need not be said than to request a few days' trial of this safe and soothing treatment, by which the disease will ultimately be completely swept away. Pills that would make a giant shudder are managed without difficulty by Holloway's easy and inexpensive remedies, which comfort by moderation the throbbing vessels and calming the excited nerves.

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LEA & PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

DECLARED BY CONNOISSEURS THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE.

CAUTION AGAINST FRAUD. The success of this most delicious and unrivalled Condiment having caused certain dealers to apply the name of "Worcestershire Sauce" to their inferior compounds, the Public hereby informed that the only way to secure the genuine is to purchase the name of "Worcestershire Sauce" on the wrapper, labels, paper, and bottle.

ASK FOR LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE. Some of the foreign markets having been supplied with a spurious Worcestershire Sauce, upon the wrapper and labels of which the names of Lea & Perrins have been forged, and P. give notice that they have furnished their correspondents with power of attorney to take instant proceedings against Manufacturers and Vendors of such, or any other imitations by which their rights may be infringed.

Ask for LEA & PERRINS' Sauce, and see Name Wrapper, Label, Bottle and Stopper. Wholesale and For Export by the Proprietors, Worcester: Cross & Blackwell, London, &c., &c.; and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

Agents for Vancouver—Janson, Green & Rhodes. Jan 17 1869.

Legislative Council

Friday,

The Council met at one p.m. Hons Walkem, Hamley, Carrall, Humphreys, Drake, Alston, Crease, Bushby, O'Reilly, Ball, Young, [present].

Hon Drake moved the removal of the restriction on the removal of restrictions imposed by the merchants' hardships arising from the of the customs regulations present system was a...

We were in a measure a United States of America large trade was carried on Union of the Colonies, an imposition of a tariff appeared. [The hon member objects of the different classes.]

Hon Carrall had much to say in regard to the bill for the Drawback Bill, and would be no opposition of Government or people who disorder somewhat chronic was a desire to oppose...

bill he found met with a and would add much to this city, whereas the present benefited a few. If we office, our customs officials detectives for the United States a kind of watch tower for the revenue of a neighbor...

Hon Davie supported the bill as being a very early measure. The time business was done with settlements, but which view of the large and now forming at the other our great object show every facility to merchant create our trade.

Hon Ring hoped the bill to pass and he would take of a desire to return to the Hon Hamley.—A bill of this nature was introduced last session, but it was not passed. The bill, which really did not the reason why they voted did not know. The good the bill was very profitable likely to be very successful was likely to arise that he should abstain from were very few of the measure, change and a great the clap trap nonsense position of Government was necessary. He moved that appointed to enquire into the bill and obtain such information as would enable hon members to vote wisely. If after thought the bill advisable opposition to it.

Hon Walkem had been hon Collector of Customs written out the motion. He did not think they should be voting on the bill, as it would be disastrous to the colony. He thought they should wait until after the 19th, as the bill would be voted on then.

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