

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, September 21, 1870

The Future of the British Empire.

Such is the subject of a most able and interesting paper in the July number of the Westminster Review. The article opens thus:

'To be, or not to be?' That is the question which, in a wider sense than Hamlet's, this great nation is now putting to itself concerning its own imperial existence. Shall the British Empire continue to be a term applicable to a world-wide system of territories and States, or shall it apply merely to a small insular portion of the European continent? Shall the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland describe literally, and in fact, the limits of the Queen's rule? Shall that colonial empire which has been built up by means of so much individual sacrifice and toil, and which represents a sphere of political influence and national life, larger than has fallen to the lot of any other people, perish beneath dismemberment? Shall England abdicate her function as the mother of colonies, and force her sons, when necessity sends them from her shores, to find homes and citizenship in alien States? These are questions which surely are as well worth consideration now as many other topics of more popular interest, but of far less gravity and significance.

The writer proceeds to give a bird's-eye view of the Colonial Empire, its vastness, resources and capacity for distinctive national greatness. Commencing with India, at once, the noblest and most extensive of all Her Majesty's vast possessions, he shows in 1850 the import trade amounted to thirteen millions sterling, and in 1866 it had risen to fifty-six millions. During the same period the exports rose from eighteen to sixty-eight millions, and the value of British manufactures consumed by its population rose from seven and a half millions to twenty-five millions sterling. Australia, twenty years ago, was so to speak, nowhere. The entire export trade of that vast antipodean group in 1850 stood at four and a half millions, rising, however, in 1866 to thirty-one millions. During the same period the import trade advanced from five to thirty-five millions; the two together aggregating respectively, ten millions in 1850 and sixty-six millions in 1866. Canada, at once the oldest and the nearest of Britain's Colonies, has made scarcely less marvellous strides during the twenty years. The imports of Canada proper, in 1850, were three and a half millions. They rose in 1866 to eleven millions. During that period her exports rose from two and a half to eleven and a half millions. The imports of Nova Scotia advanced from one to three millions; New Brunswick from less than a million to more than two; Prince Edward Island from £123,000 to £444,000; Newfoundland from £867,000 to £1,200,000. In almost every instance the exports exceed the imports, an unerring indication of wealth and prosperity. Referring to the Colonists of British America, the writer remarks:

Men do not lightly change their nationality. Of what force would be the time-honored sentiment of patriotism if man could so freely cast aside the citizenship they are born unto, as would be the case did British Colonists not carry with them the conviction that they were but moving from one part of the empire to another. The Scotch among the most frequent colonizers, but no countryman is so tenacious of his nationality as the Scot. It is not affirming too much to say that the success of British colonization has been largely due to the fact that it is British.

Striking a balance, the writer finds that the Colonial empire costs the mother country one million a year, equal to about nine pence per head of the entire population of the United Kingdom, and he does not hesitate to discover far more than a set off in the substantial advantages accruing to the imperial from the colonial empire. In 1866 Great Britain imported from her colonies to the value of seventy-four millions sterling. The reader will be prepared to learn that the author of the paper in the Review thinks the Colonial Empire ought to be maintained, even if it cost the parent empire ten times as much as it does. He holds, however, that the navy being essential to its maintenance, the Colonies ought to pay their fair quota towards the support of the navy; and it is suggested that this might be done by a five percent rate upon the colonial revenues, which would yield two and a half millions sterling a year. This really able article, of which we have only been able to offer a most imperfect review, concludes as follows:

'The long annals of the world are but a record of the rise and fall of successive empires. Assyria, Greece, Rome, Carthage, where are they? Is the British Empire now, ere scarce its limits are understood, to be numbered with the things that were but are not? Is England to part, with her possessions, and become once more a second-rate power, with interests bounded by the seas that wash her shores? This is the question which now has to be answered, and which her statesmen are called upon to consider.

The steam Deluge was out for practice last evening at the Adelphi cistern.

CAUTION. Capsule Patents. Informed by Importation of Capsules made in the name of the original inventor and sole taker in the United Kingdom.

THE COLUMBIAN INVESTMENT AND LOAN SOCIETY. Incorporated under the Investment and Loan Society's Ordinance, 1869.

THE CITY IS EMPLOYED BY. Now prepared to receive Deposits to and in any amount, according to the terms of the Ordinance, 1869.

BELLINGHAM BAY.—A correspondent writing from Bellingham Bay under date of Sept 13th, says:—"The working of this mine, I am sorry to say, for the present, all but suspended. A sudden burst of water (fresh) into the mine a few days ago, which has since been gradually increasing in quantity so as to be continually gaining upon the engine, which has been kept constantly at work night and day since then, is now preventing the putting out of coal entirely, nor is there at present any prospect of work being resumed for some time to come, as the water is steadily rising in the mine. There is no coal in stock. The bark Amethyst left yesterday with a cargo of coal for San Francisco, and there is another vessel now lying here waiting a cargo. The people here feel sanguine of the lead mines being discovered. The price of lead is gradually increasing, and all who have no property here are now trying to secure some. The weather for the past few days has been very showery. Many British Colonists are residing here and profess to prefer this place to B.O.

HOP CULTURE.—The culture of hops is attracting a good deal of attention in California; and it is about time this branch of industry attracted some attention in British Columbia. That this colony is capable of producing hops of infinitely better quality and in much greater abundance than California is unquestionable, and that it will produce hops superior to those grown in England we have the assurance of an intelligent and trustworthy Scotchman. London alone consumes some twenty thousand tons of hops every year, and we are told that the British Columbia hop-grower could sell in the London market with satisfactory results, to say nothing of nearer and dearer markets.

COMING OVER.—We are given to understand that there are likely to be a large number of people over to our Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibitions from Pagan Sound, and that not a few will compete for prizes. In view of this it is to be hoped that every effort will be made not only to facilitate the landing of articles intended for exhibition, but that our citizens generally will do whatever they can to render the occasion as agreeable as possible to those who will, in a sense, be the guests of Victoria. Are they not our cousins? We venture to promise all who come a hearty welcome, good treatment and a pleasant time generally.

THE HASTY RECOGNITION.—Under this head our contemporary of the Seattle Intelligencer has a very sensible article upon what he regards as the too hasty recognition of the quasi Republic of France by the United States Government. He contrasts this not haste with the persistent refusal of the President to extend any kind of recognition whatever to the patriots of Cuba in their heroic and continuous efforts for freedom from the tyranny of Spain, and the recognition of the shadow of the flag of the United States.

COMING ROUND.—It was intimated the other day that the visit of Sir John A. Macdonald to Prince Edward Island might not be a political fruit. L'Evenement, a French Canadian paper, asserts that Sir John A. Macdonald's visit will be attended with great political results, and that his return to public life will be signalled by the admission of Prince Edward Island into the Dominion. It was also understood that the presence in Canada of Governor Hill and the Hon. Mr. Shea of Newfoundland had political significance about it.

A WATERLOO VETERAN.—There lives at the Cape of Good Hope an old Waterloo veteran named William Denton, who has completed his 78th year, and he says, as strong and hearty as he was ten years ago. But the wonderful part of the story is that Denton received nine wounds at the battle of Waterloo, and lay four days and three nights on the cold ground!

CRICKET MATCH.—The match to be played at Beacon Hill to-day between the Fleet Eleven and the Victoria Eleven, promises more than ordinary interest, and as the weather appears to be auspicious it is likely that there will be a goodly number present. Following in the Victoria team are: Wilson, Bacon, Howard, Gibbon, Pooley, Drake, Richardson, Hemmingway, Hanks, Good, Marshall.

THE RUMP.—It will be observed that the attitude assumed by the British Government towards the French Republic has occasioned the usual amount of demonstrative opposition from the Rump party, and that they threaten a Republic in England. Such constitutes a sort of safety-valve, perfectly harmless in its way.

NEW DEPOT.—Mr. H.S. Caillier has opened a flour, grain and feed store, at the foot of Yates street, on Wharf, and it is prepared to receive consignments from Island or Mainland farmers and from abroad, upon which liberal advances will be made. Mr. Caillier is desirous of public confidence.

MOVEMENTS OF THE IDARO.—The steamer Idaro from San Francisco and Portland is expected to arrive here on Monday next. After discharging cargo she will load with coal at Nanaimo and sail for San Francisco direct on Saturday next.

A NEW FEATURE.—Robinson & McDonald are preparing a lot of fancy toilet, magic and common brown soaps for exhibition at the approaching Horticultural Show.

THE ENTERPRISE sailed for New Westminster yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, carrying a small freight and a few passengers; also a mail and express for the upper country.

THE COASTERS' goods are very slightly damaged, it would appear. Many of the cases are scarcely stained; but a few bales look rather the worse for wetting.

THE ISABEL sailed for Port Townsend yesterday at 11 o'clock, for a fortnight to the Ajida for Olympia and way ports on the Sound.

POLICE COURT.—There were no cases on the record yesterday.

Letter from San Francisco. REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "COLONIST." SAN FRANCISCO, Sept 5th, 1870.

The war excitement which during the past month has been gradually working itself up to this indefinite standard known as "ever heat," culminated on Saturday last in an outbreak of enthusiasm the sweep away all minor considerations of business and money making. The first dispatches announcing that Napoleon had met with his Waterloo were received with general incredulity, but as a telegram after telegram came in confirming the intelligence, dense crowds began to assemble in front of the newspaper offices, and as the day wore on, Montgomery street became almost impassable. The German stores throughout the city were at once closed, and preparations commenced for a partial celebration of the great victory. Soon after dark bonfires blazed on the principal streets, rockets, canisters and fireworks were discharged, many buildings were brilliant with illuminations, and thousands of exultant Germans marched in impromptu procession cheering, shouting and singing the "Song of the Rhine." It was long after midnight before the excitement subsided, and then only for a temporary intermission. Yesterday every larger beer saloon in the city dispensed free drinks, prayers of thanksgiving were offered at all the German churches, and at most of the other places of worship allusions were made to the stirring events at Metz and Sedan. During the coming week the Germans promise that they will celebrate the triumph of the Fatherland in a style which will astonish the city, and as they have both money and inclination to do it, they will no doubt keep their word.

IT IS STRANGE that a few words spoken to a French Ambassador, on the esplanade at Buns, six weeks ago, should decide the Municipal election of an American city, removed by ocean and continent from the scene of diplomatic dispute, yet the government of San Francisco and possibly that of California has been controlled by the event. The very noisy sympathy displayed by our Irish citizens for the French cause—sympathy by the way that would be much more excusable if accompanied with money for the wounded—has aroused the ire of four thousand German voters, and at a great meeting last week they resolved to separate from the Democratic party and affiliate with the Republican. A Municipal election takes place on Wednesday, and this resolve is tantamount to the return of the Republican nominees. These are events linked together by the unsevered chain that bind the past with the future.

THE WAR AND LITERATURE. I had a conversation a few days ago with the manager of the largest book importing house in San Francisco. He told me that the demand for the "Life of the First Napoleon," and Carlyle's History of the "French Revolution," has been so great since the commencement of the war that they have sold out their entire stock of these editions of Carlyle's "French Revolution," and that the edition of Carlyle's "French Revolution" that he had been unable to procure for years was also disposed of. City papers have greatly increased their circulation within the last two months, and all the interior dailies have received large lists of subscribers. The same gentleman informed me that "Lothian" had had the largest sale in California of any work issued from the English press for some years, and that the interior demand for it still continues.

A handbill with a war map on the one side and an Insurance Company's advertisement on the other is the latest plan of mildly presenting the advantages of life insurance. Advertising seems to be everywhere the main object, and advertisements were all over a few months since. The principal streets were at that time monopolized by a succession of forlorn-looking individuals carrying boards with touching requests to buy this and that thing for less than cost. Then we had the handbill, &c. with boys stationed every few yards to distribute appeals to save our hard earned money by purchasing shoe strings and paper collars of such and such a merchant. Now the style is to dangle the side of a house with letters and paint the sidewalk to go Jones for your boot. I think the men who carried the boards round have all gone to the pleasant business there is in an alarming increase in number of stands for the sale of articles.

THE FRAIL STATEHOOD, Chinese and Occasional, are making unwilling contributions to the city treasury of about \$2 per day, victims to have fallen under an official ban, which stands at their doorways, and is allowed to stand at their doorways. The "gracioso" against indigency takes place once a year, generally just before the municipal election, and lasts until the community is thoroughly impressed with the vigilance of the police and the women become too wary to be caught. It is only a spasm of morality and will not continue for more than a week or two.

I told you in a previous letter of Mr. McCrea's arrival at San Diego and his departure for Arizona. It was informed yesterday on the authority of a credible person who came up from that territory very recently, that the unfortunate gentleman

met his fate at the hands of the Apaches and that the U.S. officials at Prescott had full particulars of his death. I do not vouch for this statement, but my informant is positive as to its truth.

Mr. Sebright Green was in the city a few weeks ago, but I have not seen him lately and do not know if he is still here. Mr. Tom Hammond returned from England with a wife last week and has started his old business of butchering. Mr. Francis Dodd leaves for the "right little island" on the 18th. Maurice Carey has not yet retired from public life, but a slight biography in one of the local papers had the effect of curbing his indiscreet efforts for the elevation of mankind, and he now devotes his abilities to the embellishment of the Chinese, as president of an anti-coolie's laundry association.

THE HED TIMES appear to be folding themselves up and quietly departing for other localities, says a city paper, and the other journals make the same assertion. Don't believe a word of it. Business is just as dull now as at any time since the completion of the Overland Railroad and with every prospect of a continued depression. Most of our merchants have greatly curtailed their expenses by reducing salaries and discharging employees, and are gradually adapting themselves to the new order of things; but there is not the least likelihood of any general revival of trade until next Spring, and by that time California will probably have assimilated herself in the price of wages, interest rates and commercial matters to the rest of the world. Then the old hope for a fresh start and a new industrial era.

THE DISCOVERER OF GOLD. James W. Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California, is writing a book detailing his early experience. The old man is reduced to a condition verging on absolute poverty, a fact which is not at all creditable to the generosity of the State. His partner, Gen. Sutter, has received an appropriation of \$250 per month for several years, and a bill passed the late Legislature giving Marshall \$100 per month for ten years, but Governor Haught promptly vetoed it. The noble old pioneer, after three quarters of a century of labor and excitement, is still active and well preserved. He tried lecturing last April and made a better attempt than many of the imported professionals; but Californians rarely patronize intellectual entertainments, so the effort was a failure.

IS STILL IN THE harbor waiting instructions from England. Her officers are active participants in all city gaieties. Admiral Farquhar was present at the farewell dinner given to ex-Secretary Seward prior to his departure for China, and extended an invitation to the noble old statesman to visit his ship, but want of time and ill health prevented an early acceptance. The Admiral and officers will join in the approaching celebration of the admission of California into the Union. Gen. Sherman is on the way here to take part in the same event, and has been tendered a banquet by the British naval officers, which he will not doubt honor by his presence.

A MISSING BANK PRESIDENT. Mr. Thomas Mooney, the Irish tycoon of expatriated miners, the Moses of Californian Irishmen, who was to lead the Fenian tribes to a Tipperary, Canada, where, under the peaceful folds of an Irish Republican flag, they were to enjoy their milk and honey from the tyrannical Saxon, has played the usual role of Irish delirious by starting for the Promised Land with some \$40,000 of his poor dupes' money. He was President of the California Savings Bank, an institution patronized ardently by his own countrymen, and the only wonder is that, with such an opportunity, he did not take \$100,000 more. A couple of months ago he enclosed himself as a candidate for the gubernatorial position, promising in the event of his election to drive all the Chinese into the sea within six weeks of his election to that post. His whereabouts are unknown, but it is supposed he went to China last Thursday. Old Australians will remember him as the proprietor of the National Hotel at Melbourne, from which place he departed in a hurry with another man's wife, greatly to the regret of a host of creditors.

Only one theatre in the city is at present open, the rest having had to succumb to financial pressure; and even the Californian is not paying ordinary expenses, notwithstanding the absence of opposition and the fact that it is some weeks since we had a season of the legitimate. Mrs. Tom Maguire, wife of the well-known proprietor of the Opera House, died last week after a few days' illness. She was well known to the profession throughout the coast as an estimable lady, and a valuable assistant to her husband in his many theatrical speculations.

THE ALTA yesterday had the full terms of Confederation telegraphed to her from Victoria, occupying three-quarters of a column. Neither of the other journals made any comment. The tropical weather of the past summer has brought tropical reptiles to the Northern States. Venomous snakes of a species known only at the South have been killed in Maine during the summer.

ORLEANS HOTEL. CORNER OF KRAMER AND POST STS. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

THIS NEW HOUSE, FIRST OPENED in December, 1868, is built of brick, iron bound, and earthquake proof, 180 feet front with family and single rooms for 250 guests, and is supplied with the most improved furniture for the comfort of guests, with all conveniences, baths, gas, etc. The Orleans stands on solid earth, and is quite as safe as a pane of glass. Street Cars pass the door to all parts of the city and to the steamer. This new and centrally located Hotel offers superior accommodations to Merchants and Families visiting the city. Large Steel Safe in the office. House open all night. Prices to suit the most economical. Table supplied with best Victrola and the North are invited to give the Orleans a trial. Free Orleans Coach from Steamers and Cars. J. S. M. & W. E. UERLANDT, Proprietors.



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Having had a most distressing cough, which caused me many sleepless nights and restless days, I was recommended by His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie to try your invaluable BALM OF ANISEED, and I can assure you with the first dose I found immediate relief, even without having to suspend my various duties; and the first small bottle completely cured me, therefore I have the greatest confidence in recommending it to the million. Most respectfully yours, W. POWELL, W. LINCOLN, H.M.S. "NETLEY," Victoria, B. C.

POWELL'S BALM OF ANISEED. For Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Shortness of Breath, Asthma, Bronchitis, and for all affections of the Lungs, this old established remedy will be found invaluable.

The large sales and increased demand for this excellent and elegant preparation, which has followed its introduction into Australia, New Zealand and nearly all the British Colonies, has induced the Proprietor to still further extend the beneficial effects of its use, and he has to announce that he is introducing it into Victoria, B. C., and has appointed Messrs. MILLAR & BOND, Wholesale Agents, through whom Chemists, and Storekeepers can obtain a supply.

THE ABOVE CARTRIDGES KNOWINGLY AND WITHOUT DECEIT BEING MADE ENTIRELY OF METAL, ARE WATER-PROOF AND IMPERISHABLE IN ANY CLIMATE.

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ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S IN ROAD, LONDON. Sole Wholesale Agents for the Colonies.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla. FOR PURIFYING THE BLOOD.

The reputation of this excellent medicine is well known, and is derived from its efficacy in curing many of the most distressing diseases, where the system seemed saturated with corruption, have been purified and cured by it. Scrofulous affections and disorders, which were formerly considered incurable, are now cured by the use of this Sarsaparilla. Persons afflicted with the following complaints generally find immediate relief, and are cured by the use of this Sarsaparilla: St. Anthony's Fire, Rose or Ringworm, Itch, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Itch, Sore Eyes, Sore Ears, and other eruptions of the skin, and the various Venereal affections of the muscular and nervous systems. Syphilis or Venereal and Mercurial Diseases, are cured by it, though a long time is required for eradicating these obstinate maladies by any medicine. But long continued use of this medicine will cure the complaint of Leucorrhoea or Whites, Gleet, Gonorrhoea, and Venereal Diseases, are commonly soon relieved and ultimately cured by its purifying and invigorating effect. Malaria, Dropsy, and other diseases are cured in our Almanac, which is sent gratis. Rheumatism and Gout, when caused by accumulations of acrid humors, are cured by the use of this Sarsaparilla. It is also a powerful blood purifier, and is a great resource for the strength and vigor of the system. These are the most common and distressing symptoms of Weakness, which find immediate relief and convincing evidence of its restorative power upon trial.

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