

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE

Tuesday, October 23, 1866.

The British Columbian Elections.

The whole of the returns from the various polling districts in the neighboring Colony, are not yet announced, but according to data furnished, it would appear that Mr Robson has received the larger number of votes in the settlements outlying New Westminster, and has defeated Dr Black by 16 votes, or, according to the Columbian's showing, by a majority of 32. The statement that Mr Harris' return for Cariboo had been upset on a scrutiny of the votes, is confirmed, and Mr Geo. A. Walkem is consequently the member elect for that mining district. At Clinton, 32 votes were polled between the three supposed candidates, Kelly receiving 17, Holbrook 13, and Stamp 3; but this result will in no way affect the Captain's position, his seat for the Lillooet Districts being secure. So far as the Cariboo election is concerned, we have already expressed a preference for the ex-Mayor, not because he is a Victorian, nor because we believe him to possess the qualifications requisite for the representative of that important section of the country, but because we believe that he would enter the Legislature of the Colony with more fixed principles than his opponent, and a firmer determination to advocate such measures as would tend to the general well-being and advancement of the country. Mr Walkem is a tried man, and with his abilities properly directed, might succeed in rendering valuable assistance to the people's representatives in the Council; but we fear that he is too susceptible of the frowns and smiles of officialdom, too ready to ply an oar in the Government Boat, to make a faithful, independent and useful member of the elective body. He has not been true to the particular interests he was previously sent to represent, and we do not, therefore, consider the general interests of the country safe in his hands. We may be mistaken; let Mr Walkem show that we are, and his sins of omission and commission in the past will be obliterated. Of the New Westminster election we have little to say, we regard both candidates as unfit for the office. The choice of the electors, has fallen after all, it appears, upon Mr John Robson, a gentleman whose rabid, insane ideas and sentiments, are too well known through the medium of the journal that he has for several years conducted in the sister metropolis. We wish their joy of their member, and the Council of the acquisition of a political firebrand.

Mining Intelligence.

WILLIAMS CREEK. The miners on this creek are all actively engaged and are making the best use they can of the abundant supply of water. It is confidently expected that the weather will remain open for at least a month longer, in which case a large quantity of dust will yet become a circulating medium before fall, "a consummation devoutly to be wished." Brady-Nicholson co'y are sinking a new shaft. Taylor & Co (old Downie co'y) are making an ounce a day to the hand. Forward co'y are making an ounce a day to the hand. Wilson co'y washed up for the week 60 ounces; will do better this week. Brown co'y washed up on Thursday last 25 ounces; Dutch Bill co'y are making \$12 a day to the hand. Tennessee co'y are making wages. Cornish co'y washed up for week 20 ounces. Below the canon the first company that is doing anything at present is the Hit or Miss co'y, who are stripping their ground from the surface and will be getting out pay in the course of a week. Cariboo co'y washed up for week, 32 ounces. Caledonia co'y washed up for week 50 1/2 oz. Morning Star co'y washed up for week 20 oz. Forest Rose co'y washed up 50 oz for week. Ruby co'y washed up 70 oz for week. STOUTS GULCH. The Emery co'y at the head of the gulch, washed up for the past week 70 oz. The other companies are doing about the same as usual. CONKLINS GULCH. The United co'y washed up for last week 140 ounces. GROUSE CREEK. Our mining news from this creek has never been more cheering, the claims yielding larger returns, or the miners more hopeful at any other period during the season than at this moment. There are few claims, unless it is those that are prospecting, but what are yielding over wages, and some are even rivaling in richness the famous claims of Williams creek; present indications point to this as the leading creek in Cariboo next season.

HERON COY; this company have had the largest wash up of any claim on the creek during the season; on Monday the wash was 44 ounces \$3, Wednesday 21 ounces \$3, Thursday 16 ounces \$2, Friday 13 ounces \$4, Saturday 43 ounces, Sunday (yesterday) 106 ounces \$2, total for the week, 395 oz. Black Hawk co'y have got down with a shaft to a depth of 26 feet, where they struck heavy boulders on the top of which they can get as much as \$1 to the pan; the water is so troublesome that a drain has to be cut before the shaft can be bottomed; the work has been commenced and will be finished in a couple of weeks. Lowhee co'y have run in a tunnel 115 feet over bed rock but found nothing yet. American co'y (in creek) are making \$3 a day to the hand. Wild Goose co'y are taking out 1 ounce a day to the hand while cleaning up bed rock. Short Bend co'y are making wages. Discovery co'y have got their bed-rock tunnel completed; the level is 15 feet lower than their old tunnel, they will work from both levels as the gravel pays for a depth of 14 feet. Perez co'y are making 1 oz a day to the hand. Sovereign co'y are making steadily from \$25 to \$30 a day to the hand. Ne'er-do-well co'y are cleaning up their ground sluice and are making from 20 to 25 ounces a day, 5 men at work. Caroline co'y have been hindered by having to blast through bed-rock, but have again struck good pay. Shy Robin co'y are making wages, but expect to do better when they get into the channel. Rankin co'y are making from \$30 to \$50 a day to the hand, with every appearance of having extensive pay. Dickson co'y have struck a prospect, but are troubled with water in their drift overhead. Cascade co'y have commenced a new tunnel, the level of the first one being too low. Salt Spring co'y are busy washing up bed rock; they will not clean up their sluices till the end of the present week. Clara co'y (formerly Imperial co'y) have out a ditch along the hillside over 1500 feet in length and are now ground sluicing. Fountain Head co'y are engaged in prospecting, two men at work; they washed out on Sunday last 1 oz.

CEADAR CREEK. Mr Jennings, who returned the other day, furnishes us the following particulars relating to mining operations on this creek; Borealis co'y is paying \$12 a day to the hand; 10 men at work. Aurora co'y are making over wages; 13 men at work. Watson co'y, paying wages; 8 men at work. Gross co'y pays \$10 a day to the hand; 6 men at work. Three other companies above the Watson co'y are engaged taking up a tail-race to enable them to prospect. The expedition which started for the head of the Lake had not returned, but were expected in a day or two. Four other men had left Cedar creek for the same destination with the view of prospecting. The creeks are all greatly swollen by the late rains. There was over a foot of snow still lying on Bald Mountain.

TERRY CREEK. A miner who arrived from this creek the other day informs us that there are from 20 to 25 men prospecting here. Two companies have got to washing a top strata of three feet in depth and are making from \$8 to 1 oz a day to the hand. These diggings are situated about 6 miles above the mouth of the creek, which empties into Canyon creek.

Further Particulars Concerning the Murdered Man, Blessing. From W. D. Moses, barber, of this place, we gather the following particulars about the murdered man: It appears that when he was coming up here last spring he met Blessing at New Westminster, and becoming acquainted with him they travelled together as far as Quenelmouth, which they reached on the 28th May; here Moses had business that detained him for a few days, and Blessing feeling anxious to go on determined to start on the morning of the 30th. On the evening previous to his departure they got into conversation with a man named James Barry, a perfect stranger to both, who said he was going up to Williams Creek next morning, and it was agreed that they should go together; they had several drinks at Brown & Gillie's Saloon, in paying for which Blessing changed a \$20 bank note, remarking to Moses that he had a few more left, and at the same time telling him that he did not like the looks of the stranger. He promised to meet Moses at Van Winkle, where he said he had some friends; since that night Moses has neither seen nor heard of the man. While travelling together he informed Moses in 1862, but had returned the same year to California, and had lived in Calaveras county ever since; that he was an American by birth, and belonged to some of the Eastern States; he also told him that his name was Charles Blessing, and observed at the same time that it was a very uncommon name and he (Moses) would be very apt to remember it if anything ever happened to him. Moses left Quenelmouth and arrived at Van Winkle on the 1st of June, but could hear nothing of the man; about a week after he arrived on Williams Creek he met Barry and asked him what he had done with his "chummy?" to which he replied that he left him on the road and had not seen him since. Moses thought no more about the matter until he saw the name of the murdered man in the Sentinel, when the circumstances above related flashed across his memory at once, and he hurried to the Magistrate and gave the information. This man Barry, on whom a very strong suspicion now rests as being the murderer, left the creek in great haste the day after the news arrived of the discovery of the body. It is said he is well known as a bad character to the Police of Victoria, where he kept a hurdy-gurdy dance house in Johnson street last winter. In the early part of the summer he was arrested here on a charge of stealing a pair of gun boots, but discharged for want of evidence.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE. Thursday, Oct. 18. SALE AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE—Mr. P. M. Backus will sell to-day at 11 a. m. at the Government House, all the first-class furniture, crockery, cutlery, &c., with several fine horses and cows, the property of His Excellency the Governor.

QUARTZ.—The Williams Creek Gold and Silver Quartz Mining Co., and the Home Stake Quartz Mining Co., have each taken out and sacked up half-a-ton of rock, which they intend sending to San Francisco for assay. The rock is now lying at Richfield and will be sent off by the first favorable opportunity. Messrs Nelson & Parsons, we understand, have generously consented to freight it from Soda Creek to the Junction free of charge. The half-ton of rock from the Home Stake Co. is that promised to be sent to Mr McWorthy, and taken out at a depth of 36 feet in the ledge. The rock from both ledges looks well.—Cariboo Sentinel.

BURGLARY.—Two gentlemen, while crossing Church Reserve at an early hour yesterday, on horseback, encountered an Indian carrying a bundle of articles wrapped up in a white sheet. The horse of one of the gentlemen became alarmed at the white object and dashed off, while the Indian, equally alarmed by the appearance of the horsemen, dropped the bundle and fled. The frightened horse carried his rider nearly a mile before he could be curbed. The bundle, upon examination, proved to contain a quantity of wearing apparel belonging to a colored man, whose house had been entered and robbed a few minutes previously.

THE BALL.—The coming entertainment in honor of His Excellency the Governor and family, who are so soon to take their departure from us, is now the all engrossing topic of conversation. The Managing Committee are raining every nerve to make the arrangements as complete as possible, and everything so far bespeaks a great success. The services of the splendid band of H. M. S. Sutlej have been kindly volunteered by Admiral Dneman for the occasion, thus affording a treat that the majority of our citizens can seldom enjoy. The hall is being handsomely decorated for the evening.

PRIZE FIGHT.—A match has been arranged between Geo. Wilson and Geo. Baker for \$500 a side, with power to increase to \$2000 before the fight comes off. Articles were signed last Saturday and a deposit made of \$50 a side; the balance to be deposited as follows: \$200 on Saturday next and \$250 on the following Saturday (20th). The fight to take place on Tuesday, the 24th instant. The men will go into training to-day; Baker will be under the able tuition of his old trainer John Tracy, while Wilson will be handled by Fred. Little.—Cariboo Sentinel.

JAMES BAY BRIDGE.—The chain-gang are engaged in repairing this bridge. Under the directions of Superintendent Truran, the defective stringers are being secured and new ones substituted. In one case, a stringer was broken in two, and when the floor of the bridge was raised, the pieces dropped into the water! The bridge will be open for carriages on Friday evening, and drivers are requested to cross at a pace not faster than a walk.

THE POLLS.—We had hoped to be able to announce the result of the Polls this morning; but, inasmuch as the scrutiny and declaration will take place to-day, we have thought better to postpone the matter till next issue. As the poll books now stand, Dr Black, received 204 votes and Mr Robson 220, giving a majority to the latter of 16 votes, but if the 16 Kanakas who voted for Dr Black be taken off, Mr Robson's majority will be 3.—Columbian.

GEORGE PEABODY proposes to deposit with the Peabody Institute, at Danvers, Queen Victoria's portrait and autograph letter and Earl Russell's letter. He will also deposit a gold box, presented to him by one of the London associations. Mr Peabody also intends to endow the branch library at Danvers with an additional \$4,000.

CAUTION.—The public are notified that a common article of Kid Gloves, purporting to be genuine Alexandre's, are sold in Victoria. These gloves have a Counterfeit Trade Mark of Alexandre & Co., but are minus the initials of "A. T. S. & Co.," without which none are genuine.—J. H. TURNER & Co., London House, Sole Agents.

QUARTZ.—We learn from Mr Wm. Ladner, who has just returned from the Big Bend country, that the quartz ledges discovered on French and McCulloch's Creek, promise to be a very important affair. Specimens to the extent of about 1000 lbs. from these ledges are now on the way down to be shipped to San Francisco for assay.—Columbian.

DEBATE.—This evening, the following question will be discussed by members of the Mechanics' Institute Debating Class: viz: "Should Government interfere between employers and employees in cases of Strikes and Lockouts." The debate will be opened by Mr R. Wallace, in the affirmative.

WHERE IS IT?—Inquiry is made by a correspondent for the whereabouts of the treason patent. A large number of people are waiting to set their seal (of condemnation) upon it. Seventeen days have elapsed since the meeting, and still no petition circulated. How is this? Will the "twosbit concern" explain?

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE arrived last evening with 110 passengers, some treasure and a Cariboo and up-river express. She was detained at the mouth of the river by heavy weather. Among her passengers were Administrator Birch, Hon. Capt Stamp, Hon. George Wallace, H. P. Walker, D C Munnell and Wm. H. Ladner.

STAR DEBATING AND RECITING CLUB.—The young men belonging to this Association have taken a building on the corner of Douglas and Cormorant streets, where they intend to-morrow week to have an opening entertainment. We are pleased to see the society flourishing.

THE NEW WESTMINSTER ELECTION.—Thirty-two voters on the Douglas Portage, B. C., have petitioned the Administrator to be allowed to record their votes. It appears that they were debarred from taking part in the election by the neglect of the returning officer, who did not open a poll on the portage.

GAS PIPES AND METERS.—The bark Mackay brought a large quantity of pipes and meters for the Gas Company, which are being discharged on Janion, Green & Rhodes' wharf.

A large wheelwright and blacksmith shop is in course of construction on Government street, upon property belonging to Mr DeCosmos.

The Cariboo miners are subscribing liberally to aid the Jewish Synagogue Society of this city.

The Bed-Rock Drain has tapped the Welsh and Australian claims and is completed to Barkerville.

Forty ounces of gold dust were recently stolen from the dump-box of the Caledonia Co., Cariboo.

The steamer Transport has been placed on the ways at Laing's, for repairs.

Rarey, the noted horse-tamer, is dead.

The Active is not expected to arrive until to-morrow.

The European Muddle.

The Washington correspondent of the S. F. Bulletin writes the following to that paper concerning the European situation, which may be accepted as an American view of the state of affairs on the Continent. Louis Napoleon bravely maintains his title to be considered the most ingenious and inexplicable puzzle that ever filled the throne of France. Scarcely had the cable announced that he had made a demand upon Prussia for territory upon the Rhine, in accordance with his long avowed purpose to seek territorial aggrandizement for France in the event that any other continental power should materially enlarge its boundaries, before we were informed that Prussia had peremptorily refused to entertain the scheme, and that Louis Napoleon had abandoned the project *in toto*, declaring by way of apology that he had made his proposition only in deference to the sentiment of his people! If it really be true that he has abandoned this Rhine project altogether, the recently vaunted arbiter and dictator of European policies will appear to have utterly lost his position, and he must henceforth rank among the potentates least to be feared or respected. Compared with Bismarck he becomes a very Lilliput of statesmanship; and France, which was to reap the most wonderful advantages during her astute policy of armed neutrality during the German contest, takes absolutely nothing—for we have not the least evidence thus far that Victor Emmanuel feels himself under the slightest obligation to compensate France for the cession of Venetia.

It will not be safe, however, to accept as conclusive the idea that the Emperor of France has abandoned his scheme of securing a slice of the Rhine provinces, be it ever so small a one. Such a retreat as this, in the present condition of European affairs, would be almost as dangerous to the Emperor as would a war to enforce his demand for an extension of French boundaries. We may well doubt if he is prepared to accept as meekly the loss of prestige which the course ascribed to him inevitably involves. There is not a little reason, therefore, to suspect that when he announces an abandonment of his Rhine project he means just the reverse—or that, in fact, he will draw his demand temporarily, only until he can prepare to enforce it. Perhaps he is taking a lesson from Bismarck, and intends to get his armies ready to over-run and capture the territory he covets, before Prussia shall have time to defend it effectively. We all know what he means when he appeals to the "public opinion" of France. "By the grace of God and the national will" he made himself Emperor. From that hour to the present he has justified every movement for the repression of popular liberty by appeals to "public sentiment." No backwoods demagogue in American public life ever was more persistent in declaring himself the slave of "public opinion" than Louis Napoleon has been during all the years in which he has taken care to be the master of that "opinion," fostering, subsidizing, "warning" or suppressing its organs, just as they support, uncover or oppose what he thinks "public opinion" should be. Judging then by the past, we need not be surprised if the Emperor at no very distant day, and in obedience to "public opinion," shall renew his demand and pro-

ceed to enforce it. His suggestion to Prussia that she shall not extend her dominion south of the river Main, looks a little as though it may be designed to cover and keep alive an issue upon which the Emperor may change his base as soon as he is ready to receive and act upon the new orders of "public opinion."

The evidences at present do not indicate that Bismarck's ambition is limited to the Main; so that Louis Napoleon will probably find in that an opportunity to re-open the case as soon as his cannon and "public opinion" are ready for action. As suggested in a recent letter, it will be no slight task to wrest Rhenish territory from Germany by force. Still if France by a sudden movement shall take armed possession and hold fast to it with vigorous resolution, Prussia will certainly find the work of expulsion laborious and costly. A general peace in Europe, therefore is not yet assured, and it cannot be assured even if the French Emperor accepts humiliation as the alternative of an aggressive war—for in the latter case he will have added immeasurably to the popular disposition towards revolution which has been constantly on the increase during the last few years all over the continent. Bismarck shrewdly seized upon the German sentiment in favor of German unity, and employed it successfully in establishing the Prussian monarchy upon broader and firmer foundations than it ever had before. He effected this in face of and despite the fact that the sentiment in question was revolutionary in its character and purpose, and looked to the overthrow of the Court of Berlin, and the consolidation of the German States, great and small, into a grand German Empire, with a sort of elective Emperor at its head. The same sentiment doubtless would sustain Prussia in resisting a French demand for any portion of the Rhine provinces; but when it comes to be settled that no such demand is to be pressed, their cohesion consequent upon outside pressure will necessarily be lost, and the revolutionary plottings will be renewed. In the same emergency, Louis Napoleon having abandoned his foreign influence to save his throne, will have vastly encouraged the spirit of revolution which may yet call upon him to surrender his throne to save his neck. He has been popular against all logic, because of his success. This prestige lost, one may expect the chronic discontent of the restless people to break out anew.

Before I close my letter I must enter into a few explanations of terms used in Paris for certain articles of dress, without which your readers would fancy themselves in the dark. A ceinture tallien, or tallien belt, is nothing but a long, broad plaid, or chine sash. The ceinture russe (Russian belt) is made of black, corded silk, with ends, or rather tails, on each side, a rosette behind, and Russian tassel in front. A ceinture espagnole (Spanish belt) has three tails behind. The Lunze trimming means flowing loops of ribbon on the shoulders. These are the newest accessories.

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