

The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, April 30, 1867.

The Movements of the Fenians.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that in opening the present session of Parliament in Great Britain it was announced from the Throne that the Government would be enabled to dispense with the exceptional powers—the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland. The abortive and ridiculous attempts at insurrection at Chester and Kilkenny called, however, for a continuance of the extraordinary powers with which the Executive were invested. The discussion in Parliament brought out the whole truth relative to this movement. The first duty of Government is to give security to life and property, and without this security the present or the improved laws cannot promote the prosperity of Ireland. Never were baser motives on the part of any persons undertaking to be rebels and insurgents than those which impelled the instigators of those outbreaks. It was not a spontaneous outbreak, but was excited by those who came from abroad, and who had speculated and practised on the credulity of the people of Ireland. In the United States great sums have been collected on the pretence that "Ireland was to be freed," and that the "Irish Republic" was about to be established; and advantage was taken of the panic created at one time in Canada, at another in Ireland, to make fresh demands upon the unfortunate dupes who gave their money, hoping that this great revolution was about to be accomplished, but in reality only for the purpose of filling the pockets of those who practice on their credulity. There is but one feeling about the men engaged in this conspiracy—that they are mean and despicable and their motives sordid. It has been called, to a certain extent, a military movement; but its military exploits have been wholly null and void. The leaders are hardly ever seen; the reputed leader has, ever since the 28th of October, been in hiding, and even in the midst of the large population of the United States which is known to sympathize with this movement, he has not dared to show his face. There has been no particular skill or ability manifested on the part of those engaged in the conspiracy, but it has been difficult to obtain that amount of information which is usual when such designs are intended, from the fact that the leader and principal organizers of the conspiracy have never been Ireland, that they carry on their plots in foreign lands; all they appear to have done is to issue orders to their sympathizers, agents and dupes. The Government have been fully prepared, and to show the ease with which troops may be transported from one part of the country to the other, and how hopeless of success these movements must be, it may be mentioned that the information of the late outrage did not reach Dublin until six or seven o'clock in the evening, the commander of the forces had intelligence at eight o'clock, and by eight o'clock next morning he was 100 miles off with a small army of 100 men, ready to march anywhere. The outbreak took place; it was evidently got up and led by persons not known in the country, who succeeded in persuading a small party of deluded individuals to appear in arms, for as long as three days, against the authority of the Queen. The first lesson shown by these occurrences is the extraordinary ease with which the most active measures may be taken by the Government for the repression of such disturbances. The second is that the most ample information is at the disposal of the Imperial Government, and that they are warned in sufficient time to allow them to take the fullest precaution for the preservation of the peace. Another remarkable fact is that the spirit of the population has displayed itself, and that there have been no signs of sympathy with the Fenian movement on the part of the great mass of the agricultural population of Kerry. (Killarney is in the county of Kerry.) The insurgents, by threats and persuasions, endeavored to induce

the agricultural population to join them, but they signally failed in every instance. No sympathy was expressed in the movement, and although a certain amount of terror, no doubt, caused by these armed bodies of men, was exhibited, they did not succeed, except in one or two instances of extreme compulsion, in getting food. A great deal has been said about the supposed sympathy of the agricultural population of the south of Ireland with the rebels. Figures laid before the House of Commons show that the number of arrests, up to November, 1866, was 752; in that number there were only 35 farmers and 20 farmer's sons—35 occupiers of the land. The remainder belonged to the class of small traders, citizens and American adventurers. But those who know anything of Ireland feel that danger is not likely to proceed from the rural population. It is the loose population of the towns that has supplied the supporters to the Fenian cause; but upon the occasion of the stir at Killarney they kept out of sight. Earl Russell, in the House of Peers, said that it would appear, from a passage in the message of the President of the United States, that the Government of that country have gone even beyond what international duty prompts, and have endeavored to interfere with the course of justice in the case of persons participating in these insurrectionary movements. It is quite right to show mercy and to exercise clemency wherever those qualities can properly and wisely be exhibited. But is it right that any foreign Government should put forth appeals for mercy and clemency on behalf of those who have made it evident that a mercenary expedition was their only object in venturing to Ireland, with a view of exciting the subjects of Her Majesty who are loyal, to rise in rebellion against her throne, to disturb all the relations of society and to break out into open rebellion? Her Majesty's Government will, no doubt, take into consideration the degrees of guilt on the part of those who may be convicted, and applying to each case its measure of punishment, will extend such mercy as they feel can safely be done. But there never was more misplaced sympathy, there never was a more unjustifiable demand upon the Government of one country by another than to extend a complete amnesty to men who, having left their native land and obtained a settlement and a means of succeeding by their industry in another country, returned with the detestable notions to invade Her Majesty's dominions.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday April 26th.

NEW MINES ON "49" CREEK.—The news from Creek 49 is of the most encouraging nature, and great excitement prevails among the miners and business men as to their future prospects. The existence of rich and extensive mines is confirmed, and it is hard to say of what extent the diggings are. Numerous letters received from that point, and the arrival of men who were there a few weeks since for the express purpose of ascertaining the truth of the reports, all agree that the mines will pay from \$12 to \$17 per day to the man—though in many places much greater—that is believed to be an average, as far as prospected up and down the creek. These mines are very easily worked, but little stripping, from eight to twelve feet to the bed rock, nearly all which is pay dirt, though the nearer the bed rock the better the prospect. All the work that has been done so far is on bars along the creek, though one man who came from there a few days since gives it as his opinion that the bench diggings will prove much better than the creek. There have been two or three creeks discovered near by that prospect nearly as well as 49, though no work has been done on them as yet. About twenty men wintered in the mines, and about seventy started during the last ten days, and many others are preparing for a start. Nearly every man in the valley whose business is such that he can go, has either gone or is making preparations to go. These mines are much more extensive than at first thought. There have already been good prospects found over sufficient ground for at least fifteen hundred claims, some state more (this is one creek). The gold is rather coarse, and about the quality of Kootenai gold. These mines have a great advantage over many other new mining camps, from the fact of their easy access, and being easily worked. —*Portland Herald.*

A Washington says: How it happens that Speaker Colfax appears in Carpenter's picture of "The Death-bed of Lincoln," in violation of the historical fact, is that President Johnson was first painted in, where he belonged and was, but in consequence of his growing unpopularity, the artist thought his presence would harm the picture, so he pointed him out and put the Speaker in.

BRITISH COLUMBIA IN LONDON.—A private letter from London says that Mr. Klauke's immigration scheme will meet with no encouragement. A notice in the *Daily Telegraph* cautions people not to invest in British Columbia Bonds because the country is "clean gone in."

The Last Performance of the Season.

The performance of Wednesday evening by the Victoria Amateur Dramatic Club, although not the most successful, was quite up to the standard of amateur entertainments generally in other places, while it fell somewhat behind, in point of excellence, the two previous performances of our club. Perhaps in no city of equal size in the world will be found the same number of gentlemen drawn from ordinary business pursuits and associated together with the charitable object of ameliorating the condition of their fellow men, who can make as favorable an impression or deservedly win the encomiums that were bestowed upon the amateurs who made their last bow for the season on Wednesday evening. The entertainment commenced with the delightful domestic drama of "Our Jenny," in two acts—Country and Town. The first scene is laid in the country. The homespun dresses and simple, honest manner of the rustics were really charming. In this act Miss Annot was very successful in her personation of "Jenny Bell," a country girl, supposed to be an orphan and living with a kind benefactor, Dame Hurdle (R. G. Marsh). Jenny was desperately in love with Alfred Emmet (Mr. Godfrey Brown), who returned the passion with interest; but influenced by the stern, matter-of-fact father, a miller (Mr. B. P. Griffin), was induced to give her up and go to London in search of a rich wife, greatly to the disgust of Tom College (Mr. H. Rushton), a barum-scurum medical student, who espoused the cause of Jenny and gave Master Emmet and his speculative father a piece of his mind, which the old miller returned with compound interest by calling College "a scapegrace." Giles Freckleface (Mr. Callingham) was a country lout, brimful of honesty and good humor, except when he saw Jenny ill-treated, when, "like a lion in his wrath," he had to be held by Tom College to prevent his committing an assault upon the Emmets. Augustus Coddleson (Mr. Charles Clarke) was the spoiled child of his mother (Mrs. Marsh), who granted him everything he wanted for and a little more besides. Mrs. Coddleson was a woman of fortune, and while on a visit to the country became struck with the appearance of Jenny Bell and offered her the position of companion, and poor Jenny, having just had her heart torn by Jenny Emmet, and glad of a change of scene, accepted the offer. The parting scene between Jenny and kind old Dame Hurdle was an admirable piece of acting, displaying much feeling on both sides. Two years were supposed to have elapsed between the acts. Act II. (Town) opened with a scene in the parlor of Mrs. Coddleson's house—Augustus reclining on a sofa, while his calculating mother developed a scheme for uniting Jenny to her hopeful son. Augustus listened with the air of a man who is being severely bored, and Mrs. Coddleson informed him that she had discovered that Jenny's father was rich, and she wished to marry her to Augustus before she became aware of the fortune in store for her. Jenny, although she has received a city polish and externally has changed, still clings to the recollection of her her old love; but while detesting Augustus, is willing to sacrifice herself for the sake of Mrs. Coddleson, who has been so kind to her. Giles Freckleface, who has been transplanted from country to town, is clad in plush and velvet, and is Mrs. Coddleson's footman. Miss Thurlow (Mrs. Reeves) appears on the scene as a rich young heiress, and the fiancée of young Emmet, who has developed into a city beau. Tom College has become a successful M. D., has fallen heir to the estate on which old Emmet's mill is situated, and is the perfection of honor and morality; he is waited upon by Emmet and his father, who wish a renewal of the lease. After giving Alfred another piece of his mind for the mean way in which he had treated Jenny Tom renews the lease of the mill to old Emmet telling him, that being called a "scapegrace" stung him to the quick, and caused him to change his mode of life. While Tom is conversing with his visitors a summons is brought for him to visit a gentleman lodging next door. The doctor excuses himself for a minute, and presently sends a message requesting the guests to stop in next door and witness a will which the dying man is about to make. The patient turns out to be Jenny's father, who has just returned to England from foreign parts; he is enormously wealthy, and leaves £30,000 to his daughter. Having witnessed the will, young Emmet—who had heard a day or two before that Miss Thurlow was penniless and had discarded her—posts off to Mrs. Coddleson's house, where he sees Jenny and renews his suit, protesting that he was compelled by his father to break off the match in the country which he now renewed in the Town. Jenny, knowing nothing of the fortune that has fallen to her, bursts into tears and is about to accept Alfred, when the door is flung open and in walks Dr. Tom College. He tells her all about her father's death and the property to which she is heiress, and exposes the rascality of young Emmet, who is met on the threshold by Miss Thurlow who adds to the comfort of the mercenary young scamp by informing him that the reported loss of her fortune was merely a ruse to test his love. Having ascertained its value, she would not trouble him further. In the meantime, Giles Freckleface had discovered that Augustus had married Susan (G. Marsh), the housemaid, and a gold watch belonging to Augustus having been found in the kitchen drawer, Giles is accused of the theft and hurried off to the station-house. Susan then appears and declares that Giles is innocent, informs Mrs. Coddleson that she is her daughter-in-law, and that the watch was a wedding present from Augustus to her. Giles is released from prison and returns to the house in his old smock frock and corduroy smalls. Jenny marries Tom College, retains honest Giles in her service, and allows Mrs. Coddleson, Susan and Augustus something handsome to live upon. At the fall of the curtain Miss Annot, Mr. Rushton and Mr. Callingham. The characters were generally well sustained, although Mr. Callingham's

was indisputably the best. Miss Annot was quite natural in her acting. Mr. Rushton, in the scene where he tells Jenny who and what she is, was very effective. Mr. Clarke made a better dandy than he did a spoilt child, but he is always correct, and never fails to please and win much merited applause. Uncle Ben Griffin did the stern-hearted parent to perfection. We had rather see Mr. Brown in any other role than that of a villain; what he undertakes he does well, but the character didn't seem natural to him. Mr. Elliott between the pieces favored the company with two capital songs; and the musical burlesque of "Villikin's and his Dinah," in which Miss Annot, Mr. Rushton, Mr. Callingham and Mr. Clarke were highly successful, closed the entertainment at 11 30 o'clock.

FATAL DUEL.—Prince Solms, of Austria, was killed in a duel with Count Wedel. The Prince was the challenging party. The meeting took place at daybreak, in the Prater; the adversaries were placed 35 paces apart, with liberty to advance each 10 paces, the intermediate space being marked by the sabres of the seconds. After a few moments' hesitation, Count Wedel drew the trigger of his pistol. The weapons that had been more precise than usual with duelling pistols, and the ball struck his adversary almost in the centre of the chest, a little to the right. The Prince fell almost senseless to the ground, but had still sufficient strength when Count Wedel, overwhelmed at the result of his aim, threw himself beside him to grant the pardon he implored. Prince Solms lingered for nearly 24 hours, and died the next morning at six o'clock. The funeral solemnly took place on the 19th February, and was attended by the King, the Crown Prince and the Princess of Hanover, the Archduke William, the uncle and brothers of the Prince, and a large concourse of Generals, officers and members of the aristocracy.

THE REMOVED MUTINY ON BOARD H. M. S. SUTLEY.—It is said that the following particulars have been received here of the mutiny on board H. M. S. Sutley: Captain Coode ordered the men to wash their hammocks while the ship was on the way to Valparaiso; the order was complied with. Two days subsequently the hammocks were again ordered to be washed. The men murmured and were put to work picking oakum. The same night the lower rigging was mysteriously cut and other damage done. The report concludes that Admiral Denman and Commander Sullivan condemn the course of the captain, and that the latter demanded a court-martial.

COMPLIMENTARY.—Mr. Henry Rushton, for five years past Accountant of the Bank of British Columbia in this city, being about to leave for England, was entertained at the Bee Hive Hotel, on Wednesday evening, by a large number of friends, amongst whom were the members of the Amateur Dramatic Club. Ex-Mayor Franklin occupied the chair, supported by Mr. J. A. McCrear as Vice. The health of the guest of the evening was drunk with cheers, and songs and toasts occupied the company until an early hour in the morning. In the departure of Mr. Rushton the community will lose a valuable and public-spirited citizen, and the Bank a faithful, popular and intelligent officer.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALIFORNIA.—The steamship California, Captain Williams, arrived from San Francisco yesterday evening, at 7 o'clock. She brings 70 passengers, a full freight and a mail and express. In the passenger list we notice the names of R. F. Pickett, E. Marks, Mrs. Captain Finch, M. Blum and wife, and Rev. David Holmes. In rounding the Red Buoy, the steamer struck on the spit. The gunboat Forward, which had just arrived from New Westminster, and the U. S. Revenue cutter Lincoln, went to the assistance of the California, but she remained on when we went to press.

RETURN OF THE GOVERNOR.—Governor Seymour, accompanied by Mr. Birch and Mr. Mansell, returned from New Westminster at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in the gunboat Forward. The party landed at McNeil's Point and walked to Government House, while the gunboat came into the harbor and discharged a few articles of furniture. A crowd that had assembled on the wharf to gaze upon His Excellency were much disappointed upon learning that he had been landed outside.

RATES OF PASSAGE.—The fares on the last steamer going East from San Francisco were \$230, \$165 and \$120. The opposition steamer, to sail on the 24th, advertised to take first class passengers at \$130. The news by telegraph is to the effect that all opposition is at an end.

THE BARK SCOTLAND.—This bark will be hove down and repaired. She is now being relieved of her cargo of coal, about 100 tons of which have been sold to H.M.S. Sparrowhawk and Alexandra for their own use. The vessel will require extensive repair.

SUICIDE.—Capt J. B. Army, a newspaper man of San Francisco, committed suicide on the 19th instant, by taking laudanum. He left a letter saying he was perfectly sane and sober and wished to be at rest. He had lived unhappily with his first wife.

THE PILOT COMMISSIONERS met yesterday to regulate the pilotage of the Colony. After deliberating for some time the Commissioners adjourned until to-day. It is said the whole system of pilotage will be overhauled.

THE ALLUSION TO THE SUSPENSION OF THE MUNICIPAL BY-LAW yesterday related to Westminster and not to Victoria.

I. O. O. F.—The Odd Fellows will celebrate the 48th anniversary of the introduction of the Order on the American Continent to-day in a proper manner.

THANKS.—The Sisters of St. Ann return sincere thanks to the public and the members of the soiree committee for the kind aid extended them.

COUNTERMANDED.—The order for the Sparrowhawk to sail for New Westminster has been countermanded.

BALL.—It is reported that a ball will be given at Government House in about a fortnight.

HAPPY MAN!—The marriage notice of Mr. N. Jacob, lately of this city, appears in a San Francisco paper.

TWENTY FIVE of the California's passengers are bound for the Sound.

OUR QUARTZ INTERESTS.—Mr. J. G. McWorthy, who returned yesterday on the California, has come up to prosecute the working of quartz leads in Cariboo.

THE CALIFORNIA has freight on board for Port Townsend for which port she will sail this evening.

Eastern States.

NEW YORK, April 15.—The Supreme Court refused to entertain the Mississippi bill to join the President from enforcing the Military Reconstruction bill. The Court allowed the filing of the Georgia bill, as the same objection did not apply to that.

There is a rumor that the Pacific Mail Steamship Company have bought off Pearson's proposed opposition. It causes great dissatisfaction among California shippers. The advertisements of the opposition line are withdrawn from the papers.

Pacific Mail stock closed at 12 3/4. The Central American Transit Company has issued seven per cent. convertible bonds, and they trust to Webb to provide means for river and harbor improvements. The steamship line has taken \$200,000 of the bonds.

South America.

NEW YORK, April 15.—Panama correspondence of the 3rd inst. says Mosquera is at the head of 1000 well armed men, and is expected to sweep all opposition before him. A strong party at Panama will join Mosquera the moment he arrives.

Through the intervention of France an exchange of Spanish and Chilean prisoners had been agreed upon.

The new loan of \$19,000,000 effected in London creates a good feeling, although it is reported that it was conditioned on the acceptance of foreign mediation.

Owing to disturbances by women and priests in the galleries of Congress, pending the discussion of religious liberty, it was resolved to discuss the question in secret session.

NEW YORK, April 17.—The Russian treaty is still a prominent topic, and the value of the territory acquired by the United States is rapidly appreciating in public sentiment. Captain Fox, who has been on a special mission to St. Petersburg, states that the impression that Russia was willing to cede her American possessions to the United States because she conceived them of no value, is utterly false. The Government of the Czar is fully aware of the vast natural resources of this territory, and was moved to make the cession by no wish to get rid of it. He says the importance of the acquisition cannot be overrated. The country is similar in many respects to Northwestern Europe, and contains the elements of great wealth. General satisfaction is evinced at the prompt ratification of the treaty, which is regarded as of great political and commercial importance.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Mr. Seward is much pleased with the ratification of the Russian treaty, and regards its successful negotiation as the greatest act of his official life, as it is expected to lead to still greater consequences. It has created quite a sensation in Canada, and it is thought will strengthen the feeling in favor of annexation.

Europe.

[BY STEAMER.]

PARIS, April 4.—A war with Prussia on the Luxembourg question is beginning to be regarded as imminent. The action of Bismarck and the proceedings in the North German Parliament have greatly intensified the anti-Prussian feeling, and it is felt that any backing down on the part of France would be humiliating. Increased activity is manifest in all branches of the army and marine, and the Bourse is beginning to evince symptoms of a panic.

LONDON, April 4.—From the Continent it is stated that extensive warlike preparations are going forward, both in Prussia and France, that troops are being quietly marched toward the frontier. In all parts of Germany the determination is expressed to resist any alienation of German territory to France, and the action of Bismarck is warmly indorsed. In this city the aspect of affairs is regarded as most threatening.

[BY CABLE.]

LIVERPOOL, April 13.—Great anxiety is manifested to have the Alabama claims settled, even if against England, as in the event of a war with Spain, now threatened, they would set a precedent most dangerous to English commerce.

LONDON, April 14.—The Tories are very jubilant over the defeat of the Liberal party by the vote on Gladstone's amendment to the Government Reform bill on Friday night, and the so-called Liberals who voted with the Administration are much complimented by the Tory press. The Liberal leaders, however, show no discouragement, and are confident of ultimate victory. This temporary check has greatly increased the popular feeling, and the Tories are warned of a reaction which will force them to the wall.

NEW SPRING GOODS.—At VICTORIA HOUSE (corner of Fort and Douglas streets), are now being unpacked the first instalment of their spring goods received by last steamer, comprising novelties in dress materials for spring and summer wear, Ladies' and Children's Mantles and Jackets, Hats, Bonnets, &c., &c.