The Weekly British Colonist,

Wednesday, March 1st 1871

## The Franchise Bill.

The Franchise Bill is in good measure; and it has, of course, fallen foul of the democratic class of politicians. 'Tis well. We are told that the qualification of voters "marks the the silly conservatism of reformers; and betrays their political stupidity." We suppose the statesmen of the United Kingdom and of nearly all the Colonies must be intensely stupid, inasmuch as they continue to frame a franchise less, in most instances much less, liberal than our own. But we are told that under the new Bill "Amadent, no matter how good, who by some accident is unable to come within the range of one of the qualifications is a Helot." Who says so? He may be a pauper; but he need not be a slave. It should be remembered that the best of rules have exceptions; and under the wisest and most liberal laws exceptional instances of hardship may occur. Again, we are told that one of the "corks of the new political creation are to be those, no matter how deserving, who are poor, industrially active, or dollar-owners." Who says so? Assuredly the new Bill does not. Indeed, we should look in vain for a Franchise Bill less open to the charge. Was the franchise on Vancouver Island, when it possessed representative institutions, any more liberal? The present Bill shows no desire to exclude any class of British subjects who are *bona fide* residents of the Colony; but it must exact some evidence that they are *bona fide* residents, before it gives them a voice in the management of its affairs equally with the man who has adopted this Colony as his home and has his all at stake in it. Men of substanceage have their rights as well as men of substance; and the Bill could hardly impose a less severe test than it does in requiring that any man wishing to vote must be a *bona fide* resident. Indeed, the Bill approaches the very verge of "universal suffrage"—principle which came so near making a shipwreck of the few British Colonies that ever adopted it. There is one and only one qualification imposed upon electors in the Bill to which we would take exception, and that is 'being able to read.' It will be time enough to impose such a qualification when we have placed the means of learning to read within the reach of all. The Bill contains very elaborate machinery for conducting the elections, and guarding against corruption. One clause provides that every person guilty of bribery, undue influence, or *treating* at any election shall be expunged from the voters' list, and shall be placed upon a separate list, to be entitled 'The list of persons disqualified for bribery, treating, or undue influence,' which list shall be appended to the list of voters, and shall be printed and published therewith wherever the same shall be or is required to be printed or published; and naughty boys are made to don a 'fool cap,' and stand in a corner, as a punishment to themselves and as a warning to others. We think the Government has hit upon a no less effective method of treating naughty voters. At any rate, this new regulation will affect the price of beer, and may prevent a repetition of the disgraceful scenes enacted in some districts last election. We wish to correct a gross error made by a constitutional faultfinding contemporary on this point. If, however, the law takes no cognizance of the money paid, no matter how or how poor, or what the cause may be, the person qualified by rental is not to be allowed to vote. Passing over the solecism in the sentence, we shall reply to it by simply quoting section 7, of the Act: 'No public tax, rate, or charge, shall be deemed to be any charge or incumbrance on lands within the meaning of this Act.' Taken in connection with the Constitution Act, by which it has been preceded, and the Contested Elections Act by which it is to be succeeded, we are disposed to regard the Franchise Act as upon the whole a satisfactory measure. Certainly it does not err on the side of illiberality.

## Decline of American Commerce.

A Treasury Return recently submitted to the US House of Representatives tells a truly doleful tale of the decline of shipping interest in this country. It appears from this return that of the total tonnage entered at the ports of Great Britain during the year 1869, 68 per cent. was British, and 32 per cent. American, and 29 per cent. from other foreign countries. It may be said that this is to be expected. British shipping would greatly predominate in British ports. But, let us see how American shipping fares in American ports. According to the same Return, of the total tonnage entered at the ports of the United States during the year ending June 30, 1870, 36 per cent. was American, 64 per cent. was British, and 17 per cent from other countries. Thus it would appear that the British tonnage in the commerce of the United Kingdom has risen from 59 per cent. in 1855, to 68 per cent. in 1869, while during the same period American tonnage has declined about one-half. The former country has about 70 per cent. of the shipping engaged in her commerce under her own flag; the latter has only 36 per cent. It further appears that since 1860 American shipping engaged in the foreign trade of the United States has fallen off one-half, and that British tonnage therein has increased one hundred per cent. The question suggested to the nation by this State paper, in the up-building of the merchant marine, is not, how shall American shipping interests be protected against foreign competition but rather, how shall those interests be protected against British competition. The following causes are assigned for the supersedure of American by British shipping in the international commerce of the globe: Great Britain had about ten years the start in establishing steam navigation; the policy of Great Britain in granting liberal subsidies to ocean lines; the higher rates of interest which prevail in the United States as compared with those of Great Britain, and, consequently, the higher rates of profit required on investments; the difference in the amount of direct taxation in the two countries; the chief cause of the inability of the United States to compete with Great Britain, consists in the greater cost of building ships in the former country; the rebate of duty allowed on imported goods used on British ships; another cause of the decline of American shipping consists in the direct and persistent opposition of certain foreign lines to American lines of steamers. Such are, in brief, the reasons suggested as the cause of "the commercial downfall of the United States, and of the commercial triumph of Great Britain." Some of these reasons are weak. Others are strong; but it will be chiefly interesting to see what remedy is to be applied. It will be interesting to see whether a country boasting of the liberality of its political institutions and national policy will have recourse to the narrow, cowardly and exclusive policy of closing its ports against British shipping. There are not wanting indications of a tendency in that direction. 'How shall we protect our shipping interests against *British* competition?' is the question openly put. Can the United States afford to apply such a remedy? True, Great Britain could not well meet it with reprisals, even if she were so minded, for the policy of the Government of America tonnage now requiring for ports would not be worth banishing. But, with the United States the case is very different. To banish the 47 per cent of British shipping now engaged in the commerce of that country would be to seriously cripple its commerce, and increase the already nearly intolerable burden imposed upon the people by a false policy of protection.

## Public Debt and Taxation of the Dominion.

Now that, through the agitation of Confederation in this Colony, have we heard it remarked of Canada that it was already crushed down with a public debt utterly disproportioned to its age, population and ability to pay. From a carefully compiled paper contributed to the Canadian *Year Book* the following facts and figures appear. The gross debt of the Dominion is $88,870,937. It represents an annual *per capita* interest of 98 cents. Let us compare this rate with that of some other countries. The debt of Great Britain represents a *per capita* interest of $4.28; that of the United States $3.75; that of the wealthy colony of Queensland $4,94; that of the colony of Victoria $4,06. While it would take about $122 per head to pay off the debt of Great Britain, $73, for the people of France (computed before the present war) and $64 from our American cousins it would actually require less than $25 from each person in the Dominion of Canada to pound for pound taxation the contrast is no less favorable to Canada. The annual contribution towards the revenue in Canada comes to $3 75 per head. In Great Britian it is over $14, in France (before the war) $10 and in the United States $9 50; adding the State taxation it comes to about $11 10 per head as compared with $3 75 for Canada.

Thursday, Feb 23.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.—It appears from our Canadian exchanges that the Dominion Parliament meets under very much more favorable circumstances this year than it did last. Last year Red River was in a state of open rebellion, the Governor of Manitoba was rampant; the new Minister of Finance had not been tried, and his policy had evoked considerable opposition. This year Manitoba is peaceful, loyal and prosperous under the benignant administration of Governor Archibald, the Minister of Finance comes before Parliament with an overflowing exchequer, and British Columbia is sailing gracefully into the Dominion. The Hon Dr Tupper, too, has brought both influence and talent into the Dominion Cabinet, while all Canada has been honored in the appointment of her Premier upon the High Commission at Washington. We are glad that the Government will meet Parliament under such auspicious circumstances generally, because we regard the Government as a good one, and particularly, because it will be the less likely to experience difficulty in carrying the terms upon which this colony is to enter the Dominion.

THE MEASLES are in town. Two families of children are down with the complaint.

LANDS ALIENATED LAST YEAR—According to a Parliamentry Return laid before the Legislative Council on Tuesday, there were thirty-four thousand and sixty-seven acres of land pre-empted during last year, of which 24,752 acres were on the mainland, and 17,210 acres, in the District of New Westminster. There were sold during the same period 10,504 acres, of which 7,885 were on the mainland, and 6,323, in the District of New Westminster. It will thus be seen that in the single District of New Westminster a little more land was pre-empted than in all the rest of the United Colony, while in the same District considerably more land was purchased than in all the rest of the Colony. These facts show that the District of New Westminster is making rapid and substantial progress. The Return also shows that during last year 16,930 acres of land were leased for timber-cutting purposes on the mainland, while on the Island there were 852 acres and 519 respectively leased for similar purposes. The number of acres of coal lands set apart on the Island is 1,000, being the Comax reserve. The District on Vancouver Island in which the greatest amount of land was leased is Nanaimo District and it stands second in pre-emption, small labor and dependencies being the first.

GEN. TROCHU.—An American writing from Paris about two weeks before the capitulation, said: The fact is well established that Gen Trochu is a complete failure, and that if he were out of the way there would be some hope of saving France. He has been so flattered for his supposed greatness that he believes his own safety paramount to that of Paris, and he has talked of leaving Paris in a balloon to avoid capture when the city falls. When urged not to do so, and told that the French people would regard such an act as cowardice, he replied that his future would be the ruin of France, and by his safety alone could the people succeed in driving the Germans from the soil of France.

CHEERING.—The improved tone of the American financial market, consequent upon the appointment of a Joint Commission to settle the Alabama claims and Fishery dispute, is very gratifying. It shows that the true policy of the United States is peace with all the world—especially with Great Britain. It now remains for the Commission to arrange the difficulties and remove all feeling of irritation and bitterness that now exist between the two great Anglo-Saxon nations.

FIREMEN'S BALL.—The grand ball of the Fire Department attracted a large number of ladies and gentlemen to Alhambra Hall last evening, and the greatest amount of sociability and enjoyment prevailed. The firemen appeared in uniform, their bright red shirts contrasting finely with the more quiet colors worn by the lady guests. The ball was brilliantly illuminated and handsomely decorated, and dancing was continued until an early hour this morning.

THE ROAD STEAMERS.—Portions of the road steamers were landed yesterday from the Prince of Wales. The width of the steamers are seven feet three inches, about the same as an ordinary freight wagon in use on the upper roads. The wheels are high, costing 50 guineas. The track is India rubber tire being enclosed within an endless chain of iron bands. The steamers attracted much attention yesterday from a group of curious persons.

DISSOLUTION.—The old and well-known firm of Gelley & Etterre has been dissolved. The stock advertised for sale on auction has been withdrawn, and Mr Frank Gelley will continue the business.

NATIONAL HOLIDAY.—Yesterday was a holiday in all the stores. The stores were closed after 12 o'clock and a number of English, French and American flags floated on the breeze. The day throughout the United States is generally observed by military parades and a complete cessation of business.

ARRESTED.—A Chinaman who has been in the employ of Mr Anderson on Store street was yesterday arrested and consigned to jail on a charge of theft. His examination will take place to-day, when the facts will be elicited.

THE OTTER sailed at 7 o'clock yesterday morning for Skeenamouth. She carried 19 passengers for Omineca and 115 tons of freight.

DUE.—The ship Calendar, called from San Francisco for Burrard Inlet *via* Victoria on the 9th inst., two days before the Elmwood.

CHINESE CUTTING CASE.—Ah Son and Ah Sam, for cutting each other, were before the Police Court yesterday and again remanded until Friday.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise will sail for New Westminster tomorrow morning.

FOR THE SOUND.—The steamer Isabel will sail for ports on Puget Sound on Friday morning at 5 o'clock.

ASH WEDNESDAY.—Service was held in the Episcopal and Catholic Churches yesterday. The attendance was not large.

TOWED UP.—The ship Elmstone, Capt Tomlinson, was towed to Moody, Deitz & Nelson's mills yesterday.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Emily Harris arrived last evening from Nanaimo.

## Premature Decay of Fruit Trees.

"Intellect, whose use
Depends so much upon the gastric juice."

Our aberrant and bilious friend H Mitchell is again Quixotic-like tilting at his windmill. Some time since he undertook to prove the club moss 'live for ever,' an annual plant, the Rose of Jericho. In that encounter he broke his lance. He has now imported into this colony a complete fungus theory, a most elaborate and ornate structure, which he says is partly of his own raising and after an erudite display of hard words he tells us it does not apply to the decay of fruit trees here. Mr. Editor, no one has ever seen any fungird growth here to justify the assumption that it ever did apply for one moment.

Where others toil with philosophic force
His nimble nonsense takes a shorter course
Flings, at your head convictions in the lump
And gains remote conclusions with a jump."

Climatic influences on the vital functions of the plant are the true cause, he says, of the decay of the apple here. Will your metaphysical and mechanical correspondent tell in which part of the tree the vital functions can be found at the season he refers to; also those functions that are not vital and why these climatical influences do not affect the vital functions of other kinds of fruit trees growing under precisely similar conditions as the apple? Your correspondent J Clayton has, I think, satisfactorily explained the cause of the decline of the apple here viz: early bearing and high fruitfulness. The physical causes, that lead to these results on the mature plant, exhibit themselves in the form of blotches, (commonly called canker) on the young plant. Now what are these physical causes and how do they act to produce the results mentioned? A poor or dry soil acting in conjunction with an arid atmosphere during the summer season exhausts the living organism until the weakest parts gave way to inanition. In situations around Victoria where the soil is deep and moist during the dry season the apple can be seen vigorous and healthy.

PYRU. MALUS.

NOTICE:

HENRY NATHAN Jr & Co

HAVING DETERMINED TO

CLOSE

THEIR

PRESENT BUSINESS

OFFER THE WHOLE OF

Their Stock

At Private Sale

AT REDUCED PRICES!

feb dkw

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

THE BOXER CARTRIDGES

For Snider Enfield of ·577 bore, and for the Henry and Martini-Henry Rifles of ·450 bore, adopted by Her Majesty's War Department, also of ·500 bore for Military Rifles

WATERPROOF Central-Fire Metallic Cartridges with enlarged Base for small bores, adopted by foreign governments for the converted Chassepot, Berdan, Remington and other Rifles; also, Cartridges for Ballard, the Spencer, and American Henry Repeating Rifles.

The 'ELEY BOXER' are the cheapest Cartridges known, carrying their own ignition and being made entirely of metal, are water and imperishable in any climate.

The above Cartridge cases (empty) of all sizes, and for the different systems of Breech-loading Rifles can be had with or without the suitable Bullets and Machines for finishing the Cartridges

BOXER CARTRIDGES of ·450 bore for revolving Pistol used by Her Majesty's Navy

Copper Rim-Fire Cartridges of all sizes, for Smith and Wesson's, Tranter's, and other Pocket Revolvers

Pin-Cartridges for Lefaucheux Revolvers of 12 m, 9 m and 7m, bore

Central-Fire and Pin-Fire Cartridges for all sizes on systems of Guns, Rifles and Revolvers

Double Waterproof and E P Caps, Patent Wire Cartridges, Felt Gun Waddings for Breech and Muzzle Loaders, and every description of Sporting and Military Ammunition

ELEY BROTHERS,

GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON,

WHOLESALE ONLY.

DINNEFORDS SOLUTION OF MAGNESIA

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA

Is the great remedy for

Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations and Bilious Affections;

IT IS THE PHYSICIAN'S CURE FOR GOUT, RHEUMATIC GOUT, GRAVEL, and all the complaints of the Bladder.

Are the safe and gentle medicine for Infants, Children, Invalids, Females, and for the sickness of Pregnancy. Dinneford's Magnesia is indispensable.

Sold by all Druggists and Storekeepers.

POWELL'S BALSAM OF ANISEED

TRADE MARK.

EXTRAORDINARY CURE OF A COUGH

HER MAJESTY'S GUNBOAT "NETLEY,"
WICK, N.B. COAST OF SCOTLAND,
September 7th, 1868.

DEAR SIR,

Having had a most distressing cough, which caused me many sleepless nights and restless days, I was recommended by His Lordship the Earl of Caithness to try your invaluable BALSAM 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,

To Mr POWELL. W. LINZELL, H.M.C.B. NETLEY

POWELL'S BALSAM 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 sphere of its use, and he begs to announce that he is now introducing it for sale into Victoria, B.C., and has appointed Messrs Millard & Beedy Wholesale Agents, through whom Chemists and Storekeepers can obtain a supply.

THE PRICE IS WITHIN THE REACH OF ALL CLASSES.

Established 1824

Prepared and sold by THOMAS POWELL, 16 Blackfriar Road, London. Sold in bottles by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors, throughout the World.

IMPORTANT CAUTION.—Observe that the Words "THOMAS POWELL, Blackfriars Bridge London," are engraved on the Government stamp affixed over the top of each bottle, without which none can be genuine.

Wholesale Agents, MILLARD & BEEDY, Wharf Street, Victoria, B. C. nol8 20tw

DR J. COLLIS BROWNE
(Ex Army Med Staff)

CHLORODYNE

IS THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. P. Wood stated that Dr COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the celebrated French Chemist being the inventor was deliberately untrue, which he regretted had been sworn to. Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated that Dr J. Collis Browne was the discoverer of Chlorodyne; that they prescribe it freely and mean no other than Dr Browne's. See Times, July 13 1864.

The Public therefore are cautioned against using any other than

Dr J Collis Browne's Chlorodyne.

IMMEDIATE USE AND ACTION.

This INVALUABLE REMEDY produces quiet, refreshing sleep, relieves pain, calms the nervous system, restores the deranged functions and stimulates healthy action of the secretions of the body without creating any of those unpleasant results attending the use of opiates. Old and young may take it at all hours and times when requisite. Thousands of persons testify to its marvellous good effects and wonderful cures, while medical men extol its virtues most extensively using its great capacities in the following diseases:—

Diseases in which it is found eminently useful—Cholera Dysentery, Diarrhœa, Colics, Coughs, Asthma, Cramp Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Gouty, Hysteria, &c.

EXTRACTS FROM MEDICAL OPINIONS

The Right Hon Earl Russell communicated the College of Physicians and J T Davenport that he had received information to the effect that the only remedy of any service in Cholera was Chlorodyne.—See Lancet, Dec 31, 864.

From A. Montgomery, Esq., late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay: "Chlorodyne is a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia, Asthma and Dysentery. To it I fairly owe my restoration to health after eighteen months' severe suffering, and when other medicines had failed."

Dr Lowe, Medical Missionary in India, reports Dec. 1865, that in nearly every case of Cholera in Wirtah, Dr J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne was administered, the patient recovered.

Extract from Medical Times, Jan 10, 1866: "Chlorodyne is prescribed by scores of orthodox medical practitioners. Of course it will not thus be singularly popular and do it not supply a want and fill a place.

Extract from the General Board of Health, London, to its officers in Cholera.—So strongly are we convinced of the immense value of this remedy that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases.

Beware of spurious and dangerous compounds sold as CHLORODYNE from which frequent fatal results have followed.

See leading articles, Pharmaceutical Journal, Aug 1, 1869, which states that Dr J Collis Browne was the inventor of Chlorodyne that it is always right to use his preparation when Chlorodyne is ordered.

CAUTION.—None genuine without the words 'Dr J Collis Browne' on the Government stamp. Over whelming medical testimony accompanies each bottle.

Sole Manufacturer, J T DAVENPORT,

33 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON.

Sold in Bottles, 1s 1½d., 2s 9d., 4s 6d., & 11s each. jel4

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S

CELEBRATED

OILMAN'S STORES

All of Superior Quality

PICKLES SAUCES, SYRUPS,
JAMS IN TINS AND JARS,
ORANGE MARMALADE,
TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS,
MUSTARD, VINEGAR,
POTTED MEATS AND FISH,
PRESERVED FRESH SALMON,
KIPPERED SALMON AND HERRINGS,
PICKLED SALMON,
FRESH AND LOCHEYNE HERRINGS,
FRIED SOLES,
FRESH AND FINDON HADDOCKS,
PURE SALAD OIL,
SOUPS, IN QUART AND PINT TINS,
PRESERVED MEATS IN TINS,
PRESERVED HAMS AND CHEESES,
PRESERVED BACON,
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGES,
BOLOGNA SAUSAGES,
YORKSHIRE GAME PATES,
YORKSHIRE PORK PATES,
GALANTINES,
TONGUES, BRAWN, POULTRY
PLUM PUDDINGS,
LEA & PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

Fresh Supplies of the above may always be had from every Storekeeper throughout the world.

CAUTION.

To prevent the fraud of refilling the bottles or jars with inferior productions, they should invariably be destroyed when empty.

Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,

PURVEYORS TO HER QUEEN, THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AND THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

SOHO SQUARE, LONDON

At the Paris Exhibition of 1867, THREE Prize Medals were awarded to CROSSE & BLACKWELL for the marked superiority of their productions. apr7 1awly

NORTON'S

CAMOMILE PILLS

ARE CONFIDENTLY RECOMMENDED AS A simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They are a powerful tonic and gentle aperient and are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits derived from their use.

Sold in bottles at 1s 1½d, 2s 9d and 11s each, by Chemists, Druggists and Storekeepers in all parts of the world.

Orders to be made payable by London House.