The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday February 2, 1870

## Mr Pemberton's Second Letter.

In consideration of the number and ability of those who have entered the arena of discussion, it may, perhaps, be as well that the question of Annexation should be left to some extent in the hands of correspondents; but, inasmuch as Mr Pemberton's second letter is, in a sense, a reply to previous editorial articles, it may be permitted us to point out one or two inaccuracies, contained in it. Mr Pemberton (unintentionally, we are sure) to some extent confounds what we said about Lord Granville's dispatch with the allusion to words spoken by another Minister of the Crown. We never claimed for the dispatch that it conveyed a guarantee in regard to the railway, or anything approaching to it. We have not the advantage of knowing what amount of respect Mr Pemberton entertained for his grandmother, any more than we are aware of her literary abilities; but we venture to think that when he drags that venerable lady into the controversy, in order to get a left-handed slap at the Colonial Minister, he acts without the good taste by which his writings are usually characterized. Besides, in designating the dispatch as 'fudge' he is scarcely in accord with public sentiment, most persons having been led to regard it as a clear, able and statesmanlike document. On the subject of Imperial guarantees and the feasibility of our railway route we must be excused if we still prefer the evidence of facts and official utterances to the vague assertions of a member of the House of Commons, who might be as ignorant about the subject-matter of his discourse as he probably was respecting the engineering difficulties to railway construction presented by the moon's surface. It was doubtless an easy matter for Mr Aytoun to characterize the scheme for the Canadian Pacific Railway as 'one of the wildest dreams that ever entered into the brain of a railway engineer.' It is by no means beyond the bounds of probability that the scheme for the construction of the still more difficult American railway now in successful operation was similarly denounced, as every great scheme has been. Whenever there is a great enterprise about to be undertaken there is never wanting an Aytoun or a Pemberton to ridicule it; yet such people don't quite stop the wheels of progress. We must confess surprise, however, that Mr Pemberton, himself an engineer, should prefer the mere assertion of a member of the House of Commons to the opinions of practical engineers and other scientific gentlemen who have reported on the route from personal observation. Surely the opinion of Lord Milton alone is entitled to far more weight upon this subject than that of Mr Aytoun can possibly be. But how is it, may we ask, that Mr Pemberton's views have experienced such a revulsion since 1860? In his interesting little book of that date we find him describing, in glowing terms, the proud position occupied by Vancouver Island as the 'half-way house' for English commerce with Asia and Australia—the sole outlet on the Pacific to 'the true Northwest passage.' Has he learned so soon to disregard the opinions of such men as Captain Palliser, Dr Hector, Professor Hind and even Dr Rae—the gentleman to whom he 'dedicated' his book—upon the practicability of overland communication through British territory? In the little book referred to Mr Pemberton not only falls in with the theory of the practicability of an overland route on the north of the 49th parallel; but he agrees with scientific authority in representing it as immensely superior to any possible route south of that line. Where is Cato now? Mr Pemberton appears to think that we are perfectly content to seek the Imperial guarantee for a railway loan '*after Confederation*'; but, although we do not doubt that it can be obtained as a sequence, a reference to back files will show that we urged upon the people to seek it as a condition. We cannot very easily discover the fitness of Mr Pemberton's allusions to the difficulties experienced in the matters of steam communication and population. It is quite true that the 'wiring and sealing' process would be exploded by Annexation; but would it transform an unseaworthy 'tub' into a floating palace, or cause population to flow hither? Are we to believe that the hoisting of the 'Stars and Stripes' is to be the talismanic signal for a rush of hitherto restrained population and capital and steamboats? How would this belief harmonize with the new theory laid down in Mr Pemberton's first letter, viz, that 'national distinctions are but relics of barbarism—that the less civilized a nation, the more clannish it is, and that all such exact lines of demarcation are becoming perceptibly fainter under the combined influences of education, the press, electricity and steam'? In no country in the world have these civilizing agencies been more widely extended than in the United States; and it is, therefore, too much for Mr Pemberton to ask the public to believe in his new international ethics, and at the same time, believe that a great tide of population and capital, dammed back by these 'exact lines of demarcation,' is ready to flow in upon this colony the moment these 'lines' are obliterated—not by the influence of the great civilizers, but by Annexation. He cannot keep his cake and eat it, and we leave him to elect upon which horn of this dilemma he choses to be impaled. In the last point Mr Pemberton seeks to make he is scarcely less unfortunate. The 'able article' to which he alludes as having been published in this journal 'from a Puget Sound cotemporary,' was from the *Oregonian*, a paper published in Portland, and to which the article was duly credited; so that the nice little straw castle built upon this erroneous foundation must be scattered to the winds, 'is,' to adopt his own words, 'all moonshine.' With Annexation and the terminus of overland communication on Puget Sound, we greatly think we would discover ourselves to be on the sixpenny side of the Straits; but with Confederation and a free port, or a liberal commercial policy, we would most unquestionably find ourselves on the shilling side. One would be not unnaturally led to infer from the admirable little ditty with which Mr Pemberton concludes his very interesting letter that he views Confederation in the light of separation from the parent nation—a virtual change of allegiance. It is possible that we may be wrong in this inference. Poets are presumed to enjoy a great latitude in the employment of words; yet we think this inference the more warranted from the fact that others of the same school *do* profess to take that view of Confederation. Need we point out the fact that the proposed consolidation of British interests on this continent, so far from being a severance of connection and a change of allegiance, is really the very reverse? Nor is the distinction Mr. Pemberton would raise between British subjects residing at home and those residing in the colonies in agreement with sentiments recently uttered by his favorite authority. We find the *Times* of last month, in a leading article, saying (with what sincerity we do not pretend to decide), 'All Englishmen regard colonists as brother Englishmen and fellow subjects.' Mr. Pemberton and those who act with him would appear to take a different view. They seem to prefer a transferrence of their allegiance to a foreign country to a practical recognition of their fellow colonists as 'brother Englishmen and fellow subjects,' and the promotion of a closer union between each other and with the parent State, with a view to giving solidity, permanancy, and influence to British power in America.

A PIONEER OF OMINECA.—A miner named Michael Foy has passed five years on Peace River, engaged in mining, and is said by his friends to have accumulated many thousands of dollars in gold dust. The diggings he now works and his present whereabouts are unknown. About one year ago he remitted a purse of $3500 in gold to his daughter, a young lady who resides on the Mainland. Foy went over to Omineca from Cariboo with the first party of prospectors in 1864, but separated from them in 1865. This party brought down $4000 or $5000 in gold dust. They only worked on the bars of the Findlay Branch, the diggings of which were very soon exhausted. Vitalis Forne and his party have sensibly chosen the banks and bars of a small tributary of the Findlay Branch, where they find the paydirt from two to four feet deep and producing an average of two ounces per day to the hand. By the next express from the Upper Country we look for important news from these new diggings.

FROM THE WEST COAST.—The sloop Thornton, Captain Brown, arrived from the West Coast yesterday. Captain Brown reports the colonial schooner Surprise, Capt Christenson, on the beach at Euculet (the point where the American bark Maria J Smith was wrecked) undergoing repairs. The injury to her bottom is serious. The schooner was lying at anchor when a heavy blow came and she was driven ashore. Mr Guillod, Anglican Catechist at Alberni, came by this arrival. The Indians of the West Coast are quiet. Father Widdermere is the only white man at Alberni. The mill buildings are in a good state of preservation, but a stillness as of death reigns at the settlement where a few years ago all was life and activity. The sloop brings a cargo of furs and oil.

READINGS FROM DICKENS.—Our citizens will shortly be favored with select readings from Dickens by Mr Pauncefort, the English gentleman who lately played a short but successful engagement at the Theatre Royal, where his faultless rendition of many of the best characters, drew large audiences and won very substantial marks of popular approval. As a reader, Mr Pauncefort has few equals on the continent. His manner and voice are always agreeable, and his conception of character, if we judge him by the noble standard of 'Jasper'—which we consider his very best representation—chaste and lifelike. The public will feel gratified to learn that the brief but pleasant acquaintance which they had with Mr Pauncefort is not to terminate abruptly, as was at first supposed. The Mechanics' Institute Hall has been secured for the readings.

CHINESE NEW YEAR.—The Chinese New Year commences to-day. Last evening, in anticipation of the great event, crackers were spitting and sputtering away at Chinatown. The Chinese indulge in 'calling' during their New Year festivities, which last three days; indeed, it is claimed by many that 'calling' originated in the Flowery Kingdom and that the custom was introduced into Europe by the Dutch, who first opened trade with the Chinese.

SHIPPING.—The bark Delaware, lumber laden from Moody's Mills, sailed yesterday for Guaymas, Mexico.... The ship Shooting Star sailed down the Straits yesterday for San Francisco. She is from Nanaimo with a cargo of coal....The steam tug Isabel arrived last night with the ship Nation's Hope in tow. The ship has a cargo of lumber for Australia.

DEATH.—Mr S B McCleary, a native of Massachusetts, and late of New Westminster, died at the Royal Hospital yesterday of paralysis. Deceased was for some years mate of the river steamer Lillooet.

THE HOTEL FIRE.—Government offers a reward of $500 for such information as will lead to the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons concerned in the destruction of the Crown Hotel, Esquimalt.

NAVAL.—H M S Ringdove was at Callao, Peru, on the 21st Dec, awaiting the arrival of H M S Zealous and Admiral Farquahar. Admiral Hastings and the officers and crew of the Zealous will be relieved at Callao.

DOUBTFUL.—There is a rumor afloat that the British Government is sending out a swift dispatch boat to carry the mails regularly between San Francisco and Victoria.

COMOX ROAD DISTRICT.—Joseph Radello has been appointed Collector under the 'Road Ordinance, 1869,' for Comox Road District, *vice* James Robb.

THE steamer Emma sailed for the East Coast and Burrard Inlet yesterday morning at 7.

THE famous case of Williams v. Wren will be tried on Tuesday in the County Court.

THE squaw who was beaten by John Kennedy is said to be in a very precarious state.

## Confederation and Annexation.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—With your permission I should like shortly to notice a few points in the letter of Mr J D Pemberton, which appears in the COLONIST of the 26th inst. The letter possesses importance, coming, as it does, from a late executive officer of a former Government, apart from its own merits and the paramount interest to us of the question discussed. Your correspondent admits that the colony cannot be permitted to remain 'isolated as she is.' Now, sir, I believe that the people of this colony are not in the mood to put up with any further delay on this question, and the Governor is well aware that from Cariboo to Comox they have spoken out with singular unanimity in favor of Confederation with Canada. Does your correspondent expect His Excellency to govern contrary to the maxim of the British Constitution, which is always supposed to be in accordanc with the well understood wishes of the people? 'The official members are to be left to vote according to their consciences.' It is a remarkable fact that the consciences and interests of the official members of our Council have always been coincident, and does your correspondent expect that they will vote for Annexation, which means immediate displacement, when by voting for Confederation they will either be retained or compensated? Mr Pemberton seems very desirous to be permitted to discuss this question and still be considered a loyal subject. He must be aware that no such privilege is given in any country either in Europe or America. Let him try the experiment in any of the adjoining States, and I will guarantee that he would be found suspended by a halter to the first tree that could be found. I will grant that a man has a perfect right to change his allegiance to any country he likes; but it is quite a different thing for a number of foreign residents in a friendly country, backed by a very few British subjects, to seek or endeavor to cause over a whole territory to another Power. This, in my humble estimation, becomes treason. Of course, we are not to expect anything else from a man who says he has been educated to consider loyalty and patriotism as relics of barbarism. Happily there are few men who think as he does on this question.

I don't think that it will be denied that France is a civilized nation, and yet we find that France to-day is as homogeneous and patriotic as she was in any former period of her history. Look again at the aspirations of the Italians for national unity, and it is so with every nationality. How do we find the Americans in this respect, young as she is? The fire of patriotism glows in many a heart in that country. Look at her during the last war. How many thousand of lives and what countless treasure did she not offer up as a sacrifice to perpetuate her unity and the integrity of her domain. Once admit as a principle the right of a party to break up a country and all national cohesion is gone. Anarchy and confusion take the place of order and peace. Suppose we were annexed to-morrow, what have we to gain by such a change? Let us take a practical view of the matter. What, I ask, are the advantages to be gained? Washington Territory has the advantage of having been settled before this place was and up to a very late date we got all our agricultural produce from there, and to the present day the Royal Navy as well as this city depend on it for beef, mutton and pork. Having all these advantages, to our disadvantage, she yet is far behind us in everything that distinguishes progress and civilization. Will any man at all acquainted with American trade say that if we were annexed to the States a ship with foreign merchandise would ever be seen in our ports? If seen at all it would be but seldom. No, sir, the tendency of trade is to centralize, and it is more so in America than with us. Every importer would be driven from the colony and San Francisco would become the centre for the whole coast of the North Pacific. Look at the Atlantic side, and you will find States even in New England stagnant, having none of the progress or development of any of the colonies. I hold that to be confederated with the Dominion would thereby create another centre for trade independent of San Francisco. It is our true interest therefore to be so. It is a fact worthy of notice that this cry for Annexation comes only from foreigners and Britons who have neither lived in the United States nor the North American colonies, ignorant on the one hand of the institutions of Canada and strongly prejudiced against everything British; on the other hand, ignorant alike of both countries, but, Esau-like ready to sell their birthright for a mess of potage. And with all due deference to your correspondent, portions of his letter seem to me very much as if he was writing about something of which he knew next to nothing. Luckily for this community the motives of Mr Pemberton and those who think with him are well known, as they have made no secret of their expectations and intentions. But it is otherwise with the bulk of the inhabitants, who have come here to make this their permanent home. A love of country, according to this new educator, may be barbarism. If so, we have been wonderfully deceived all our lives. We have hitherto been taught to believe it to be one of the greatest virtues, and have always considered the patriot as one of the most honored in history. Can it be that all our poets who have been inspired to produce our patriotic and national ballads and songs were, after all, only barbarians? Can it be that such songs as 'Rule Britannia,' 'God Save the Queen,' and 'the Star Spangled Banner' are only relics of barbarism? Are those feelings and emotions, akin to Divine Worship, which come stealing over us while we listen to the singing of 'God Save the Queen,' barbaric? Have we to change all our ideas of the heroes and defenders of our country's liberties? Are we to look on Bruce and Washington, and hosts of other names illustrious in history as barbarians? And from this time forth are only the mean, the ignoble and the drivelling to be honored and exalted? Such is the teaching of this new prophet.—*Ecce Homo!*

The next point I shall notice is the bugbear of war, put forward to frighten us into annexation. I would scarcely have thought that this would have been put forward at all. There is nothing new in this connection that did not apply in the first days of colonization. The same argument can always be used with the strong as against the weak. There is much less likelihood of war under confederation than as we are at present. United, we become stronger. We speak the same language as our neighbors; consequently there is not the same liability for misunderstandings to arise as there would be between two peoples speaking different tongues.

Viewing this subject from your correspondent's stand-point, it seems to me strange that he should have ventured his person in a colony liable at any time to be swallowed up by Uncle Sam. How he ever had the courage to possess himself of such an extent of rock and swamp, in view of such a contingency, can only be accounted for by the neglected state of his education at that time. Your correspondent seems very doubtful of the ability of the Dominion Government to build a transcontinental railway. He forgets that she can borrow money in the English market on fully as good terms as the United States; but I hold that she is able to build that road by grants of land alone. Railroads in England don't pay, he says; consequently there is no use in attempting anything of the sort in Canada. I recollect the very first attempt at railroad-making in England; and notwithstanding that some roads paid very small dividends and that some paid none at all, it is a fact that railroads continued to be built, and are being built to the present day. A word about the London *Times*, the text from which your correspondent has preached a long and perhaps to some, interesting sermon. To deny that the *Times* is the exponent of the British Government would be to occupy your space needlessly; but a word about the fallacy of the article quoted: The *Times* says that a large proportion of the inhabitants of this colony are Americans. That I deny. It farther says that suppose the colonists come together and decide for annexation, we would be allowed to go. Will British subjects admit a number of foreigners living in our midst to have the right to vote that the country we own and in which our homes are, shall be transferred from our own flag to that of a foreign power? You have already exposed the ignorance of the *Times* as to the geography of the country, he is so ready to give away. I would advise the editor of the *Times*, before he makes the present, to find out whereabouts British Columbia is situated.

R. WALLACE.

Victoria, 27th Jan, 1870.

## The Faithful Lovers.

I'd been away from her three years—about that.—
And I returned to find my Mary true;
And though I'd questioned her, I did not doubt that
It was unnecessary so to do.
'Twas by the chimney corner we were sitting;
'Mary,' said I, 'have you been always true?'
Frankly, says she—just pausing in her knitting—
'I don't think I've unfaithful been to you;
But for the three years past I'll tell you what
I've done; then say if I've been true or not.
When first you left, my grief was uncontrollable,
Alone I mourned my miserable lot,
And all who saw me thought me inconsolable,
Till Capt Clifford came from Aldershot;
To flirt with him amused me while 'twas new;
I don't count THAT unfaithfulness. Do you?
'The next—oh! let me see—was Frankie Phipps,
I met him at my uncle's, Christmas-tide;
And neath the mistletoe, where lips meet ips,
He gave me his first kiss'—and here she sighed;
'We stayed six weeks at uncle's—how time flew!
I don't count THAT unfaithfulness. Do you?
'Lord Cecil Fossmote, only twenty one,
Lent me his horse. Oh, how we rode and raced!
We scoured the towns—we rode to hounds—such fun!
And often was his arm about my waist—
That was, to lift me up or down. But who
Would count THAT unfaithfulness? Do you?
'Do you know Reggy Vere? Ah, how he sings!
We met—'twas at a picnic. Ah, such weather!
He gave me, look, the first of these two rings,
When we were lost in Chicden Woods together.
Ah, what a happy time we spent, we two!
I don't count THAT unfaithfulness to you.
'I've yet another ring from him. D'you see
The plain gold circlet that is shining here?'
I took her hand: 'Oh, Mary! Can it be
That you'—. Quoth she, 'That I am Mrs Vere.
I don't count THAT unfaithfulness. Do you?'
'No,' I replied, 'FOR I AM MARRIED TOO.'

—LONDON ILLUSTRATED NEWS.


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They operate by their powerful influence on the internal viscera to purify the blood and stimulate it into healthy action—remove the obstructions of the stomach, bowels, liver, and other organs of the body, restoring their irregular action to health, and by correcting, wherever they exist, such derangements as are the first origin of disease.

Minute directions are given in the wrapper on the box, for the following complaints, which these *Pills* rapidly cure:—

For **Dyspepsia** or **Indigestion, Listlessness, Languor** and **Loss of Appetite**, they should be taken moderately to stimulate the stomach and restore its healthy tone and action.

For **Liver Complaint** and its various symptoms, **Bilious Headache, Sick Headache, Jaundice** or **Green Sickness, Bilious Colic** and **Bilious Fevers**, they should be judiciously taken for each case, to correct the diseased action or remove the obstructions which cause it.

For **Dysentery** or **Diarrhœa**, but one mild dose is generally required.

For **Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Palpitation of the Heart, Pain in the Side, Back** and **Loins**, they should be continuously taken, as required, to change the diseased action of the system. With such change those complaints disappear.

For **Dropsy** and **Dropsical Swellings** they should be taken in large and frequent doses to produce the effect of a drastic purge.

For **Suppression** a large dose should be taken as it produces the desired effect by sympathy.

As a *Dinner Pill*, take one or two *Pills* to promote digestion and relieve the stomach.

An occasional dose stimulates the stomach and bowels into healthy action, restores the appetite, and invigorates the system. Hence it is often advantageous where no serious derangement exists. One who feels tolerably well, often finds that a dose of these *Pills* makes him feel decidedly better, from their cleansing and renovating effect on the digestive apparatus.

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Scrofulous poison is one of the most destructive enemies of our race. Often, this unseen and unwelcome tenant of the organism undermines the constitution, and invites the attack of enfeebling or fatal diseases, without exciting a suspicion of its presence. Again, it seems to breed infection throughout the body, and then, on some favorable occasion, rapidly develop into one or other of its hideous forms, either on the surface or among the vitals. In the latter, tubercles may be suddenly deposited in the lungs or heart, or tumors formed in the liver, or it shows its presence by eruptions on the skin, or foul ulcerations on some part of the body. Hence the occasional use of a bottle of this *Sarsaparilla* is advisable, even when no active symptoms of disease appear. Persons afflicted with the following complaints generally find immediate relief, and, at length, cure, by the use of this *SARSAPARILLA: St. Anthony's Fire, Rose or Erysipelas, Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Sore Eyes, Sore Ears*, and other eruptions or visible forms of *Scrofulous* disease. Also in the more concealed forms, as *Dyspepsia, Dropsy, Heart Disease, Fits, Epilepsy, Neuralgia*, and the various *Ulcerous* affections of the muscular and nervous systems.

*Syphilis* or *Venereal* and *Mercurial Diseases* are cured by it, though a long time is required for subduing these obstinate maladies by any medicine. But long continued use of this medicine will cure the complaint. *Leucorrhœa or Whites, Uterine Ulcerations*, and *Female Diseases*, are commonly soon relieved and ultimately cured by its purifying and invigorating effect. Minute Directions for each case are found in our Almanac, supplied gratis. *Rheumatism* and *Gout*, when caused by accumulations of extraneous matters in the blood, yield quickly to it, as also *Liver Complaints, Torpidity, Congestion* or *Inflammation* of the *Liver*, and *Jaundice*, when arising as they often do, from the rankling poisons in the blood. This *SARSAPARILLA* is a great restorer for the strength and vigor of the system. Those who are *Languid* and *Restless, Despondent, Sleepless*, and troubled with *Nervous Apprehensions* or *Fears*, or any of the affections symptomatic of *Weakness*, will find immediate relief and convincing evidence of its restorative power upon trial.

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