

The Weekly British Colonist, D CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, June 4, 1867.

Reciprocity.

When the Reciprocity Treaty with the British Provinces was abrogated, it was openly avowed at Washington that the United States Government was about to "starve Canada into the Union." It was generally believed and repeatedly announced through the columns of the American press that were the treaty at an end, the British Provinces must before many months strike their colors and implore Uncle Sam to hoist his Star-Spangled Banner over their territory. "Abrogate the Reciprocity Treaty," thundered the great Thad. Stevens from his place in the House of Representatives, "and the absorption of every foot of ground that England owns on the Continent will be but the question of a few months." But results have proved that the great Nestor of American statesmen was wrong in his prophecy. The Provinces were never so loyal or so prosperous as to-day, now nearly a year since the Japanese policy of the United States was extended to their commerce. In place of making them desirous of annexing themselves to the United States, the action of Congress has taught them to look abroad for a market as a substitute for the market from which it was intended to shut them at home. In place of imitating the sniveling of the half-cracked pack of political humbugs of Vancouver Island, and sighing for what—if they possessed the brains of an oyster they would be well aware they could not obtain—the men of Canada went to work. They had observed that their goods, on account of cheapness and good quality, had always been bought by West Indian and South American merchants who visited the Eastern American marts to replenish their stocks, and they saw that the abrogation of the treaty would shut out those goods from the States. The question was immediately mooted, why not trade directly with the West Indies and South America? and the merchants of the Provinces at once despatched their agents to those countries. These agents demonstrated that they could undersell, by from twenty-five to thirty per cent, the American manufacturer, and they secured the trade that had for many years been enjoyed by New York, Boston and New Orleans. Strange as it may seem, the commercial interests of Canada have made wonderful progress since the abrogation of the treaty. Montreal, alone, last year sold forty per cent more goods than during any previous year. The trade of Quebec and Toronto increased in a corresponding ratio—and as for Canadian produce, goods from England and France await the opening of the lakes and the St Lawrence River for fulfilment, while the Maritime Provinces, in 1866, furnished 200,000 tons of shipping and supplied more than one-fourth of the ships that were launched under the British flag! The people and the Government have been brought to rely more upon their own exertions than upon the fickle temper of a powerful neighbor for their material growth and prosperity; and American statesmen must now be convinced that, although the Canadians may, at some future time, be coaxed into the Union, they are not to be starved or driven into it. We commend the self-reliant, determined attitude of our transmontane fellow-countrymen to the study of those weak-kneed British Columbians who foolishly imagine that there is neither security nor prosperity to be found anywhere on the continent except beneath the shadow of the stars-and-stripes. A renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty would certainly be acceptable to the Canadian people on an equitable basis; but American merchants can never hope to win back the trade with the West Indies or South America which the cheapness of Canadian goods and the energy of Canadian merchants have wrested from them so long as taxation in the United States remains at its present withering, crushing rate.

The Hamilton Spectator, speaking of a proposition by an American merchant (Mr Derby) to renew the Treaty, pertinently remarks:

"We exceedingly doubt whether any treaty could be procured on the basis proposed by Mr Derby which would be acceptable or of permanent advantage to this province. The free list must include at least the natural productions of the country and especially must it include the coarse grains. The suggestion that wheat alone, which the Americans absolutely require for their finer brands of flour, should be free, and that all other grains should be dutiable, may be a very wise suggestion in the interests of the American people, but seeing that for wheat less than for any other cereal we require the American market, it is hardly such an one as would meet with favor in Canada. We are quite prepared at any moment that the Americans may solicit us thereto to enter into negotiations with them either for the renewal of the old treaty or for the adoption of another possessing its essential features. The genius of the people of British America is in favor of the freest and most unrestricted commercial intercourse not only with the people of the United States, but with those of other countries as well; and in obedience to that view, we should hail with pleasure the return of a considerate reason for the part of our American neighbor. But it is important for them to remember that the position is somewhat changed since the treaty of 1855 was passed—somewhat changed even since the negotiations for its renewal which took place last year. British Americans have learned a spirit of self-reliance in commercial matters; they have found that, important as the American market is to them, it is quite possible not only to live, but to prosper without it, and they are disposed, therefore, in any negotiations which may be entered upon, to stand upon their rights as an independent, self-governing and self-sustaining community. So soon as the authorities at Washington are willing to seek a renewal of friendly trade relations on these terms, they will find the authorities and people of this country quite ready to meet them. But having made every effort to secure a continuance of reciprocal free trade without effect, and having discovered that we can get on very well without it, we are disposed to say that the first step towards negotiations must come from our neighbors."

Thursday, May 30th.

Municipal Council—A City Market.

The Council held a special meeting yesterday afternoon to consider the matter of a City Market. The Mayor and Councillors Gowen, Gibbs, Hebbard and Trahey were present, and the Council resolved itself into Committee with Mr Gowen in the chair. Mr J. P. Davies' written proposition, offering the premises (two lots) on Fort street, known as the Cattle Market, to the Corporation on certain conditions, was read. The Committee appointed to confer with Mr Davies thought there was some variation in the communication with that of the verbal understanding, which was to the effect that four lots would be set apart for the Market. It was thought that four lots would be required for future purposes, and without such a stipulation it was useless to entertain the question. The Council did not favor the notion of giving a monopoly to sell all cattle which might be sent to the city for sale, nor did it feel inclined to lease the premises for a number of years. The consideration of a proposition to lease a portion of the premises as a public pound was deferred. After a lengthy discussion the following, moved by Mr McDonald, was agreed to as a basis for negotiation:

An agreement for 10 years of the market on lots No. — to be set apart for two days in each week for a public market, and also a place for the sale of stock; at all other times the premises to be at the disposal of Mr Davies; but if stalls are to be fixed by the Council the City to receive 3/4 of gross proceeds of rent of stalls. Also 1/4 of gross commission on all auction sales to be made at the market. Sale of cattle throughout the City to be on two certain days to be fixed by the Council, Mr Davies to be bound to make all alterations and everything else for keeping the market in a clean and proper manner; put up all necessary buildings subject to the approval of the Council from time to time; Mr Davies to be bound to double the size of the present premises whenever the Council think it necessary that such enlargement should be made, the Council to have the privilege to purchase the four lots at any time during the ten years at a valuation. For the non-fulfillment of the agreement Mr Davies to be liable to pay a penalty to the Corporation to be hereafter fixed.

The Committee rose and reported progress and the Council adjourned till Tuesday evening next.

SINGULAR ACCIDENT—Mr Lachapelle, the boatbuilder, met with a singular accident yesterday. He was in the act of descending the stairs that lead from the boat house to the water, when his left foot tripped upon a nail and he was thrown forward, the whole weight of his body resting for an instant on the left knee, and notwithstanding the limb did not come in contact with any object, the weight was sufficient to break the knee-cap. The sufferer was seized by a friend who chanced to stand on the stairs and prevented from falling into the water. Dr. Davis, jr., was called in to set the bone. The force with which the bone snapped was so great as to burst the leg of the pants.

A WORTHY OBJECT—Mrs E. R. Thomas yesterday, with the consent of the subscribers, paid into the treasury of the two hospitals, in equal proportion, about forty dollars, being the amount raised to form a ladies' purse in the Regatta on Queen's Birthday, and for which no entries were made. We are glad to know that through the efforts of Mrs Thomas the wants of the needy sick have not been overlooked.

FOR SITKA—The steamer Fideliter sailed for Sitka at nine o'clock last night. She had twelve passengers and seventy tons of freight. Among the passengers we noticed W. Kohl and son, P. O'Dwyer, David Shipper and son—all of this city. Some of the passengers design going into business at New Archangel, and will have their stores or tents ready opened and stocked when the Oriflamme (which will leave San Francisco about the 6th of June) arrives there with an anticipated load of passengers. A gentleman who went passenger in the Fideliter will act as Sitka correspondent of the Colonist.

We observe in the window of Hibben & Carswell a map on which, it is said, Mr Waddington has worked for several years. It represents the different ranges of mountains on the Mainland and Vancouver Island, together with the passes which have been explored through the Rocky Mountains for a railroad, and Mr Waddington's proposed overland route via the Yellowhead Pass. The trails and wagon-roads are also laid down in colors. The map, at this time, when Confederation seems imminent, possesses a peculiar interest.

THE ANNEXATION EMISSARY—The Columbian thus "touches up" the Annexation Emissary who left in the last steamer for San Francisco to raise the "needful."—"Mr McMillan, of the Annexation organ, has gone to San Francisco for the purpose of negotiating the immediate transfer of British Columbia to the United States. It is supposed that Mr McMillan and Mr Leonard McClure will proceed to Washington in connection with the movement, where they will be assisted by Felix O'Byrne."

TO BE SOLD—The British ship Vortigern, now lying at Trahey's yard, will be sold at public auction, by Mr Main, on the 7th June. The vessel, it will be remembered, was laden with lumber for Sydney, and sprang leak off Cape Flattery during a terrific gale last winter, when she sought this harbor for repairs. Her owners in Australia have just ordered that she be sold. The Vortigern is only about eight years old, and is regarded as a fine ship.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER—The steamer Enterprise returned yesterday afternoon from New Westminster with a few passengers, among whom were Captain Oldfield, R.N., F. J. Barnard, Sheriff Elliott, Mr Dally, Captain Mout, and J. A. Webster. The news from the mines continues of an encouraging character.

AN OLD COON—James Wright, an incorrigible old drunkard, who has been convicted before Mr Pemberton of succumbing to his weakness more times than he has hairs on his head, was yesterday again fined 5s. for being too demonstrative in the celebration of the Queen's birthday.

MUSIC ON THE RACE TRACK—The Rifle Corps Band and Maguire's Brass Band performed at the course on Tuesday during the progress of the horse races. Their services were rendered gratuitously, and the strains were the more euphonious on that account.

MAINLAND ASSIZES.—A notice in the Gazette announces that a Court of Assize and general Gaol delivery will be held at Yale on Monday, 3rd June; at Quenelomouth, on Tuesday, 25th June; and at Richfield, on Monday, the 1st July.

ASSAULT.—A mad, named Jack Smith, was yesterday brought before Mr Pemberton on a charge of brutally assaulting another named Frederick Everstye, convicted and fined £5. Everstye was kicked and cuffed to a shocking degree by his assailant.

THE Perseverance Coal Mining Company have on their claim, at Comox, a vein of magnetic ironstone, fifty feet in thickness, in close proximity to fire-clay limestone, and a splendid seam of coal.

CLEANING.—The gutters of Fort street between Government and Broad streets, were yesterday cleaned by means of water from the Water Company's hydrant forced through a length of Fire Department hose.

REPAIRING.—The chingang are engaged in repairing the Rock Bay bridge and re-metalling the road. The gang has performed more real, practical service this year than ever before.

THE MEDICAL BILL.—An article from Alfred Waddington, Esq., on the Medical Bill, appears this morning. It is an excellent review of the measure, and exposes the defects of the law in a masterly manner.

THE GOVERNOR.—His Excellency the Governor and Mrs Seymour are expected down on the Malacca on Tuesday. It is said that during his stay here His Excellency will sail round the Island.

THE COLUMBIAN estimates the number of Indians who worried through the "rainy season" at the Capital on Friday last, at 4000. Poor fellows!

ARRIVED HOME.—D. M. Lang, Esq., and family, and Mr McCullough, formerly connected with the Bank of British Columbia in this Colony, have reached England.

THE ship Cesarewitch sailed for Nanaimo on Tuesday, to take in coal for Sitka.

AN association is forming in London to promote compulsory education. Its originators are chiefly the men who coalesced last year for the purpose of forcing upon the attention of Government the state of the sick in the metropolitan workhouses.

ASCENSION DAY.—This being Ascension day, service will be conducted at Christ Church and St. John's, at eleven a. m., also at the Catholic Church.

DUE.—The second quarter of the Municipal rates is now due and payable to the Town Clerk. Interested parties had better step up to the captain's office and settle.

THE Sparrowhawk, with Chief Justice Needham's family and Mrs Pearce on board, returned from New Westminster on Tuesday evening.

THE bark Heversham, hence for Sydney, Australia, with lumber, has reached her destination.

Two thousand beef cattle and three thousand sheep have just been driven into Kamloops by Jerome Harper.

THE ACTIVA will leave San Francisco for Victoria on Saturday next.

The Medical Bill.

MESSRS EDITORS.—A short notice appeared in your columns a few days ago on the Medical Ordinance, which passed the Legislative Council this session. An editorial also appeared in the Morning News, a day or two before, on the same subject; but in neither case has it been fully handled, so that a few further remarks may not be out of place.

And in the first place, may I ask, has the want of such a bill been felt? or has it occasioned complaints? or did the public here (who are said to be always discontented and complaining) ever ask for it? No, nothing of the kind. Then who did? Why the doctors, who have been striving for years past to get such a bill passed in Vancouver Island, and who alone assert that it was wanted. Now, the evident object of such an Ordinance must be either to protect the public as against the doctors, (a thing which I could understand) or else to protect the doctors against the public; and since the doctors alone desire it and were the authors of the bill, we have a prima facie right to conclude that it was got up for their own benefit. But before coming to any rash conclusion, let us look into the Ordinance itself.

Clauses I, II, III, IV, provide "for the registration, upon application of any person possessed of any diploma, license, or privilege, conferring or evidencing the qualifications to practise medicine or surgery, from any school, college, society or faculty of medicine or surgery, either in the United Kingdom or in a foreign country, requiring a compulsory course of study during three years—Together with his own affidavit to that effect, and that he has not lost the same by reason of misconduct."

To all which I will answer: 1st. That no diploma can confer qualifications which the aspirant must first have acquired somehow and somewhere, but not necessarily in the schools; and that the diploma, however carefully bestowed, (which is not always the case) can only evidence the qualification, but never confer it, in a medical point of view.

2d. That the words "United Kingdom or foreign countries" do not comprehend the Colonies. A sad omission—and yet we are told that the bill was carefully compiled! The original draught, however, was infinitely more stringent; so much so, that a certain M.D here, and not one of the worst, would have been excluded, if not others.

3d. A doctor without "losing his diploma by reason of misconduct" may have become a careless, worthless practitioner, a drunkard, or what not, since leaving home; a thing not uncommon in colonial life. And yet his own affidavit is to be taken on the subject. So that a thoroughly worthless, perhaps half-racked, unreliable doctor, with a diploma, is allowed to practice; while the unpretending skillful practitioner, skillful because he has practised perhaps in more countries than one, (very possibly during the late war) but who unfortunately has not studied his three years in a lawful institution, is excluded in the interest of the public.

The end of clause IV., provides (also I suppose in the interest of the public) "that nothing in the bill shall prevent any one possessing a diploma, who is now practicing in the Colony, from continuing to practice as heretofore, and to use the above distinction." Dentists also, and, further on, medical officers on full pay in the army and navy are exempted from the formalities of the bill.

Clause VII. enacts that "no person shall after the 1st of January 1868, be entitled to recover charges for any medical or surgical advice, or for any operation performed, or for any medicine prescribed or supplied unless so registered;" and by clause VIII., any person pretending to be, or take the title of a physician, doctor of Medicine, Licentiate in medicine and surgery, bachelor of medicine, surgeon, general practitioner, or apothecary, or any name, title, addition or description, implying that he is licensed and registered under this Ordinance, or that he is recognised by law as above, shall "on summary conviction, &c., pay a fine of \$100 to be levied by distress," &c.

To all which I will answer: 1st. Since the Ordinance is such a good one, and was so much wanted by the public, why, in the interest of that public, has its execution been deferred for eight months, and the colony left in the meanwhile in the same lamentable plight?

2d. Since apothecaries are included in the Bill, why is there no mention of their employes, or drug clerks—so called by our neighbors—and who more frequently put up the prescriptions than their masters? Now here is another grave omission. If it be true, however, as it is sometimes said, that apothecaries make use of their apprentices and young clerks in order to ascertain the effects of new medicines, novel prescriptions and the like, it is possible that the latter may have had the most experience of the two in the materia medica line.

3d. Nobody can deny the propriety of hiring druggists on assuming titles to which

they have no right; and yet it may be doubted whether this clause will effect the object for which it was evidently intended. Merit will out wherever it be, "and an unlawful practitioner"—the definition is amusing—who inspires confidence, will only have to put "Doctor unlicensed" at the end of his name to attract more notice and practice than the lawful but inferior M.D.

4th. If a penalty is enacted on those who pretend to be doctors without having a diploma, what penalty ought there not to be levied on those who pretend to be doctors and surgeons merely because they have one, who cripple their patients, or blundering over the diagnosis, exhibit the wrong medicines and destroy them? sad occurrences, which we have all had the misfortune to see here. Now, the day that a government grants exclusive rights to any set of practitioners, she becomes to a certain extent responsible for their acknowledged skill; and any instance of gross malpractice should accordingly be severely punished by fine or otherwise—for such are the consequences of meddling with things that ought to be left alone.

But we are told that still stronger protections are afforded in Europe; that a patient who has been ill treated can always sue for damages; and that the feeling of honor on this subject is such among the faculty, that eminent practitioners in England and elsewhere have been known to destroy themselves rather than survive the blunders they had committed. All this is true, and we know also, that among the Japanese the savans and other distinguished personages are in the habit of disembowelling themselves when they have transgressed. But we could hardly propose such a measure to our doctors, to say nothing of the frightful loss of life which might ensue.

But to return to Europe, and the diplomas granted there. Medicine is not an exact science; and the disputes, the wranglings, the contradictory decisions, which have taken place at different times in the medical institutions there, are enough to shake any man's confidence in their infallibility. For instance, a prize was awarded in the University of Paris, more than fifty years after the discovery of the circulation of the blood in England, for a thesis proving it to be untrue! After this, more than fifty years were occupied in discussing the use of antimonial wine, which was severely prohibited on the continent and encouraged in England. A century ago bleedings were common on every occasion, but they are now gone out of fashion, as if there could be a fashion in matters which concern life and death! And when the virtues of bark were discovered, or rather made known to the world by a Spanish lady of rank, it took years to overcome the opposition of the doctors, because the discovery had not been made by a "lawful practitioner" so that Frederic the Great was near dying of ague in consequence. Then again, in our own time, have we not the homoeopathic treatment and the allopathic treatment, concerning which lawful doctors are so divided that some have even fought on the subject. In short, there would be no certainties which might be quoted, from Hippocrates' time down to our own days.

And yet I can understand that in the centres of civilization and learning, amidst so many universities, colleges, and eminent professors, there may be some practicality in refusing to allow an outsider to practice, when the public can so easily procure the very best advice. But without wishing to cast any reflection on our own practitioners, some of whom really understand Latin, and to whom at any rate I would willingly entrust my life, they can hardly consider themselves as representing the summities of the science; or if any of them did, he who could entertain such a notion must have a very exalted imagination. And yet it is for these gentlemen to be created, where those alone who have licenses shall have a lawful right to shoot their darts, and miss, maim or kill their victims, as the case may be.

Another absurdity of the bill is that Indians will incur its penalties; for some of them pretend to be physicians (see clause viii). The Indians, however, have a certain cure for ague, and another for the tapeworm, which is more than our doctors had a century ago, or still have for the latter; and their surgeons set limbs straight and well, which is more than can be said of some of our own.

In order to amend this piece of legislative nonsense, the Morning News proposes "a Board of Examiners, and that the stranger at the time of registering here should undergo an examination in such branches of the profession as he may choose to engage in." The idea is not a bad one; for after all, a compulsory study of three years offers no other guarantee on the part of the young practitioners than that he has been crammed. He may or may not have been idle, inattentive or stupid; but what is certain is, that at first he must lack experience, and that afterwards if wanting in quick observation, discernment and sound judgment, he will never make but a sorry doctor. We would therefore suggest that the science of lumps and bumps be called in to the aid of the examiners, so as to ascertain the general or partial development of his mental organs; their combined results, and whether he be more or less provided with the necessary faculties and propensities for his profession, or the contrary. It would be a matter of considerable satisfaction to the public on the arrival of a new doctor or surgeon to know for instance, whether the sentiment of self-esteem predominated; whether he possessed the organ of acquisitiveness (in money matters especially), and if so that of adhesiveness, and to what extent; but above all whether the organ of destructiveness be amply developed.

Among the remaining clauses of the Ordinance, Sections ix and x provide for the punishment of false registrations and declarations, and the following ones for the enforcement and application of the fines, which with the fees "are to go for the support of the Colony!" a thing much wanted.

To conclude, the Ordinance presents in my mind a poor specimen of legislation; incomplete as regards the object sought to be attained, and most unsatisfactory in all respects.

ALFRED WADDINGTON. Victoria, May 28th, 1867.

ch the ablest staff was is up again this year—as bees, but votes are not

The market may be very flat, for little has to science; and, besides, purchases of last year and it is claimed as hard-ly demand a second they have already sold this infamous corruption for all this month it may be asked.

MANAGE THEIR TRUSTS—OF THE INNOCENTS

directors of the Com-pany the promotion of the in-holders? Not a bit of individual profit they are their own pockets that lessly squandering the and draining "the secret been the custom for to struggle and intrigue ions on the Board of ling railroad companies and form the staple of the Stock Boards, that the management as to a stock suddenly; and to depress as to elect them "the inside track," daring operators and capital, they can safely advance of their prede-cessor's Company Board, "short," according as they have agreed, is call-er the stock. Their in-terest kept a profound secret stockholders and the out-lets they are all primed, ven—the mice is freed the ducks is heard all If they have decided God help the holders "margins," and nobody else.

A MILLION BAGGED.

ringing with "a little character, in which the company unexpected-ly to one-half the usual say without the slight-est Treasury was plethoric of the usual dividend. The stock; now with a up, until men started lyzed to see a stock, 260 sink to 119. The sea million out of one ight 50,000 shares at nces on a large por-ting near that fig-ur; man. The destruction mong the smaller biras tite of the street—was Their lamentations ear. A similar game most every leading rail-tors sit like spiders in a favorable opportu-nity victims; and yet side buyers will delibe-g it blind," and before are raised out of their at so few Wall street capital survive much The millionaire; in the

Council.

EDAY, May 28, 1867. ing, His Worship the ed Stephen Whitley ated Biggs & Co. to street. e Coast Directory was the Corporation. granted permission to guard to Rae street. was instructed to as-sessary to streets, and to ing of the Council. til Wednesday, at 2

City Court.

EDAY, May 28, 1867. Last examination notice of discharge up for first examina-tion creditor's as-a fortnight. in this estate, F. V. collect the debts due

Co.—Assignee's costs

icated a bankrupt in H. Kohlmann for ordered to be paid.

IN CONFEDERACY.—

March 16th, says: seem to be in a panic eration, which they proce doctrine, as it a kingdom on the hey think that if Viceroy he will soon not quite see what d of. Till Canada the Viceroy cannot arates from England f the English Army uch less formidable hat is it they dis-f a monarchy? A er all, only a Gov-much diminished

Saturday's Gazette

ned by the Queen on of the Victoria on persons serving the Colonies, and of gallantry in the