

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, October 16, 1866.

Italy. The German war has no sooner ended, and Europe has hardly prepared to settle down to a quiet acceptance of the momentous changes that have been brought about, than all eyes are turned towards Italy where much discontent prevails in consequence of the action of the Government in surrendering the Trent territory to Austria, after a portion of it was in the possession of the Italian troops. The Government explain that they could not have prolonged the struggle without incurring the danger of a general European war, and that, having gained the great prize of Venetia, they were content to pause for awhile. The people, not satisfied with this explanation, demand that the Roman States, from which the French troops will shortly be withdrawn, shall be annexed to the Italian Kingdom. A letter from Rome, in the Paris Debates, paints a dark picture of the state of affairs at the Vatican. A feeling of insecurity possesses the Pope in consequence of the danger to which he is exposed of being stripped of his temporal power. This feeling is shared by the people, and a general gloom pervades the Eternal City as though some awful calamity, beyond the power of man to avert, was about to visit it. Business suffers in consequence of this feeling; the monetary crisis is oppressive; payments are effected with great difficulty; the Bank paper is at a discount of 10 per cent. for Roman money, and 20 per cent. for French; bankruptcies are frequent. Brigandage has changed its modus operandi. It has thrown off its political mask, and has dissolved itself into a number of small bands which act separately, and carry on their depredations at the very gates of the Eternal City. The Roman Campagna is no more safe; nobody ventures to go there. Hardly a day passes without the news of some kidnapping effected in order to obtain a ransom. The brigand's occupation has become a branch of industry. The proprietors of country estates and the farmers shut themselves up in their own houses, or take refuge in Rome; the Romans no more leave their city, they do not dare to go into the country, nor even repair to the local festivities in the vicinity of the town. This is indeed a gloomy state of affairs, and one that cannot continue long without a catastrophe. How soon the storm-cloud may burst, or how terrible may be the misery it will entail, it is difficult to say; but let it come sooner or later, it will find Rome a willing victim, on the same principle that we accept Union—that things cannot be much worse than now under any system of Government.

Lytton City as the Capital of the United Colonies.

A petition is being circulated for signature in the interior of British Columbia, praying Her Majesty's Government to establish the capital of the United Colonies at the town of Lytton, which is situated at the confluence of the Thompson with the Fraser River. Report states that the document was being numerously signed; but we cannot believe that, outside of the district intended to be most benefited by the removal of the seat of Government to that locality, a dozen men will be found willing to affix their names to a paper that prefers such an unreasonable request. The only argument that can be advanced in favor of Lytton as the capital, is that its location is central. In every other respect, there is not a hamlet on the Lower Fraser that does not possess advantages superior to those it has to offer. For fully four months in the year the town is almost unapproachable from the lower country, and until a railroad has taken the place of the wagon-road, and the iron-horse has superseded the patient pack animal, it is folly to imagine that the prayer has any chance of success. Besides, supposing that Lytton be an excellent location for the capi-

tal, there are no Government Buildings for the accommodation of the officials, and the financial state of the country is such that it cannot afford to erect the necessary buildings. What Lytton may become ten or twelve years hence, is another matter; but it certainly offers small inducements at present for the establishment of the capital there; and any man who holds it out as a bait to the Lyttonites has too much sense to believe that it will be carried out—at least, during his time.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday, Oct 13.

My Ain Gude Wife.

Some men see fickle minded are Nae wife w' them could gree, But aye are hunting after change; As wue-de as wue-de can be, I'm proud to see my ain gude wife, That's aye sae fond o' me; I wadna gae my ain wife For ony wife I see.

When I'm awa frae her a' day, The time to me seems dree; I lang to see her bonnie face— Her languishing grey ee', She looks sae kindly at the bairn— And then she looks at me; I wadna gae my ain wife For ony wife I see.

She's virtue, truth, and worth combined; Yet love blinks in her ee', And tho' we baith are getting auld, She aye seems young to me; I fonder grow each year w' her, And sae does she w' me; I wadna gae my ain wife For ony wife I see.

She sings as sweet as ony bird That warbles on the lee; And has a heart as true as steel, That's aye sae warm to me; I envy not the wealth and pomp That a' this world can gae; I wadna gae my ain wife For ony wife I see.

And when death comes that changes a', In ky, and earth, and sea, And we must cross that narrow bourn— Sae near to her and me, Yet in that narrow bed of earth, I'd like her laid by me— I wadna gae my ain wife For ony wife I see.

Victoria, V. I., Oct., 10th, 1866.

Demonstration of Respect to Governor Kennedy.

Yesterday a number of gentlemen met in the Hall of the Chamber of Commerce, to determine upon the most suitable mode of paying a parting tribute of respect to His Excellency the Governor. Among those present, were His Worship the Mayor, Dr Tolmie, Messrs W J Macdonald, R Burnaby, J R Stewart, T L Wood, W C Ward, Sebringt Green, E G Alston, J H Turner, J T Pidwell, Capt Nagle, J P Davies, Dan'l Lindsay, J G Norris, Hepworth, C Wyly, J H Brown, D B Blair, Capt Torrens, &c., &c.

Mayor Franklin was called to the Chair and stated the object of the meeting. Mr Burnaby proposed that the demonstration take the form of a ball, as it would enable Mrs Kennedy and the Misses Kennedy to be present, which would no doubt be gratifying to all. (Hear, hear.) Moreover, it was a more economical mode of enjoyment than a dinner; a great consideration in these hard times (hear).

Mr Cochrane seconded the motion, believing it a more sensible way of enjoyment to allow the ladies to participate. All knew what after-dinner speeches were, and he thought it better to avoid them (hear, hear). The motion was carried, and some discussion ensued as to the price of admission and the place where the ball should be held. It was finally agreed that the price of tickets should be fixed at \$5 for gentlemen, ladies free; that the ball should take place in the House of Assembly on such day as His Excellency might name to the committee, and that in lieu of a regular supper table being laid that refreshments be liberally provided. The majority of the meeting were of opinion that by making the tickets higher, so as to be able to erect a supper room specially for the occasion, it would be the means of excluding many who might wish to join in the demonstration. A committee, consisting of the chairman and Messrs. Cochrane, Macdonald, Ward, Green, Turner and Norris, was appointed to carry out the arrangements. The Committee subsequently waited upon the Governor and met with a most courteous reception. His Excellency felt grateful for the compliment offered to himself and family, gave the Committee the free use of the House of Assembly, and fixed upon Friday next as the most convenient day for the ball to take place.

ANOTHER HIGHWAY MURDER AT CARIBOO.

Another murder by highwaymen is just reported from Cariboo. George Gibson, a Danish packer, while on his way across Bald Mountain from Cedar Creek, with a train of twenty-five pack animals, was shot through the head and instantly killed by robbers. The animals wandered off in every direction. The dead man is believed to have had a large amount of gold dust in his possession when killed, all of which was taken. Parties started out from William Creek to bring the body in on the 1st inst.

RIFLE MATCH.—The match between five of the non-commissioned officers of No. 1 Volunteer Company, and five privates, contested for on Thursday, was the most exciting that has yet taken place. The ranges were 200, 300, 400, and 600 yards, five shots at each distance. The non-commissioned officers took the lead and maintained it at each of the ranges except at 300 yards, at which distance they lost ground so completely as to give their opponents the victory, with 12 points to spare. Corp. Englehart made a splendid score of 56 points, nearly equal to a centre for each shot. The total score was 192 against 180. The men merely contested for the expenses of the match; the following were the names:—Non-commissioned officers, Color Sergt. Turner, Sergt. Bowden, Corp. Roscoe, Englehart and Morris, and Privates Homfray, Jno Wilson, Allsop, Newbury, and Soar.

THE CASE OF MAURICE CAREY.—His Worship Mayor Franklin and the American Consul yesterday presented the petition asking for the liberation of Maurice Carey to His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency said that the case had been frequently brought to his notice, and that he had on several occasions referred petitions to the Chief Justice, who had, however, replied that he saw nothing in the case to justify an exercise of executive clemency. His Excellency promised to lay the present document before the Chief Justice, and to recommend it to his favorable consideration. We sincerely hope that the prayer of the petition will be granted for the sake of the wife and little ones; but only upon condition that the convict shall leave the Colony.

LEECH RIVER.—There has been a great freshet on Leech River caused by the recent rains. The dam recently constructed by the ditch cutters is completed, and withstood the pressure of the raging flood without sustaining the least damage. The ditch, it is expected, will be fully completed in ten days. Previous to the flood, several companies at work with rockers in Martin's Gulch made \$9 per day to the hand, and as soon as the water shall have subsided, expect to do so again. Great confidence is expressed as to the result of mining operations after the water has been turned into the ditch.

THE "FIDELITER" with Mr Kohl, departed yesterday for the scene of conflagration with hose and other apparatus for the extinguishment of the flames. The hose was kindly lent by the Sutelej.

THE RAINY SEASON appears to have commenced in real earnest. On several days past heavy showers have fallen, and there is little hope of many days more of fine weather.

IN HOSPITAL.—Two of the seamen belonging to the Mackay, suffering from scurvy, were brought to the Hospital yesterday. One of the cases is rather a bad one.

FOR PORTLAND.—The steamer Fideliter will leave on Monday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, for Portland.

THE "MACKAY"—This vessel will commence discharging on Janion, Green & Rhodes' wharf to-day.

Further Particulars about the Murder.

[From the Cariboo Sentinel.] Mr Cox, accompanied by Friday Constable Fitzgerald, left here on Friday last for the purpose of holding an inquest on the remains of the man found near Beaver Pass, and returned on Saturday evening, from whom we gather the following particulars: On Saturday morning Mr Cox proceeded to the spot, which is distant nearly half a mile below Edwards' Ranch at a point where the wagon road intersects the old trail, and swore in a jury who examined the remains, which they found lying in a hole into which the body must have been thrown after the murder had been committed. Nothing remained but a mere skeleton, the clothes still undisturbed; on the back part of the skull was observed a bullet hole, but no corresponding perforation could be noticed on any other portion of the skull, thus showing conclusively that the shot must have come from behind; the teeth were perfect in both jaws, but the lower and upper back teeth appeared to be filled with gold. The clothes consisted of a black double breasted vest, blue serge pants, with drawers, a grey undershirt, and a heavy greyish-brown overshirt, a small white neckerchief, a pair of heavy nailed Wellington boots (No. 8's); a belt was lying by his side with a brass hook and eye; no hat could be found. The following articles were found in the pockets of his clothing and taken charge of by Mr Fitzgerald: A silver hunting case watch, maker's name John Tobias, Liverpool; a silver pencilcase, bearing on the seal the initials C. M. B.; a new tin drinking cup, with the name C. M. Blessing scratched on the bottom; a sheath knife was found at his feet, on the handle of which was carved the initials C. M. B.; in one of the pockets there was a small clasp purse containing a few grains of fine gold wrapped up in a piece of tea paper. One of the pockets of his pants was turned inside out. The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. [The body has since been recognised as that of C. M. Blessing. A young man named Barry is in custody at Yale, on suspicion of being the murderer.]

A movement is in progress in France to secure the abolition of the punishment of death. The question, which will shortly come up for consideration in the French Senate, is awakening great interest, and several leading Senators are expected to speak in favor of the abolition.

The Wigan Murder.

[London Morning Post, Aug 16.] The trial which took place on Monday at Liverpool, strangely illustrates the old saying that "Murder will out." The crime which formed the subject of that trial has already attained a dreadful celebrity as "The Wigan murder," and the manner in which it has been traced home furnishes one of the most extraordinary instances on record of a chain of circumstantial evidence arising from and held together by apparently the most trivial fact. Had that evidence stood alone, it was so strong that its weight would have been irresistible; but it was, as will be seen, accompanied by independent evidence of another kind on which no such doubt could be thrown as is supposed to attach to the indirect testimony of facts, and which leaves no doubt as to the justice of the decision to which the jury came. A strange and awful interest has attached to this murder, both on account of the cruelty displayed in its commission and of the apparent absence of motive for taking the life of such a person as the victim appears to have been. The circumstances of the murder are shortly told. James Barton was employed with others to attend to the working of the engine used at the Balkhouse Colliery, near Wigan. On the night of the 2nd of January, 1863, he went as usual to take his turn of work at the engine, and was never more seen alive. The man whose place it was to relieve him, when he came for that purpose at three o'clock in the morning, found the cabin empty, and the fire there nearly out, while the engine furnaces were very low. Further examination showed that a fearful crime had been committed. Marks of blood were traced on the walls of the cabin; buttons, shoe-buckles, and a buckle belonging to the missing man were also discovered; and, most horrible of all, human bones and part of a skull were found partly consumed among the ashes of the furnace. That was all that was absolutely known at the time, and for long not one was nothing further discovered, but no clue was ever obtained which appeared at all likely to lead to the discovery of the perpetrators of the horrible deed which had undoubtedly been committed. But here again, as has been so often the case; the press, by the great publicity it gave to the details of the murder, came to the aid of justice; and here again that fatality which seems so inevitably to follow the murderer and induce him to make some one fatal error has done its work.—Thomas Grime, a lawless character, who lived at Chorley, and who was actually working out a sentence for felony at Dartmoor when the accusation was made against him, returned home at five o'clock on the morning following the murder, having then in his possession a watch. This watch is proved beyond a doubt to have been that which James Barton had taken to work with him on the previous evening, and the charges finally regained, and produced as damning evidence against the murderer, are strange and varied enough. Grime entrusted it to his brother James to pledge, and after twice losing the duplicate, gave it to him, provided he could succeed in getting it out of pawn. This James did, and sold it to a man named Akers, who appears to have been in possession of it up to the time of the trial. Meanwhile, however, the local papers were full of throwing the murder. A confession, made by one Walton, in which he stated that the watch had been thrown into a canal, led to an ineffectual search there for it, and the publication of an exact description of it, which James Grime and his father read. Struck with the resemblance of the watch described to that which had been brought home by Thomas Grime, they consulted together, and, no doubt, after a hard struggle between duty and affection, gave information to the police which led to the regaining of the watch and its identification. The evidence against nature; but it does not stop here, for, on being charged with the crime, he made a statement which, even if it were taken to be literally true as it stands, shows an amount of depravity and turpitude perfectly appalling. One William Thompson, according to the prisoner's account, and without any reason assigned, said to him, "Will thou come with me to murder Mr. Barton?"—and accordingly at half-past nine on the fatal evening they, with another, did go in cold blood to the cabin, where they knew they should find him alone. Then and there they murdered him as he slept, and put the body into the will never be found out except some of us "one's own account, and it appears from it that the only gain derived from the murder was the very watch which led to his detection and which Grime states was pledged by the man who has since died in prison in the name of John Walworth, whereas it is now known that that pledging was effected by his own brother at his own request. It was impossible in face of such facts that any jury could fail to find the prisoner guilty of this most foul crime, and although his counsel, in the exercise of his office, may have been right in endeavoring to discredit the confession altogether as the work of a diseased imagination, if it is to be believed at all, it is impossible to escape the conviction that he was an accomplice in the fullest sense of the word, and it would be the gravest possible injury to public justice that any such view should be taken of similar circumstances as that which was pressed on his behalf. Baron Martin, indeed, disposed of it by instructing the jury that he who goes out with others in a common design to perpetrate a murder and afterwards shares the spoil, is in all respects as guilty as the actual perpetrators; and as to this particular case, he further said in passing sentence that he was as clearly convinced of his guilt as if he had seen him commit the act with his own eyes. It is indeed impossible to read the evidence without coming to a similar conclusion, and all those who have the interests of public justice at heart will congratulate themselves that so certain a light has at length been thrown upon a crime which for so long a period has remained unavenged by the arm of the law.

A gentleman who had been spending the evening with a few friends, looking at his watch just after midnight, said, "It is to-morrow morning! I must bid you good night, gentlemen."

Near all the post offices in Texas are in charge of females. It works so well that the males now arrive and depart every hour in the day.

A GREAT JEWEL SWINDLE.

—All Paris is talking about a story which resembles a good deal that of the Queen's necklace. In the M. Cramer, received a letter, a jeweller in Paris, Prussian arms, and signed "Comte de Schaffgotsch," chamberlain of his Majesty the King of Prussia; in which he was asked if he wished to undertake the execution of some models, in brilliant, of an order which the Queen intended to create. The jeweller immediately accepted, and some days afterwards there arrived some drawings executed by the Queen herself. The jeweller set to work forthwith, and in a few weeks afterwards he transmitted to Berlin a magnificent cross, surrounded with diamonds. He received congratulations and an order for a dozen more diamond crosses, with a further promise of an order for the crown of the Prince of Hohenzollern, as sovereign of the Danubian Principalities. The jeweller was the happiest of men. His fortune was evidently made. But when and how was he to forward the crosses? The count replied that he was just then charged with a diplomatic mission, and that on a day named he would be at Cologne and would receive the decorations at a banker's in that town. The jeweller sends the crosses to the house of Oppenheim, informing them that they were to be delivered to the chamberlain of the Queen of Prussia. Some days afterwards the count informed by letter the intermediate agents, that he would pass through the town at a certain hour, and begged them to forward to him the jeweller's parcel through a clerk. No sooner said than done. The Queen of Prussia was delighted, and her chamberlain gives to the jeweller another order for crosses, to be also set in diamonds. But there was nothing said as to payment, and the jeweller, uneasy in mind, did at last what he should have done at first. He called upon the Prussian ambassador at Paris, who informed him that he had been dealing with a knave, and that the letters were all forged. The jeweller, in consternation, sets out for Baden under the advice of the ambassador, sees the Queen, and is assured by her that she is an entire stranger to the whole story of the crosses. On his return to Paris, the jeweller receives another letter from the pretended count, who intimates this time that he might himself be decoyed with the order of the Red Eagle. Now, however, the jeweller was on his guard. The police were communicated with, and they managed to draw the fox into the trap. He is, it appears, a man of good family, whom a passion for gambling has ruined; he is the son of an old general, and holds himself rank and title at the Court of Prussia, &c. The police have seized at the hotel where he put up in Paris, all the jeweller's letters, some diamonds detached from the crosses, with several visiting cards, having the name of the Count of Schaffgotsch on them together with a blank stamp bearing the arms of the Queen of Prussia, &c. This very curious affair will soon be unravelled before the tribunals.—Paris Letter.

Items by Mail.

A terrible accident occurred at a large cattle fair in Le Blanc, France. A sudden panic seized the oxen brought there for sale, which, to the number of 1,200, set off at a furious speed in the same direction, overthrowing everything in their way. At last they came to a wall and hedge inclosing a field, both of which were borne down by the shock, and the animals escaped into the country. As the ground on the outside of the fence was about four feet lower than on the inside, the oxen fell on each other, carrying with them seven or eight persons who happened to be near the spot. At the foot of the wall, two men were found crushed to death, and four others severely injured, but only one of them dangerously. Two oxen were also killed. Seven persons received hurts by being thrown down and trampled on.

The Prior of Rocca Massima, who was 12 days in the brigands' hands, is now in Rome, and gives interesting accounts of his adventure. He states that the brigands who took him, none in number, were nearly all disbanded Bourbonic soldiers, commanded by an ex-sergeant, who still retains that appellation among his comrades. These worthies complained that they had been very ill-treated, having been first encouraged to take to brigandage, and then abandoned to their fate in the mountains, with equal probability of getting shot on the Italian or Pontifical side of the frontier. They said they had nothing left to do now but to continue their present career, surrender being impracticable, "especially in my case," added the Sergeant with a sinister smile, "for I should have to answer for twenty acts of homicide at the very fewest."

In sixteen of the counties of England there are places where the inhabitants are exempt from serving on juries by prescription, or by some charter, grant or writ. Among these places are Axbridge, Berkhamstead, Burton-upon-Trent, Bury St. Edmunds, Derby (except at the Assizes), Healey-on-Thames, Ipswich, Lowestoft, Nantwich, Richmond (Yorkshire), Salisbury, Sutton, Colefield, and Wymondham. These exemptions sometimes cause much inconvenience.

The Inverness Courier, a Scotch paper, has the following: In 1854 a gentleman named Donald McLeod, a farmer, if we mistake not, lost a pocket book in Portree, containing all his money, and being unwilling to meet his creditors penniless he emigrated to the United States. There, it appears, he has been successful in amassing a fortune, and having now, after a lapse of twelve years, returned to his native land, he has given instructions to pay with interest all claims against him.

A laborer in Anbagne, France, has just died of hydrophobia in the asylum of St. Pierre at Marseilles. Both he and his wife were bitten at the same time by a dog, but the woman, more prudent than her husband, consented to have the wound cauterized immediately, and felt no ill effects from it. The man, who took no precautions, expired in great agony.

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The Cariboo Electric. The Cariboo Sentinel in full particulars of the things at the nomination of for the representation of the and Western districts in the Council. The miner's whose election was regarded thing, withdrew at the election Mr MacLaren is an honest, and thoroughly practical would no doubt have ably re the mining constituencies. should have declined to go to when his return was almost we leave him to determine Mining Board under whose a first stepped into the political if serious in his professed fight the miner's battles in the tive Halls of the United where he would have been a list a strong phalanx to a certainly is somewhat of an position to assume that b disapproves of the policy of Government, and believes same policy will be maintained predominance of official under the new constitution, therefore decline the no The greater the contemplat to be inflicted upon the in the mining community, the the reason, we should suppo independent seats being fill who would be prepared bravely for their constituent ever, we have to deal now only candidates left, betwe the electors had to decide, M ris and Walkem. The n took place at the Court Ho field, on the 24th ult., Com Cox presiding. Mr Frank proposed Mr Thomas Harris and proper person to repr districts in the Legislative and Mr Park seconded the tion. Mr C. Booth proposed J. S. Thompson seconded M. A. Walkem. The show of b ing been declared in favor o ris, and a poll demanded, th man rose and addressed the making some very good prof a small compass. After Mr Harris proceeded to say was not a stranger in the Co was an old pioneer in the having built the first wharf Westminster and spent thou dollars in the mines long before them. He was an Englishm and cherishing the flag he liv and would, if elected, do without fear or favor. Th many changes and reforms ne which his earnest attention devoted. First, there v abolition of all Road T with tolls, duties, and high Caribooites were compelled 75 per cent more on articles sumption than the people lower country, and it was no just and proper that the latter made to contribute their qu burdens of taxation. He wo duce and support a Mechan Law, as all knew the ben would be derived from such a new country like this, wher the utmost importance to pr labor of the artisan and n The passing of a law for p mining suits being carried into of Chancery would receive support. He would intro measure for reducing the tax such articles as are almost consumed in Cariboo, on whic is at present charged ranging to 80 per cent. to 12 per ce was in favor of having the Hospital supported solely by orment; it was the only pub tution in that large district, and therefore to have some of the money spent in its maintain out calling on the generosity o for subscriptions to support would oppose all monopol grants of land except to actual He had come to the country it his home; and had bought