the Weekly Colonist

Tuesday, October 18, 1864.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, Oct. 12.

House met at 3:15 p. m. Members present— Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, Tolmie, Trimble, Dickson, Street, Carawell, Bayley

Mr. Franklin introduced a bill to amend the Land Registration Act 1860. Seconded by Mr. DeCosmos and carried: LAND REGISTRATION ACT.

Mr. Street gave votice of a bill to regulate the qualification of medical practitioners in the colony. THE SEAT FOR LAKE.

The House took up the report of the Committee on Privilege in regard to the seat of the hon. mem-

on Privilege in regard to the seat of the hon. member for Lake.

Mr. DrCosmos said he had taken legal advice on this question at first, and had therefore felt authorised to bring it before the House. He believed that if over there was a case of violation of the 12th section of the Franchise Act it was this. He was happy to see that the hon, member for Lake had not come to the House and endeavored to resum his seat. The hon, gentleman quoted the Act and said we read in the evidence before the committee that Mr. Duncan did receive an appeliament. Hetherefore took it for granted that the seat was vacant, and he would therefore move that in the opinion of the House the seat of the that in the opinion of the House the seat of the Seconded by P. Phys.

This House had wisely declared on previous occasions that political rancor should not be allowed to influence the action of committees. This committee had been appointed by ballot, and he thought it would be most unwise to diverge from imperial practice in this matter. He was prepared to uphold the spirit of the Franchise act, but as the Speaker had decided in the case of the transfer as the development of the transfer as the second that the maritime recolonies were the very ones who would suffer by this. This was exactly our position. In reply to a remark from Mr. DeCosmos Mr. Franklin said he had any amount of arguments to uphold the spirit of the Franchise act, but as the decided in the case of the transfer as the decided in the case of the transfer as the decided in the case of the transfer as the control of the second that the maritime colonies out statesmen found that the maritime colonies were the very ones who would suffer by this. This was exactly our position.

In reply to a remark from Mr. DeCosmos Mr. Franklin said he had any amount of arguments to uphold the spirit of the Franchise act, but as the colonies, were the very ones who would suffer by this. This was exactly our position.

In reply to a remark from Mr. DeCosmos Mr. Franklin said he had any amount of arguments to speak for three days! (Shouts of laughter.) He would speak till he had the House all to himself like the hon

to the letter of the law, nothing but a verbal appointment had been made, which was not binding, and he would appeal to any legal gentleman in the land to say whether there were any contract made, unless it was written and had a penalty attached.

Dr. Tolmie said it was his sincere desire to maintain the dignity and respectability of this House, therefore he had voted for this inquiry. He thought neither party nor personal feeling should be allowed in a case like that before them (hear, hear.) All we had to do was to ascertain the facts. He could see no analogy between the matter of private bills committees and the case now in hand. It would be a most dangerous thing to allow such an interpretation of the act as to allow the Government to influence hon memberate give them a present or a lat of valuable lands to to give them a present or a lot of valuable lands to sell (hear, hear.) The act said any appointment

Dr. Powell said he had voted for the reading o the report yesterday in order to give an oppor-tunity to hon, members to thoroughly discuss the question. Although he thought that the report of the committee should be adopted by the House (Oh!) he was in favor of the report being fully

Mr. DeCoemos asked the Speaker whether he well, Tolmie, Franklin and Trimble.

jected.

Mr. Street said he looked on this more particularly as establishing a precedent. If we allowed a question of so grave a nature to pass, we would simply he throwing the way open for the Government to bribe hora members, say by a commission of \$1,000 or \$5,000, and pave the way to the destruction of the independence of the House, by buying the vote of any hor, member they wished to influence. The committee could not but agree that the appointment had been made and acted upon as fully as though it had been written.

The Speaker said he had taken the opinion of counsel on the subject.

counsel on the subject.

Mr DeCosmos claimed the right, as mover of the resolution, to speak a second time on the subject. Then how, member for Saanich had treated jeck. Then how, member for Saanich had treated the question irrespective of men or consequences, and he (Mr. DeCosmos) was actuated by the same feeling. The 12th section of the Franchise act expressly provided against the Executive corrupting members of the House: His hon, colleague had made some remarks about the Executive corrupting the House; he (Mr. DeCosmos) did not believe the Executive in this case had atand therefore the afeguard had been placed in the act. His hon, colleague said there was no contract because it was not in writing; but there were two kinds of contracts known to lawyers executed and executory contracts, and this was an instance of the former. The strongest point was that there was an appointment outside the contract. Mr. Pearse said in his evidence that Duncan & George could not act unless they were appointed, and they had acted, and had accepted the appointment. He would ask hon gentlemen if they were prepared in the face of a free press and a free people to place a man in the House and a free people to place a man in the House who had violated the laws. It would indeed be a dangerous precedent to place a man in the House who had no right there—dangerous indeed, where a man had given back his power to his constituents for any ten or a dozen men to restore him that nower and the dozen men to restore him ents for any ten or a dozen men to restore him that power, and thus assume the power of a constituency. He hoped hon, members would not place such a precedent on the journals of this House; it would be a lasting disgrace, and those hon, members who would place that decision on record would discover it to be a stain on their career that would never be eradicated. His hon, colleague (Dr. Powell) thought it wrong to overthrow the report of the committee.

Dr. Powell-No, no! I did not say anything of

ways right when he was not wrong; doubtless, he had misunderstood the hon, gentleman. It was perhaps better to be undecidedly right than deddly right than de-

The vote was then taken on the adoption of the

Carewell, Bayley, Dennes (7).

: Noes-DeCosmos, Tolmie, Street, Dickson (4). THE CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.

is the chair.

Mr. DeCosmos said the House had pledged Mr. DeCosmos said the House had pledged itself to pay a permanent salary of £1200 to a new Chief Justice, and he now proposed to bring in a bill to enable the Government to pay this sum. The bill was simply to meet this energency, and did not in any way interfere with the Civil List.

Mr. Franklin was very much surprised to see the hon. member, who had only the other day carried his resolutions for union, bringing in a bill for a separate Chief Justice. He sarcastically commented on the hon. gentleman's inconsistency, and saked whether he had consulted his constituents in British Columbia before bringing in such a bill. He [Mr. Franklin] thought the bill quite premature before we had settled the union question.

hon, gentleman had made a very silly speech and had shown himself just as small a man when he sat down as when he got up. He was precisely like an hon, member in the House of Commons who who when the sat down as the sat down as when he got up.

vided the clause preventing colonial barristers from being appointed were struck out. That clause had been inserted only against Mr. Cary. (No, no! from all parts of the House). Yes! it was, and now that Mr. Cary was no longer an official the clause might be struck out.

Mr. Franklin said he would support the bill but would not undertake tracers and life. out would not undertake to agree to all the de-

The bill was reported. Mr. Franklin was not aware that this question was to come up; he had a motion to bring up and would move that the committee rise and report progress. The question was not properly before the committee.

before the committee.

Motion lost—6 to 5.

On the lat resolution that this House is in favor of a legislative union with British Columbia,

Mr. Branklin opposed, arguing that the Home Government had changed their policy in regard to the question of union, as evinced by the appointment of two distinct governors.

(Messrs. Helmeken and Dickson here left the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the windows and lobby, evidently dreading a heavy speech.)

that in the opinion of the House the seat of the hon, member for Sooke is vacant.

Seconded by Dr. Dickson.

Dr. Trimble would merely ask how Mr. Pearse actually knew that Mr. Duncan had accepted the appointment of Acting Anctioneer for the Government. He mentioned the mere fact of Mr. Duncan onering to sell land at 2% per cent; that did not imply a coentract. If Mr. Bayley or Mr. Carswellseld goode under a requisition they were as much liable to lose their seats as Mr. Duncan. Dr. Dickson justified himself for the course he took in seconding the motion, and said whether the appointment was verbal or written did not matter, Mr. Duncan had attempted to sell and that constituted a contract.

Mr. Dennes thought the action of the committee was binding on the House.

Mr. Franklin of two distinct governors.

Mr. Helmeken and Dickson here left the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the windows and lobby, evidently dreading a heavy speech.)

Mr. Franklin proceeded, their policy in regard to the question of two distinct governors.

Mr. Belmeken and Dickson here left the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the windows and lobby, evidently dreading a heavy speech.)

Mr. Franklin proceeded to argue that appointment of two distinct governors.

Mr. Franklin proceeded to argue that the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the House, their retreat causing some laughter; some four or five other hon, gentlemen also retired to the House, th

Speaker had decided in the case of the two other gentleman and then he would pass his measures, hon, members, whose seats had been questioned, (Laughter.) He maintained that we must foster that some latitude should be allowed, and as the our foreign trade not our domestic trade. He atsame had always been done with private committees, such as on water bills, railway bills, &c., a similar latitude should be given in this case. As to the letter of the late, nothing but a verbal apticular latitude should be given in this case. As to the letter of the late, nothing but a verbal apticular latitude should be given in this case. As the later of the later

The question of evening sessions was again mooted by Mr, DeCosmos, but nothing done.

House adjourned at 5:15 p. m. to meet to-day

House met at 3:15 p.m. Present :- Messre. DeCosmos, Dennes, Street, Dickson, Cars-

CHIEF JUSTICESHIP. The bill providing for the payment of £1200 for the salary of a chief justice was read a first time.

MEDICAL BILL. Mr. Street according to notice asked leave to bring in a bill regulating the practice of medicine in the colony. The necessity of a bill of this kind was obvious; it would be most liberal in its provisions, but would aim at protecting the regular profession and ob viating the dangers of quackery.

THE UNION. Mr. Franklin moved that the union question be postponed till the 21st instant, and that the House be "called." The Speaker said the matter was before the committee of the whole.

INPERIOR COURTS. Mr. Dennes gave notice that on Wednes-day next he would ask leave to introduce a bill to increase the jurisdiction of inferier courts to £200.

On motion that the House go into come mittee on the union,
Mr. Franklin opposed; he urged that full

time be given for the consideration of so important a question, and that the matter should only come up in a full House. Mr. DeCosmos would state that he wished to see a full vote on the question, and was perfectly willing to see the sergeant-at-arms

No one being willing to take the chair in committee the Speaker left his seat and the House proceeded to elect a chairman. Mr. DeCosmos proposed that Mr. Dennes take the chair.

Mr. Carswell proposed Mr. Street. For Mr. Dennes—DeCosmos, Tolmie, Dickson, Street. [4].
For Mr. Street—Franklin, Trimble, Cars—

well, Dennes, [4].
The Speaker voted for Mr. Dennes, who theman say?

Dr. Powell—I said it was wrong to overthrow the report of the committee if that report was right.

Mr. DeCosmos said the hon. gentleman was al-Mr. DeCosmes, clause by clause.
Mr. DeCosmos moved that the 1st clause

Mr. Franklin said he had every respect for this House, but when he saw how hon, mem-Ayes—Franklin, Powell, Trimble, Southgate, Darswell, Bayley, Dennes (7).

Noes—DeCosmos, Tolmie, Street, Dickson (4).

The Chief Justiceship.

The Chief Justiceship. cedent, when he saw him sinking to the lowest depths (oh, oh!) The hon. gen'leman may say oh! but if he is not informed as to British parliamentary practice (oh, oh !) he should accept explanations offered. He would move that the committee do rise and report.

Motion lost. Dr. Trimble wished it to be taken down that he would not sit in committee on this question till a full house were called to-

Dr. Trimble, Mr. Franklin and Mr. Carswell then left the House.

Dr. Helmeken said this was certainly most extraordinary conduct (hear, hear.) Yester-

Mr. DeCosmos retaliated, pitching into his hon. colleague in the most severe style. He said the hon. gentleman had made a very silly speech and had shown himself just as small a man when he had shown himself just as small a man when he sat down as when he got up. He was precisely like an hon member in the House of Commons who when taken to task about something he had stated, said he had meant nothing. The hon gentleman spoke a great deal but it all meant nothing. The unfortunate propensity the hon gentleman possessed for being astraddle of every important question, and the amount of balderdash he usually talked had made him the laughingstock of the country; it was to be hoped that the hon. gentleman would not continue to disgrace the House by such twaddle.

Dr. Trimble said he would support the bill provided the clause preventing colonial barristers the House would go on with the discussion of the question (applause).

the question (applause).
Dr. Tolmie said he was opposed to Legisa lative union. He thought British Columbia was not prepared for it at present. Besides the sparse population of British Columbia would make it impossible to collect the taxes without indirect taxation. He hoped to live to see the day when the colonies should be thoroughly united, but be thought that the colony of Vancouver Island was averse to Legislative union at the present time. Dr. Helmcken said the feeling of the

House was averse to Legislative union, and he would, therefore, move that the Legislative union resolutions be willdrawn.

Mr. De Cosmos expressed his willingness to withdraw the resolutions which were accordingly struck out.

Mr. Southgate here entered the House.
Dr. Helmcken was quite certain that the majority of the House were in favor of some kind of union (hear, hear). Members differed as to the kind of federal union, and how far it should go, but the feeling that there should be some closer union was undoubted; there were not more than one or two hon, members in the House opposed to a federal union.

The resolutions were then taken up seriatim as follows: II. Resolved -That this House is 1. That there should be a Federal union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia.

Darried nem. con. 2. That the Federal Government should be vested in a Governor, Legislative Council and Assembly.

Dr. Helmcken said that it was unnecessary o have a Legislative Council and Assembly. He believed a Legislative Council quite enough to do the work, the Council to be omposed of equal numbers from each colony, with full power to fix and bind; whatever they did should be law (hear, hear). He would move that the resolution should read a Governor and Legislative Council. Carried.

3. That the Legislative Council be comosed of an equal number of persons from each colony. Carried.

Dr. Powell here entered the House. Resolutions 4 and 5 were struck out. 6. That one Executive should act for both

olonies so far as practicable. Dr. Helmcken said he did not propose that we should have one Executive throughout; for instance, we would require more than one treasurer and one judge; more than one judge was the greatest advantage of the proposed union. (Hear, hear.) The quesion of how much each colony would conribute to the revenue, would come up in the details, but the probability was that the Crown Lands fund would pay all the Civil

List.
Mr. Sonthgate proposed that the words, "so far as practicable" should be struck out.
Mr. DeCosmos said that if in these small colonies the federal officers could discharge the work of both colonies it would be a most

desirable saving.
Dr. Toknie was in favor of keeping things as they are so far as possible in regard to the Executive.

Dr. Helmeken said the thing would work itself out; the term " one Executive" did not mean one Treasurer or one Colonial Secretary, or one Judge ; it only meant that the Executive should have one head. (Hear,

The clause passed, amended as follows: 6. That one Governor should act for both olonies in all matters. 7. That the Governor and Federal Council should have jurisdiction over all public

questions in which both colonies have a common interest. Carried nem. con. 8. That the capital of the federal colonies New Westminster. Dr. Powel! moved that the clause be struck out.

Dr. Dickson said neither colony had anything to say as to where the capital should be as that was part of Her Majesty's prerogative. The clause was struck out.

9. That each colony should have a local legislature consisting of their respective members in the Federal Legislative Council. 10. That each local legislature be consolidated into one Chamber. Dr. Tolmie moved that the local legisla-

tures of each colony remain as they now are. Carried, and clauses 9 and 10 struck out. 12. That each local legislature should have the right to determine the mode of taxation within its jurisdiction for Federal as well as local purposes. Carried nem con.
13. That the Crown revenues be the property of the Federal Government. Carried nem con.

14. That all laws, usages, and liabilities of each colony, except where altered by act of Federal union, remain as they are till changed by the Federal or local legislatures After some discussion this slause was

carried nem con. budget to the land to the talk to the His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to enterinto negotiation with His Excellency the Governor of British Columbia with the object of estat lishing a Federal union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, based on the provisions of the previous resolution. Carried nem con.

III. Resolved,-That His Excellency the Governor be respectfully urged to submit any question of difference between himself and His Excellency the Governor of British Columbia respecting the proposed Federal union to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for final decision binding on both colonies. Carried.

Dr. Powell moved a proviso, excepting from the resolution any question affecting our free trade policy. Carried. IV. Reselved, That a Committee of three be appointed to explain the views of this House as embraced in the foregoing resolutions to His Excellency the Governor. Car-

The Speaker said it was absolutely necessary that his name should be left out, as questions might arise requiring his decis-

Agreed to, and the clause passed as above. V. That the foregoing resolutions be sub-nitted to His Excellency the Governor.

Garried. The committee rose and reported progress The Speaker said, let there be no misunderstanding about this, that these resolutions will come up the first thing to-morrow. He would send the messenger round to warn the nembers.

House adjourned at 5 o'clock till to-day

LETTER FROM THE EAST.

FROM A TRAVELLING CORRESPONDENT. NIAGARA FALLS, Canada,

16th August, 1864. About a month ago I addressed a brief communication to one of the Victoria papers dated from New York. Since then I have been pursuing my course at an easy pace in the direction of the great natural phenomenon from which the present letter is dated.

THE HUDSON RIVER. THE HUBSON RIVER.

The route, peculiarly interesting to me in consequence of being tracked for the first time, is familiar to many of your readers, and any description of it therefore can afford them little entertainment. From New York I ascended the great river of the State of that name, whose banks are studded with mansions of Yankee merchant princes, and lowns located at various distances from each other. Amidst the numerous objects of scenic and historic interest meeting the eye of the observer, not the least striking spectacle is the renowned West Point, where many officers now engaged in fratricidal warfare ones officers now engaged in fratricidal warfare once prosecuted military studies amisably under common instructors. At the end of a journey of 146 miles we reached the populous city of Albany, and in a few minutes more alighted at Troy, the centre of foundry operations, where many of the necessaries of war are manufactured, and furnaces are kept in full blast night and day. Here we tarried for the night enjoying pleasant dreams (on the principle of contrast) about the ancient city of poetic associations, and whose name has been in this instance, so vensily misappropriated by our American cousins. Recollections of the achievements of Homeric worthies came vividly pefore our imagination, including Ulysses [not

SARATOGA After some inspection of this active city, we took the cars some 50 miles northward and were speedily introduced to the acquaintance of a place nemorable in the history of American wars and now still more illustrious by having been the chief watering place in the United States. Its mineral waters find a ready sale all over Europe and America under the brand of "Congress Water named from the hotel kept by the proprietor of the mineral springs. The streets of this place of fashionable resort are lined in the accustomed style of American cities, with parallel rows of trees. Beautiful drives extend in every direction and monster hotels afford accommodation at this season to the throng of refugees from the sultry a mosphere and engrossing avocations of com-mercial centres. I have always endeavored to mercial centres. I have always endeavored to persuade myself that it is just as absurd for a British subject to take his cue in forming an estimate of the American people by those of them for the most part visible on the Pacific Coast, as it would be for an American to judge of British character by the manifestations of the latter generally to be met with in that part of the world; and my recent trip through the States of New York and Vermont has resulted in the confirmation of my opinions on the subject. In Saratoga is to be found during the recreative season, la creme de la creme of American society. There abounded those solid pillars of the state—gentlemen "fat and sixty," red in the face, with venerable locks and comprehenses emocrates and contenues emocrates of the state. able locks and countenances smooth and regular, indications that wealth, and refinement had been indications that wealth and refinement had been in their families for generations. It was specially refreshing to fall in with so many of these real American gentlemen, in near and plain attire—in fact, just dressed and no more—after having had occasion to witness so much of thick finger-rings and huge teb-chains, accompanied with profanity, rascality, perennial smoking and ejection of to-bacco juice on the voyage to New York. Of course, no sane American in British Columbia or Vancouver Island will for a moment imagine that such a comparison as the one just instituted can have reference to citizens of his nationality in those Northern parts of the Pacific! The queenly matron of three score was also frequently to be y matron of three score was also frequently to be

met with at the hotels of Saratoga—a born lady and the mother of an interesting and cultivated family. The handsome figure, Grecian visage, and languid lustrous eye, so remarkably characteristic of superior American ladies beamed upon the observer on every hand. But it must be ac-knowledged that while beauty, taste and accom-plishment were not sparsely diffused in the hotel circles of Saratoga, dress was indulged in gener-ally, to a degree setting society at defiance. The most gaudy bridal attire could not surpass in mag-nificence the style in which some of those fair nificence the style in which some of those fair forms were "get up." The war mania had so alarmingly smitten a certain class of ladies that they wore elaborate trimmings of imitation lace on their skirts, imitation epaulettes on their shoulders, and imitation coat tails of a military cut suspended from their waistbands behind. While beauty, intelligence, taste and accomplishments largely prevailed in the sex and propriety of conduct always, one's opinion of the interesting dames was often considerably modified by their perverse use of the knife and fork at table. Clergymen and politicians of every creed and Clergymen and politicians of every creed and party were swarming in hotel drawing-rooms and gardens enjoying temporary respite from their respective duties. The extent to which seessionism imbued the conversation of many could not fail to vex all righteous and loyal citizens.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN of an hour and a half, brought us to White Hall, the point of embarkation on Lake Champlain, which is 180 miles long; bounded by the State of Vermont on one side and the State of New York on the other. The clear and gentle slopes reaching to the water's edge on the right hand and on the left, adorded by uninterrupted successions of farms formed the water beautiful. successions of farms, formed the most lovely pic-tures. I ever saw. Little more than an hour's travel by rail from Rouse's point lands the tourist

MONTREAL.

A fortnight was spent in visiting the political capital of Canada, Ottawa, and other places of interest westward. The government buildings, splendid beyond my most exalted conception, will be ready for the reception of Parliament and the officials of Government in a few months, and it is expected that the establishment of colonial Government in that city will greatly contribute to advance the prosperity of that picturesque locality. From Ottawa we took the cars to Prescott, on the St. Lawrence, and ascended to Lewiston on the American side, spending a few days at Brock ville and Toronto on our way to the falls of Niagara. Descriptions immemorable have been given of this unrivalled natural phenomenon. But the most graphic pen comes unmeasurably short of conveying to the mind of the spectator any adequate impression of the stupendous scene presented here. Visitors from every part of the world swarm around the mighty cataract at the present season, and gase in mute astonishment et the treatment of the spectator. Visitors from every part of the world awarm around the mighty cataract at the present season, and gase in mute astonishment at that matchless exhibition of Almighty power. Buffalo was our next destination, a city of 80,000 inhabitants, one half of whom are thrifty Germans. The quantities of grain passing through that port from the Great West of the United States are calculated to expand one's already great idea of American enterprise.

BNIGRATION TO THE PACIFIC. I am surprised to find the small degree of interest felt by the general public of Canada in the progress of our Paoific Colonies, and the deep-seated prejudies entertained by the people against encouraging emigration thither. The heterogeneous and faint-hearted adventurers who flocked

back to Ganada from British Columbia under disappointment in 1862, have done their best to abuse and denounce the new colony. The editors of newspapers, with whom I have consulted about the policy of diffasing information on the resources of Wancouver Island and the sister colony, have, with the honorable exception of the talented proprietor of the Toronto Globe, received the proposition with jealousy and disapprobation. Their argument is that the tide of immigration from Europe to Canada is at present interrupted by the powerful counter-inducements offered in the United States, and that the depletion of the labor-market of Canada from the numbers of settlers who are crossing from the Canadian side, renders it necessary that every effort should be made to detain Canadian side, renders it necessary that every effort should be made to detain as many as possible withi canadian borders.

RECEPTION OF LECTURES. I have experimented in the way of lecturing on I have experimented in the way of lecturing on the subject of your western territory. But though I studiously advertised that admission to the lecture should be free and paid all expenses attending the movement out of my own pocket, the encouragement afforded by the public was very inconsiderable. I was opposed at the close of my remarks somewhat unceremoniously by certain absurd individuals, who characterized lyour country as an aggregate of rocks and swamp, abandoned sard individuals, who characterized your country as an aggregate of rocks and swamp, abandoned to the dregs of white civilization, prowling savages and ferocious animals. Those indignant gentlemen (one of whom happened to be fresh on the occasion) I found to rank among mauvais sujets who had been to the British Columbia mines in 1862 and failed.

THE PREMIER OF CANADA. Having an introduction from Mr. Waddell of Victoria to the Hon. George Brown, head of the present Canadian Government. I waited on that gentleman and was received in the most courteous and kind manner. On describing to Mr. Brown the present condition, politically and commercially, of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, he replied jocosely, "I think we had better include you in our federal scheme." I expressed my fear that our distance from the future house of federal representatives would be an insuperable barrier to our union with Canada, especially as there were representatives would be an insuperable barrier to our union with Canada, especially as there were no direct means of transit between the eastern provinces and those of the Pacific. I also said that I represented the opinion of the colonists in that I represented the opinion of the colonists in your part of the world in stating that the greatest advantage the Government of Canada could con-fer upon the Pacific colonies at present, was to initiate a wagon road from ocean to ocean, and thus open up the great western country for set thus open up the great western country for set-tlement and supply facilities of locomotion to emi-grants from England and Canada bound for the Pacific. I endeavored to show the Premier how such a course adopted by Canada would re-act favorably upon the supply and carrying trade of that

After a lengthened interview, during which Mr. Arter a lengthened interview, during which Mr. Brown evinced deep interest in the subject; he assured me that \$50,000 should be appropriated with all possible expedition in commencing the road enterprise. Difficulties he said would be encountered at first in keeping the line clear during winter, but these would executivally he overcome. Mr. Brown further reeventually be overcome. Mr. Brown further re-marked that his colleague the hon. Mr. Cartier and himself were going to England in October to confer with the Home Government on the sub-ject, and we might rest content he should use his utmost exertion in pushing the undertaking. Le not your readers suppose, however, that so for-midable a work can be completed instantaneously. But it is something to have at length the guarantee of the most potent member of the present Canadian Government that the road will be com-

OVERLAND TELEGRAPH.

It may interest you to know on the authority of gentlemen of influence in the Hudson Bay Company's employ in this colony that the wires for the proposed telegraph are actually on their way to Red River, and that the ensuing winter will be devoted by the promoters of the telegraph scheme from Fort Garry to the Hocky Mountains, in getting out poles for the construction of the line across. I am informed that a line advances from St. Pauls (Minnesota) to join the one from Red River. Within the last few days I was favored with an introduction to Mr. Woods, the manager of the Canadian Telegraph Campany, who also manifested a warm concern for the completion of a telegraph line, uniting the British possessions on the stores of the two years forces. OVBRLAND TELEGRAPH. a telegraph line, uniting the British possessions on the shores of the two great oceans. In behalf of the company, the manager conveyed to me the assurance that no time should be lost by them in keeping pace with the read intended to be made by the Canadian Government towards Fort Garry by the shores of Lake Superior, without even waiting for the settlement of population in the interval between Canada and Red River.

THE RUSSO-AMBRICAN LINE. A few minutes before I arrived at the office of the Telegraph Company, in Montreal, a gentle-man had left Mr. Woods, bound for the Pacific, man had left Mr. Woods, bound for the Pacific, and engaged by the contractors laying down the line from St. Petersburg to the Amoor River, and via Sitka to Victoria. His mission is to survey for the telegraph the country south of Sitka. These contractors have yet upwards of 3,000 miles of wire to lay down before reaching the Asiatic shores of the Pacific. Every new line of communication with Victoria will, of course, constitute an additional string to the already powerful bow of that promising city. But, fortunately, you will be connected with the Atlantic by telegraph via San Francisco and Olympia considerably before either the British or Russian lines can reach you. It is confidently believed that the Atlantic cable new about to be conveyed to America by the Great Eastern will be a success.

THE PEDERATION SCHEME. The public are by no means agreed as to the re-ault of pending, measures for the federation of these colonies. It is supposed by some that when the crisis arrives the French Canadian party will the cross arrives the French Canadian party will reject the harness. I confess I am not convinced that the political horizon looks clear in these parts. Should the contemplated scheme become a fact, the Catholics will not be long in finding that they are outvoted in the Federal House of Representatives, and however distant the day, some mild form of rebellion might possibly occur.

. AMERICAN POLITICS. Affairs on the American side are obviously adverse to the re-election of Mr. Lincoln. This is secretly acknowledged by confidential agents of the President in Montreal. I am credibly informed that the greatest foes of Mr. Lincoln sit with him in disquised enmity at the same Council table. The truth is that it is daily becoming more strongly apprehended that the South cannot be conquered and that the Federal debt is already numanageable. The people want a victim to sacrifice to their sense of disappointment, and they fix upon one, than whom no man could be more honest and excellent.

carellert.

I have had the pleasure of travelling for a couple of days with that popular agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Rev. Lachlan Taylor, who has lately been honored with the degree of Dector of Divinity from the University of New York. He cherishes an affectionate interest in the Pacific colonies, and always gives a favorable view of them in public allusions to his official labors there. I should not be surprised to hear of his return to live on the Pacific some day. He is the most genuine and noble-hearted minister of his persuasion I ever met, and is universally exteemed here by the Clergy and Laity of all religious bodies.

A certain Canadian journal contains a most gloomy report of the condition of a particular section of the Church in New Westminster—"Mr. amicson,"—says the publication referred to describes it—British Columbia—as a land of "describes it—British Columbia—as a land of ceaseless change; one year a minister may have a congregation, the next he may be left with an almost empty church. His own last winter's congregation is scattered far apart, some in Cariboo, some in Vancouver Island, California, New Zealand, New Brunswick, Canada and England, Fifty seats in the Church are empty. Intemperance keeps away many professed adherents." I mediately below it is stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that to this land of ceaseless change and its stated that the land of ceaseless change and its stated that the land of ceaseless change are constituted in the cease in less change and compty-benches? the Rev Mr.
Duff is just appointed. It is impossible for the
colonists of New Westminster and Cariboo not to
be gratefully affected in consideration of the selfsacrificing regard of the friends of religion is
Canada for their welfare.

The Weekly Col

Tuesday, October 18, 1 THE CLERGY AND THE TIONAL QUESTION

OCTOBER ROTTOR BRITISH COLONIST :- ST excite no one's surprise, and least of Free School Education should at variance with the position assume public press, so far as the question troduction of the Bible is concerned. therefore, that I may venture to er that this question is again before to be permitted, so far as I may visable, a free expression of my con convictions on the important issu without being exposed to the chargeiting any "unchristian clerical in a charge than which assuredly no be more unfounded, seeing that the I contend for is that the free school couver Island should not be abso

nuded of Christianity.

The press would have its reade that the decided exclusion of the the free schools is in accordance wishes of the majority of the covancouver Island. This assumpt to call in question. My experience tirely unconnected with the press, I to the conclusion that "articles of are written as frequently for the p creating a public opinion as for givi sion to that opinion when it exists; less difficult for me to assume that t is the case in the present instance conclude that the majority are in fa-

I had intended when I began thi have animadverted upon the extr. proofs by which you contrive in you Tuesday to connect the Belfast riot introduction of the Bible in the fre implying as you did a kind of c like cause and effect between the the Riots. But, sir, I found this that you were fairly matched, while ner in which you strove to evade th Mr. Dundas' arguments, shew you scious of the weak joints in you You strove to attempt to turn the from the reductio ad absurdum of y ment on the mischievous effects of teaching as exemplified in the Nor. land in connection with the Bel when it is applied to the cases of and Scotland, by appealing to the things in Tipperary where the in are nearly all of one religion. absence in England of riots ana those in Belfast was the consequer inhabitants of England being " ne one religion." This, sir, is assured "ignoratio elenchi" as with which you are justly charged, only have been framed on the st that your readers are as ignorant of tual condition of things in Englan were supposed to be of the facts of The state of things in England a far different and more satisfactory and that is the jealous anxiety w England guards the great principl education be based upon religion. fore me a Blue-book of the minu committee of the Council of Educa therein I find that on the application admission of Jewish schools to part the Parliamentary grant for special inquiry is instituted as to required to be read daily in the Schools, &c., and on Sir Moses Mo reply that the Scriptures of the O ment will be required to be read Jewish schools, for which assis asked," that assistance, other poi satisfactorily settled, was granted. It is true that this has reference denominational system, but that is point, the point is that even denom schools were not capable of partaki benefits of the Parliamentary gra

part of their system;" so impetant state of England consider the print secular and religious education show he separated. This I beg leave to will be admitted by all reflecting meaning the secular and religious of the secular states of the secular secular secular secular secular security. more satisfactory solution of the con England than any comparisons re the state of Tipperary or Timbuctor Doubtless from the sublime Par the editorial chair it is an easy charge every argument on our "petitio principii;" but this, sir, is tion and not logic. While you at screen the attempt made to evict evi of christianity from our free set throwing the "onus" upon the pr fluences of the family circle or the m charge. Here again is an attemp forth that which apparently is while the attention is diverted from t We must, as you rightly assume, with another object, " take human i it is," but the force of your remarks of influence assumes the fact that all have a healthy, religious character. would it be if it were so; but unhap patent to all that such is not the c as Dr. Helmcken justly observed House of Assembly, if religious in were not given by other means than very little of it would be given at a With regard to your remarks re "Clergymen doing their daty in the training of children" I, must post observations to a future occasion. ject is too important to be hastily an a letter already trespassing beyond limits. The vital nature of the que

religious education formed a r

Your obedient Servan WILLIAM S. B. Vice Principal of the Collegiate THE CHARGE OF MUTINY .- Th

issue must be my apology-while I

seamen of the John Stephenson charge mutiny on the high seas were again up before Mr. Pemberton yesterd prisoners being defended by Mr. Co who cross-examined Captain Wes some length. The depositions t Valparaiso were put in evidence testimony of one of the passenger when the further hearing of the again postponed for one day.