THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST. And Victoria Chronicle. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1867. **VOL. 8**, NO. 40

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8. Certain imputations of the late Gov-ernor, accompanying the above mentioned message, naturally elicited from the Board rears, and the balance-\$2500_fell far a letter of inquiry, and this inquiry was met short of the sum required to continue the a letter of inquiry, and this inquiry was met by a reply from Governor Seymour, dated April 5th, in which he now ignored the very April 5th, in which he now ignored the very

9. This letter, as well as the answer of the Board, dated April 11th, have been published, On motion of the Superintendent, the Board, dated April 11th, have been published, and two months after His Excellency was pleased to comply with the suggestion of the Board by completing the number of its members and reappointing those of the old ones who had not resigned. 10. The Board being thus reconstituted, Bis Excellency informed them. June 17th.

Government for past services." 11. The position of the Board was now

.Barkerville March 1st, formed a legal liability to be extinguished, amounting to \$5100; a moral en-gagement existed for \$3100 more, up to June 30th; and with every possible economy, the balance of the year would cost \$3000, mak-ing in all \$11,000; a very moderate expendi-

EDUCATIONAL MEETING. ture for sixteen months, but much too large in view of the \$6000 offered. Under these

The Free School System Sustained! argency and humanity towards the teachers, A public meeting was held at the Congregational Church building, on Saturday amounting to \$3500, be immediately paid. evening, to discuss the best means of con-tinuing the educational system of the Excellency June 24th, and the Board receiv-Island and to endorse the recent action of the Board of Education in addressing the Governor on the subject of Free Education. The following members of the

RESOLUTIONS.

Board were present : Messrs. Powell, Macdonald, Tolmie, Franklin, Garesche opinion that the system of Free Education established in Vancouver Island is in ac-His Worship Mayor Macdonald was cordance with the wishes of the community, called to the chair shortly after eight and has worked heretofore to the satisfacof opinion that every effort should be made

to continue the system. Mayor Macdonald stated that the meeting had been called to ask the opin-ion of the public as to what course should be pursued, in the present financial em-barrassments of the Colony, to maintain the present system of education. Dr Powell Chairman of the Board of Mayor Macdonald stated that the

Education, having been introduced by the Mayor, stated that the Board wished to be put in a position to convey the wishes of the people to his Excellency. The Device the provision of the provision for the the least state of the people to his Excellency. The Board was in favor of continuing the Free same can be made by the Legislature;

system but were unable to re-open the schools owing to a want of funds. The doctor then proceeded to read the follow-ing bistory of the educational system from ing history of the educational system from a measure at the next meeting of the Legisthe commencement to the present time : | lative Council, imposing a special school tax for the purpose.

ten, serve to extinguish any liabilities of the a school tax on persons who did not send their children to those schools.

Rev Mr Somerville thought there was more difficult than ever. The arrears up to no necessity at present to discuss the propriety of a school tax [hear]. That might be left to a future meeting. He was of opinion that the present difficulty might be tided over very easily. The Board represented the Colony very well, and enjoyed, he thought, public confidence. Now, without referring to the sneer of the Governor as to the "greater self-reliance of the people on the mainland, 2 he believed that if an effort were made there would be no unwillingness on the part of the people to pay a moderate fee, at the Board to make every exertion to procure

a larger sum of money they would be successful. The rev. gentleman then moved that the thanks of this meeting be extended to the Board for the efforts they called to the chair shortly alter eight and has worked here colony, o'clock, and Mr Waddington (Superin-tondent of Instruction) appointed Secre-2. That the Board is further unanimously that they charge a small fee on each had made, that they be requested to make scholar attending school

fee system would be a fail anything would be realized from it (hear), and he earnestly recommended a continuance of the present system.

Mr H. E, Wilby, of Esquimalt, said he had been connected with one of the in favor of the continuance of the Free been spoken of him and his services. first free schools established on the Island; and could say from experience that the fee system would amount to nothing. He was in favor of free education. The parents who came into the Colony did not ook upon free education as the mendicant did on the victuals given him. No: they looked upon it as a bonus given for settling in the country [hear, and applause]. Every parent paid taxes for his children, and those taxes went into the general revenue. The people had a right back debts. to have their children educated to keep them out of jail [hear], and it was cheaper for the Government to educate the children than it was to send policemen to arrest them and put them in the chaingang [laughter and applause]. If the Government would give no more money, then let the people subscribe. Introduce the Fee system and the Free system was gone. He went in for free. non-sectarian education, and he hoped it would never be done away with. He supported the resolutions of the Board of Education in toto Rev Mr Browning said he believed the Board had pursued a proper and valid course. He endorsed their action as just and fair, and he had no doubt it would be sustained by the public. As a clergyman, he was in favor of a non-sectarian, nondenominational system, such as we have here now. The system of education in this Colony had reached a crisis, and he believed the resolutions of the Board should be sustained by this meeting without amendment. The Board had been snubbed by the Executive [hear]; it had not received the treatment its services deserved. The age of exclusiveness was passing away, and if Britain expected to continue great she must make every effort to educate the young or she would go behind. We were here to found a new. State, and it was the interest of every State to educate its children. It was not alone the interest of parents-it was the interest, the DUTY, of the State to furnish free education [prolonged applause]. The rev. gentleman alluded to the good work non-sectarian schools had done in Canada, and said it was stuff to His Excellency, on his return from British and nonsense to talk of the necessity of teaching children religion in the schools. What was the home circle, the Sabbath Dr Powell, in concluding, said that if school, the Church for? As a Methodist, \$6000 for current expenses would have Free Schools and in denunciation of the

Mr C. B. Brown, of Esquimalt District, enue or raised by a special tax. All Mr C. B. Brown, of Esquimalt District, said he would be ashamed to rise up and say that Free Schools were a failur [applause]. He did not see how any man could do it [laughter]. The system had been most successful in other countries, and it had been successful here. If parents did not pay a fee their children would run wild ; and there were a good many here who could not pay. Adopt the fee sys-tem and you send half the children into the streets to become worse than Siwashes

to place under its control. He will leave it with the Board to determine how the public interests in the matter can be best served, but the amount now offered must, besides promoting the current education of the child. A God as well as to be taught that there was a God as well as to be taught reading, arithmetic, etc. He was also opposed to a Schord tax on persons where did as and it will be driven home [ap-Hon. Dr Helmcken remarked the you put on a fee and preserve the Free system? [hear]. Put the thin end of the wedge in and it will be driven home [ap-plause]. In concluding, Mr Brown said he hoped the meeting would endorse the pose a new tax if the people asked for action of the Board in toto. one (applause.) A tax would not answer, Rev Mr Somerville explained that in and it would never do to maintain one proposing a fee he only wished to tide system on the Island and another on the over the present difficulty. He wished to mainland. The Island might stand the preserve the Free system [applause]. tax, but the mainland, with its small and scattered communities, could not. He

Dr Tolmie concurred with the gentle-men who said that a fee would fail; and did not think that the meeting-influenhe concurred with Mr Wilby as to a sub. tial and numerous as it was-should pass scription in case an application to the such a resolution as this.

Government for more money failed. He thought the Board could now see the way clear to keeping the schools open till the of taxation, but to create a separate fund end of the year [hear]. To Mr Derham's that would not be subject to the caprices argument he would quote the remark of of those who governed us, and could alsame time it could be understood that it was merely temporary. Let the Gov-the great Hugh Miller, who said that after long years of experience he had Mr Waddington made a

ernment pay half and the people half of after long years of experience he had. Mr Waddington made an eloquent and the expenses. He thought that were the never met a person who said he had ac- powerful speech in favor of the resolution, quired an interest in religious matters at which was received with manifestations school [hear]. Mr Gibbs suggested that the latter put to the meeting was carried by a large majority.

part of Mr Somerville's resolution should read subscription instead of fee; and he also proposed that the Government should

be re opened on Monday morning by him, and that he would trust, as he had give \$1000 towards the schools and the people \$1000.

Mr McMillan said the Board was en-titled to a great deal more money than it had received, and he hoped the members Wr Jessop paid a warm compliment to Mr Waddington, the able and energetic Superintendent of Education.

Dr Tolmie, on behaif of the Board, ex-pressed the high sense of gratification with which the zealous and untiring exertions

formed a deputation of the Board that the Board (appl Government did nor wish to run counter Mr Waddington, amid prolonged manito the wishes of the people in this respect, and if a unanimous opinion was expressed turned thanks for the kind words that had

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HISTORY. 1. The Institution of the Board by Gov-

girls, the Congregational Church rented and

ernor Kennedy took place June 2nd, 1865. 13. In answer to the above resolutions, the The Superintendent was appointed five days Governor wrote the following letter, July afterwards. A complete series of national 24th, and the Board were enabled to pay a books was ordered from England July 26th, first instalment of arrears up to December The Central School on Fort street was 15th : opened August 1st, with 117 boys and 91

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,) 24th July, 1867.

opened for the boys Sept. 4th. In addition to this all the Colonial Schools of the Island GENTLEMEN -- With reference to your verbal communication to the Governor respectwere put upon the same footing as the Free ing the state of public education in Vancou-Schools newly instituted. The course of inver Island, I am instructed to state that he struction in the different schools were put learns with pleasure from you that the system upon a regular footing, and the plans for a now under your control works to the satis. model school-house in Nanaimo studied, faction of the community. approved and tenders called for and received

His Excellency considers the subject as October 31st. one in which the Government in the early 2. Everything thus far went on satisfacdays of a Colony ought to interfere as little torily, with the exception of a certain as possible, but he cannot refrain from exiguity of funds, and the well known hostility placing on record his regret that the parents of the then Governor towards free education, until the final refusal of the House of Asdo not desire, as a matter of pride, to contribute pecuniarily towards the education of sembly to vote the estimates; when Govtheir children.

ernor Kennedy immediately wrote (August 31st, 1666), to the Board of Education, re-The Governor has apportioned to Vancouver Island \$6000 out of the \$10,000 granted fusing to guarantee any further expenditure by the Legislature for Educational purposes. for that department, but without dismissing Should the greater self-reliance of the mainany officials, An extract from this letter land leave a surplus in the grant, his Excelwas communicated by the Board to all the lency will be happy to hand it over to you, but he would urge that you make your arteachers and others, and found its way into the public prints.

rangements irrespective of this consideration. The amount of \$6000, before stated, will 3. The Board, in this awkward predicament, at the same time that it took care not be paid in instalments as the finances of the Colony will admit, but a sum of \$3000 will to compromise its connexions with the Government, did everything in its power to be at once paid upon application to the sub-Accountant at Victoria and on receipt signed maintain the existence of the Common Schools, and the teachers nobly co-operated with the Board in this attempt. by your chairman. The detailed apportionment of the funds his Excellency leaves en-4. Finally, His Excellency Governor Kennedy left, and the whole Educational matter tirely to the Board, with the request that a statement thereof, supported by the usual

fell into a state of interregnum. vouchers, may as a matter of account be 5. On the arrival of Governor Seymour the Board hastened to put a stop, if possiperiodically forwarded to the Colonial Secble, to such a deplorable state of things, and

retary. obtained an audience December 8th, in order I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, to explain the uncertain position of the Your most obdt. servant, teachers and other matters relating to the WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG. state of Education, to all which the Governor answered, December 14th: " That ac-14. The Board has thus been reduced to

deliberate upon an impossibility, and after cording to a minute from his predecessor in this Island, the whole system of the public much consideration has decided before alterschools required reforming; and that under ing or laying violent hands on the present these circumstances His Excellency would system to place the whole matter before the desire to have some time for consideration public, so that it may be openly debated, and before coming to a decision in answer to the the Board enabled to submit such measures

Board." 6. The observation was repeated to the Columbia, as may be in accordance with the Legislative Council in a message on Educa- public wishes. tion, which is before the public.

7. Shortly after, the Legislative Council no more funds were forthcoming the he did not want priest or layman-not voted the \$10,000, carried in the Estimates schools must remain closed ; and that even of his own denomination-to invade for the current Educational expenses of the should a majority of the meeting decide the schools and introduce religious understood) the arrears due in Vancouver in favor of a monthly fee, the Free School matters there. Let this meeting speak out Island up to March 1st, which amounted to system would be at an end. The sum of loudly and unhesitatingly in support of \$5100 more.

The Mayor said the teachers had acted system he thought more money would be handed over.

Mr C. B. Young said the question be. trusted Government and the country fore the meeting was, should the Free would yet reward their devotedness to the School system be maintained? He be- cause of education (hear).

lieved that the interests of the Colony de- Mr Young claimed that it was true manded it should be, and he hoped the vote economy for the Government to educate would be unanimous in its favor [hear]. Mr J. W. Carey thought the reso- them what was right than to punish them lution ought to be passed, and the Board for doing what was wrong. Free educashould have more money, because with tion seemed to be opposed by a small our \$6000 we had to pay out \$3500 for minority; as the majority must rule, the

had nothing whatever to do with the reso-system was the correct one; he had ution.

Mr Somerville, amid much applause, here withdrew the amendment.

Mr Derham said that if he was looked upon as an opponent of free education it was a mistake. Unless a better system could be brought forward he would favor the continuance of the present system.

Councillor Hebbard spoke in favor of a introduced a question of religion, which as it considers the education of the children gave rise to expressions of dissent in the of paramount importance to the present and body of the hall.

Mr Franklin opposed the introduction of religious matters in this discussion, and voice being raised in opposition. claimed that the Free School system, which Mr Hebbard opposed, had proved successful.

Mr Davis-Where's the money coming from ?

they'd soon know where the money was to come from [laughter]. He alluded to Board. the numerous officials, the expensive system of Government, and the folly of keeping a lightship at the mouth of the Fraser, and then crying poverty when money was wanted for educational purposes [ap-

plause]. Councillor Lewis objected to so many

amendments and propositions. Mr Young said the undertaker had undertaken to set us right and had set him-ery which it is believed no less confidently self wrong [laughter].

mously.

The fourth resolution was next read, and, after a short discussion, passed. The fifth and last resolution, calling for observed in the course of the illness. So

Mr Young opposed the proposed tax shock or abrupt movement might interrupt because it would bear heavily on sects who the healing process. The precautions,

Mr McMillan took the same ground.

nobly and well during the crisis, and he the children, as it cost much less to teach

minority must give way (hear.) There Mr Waddington said the amendment could be but one opinion, the present

> visited the school during the late examinations and found that the teachers had done their duty, and that the children were highly intelligent. He would offer

the following resolution : Resolved, that this meeting, after having heard the report and resolutions of the Board of Education, request it to urge on His Ex-

cellency the Governor the necessity of making necessary provision for carrying on the denominational system as in England, and Free Schools of this section of the Colony,

future peace and welfare of the Colony.

The resolution was carried, only one Mr McMillan proposed the following

resolution. Mr Richard Hall seconded, and the resolution was carried :

Resolved, That this meeting, through the mom? Mr C. B. Young replied that if some Board of Education, respectfully request that His Excellency the Governor be pleased to who were fishing for offices got appointed, place the additional sum of \$2000, to which this meeting considers the people of Vancouver fairly entitled, at the disposal of the

The meeting, after thanking the chairman for the able and impartial manner in which he had discharged his duties, adiourned.

THE PRINCE OF WALES .- A week of more than usually satisfactory progress has advanced her Royal Highness considerably on the road to that complete recov-

than it is hoped that time will bring The third resolution was carried unan- about. The joint has now lost nearly all trace of pain, and is recovering its uatural form. Its appearance, indeed, is more nearly that of health than has yet been

the adoption of a School Tax, was read, delicate, however, is the structure of the affected articulation that a very trifling

did not send their children to the Free therefore, as regards the preservation of the limb in a splint and swing are still

continued, and will probably be required Mr Robert Wallace and Mr Higgins for some time to come.-The Lancet.