

Saturday, May 15, 1869

The news in our yesterday's issue, although taking no one by surprise, comes to us like a long expected inheritance, and truly it is the most important that has fallen to our lot since the commencement of our Colonial existence, as the Pacific Railway connects us with the outer world from which we have hitherto been cut off. A great deal has been said and written on the subject of our first rush of immigration in 1858; how, from some cause never clearly defined by the speakers or writers, but always having something to do with Government, those invaluable people left us, and we have been retrograding ever since! As well might we bemoan the retreating wave that has heralded the approaching tide, and then returned to its native element to help in a future "rush." The idea is worthy the minds in which it originated, and should be held at its proper value. Such a human flood passes over a country like a hail storm: its only value is in clearing the air and preparing the ground for the refreshing showers and beneficent sunshine that succeed. In lieu of bewailing the departure of these evils we have every reason to congratulate ourselves that we are nearly rid of them, and that the true fertilizing element in the shape of industrious settlers are gradually taking their place. Instead of our having any reason for regret, we ought rather to be proud of our steady advance towards a fixed population. We sincerely trust that the time is fast approaching when the remnants of that class who think rowdiness and imbecile extravagance the great criteria by which to judge of a country's prosperity, will have entirely disappeared from our shores. We have no desire to retain such people; our country, which combines everything requisite to make industrious men happy and prosperous, will speak for itself to right-thinking people, and we shall get all the population we desire from the class that forms great nations. We are on the eve of a great influx of population—let us be cool; it is not necessary to go into hysterics about it; they will probably be somewhat after the style of their predecessors—like a child's first teeth, very well in their way, but care should be taken to get rid of them when the true molars appear. If we live after this shadow of a population, we are very apt to allow the substance to escape us by our becoming too suddenly inflated. All kinds of property rises to an artificial value with the arrival of a few hundreds of the genus homo, and the collapses that supervene are too frequently the cause of ruining our most valued citizens—the usual victims, as possessing a little more principle and credulity than those who profit by their misfortune. We have—many of us—heard the bitter denunciation of the holders of landed estate about this city; how in years gone by, honest, industrious, would-be settlers attempted to buy land and made offers at prices for it that would be eagerly taken now, and which were refused, compelling these model settlers to leave us. There can be, however, very little doubt that the price of real estate will advance from this time forward, and lands that are now thought of little value will make fine fortunes for the lucky holders a few years hence. Some remarkable difference in character is no doubt distinguishable between the people of this Colony and our neighbors over the Sound. If a man seeks employment here he is generally regaled with a dismal account of the present state of trade, and is then allowed to go whether he pleases, perhaps to take the first steamer to the other side. If he asks a resident at the other side for employment, he is questioned as to what he can do, and examined as a pecker would a cayush, but he is turned to account—all the poor fellow wants for the time, till he has earned enough to enable him to seek more profitable employment. We do not advocate the treatment of a man, as people were formerly used to regard slaves, (the only difference being that the man

now can be bought for little more than his food, whereas, the slave involved the investment of occasionally a large sum of money), but we do insist that our people should exhibit a little more solicitude for a man that is ready to work, and give him all the assistance in their power, in order to retain him in the Colony; and not bewail his departure when he goes, and then growl when those who remain exact exorbitantly high wages for their work. The remuneration paid for labor in this Colony is higher on the average, than in any other portion of the American continent, but people like to "go with the crowd" and they are informed by persons here that the crowd is in California, on the S. or anywhere but with us. There must be an end to this kind of thing, people are beginning to see the mischief it is doing, and understand that it must be discontinued; let those persons who seem to pride themselves on urging our working people to leave us, be pointed out and held up to the public condemnation they merit; if those who are foolish enough to believe these perverters of the truth, would only remember that they according to their own showing are staying in this country very much to their own loss, and are evidently doing well in it, and not required to stop a single day for that matter, the whole state of the case would at once become clear. Their depreciatory language is a habit with them, and being comfortable and making a nice easy living, they don't want competitors.

Wednesday, May 12

The International Base Ball Game.

We stated yesterday that the Ranier Base Ball Club had accepted the challenge of the Olympic Base Ball Club for a match to come off on the 25th inst. at Beacon Hill. The following correspondence on the subject passed between the Secretaries of the Club.

Victoria, May 4, 1869.

Mr. R. G. Hayes, Sec. Ranier B. B. Club, Olympia, W. T.

Sir—I am desired on behalf of the Olympic Nine of this city, to extend through you an invitation to the Ranier Nine of Olympia to play a national game of Base Ball at Beacon Hill, 24th May, with the intention of playing the return match at your city, July 4th, at your option.

I am respectfully yours, W. G. JAMIESON, Sec. O. B. B. Club.

An early answer will oblige.

[REPLY]

Olympia, W. T., May 8, 1869.

Mr. W. G. Jamieson, Sec. Olympic B. B. Club, Victoria, V. I.

Sir—I am requested as Secretary of the Ranier Base Ball Club, of Olympia to accept the challenge of the Olympians of Victoria, to play a national game of Base Ball at Victoria on the 25th May, 1869. Please state the hour at which the game will begin.

I remain, very respectfully yours, R. G. HAYS, Sec. Ranier B. B. Club.

The Raniers are a track club, and have won several well-contested matches on their own ground. The Olympians will have to keep their eyes about them when they go into the field with such opponents.

DEATH OF HON. DR. DAVIS.—With a feeling of deep regret we announce to-day the death of Hon. John Chapman Davis, M. D., member of the Legislative Council of this Colony. The honorable gentleman passed away yesterday afternoon, after an illness of less than forty-eight hours' duration, produced by over-exertion in riding to town from Saanich a few days ago. Than Dr. Davis, few men in our midst have given more solid or practical proofs of their attachment to this Colony or confidence in its future growth and prosperity. Born in Lyme Regis, Dorset, England, in 1811, Dr. Davis emigrated to this Colony seven years ago, and took up his abode in this city, where he has since resided, gathering around him several members of his family, and he had the very great satisfaction of knowing long before taking his departure for another and better world that all were comfortably settled and highly respected in the land of their adoption. At the time of his death, Dr. Davis was a member of the Legislative Council for the Island (Agricultural) District, a position to which he was chosen last fall by an overwhelming majority. He was also a member of the Tariff Commission. The doctor was one of our best colonists, and his death creates a void in political and social circles that will with difficulty be filled. We tender the members of his family our heartfelt sympathy in their deep sorrow.

MUSHROOM SPAWN.—We learn from Messrs Mitchell & Johnson that the mushroom growing public will soon have the means of gratifying their love for that nutritious vegetable, as they have a considerable quantity of the spawn on its way from England.

The Return of the Sparrowhawk from the West Coast with Seven Indian Prisoners.

THE WRECK OF THE JOHN BRIGHT.

H. M. S. Sparrowhawk, Capt. Mist, arrived from the scene of the wreck of the ill-starred bark John Bright at half-past 5 o'clock last evening, bringing as passengers, Hon. H. M. Ball, Hon. Attorney General, Capt. Christensen, Messrs Molloy and Davey and seven male Indian prisoners suspected of complicity in the murder of the John Bright's crew. The Sparrowhawk, on leaving Esquimalt, proceeded to Barclay Sound in search of an interpreter, but being unsuccessful, went on to Clayquot Sound, where Capt. Christensen procured an Indian—the one, in fact, who buried the last body. The ship then went on to Hesquiat Harbor, where, as it was blowing pretty fresh, it was thought prudent to go up to the head. On Wednesday morning the ship dropped down and anchored off the village adjacent to the scene of the wreck, when a number of canoes came alongside, out of which several Indians were taken who were pointed out by Capt. Christensen as being like those concerned in the murder, or who might be rendered useful in the subsequent enquiries as witnesses. A large armed party was now formed, composed of marines of the Sparrowhawk and Sattelite, accompanied by Hon. Ball and the Attorney General, with several officers, who landed and had an interview with the chiefs and then proceeded to search the ranches. Nothing very suspicious was discovered however, and the whole party then marched round the scene of the wreck. The beach was of the roughest and most disagreeable description to travel over, and of such a wild and dangerous character towards the sea, that it seemed wholly impossible that anyone could escape from a wrecked ship by boat or otherwise. The whole of Wednesday and Thursday were employed in exhuming and examining the bodies (eleven in all) under the direction of the surgeon of the Sparrowhawk. No striking facts could be gathered from the remains, which were very much decomposed, so that the work of investigation was not only a sad but a very disagreeable one. On Friday, the jury having been duly empaneled, the inquest commenced with the body of a large man (the only one which retained any quantity of flesh) and the woman. One of the prisoners, being duly impressed with the enormity of the crime of murder, stated that these two were murdered, and on further examination described their coming ashore alive and going to a ranch for one day and then being killed on the second. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder. On the return of the party on board the Sparrowhawk the chief was requested to come off and send for the man that was accused. We heard quite a number of stories relating to the sad affair, all more or less possessing features of similarity. Several Indians were brought off before the chiefs were allowed to land, suspected characters or witnesses, (a difficult matter to say which). The Sparrowhawk then prepared to return, starting from the mouth of Hesquiat Harbor Monday night. No trace of the children or the woman servant could be found, nor could the most diligent enquiries elicit any information regarding them. It is however believed that some further information may be obtained from the Indians now in custody, which may admit of a more successful pursuit being organized.

LEACH RIVER.—An arrival from this locality, for provisions, late last night, brings us cheering and hopeful news. On Tuesday morning last Mr. Harrett commenced to repair the damages of the break in the dike, and by Saturday at noon, commenced washing in earnest, which now continues without intermission. Everything works admirably. We have been shown the prospects, which prove the whole bank of dirt, some twenty feet deep, to carry gold extensively throughout. Mr. Harrett, prudently, we think, does not intend to wash up before he has given the ground a full and fair trial; but whether the first result be above or below the standard he has fixed, he intends to persevere. Others on the river are amusing themselves. Messrs. Toyde and Mosey killed some 14 dozen trout last week.

THE SHIPPING MASTER PETITION.—We are informed that strenuous efforts are being made to create the office of Shipping Master for this Port, and to induct into it, a possibly worthy man, but one wholly ignorant of the duties, and who, did he know them, could in no way benefit the community one centavo. Our citizens, after growling so long and so loudly about our burthenome taxation, are not surely going to make another sidetrack in order to add to our already disproportionate expenditure. We doubt whether his Excellency has the power of making such appointments. They are usually (in England) left in the hands of the Board of Trade. But if his Excellency possesses the power, we doubt the propriety of adding \$2,000 to the expenses of government to create an office the functions of which can only be enforced in the case of British ships. Crimps are a fearful nuisance, it is true; but are there 100 persons of respectability and experience engaged here in the business of supplying ships with crews, who would scorn to resort to dishonorable means to complete a complement, and whose business would be ruined by the appointment of a Government officer? If it be the intention of his Excellency to create the office, we would suggest that the claims of such persons should not be overlooked when making the appointment.

The Customs duty levied upon imported wheat is acting with ruinous effect upon lower country millers. We learn with deep regret that the New Westminster grist mill will suspend operations shortly if relief in this respect be not speedily obtained. Another party who contemplated investing \$20,000 in the erection of a flourmill in this city, suffers his money to lie idle in the bank for the same reason; and Bunster finds the business unprofitable, while Cowichan, one of the finest farming districts on the Island, imports nearly all the flour it consumes, paying a duty of \$1 50 per bbl. Were the duty on wheat lowered to a merely nominal figure, colonial millers might contrive to realize a profit on their manufacture, even were the duty on foreign flour reduced to 75 cents or \$1 per barrel. As the case stands now, the colonial miller is prevented from making a living, and the poor man pays \$1 50 more per barrel for his flour than he ought to.

The fire in the Bellingham Bay coal mines appears to be extending. The barkentine Victor, from San Francisco, was unable to get a cargo of coal the other day; and a similar disappointment awaits the ship Amethyst and several other vessels now on the way up from San Francisco for cargoes. The fires that have from time to time occurred in this mine arose from spontaneous combustion. About two years ago all work was discontinued and the water from the bay turned into the shafts, which had the effect of dousing the flames; but, then, it took several steam engines of large capacity nine months to pump the water out again. So, between the two elements, it is difficult to determine which is to be preferred.

VISITORS.—Among the American gentlemen in town we notice Governor Flanders, Chief Justice Dennison, of Washington Territory, and Capt. Lawson, of the U. S. Survey Department. Governor Flanders left the city of Boston on the 14th of April—28 days ago—reached Sacramento ten days thereafter, and Astoria, Oregon, (by steamer from San Francisco) in four days—making the trip in fourteen days. His Excellency reports the overland railroad in good condition, the train in which he took passage being detained only four hours by a snow-drift. The visitors are the guests of U. S. Consul Francis.

ASSAULT WITH A KNIFE.—Jack, an Indian, was charged in the Police Court yesterday by John Taylor with assaulting him with a knife, and running after him, at the corner of Government and Chatham streets, on Sunday evening. The prisoner was ordered to find security in the sum of \$100, or in default to suffer 6 months imprisonment.

LARCENY.—John Amson was committed for trial about two months ago for larceny, by Mr. Morely, J. P., for Cowichan. One of his sureties, thinking the prisoner was going to leave the country, surrendered him to Mr. Pemberton. The case was adjourned for one day, to enable the prisoner to find another surety.

COURT CASE.—Angel vs Robson.—Yesterday Judge Pemberton gave judgment for defendant with costs, on the ground that the plaintiff ought to have given notice of his intention to leave the employ of the defendant, and therefore he was not entitled to any wages.

COMMON SCHOOLS.—The following appears in the last Government Gazette:—"A sum having been placed at the disposal of the Governor in Council for Educational purposes, His Excellency desires it to be notified that he will receive applications from the inhabitants of such districts as may desire to come under the provisions of the "Common School Ordinance, 1869."

The Enterprise, with a number of passengers, sailed for New Westminster at 10 1/2 o'clock yesterday morning. She also carried a full freight.

SHEEP FOR VICTORIA.—John R. Jackson brought down on the Cascades, Saturday evening, 100 head of wethers from east of the mountains, to be shipped to Reynolds, contractor for the navy. This is the first lot of sheep brought for market from east of the mountains and are in very fine condition. They will be driven to the Sound.—Portland Oregonian.

CATERPILLARS.—The Columbian says an application of coal oil to these destructive insects, which are doing so much mischief to fruit trees and shrubs, is certain and immediate death. It should also have added that it will destroy the trees as well as the insects.—Evening News.

The Rev. Mr. Gribbell informs us that he received a telegram yesterday from His Lordship the Bishop of Columbia, who was then at Salt Lake City. All well.

Interesting Letter from Canada.

From an occasional Correspondent.

HAMILTON, ONT., Mar. 15, 1869.

Since my last letter we have had snow, snow continuously. It is now lying on the ground to the depth of 14 feet, and those who delight in fast horses and swell cutters are in their glory. Sleighing parties are evidently quite "the thing" now and any evening in the week may be seen vehicles of every kind on runners, drawn by from one to four horses and laden with the beauty and fashion of this "ambitious city," dashing off to enjoy a good supper and jolly dance at some hospitable country place. The Skating Rinks are also in full swing, and the proprietors thereof rejoicing accordingly.

The Curlers, too, are having a glorious time of it. Almost every day there is a match of some kind going on. This city boasts of two clubs, the "Hamilton" and the "Ontario and Burlington." The former has been most successful this year, having played some ten or twelve matches, in every one of which it has been victorious. An old resident of your colony (Mr. George Hamilton) is one of this club.

Business of every kind continues very dull here and indeed all through Canada, if we may judge by the papers. A prominent dealer in hats and furs told me the other day that he had not sold five cents worth in three days. In all other businesses it is the same, except, perhaps, in whisky, the curse of Canada, as it is called.

The velocipede excitement has at length reached us. One of these vehicles, I suppose we may call them, has been constructed by Cooper & Co., and an exhibition was given on Saturday last in the Drill Shed. People seem to have been well pleased with it and the result is, it is said, orders for over one hundred have been received by the enterprising manufacturers. They are at cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$40 each, a very low figure it seems, as they are selling for \$165 greenbacks in Boston.

Political news is scarce. We hear of nothing now-a-days but the International Railway. Several sections have been let to contractors, and work will be commenced on the opening of spring. Mr. John A. Cameron, who resided on William Creek in 1863, put in tenders for some of the sections, but did not succeed in obtaining any.

Mr. Thomas Meldrum, of William Lake, British Columbia, is in Canada engaged in selecting a run of stones and suitable machinery for a grist mill, which he intends erecting somewhere in the neighborhood of his farm.

The people of this country are beginning to see the necessity of fostering the manufacturing interests. A short time ago the Town Council of the Town of Dundas, distant from here about five miles, passed a by-law exempting manufacturers from taxation. The matter was brought before our City Council the other evening, when they determined upon adopting a like measure and a committee was appointed to receive and report upon petitions praying for remission of taxes. This is no small consideration as the city takes 1 1/2 per centum upon real estate, personal property and income, besides the water rate, tax for watering streets, dog tax, &c., so you see we do not live in quite that delightful state of simplicity and immunity from taxes that enterprising immigration agents would have people believe.

J. R. D.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, &c. NORTON'S

CAMOMILE PILLS ARE CONFIDENTLY RECOMMENDED AS A simple but certain remedy for indigestion. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation; safe under any circumstances; and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits derived from their use.

WIFE WANTED. A BACHELOR IN A COUNTRY DISTRICT on Vancouver Island who has got means, and is about to enter upon a farm of 300 acres, wishes to open a correspondence with a respectable woman with a view to matrimony. The young woman must understand dairy work and possess a small sum of money; age, from 18 to 30. To such a person matrimony and a comfortable home will be guaranteed by the advertiser.

One cannot help admiring the assistance and ever recurring "up" of America, and evincing therewith, that peaceable conversation and the American press, aimed to select a speciality, one could hardly subject on which the A present day is more of large in his own peculiar that of the Pacific Railway is without the doubt to take all the ease away from old England paribus, to centre the world's riches in New is of course to starve knowledge the corn, and able people, to annex Uncle Sam, and so the protecting wings of the ing bird." This sort reminds us of the boy of glass, who indulged in the excess of his kicked over his basket earthly possessions. V perfectly content to enjoy active cousins to all so long as they treat u bors; if their pleasur giving them a good have our best wishes f ment; and in what we we only ask for a fe make some suggestion ther is no likelihood of our part, even though we to make the strides that thinks he is achieving. cautious Scots; we quick difficulties our friends with in their progress, an experience when we beg jog-trot. Of course, we railroad through Canada where it is likely to rem made it would never could only be used for a the year; that, anyhow, useless because the grea be at the American term chants would never run t ing their goods by the n the lines already form prestige which their cer moderate rate of freight, give them. We dislike weakness. They are alwa weakness; so we shall by saying a little of our to be. It is well known point of altitude in the selected is much lower can lines can possibly b engineering difficulties are consequently the perma constructed for little what the American lines the country through whi fertile, and will be q making a profitable way as in the American source of profit at the the cost of maintenance labor will always be hat that the Pacific terminu port with an exhausted for steamers of the ve and that said terminu miles nearer to India. San Francisco. That the Atlantic is two day England than New Yo occupied possibly short Halifax than that re the American port cisco; and finally, told about the p tions from snow and l adian Railroad are simp As to its being made, v say that from the first in ception by our fellow o other end of the Domin been allowed to cool; i but steady progress tow when the work will There were serious obst away before the scheme nite form, and these ar appearing. People see the men at the head of are worthy of their framers of the first An