

The Weekly British Colonist, AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, May 7, 1867.

The Duchy of Luxemburg.

The Duchy of Luxemburg—at least that portion which forms the bone of contention between France and Prussia—is held by Holland, and is enclosed by France on the south, on the north and east by Rhenish Prussia, and on the west by Luxemburg in Belgium. The entire Province of Luxemburg was formerly annexed to Belgium, but by the Revolution of 1830 it was dismembered, and, in 1839, divided between Holland and Belgium. The Dutch portion (which is claimed by France by right of purchase) has an area of 990 square miles and a population of 200,000. The Belgian portion contains 1695 square miles and has about the same number of inhabitants as that held by Holland. Luxemburg, the capital of Dutch Luxemburg, is situated on the Aisetz, and is one of the strongest places in Europe. It was taken by the French in 1795, and held until 1814, when it was finally lost. The fortress was garrisoned by a mixed garrison of German soldiers, prior to the war last summer, since when it has been occupied entirely by German troops, it being regarded as a German State. The King of Holland is also Duke of Luxemburg, and by virtue of that title occupies a seat in the German Diet. The political situation of Luxemburg, in fact, is similar to that of Schleswig-Holstein before the war in 1864 with Denmark, the result of which caused those Provinces to fall to Prussia, of which nation they now form a part. The proposition for a Peace Conference having been accepted by France and Prussia, the first named Power has ordered a suspension of military preparations within its borders. A year ago, when Prussia and Austria were about to make war on each other, Napoleon proposed a Peace Conference to arrange their differences, but Prussia, while seeming to favor the scheme, threw so many obstacles in the way of its accomplishment that the proposition fell through. It is gratifying to notice that the late crisis in European affairs has passed without an appeal having been made to arms; and it is still more gratifying for us to note the fact that to Queen Victoria is due the credit of placing the matter in a position where an amicable arrangement becomes possible. The peaceable settlement of the differences will be a severe disappointment to Russia. A continental war is just what the Czar is awaiting to enable him to carry out his designs on Turkey. The transfer of the Northwest Territory by Russia was made with no other object than to secure the sympathy of the United States in case of another war growing out of the Eastern question, and to prevent that territory falling into the hands of an enemy. The changed aspect of affairs on the continent may cause the Czar to repent the rash transfer.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday, May 3. YESTERDAY was an uncomfortable, disagreeable day. It seemed as though the Clerk of the Weather, repenting of having given us beautiful weather on the first of May, designed to make us pay roundly for the enjoyment we then experienced. The sand flew about in such thick, blinding clouds that it was at first supposed our friend of the News was engaged in throwing Westminster dust in the eyes of his Victoria readers. But the non-appearance of that paper yesterday dispelled that supposition, and we have since arrived at the conclusion that to the illtemper of the Clerk of the Weather, and not to the 'political dishonesty' of the offering of the British Columbian, is to be attributed the sudden and disagreeable change. They had a free fight in the Nebraska House of Representatives, on the 18th ult. A Speaker pro tem was elected, and attempted to take the chair, but was prevented by the regular occupant, who drew a revolver on the Sergeant-at-Arms, who sought to interfere. The Sergeant struck at the Speaker with his mace, and knocked down an innocent member. The innocent member knocked somebody else down, and the entire body gradually went into an earnest and spirited contest.

LIVELY TIMES UP THE ARM—Victoria Arm has never before borne, at one time, as many boats as glided over its bosom, like Venetian gondolas, on May day. Hundreds of persons of both sexes indulged in the delightful pastime, and the picturesque groves that line the banks of the lovely sheet of water were filled with picnickers, who made the welkin ring with their merry voices. The Gorge Retreat was crowded all day with guests, and soda-water, Elliott, Banster and Vogel's beer—were furnished to the contestants in the race—were furnished to an unlimited extent. Another race, we hear, is on the tapis—Banster being the ladies' favorite, by whom he will be backed to a considerable amount.

BEAUTIFUL MIRAGE—Yesterday afternoon, at one o'clock, a most beautiful mirage was observed in the southern horizon. A portion of the Olympic range appeared to have risen from terra firma to occupy a position in the ethereal element directly over Beacon Hill. The sharp outline and the general appearance of the hills were preserved; the tops of the highest mountains were snowcapped, while fleecy clouds floated like white veils around the summits. The sight was indescribably grand and far exceeded anything of the kind we had ever before witnessed. The mirage lasted a few minutes, when it faded away as rapidly as it had risen.

GOOD TEMPLARS—The following officers of the Good Templars Lodge were installed by District Deputy David Spencer on Wednesday evening last: Geo Robinson, W. C. T.; Mrs N. Shakespeare, W. V. T.; Robt T. Williams, W. S.; Alfred Lyne, W. T.; Geo Norris, W. F. S.; John Rollinson, W. M.; Miss Alice Bothwick, W. I. G.; John Jackson, Sen., W. O. G.; Miss Eliza Bullen, W. R. H. S.; Miss Mary Davis, W. L. H. S.; John T. Norris, W. A. S.; Geo W. Marsh, W. D. M.; David McFadden, W. C.; Noah Shakespeare, P. W. C. T.

A DRAWBACK ON FLOUR—The Governor, we understand, has consented to allow Mr Samuel Nesbitt, the Navy bread contractor, a drawback on all flour used by him in the manufacture of bread for the use of Her Majesty's fleet at Esquimalt. The contract with the Naval authorities was made by Mr Nesbitt at a time when flour came in duty free, and the contractor would be a heavy loser were he compelled to pay duty on flour and supply the Navy at the contract rate.

FROM NANAIMO—The steamer Sir James Douglas arrived down from Nanaimo and way ports last evening. Seven passengers came down, amongst them Mr Nicol, the Coal Company's Manager. A meeting of white miners was held on Tuesday, and another was to have been held yesterday, to protest against the introduction of Chinese labor at the coal mines.

ANGLING—A party of six gentlemen proceeded to Prospect Lake on May Day for the purpose of fishing. One hundred and eighty beautiful trout, weighing from one to three pounds, were caught with the line before the day was half spent. The bait used was herring and was eagerly snapped at by the finny inhabitants of the lake.

THE NEWS is not dead as its readers supposed from its non-appearance yesterday. It is only taking a nap, and will be revived, perhaps, to-day. As May Day is not a holiday, the proprietors have, no doubt, arranged to compensate their subscribers for the loss (?) they sustained yesterday by its failure to appear.

DELAYED LETTERS—A letter that was more than a month on the way reached us from Lilloet by last Express. For its non-appearance in our columns at an earlier date than yesterday we are not accountable.

NANAIMO COAL EXPORTS—The amount of coal exported from Nanaimo last month was 3511 tons 5 cwt.

WE understand that, on account of the representations made to her Majesty, the proposition to give a regiment to Prince Christian has been abandoned—Gloveworm.

FOR THE SURVEY—The steamer Alexandra left Esquimalt at four o'clock on May Day for the Northwest Coast, to prosecute the survey for the Imperial Government.

SUPREME COURT. The steamer Emily Harris vs. the schooner Kate—Sail for salvage.

The case was one in which the schooner Kate, last December, got on the rocks off Victoria harbor during storm, and was assisted off by the Emily Harris. Capt. Frain claimed \$350 for his service. Capt. Waller, of the Kate, offered him \$50, alleging that the service rendered could have been as efficiently performed by himself and crew. The Court overruled the tender, and decreed \$200, to be paid to the Emily Harris. Mr McIreight, instructed by Mr Bishop, for plaintiff; Mr Robertson, by Drake & Jackson, for defendant.

A REVOLUTION IN Eclectic Treatment—Thousands of persons regard aperient pills as a species of medicine that destroy their own efficacy by repetition. In other words, they suppose that, however moderate may be the number taken at first there is no escape from wholesale doses in the end. Bristol's Sugar-coated Pills, however, are a grand exception—the only one to this general rule. The doses are always moderate, four being the usual number of pills for an adult, and six the largest dose. The effect they produce is permanent, and it is not necessary to continue them, in order to prevent a relapse. For constipation, sick and nervous headaches, bilious disorders, chills and fever, stomach complaints, general debility, and the irregularities of the female system, they are a specific cure. This may be received as a rule to which there are no exceptions. They are put up in glass vials, and will keep in any climate. In all cases arising from, or aggravated by, impure blood, Bristol's Purgative Pills should be used in connection with the Pills.

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

The War on the Plains.

CHICAGO, April 30—An Omaha despatch says the rumors of Hancock's expedition being in distress and that eleven thousand Indians are encamped beyond Fort Phil Kearney and waiting to commence hostilities, are unmitigated hoaxes. A Fort Laramie despatch of the 28th says the Indians surrounded Horse Shoe Station and a fight is now going on. The telegraph supply train was attacked on the 21st seventy miles west of Laramie. The provisions were destroyed and no more work will be done on the telegraph line without a military escort.

Europe.

A Cretan letter of March 30th says: Every attempt of the Turks to advance has been repulsed. An English paper says that in case of a difficulty with Spain the Government of the latter country will seize several million pounds' worth of wine stored in Spanish ports belonging to English merchants, while England will seize the Balearic Islands.

NEW YORK, April 30—A correspondent of the Tribune, writing from Constantinople on the 6th, says that Russia has succeeded in playing a deep game and completely deceiving the diplomats of Europe. By professing non-intervention, Russia has succeeded in putting France forward to demand a suspension of hostilities and the submission to a Conference on the question of a union of Crete to Greece, knowing that it could not be granted. The correspondent claims to have the best reasons for believing that Russia will push on to secure the dismemberment of Turkey at once.

LONDON, April 30—In Parliament yesterday, Lord Stanley stated to the Commons that the Peace Conference has been accepted by France and Prussia, and it is believed the Luxemburg question will be amicably settled. The Berlin Diet was opened by the King; he urged the speedy adoption of the Constitution.

PARIS, April 30—Evening—The Monitor says officially that orders have been issued to stop the military preparations of France. The Brussels Government is augmenting its military and has raised a new loan.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1st—Sailed, May 1st—Bk Glimpse, Puget Sound; brig Hugh Barclay, Puget Sound; schooner A. J. Wester, Columbia River.

Eastern States.

CHICAGO, May 1st—The Workingmen's demonstration to-day was the largest display ever witnessed in Chicago. The procession was estimated at from 20,000 to 30,000. More than half the shops of all kinds in the city are closed, the employers refusing to accede to the demands of the workmen. Whatever the ultimate result may be, it seems probable that the immediate effect of the law will be mischief and trouble between employers and laborers. Similar demonstrations occurred in most of the principal cities in the State.

Canada.

TORONTO, May 1st—McGrath, a Fenian, was sentenced to be hanged at Quebec.

Europe.

NEW YORK, May 1st—A Candian letter, dated March 24th, to the Tribune, says Turkey utterly refused to allow the commander of the frigate Canadaigua to do anything at all for suffering Cretons.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 2—Arrived bark Rival, 8 days from Port Discovery; brig Admiral, 7 days from Utsaleidy. May 2d—Bark Torrent, 7 days from Teekaley; bark Leonore, 20 days from Port Blakely.

Mexico.

NEW ORLEANS, April 30—M. ROMERO—Miron is dead. The Imperial forces are disbanded. Marquez is completely defeated. Queretaro is taken. Maximilian is hidden. (Signed) RAMON S. DIAZ.

Europe.

NEW YORK, May 2—The London Times of the 19th says the impression prevails that a money crisis is imminent. Every adverse

rumor from Berlin or Paris causes a fresh panic. Foreign securities and American bonds fell two per cent. in Berlin and one in London in consequence of the King of Prussia's warlike speech, which caused a general rush at Berlin to effect sales. The Times says the speech of the King of Prussia is significant, and it is evident that at Berlin neither sovereign nor people dream that German national unity is a matter with which foreign powers have any business to concern themselves. A Paris telegram of the 19th says when the French transports return France can land fifty thousand troops on any coast. Rumors prevail that France is about to declare war and has called out her reserves. The Times says the arrival of the American Revenue Commissioners will be opportune, as the revelations of the English Trades' Union Commissioners will be ready. Baron Wallevedorf has been appointed commander of the Eastern expedition to China, Japan and Siam, with power to make treaties. The Fortress of Belgrade has been ceded by the Sultan to Serbia.

LIVERPOOL, May 1—The London Conference meets on the 17th inst. The London Post says the bargain between Russia and America was made with a view to the profit of the United States. An English fleet was before Cadiz on the 14th. The Times says that nothing stands in the way of the arbitration of the Tornado case except the demanded release of Macpherson, if Spain proposes it.

Shipping.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 3—Sailed—Ship Haloise, Puget Sound.

PORTLAND, May 3—The Fidelity sailed for Victoria this evening.

Europe.

The inhabitants of Luxemburg have presented an address to the King of Holland asking to be annexed to France. The journals say that in the event of war, the whole North German army will be furnished with needle guns. The fortifications at Kiel Bay, Alsen and Lundewitt are being considerably extended. The North German says no one in Germany wishes annexation to France; only those can desire it who speculate upon general misfortune.

Bismarck, on the 9th, in reply to a query, stated that Hesse Darmstadt had not expressed a wish to enter the German Bund. In consequence of the stipulations of the treaty of Prague, it would be necessary before the whole of Hesse Darmstadt could join the Confederation to have an understanding with Prussia and live on friendly terms. Vienna advises that the Cabinet considers itself bound by any considerations toward old confederates. A petition of the people of Luxemburg has been presented to the King of Holland, expressing an ardent desire to retain their nationality under the House of Orange. The Journal des Etats has an article on the Luxemburg question, saying that it would be much better to have Luxemburg remain Prussian without a war, of which no one can foresee all the consequences.

A St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Herald says that the Russian American Fur Company's sales were originally 150,000 roubles, but have fallen to 85,000, and the company have been considered on the verge of bankruptcy for a number of years. The colony was a failure from neglect and mismanagement. In the opinion of many there was wisdom in getting rid of what was not worth keeping. The organ of the press against too hasty judgment. The transaction will be beneficial to trade in parts of Eastern Siberia.

A special dispatch, dated London, says the prize fight between Wormald and O'Balduin was prevented by the failure of the latter to appear on the ground. Wormald took the stakes. The fancy were disgusted. CHICAGO, April 24—Washington specials say that the Derby Ministry, in a late communication to our Government, expressed a strong desire for a speedy adjustment of the pirate Alabama claims, and a suggestion was made whereby it could be settled. Our Government promptly refused to accede to it, and the matter falls. It is stated, further, that in no event will the English Government give up British America.

NEW YORK, April 25—In Paris ten thousand tailors, with the members of other trades, are on a strike. La Liberté calls for public meetings all over the country to make known to Bismarck that if there is a German nation there is also a German people misled and made to serve Prussian ambition. It will find itself opposed, until the French people will tear to pieces the treaty of 1816. The Queen is constantly receiving applications from the relations of Fenians captured in Ireland, asking interposition in their behalf. RIO JANRIO, March 12—The rebellion in the Argentine Republic is checked: Vigorous measures have been used in putting it down. A fight took place with the Paraguayans on the 2nd of February. The ironclads were badly damaged. The California Colony at Santa Fe is doing poorly. President Mitre has returned to Buenos Ayres, where he had an enthusiastic reception.

NEW YORK, April 21—The steamer South American, with dates from Rio to March 26th, has arrived.

Eight thousand troops sailed from the Brazilian maritime provinces to replace the Argentine troops withdrawn from the Paraguayan war. A large cargo of war munitions and small detachments of troops have been sent to the River Plate.

One transport has returned with cholera among the troops. Curupaity has again been bombarded by the Brazilians. The town and fortifications of Santa Maria, on the upper Parana, were destroyed by Brazilian gunboats.

The firing was kept up along the fronts, but no movements of importance had been made. It is reported that a large portion of the Brazilian forces had crossed the upper Parana and will march direct on Assumption. The Brazilian fort at Curazo has been materially strengthened.

The Paraguayan General, Diaz, has died of his wounds. The peace stories are canards, and the report of American mediation untrue. The outbreak in the Argentine Provinces can be crushed.

Mitre has assumed the Presidency and issued a warlike manifesto. The cotton crop of Brazil is in a favorable condition, and the coffee crop is above the average. Cholera has broken out in the city of Rio Grande del Sud. Coffee at Rio is lower. The sales for the month were 85,000 bags for the United States.

Eastern States.

NEW YORK, April 22—The Herald's special dispatch says Paul Bagley, formerly a missionary in India, visited Jeff. Davis to induce him to apply for pardon, supported by an influential petition. Davis refused because it would prejudice his case. The trial is now near. Bagley afterwards had an interview with the President, and asked if a pardon would be granted on petition without the application of Davis. The President acquiesced. FORT MONROE, April 30—Mrs Jeff Davis is here, having come from Washington relative to her husband's release. She says very confidently that he will soon be released. A Tribune special says that the Government within a week received official assurance from England that she is entirely satisfied with our course in purchasing Russian America, and that the treaty was made in no unfriendly spirit towards the English Government.

The State Department professes not to know anything about the ironclads as payment to Russia. The Japanese will be presented to Seward to-morrow, and a time fixed for a Presidential interview. The Cabinet had a short session to-day. It is asserted on the highest authority that the Government has offered to release Jeff. Davis on his own parole, but he positively declines freedom unless it is unconditional.

EASTPORT, Me., March 30—Colonel Ransom, in command of Fort Sullivan at this place, has received orders from the War Department to surrender to Mr Kerrigan, of New York, all the arms, ammunition and accoutrements seized here last April by Collector Long on board the schooner Pray, on the ground that they were intended for the Fenian forces on the frontier. Mr Kerrigan has given bonds that they shall not be used for any unlawful purpose. A special dispatch says it is probable that the trial of Surratt will not proceed. There is a deep impression in the Administration that Surratt's mother was innocent. The trial of the son will make the fact manifest.

CHICAGO, April 25—The eight hour law in Wisconsin goes into effect July 14th. The working men held a mass meeting and proposed voluntarily to relinquish 18 or 20 per cent wages. It is believed the effect of throwing 20 per cent of labor out of the market will be to create a demand for an advance of wages soon. Senator Wilson's speech at Richmond is severely denounced by the ultra rebel papers of the city, one of which calls him a red-haired political missionary. Nearly a riot occurred in Quincy last night. A gentleman was advertised to lecture on Romanism, and a mob of 2000 Catholics assembled and prevented the lecture by threats of violence. The Mayor was appealed to and refused to interfere to stop the riotous proceedings.

A special dispatch says the long unknown grave of Johnson's father has been discovered and the President will witness the erection of a monument. He will be accompanied by Seward, taking the Richmond route, and will visit the other towns if possible and address the people. CHICAGO, April 25—Lieutenant C. A. Sherman has commenced a suit against the Western Stage Company for damages for the loss of his wife, child and mother by drowning, while crossing Boone river, Iowa, in one of defendant's coaches. The case was tried and the jury returned a verdict of \$8000 damages for the plaintiff.

The Commissioner of Agriculture is daily sending seeds South, in accordance with the law transferring funds from the Freedmen's Bureau for supplying such seed. Phelan backs Dixon for \$5000 in gold against the world. He will play the English, French or American standard game for \$15,000, on condition that the winner shall be the victor in two games out of three.

Mexico.

The commander of an Austrian frigate stated in a Havana banquet that he had received orders to send an officer to Vera Cruz to take Maximilian home. Among the victims of the slaughter at Puebla were the Imperial chiefs Franique and Oertle. The World's correspondent says: Puebla was stormed at several points by the Liberal columns 6000 strong. The fighting was hot to hand. It was understood that no quarter would be given or taken. General Tibroni Quajono, with 400 men, held possession of the principal square until all were killed. The Imperial Commander, Mejia, and his second lieutenant, with 100 officers, saved their lives by timely capitulation. A number of officers were executed. It is believed that 2,000 were taken. The forces of Diaz were 10,000; those of the besieged, 4,000.

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A Chapter on "Consist

False reasoners are often confuted by giving them the of their own absurdities. common to say that argue prove too much prove nothing article on Monday morning reviewed the condition of and took occasion to say the

"We are not of the class who the negotiations now going on for this Colony to the Americans anything. The British Government, especially a Tory Government—will foot of the territory it now holds John Bright Premier, with a Rad try, there might be a sale; but to be looked for from a Minister Earl Derby is at the head."

The publication of the at which the above extract is been made the subject of "twers" by our morning cot in the last of which we (the are

"Accused of want of consistency straddling the fence upon the question annexation of this colony to States, now that it is reported tations are on foot between the G of the United States and Engl transfer of British Columbia, incli conover Island, to the former Power tion of the Alabama claims."

After having declared our e—which has since proved that the annexation ne would amount to nothing, h we be astraddle of a fence no existence save in the im of the News and one or t contributors? How could v negotiations to be successful had ju:t before propheted unsuccessful? Further on, i ticle, the following sentence o

"But, is annexation the only p our illa?—is it only by allying on foreign nation that we can enjoy ings which we have briefly sket should be sorry to think so. We b Confederation with the Eastern P the only course that will preserv ally of this people or save the co falling into a condition of hopeles which it may not emerge during t men now living."

From this extract it will be s we declared ourselves unmis in favor of Confederation, and Annexation, as a remedy for We did not go out of our way as our cotemporary has do Annexation is among the prob or even possibilities. We h attempted to delude the pu telling them that if they were blubbering at the foot of the and express a weakness in r the "fleshpots" of Uncle Sam they would be allowed to se tie that binds them to the Crown. We never indulged such silly language, nor do we to. We have advised the pe the Colony to ask like men fo they want, and for that whi have a right to demand as chi a great mother. The Home C ment has been told by us th policy is pursuing towards th ony is alienating the people fr loyalty, the best proof of w found in the fact that a paper News has dared to advocate th ing over of the country to the ans. In order to stamp the of "inconsistency" still more upon us, our cotemporary from the COLONIST of October show that we then "libelbe believers in the Annexation mo as "treason-spothers" and "tr We feel considerable satisfac the reflection that we did so de the getters-up of that meetin the subsequent course of its p has proved that we were corre gentleman who was the hea front of the whole moveme only Annexationist, in fact, w the bravery to come forward in and acknowledge his senti while the editor of the News a friends ekaled behind the "sed is now engaged, through the c of a San Francisco paper, in d ing his excessive loyalty to the Crown and the warm interest in the welfare of these Co by advising Americans to our shores! But let us see the cap that the editor of the N prepared for our head will not fit