

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

Saturday, November 21, 1868

An anecdote is related by Charles Dickens, which was told at a meeting of sailors, held to discuss their grievances at Tower Hill. The narrator stated that on one occasion he was on board a ship during an epidemic of yellow-fever, and while down with the disease, awoke to find himself being sewn up in his hammock by the captain, preparatory to being buried in the usual manner at sea. He vigorously remonstrated, stating that he was not yet dead, but was told indignantly 'that he was jolly particular as to a few minutes.' Such scenes, we believe, have more than once occurred during the present epidemic of small-pox among the Indians. The person charged with their obsequies having in more than one instance attempted to box-up natives who had sufficient vigor to escape and barricade themselves in adjoining tenements, where the legally constituted sexton followed them, placing their coffins outside the door, telling them in unexceptional Chinook, that he would call for them at 'tenassan.' The inhumanity and gross neglect of the welfare of the Indian population that have characterized the proceedings of the authorities during the present epidemic, are beyond anything we can find words to express, driven away as they have been from Victoria perishing, and scattering the pestilence broadcast all along the coast, thus entailing the extension of the disease to our young and thriving agricultural settlements at Spanish, Cowichan and Comox, where it is impossible to estimate the fearful results that are likely to accrue. Few among us would believe that while the disease was rampant among the aborigines an Indian Dance-house was nightly open, at which the nurse in charge of the Indian Small-pox Hospital was wont to trip it on the light fantastic and in more than one instance communicated the disease. Such details almost remind one of Defoe's graphic description of the horrors of the plague in London. The disease has now worn itself out among the Indians, having ceased for the want of fresh victims; their mortality has averaged about 98 per cent. At present the disease is extending among the white population, showing that it is impossible to neglect the interests of those around us without the great law of compensation stepping in; and that to tolerate a people living alongside of us in a state of barbarism, is attended by not only moral but physical retribution. The spread of the disease is partly owing to first vaccinations having been performed with lymph affording no protection, and no means of aggregation as regards those affected with the disease having been adopted. Numerous instances of people during convalescence appearing in public and thus spreading the disease, are well known, the regulations of the Municipal authorities as to reports being made by the physicians in attendance as to the names and localities of those affected having been partially ignored. We hope the Town Council will vindicate their authority, and not allow their Ordinance to become a dead letter. We hope also that a Health officer will be appointed to visit ships arriving, as we believe in this way the disease is being constantly introduced afresh. Such an officer might also undertake the management of public vaccination—see to providing proper lymph, attend to the Indian small-pox hospital, and generally advise the authorities on sanitary matters. The present small-pox hospital for whites we consider a disgrace to the community. Situated within ten yards of the general hospital, it has no separate nurses, is overcrowded when full, and it does not provide for the comfort of the patients who are liable, noters volens, to be sent there. Some provision should also be made to provide a vehicle for the special purpose of transporting patients to the Hospital, and care should be observed, that the ordinary barges that healthy people ride about in are not used, as it is stated they have been. Dr Jackson has endeavored to do his best, but the situation, furni-

ture, etc., are disgraceful. Much better would it be to remove the hospital, as we long ago recommended, to the Female Building on Spring Ridge, and reserve the present building for the emergencies of an epidemic. The period for markish concealment is now past—and unless steps are taken vigorously to stamp out the disease, Victoria will become a city of the Plague.

Tuesday, Nov 17

To spare our readers the trouble of referring to the files, we reproduce the remarkable letter signed 'A deO' which appeared in these columns on Saturday last:

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—A petition has been put in circulation ostensibly to provide an excuse to enable Gov. Seymour to return to England to recruit his health; but really to remove him, and in his place to secure, as I am informed, the reappointment of Sir James Douglas. Now, sir, I am no warm admirer of Gov. Seymour or his policy as a statesman; but I cannot allow any such document as that alluded to to pass unnoticed, nor without warning the public against signing it. Much of the odium that attaches to Gov. Seymour's administration is a natural consequence of the acts of omission and commission of the administration of Sir James Douglas. It is needless to enter into details to prove this proposition, but it is nevertheless true. Whatever unpopularity there is justly connected with Gov. Seymour's Government cannot be cured by his removal. To remove the Governor will not reduce the Governor's salary nor rid the Colony of an unnecessary number of officials; nor curtail the extravagant salaries of those retained. What the public require is a change of the system of Government—such a change as will secure Representative Institutions and Responsible Government. Except we get those two principles established, all the changing of Governors imaginable will not improve the Executive and Government, nor make two blades of grass grow where one grew before. I, therefore, suggest to the public to refuse to sign the memorial in question.

In quoting the writer yesterday, we could not, for want of space, give more than the substance of his remarks, which we did in these words:

'The system of Government,' he writes, 'is at fault, not the Governor,' and he deprecates any change until a new Constitution shall have been provided. We leave our readers to decide whether the extracts are garbled or bogus, and whether we have not expressed from the letter the only construction which could be and was placed upon it. The letter is undoubtedly an endorsement of the present Executive by 'A deO,' written in a moment of strong excitement engendered by the mention of Sir James Douglas' name as Administrator. We do the writer the justice of saying that had he taken time to reflect he would not have committed himself and thus dimmed the lustre of a political career which many have been accustomed to regard as that of a consistent and useful public man. Whether the public will judge him as generously, remains to be seen; but we greatly fear that another act of indiscretion similar to his last would lay 'A deO' on the political shelf, there to remain for the balance of his natural life—a circumstance which none in the community would regret more sincerely than himself.

ASSAULT CASE.—Mr Wm Farron yesterday appeared before Mr Pemberton to answer to a charge of having tweaked the nasal protuberance and spat in the frontispiece of Mr W Hebbard, ex-Councillor. Hebbard stated that while walking down Yates street, one day last week, he heard his name called, and on turning in the direction from which the voice proceeded, his nose was grasped and violently tweaked. At first he regarded the assault as a good joke, but when, an instant afterwards, he felt a drop of saliva on his cheek, he discovered the true nature of the attack, and threw up his hands to guard his head from a blow which fell on his shoulder. He recognized Farron (who was defended by Mr Jackson) as the assaulting party. Farron pleaded guilty, and urged, in extenuation, that Hebbard had called him a 'turn-out' and had said his property could be put under a hazel-nut. Hebbard denied having applied the term 'turn-out' to the defendant, and said the hazel-nut was a quotation from Farron's remarks a year ago. The bench decided to put Farron under bonds to keep the peace in \$300—himself in \$200, and one surety in \$100. Hebbard said he would feel safer if Farron were to furnish two securities instead of one. Farron—You must think I'm going to pay \$300 for the privilege of whipping you.

DRAMATIC OPERA.—The meeting on Saturday night at the Boomerang was well attended. In addition to electing officers for the ensuing year, the club determined upon giving a performance as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. It is not known yet for which of our public institutions the entertainment will be given. The officers for the ensuing year are as follows: Mr Barnaby, President; B P Griffin, Treasurer; J Barnett, Secretary; A R Howe, Stage Manager; L Franklin, Godfrey Brown, A Keast, W C Berkeley, Charles Good, Managing Committee. There will be a committee meeting again to-night at the Boomerang for the completion of the preliminaries.

QUITS RIGHT.—A rumor was current yesterday that the schooner Discoverer, which had returned from the wreck of the Del Norte, had the small-pox on board. The Mayor was immediately on the alert to have the vessel hauled out from the wharf. From subsequent inquiry, we find the report to be well founded, and commend the vigilance which has been shown in the case.

PUBLIC MARKET.—A number of influential and thoroughly business gentlemen are exerting themselves to re-establish our public market—a great benefit to all classes, but at the same time a self-sustaining institution. Upon such terms no good citizen should withhold his support to the movement. The petition to the Government is now lying for signature at the Garrick's Head, Bastion street, and it is to be hoped, it will be rapidly filled up.

FIREBOAT GALE.—The H B Co's steamer Otter returned from Puget Sound yesterday morning. The Del Norte having sunk to deep water, her errand was of course fruitless. The Otter reports terrific sou'west gales for several days on the Sound, during the prevalence of which navigation was impeded. The steamer Eliza Anderson lay 26 hours under Point Wilson, unable to reach Port Townsend owing to the severity of the gale.

TOO BAD.—An enthusiastic individual yesterday eat too heartily of Haywood's sausages, more, probably, than the three links recommended, and his hair turned, not black, but rascally grey. On arriving at home his wife did not recognize him, and drove him from the house as an impostor. For this double wrong, it is said, he intends suing the COLONIST.

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HOUSE.—The collections from the sermons on Sunday last by the Bishop of the Diocese and the Rector of St John's, in behalf of the Building Fund, amounted altogether to \$70. The building is now being plastered, and if nothing intervenes to render a postponement necessary, the inaugural concert, by the St John's Choral Society, will be given in it on the 1st prox.

It is reported to us that the 'Sound' country is the chief topic of conversation in Portland. Many declare that they would sell out if they could, for they are convinced of the future greatness of this country. Others are settling up their business in that city with the view of coming here.—Seattle Intelligence.

A shower of brilliant meteors fell in this vicinity on Friday night and Saturday morning last. The shower continued until daylight and was the most extensive yet observed here.

THE WIRE, which has been down for a week on San Juan Island, were yesterday repaired; but a section between Seattle and Swinemish remains to be reconstructed before communication south will be re-established.

ARRIVED.—The bark Mauna Loa, arrived at Esquimalt, yesterday, laden with lumber for the Sandwich Islands, whither she will proceed without delay.

DEPARTURE.—The steamer G S Wright left for Portland yesterday morning with a cargo of coal and a few passengers.

AN Executive Council was held yesterday, His Excellency the Governor presiding.

'A deO' and the Governor. Victoria, March 15th, 1868.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Most of Mr DeCosmos' opinions on public matters have appeared to me unsound; but I have never read anything in your journal from his or any other pen that has struck me as so devoid of reason as the letter in Saturday's Colonist, signed 'A deO,' which I take to be the initials of our late Representative in the Legislative Council. In the first place I should be glad to know what part of the odium attaching to Governor Seymour Sir James Douglas is accountable for? The charges brought against Mr Seymour are that he does not use the great power entrusted to him with judgment. That in a struggling overtaxed community due care is not taken to prevent wasteful expenditure. That whereas, soon after his second advent, he clearly led the Colony to expect some return towards Representative Government at an early period; no movement or indication of any movement has yet been made in that direction; that there has been an absence of frankness and straightforwardness in his acts and correspondence; and that he has shown a general unfitness of disposition and talent for the post he occupies. For what of all this is Sir James Douglas responsible? Your correspondent next asserts that Governor Seymour's unpopularity would not be cured by his removal. On this point hardly another man in the Colony will agree with 'A deO.' So far as I know, the Governor's most inveterate opponents have no ill feeling towards Mr Seymour personally. My own impression, and I believe the general one, is that in private life Mr Seymour is a most amiable and worthy man, making it a matter of greater regret that he should continue to hold a position for which he is so unqualified, and where his shortcomings excite the enmity of citizens, and the derision of stran-

gers. Then 'A deO' says that 'a change of Governors would not decrease the number of officials nor the amount of their salaries.' Certainly not, if the new Governor should so will; but is it not probable that the successor of an officer, removed on account of extravagance, would incline to economy wherever economy could be combined with efficiency? It may be true that 'we want Representative Institutions'; but it is equally true that we once had them, and that they did not altogether agree with us. It is my humble opinion that with a good Governor, our present form of government is as good, perhaps better, than any we have yet tried, though certainly with a bad Governor we could scarcely have a worse system. We have made several attempts, more or less futile, to change the form of our government without success, because Governor Seymour, having the power, has also had the will to prevent. Then what course more obvious than to change the Governor? We could hardly lose by the change—the chances are infinitely in our favor, for though the selection of the Governor might not be left with us, our well understood wishes would have weight.

Taking this view of the case, I sometime since, over the signature of 'A British Columbian,' suggested an appeal to the Home Government for the recall of Governor Seymour. Intending to draw up such a petition, I broached the subject to several citizens, not one of whom but favored the plan and spoke of Governor Seymour as the great stumbling-block to the progress of the Colony. But when asked to sign—one would say 'but you see, I sometimes meet the Governor in private life, and it would not do, you know.' Another could not afford to displease the Governor. Still another thought every one should sign—would himself—but was about to apply, etc. And so on—and so the scheme ended, but not the discontent. I had given up all idea of further action in the matter, when, on Friday last, the petition which has brought 'A deO' once more into print, was placed in my hands. This petition, after expressions of regret at Governor Seymour's infirmities, prays that His Excellency will delegate his powers, so that he may avail himself of the most efficacious of restoratives, change of air, of scene and of occupation. Sir James Douglas is mentioned as possessing the confidence of the people; as having a large material interest in the Colony; and as having already administered the Government with success. Here, I thought, is what no one can object to sign; but it appears that there are many palates to please—the first petition was too strong for some, this too weak for others; and the amount of interest felt in the welfare of the Colony so small that no remedy will be taken except the dose be of the exact strength and exact flavor to suit the whim of each. We have been told that we are slaves—and so it seems we are, willing slaves—for with the keys of our fetters within reach, we will not take the trouble to use them. If our chains are so pleasant to wear, let us at least carry them with grace, and cease to murmur at their weight.

Z. de X.

Small-Pox.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—It is with deep regret that I again deem it advisable to make a few remarks respecting this terrible disease. In the first place, persons who have been but recently vaccinated are not always exempt from taking this terrific malady because the lymph may be impure and the patient not susceptible. The writer was vaccinated about a month ago without effect. When after a lapse of ten days he was again operated upon by the same doctor, who gave his arm several severe punctures, the result was highly satisfactory. Now some of the lymph we have here is so deteriorated that it is quite worthless. You yesterday suggested the necessity of the authorities inoculating a cow with small-pox at once. The suggestion is an admirable one. In about two weeks we should be in possession of pure lymph. In view of this prevailing and increasing disease, the outlay for this purpose would be so trifling, and the consequences so beneficial, that neglect on the part of our Municipal authorities at once to adopt this advice would be scandalous in the extreme. The new Council would do well to follow up vigilantly the suggestions of its predecessors by taking immediate action and by all human efforts endeavor to stamp out this dreadful contagion.

VACCINE.

AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL—the world's great remedy for Colds, Coughs and Consumption.

The steamer Geo. S. Wright returned from Nanaimo yesterday morning.

"Shameful Conduct"

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—I understand that a party is going the rounds of this city obtaining signatures to a petition asking His Excellency the Governor to retire from the Government of the Colony and appoint Sir James Douglas in his stead; setting forth that by his doing so the advancement and prosperity of the Colony would thereby be promoted. I trust that few loyal subjects will be found to attach their names to a document so insulting to the Representative of Her Majesty; and I, with many in this Colony, hold that the appointment of Sir James Douglas would neither bring prosperity to the Colony nor give satisfaction or contentment to the people. What we want is Representative Government, with the right to govern ourselves, as I contend we have the ability to do. The fault is not so much with the man as with the system; give us responsibility in our Executive, and rest assured this abuse by the Governor will soon cease. If Governor Seymour has not governed this Colony according to his instructions from the Colonial Office, let representations be made in a proper manner and in the right quarter, and there is no doubt but redress would be speedily obtained; but for the sake of our common nationality, do not let us so outrageously insult the Queen's representative in this distant portion of her dominion by signing this abominable petition.

W. R.

November 13th, 1868.

See Colonists of Monday and Saturday.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—In your leader in yesterday's issue, you attribute certain motives to me as the reason why I protested against the petition put in circulation to effect the removal of Governor Seymour. It also contains sentences and parts of sentences, either included in quotation marks or so connected and stated as to imply that they were extracted from my brief communication in your issue of the 14th inst. As the motives attributed to me are unfounded and as the extracts are either garbled or bogus, I will thank you if you will publish this note, with the heading that I have placed over it.

A. deO.

Navigation of the Rhine—Negotiations with Holland.

(From Gallian's Messenger of Paris, Sept. 5.) The rupture of the negotiations between Prussia and Holland relative to the navigation of the Rhine appears to have caused some alarm in Berlin, where the determination shown by the Dutch government in the matter is attributed to its being secretly supported by France. The point in dispute is whether the new convention which it is proposed to establish in place of those now in existence is to apply to the whole of the river and its tributaries, or only to the streams on either side of Gurkum and Dordrecht. The Dutch government considers that as the Merwe and the Muse are part of Holland, the navigation of those rivers ought to be under its exclusive control. This view is opposed on behalf of the Zollverein, by Prussia, who appeals to the last convention on the subject (that of 1831) and the Treaty of Vienna, which stipulates that the navigation of the Rhine shall be free up to the sea. As this is the first occasion on which Prussia has acted as the representative of the Zollverein it is believed that she will not allow the matter to drop, but make further and more urgent representations to Holland on the subject.

Death of Madame Hugo.

(From the Dublin Evening Mail, Aug. 29.) Madame Victor Hugo had arrived in Brussels from Paris, where she had been staying some months in the hope of obtaining relief from a malady from which she had been long suffering. On Tuesday afternoon, without any premonitory symptoms, she was seized with an attack of congestion of the brain, from which she never recovered. She was insensible almost from the seizure till her death, which took place between six and seven o'clock yesterday morning. The deceased lady had expressed a wish to be buried at Villequier, in France, in the same grave as that in which her daughter Leopoldine was interred twenty-five years ago. This wish will be respected and M. Hugo and his sons Charles and Franeis will accompany the remains to the French frontier, but no farther.

Disraeli's Baptism as a Christian.

Last week, says the London Express, a correspondent of the Churchman's Family Newspaper expressed a doubt whether the Premier had ever been baptized. The following authentic document sets these doubts at rest, and we gladly publish it for the satisfaction of all whom it may concern.

Parish of St. Andrew's Holborn, in the city of London and in the county of Middlesex.—Extract from the Register Book of Baptisms, page 80. Baptized July 31, 1817, Benjamin, said to be about twelve years old, son of Isaac and Maria Disraeli, King's road, gentleman. Ceremony performed by S. Thimbleby, No. 689.

The above is a true extract from the Register book of Baptisms kept in the parish Registry. Witness my hand this 8th day of September, in the year 1868.

A. J. ROSS, Lecturer.

made in open Court that I'll murder him (the man) as I got a good chance. At the root of all this evil of an elective judiciary. So to the votes of the people, their elevation to the throne will their judicial conduct the character of the constitution that in the city of New Orleans and repeaters are the polls, bruisers and re- the favored of the courts; on of affairs will continue to worse until the people re- it no longer. It will not plan to offend the pickpocket pocket to ignore the politician; lar or thief is taken before he is released on nominal ail, or no bail at all, and often for his friend the judge after happens to be before the sion.

RAORDINARY OF A COUGH

letter has been received from Esq., an extensive agriculturist, residing at Edmonton, Middlesex, who writes: "Nightingale Hall, Edmonton, have recently suffered from a cough, proceeding from a tickling in the throat, out of many I recall, my head was constantly and my whole frame entirely shaken. I used your good effects of your Balsam of all members of my family, I purchased, and when going to bed at as usual in two table-spoonsful. The effect was immediate; tickling in my chest, I slept well, and restored in the morning, with debility, arising from fatigue by for some days previous. My left me, and has never returned. I had a lady in the neighborhood time had laboured under a most gh, and who had resorted to every her knowledge, I sent the bottle to her; and that long-stand- and (as she thought) incurable perfectly cured. You are at perfect what use you may please of this, as the contents are strictly true very opportunity of recommending the medicine, feeling as I do fully am, dear Sir, yours very truly, WM. BOARDMAN, Esq. Powell."

BALSAM OF ANISEED

Colds, Influenza, Shortness of breath, Bronchitis, and for all affections, this old established remedy is invaluable. There is an increased demand for this elegant preparation, which has followed in Australia, New Zealand, and the British Colonies, has induced us to still further extend the beneficial use; and he begs to announce that, sending its sale into Victoria, B. C., by Messrs Millard and Beedy, Victoria, Wholesale Agents, Chemists and Stereographers can apply.

WELLS BALSAM OF ANISEED

Established 1824. Sold by THOMAS POWELL, Blackfriars Road, London. Sold by all Chemists and Patent Medicines throughout the World.

BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, &c.

DR. J. C. WELLS' PINK PILLS

IDENTICALLY RECOMMENDED but certain remedy for Indigestion, general tonic and gentle aperient; are given safe under any circumstances; of persons can now bear testimony to the benefit from their use. As in 1843, 29, 3d, and 11th parts of 7 and 8, and Stereographers in all parts of the world can be made payable by London House.