

The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday May 4 1870.

International Differences.

A year ago the world was set on fire by Sumner's great swelling Alabama speech. To-day nothing but the ashes remain. Even the great incendiary himself appears to be almost forgotten. It was impossible to doubt that Sumner expressed with precise accuracy the feelings of the great bulk of his countrymen; but it was made equally clear that the real grievance, the "wrong" about which they cared, the injury they hoped to avenge, was one for which there can be no reparation, which is beyond the pale not only of ordinary diplomacy but of any negotiation, however informal or however elastic. It was not an act, but an attitude of mind; not the unfriendliness of a large section of the British people, for which the Americans desired and possibly still desire to demand satisfaction. The so-called Alabama claims were not really based upon the Alabama at all, but upon the attitude of the English people during the war—on Mr. Roebuck's contempt, and Mr. Laird's greed, and Earl Russell's lofty indifference to the fate of such "political invertebrates." And hence the indisposition on the part of America to submit the matter to arbitration. There was really nothing to submit. Nor was there anything which Great Britain could do to meet the case; no conceivable contrivance of diplomacy by which she could help it. Suppose John Bull had consented to put all his ideas about honor and position and consistency and truthfulness into his pocket, and formally acknowledged a lie, declared, say by Act of Parliament, that he was deeply in the wrong in acknowledging the belligerency of the South, and consequently surrendered British America by way of compensation, how would that have mended matters? It would have remained no less true that a majority of the British governing class did dislike the North, that many statesmen wished the Union broken up, and that half the English middle-class were deceived by erroneous intelligence into a similar temper. If all the Dukes of the United Kingdom had appeared in chains at the bar of the Senate to beg the pardon of the Great Republic, that could in no way alter the fact that a large and influential section of the British nation was hostile—wrongly, we think, but still hostile—to the North. But if it be correct that the real "wrong" for which the United States has so long clamored for redress consisted in the fact that a preponderance of British sentiment and sympathy was against the North, there does exist the precise commodity with which such a sore can be wiped off. Have our neighbors forgotten the Canadian rebellion of 1837-8, when their sympathies and even material aid went with the rebels? During which a precisely similar condition of things existed? Do they close their eyes to the state of American sentiment and sympathy in relation to Ireland? Or are they blind to the fact that they have nourished in their midst an organization the ostensible object of which is the infringement of international law, and whose attempts to outrage an unoffending neighbor, in order to revenge itself on a nation it dare not attack, have been aided by the people and winked at by the authorities of the United States? Nay, are they blind to the fact that every rebellion which occurs within the British realm, however trivial or however unjustifiable upon any moral or political principle, has ever enjoyed the sympathy, if indeed it has not had the active and material support, of a large section of the American people? Even now, while we write, does not American sympathy go out largely towards the half-breeds of Winnipeg? Is it not a fact that whoever lifts his italics or draws his sword against John Bull will be sure of sympathy and following in Brother Jonathan's dominions? Here, then, Great Britain has the wherewithal to pay off her indebtedness to the United States. Nay, let it rather be regarded in the light of an account current between the two nations, wherein the balance is largely in favor of Great Britain. British sympathy has been against the United States upon one occasion. American sympathy has been against Britain ever! Let both consent to a complete obliteration of the past; and let both woo the Angel Virtue in the future.

Saturday April 30.

An interesting young gentleman at San Francisco, on Tuesday last, stole behind his father while the latter was reading a newspaper, and out the old gentleman's throat. Will probably die.

H. M. S. CHARYBDEU, Capt. Lyons, with Ad-

miral Farquhar, went outside for ball practice on Thursday and returned the same evening. On Thursday the ship was inspected by Admiral Farquhar, and the following day by Admiral Lyons.

In the House of Commons—Mr. Winter-

bottom and Mr. Henderson each gave notice of a question which certainly cannot be too soon asked and answered. They wish to know whether Mr. Gladstone's attention has been called to a statement recently made by Lord Romilly in the House of Lords to the effect that shortly after his accession to the bench he discovered among the accounts of an eminent railway company the item of £10,000 for secret service money paid to members of Parliament. It is, of course, impossible that an accusation of so grave a character, when publicly made on the authority of one of the judges of the land, should be passed over without inquiry. The system of "lobbying" is an American institution which we do not care to see transplanted to this country. As a means of forwarding private legislation it is generally supposed to have long ago become obsolete in England. The sole instance of recent date of a change of this kind being brought forward was in the accusation preferred against a member of Parliament some years back by Mr. Washington Wilkes. On that occasion, however, the charge turned out to be groundless, and Mr. Wilkes was handed over to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms till he repented and retracted. The Master of the Rolls, being a peer, cannot, we presume, be summoned to the bar of the Lower House, but he may be called upon in another way either to make good or withdraw his charge against the honor of the Commons. It certainly seems strange that Lord Romilly should have refrained from calling attention to his discovery at the time it was made, apparently some seventeen or eighteen years ago. —*Pall Mall Gazette.*

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL BUILDING.

FUND.—About the 12th or 14th of May will be held in this city a Bazaar of sundry articles donated by publicspirited Christian ladies and their friends, the proceeds resulting from the sale of which will be applied to swell the Building Fund of the recently consumed Christ Church Cathedral. The object is one that appeals directly to the sympathies of all. The friends of the colony in England are using exertion to procure subscriptions, Her Majesty has been memorialized to forward the good cause, and surely we should do all we can to help ourselves. The Bazaar will be held in Southgate's new building, corner of Government and Fort streets, the use of which has been given by Mr. Bartlett, agent for the property. Ladies and others wishing to contribute articles, should send them to Mrs. Cridge or Mrs. Harris.

LADY FRANKLIN arrived last evening in

the U. S. S. Newbern, looking remarkably well and vigorous for one who has almost reached fourscore years. Lady Franklin is accompanied by her niece and intends visiting Alaska in the Newbern and spending some weeks in that interesting section. Her ladyship visited the colony in 1861, and passed some weeks pleasantly among us.

BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.—At the half-

yearly meeting of shareholders, which was to be held in London on the 5th inst, the directors would recommend that a dividend at the rate of five per cent per annum be declared for the half-year, that £250 4 5 be appropriated to close the "bad debt account," and that the balance of profit, amounting to £4172 18 9, be carried forward.

At the first meeting of the Duke of New-

castle's creditors, debts to the amount of £30,000 were proved. Pooda, the famous tailor, is a creditor, one item of his "little bill" being £60 for a pair of silk dressing trousers.

COURT SITTINGS.—The County Court will

sit on Thursday, the 3d day of May, and the Court of Assize and General Gaol Delivery on Wednesday, the 4th day of May, at the Court House, James Bay.

The Military Department of Alaska has

been broken up as an independent department and will be attached to that of Columbia under General Canby.

TOM LATOPE, the once celebrated whistler

and negro-minstrel, died in the Hospital at San Francisco on the 25th inst, aged 33 years.

The steamer Grappler's boilers are com-

pleted and will be placed in position by the H. B. Co's shears.

The Rev. Mr. Alexander, chaplain of H. M. S.

Zealous, will preach at St. John's Church to-morrow evening.

LIBERTY MEN.—A large number of the

Zealous men are on shore and the majority appear to be enjoying themselves in a rational and proper manner.

The Delegates will sail on the next direct

steamer—about the 12th of May.

The return cricket match between Mar-

ried and Single will not come off to-day.

There was a clear sheet at the Police

Baracks yesterday.

A meeting of the Executive Council was

held yesterday at Government House.

The Cemetery and its Gravedigger.

VICTORIA, April 29th, 1870.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Cannot the

disgraceful scenes that are constantly occurring in our cemetery be put a stop to?

Must the Sexton's plea of ignorance be a sufficient excuse for the shameful inhumanity exhibited in the presence of many friends and acquaintances who had assembled on Thursday afternoon to pay their last respects to the deceased? or must the feelings of friends and relatives be outraged through the impudence of the gravedigger, causing the brutal scene of jumping upon that which contained the remains of our friend?

Surely the sum of 25 is sufficient payment to guarantee the public against a repetition of the above outrage. W. A. H.

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European Mail Summary.

English papers are to the 20th of April:

The Queen of the Netherlands left England

on the 29th March. Gen. Grey, Private Sec-

retary to Queen Victoria, died March 31st,

never having regained consciousness since he

was seized with paralysis. His daughter,

the Duchess of St. Alban's, was delivered of

a son on the same day at her father's resi-

dence. The House of Lords pronounced judg-

ment in the Wicklow Peerage case, allowing

the claim of Mr. Howard and rejecting that

of Mr. Howard's alleged infant son. The

Bishop of Mauritius—Dr. Hatchard—is dead.

The Rev. N. Woodard has been appointed a

canon of Manchester. John Bright is improv-

ing in health, but is still enjoined to abstain

from all business or excitement. The election

at Newark was proceeding. Lord Courtney

has retired from the representation of

East Devon, and will probably be succeeded

by Mr. Kennaway, to whom no opposition

is expected. Captain White, M.P. for

Tipperary, has met with a severe accident in

the hunting field. A new novel by Mr. Dis-

raeli, entitled "Col. Elphinstone," the prosecu-

tor of the suit in the Archdeacon Court against

the Rev. J. P. Church, having died, the

proceedings have lapsed. Mr. Hardman

has been convicted of bribery at the

last Norfolk election, but the sentence

in the case has not yet been pronounced.

Several Spaniards, who had presented a

somewhat tame imitation of a ballet at the

Agricultural Hall, have been fined for

crucifix. Two non-commissioned officers

and several privates in a volunteer corps at

Newcastle-under-Lyme have been sentenced

by the magistrates to payment of fines for

inebriation. Two men were drowned near

Malton while attempting to escape from

a police constable. The importation of

live cattle from Buenos Ayres has not

proved successful, the prices realized by sale

of animals being inadequate to meet the

expenses. The turbulent spirit which has so

long unsettled many Irish counties still con-

tinues, and fresh instances of violence have

occurred. Emigration to the United States

is again assuming very large proportions.

The Longford Election Inquiry is proceed-

ing. Evidence has been given of violent

language and gross intimidation on the part

of some priests who supported Mr. Nugent.

A deputation waited on the Chancellor of

the Exchequer to urge the abolition of the

Income tax under Schedule D, but Mr.

Lowe's reply is not favorable. The Bristol

election resulted in the return of Mr. Rob-

inson, the Liberal candidate, after a closer

contest than had been expected with the

Conservative candidate, Mr. Hare. At the

Tarrant Assizes Mr. Vandervyl was acquitted

of bribery at the late Bridgwater election,

but his partner, Mr. Penney, and Dr. King-

lake, brother of Mr. A. W. Kinglake, were

found guilty. The sentences were post-

poned. The Bishop of Manchester was con-

secrated and Dr. Parry has been consecrated

Bishop Suffragan of Dover. At a meeting

of the Education League in London it was

determined to insist upon a compulsory

system of secular education. A meeting was

also held, at which several ladies were

speakers, in furtherance of the woman's

suffrage movement. Mr. J. S. Mill made an

earnest speech in support of the proposition to

allow women to vote at elections. The man

Mobbie, convicted of murdering a boy, was

executed at Aylesbury. Mr. Cotterill, a

member of a well-known firm of solicitors

in the city of London, has disappeared. A

man was convicted of murdering a game-

keeper employed by the Maharajah Duleep

Singh, in Suffolk, and has been condemned

to death. Lady Lopes, mother of two mem-

bers of the present House of Commons, died

from injuries caused by her dress accidentally

taking fire.

Letter from Rev. Father Seghers at

Rome.

Rome, March 17th, 1870.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—The Right

Reverend Bishop Demers, missing very much

his Colonist, the pioneer of the Press in

British Columbia, has contrived, through the

means of a friend in London, to get it, and

thus, through the channel of your estimable

newspaper, we receive and read, with lively

interest, a great many particulars about a

town and a country which, forthwith, have

all our sympathy.

It does not belong to me to state my

views on the several questions, either political

that is, Father Grady, will not be superse-

ded as the Superior of the Oratorians, sim-

ply because he is not the Superior of the so-

called Orators—in fact he is perhaps no

Oratorian at all, because he left that religious

order years ago. The Papal authorities

have much more important things to look

after than the miserable productions of F.

Grady—and as far as the last sentence is

concerned, either it has no meaning or it con-

tains a base slander against the learned

Archbishop of Malines.

I stop these unpleasant quotations, Mr.

Editor, because I think more is unnecessary

to prove what I stated at the outset and to

put you and your readers on your guard

against all dispatches issued from the news-

manufacturing company called Havas. This

company, which has the monopoly of tele-

graphical commerce, is but too well known

to the Catholic Press in Europe.

I might add a few words about the dogma

of infallibility which seems just now to at-

tract the attention of the whole world, and

concerning which there is among Bishops no

other disagreement than as to the question

whether or not it is the proper time to de-

fine it as an article of our faith. But this

would make my letter too long, and I can

only myself to the expressing of my opinion

that we would all act very wisely if we pa-

tiently waited the decision of the Ecumeni-

cal Council and the explanations which the

Church will readily give to her inquiring

children.

I conclude with stating that after a rainy

and unpleasant winter the glorious weather

of Spring is fastening new life into nature.

I am quiet; the people are content and

satisfied. The influence of strangers has

given an impulse to business, and I dare

say it would be hard to find a city more happy

and blessed than Rome under the paternal

government of Pope Pius IX. Disturbance

and revolution are never lamented here ex-

cept by "Forestieri" (strangers). The Romans

are the first to acknowledge it.

You will oblige me, Mr. Editor, by insert-

ing this letter in your valuable journal.

And believe me yours truly,

F. SEGHERS, PR.

DISSEMBLING PORTRAITS.—The Paris jour-

nals devote the greater portion of their space

to the "Toire trial," and indulge in the min-

utest description of every incident connected

with the proceedings. As a curious illustra-

tion of the extent to which prejudice may

distort the judgment, we contrast two de-

scriptions of the appearance of Prince Pierre

Bonaparte when summoned before the High

Court to listen to the indictment against

him. According to *L'Histoire*, "the accused

is very pale. He has lost that deep com-

plexion, that well-to-do air, which he for-

merly had. He spoke thickly. He wore in

his button-hole the rosette of the Legion of

Honor. In physique, Prince Pierre is a

powerful man, tall and big, with a strong

and deep head, black hair drawn back over

the skull, which is bald, eyes and nose of the

Napoleon stamp, moustache, and short beard

trimmed à la Guise. The manner in which

he wears his coat closely buttoned brings

into prominence his robust chest. *La Mar-**seillaise* describes the Prince as "tall in stature,

of great breadth of shoulders, with swelling

patches, reminding one of a meat dresser (*de-**peccateur*) at one of the *abattoirs* in his Sunday

clothes. His forehead is low, harsh, and re-

treating, the arch of the eyebrows crooked, and

the eyebrows in shape like an antique blade;

the eyes are cold and glassy, the eyelids

red and swollen. The head is partially

bald, the hair forming an angle with his

wolf's ear, brought over to almost the back

of the head, and bordered with enormous

cartilages. His look is insolent, ferocious—

"Shoot down my foes." The nose joining in

a straight line with the neck with ridges of

flesh, such as are seen in the slaughterers

and executioners of antiquity. His face