

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday April 6 1870.

The British Colonial Empire

Possibly few realize the vastness of the Colonial Empire of Great Britain. Let us take a glimpse of it: British India heads the list with its teeming population of 150 million souls, but only an area of 988,901 square miles, British North America stands first in point of extent, having an aggregate area of about three million square miles, but its population rises little above four millions—about one and a half to the square mile. A great amount of filling up to be done here yet. To particularize: The Dominion of Canada as at present bounded has 376,987 square miles and a population of 3,753,000 (presumably four million now); Newfoundland, 40,200 square miles, and 130,000 people; Prince Edward Island, 2173 square miles, and 90,000 inhabitants; British Columbia, 213,000 square miles and a population of 120,000. It is left to the vast intervening territory to make up the balance. And it is this enormous territory, with its innumerable resources, almost a world within itself, out of which is being formed a second British Empire. Not far behind in extent is Australasia, with its 2,582,070 square miles, and a population fast approaching two millions, although only 1,662,068 in 1866. The extent of Western Australia is 978,000 square miles, a territory as large as British India, but with a population of only 21,065, in the year 1866,—being less than a 700th part of that of India. Queensland has 678,000 square miles and a population of 96,172. South Australia 382,328 square miles, with a population of 169,462; New South Wales 323,437 square miles, with a population of 481,412; New Zealand 106,259 square miles, with a population of 208,682; Victoria has been so conspicuous by its great prosperity that people are apt to forget its comparatively small extent—86,831 square miles, but with a population of 747,000. Tasmania comprises 26,215 square miles, with 97,868 inhabitants. The West India Islands contain no more than 12,683 square miles, but the population approaches a million. Jamaica has half the area, 6,400 square miles, and not far from half the population, viz. in the year 1861, 441,225. The Cape of Good Hope and Natal add 216,775 square miles to the British Possessions, with a population of 759,216; Cayen 24,700 square miles and 2,088,027 people; Mauritius 708 square miles and 310,000 of population; British Guiana 76,000 square miles and 118,000 people; and 26,500 people. In other colonies and possessions—the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, West African settlement, Labuan, St. Helena, the eight Falkland, Bermuda, Gibraltar, Malta—being the extent of the possessions of the Kingdom beyond the sea, up to over four and a half million square miles, and their population to 161,486,000—a number which has doubtless greatly increased since the days of these estimates and enumerations. Including the British North American possessions, and linking the whole to the Mother Country, the Metropolis of this vast domain, the Queen's realm will be found to comprise territory of about seven millions of English square miles, with a population including 200,000,000 souls. The reader may experience a feeling of fatigue in wading through these figures; but it is well that the subjects of a monarch whose flag waves over one-third of the earth's surface, and who rules one-fourth of the earth's population, should bestow an occasional thought upon the subject. We premise these considerations fully to introduce the subject of the Colonial policy of the parent Empire. A painful misapprehension recently took hold of the Colonial mind respecting that policy. The idea got abroad that the Queen held her colonial possessions lightly—was, in fact, altogether indifferent about their retention. The spirit in which this idea was met by colonists everywhere must have afforded gratifying and conclusive proof of loyalty and loving attachment to the Throne. This misapprehension—for there is no longer doubt that it was such—appears to have had its origin in the true-grievousness with which the colonial policy of the present Government is being expressed through East-Gravilly, especially in its application to the very living, yet not generally understood case of New Zealand. It is generally known now that the present Government is in reality only carrying out the policy of previous Governments in this respect. Nor is there any reason to think that the Colonial Empire is held more lightly now than at any former period, but rather the reverse. The great aim of the present policy would appear to be to teach the colonies the important and nearly lesson of self-reliance, and in order to do this apparent harshness may sometimes characterize the administration of colo-

Legislative Council.
The Council went into Committee of the Whole on the Registration of Titles Bill, Mr. Ball in the Chair.
The first and second clauses were passed, and pending discussion on the third clause, the committee rose and reported progress.
Council adjourned to meet at 1 p.m. to-day.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30th 1870.
EDDY'S PETITION.
Dr. Carrall moved that the petition of Peter Eddy be referred to a Select Committee.
The Attorney-General said, the petition was one that should not come before the Council. It was of such a character as would raise up old sores, and too much of this sort of thing had been done already. It was not a regular way to impeach a Chief Justice. He considered this a misapplication of the right of petition to prefer such allegations as this did. It was an abuse of the undoubted right of petition. It would be a bad precedent to allow the motion to prevail. The Committee of this House would have no power authorized to enforce evidence and to compel the production of papers. The proceedings therefore before the Committee must be necessarily *ex parte* and irregular; only one side of the question could be heard, which is opposed to the English sense of justice. If it is proposed to have a new trial, this is an inadequate mode. If the petitioner could say there was no other remedy, there might be some slight show for carrying it to the House. Assuming every allegation put forth in the petition to be true, then the reasons for the objection urged by him, (the Attorney-General) would apply with full force.
Mr. Ring said, many a time and oft has this House been encumbered with petitions calling for a Court of Appeal. We cannot form ourselves into a Court of Appeal. The Courts of law in England invite appeal, and instead of being met with a similar benefit here we are denied the right. We trusted that such a state of things should cease and that a Court of Appeal would be established at once. To discuss matters of this sort, we could not enter into the merits of the case here. It would be idle to do so. He would impress upon the Executive the crying necessity of having a Court of Appeal established at once, that one person should not have power over the life and fortune of one poor struggling man—that he should deprive a man of his life and property. He would therefore move as an amendment that, in the opinion of this Council, a Court of Appeal should be established as soon as possible, in order that the petitioner may have an opportunity of bringing his case before it.
Mr. Robson was sorry to observe a disposition on the part of the Attorney-General to kill the petition without allowing members perhaps less familiar than himself with the circumstances of this particular case, an opportunity of dealing with it on its own merits. This was no time to say the petition had no right here. It was before the House, and it now became honorable members to faithfully discharge a sacred and important duty—a duty they owe not only to the petitioner, but to those gentlemen who impugned. One of these gentlemen, who as a member of this House, had expressed a desire for investigation, and it was due to all concerned that such investigation should not be buried. It was objected that this was an attempt to rake up old sores, but we regarded it rather as an attempt to get rid of an old, festering sore, and we believed that judge, jury and sheriff would all desire investigation. The right of petition was a most sacred one, and it was the duty of the House alike to preserve it and to guard it against abuse.
He thought it would be doing justice to the parties accused instead of an injury; and the public mind might be dissipated of prejudice and possible misapprehension. What do we find, as a matter of fact? A man coming here, who is not able to appeal to the Privy Council. It is utterly impossible to avail himself of such a course, and he takes the course open to every man—the sacred right which belongs to every subject of the Queen. Let us, then, approach the matter in the light of our responsibilities, and do an act of justice to the petitioner, and not deal with the matter in the way proposed by the Attorney-General. Let justice be done.
Mr. Alston said he opposed the reception of the petition in the first instance and he would also now oppose its reference to a Select Committee. It was entirely a question of law and justice, and one that had been decided by the Courts. Suppose all the statements in this petition are true, nothing can be done by this Council in the matter. A Court of Appeal is the only remedy.
Mr. Humphreys said the country had suffered enough already in such matters, and without a Court of Appeal there was no other remedy than the one taken by the petitioner. The right of petition was a sacred thing, and this man had taken every means within his power to do this in his only resource. Whether the allegations were true or false it was the duty of the Council to inquire into the matter. Such cases had the effect of bringing the Courts of the colony into disrepute. He would, therefore, move as an amendment that the petition be submitted to a Committee of the Whole, and that the petitioner, with counsel, be heard at the Bar of the House.
Mr. Wood thought it very desirable that the matter should be investigated in order to clear the character of the officers of the Court, but the charges were of such a character that they could not be dealt with by this Council. Who ever heard of the House of Commons in England sitting in judgment on the acts of the Courts? It was not competent for this House to form itself into a Court of law. The Executive body is the proper one to deal with this matter. The fact of a man being poor and unable to carry an appeal to the Privy Council was no excuse. It was his duty to go to the Courts and defend himself. If a petition was sent to the Colonial Office in England and believed an investigation would be ordered into the matter at once. Such a petition would pass immediately under the eye of the Queen and could not go unnoticed.
Mr. DeCosmos said the petition contained many grave charges; and if he thought there was one fact of vindictiveness in the petition he would burn it rather than entertain it. If, however, it bears on its face that injury has been done by somebody, and it seemingly does, he did not say by whom, and it is the duty of

the Council to redress injury, the petition should be entertained. He was not prepared to say how far he did not know with other course could be taken than the one proposed by the hon. member for Lillooet. That this House should point out some responsible way, he was prepared to maintain. He thought the Council ought to have the matter explained by those who were better informed than any in the Council.
Mr. Holburn said he was opposed to referring the matter to a Select Committee. He said to entertain petitions of this character would be a great injury to commercial men who treated their goods to parties to take up the country and after selling them refuse to pay for them. They would have no protection whatever from the Courts of law.
Mr. O'Reilly said he was quite willing to have the fullest investigation into the matter and would court inquiry rather than offer any opposition.
Mr. Drake moved the following amendment: That the petition of Peter Eddy be referred to His Excellency the Governor, with a recommendation that His Excellency will take the same into consideration and grant such relief as the nature of the case demands.
He agreed with those who said this Council could not deal with the subject properly, and he felt sure the Executive Government would give the petition all the consideration it deserved.
Mr. Alston seconded the amendment of Mr. Drake. He said that appointing a committee was of no possible use, and related the case of a Council committee which had been appointed to consider a petition of Mr. Nicholson against the action of the Chief Justice of Vancouver Island. The result was that none of the officers of the Court would attend the summons of the committee, nor could the committee compel the production of any documents in the case. Or, if the Chief Justice should attend on the committee proposed to be appointed, what would be the effect? Only to negative what the petition affirmed. He knew as a matter of fact that Mr. Eddy had been injured—but there was no power here to deal with the matter. The Executive could find a way to deal with the matter.
The Attorney-General asked what the Executive could do in case they found all the complaints in the petition true?
Mr. Walker—They could establish a Court of Appeal either permanently or temporarily. This Council could not sit in review on the Courts.
Dr. Carrall said he would accept the amendment of the honorable junior member for Victoria city. He thought a man without money could obtain no redress by an appeal to England without some strong influence. He saw more and more the necessity of a Court of Appeal in this Colony, and he hoped the hon. Attorney-General would take the matter in hand and effect it. There was this fact before them: Mr. Eddy owed a debt of \$1500, and it cost from \$10,000 to \$12,000 to pay it—and the man has no redress. He would support the amendment, and hoped the Executive might provide redress.
The motion to refer the petition to the Executive was carried—12 to 3.

THE DELEGATE KINK.—A deputation of James DeGrupe from the DeLago Fire Company had an interview with His Excellency the Governor yesterday, for the purpose of seconding the action of the Legislative Council in recommending a grant of \$1000 towards assisting the Company in paying for the best steam engine just received from England. Our readers are already aware that His Excellency had informed the Company of his inability to comply with the recommendation, on account of there being no available funds. The gentlemen of the deputation were very courteous in their manner, and their representations were treated with every attention. Although the Governor could not hold out much encouragement, yet it is still hoped that the grant may be made available. In proof of goodwill and the interest felt in the Company, His Excellency generously subscribed \$50 from his private purse towards its funds.
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.—The Bishop of Columbia has communicated to the Dean and Committee here the pleasing intelligence that a Church of England clergyman has contributed £200 to defray the expense of preparing the plans and specifications for the new Cathedral by one of the first London architects. The donor of this handsome sum in 1869, presented St. John's Church with its powerful organ.
JUDICIAL.—A Government Gazette Extraordinary, issued yesterday, announces the resignation of Mr. Needham as Chief Justice of Vancouver Island; and the merging of the two Supreme Courts under the provisions of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1869, with Mr. Begbie as Chief Justice. Mr. Needham received his commission at San Francisco on Wednesday and immediately notified the Governor of the fact, by telegram.
DEPARTURE OF THE ENTERPRISE.—About 60 passengers and 50 tons of freight went up by the Enterprise yesterday for the Mainland. Some thirty of the passengers were bound for Peace River. The bulk of the miners now in town will delay departure until the opening of navigation shall have been ascertained by the return of the river steamer Oward from Yale.
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.—About 9 1/2 o'clock Wednesday night an attempt was made to enter the grocery store of Mr. O'Neil, corner of Broad and Pandora streets. The attempt was foiled by the vigilance of the proprietor, who had been absent for half an hour. A white man, apparently been dropped in the yard, which was in his flight, when he was seen to make a final attempt to enter the store.
The Bishop of Columbia and Mrs. Hill are not expected to return before the beginning of 1871, and funds have been set out by the Bishop to pay arrears of salaries to the end of 1869.
FIRE INQUIRY.—An inquiry into the North Vancouver fire was held yesterday, and another Indian arrested on suspicion. A vessel of incendiaries was returned.
DEAD.—General Thomas, commander of the US forces on this coast, died at San Francisco on Wednesday. Gen. Thomas spent some days in Victoria last year.

Dominion Mail Summary.
We have Canadian exchanges to the 8th inst. The news from Red River was attracting a good deal of attention. The latest edition of the New Nation had been approved as it contained something which the Winnipeg authorities preferred should not meet the eye of the outside world. Gaudy, the captured scout, was taken out for execution by some officers; they were returned and reported that the execution was carried out, and Gaudy had not since been seen dead or alive. Doubt existed as to whether he had been executed. Commissioners to treat with the Canadian Government for the admission of the Red River Settlement were reported on their way to Ottawa. In the course of debate in the Canadian Commons, Sir Francis Hicks stated that the subject of renewal of the reciprocity treaty was at present under the consideration of the United States Government, and he advised delay in the proposed changes in the customs tariff with a view to protecting Canadian industries, as there was every reason to expect a renewal of reciprocal commercial relations between the two countries, a prospect which might be injuriously influenced by hasty legislation. There is, nevertheless, a strong feeling in favor of meeting American produce with a protective duty. An official return shows that wheat exports from Canada to the United States, during the fiscal year '68-'69 the amount of wheat imported into Canada was 6,131,842 bushels, of which 5,808,902 bushels were from the United States. Mr. Oliver moved in the House of Commons an address praying for the imposition of duties on wheat, flour, Indian corn, hops, salt, and bituminous coal imported from the United States. The death of Sir William Colebrook, at Salt Hill, Bucks, is announced. Sir William was Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick from 1841 to 1858. He died at the advanced age of 83 years. It is stated that Sir John Young will go to Red River as soon as Parliament meets, which it was expected would be about the 10th April. In reply to an enquiry, Sir John A. McDonald said it was the intention of the government to keep a sufficient armed force in Canadian waters to enforce the fishery laws, and that a certain number of armed vessels would be kept as usual by the imperial government. The laws would be enforced and the fishery interests of the Dominion fully protected. Several public meetings have recently been held throughout Prince Edward Island to consider the proposed terms of union, and although they have, in some instances, been noisy and the issue not very distinct, yet there is observable an unmistakable tendency towards Confederation, most persons regarding it as the inevitable destiny of the Island. The leading newspapers of the Island appear to realize the substantial advantages of union and only regard it as a question of time and terms. Referring to the 'Bill of Rights' adopted by the Council Extraordinary recently held at Fort Garry, the substance of which was published in these columns a few days ago, the Ottawa Citizen remarks: 'These are pretty extensive demands and in some respects may require modification, although most of them can be conceded. The change in the form of government from that proposed by the Dominion is not great, except the demand for the unconstitutional privilege that the Legislature shall override the Governor's veto by a two-thirds vote. This is American, not British. We gather from the report of the Convention in the New Nation, that the delegates will be empowered to yield some of their demands; that the Committee reported to the Convention to ask \$15,000 a year for schools and bridges, with the remark that they might as well ask plenty if they did not get it all. This looks as if they expected to abate their demands.' The elevator of the Northern Railway in Toronto, was destroyed by fire on the 28th February. Loss \$200,000.
The Best Time to Skim Milk
EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—The following, extracted from the Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette, may possibly be worthy the attention of some of your readers:
When milk is allowed to sour before it is skimmed the layer of cream appears more bulky and of greater consistency, but it does not produce so much nor so good a quality of butter as cream properly raised and skimmed from milk before it sours. On this point we possess some interesting experiments by Lannet, who set aside the equal quantities of milk of which the first equal skimming of milk of which the first equal skimming after 30 hours, yielded 30 lbs of butter, and the second, skimming after a space of 60 hours, only 27 lbs of butter. In another experiment, two equal quantities of milk yielded the one when skimmed after 30 hours, 31 lbs of butter; and the other, skimmed after 60 hours, only 29 lbs of butter. In both experiments in which the milk was skimmed after 30 hours' standing, the skim-milk was still less and the cream so thick and less in bulk than that thrown up after 60 hours' standing. The cream which rises first is always richer in butter than that which is thrown up later, and it also possesses more of that peculiar aroma which gives to butter that rich milky flavor and smell which imparts so much of a degree of pleasure in eating it. Of one thing we may be assured, the quicker cream can be made to rise the better the quality; for cream, like all perishable substances, does not preserve its natural properties for any great length of time. Choice butter, however, is not only better when it has been kept a week or more, but it also develops a richness and a creaminess which is not to be found in the milk before it is sour, the cream on the contrary, is allowed to have a pleasant taste before churning.
BLOWING UP THE CHURCH AND FILLING THE HOUSE WITH FIRE.—The New Nation has just published a very interesting article on the blowing up of the church at Winnipeg, and the filling of the house with fire. The article is a complete and rapid review of the case, and is a very interesting and instructive study. It is a complete and rapid review of the case, and is a very interesting and instructive study. It is a complete and rapid review of the case, and is a very interesting and instructive study.

Express STAGES
Soda Creek
Enterprise
EVER MINES
Graphic Views
RUEFF,
wing Goods
Market Rates:
FRENCH VINEGAR
DRIED APPLES
CHEESE
JULES RUEFF
DUCH LOZENGERS