

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 5.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1864. NO. 21.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.
(Sundays Excepted,
AT VICTORIA, V. I.
TERMS:—
For Six Months, \$10 00
For One Year, \$20 00
Per Week, payable to the Carrier, 6 00
Single Copies, 25
Advertisements inserted on the most reasonable terms.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

L. P. FLEMING is our only authorized Agent for the collecting of advertisements, etc., in San Francisco.
AGENTS:—
John Meakin, Nanaimo
Mr. Clarkson, New Westminster
Kimball & Gladwin, Yale
Barnard's Express, Forks Quennelle, B. C.
W. R. Barrage, Comox
J. M. Daly, Douglas
L. P. Fisher, San Francisco
F. Aigar, Clements Lane, London
G. Street, 30 Cornhill, London.

THE GOVERNOR AND THE DEPUTATIONS.

From the first speech of His Excellency at Esquimaux to his reply on Saturday to the Clergy of the Church of England, we cannot refrain from expressing our gratification. The tone of liberality and good sense which pervades them all—the clear, manly way in which every hitherto conflicting interest has been met, augurs well for the future. Governor Kennedy has taken his stand on the only tenable foundation for a successful Colonial ruler—he has asserted that he knows but one party, and that party the people. Although enunciating sentiments which must have jarred occasionally on the feelings of a few, his straightforward manner in dealing with all the subjects that have come up before him, has won the respect of everyone. In a community like our own, so diversified and heterogeneous, many a Governor would have shirked, at the outset of his career, questions which formed special subjects of controversy among themselves—or which would have dealt with them in a general manner. No so, however, Governor Kennedy. He boldly takes his stand as a man who has seen much of those difficulties which are generally to be found in communities of crude formation. He sees at a glance the little crevices, which we, in our relative ideas of magnitude, convert into vast chasms. Looking from a higher stand point he is able to take a more comprehensive view than those whose minds revolve round a contracted surface. His observation is not obstructed by his own or his neighbor's house, but takes within its range the vast area of the public good.

There are two subjects upon which His Excellency has spoken that deserve more than a passing notice—publicity in the affairs of Government, and education of the people. With regard to the former the Legislative Council were no doubt rather taken aback by His Excellency's abrupt question in connection with their secret sittings, and appear to have been startled into very irreconcilable answers. One or two members denied that they had sat with closed doors, while another, the President, stated they were obliged to do so, on account of the Executive frequently sitting with the Legislative Council; although they would have admitted any one who chose to apply. It was clear the members found themselves in a disagreeable position, and hence their extraordinary attempt to deny what had been until the last week or so a fact not only known to every one in the colony, but commented on time and again by the press. It is not, however, for this interview of the Council that we are indebted for the knowledge of His Excellency's desire for publicity in all the branches of Government. In our local columns it will be seen that Governor Kennedy has distinctly expressed himself anxious to afford to the public, through the press, every information that is not in its very nature strictly private. We can scarcely overrate the good effect which this is likely to produce. One of the greatest drawbacks in the past was the impolitic reticence of the Government on all matters of public importance. On the mind of a discontented population this secrecy acted most mischievously. It forced upon it that pressure which bursts the boiler and explodes the shell. It gave to things comparatively harmless in themselves, a confinement that made them dangerous. Secrecy is the mother of suspicion, and suspicion soon engenders disquietude, disaffection and discontent. Publicity, on the contrary, is the grand safety valve. It gives the steam worked up by political agitation a vent, and renders the demagogue, as well as the "wire-walker" innocuous. It creates and fosters that confidence between the governing and

the governed, which is the surest guarantee of a country's prosperity. The represented as well as the representatives, being made conversant with the actual state of affairs, an active interest is at once created in the government of the country, and the greatest stimulant is given to the public mind. It is in fact the greatest safeguard against blunders, defalcations and wrongs.

The conversational speech of Governor Kennedy to the Church of England clergymen will be found in another column. It embraces the education question in its most important bearings. His Excellency believes not in the non-sectarian and common school system, looks with disfavor on a multiplicity of schools in a small population; and wishes to see the boys, who are to act in after years together as men, brought up together at school. At the present juncture, we are extremely fortunate in getting a Governor whose ideas on this important question are unclouded by the antiquated prejudices of well-meaning but mistaken clergymen. Our population has been suffering the very ill detailed by His Excellency as likely to result from the absence of a national or common system of education. We have been struggling for five years with the most imperfect means of instruction,—with a multitude of small schools,—with division instead of union, discord instead of harmony. The remarks of the Governor are, therefore, exceedingly opportune. They come at a moment when the question of education, through legislative neglect, is exciting the greatest commotion—when upwards of a hundred children are running through the streets, their mental culture uncared for. They come when the City Council, with much higher ideas of public duty than the more ambitious body across James Bay, are initiating a movement for the education of our youth; and they come at a time when the bickering and divisions of classes and parties seem for the nonce swallowed up in the general rejoicing over a new regime. As we have said we are gratified at the stand the Governor has taken on every public topic—we are rejoiced that our estimate of the man has turned out correct, and that by the well understood wishes of the people only is the Government to be carried on.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1864.
House met at 11 o'clock.
—Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, Tolmie, Trimble, Duncan, Street, Carwell and Bayley.

INCORPORATION BILL.

House in committee of the whole; Mr. Bayley in the chair.
Mr. Young brought forward the amendments which he had laid before the House at last meeting. (The amendments are too lengthy for publication, but will appear in the reprint of the bill as passed through the committee.—R.R.)

On the clause prescribing the mode of taxation—
Dr. Helmecken said he did not believe the City Council should have power to levy any further taxes on real estate than those already levied by the Government. He was entirely opposed to raising any additional taxes, either upon real estate or on traders' licenses. The real-estate tax was wrong in principle. He laid before the House an amendment to the first amendment of the Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Mr. DeCosmos opposed the Hon. Speaker's amendment; the revenue which would accrue from this amendment would be only in round numbers, \$10,000 a year, he thought, totally inadequate for the purpose. If he had an amendment to offer to those of the Hon. Colonial Secretary it would be that of allowing the Council to levy a tax not exceeding three-eighths of one per cent. instead of one per cent.

Dr. Tolmie said his experience among the citizens was that taxes were already too heavy and should be reduced instead of increased. This city was far better provided with streets, sewers, &c., than many older and wealthier towns on this coast.

Mr. Young's amendments were then passed, and the remaining clauses in the printed bill were also passed, amended to agree with the previous portion of the bill.

The Committee then rose and reported the bill complete, and the House ordered it to be printed, when it will be re-committed on Monday next.

The House adjourned.

MONDAY, APRIL 4th, 1864.
House met at 3:15 p. m. Members present—Messrs. Young, Powell, Street, Bayley, Dennes.

INCORPORATION BILL.
The printed copies of the Incorporation Bill as passed through committee, were laid before the House, and Wednesday next was fixed on which to recommit the bill.

The following communications from His Excellency were laid before the House.

PRIVATE SECRETARY FOR THE GOVERNOR.
VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, 2nd April, 1864.
To the Honorable the Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

GENTLEMEN—I find upon examination of the sums voted for services during the current year that no provision has been made by way of salary for the Private Secretary to the Governor of the Colony.

I forward herewith the copy of a despatch dated 11th September, 1863, conveying to me the views upon this subject of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Acting upon that despatch I have selected and appointed a Private Secretary, and I feel sure that it is not necessary that I should urge upon the

Assembly the propriety of placing me in a position to award a salary to a functionary so requisite to the Representative of the Crown to enable him to discharge his duties in a fitting and becoming manner.

I take this opportunity of also forwarding to the Assembly the copy of a despatch dated the 9th January, 1864, from the Secretary of State, pointing out that as this Colony possesses a Representative Assembly the passage of money of my Private Secretary cannot be defrayed from Imperial funds.

I further inclose an extract from the Colonial Regulations showing the limit within which the expense of the passage to colonies of officers appointed from home is defrayed from public funds, and in reference thereto, I would submit to the Assembly the propriety of appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) to reimburse the outlay already incurred for the passage from England to this Colony of my Private Secretary.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
A. E. KENNEDY,
Governor.

THRILLING NARRATIVE.

Mr. Ernest Walker, a passenger on board the schooner Amelia, who arrived yesterday from Benluc Arm, where he owns a ranch, has favored us with the following authentic particulars of the Benluc Arm tragedy, reports of which have from time to time reached this city. We give the narrative in Mr. Walker's own words.

In the month of December last, finding that we were getting short of fresh provisions at Bella Coolla a man named Edward Johnson, a native of Kentucky, aged about 37, and myself with a *calico* Bella Coolla Indian, named Tit-tas, started in a canoe on a shooting expedition to King's Island situated about 35 miles down.

We left on the 2nd December and made a good run down to the island where we landed and camped a few yards from the shore. We had no tent but put up a boat sail to break the wind. We had with us a double Enfield rifle, both barrels of which were loaded, and a double shot gun, one barrel being loaded with No. 4 shot. We retired to sleep on the second night, the rifle and gun resting close by us. Between 10 and 11 o'clock I awoke from a loud report of a gun. I did not raise myself, but on glancing round saw my poor companion Johnson roll over and after striving one or two times to

PRINCE OF WALES' MARRIAGE.

VICTORIA, Vancouver Island, 2nd April, 1864.
To the Honorable the Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to transmit for your information the copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 21st January, 1864, acknowledging the receipt of an address from your honorable House on the occasion of the Prince of Wales' marriage.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
A. E. KENNEDY,
Governor.

DOWNING STREET, 21st January, 1864.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, on the subject of a Private Secretary.

His Grace desires me to say that he is clearly of opinion that you ought to have a Private Secretary, for where two hundred and fifty pounds would be a very proper provision. No such provision, however, has been made by the Local Legislature, or proposed to them as part of the arrangement by which they are to obtain possession of the Land Fund. His Grace is, therefore, unable to guarantee the salary of a Private Secretary. But in handing over to the Legislature the Crown Revenue of the Island, you will be at liberty to urge upon them the propriety of making this provision on the Civil List, and in case it shall be made, or on the chance of their making it, to select for yourself a Private Secretary. More than this, the Duke of Newcastle regrets that he is unable to do under present circumstances.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.
To Captain Kennedy, C. B.

THRILLING NARRATIVE.

Mr. Ernest Walker, a passenger on board the schooner Amelia, who arrived yesterday from Benluc Arm, where he owns a ranch, has favored us with the following authentic particulars of the Benluc Arm tragedy, reports of which have from time to time reached this city. We give the narrative in Mr. Walker's own words.

In the month of December last, finding that we were getting short of fresh provisions at Bella Coolla a man named Edward Johnson, a native of Kentucky, aged about 37, and myself with a *calico* Bella Coolla Indian, named Tit-tas, started in a canoe on a shooting expedition to King's Island situated about 35 miles down.

We left on the 2nd December and made a good run down to the island where we landed and camped a few yards from the shore. We had no tent but put up a boat sail to break the wind. We had with us a double Enfield rifle, both barrels of which were loaded, and a double shot gun, one barrel being loaded with No. 4 shot. We retired to sleep on the second night, the rifle and gun resting close by us. Between 10 and 11 o'clock I awoke from a loud report of a gun. I did not raise myself, but on glancing round saw my poor companion Johnson roll over and after striving one or two times to

appear as if I was also killed. Immediately after a second shot was fired at me with the rifle, the ball passing through my left thigh and lodging in the right. The middle finger of my right hand was also smashed and part of the palm shot away. As soon as the culprit, who proved to be our Indian Tit-tas, had fired the remaining ball at me he left, taking with him the gun and rifle. At this time the blood was streaming from my wounds, and I was feeling faint and sick. For four days this Indian hovered round me with an axe, watching an opportunity to kill me. His face wore a fiendish expression every time he approached, but my faithful dog "Roger," which had accompanied us, was always on the alert, and gave the alarm. I was thus enabled to keep him off until he forced me to leave the island.

I lay in an utterly helpless state, with the poor dead man's head touching me, and his eyes wide open as if he were awake. I could raise my head and shoulders but could not move my body. The only articles within my reach were pistol ammunition and some sugar. Upon the latter I subsisted for 17 days. I had nothing to drink, and the only moisture I could get was by sucking the snow of my blankets. My faithful little dog "Roger" could not get at the provisions either, as they were packed away in a box. The sagacious little animal never left my feet at night, and during the day he would run down to the water side to eat mussels, and immediately return to me. He never appeared to sleep at night, but was always on the watch. I think the wolves used occasionally to venture near, as he would bark furiously and seem much excited. During the daytime we were sometimes visited by crows, which upon too near approach were driven off by "Roger."

The wretch Tit-tas after leaving me proceeded to Bella Coolla, where he reported to the Indians that he had killed both of the white men.

One day he went out hunting with a petty chief called Tom, when he informed him he had shot me through the stomach, and believed that by that time I must be dead, he therefore proposed that they should visit the spot where he had mentioned this to him before, and readily consented to go with him.

On the 17th night after I had been shot they reached the spot, little Roger, ever watchful, announced their advent long before I was aware of it myself. On seeing them approach, I drew my revolver and clicked it, and they quickly retired. Directly Tit-tas heard my voice he wanted to make a bolt with the canoe, but Tom threatened to shoot him if he did. I spoke to them in Chinook, and asked if their intentions were friendly, and received a hearty reply in the affirmative, told them to put down their muskets and come up to me, which they did. At this juncture I felt so utterly prostrated and feeble that I believe I must have fainted away, as I do not remember what occurred until the

THRILLING NARRATIVE.

Mr. Ernest Walker, a passenger on board the schooner Amelia, who arrived yesterday from Benluc Arm, where he owns a ranch, has favored us with the following authentic particulars of the Benluc Arm tragedy, reports of which have from time to time reached this city. We give the narrative in Mr. Walker's own words.

In the month of December last, finding that we were getting short of fresh provisions at Bella Coolla a man named Edward Johnson, a native of Kentucky, aged about 37, and myself with a *calico* Bella Coolla Indian, named Tit-tas, started in a canoe on a shooting expedition to King's Island situated about 35 miles down.

We left on the 2nd December and made a good run down to the island where we landed and camped a few yards from the shore. We had no tent but put up a boat sail to break the wind. We had with us a double Enfield rifle, both barrels of which were loaded, and a double shot gun, one barrel being loaded with No. 4 shot. We retired to sleep on the second night, the rifle and gun resting close by us. Between 10 and 11 o'clock I awoke from a loud report of a gun. I did not raise myself, but on glancing round saw my poor companion Johnson roll over and after striving one or two times to

SUMMARY COURT.

[REPORT BY CAMERON & J.]
MONDAY, 4th April.
A number of summaries bills for debt were taken before the court:
Clark v. Wilson. Action for \$91, balance claimed for wages. Plaintiff obtained judgment at a previous court through an error.
Defendant disputed the claim on the ground that he had taken the plaintiff in his employ during the hard season at \$30 per month with board and lodging, which had been paid him, and plaintiff now claimed \$60 per month.
Dennes for plaintiff, Bishop for defendant. The court held that the balance of proof was in favor of defendant and gave judgment accordingly.
Sandwich v. Trutch. This was a claim for extra wages on work done on the road in British Columbia.
Defendant disputed the claim and called his foreman to prove that he was entitled only to common wages. Mr. Trutch was also examined. After considerable argument the court gave judgment for defendant.
The case was of some importance as between contractors and road men.
Dennes for plaintiff, Drake for defendant.

ITALY AND AUSTRIA.
PARIS, Feb. 3.—The *Patrie* of this evening publishes, under reserve, the news that the Italian Government had protested against fortifications being erected in Austria, near Peschiera, in contravention of the treaty of 1859.
The *Pays* of this evening announces that Austria is making armaments on the Minco.

INDIA.

BOMBAY, Jan. 14.—Sir John Lawrence, the new Viceroy of India, arrived at Calcutta on the 12th inst.
The war on the frontier is at an end, and the force employed against the hill tribes has been broken up.

THE "AQUILA"—TWO on the Aquila being prosecuted vigorously, over 100 tons having been got up this week by the use of one gang of divers. The main portion got out during this time has been shot and shell and grape and canister, of which there was on board over 200 tons. At noon to-day, the divers had sent up over 60 shells and cases of grape and canister. From Capt. Merritt we learn that he has delayed raising the 15-inch guns until the last of the cargo, instead of getting them up by this time as was expected. This change in his plan is owing to the report of the divers, who state that the guns, boilers and pilot house are bedded on 350 tons bulk of timbers amidship. The weight of these articles keeps down the timber which in case of removal would float up and jeopardize the life of a diver by jamming his life-ropes and air-hose against the deck. The plan now is to remove all that can be got at before attempting the removal of the guns, etc. It is expected that if no mishap unforeseen occurs, attempts to raise the ship will be made in about three weeks from date. When it is considered that the first operations on the wreck began on the 25th of January, the fact that 19 lighter loads, averaging 38 tons each, have been got out to date, is very promising for the speedy raising of the ship.—*Bulletin*.

In 5474/64