The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, March 21, 1865.

MR. CARDWELL AND CONFEDER ATION.

It is something for colenists to know the character of the Secretary for the Colonies. which, concentrating the scattered colonial There is always a potency for good or ill in the Minister who superintends, from Downing street, the colonial empire of Great ence will be felt on every portion of the Britain, If he is illiberal, supercilious, or weak minded, the younger branches of the colonial family are bound to suffer; if, on the other hand, he possesses broad views, a willingness to receive suggestions, and a firmness of purpose, there are additional guarantees afforded for a bright colonial destiny. Since the appointment of Mr. Cardwell to the head of the Colonial Office we have had few opportunities of judging of his capacity or disposition. What little could be gleaned from public prints gave us the idea that he was a man of the old routine school, bandaged and bound up by red tape, and about the last official in the world to move out of the beaten track to assist the colonies in the mere mature developments of their strength. Certainly he was the last man to indulge in those glowing aspirations which formed so marked a characteristic of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. Our latest English papers, however, bring out Mr. Cardwell in a light for which, we confess, we were scarcely prepared. Hard and dry and matter-of-fact as he may be, he yet nevertheless shows, in his colonial duties, a something beyond the mere utilitarian views, which have become of late so fascinating to English statesmen. Mr. Cardwell sees in and Oregon telegraph lines to that point, and the colonial empire not a drain on the re- also to examine into the relative practicability sources of the mother country, but something to be nourished to be fashioned and to be moulded into additional pillers for the support of that gigantic fabric which stretches from the Arctic ocean to the Falkland Islands, and from New South Wales to first and most practicable one (and which is Newfoundland. "I believe," says Mr. Cardwell, "that England may be proud to be the mother of such colonies, and that the day may come in the future when they will be both able and willto repay the assistance and protection which they have received from the mother country and when England speaking as the parent of those distant communities, may be glad to have her quiver full of them, for that she will not then be afraid to speak with her enemy at the gate." Entertaining these views, Mr. Cardwell is almost enthusiastic in his co-operation with the North American Provinces in their scheme of federation. Indeed, it would appear, as we have before surmised, that his project is really an emanation of Her Majesty's Government. "In this federative movement." says the London Times, commenting on Mr. Cardwell's despatch to Lord Monck, withe Crown was not merely an assenting party, it actually took the initiative, and used the machinery at its disposal for the purpose of giving an impulse to the movement."

All this explains why the scheme of North American federation met with so unanimous an approval by the English Cabinet and the English press. Indeed it would seem that the Imperial authorities are more solicitous, if possible, for its success than the Canadians themselves. The suggestions of Mr. Cardwell in reference to the Upper House of the Federation not only show that the matter has received a careful scrutiny, but indicate a larger amount of liberality than that evinced by the framers of the measure themselves. In the proposed constitution, the members of the Legislative Council hold their seats for life ; but the Secretary for the Colonies points out the danger of this conservatism. He supposes an instance of the two Houses coming to a dead-lock. With the House of Commons and the House of Lords any serious breach is readily healed by that menace on the part of the Commoners to increase, in conjunction with the Crown, the number of peers; but in the Confederation constitution there is no provision to increase at will the number of the members of the Upper House. The Times suggests the system of a certain ratio of the members going out by rotation, something after the style take to the latter port Mr. James Gamble, of the United States Senate. A second objection is raised against the proposition to in completing the telegraph line to New give the Lieut Governors the pardoning power. " This duty " says Mr. Cardwell, " belongs to the representative of the Sovereign, and could not with propriety be devolved upon the Lieut.-Governors, who will under the scheme be appointed, not directly by the Crown, but by the Central Government of the United Provinces." Beyond another point of discussion in reference to the line of demarcation between the local and federal powers, Mr. Cardwell concurs in the tenor of the proposed constitution. He sees in the aspirations of the colonists nothing tending to lower the influence of the mother country, but rather a noble striving after nationality. "There is no subject of the Queen of Eng-land," says the Secretary for the Colonies "who wishes now to depart from the British Constitution; and it is in a spirit of loyalty to the British Throne, in a close attachment to the British Crown, and in devotion to British in stitutions that the Canadians have desired to

form all the northern provinces of the east- ARRIVAL OF THE SHUBRICK. ern coast into one great contederation. We are glad to see such ideas entertained by the Secretary for the Colonies; because, situated as we are, helpless as well as isdlated, our greatest aspiration, whether in material or national point of view, is to be come part and parcel of that Confederacy elements from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will rapidly grow into a power whose influ-American continents a office

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH

The U. S. steam cutter Shubrick, Capt. afternoon, bringing Col. J. S. Bulkley, General Superintendent of the Russian-Ameriparations for the reception of the main party which is to perform the labor during the coming spring and summer. Dr. Fisher will remain at Sitka and gather all the information possible concerning the country and its resources during the winter, and have maps prepared so far as possible from those used by the Russian trading companies. The Shubrick will probably stop at the Stekin river, either on her up or return trip, for the purpose of gleaning information concerning the interior of the country from the miners who have sought the vicinity of the coast for winter quarters. The knowledge of the in terior gained by them in their search for gold may be of great service to the telegraph expedition during the approaching campaign.

Mr. Gamble goes to New Westminster to arrange for the completion of the California of the different routes for connecting this city with the main line by submarine cable. The line is now completed to within from 20 to 25 miles from New Westminster, and its completion to that point is but a question of lew days time. There are two routes provery likely to be adopted) strikes the line about fifteen miles south of Bellingham Bay, crosses Fidalgo, Lopez and San Juan Islands, roule requires twenty miles of cable—one nition of the French and Austrian authorities crossing requiring 13½ miles, being longer in Mexico by our government. The than the entire submarine cable by the first. named route.

Island and New Westminster.

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH BILL-The bill providing for the construction of a telegraph line through British Columbia, connecting the systems of the United States and communication between Dick Taylor in Russia is published in full in the last Government Gazette. The preamble states the same time it will afford a covering for that "Whereas Perry MacDonough Collins, Selina and Montgomery. Hood has split up. a citizen of the United States of North his old army, and is marching part of it to America, has obtained from the Governments of Russia and the United States the right to make and maintain a line of telegraph whereas Her Majesty's Government desires cordially to co-operate in the establishment and maintenance of such line"—be it enacted, &c., &c. The bill then proceeds to grant the required privileges, among thick are the right to erect block houses and siderable portion of his irregular cavalry. through their respective territories; and which are the right to erect block houses and defence posts for the protection of the line. He evidently designs abandoning west Mistanuary let, 1867, and to be completed in country between Mobile and the Ohio rails three years from that date. The grants made road and the eastern boundary of Alabama. years, viz., to the year 1903. No exclusive rights whatever are granted. All Government messages are to have precedence, English, Russian and United States messages to be on an equal footing.

FOR THE NORTH.-The U. S. steamer Shubrick, Captain Seammon, will leave early this morning for Sitka by way of San Juan Island and New Westminster. She will and the additional workmen to be engaged Westminster, Col. Charles S. Bulkeley, Dr. Fisher, and M. Pelitz, will proceed in her to the Russian possessions, calling at Stekin. The Doctor, as we have previously stated, will remain for the present at Sitka to make preparations for the exploration northward during the summer, while the gallant colonel will return in the course of three weeks to Victoria, which he will make his head, quarters for the general superintendence and direction of the great undertaking entrusted by the company to his able management. May every success crown the efforts of these gentlemen to carry the evidences civilization through the vast untrodden wilds of this great northern sontinent, and to add the last ligament to the stupendous girdle that will, ere long, encircle the entire globe. Truly this is an age of marvels and wonders.

DEATHUR OF CARDINAL WISEMAN .- This notable Roman Catholic Prelate, who had been lingering for some time, had died at the last advices from England, and was baried with great pomp and ceremony the procession extending over three miles.

Later Eastern News.

CALIFORNIA NEWS, &c.

The U. S. steamer Shubrick, Captain Scammon, arrived in Esquimalt harbor Monday afternoon at four o'clock, and saluted the flag of the senior officer on the station on board the Cameteon, which was duly acknowledged by Commander Jones.

The Shubrick left San Francisco on the 7th, and experienced severe weather from the N. W., which caused her to put into Drake's Scammon, arrived in Esquimalt Monday Bay for shelter. On Sunday evening it blew violently from the eastward accompanied by sleet and hail and thick weather. The galcan telegraph line, Dr. Fisher, surgeon of lant little vessel scudded before the gale and the expedition, with a corps of draftsmen and rounded Cape Flattery safely yesterday others; also James Gamble, Esq., supering morning. She brings as passengers Mr. Jas. tendent of the California State Telegraph Gamble, Superintendent of the California Company. Col Bulkley intends making pre State Telegraph Company, Col Bulkeley and Dr. Fisher, on exploring service for the Collins' Telegraph line, M. Pelitz, private secretary to Prince Matchusoff, Governor of Sitka, and some workmen to assist in completing the line from Semiahmoo to New Westminster. and how can over cettim mos

> Our files of San Francisco papers are to the 7th inst.

> NEW YORK, March 4th-It is thought here that the Richmond Whig's statement that the railroad from Augusta to Atlanta is not completed is proof that Dick Taylor's forces were not able to reach Sherman's rear in sesson to interfere with his movements. The rebels have evidently had no railway communication west of Augusta since Sherman passed through.

> NEW YORK, March 5th-The Herald's Washington special says: Authentic information from Richmond has been received that Sherman's advance had reached Favetteville, N. C. The despatch also says that Porter's gunboats had reached that point.

Caino, March 4 - The New Orleans Times, of Feb 25th, says: "The reported expulsion of the American consul from Matamoras appears to be confirmed by his arrival at South-West Pass."

NEW ORLEANS, Feb 25th .- The schooner Jane Doran, that was reported lost off the mouth of the Rio Grande, arrived safely to Victoria, and only requires about thirteen month of the Rio Grande, arrived safely miles of cable—the longest crossing being inside the bar. The latest news from eight miles. The other route is from Seattle Matamoras is that the American flag was to Port Madison, from thence to Port auled down by some unknown party. The Gamble, thence to Port Ludlow, to Port Times is informed that the assigned reason Discovery, to Washington Harbour, crossing for Maximilian delivering his passports to to Port Angelos, and thence to Victoria. The our consul at Matamoras is the non-recog-

is reported that Generals Cararajol and Cor-The company have 35 miles of cable now tenas are marching on Matamoras, where n board ship en route to this portentended Mejis, with four thousand Imperial troops,

from New York direct expected to arrive here rivers. The line of the Central Mississipp early in April with 1500 miles of wire and Railroad is to be given up, which yields Jackmaterial for the Collins line. son, Mobile, and Ohio River Railroad to be The Shubrick will sail to-night or to the new line, which it will be their endea-morrow morning for Sitka, via San Juan vour to hold. Brandon, fifteen miles east of Jackson, will be the point at which they will make a stand against the Federal advance. The railroad connecting at Jackson with the central line running east to Mobile and Ohio the last-named road to be their great line of North Alabama and the rebel General Price in a southern position of that state, while at mand of the remainder. A small part of it was doubtless turned over to Forrest, He was returning all his original cavalry force CHICAGO, 6th-The latest report from Mexico via New Orleans and Cairo, is that the Imperialists evince an increasing friend-ship for the rebels. The United States Consul at Matamoras received his passports and the consulate was closed. The report further states that the City of Mexico police had een instructed to arrest all persons express-

ng sympathy for the cause of the Union. WASHINGTON, 5th-The following contains some of the most important features in the Tax Bill as passed by both Houses of Congress: On all incomes exceeding six hundred ollars a tax of five per cent; on all ever five thousand a tax of ten per cent. The tax on cigars is fixed at ten dollars per thousand.

NEW YORK, March 6th .- A Richmond espatch of the 3d says a telegraph from Fayetteville of the 1st, says that at that time no Yankees had advanced in that direction from Wilmington. We have nothing from Sher-man. He is presumed to be in the mud of South Carolina,

The Herald's Winchester correspondent of the 3d says: A few days ago three Winches ter families, by the names of Sherrard, Lee, and Bunnell, were sent out of our lines on a charge of disloyalty. It is said that they conspired together to get up a sociable ball, to which General Sheridan was to be an invited guest, and that during its progress a detachment of Mesby's gang was to seize the General, take him captive, and convey him to

New York, March 6th-The Richmond quirer of the 3d has a long article showhow Sherman and Grant are to be beaten in detail, and then the independence of the Confederacy is to be secured. Gov. Yance is now actively at work, it says, rallying the

people and organising them to resist. It says Grant has stripped every section of the country, and in Western Virginia has not men enough to protect his Generals while sleeping. Richmond papers are confident in the belief that Grant will move the moment the ground is sufficiently hard to permit him to do so. They say they have everything ready for an advance. Our forces are kept watching nightly for Sherman on James river, while the rebels are kept actively watching for deserters from their lines. A portion of the New York 12th Cavalry, and one of the companies of the 1st North Carolina mounted, lately surprised and captured a company of rebel soldiers near Greenville, N. C., and then dashed into town, destroyed commissary

stores, and captured other prisoners.

The Tribune's Wilmington correspondent appounces the arrival there of eight hundred exchanged Union prisoners, sick, starved, emaciated and naked.

CALIFORNIA.

We have files of San Francisco papers to the 7th instant:

A SAN FRANCISCO-BOUND SHIP DESTROYED. A despatch from New York, dated on the 3d instant, has been received by Messrs. C. Adolphe Low & Co., stating that the American ship Susan Howland, bound for San Francisco, was destroyed by fire, which caught accidentally in the after storeroom, off Pernambuco, December 7th; all hands were saved.

No STEAMER ON THE THIRD .- A despatch from New York of the 3d instant, received by a prominent mercantile firm in this city resterday, says: "No steamer sails to-day for Aspinwall." That settles the question of a connection at the Isthmus with the steamer which left here on the 3d .- Bulletin.

CUTTING AFFRAY AT THE OCCIDENTAL MARKET-About half-past six o'clock Saturday night quite a serious cutting affray occurred at the Occidental Market, between John Wellington, the proprietor of an oyster stand, and Alfred Kenyon, who keeps a butter and egg stand, in which both parties were severely cut with cheese knives which they seized in the scuffle. Kenyon received a bad cut on the head, and Wellington was cut about the neck and hands. Wellington was arrested and Kenyon taken to his resi-

A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS INDICTED BY THE GRAND JURY FOR BRIBERY. The Grand Jury yesterday presented a true bill of indictment against Alfred II. Cumraings, accusing him of the crime of bribery The indicament sets forth that on the 10th day of October last, being a member of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, and intending to prostitute and betray the trust and confidence reposed in him, did unlawfully and corruptly propose, offer and agree with one John D. Rice, who was acting in behalf of Hibernia Engine Co. No. 15, to receive from said Rice certain bribes and pecuniary rewards to influence and induce him [Cummings] to be more favorable in his action as Supervisor to said Engine Company in a question and matter of the purchase by the city of certain property belonging to said Engine Company. The property stood in the names of John D. Rice, J. J. Conlin and J. P. Newman, in trust for the Hibernia Engine Company, who desired to sell the same to the city. Cummings is Jose Railroad Company. He was arrested this morning and gave bail in the sum of \$5,000, with James L. King and James T. Boyd as sureties. ban

THREE MEN DROWNED BELOW HALF-MOON BAY - Willard Buzzell, Jack Lott and William Divers were drowned on Saturday afternoon at the mouth of Purissima Creek. about ten miles below Halfmoon Bay, by the up setting of a whaleboat. There were five men in the boat at the time, the other two managing to reach the shore with difficulty.

THE COASTING TRADE.

VICTORIA, March 12th. To the Editor of the British Colonist, Sir :- In your issue of Thursday last you have an article headed "coasting trade thrown open," in which it states: letter of the Attorney General to the Harbor Master states that British vessels have no further advantage over foreign ones than

the flag and the protection it confers."

Now, by the 12 and 13th Victoria, Cap.
29, which alludes to British possessions,
there is an act to amend the laws in force for the encouragement of British shipping and navigation.

Coasting trade in the British Possessions— No goods or passengers will be carried from one port of any British Possession in Asia, Africa or America, to any other port in the same Possession except in British ships.

The Queen in Council may regulate coast-

ing trade of colonies, provided that if the Legislature, or proper Legislative authority of any British Possession, shall present an address to Her Majesty, praying her to authorize or permit the conveyance of goods or passengers from one part of such Possession to another part thereof in other than British ships; or if the Legislature of any two or more Possessions, which for the purposes of this Act Her Majesty shall declare to be neighboring possessions, shall present ad-dresses or a joint address to Her Majesty, praying her to place the trade between them on the footing of a coasting trade, or of otherwise regulating the same so far as relates to the vessels in which it is to be carried, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by order in Council, so to authorize the conveyance of such goods or passengers, or so to regulate the trade between such Possessions as the case may be, under such conditions in either case as to Her Majesty may seem fit.

If this act is not repealed, which I do not believe it is, why do the Government permit.

foreign vessels to interfere with our coasting trade? Will this most unfortunate of British Colonies never get protection? Is it not enough that goods from all parts of the known world are permitted to come in duty free, without interfering with our poor and badly supported coasters, which at present do not get sufficient employment to remune rate them for their outlay?

THE PACIFIC had arrived at Portland with about one thousand passengers bound up

country, to Boise and elsewhere, a boa

PUGET SOUND.

MAIL CONTRACT.—We are informed by Mr. F. M. Sargent, agent for Gen. Miller, that a contrast has been entered into for the Eliza Anderson to carry the mail on the Sound. The steamer will now touch at every port on the Sound, but these places that are easily accessible to smaller craft. The people can now have the satisfaction of knowing that they will be served promptly, and with some regularity.—Pacific Techana. some regularity .- Pacific Tribune.

COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS APPOINTED .- We have definite information that Mr. Frederick A. Wilson, of Port Townsend, has been ap-pointed collector of customs for the Sound district. Mr. Wilson is an eld resident of the Territory, and has long been identified with its commercial interests, and has a thorough knowledge of its shipping business. Besides he is an unflinching Union man, and the appointment was well-bestowed. - Ibid.

FOR LIGHTHOUSE DUTY .- The cutter Joe Lane has been ordered to the Sound, from the harbour of San Francisco, to do lighthouse duty.

ANOTHER FIRE AT FORT VANCOUVER The quarters of Captain Hopkins, at Fort Vancouver was again destroyed by fire on Monday avening last. This is the second time he has been burned out within a few

SEATTLE .- Two men, named Burgess and Thompson, left their logging camp near Hep-derson's Bay suffering from sickness. They were not heard of for a fortnight, when the body of Burgess was found. Their beats were discovered adrift. Thompson has not been reported.

GOLD QUARTZ. - A company is being formed at Seattle to work the gold-bearing quartz ledge discovered by Mr. F. P. Foster in Pearce county, 35 miles from Seattle. It is to be called the Natchess Quartz Mining Company.

MEXICO.

The Paris correspondent of the Times rives a report that France has assured the American Government that there is no truth in the report of the cession of Mexican territory. The transfer is a mere lien on the products of certain mines, as security for French expenses. He also repudiates the ru-mors of the contemplated recognition of the

Southern Confederacy by Napoleon.

The Times' Paris correspondent says the Emperor does not intend to make any interference in our war, and is going to remove all pretext for our interfering with Mexico.

Pope Pius the Ninth has addressed a letter to the Emperor Maximilian on the subject of the Mexican Church. The Pope claims complete freedom of action for the Prelates of the Church, the control of all its property by Archbishops and Bishops, and the exclusion of every dissenting worshipper.

THE NEWS-The news by the Anderson is up to the 9th; there is however nothing startling. Rumor is the principal authority. The capture of Early and his command is still a matter of doubt. The New York Tribune says the troops were captured but one Early. It was rumored that Sherman had defeated Johnson and captured 15,000 prisoners. It is also said that the Federals are representating at Newbern N. C. 40 000 men to aid Sherman, but nothing auther tic is given of Sherman's whereabouts. The result of the elections in New Brunswick have gone against the Confederation scheme: the' we do not anticipate anything but at the worst a very temporary suspension of nego-tiations. The Confederation is bound to be a fixed fact, and not turned aside by any fitful ebullition of the voters of New Brunswick.

TROUBLES OF THE FRIGATE BIRD.—The agents of the British ship Frigate Bird, who went over to Olympia a few days ago to ena deavor to adjust the affairs of the ship and send her on her way, were unable, we understand, to effect any satisfactory arrangement, although they offered to discharge all her liabilities on the Sound. The reason of her detention is said to be that her papers are iu possession of her first officer, Mr. Hamilton, who was lately imprisoned on coming over to this port, and who now refuses to give them up. Mr. James Foley, one of the exploring party under Dr. Brown last summet, is said to have been placed in tempo-rary command of the vessel by the parties at Teckalet, where she now lies.

REFRESHING. - Abuse of England and Englishmen has become so systematical and stereotyped in American journals that it is somewhat refreshing to find any Union paper vouchsafing to accord credit, however meagre, to the policy that the mother country has pursued in reference to the civil war in the States. We find the following remarks in the Oregonian of the 10th:—"It is well understood that Napoleon has had faith in the success of the rebellion, and if England had joined in the act, the Confederate States would have been fully recognized long since; but we owe England the consideration, whatever complaints we may urge against her, to believe that her refusal to act with France saved us from the many perils that would have followed recognition."

CAPTAIN WM: MOORE.-A bankruptcy notice appears in the last number of the Government Gazette, announcing that Wm. Moore, of the steamer Alexandra, has been adjudicated a bankrupt, and calling the first meeting of creditors for Wednesday, March 15th. All persons interested are to send their accounts to Oliver Hare, Esq., the official assignee. New Westminster.

THE SHUBRICK has been transferred from the Revenue service, and is now in fall com-mission as a U. S. man-of-war, carrying the full complement of men for her class.

A LOYAL STAFF. - In the late ballot among the Canadian militia for forces to guard the frontier against a repetition of the St. Alban's braid every employed in the printing office of the Brantford Courier, from the editor down to the printer's devil, was

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