

The Weekly Colonist

Tuesday, March 21, 1865

MR. CARDWELL AND CONFEDERATION

It is something for colonists to know the character of the Secretary for the Colonies. There is always a potency for good or ill in the Minister who superintends, from Downing street, the colonial empire of Great Britain.

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.

form all the northern provinces of the eastern coast into one great confederation. We are glad to see such ideas entertained by the Secretary for the Colonies; because, situated as we are, helpless as well as isolated, our greatest aspiration, whether in a material or national point of view, is to become part and parcel of that Confederacy which, concentrating the scattered colonial elements from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will rapidly grow into a power whose influence will be felt on every portion of the American continent.

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH

The U. S. steam cutter Shubrick, Capt. Scammon, arrived in Esquimaux Monday afternoon, bringing Col. J. S. Bulkeley, General Superintendent of the Russian-American telegraph line, Dr. Fisher, surgeon of the expedition, with a corps of draughtsmen and others; also James Gamble, Esq., superintendent of the California State Telegraph Company.

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 Russia is published in full in the last Government Gazette. The preamble states that "Whereas Perry MacDonough Collins, a citizen of the United States of North America, has obtained from the Governments of Russia and the United States the right to make and maintain a line of telegraph through their respective territories; and whereas Her Majesty's Government desires cordially to co-operate in the establishment and maintenance of such line."

ARRIVAL OF THE SHUBRICK

Later Eastern News

CALIFORNIA NEWS, &c.

The U. S. steamer Shubrick, Captain Scammon, arrived in Esquimaux harbor Monday afternoon at four o'clock, and saluted the flag of the senior officer on the station on board the Camelion, 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 Bay for shelter. On Sunday evening it blew violently from the eastward, accompanied by sleet and hail and thick weather.

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 season to interfere with his movements.

New York, March 5th.—The Herald's Washington special says: Authentic information from Richmond has been received that Sherman's advance had reached Fayetteville, N. C. The dispatch also says that Porter's gunboats had reached that point.

Cairo, March 4.—The New Orleans Times, of Feb 25th, says: "The reported expulsion of the American consul from Matamoros 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 inside the bar. The latest news from Matamoros is that the American flag was hauled down by some unknown party.

New York, March 5.—Canton (Miss) Citizen states plainly that all west Mississippi is to be evacuated by the rebel leaders, and that no effort will be made to hold any of the country between Yazoo and Big Black rivers.

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: "The 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."

CHICAGO, 6th.—The latest report from Mexico via New Orleans and Cairo, is that the Imperialists evince an increasing friendship for the rebels. The United States Consul at Matamoros received his passports and the consulate was closed. The report further states that the City of Mexico police had been instructed to arrest all persons expressing 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 dollars a tax of five per cent; on all over 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 despatch 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 Sherman. 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 Winchester 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 Mosby's gang was to seize the General, take him captive, and convey him to Richmond.

NEW YORK, March 6th.—The Richmond Enquirer of the 3d has a long article showing how Sherman and Grant are to be beaten in detail, and then the independence of the Confederacy is to be secured. Gen. Vance is now actively at work, it says, rallying the

people and organizing 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 season 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.

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. O. Adolphe Low & Co., stating that the American ship Susan Howland, bound for San Francisco, was destroyed by fire, which caught accidentally in the after store-room, off Panambuco, December 7th; all hands were saved.

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.

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 H. Cummings, accusing him of the crime of bribery. The indictment 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.

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 upsetting of a whaleboat. There were five men in the boat at the time, the other two managing to reach the shore with difficulty.

THE PACIFIC had arrived at Portland with about one thousand passengers bound up country, to Boise and elsewhere.

FUGET SOUND.

MAIL CONTRACT.—We are informed by Mr. F. M. Sargent, agent for Gen. Miller, that a contract 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 those 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 Tribune.

COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS APPOINTED.—We have definite information that Mr. Frederick A. Wilson, of Port Townsend, has been appointed collector of customs for the Sound district. Mr. Wilson is an old 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 PORT VANCOUVER.—The quarters of Captain Hopkins, at Port Vancouver, were again destroyed by fire on Monday evening last. This is the second time he has been burned out within a few months.

SEATTLE.—Two men, named Burgess and Thompson, left their logging camp near Henderson's Bay suffering from sickness. They were not heard of for a fortnight, when the body of Burgess was found. Their boats 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 Natchez Quartz Mining Company.

MEXICO.

The Paris correspondent of the Times gives 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 rumors 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 Barry and his command is still a matter of doubt. The New York Tribune says the troops were captured but not early. It was rumored that Sherman had defeated Johnson and captured 15,000 prisoners. It is also said that the Federals are concentrating at Newbern, N. C., some 600 men to aid Sherman, but nothing authentic is given of Sherman's whereabouts. The result of the elections in New Brunswick have gone against the Confederation scheme, tho' we do not anticipate anything but the worst a very temporary suspension of negotiations. The Confederation is bound to be a fixed fact, and not turned aside by any effulgence of the voters of New Brunswick.

TROUBLES OF THE FRIGATE BIRD.—The agents of the British ship Frigate Bird, who were over to Olympia a few days ago to endeavor 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 in 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 summer, is said to have been placed in temporary command of the vessel by the parties at Teaklet, where she now lies.

REFRESHING.—Abuse of England and Englishmen has become so systematic 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 SHUSAROK has been transferred from the Revenue service, and is now in full commission 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 raid, every employe in the printing office of the Brantford Courier, from the editor down to the printer's devil, was drawn.

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