

The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday, February 9, 1870.

The Conditions.

Having alluded to the two great essentials of successful Confederation—the early construction of an inter-oceanic highway and the placing of rolling stock, so to speak, upon our ocean highway—and having, in a very summary way, disposed of the monetary part of the question, let us now turn attention to the subject of the commercial policy to be adopted by this colony. And this brings us to the crux of the whole matter. The generality of people will say we have nothing to do with this point, as it is purely and essentially a Federal one. For ourselves, we are not content to relinquish a matter of such momentous consequence without a struggle. While admitting that the subject of dealing with commercial tariffs is one which necessarily falls within the scope of Federal functions, yet we are not prepared to think that the legislative power to establish a free port on the seaboard. It is quite true that circumstances might transpire which would render it unnecessary to have recourse to such an expedient. The commercial policy of the Dominion might undergo such changes as would enable us to enjoy all the advantages of free trade, without any of its disadvantages. Many persons prefer to think that there will not be a return to reciprocal commercial relations between the Dominion and the United States. Although we differ from that view, let us, for present purposes, assume it to be so. The United States is about to remove the duty from coal. The laws of political economy are inevitable and overpowering, and a whole nation could not long remain ignorant of the fact that it was suffering from the high price of coal, not for the benefit of the Federal exchequer, but pure and simple for the aggrandizement of the Pennsylvania monopolists. The suffering was not confined to coal alone, but it permeated every article and every interest connected with directly or indirectly connected goods. Thus, goods manufactured by steam were increased in price by the high cost of steam, travelling on railroads was made more expensive, and, not to go into the unpleasant catalogue, the poor man had no joy in his fireside because there was a continual draught of greenbacks as well as air up the chimney. There can be no doubt that the homestead coal owners of Pennsylvania are doomed; coal will enter the United States free, and Nova Scotia on the Atlantic, and British Columbia on the Pacific, will become the great suppliers. The Dominion Government is about to meet the natural productions of the United States with a protective duty. In these two items, then, we have assurance that we shall enjoy under Confederation one of the most important advantages which a reciprocity treaty would confer, while we will, at the same time, enjoy that protection to our own infantile industrial interests of which such a treaty would deprive us. But there is another and still more important commercial change, which, whatever others may think, we prefer to believe lies in the distant future of the British American Empire. The original idea of a colony was some place into which might be transplanted the surplus population of the old country, and where home manufactures might be received without the possibility of competition. That idea underwent gradual modification, until the colonies, in an anxious struggle for revenue, met all manufactures alike with high tariffs. And it is just here that Imperial dissatisfaction came in, and grew until now the question of the utility of the colonies has become matter of open discussion. As history is said to repeat itself, so we are disposed to think, this, the really correct idea of colonial relations, will be repeated, and that British America will be made the first Empire. The very idea of a British Empire in America is little better than mythical unless the surplus population of the old country be poured into its boundless wastes. In order that this may be done it must not only be made the national prey, but the national interest. Once convinced the Imperial Government that every earnest transplant into the willing soil of the new Empire will not only become doubly fruitful, but a much larger consumer of British manufactures than could possibly be the case by remaining at home or drifting into the United States, and the greatest scheme of the age is accomplished. In this, of course, implied the admission of British goods duty free, or at a merely nominal rate; and this we conceive to be the true idea of a second British Empire. Under such an arrangement the chief arguments in favor of a free port would, of course, be swept away. But it is in the absence of any certainty that such a policy will

be inaugurated in time to meet our greatest want that we advocate the duty of asking that, as a Province of the Dominion, British Columbia should have power to establish a free port as the only means of attaining immediate commercial pre-eminence on the North Pacific. There is no desire to conceal the fact that this question is not wholly free from difficulties; but, when men are called upon to found an empire and create a system, they must not be deterred by these from making the attempt to attain so great a good. It would indeed be easy to show that to build up a great entrepot here would be to promote the highest interests of the rest of the Province and the whole of the Dominion; but we do not propose to dwell upon that branch of the subject at present, the immediate object being to suggest to the Executive whether we might not, in proposing to join the Dominion, ask that the Provincial legislature shall be empowered to deal with the commercial policy, either to the extent of establishing a free port, or providing for the free admission of all such articles as we do not produce ourselves. It will hardly be necessary to disclaim any intention of advocating that this should be put forward as an absolute condition of union. All we suggest is that it should be pressed upon the attention of the Canadian Government, as a matter which greatly concerns local as well as general prosperity, and the only means of enabling the Dominion to once attain a commanding position on the Pacific, and to compete successfully with, and largely profit by the buzz of property and development, with which there is every reason to expect we shall shortly be surrounded.

Direct Steam Communication.

Elsewhere will be found a correspondence upon the most important subject of direct steam communication with San Francisco. Referring to previous remarks upon the same subject, and to which our correspondent takes exception, let us say that it was from no want of desire to see the entire year's service provided for that we suggested a three months' efficient service as preferable to a twelve months' worthless one. Our idea was this: If, as would appear from the Governor's reply to the petition presented a few days ago, there is not more meant at the disposal of the Government for this purpose, the interests of the colony would be better promoted by employing the \$12,000 now being thrown away, in the procurement of an efficient service during the three months that must decide our immigration prospects for the year; and by suggesting that the balance of the year might be left to take care of itself, we desired to be understood to mean that during these remaining months steam communication would be none the less efficient for the discontinuance of the subsidy now being paid; we should still have an occasional direct steamer, as now, and probable increase in consideration of increased population and trade; and we could, as now, have our mails via Olympia, once a week. If, however, any feasible scheme can be presented whereby a more permanent service can be obtained, we shall be delighted to see it. The one suggested by our correspondent would appear to be open to two objections: One steamer could scarcely be expected to make sufficiently frequent trips to view of the importance of Confederation, and the certainty of the Federal Government relieving us of the responsibility of maintaining an efficient service between this colony and San Francisco, would the local Government be justified in entering upon the otherwise admirable scheme suggested? However much we might feel disposed to commend such a scheme in every other respect, it is to be feared that these two objections must prove fatal to it. Earnestly desirous as the colonialists are that any efficient service should be at once established which shall continue until the matter is taken in hand by a larger government, we are still disposed, in the absence of any more permanent scheme, to repeat, with increased emphasis the previous recommendation. Prompt action can alone meet the emergency. There is no time to build a boat. There is no time to buy one.

THE AMERICAN INCREASE OF WOMEN.
The social science philosophers of Great Britain are becoming alarmed. They have discovered that the disproportion between men and women is increasing rapidly in the country as to threaten an overwhelming redundancy of the feminine gender. The statistics appall them. Out of every hundred women in Great Britain, above twenty years of age, it has been ascertained that fifty-seven are wives, thirteen widows, and thirty spinsters. Of a little under three million women between twenty and forty, in England and Wales, one million and two hundred and forty-eight thousand are unmarried. The English philosophers recommend a wholesale begonia of females to the colonies and the United States.

VICE ADMIRALTY COURT.—Feb 1st & 2nd. —Perkins v. Steamship Varena. This was an action by the engineer of the Varena for wages and board from the 2nd May to December, 1869—\$600. Defendants resisted claim on several grounds, one of which was that Perkins had misappropriated the wages and board which he had received and that great damage had ensued. The aged accountant being that Perkins had received the wages and board from the vessel from Washington Territory to Victoria. His Honor the Chief Justice dismissed the suit and condemned the plaintiff to costs. Mr. Wood, instructed by Mr. Bishop, for the plaintiff; Mr. McNeill, instructed by Messrs. Perkins and Davies, for the defendants.

The schooner Kato yesterday brought from Howe's Sound 150 barrels of whale oil, product of the recent whaling. Since her last visit to this port she has been seen in the Gulf. The Kato brought down the tail of the largest humpbacked whale killed in these waters, and its appearance attracted many curious visitors to the Hedon Bay wharf yesterday. The whale's head was 10 feet from tip to tip. The dorsal fin was 3000 pounds. The length of the fish was 65 feet and it yielded nearly 100 barrels of oil. While fast to this whale, Mr. Douglas killed three others that were spouting about in the Gulf of Georgia. The business is suspended for the season.

TRINIDAD.—Chief Justice Needham goes to Trinidad and not to Bermuda, as stated yesterday. Trinidad is the most southern of the British West India Islands, and has an area of 2000 square miles. It is the largest, most beautiful and most fertile of all the Windward Group and abounds in the finest woods and game. Cocoa is the principal crop, but sugar, tobacco, in sugar, coffee and apples are produced. The island was taken from the Spanish in 1794. The population is about 80,000.

PACIFIC INSURANCE COMPANY OF SAN FRANCISCO.—This first-class insurance company (fire and marine) with a capital stock of \$1,000,000 and available assets to pay losses and dividends of \$596,534, has issued its annual statement from which it appears that the income of the company in 1869 was \$1,242,223; disbursements, \$1,039,594, which includes \$120,000 paid shareholders as dividends. The losses of the company during the year were only \$594,611. This is a most gratifying exhibit.

THE NEXT STEAMER.—The local agent of the N.P.S.N. Co. received a telegraphic dispatch yesterday announcing that the steamer Active will sail from San Francisco for this port direct, to-morrow. This certainly would appear to indicate a slight improvement in our relations with the Bay City.

A PRISON JUDGE COMING.—It is reported that a justice Judge will be sent, out from England and that a bill to grant concurrent jurisdiction to our Courts will be introduced at the approaching session as a Government measure.

THE STEAMER POLIOFSKY. Capt. Quidon, arrived from Port Madson yesterday afternoon with three passengers. She came over to procure the services of Dr. Powell for a child of Mr. G.A. Meigs, who had been taken suddenly and dangerously ill.

ALL EFFORTS MADE TO FIND THE BARK MARIA J. Smith have proved unsuccessful. She has started on a cruise upon her account.

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE sailed for New Westminster on 6 yesterday morning. She will return to-day.

POLICE COURT.—Two Indians were yesterday fined \$20 for fighting in the public streets, and a drunken man was sent to prison for six hours to get sober.

THE GUSSE Telfair got down on Sunday morning last—seven days from Victoria. How tedious.

English Mail Summary.
The guardians of St. Panoras have had a lively time. A meeting was held in the Vestry Hall to elect managers for the Board of the Central London District Asylum; the Guardians split into two parties, and the place was turned into a ball garden. The reformers, as they call themselves, were led by Messrs. Watkins and North, who were observing that a great many justices were present, thought it good policy to prevent any business being done. They accordingly invited the roughs in the gallery into the hall, and appealed to them every moment, each appeal being answered by an uproar of the most astounding kind. The justices were abused, hooted and threatened amidst incessant shouting from the mob, Mr. Wyatt in particular being told that he 'ought to be whipped at the cart's tail,' and pushed and hustled; and Mr. Corbett, the Inspector, being singled out for hootings. Amidst all this, the

justices and their friends among the guardians sat smiling and placid, apparently under the impression that it was their duty to bear all this as part of the natural results of self-government. The very notion that they had a right to clear the hall, and order even disorderly guardians to retire, seems never to have entered their heads. The public journals commenting upon the President's Message, as reported by the Times, generally express disappointment at the tone in which the differences with Great Britain are treated. The charges made against the partners in the late firm of Barnard's Bank Company were withdrawn, and the prosecution abandoned after evidence had been given by an eminent accountant, who had investigated the accounts. The Duchess d'Anguleme died at Twickenham after a short illness. The Archbishop of Canterbury is slowly improving, but still remains very weak. Cabinet Councils are expected to be resumed this week, but there are no indications of any intention to summon Parliament before the usual period. The Hon. Norman Grosvenor has been returned without opposition as member for Chester, in succession to his cousin, the present Marquis of Westminster. The vacancy for Southwark, caused by the retirement of Mr. Layard, is being warmly contested, three Liberals and one Conservative having presented themselves as candidates, but the election cannot be held until February. Lord Olenade Hamilton has been elected for Lynn, being the fourth member of the Duke of Abercorn's family now in Parliament. He was returned by a majority of 1,051 to 1,032, a result very creditable to the energy of the Liberals. Their last candidate was Sir E. Buxton, who was defeated by Mr. Bourke by 1,125 to 1,012, a very much larger majority. The borough is essentially Tory and though there is a rumour of a petition, it is doubtful if it will be pressed. At the Liverpool Court of Quarter Sessions quite recently, a man named Brady, a noted mock auctioneer, was sentenced to penal servitude for seven years, for imposing on a Mrs. Powell, and taking from her a sum of money for articles which he alleged she had purchased, but which proved to be utterly worthless. Mr. Fitzjames Stephen, Q.C. has received the lucrative appointment of legal adviser to the Indian Government in the place of Mr. Mayne, who retires superannuated, but still young and in vigorous health. The salary is (says the Law Times) to be no less than £10,000 per annum, and the term of service only 7 years. John Presnell, aged twenty-three, was, on Nov. 22 to the Shoreditch Pauper Infirmary delirious, and shouting for tobacco. Mr. Hart, the paid nurse, angry at the noise, held a handkerchief over his mouth for two minutes, and on his removal Presnell shouted 'murder.' A pauper wardman, Sam Clark then put a handkerchief over his mouth and was going to tie it behind his head, when Mrs. Hart stopped him, and saying, 'I'll soon quiet him, poured some morphia down his throat. The man never spoke or stirred again till twenty-three hours after he died. The facts were clearly proved, and indeed admitted by the accused, but the morphia had been absorbed, and the surgeons thought that, judging from the time that elapsed, it had not caused death. A verdict of death from dropsy was recorded, with a censure against Hart and Clark. Is the law against aggravated assault suspended in Workhouses as well as the Sixth Commandment? Note that, for the first we remember, the public in Court listened and heaved the official. The Bishop of London replying to the Bishop of Lincoln, holds Dr. Temple to be exempt from the condemnation attaching to other writers in Essays and Reviews, and declares his perfect readiness to assist in the consecration of the newly elected prelate. John Kelly, a young thief, was brought before Mr. Lusham, the sitting magistrate at Hammer Smith, on a charge of stealing a pair of trousers. Mr. Lusham said he would try the effect of a flogging, and sentenced him to three days' imprisonment and eight strokes of a birch rod. The boy with the 'chok-chok' on, with the glass pile themselves, called out, 'Hurrah! I shall have some Christmas pudding now, upon which the magistrate, called him back, said he had made a mistake and increased the imprisonment to three months, and the flogging just thirty times the original sentence. A letter has been published from Dr. Livingstone dated Ujiji, May 30, 1869. The recent appointment of the Rev Mr. Hayman as Head Master of Rugby has provoked much criticism, and nearly all the school masters of the school have joined in an appeal for the reconsideration of the appointment by the trustees. Frederick Hinckley, who was sentenced to death for the murder of his partner at Woodgreen, was executed Dec. 17, at Newgate. He died penitent. The subject of education is being widely discussed, both the Education League and the Education Union are holding meetings in various parts of the country for the promotion of their respective objects. The Hon. Aubrey Herbert has resigned his fellowship of Oriel, on the grounds of disapproval of the Church Articles and a general disapproval of the system of bell worship.

Mercury in various forms, has filled the earth with stained wrecks of humanity. This pernicious and dangerous drug has been the speed and main remedy of centuries and quacks of past generations, and the present for the cure of all kinds of chronic and constitutional diseases. Dr. Walker's Vegetable Compound is a purely vegetable preparation, it is not only a safe and a sure remedy, but a more certain cure for these diseases, and will effectually eradicate mercury and other pernicious minerals from the system.

LONDON HOUSE WRECK AND DEPARTMENT.
J.H. Turner & Co. are removing their wholesale department to the above commodious premises, lately occupied by A. Frankel, on Wharf street.

Direct steam communication.
Editors BRITISH COLONIST:—There can be no doubt in the mind of any one, that direct steam communication between San Francisco and Victoria would not only be advantageous to us, but absolutely necessary for our existence, and cannot be postponed until Confederation is a fact a complete one. I cannot agree with you in thinking it would be wise to spend all our ocean mail subsidy in providing a service for 8 months in the year, and allowing the remainder to take care of itself.

The service should be certain and continuous. It has occurred to me that the only method by which this communication could be attained would be for the Government to purchase a ship of its own by bonds raised by debentures bearing interest at 8 per cent. The 'Sparrowhawk' would be just such a ship as would serve our purpose, and might be obtained at a reasonable rate, but, putting that out of the question, a suitable boat might be purchased for \$80,000. Interest on the sum per annum, at 8 per cent would be \$6,400, leaving nearly \$60,000 of outlay, which would be applied to meet any surplus of expenditure in running the steamer, and the receipt, say, 10, however, the expenses of running, such a steamer would in excess of the revenue by over \$13,000 it would be well worth the colony's while to pay it in preference to paying the present subsidy for a service which amounts to nearly nothing.

Our readers may wish to know something about this steamer. It was built at Lyons, in 1815, being the third son of Prince Lucien, brother of the great Napoleon, by a second marriage, which, as it was only for love and not for power, displaced his Imperial brother. In 1832 Prince Lucien joined his uncle Joseph, ex-King of Spain, in the United States and attached himself to Santander's expedition to Colombia. He stayed two years and then went back to Italy, where he got into hot water and the pope asked him to leave the Papal Dominions, surrounded by a troop of aviators, he wounded and killed their leader, being himself wounded and made a prisoner. Thence he went to England and after that to the Ionian Isles, where he got into a row and was ordered off by the British authorities. So he returned to London and vainly offered his services to Napoleon III. The French revolution of 1848 was a godsend for him and he hurried over to Paris. He was returned to the Assembly as member for Corsica and joined the extreme left, frequently voting against the party of the Emperor. In 1849 he went to Algeria as general of division, whence he departed without leaving a good impression on the natives, and was, in consequence, dismissed the service by the Secretary of War, who upon Prince Lucien's refusal to accept a deputy. Since Napoleon III assumed the purple the Prince has been but little about the Court and mixed but little with politics.

EXTRAORDINARY CURE OF A COUGH.
HER MAJESTY'S GUNBOAT 'NETHER' HOOB, WILLIS, N.W. Coast of Scotland. DEAR SIR:—I am, Sir, a sufferer from a most distressing cough, which caused me many sleepless nights and restless days. I was recommended by the Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Wick, to use your 'Purifier of the Blood' and I can assure you that the first dose from it immediately relieved me, without having to suspend my various duties; and the first small bottle completely cured me, therefore I have the greatest confidence in recommending it to the nation. Most respectfully yours, TO MR. POWELL, W. LINCOLN, H.M.B. & S. HASTAR.

POWELL'S BALSAM OF ANISEED.
For Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Shortness of Breath, Asthma, Bronchitis, and for all affections of the Lungs, this Balm is a most effective remedy, which has been found to be the most reliable and most effective remedy for the cure of all these affections. The large sales and increased demand for this excellent and elegant preparation, which has been found to be the most reliable and most effective remedy for the cure of all these affections, has induced the Proprietor to still further extend the benevolent aims of his business, and he has now the pleasure to announce that he is now introducing a new and improved Balm, which he has named 'Purifier of the Blood' and which he has found to be a most effective remedy for the cure of all these affections. Wholesale Agents, MILLARD & BERRY, 201st Street, Victoria, B.C.

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Princess Pierre-Napoleon Bonaparte.
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