

The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, June 19, 1866.

COLONIAL DEFENCE.

The action of the House of Assembly on Tuesday, in passing a resolution for the introduction of a Militia Bill, brings up the great and to some extent vexed question of colonial defence—how far the Home Government should assist the colonies in times of danger, and what amount of pressure the colonies should bear in co-operating with the Imperial authorities. It has been distinctly stated, on more than one occasion, in the British Parliament that England would, in case of war, defend the colonies to the utmost of her power; but this statement implied an equal exertion on the part of the colonies; for it was acknowledged that there were some portions of the British Empire which England could not defend—that indeed frequently for strategic reasons it would be advisable to leave one portion unprotected to more effectually defend another and more important point. The question on the other hand arose in the colonies—why they should cripple themselves in defending the country against an aggression in which they had no hand in causing. England, they said, undertook war without consulting the colonies, and yet asked the colonies, to bear the principal brunt of her pugnacity. The subject, in whatever light we look upon it, is one fraught with innumerable difficulties. It is quite clear if the colonies desire to maintain their British connection they must do their share of fighting when the time comes; but it has been stated before now that the best of nationalities can be bought too dear. If people, say some, are to be crushed with taxation in order to be prepared for an invader, it matters little to what nationality they belong—it is not worth the continued strain on their resources and the continued anxiety on their mind. If at any moment their property, for which they have given a life-long toil, is liable to be destroyed on account of their connection with another power, that connection, however desirable in peace, is ruinous in war, and should be amicably disrupted. These are the sentiments of many minds not only in the North American Colonies but in England itself, and not a few see in the scheme of Confederation the preliminary step to the independence, under a new nationality, of the British Colonies east and west of the Rocky Mountains. Certain it is had Canada been independent she would not have been menaced by the Fenians, nor would she be obliged to tax herself heavily for defence against the United States. If England is on the one hand the Canadian's glory, she is on the other the Canadian's danger. With all this precariousness of position, however, there is a strong feeling of sentiment in the colonial mind—an immateriality that disdains safety at the price of disruption from Great Britain. This it is which makes Canada submit at the present moment to very great pecuniary and personal sacrifices; and which brings out a spirit of nationality and patriotism inferior to nothing that has ever been displayed in the mother country. We hope the same feeling will be found among us, if the time should ever arrive to call it into requisition. The misfortune, however, with the people of these colonies, as indeed with the people of all British colonies in their infancy, is that the system and conduct of Government, instead of fostering British sentiment tends to kill it. If the inhabitants of Vancouver Island had nothing else to defend but the Government of the colony, they would open their arms to-morrow to any power that would relieve them of it. Fortunately, however, there is still an attachment to British institutions, and a disposition to put forward every effort, if need be, for their defence. While the naval force stationed in our waters is always ready to maintain British supremacy on the sea, the inhabitants of Vancouver Island will be found equally willing to do their duty on the land. In the course of a very few years our destiny may be thrown into that of the colonies east of the Rocky Mountains. We may by even Imperial desire become part of a confederation either connected with or independent of Great Britain. Under any circumstances it is right we should prepare ourselves, as well as our numbers and means will admit of, for our own defence. Fenianism is neither here nor there in the matter; but many a thing trivial in itself shows us the weakness of a position, and this recent excitement, although engendering no fears, points unmistakably to the want of organized power in the colony in the moment of danger.

ANOTHER REBEL PRIVATEER SURRENDERED.—A suit was instituted in the Admiralty Court of London on the 24th of April last by the Government of the United States to obtain possession of the ex-rebel privateer Tallahassee. This vessel, it will be remembered, was one of the rebel cruisers which gave us so much trouble—having captured and destroyed many of our merchant vessels during the rebellion. In the spring of last year she arrived at Liverpool, and was arrested, at the instance of the United States Consul at that port. The case came before the Court in April last, as above mentioned, and possession of the vessel was decreed to the United States. Our Consul at Liverpool took formal possession of her immediately.—Oregonian.

By Electric Telegraph.

SPECIAL TO THE BRITISH COLONIST.

More About the Fenians—Proclamation by President Johnson—Spear moves with 1000 men—The movement defeated by U. S. Authorities—Sweeny, Roberts and Murphy arrested and confined—Indignation and Despondency of the Fanatics—Their hopes crushed—Eastern, California and other news.

BY CALIFORNIA STATE TELEGRAPH.

EASTERN NEWS.

CHICAGO, June 10—Reports having been detained by lines being down, the following is a summary of news of the 6th, 7th and 8th. The Fenian excitement raged furiously until President Johnson issued a proclamation directing General Meade to employ force and militia to arrest the Fenian conspirators and prevent their unlawful proceedings. The frontier was divided into three military districts, under General Barry, headquarters at Buffalo; Colonel Hodges, headquarters at Ogdensburg; and Major Augusta Gibson, headquarters at St. Albans.

The Fenian Council decided upon advancing immediately in two columns, from Malone, N.Y., and from Franklin, Vermont. A large seizure of Fenian arms was made in Northern New York and Vermont during the 6th.

Sweeny was arrested at St. Albans the same night.

Notwithstanding this and other obstructions the Franklin column moved early, under command of General Spear, formerly Colonel of the 11th Pennsylvania cavalry, and numbering one thousand men, tolerably well armed, and established themselves in Pigeon Hill, four miles north of St. Albans, that night to await reinforcements and collect supplies. The last movement was prevented by the arrest of General Murphy on the 5th. The men, after rioting somewhat throughout the day at Malone, were finally quelled into submission.

Reports to last evening say the Spear's invasion was a failure. No reinforcements, and men straggling back, transportation being furnished from St. Albans.

Roberts, the Fenian President, issued a proclamation on the 6th, counselling the brotherhood to renewed efforts. He was arrested by U.S. Marshall Manning on the 7th, and arraigned before Commissioner Betts, when he assumed a defiant attitude, refusing to accept bail if coupled with parole. Roberts was then remanded to custody, and the hotels refusing to entertain him while under arrest, fearing attempts to rescue him, he was lodged in Eldridge street jail.

Numerous other leading Fenians are at Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis, and the force of war has turned into indignation and despondency. Great indignation meetings were held, denouncing President Johnson for playing false with the Fenians.

Colonel O'Neill and other leaders of the Fenian expedition, were arraigned before the U.S. Commissioner at Buffalo on the 7th, and gave bonds to appear for trial before the Commissioner at Canandaigua on the 19th.

CHICAGO, June 10—The Fenian failure is made more complete from the fact that nowhere in Canada has there been the least show of sympathy where riots and uprisings were expected.

The Canadian Parliament had assembled. The Governor's speech recommended the suspension of the Habeas Corpus. The Fenian prisoners held by the Canadian Government have not yet been arraigned for trial.

CHICAGO, June 9th—The United States District Court met at Richmond on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the case of Jeff Davis was postponed until the first Thursday in October, to which day this court adjourned. No motion was made, as expected, to release Davis, the District Attorney saying Davis was not in the custody of the courts.

CALIFORNIA.

The contract for daily service from Virginia City, Nevada, via Humboldt, to Boise City, for four years from the 1st September, has been given to Jesse C. Carr, formerly of Monterey, Cal.

SAN FRANCISCO, 11—S. S. Rawson, for many years a resident of this city, was found dead in his room yesterday. He was lying on the floor with his clothes on when discovered, and was supposed to have died suddenly the night previous of hemorrhage of the lungs. Mr. Rawson was a native of Maine, and was sixty years of age. He was a lawyer by profession, and has been located here for several years past, principally as a searcher of records.

In the absence of the late gold quotations from the East, the legal tenders are inactive. Brokers quote 72, buyers; 73, selling. Commercial affairs are extremely dull, all parties awaiting telegraph advices.

ARRIVED—Bark Cambridge, from Honolulu; bark Leonora, 18 days, Port Blakely; brig Deacon, 12 days, Port Ludlow; bark Anna, 90 days, Melbourne; ship Asia Eldridge, 134 days, Boston; ship Asia Eldridge, 14 days, Freepport; Adelaide Cooper, 13 days, Port Ludlow; Florence, 12 days, Seabeck; brig Derwent, 125 days, Sydney; ship Lookout, 131 days, New York; bark Constance, 84 days, Auckland.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 12th.—The Constitution arrived from Panama this afternoon with passengers and mails from New York of the 21st.

The new stern-wheel steamer, called the Reform, was launched last evening from North Yard; she is to run on the Sacramento and its tributaries.

Since the injunction against the U. S. Pacific Telegraph Co., their offices have been closed, and all their business stopped. It is generally understood that the two lines will consolidate, and the whole telegraph business on the coast and across the plains, be under the control of the Western Union Telegraph Co., which own nearly all the telegraph lines in the United States. The new line will be continued across the plains in any event, and will probably be in opera-

tion to Salt Lake in August. The contract has been given out, and the work is progressing on the portion of the line between Salt Lake and Denver. The old line now in use across the plains, will soon undergo a complete overhauling east of Salt Lake, where most of the breaks have occurred. Before the advent of the new year, we shall have two lines of telegraph across the continent.

Latest authentic gold quotations are New York, June 6th. Legal tenders 72½@73. Arrived, June 11th.—Ship Windward 105 days from Hong Kong, to McCondray & Co. The Peruvian ship Compañia Maritima, Del Peru; No. 2, Spilvalva, 40 days, Callao, ton laeco.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 13—Eastern line is working, but no news has been received. The report following is from private dispatches published this evening:

NEW YORK, June 9.—To Mr. HAMILL—We mean fight now. Send us every dollar you can. Don't believe the lying reports of newspapers. (Signed) W. B. ROBERTS, President F. B.

NEW YORK, June 9.—To JOHN HAMILL—The following we have just received: Pigeon Hill, C. E., June 9.—We are in the enemy's country, and the Green Flag waves defiantly. We have captured Pigeon Hill, stormed the centre of Samburg, taken British colors, and are ready to advance again. Hurry up the ammunition. Victory or Death! The growlers and cowards have gone to the rear. They will talk about our position; but don't mind them, the tried of nerve are at the front.

(Signed) E. L. CARRY.

NEW YORK, June 9.—To JOHN HAMILL—God bless your noble efforts in our glorious cause. Our troops are doing their work, and notwithstanding the few arrests everything goes well. Give the accompanying telegram to the San Francisco papers. There is no such word as "fail." All are determined to sacrifice their lives till the work of Ireland's redemption is accomplished.

(Signed) E. L. CARRY.

SAN FRANCISCO.

Private dispatches state that the opposition steamship Santiago, with passengers, which left here on the 15th May, arrived at New York on the 7th.

Negotiations are said to be going on in London to obtain a subsidy from the English Government for a line of steamers between San Francisco and China. Should arrangements be completed Hong Kong will be made the port of arrival and departure in China. San Francisco is probably the only place of commercial importance carrying on distinct export and import trade that the English Government has not subsidised steamship lines for, and though direct mail communication with London by the east might have been looked for, it would be strange should the first English mail boat come from the west.

Not very long after we have seen the China steamship line in regular action, we shall in all probability have either the Royal Mail West India and Pacific Co.'s vessels running between San Francisco and Panama. If our merchants think it would be any gain to them to have a semi-monthly English line they have only to bestir themselves. The argument that, in conjunction with China, it would put a girdle of mail communication around the world would be irresistible even to the most parsimonious members of the English House of Commons.

Steam communication between Australia and England via Panama is about to be inaugurated. The first mail steamer from the colonies to Panama will be despatched in about a month. This will afford us regular monthly mail facilities with Australia.

Sterling Exchange was higher though demand was not active. Gold, on the 9th, 139½.

(From the Oregonian.)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 6—Eastern line is out of order beyond Salt Lake. No Eastern report.

John Couch, who was forcibly ejected from one of the omnibus railroad cars for tending greenbacks for his fare, has commenced suit to recover \$25,000 damages in the 15th District Court.

The little son of Thomas Blakely, who was torn by a lion on Long Bridge recently, died of his injuries. Yesterday, Mr. Gilbert, owner of the savage beast, killed it after hearing of the child's death.

Albertina Zaborowski was to-day divorced from her husband, John A. Zaborowski, by a decree of the 15th District Court.

The Supreme Court, has affirmed the decision of Judge Pratt in denying a new trial in the case of Thomas Byrne, convicted of the murder of Charles T. Hill in Saucelito Valley over a year ago. Gov. Lov having been solicited to commute his sentence to imprisonment for life, intimated some time since that he could see nothing in the facts which would justify such a course on his part and that the matters of law would be settled by the Supreme Court. Nothing now remains but for Judge Pratt to pass the sentence of death and appoint a day for the murderer's execution.

F. M. Pixley appeared in the police court this morning and entered a plea of guilty in behalf of one of his Chinese female clients. He intimated to the court that he might enter a similar plea in another case where a jury had already been ordered. Counsel Pixley has frequently stated that he would meet the authorities half way, and appearances are that he is making good his word. The light sentence of Judge Rix yesterday may have prompted him to pursue this course.

The body of a drowned man was found floating in the bay near Black Point yesterday.

Peterson and Bell, the seamen who stabbed the mates of the ship Seminole were held to answer before the County Court on the charges of assault with deadly weapons. The testimony showed that they had received great provocation from the officers, but whether or not they were justified in resorting to such extreme measures will be for a jury to determine. Nelson and Gardner, the second and third mates, are much better to-day.

The new Merchants' Exchange, on the corner of Washington and Battery streets, was thrown open for public inspection to-day, and regularly opens for business to-morrow. The building has been completely renovated and rebuilt. Its walls are strengthened with additional girders, while the interior is fitted up in a style of elegant

simplicity and with all conveniences usually found in an establishment of the kind. The front room, formerly the Senate chamber, is occupied as a reading room, where late papers and magazines from the four quarters of the globe can always be found for reference. The rotunda room is to be used as an exchange, where merchants congregate and where desks are provided for their use, while in the rear is a large room elegantly carpeted and fitted up for the Chamber of Commerce.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 7th.—The new Merchants' Exchange building, corner of Battery and Washington streets, was formally thrown open for business to-day. The rooms set apart for the use of the Exchange are large, airy and pleasant, a great improvement on those heretofore occupied for similar purposes. The attendance was quite large, and we understand the subscription list is increasing.

The Rattlesnake Gold and Silver Mining Company has filed its certificate of incorporation. They propose to work the Rattlesnake lode, Golden Gate District, Yuba county, with capital stock \$240,000.

Otto L. Decker, defaulting cashier of the Pacific Glass Works, waived examination on a charge of grand larceny in the police court this morning, and the case was sent to the grand jury. It is now definitely ascertained that his defalcation will not fall short of \$4,500.

Judge Sawyer this morning granted judgment for plaintiffs by default in the suit of B. F. Hastings et al, vs. Burning Moscow Gold and Silver Mining Company. The complaint set up that the plaintiff some time since recovered a judgment in Nevada against the Burning Moscow Company for \$28,678.41, under which they attached the mining ground and assets of the company at Virginia City. Complaint then goes on to recite the steps taken towards a compromise between the Ophir Silver Mining Company and the Moscow, involving the ownership of the grounds on which the plaintiffs have a lien, by virtue of the attachment and execution; the plaintiffs aver that if the Moscow Co. consent to a dismissal of suits with Ophir Co., through which the title of the property was to have been settled, that would abandon the mines to Ophir Co., and leave the plaintiffs without recourse, as the mining ground is the only assets the Moscow Co. have, and which can satisfy their judgment. Judge Sawyer granted a temporary injunction last October, restraining defendants from making such compromise, and his judgment rendered to-day makes the injunction perpetual.

Judge Dwinelle to-day granted to Dan'l McCarthy a divorce from his wife Ellen McCarthy, on the ground of desertion.

James Riley, who recently arrived in this city from New York, was found dead in his bed, at No. 228, Ritch street, yesterday.

There is much suspense in commercial circles touching financial affairs in Europe and in the Atlantic cities, and business men are naturally timid about entering into operations involving large amounts of money while events of moment are supposed to be transpiring at the leading financial centers.

The treasure shipments from New York for three weeks ending Saturday, June 2nd, reached \$29,000,000, or \$86,000,000 from May 1st to June 2nd. So exhaustive a drain could not fail to cause a material advance in gold, especially as commercial bills are coming back under discredit. Under these circumstances there is an active demand for bullion here for remittances by Saturday's steamer, and prices have again advanced.

The mining share market has lost the buoyancy noted yesterday, and lower prices were very generally made than since the morning bazaar yesterday. Yellow Jacket fell \$60; Belcher and Chollar-Potosi each \$15; Bullion and Overman each \$10; Ophir and Imperial \$3; and Savage \$25, Gould and Curry and Confidence on the other hand a little better. Legal Tenders are quoted at 72½@73 to-day.

Flour—There is a fair demand at previous prices. Superfine hf sks per bl \$5 00 @5 25, qr sks \$5 25 @5 62½. Extra hf sks \$5 50 @5 62½; qr sks \$6 50 @6 00.

Wheat—Market quiet but firm, sales of 2,000 sks choice at \$1 80 @1 00 lbs.

Barley—250 sks brewing 87½; feed quoted at 75 @80 @100 lbs. Market firm. Oats \$1 60 per 100 lbs.

IN MEMORY OF GENERAL SCOTT.

CHICAGO, May 31—The Government offices and Board of Trade throughout the country will be closed to-morrow. Both Houses of Congress adopted resolutions of respect for the memory of Gen. Scott, and appointed a committee of seven Senators and nine Representatives to attend the funeral.—Congress also resolved to adjourn until Monday.

A CLERGYMAN EXPELLED.

Rev. W. Ferguson, delegate from the Zanesville, Ohio, Presbytery, was expelled from the Old School General Assembly, at St. Louis, yesterday, for the authorship of a letter published in the Columbia, (Ohio), Statesman, denouncing the radical majority in the Assembly.

MONETARY.

NEW YORK, June 1—The Bank statement is as follows:—Decrease of loans, \$301,561; decrease of deposits, \$1,805,061 61; decrease of legal tenders, \$4,950,055; increase of specie, \$2,121,164. Cotton is quiet and declining.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

WASHINGTON, June 2—A committee appointed by the Democratic caucus, among whom were Senators Guthrie and Hendricks, and Representatives Randall, of Pennsylvania, and Hogan, of Missouri, waited on the President to-day. The results of the interview are unknown.

In the House, Price, of Iowa, introduced a bill providing that all civil officers appointed by the President or heads of departments, except clerks, shall hold office for four years from the date of appointment, and shall not be subject to removal during their term, except for malfeasance, and in all cases where the advice and consent of the Senate is necessary to appoint; the same advice and consent shall be necessary before any removal shall be made.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

LATER FROM BIG BEND.

BY COLLINS' OVERLAND TELEGRAPH.

YALE, June 11—The Tribune's Seymour letter of June 3d says:—Reliable parties have arrived here from French and McCulloch creeks with news from the mines to the last inst. From them I have received the following information:

The trail for 21 miles from Seymour is good, then there is about 10 miles of snow across the divide. Sixty men are at present employed in shovelling the snow. They will get through next week. The remainder of the trail to the landing is good and dry. Turnbull has 22 men at work on the trail from McCulloch Creek to the steamboat landing and five miles were completed on Wednesday last. It will be finished in eight days. The divide is low. The trail will be a good one and easy for animals, with a little feed. The ferry is removed from Kirby to the water race so high that work on most of the claims was temporarily suspended. On McCulloch Creek there was no snow for a mile from the mouth, above that from two to eight feet. Several companies above the Discovery claim were making preparations for work. The Discovery Company are erecting a derrick to remove boulders. Above the Cañon three companies are taking out from \$12 to \$16 a day per day to the hand from the surface. They have not sunk below the clay. Above these companies and about two miles above the Discovery Company several shafts were bottomed, finding the color but nothing more. One company is still sinking. They are down 30 feet, and have struck gravel below the clay in which they found a few fine colors. The company are determined to reach bedrock if possible. Many in the vicinity are just awaiting the results of this shaft.

On French creek, for three or four miles, there is very little snow; above that there is still snow to the depth of two feet and upwards.

The Monroe Company is the only one taking out pay. For the week ending May 26th the company divided \$40 to the interest over wages.

The other companies were building wheels, making dams and cutting races to turn the bed of the creek, but the high water had almost completely stopped all work. Thirteen houses are being built on speculation.—The number of men on both creeks is estimated at 500; about 90 are at the steamboat landing.

Every day we have men returning, some giving unfavorable descriptions of the place, others again think more favorably of the creeks, and are of opinion that money will be taken out as soon as the water goes down. It will be five or six weeks yet before money will be taken out, and men coming here had not sufficient means to last, so they had to go to Cariboo or elsewhere. Sandy Fortune thinks favorably of it. He intends returning in a month.

The steamer Forty-nine was expected yesterday. The steamer Marten is in sight. A report is just spread about a strike at French creek. I will try to find where it comes from.

The following extract is from a letter received by Mr. Vowel, of Commissioner O'Reilly's staff, yesterday from Mr. William Smith, Mr. O'Reilly's clerk, dated French creek, May 31st:

A company on French creek reached bed rock and washed up yesterday 11 ounces.—The country is all right. This you may depend on as being reliable. There is no later general news. The steamer Forty-nine had not arrived up to Friday.

Mr. House, from the Lands and Works Department, is here to sell the lots.

Mr. Morris, surveyor, is exploring the pass by the south arm, it is said for the Hudson Bay Co.

The steamer Marten had five passengers and about six tons freight.

No change in prices; same as last quoted but no sales.

I think the number of men in the mines for the next month will be very small, but after that there will be a reaction as soon as a few claims commence taking out pay, when confidence will be restored.

The steamer will make two trips this week.

THE FENIAN INVASION.—The Oregonian,

which has for some time past winked at Fenian demonstrations and Fenian Guards, is getting more sensible of the raid on the Canadian borders. It says: A military expedition under the Green Flag has at last been undertaken. Judging from the latest reports from "the seat of war," the campaign is likely to close very soon. "The war" is to be astonishingly short, and not remarkably sharp, but perhaps, very decisive. A raid across the Canada border by a handful of men who scarcely wait to hear that the militia is marching toward them until they commence the masterly strategy of evacuation and retreat, is expected to achieve the independence of Ireland. For a long time the Fenian orators of the East have been declaiming in cheap bombast about their contemplated military expedition over the border, and the prodigies of valor they would perform the moment they could obtain a sight of the bloody flag of their British persecutors. But now, after the enterprise has been attempted, and after they have effected a lodgement in the enemy's territory, they do not wait for the sight of the banner of St. George to inflame their valor, but with wonderful discretion, deliberately burn their camp, destroy their munitions of war, throw away their muskets, abandon their military organization, and endeavor to seek, each for himself, a place of safety as remote as possible from the enemies whom they have long been so very impatient to meet in the red flame of battle. "The war" seems already to be over. A more absurd and criminal movement than this at Niagara, has not been undertaken for a century. An expedition is set on foot which is so deficient in numbers, and so wanting in the appliances of war, as to excite no fright among any except the invaders themselves. The only wonder is that fifteen hundred men can be found who are so completely insane as to embark in so foolish an enterprise.