

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, December 28 1870

Gold Mines of the Dominion.

Looking at the Dominion of British North America completed—an Empire washed by both oceans and pierced by Hudson's Bay, it is difficult to realize possible future development. In point of territorial magnitude and internal resources the Dominion of Canada may well aspire to national greatness. Of all its diversified and vast resources, possibly the gold mines are destined to attract most notice, if they do not yield the greatest wealth. British Columbia, the first, will doubtless maintain its preeminence as a gold producing country. Its hidden wealth still remains for the most part undisturbed. The zenith of its golden fame has not yet been reached. And yet results have outrun effort. In no country in the world has the yield been so large, measured by the effort put forth. But British Columbia does not by any means constitute the sole gold fields of British North America. It is a noteworthy circumstance that Canadians came to British Columbia to search for gold, and returned to find it in their native country. The rebound of the Pacific gold excitement awoke the Provinces of the Atlantic; and now Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, all have their gold fields. It is not the richest gold fields that are always the most successfully worked. At Ballarat, for instance, the average yield from quartz is astonishingly low. And yet this very circumstance has exerted a most beneficial influence on mining. It has been the mother of economic mining, bringing into use the most approved appliances and thrifty modes of dealing with auriferous earth and rock. It has served to train managers and workmen better than any mining school teaching could possibly do. Take an instance or two: One Ballarat mine yielded from 7,453 tons only 2 dwts, 10 grs. per ton, yet the Company were enabled to pay in dividends £2,101 10s. At another, the total yield crashed in 1838 was 190,118 tons, yielding at the average rate of 2 dwts, 9 grs. per ton. Take Nova Scotia, and we find a much higher average. From 1862 to 1868 there were crushed in that Province 147,680 tons of quartz—not a great quantity, certainly, but yet a good infant effort. The average yield of that operation exhibited 19 dwts, to the ton. In the Colony of Victoria the yield of quartz crushing averaged for ten years about 11 dwts, to the ton. Notwithstanding this marked difference in favor of Nova Scotia, her gold mining interests languish, while those of Victoria are buoyant. The explanation is obvious. Victoria has advanced beyond the stage of experimental blundering, through which Nova Scotia is only passing. From a careful paper prepared upon the subject, it has been estimated that, since the gold mines were first worked in California at least three hundred millions of dollars have been lost unnecessarily from clumsy appliances and careless working. The "tailings" in Nova Scotia are said to be richer than the crushed quartz in Ballarat, and yet no attempt has been made to work them. Thus imperfect manipulation in Nova Scotia, and the neglect of all economy in dealing with the rock makes all the difference. But this is a mere temporary condition which will soon work its own cure. There are now seventy companies really or ostensibly engaged in gold workings in Nova Scotia. The yield in Victoria, from 1850 to 1868, inclusive, was 3,346,201 ounces, from 5,811,669 tons, or 11 dwts, 11 grs per ton. In Nova Scotia, from 1862 to 1869 inclusive, 191,181 tons yielded 149,804 oz 7 dwts, 2 grs, or 15 dwts, 16 grs per ton. The Nova Scotia tailings are found to yield a little over four dwts per ton; thus with skill and carefulness, the Nova Scotia mines would yield about 20 dwts to the ton. The era of quartz mining is about to dawn here; and there is every reason to think that we shall be enabled to exhibit a yield that will throw Victoria, Nova Scotia and California in the shade.

Quinnam and Jim.

Two Nanaimos—Quinnam and Jim—were charged with the murder of Hamilton. Quinnam was sent to the chogaing; Jim, to the Great Hunting Grounds. The verdict of public opinion would have exactly reversed these conditions. It is known to the reader that at Nanaimo Quinnam was believed to be the principal in the murder, Jim only accessory. So strong was this belief that the Executive was petitioned to relieve Jim, in order to afford an opportunity for further investigation, and it was intimated that important evidence, which could aid and should have been adduced at the trial, would be forthcoming. The next steamer conveyed to Nanaimo an answer to the prayer of the people, and Jim was respited. Another week and the steamer which was to have carried fresh evidence to Vancouver conveyed Jim's death-warrant to Nanaimo! This, certainly, strange proceeding has given rise to intense dissatisfaction, we may say indignation, in that community. What at first

appeared to be an act of grace, is now regarded as a delusion and a snare—some even think of it as an insult to the petitioners and a grim mockery of justice. It is not our intention to dwell upon this painful subject or to say whether the blame rests chiefly at the door of the Executive or of the Judiciary; but we must be permitted to say that it would have been far better to have referred the prayer of the petition and executed Jim at once than to delay the execution for one week under pretence of meeting the case. Such very cavalier treatment of a respectful request, made with a desire to further the ends of justice, is very much to be regretted—amicably calumniated, as it is, to deflect the subject.

Lake School Examination.

The half yearly examination of this institution took place yesterday before the members of the Board of Education. There were also present several heads of families and other persons of influence in the District. The great progress made by the pupils since last examination was clearly evinced by the quick and rapid manner in which the several tests were worked out and answered, which in some cases showed considerable proficiency. The following is the order of merit, viz: FIRST CLASS. Arithmetic and Algebra—Thos J Lindsay, Jane Cheeseman, Ceira C Cheeseman. Reading and Geography—Maria Masson, Albert Spotts. SECOND CLASS. Reading, &c.—Mary Lindsay, Emily Von Allman. THIRD CLASS. David Stevens, Annie Stevens. GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP. Thos J Lindsay, Jane Cheeseman. The fine schoolhouse, which is furnished with all the appliances necessary for the promotion of a liberal education, is kept clean, good order and discipline is maintained by the teacher; and the excellent manner in which the scholars acquitted themselves yesterday certainly reflects the utmost credit on all concerned.

THE STEREOPTICON.—A series of beautiful views were exhibited at the Theatre Royal last evening by aid of the stereopticon. A good number were in attendance and the liveliest satisfaction was created. This evening the managers announce a new series of views.

THE SIR JAMES DOUGLAS.—The tender of Mr Booth being the lowest, to him has been awarded the contract for provisioning the officers, crew and passengers of the steamer Sir James Douglas.

CHRISTMAS LUXURIES.—The selection of fruit, candies, sweet potatoes and other choice luxuries suitable for the holidays, displayed in the store of P. Crandoli, Johnson street, is one that cannot fail to suit all.

THE DAY GOODS STORES have all artistically dressed show-windows, London House, Victoria House, Thos Wilson & Co, and A B Gray exhibit a magnificent assortment of goods for the holidays. The show-windows of the two first-named are especially attractive. This evening the dry goods stores will all keep open until a later hour than usual to accommodate purchasers of Christmas goods.

SYDNEY.—Mrs E. L. L. Oyster Saloon, adjoining the Arcade Oyster Saloon, has a magnificent stock of London-made confectionery, plain and ornamental, and warranted beautiful. Piper, the infatigable local confectioner, has prepared an immense stock of assorted candies with especial regard for the health of those who may eat them. Mrs Johnson of the English Bazaar, has just received a large assortment of Wedgwood's candies from London.

For toys dolls and articles of utility, we know of no better places in the city than Mrs Johnson's and D Spencer's, on Government street; Tom Gorrie's and Mrs Clark's, on Fort street. Parents and others purchasing to-day should not fail to visit either or all of these dealers. They will find there much to interest, and no fee charged for looking.

GAME AND POULTRY.—Well may the passer along Fort street pause to feast his eyes upon the fat domestic fowls and game in Mr Townsend's Market. The plumpest domestic turkeys and geese are there displayed, and the venison, wild game, ducks, quail, grouse and sandhill cranes (the latter better than the best) were going off rapidly yesterday. A fresh supply was received last night.

HAYWOOD'S MARKET is tastefully arranged for Christmas. Fine hams, pork and bams depend from the beams and are ready for delivery into the shops. Haywood's success as a business man is as great as his taste in selecting and displaying prime goods.

FRANK & WILLIAM'S Cariboo Pork Store is one of the neatest establishments in the city and dressed in holiday garb, is doubly attractive. The show-windows are creditable affairs. By the way, it is generally known that this firm have reduced their rate for hams to 25 cents, and for hogs to 20 cents.

One of the most attractive stocks of holiday goods is at Kesser's Government street store. Many ornaments and useful articles will be found therein; and the taste with which the windows have been dressed, shows off the stock to the best advantage. One always sees excellent judgment in the arrangement of his goods.

CEDAR HILL SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—This school yesterday underwent the usual annual examination. Among those present were the members of the Board of Education and the Rev F Gibbell. Some prizes were awarded and the examination was generally satisfactory.

THE MASONIC BALL.—The work of preparing Alhambra Hall for the grand Masonic Ball has commenced. A covered way is being constructed from the Hall to the Colonial Hotel, where the supper will be laid. Mr. Driard will provide the supper.

The Skeena trail petition will be presented to-day.

A Cry to the People.

In the name of God and of the laws of England I cry to the people for help to clear away this great obstruction out of the course of the law. Look here, people, consider and examine what it is. The law is obstructed, it cannot take its course. What is the obstruction? The officers of the law have told me that it is the height, the weight and the bulk of it. Is it truth? Has the law no power over them? Can they send their agents and go themselves into the houses of honest, hardworking, abstemious people, and under the sacred names of friendship, religion and charity, wickedly, falsely, cruelly and designedly administer poisonous drugs which bewilder and have bereft the unfortunate victim of their unrelenting cruelty of the health of the body and the reason of the mind. This is a high hand. Is this too high for the laws of England? I thought the laws of England were founded on the commandments of God; and so they are; then how can this wickedness be too high for them? Their foundation can never fail. The word of God endures forever and is still the same. The law was made to pull down wickedness; has it become enfeebled? No, no; the law is virtually still the same. Then how does this high wickedness stand up and defy the law; the law has not become weak or corrupt? The reason is, its administration has fallen into the hands of weak and corrupt men. What has made them weak? Corruption. They have become corrupted, bound down, linked together and all stuck fast in a quagmire of corruption, and are all bound together in this chain of wickedness, scorn and corruption. They are such a compact of corruption that every man has his separate prey and individually rejoices over his ill-gotten booty; yet they are so linked and bound together by this chain of corruption that if the wicked deeds of one were brought to light they would all suffer. Is this it? No; there must be something else—higher, weightier and larger than those corrupt lawyers and their unjust judges. They could not impede the clear, strong current of the law, unless they were able to stagnate and consequently emit baneful dews and miasmas whose odors in the air, breeding pestilence and famine in the land. There is something else what is it? The spirit that pervades them and all those generally termed the higher classes of the people. What is its name? Tyranny! This spirit has grown high enough, weighty, big and bad enough to try to stop the current of the law. If it stops the law, it puts out the light of the gospel. Christ came to fulfil the law, and the prophets—to bring glad tidings of salvation and preach the gospel to the poor. The law is really stopped; tyranny impedes its course. Where there is no law there is neither liberty nor gospel. The law is still the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His path straight. The gospel brings glad tidings of joy to all people, glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and good will toward men. Now there is neither glory to God in the highest nor peace good will toward men on earth, for there is nothing more different than the spirit of Christianity and the spirit of Tyranny; the contrast is as plain as day from night; the one is darkness and the other light. Tyranny is darkness, lies and bondage. Christianity is light, and truth and liberty. So as the spirit of Christianity and the spirit of tyranny can never reign together, then what is the spirit of Christianity of the present day? It is the spirit of antichrist hypocritically hidden under the assumed name of Christianity, propagated, bred, fed, fostered and well cared for under the all-pervading regal scepter of a despotic tyranny in church and state. I groan to God; all nature groans. I cry to the people; let them cry. Let the sea and the waves roar, the rocks rebound, the hills echo and the snowy mountains re-echo the cry.

THE CONSOLIDATION

Once more we have the consolidation of the Helmbold's Fluid Extract of Buchu. Helmbold's Fluid Extract of Buchu is a medicine of great value in all cases of urinary affections, such as Catarrh of the Bladder, Stricture, Hematuria, etc. It is a powerful diuretic and antiseptic, and its use is recommended by the most eminent medical authorities. It is sold by all Chemists and Druggists.

IMPROVED ROSE WASH

Helmbold's Improved Rose Wash is a delicate and refreshing preparation, suitable for use in all cases of skin affections, such as Eczema, Dermatitis, etc. It is a powerful antiseptic and soothing agent, and its use is recommended by the most eminent medical authorities. It is sold by all Chemists and Druggists.

PHOENIX FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY

For insuring every kind of Property in all parts of the World from Loss or Damage by Fire. The Phoenix Fire Assurance Company is a well-established and reliable institution, with a capital of £1,000,000. It is licensed to do business in all parts of the world, and its policies are issued in accordance with the most liberal and equitable terms. It is sold by all Chemists and Druggists.

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money he has saved to expend in the improvement of his property. Or if this be thought too much, commence at once as of old. Preemptions were made—give three or four years to pay at once, said years to be paid in yearly instalments. By so doing our Governor would not only confer a great boon upon the struggling settler, but do much to increase the material wealth and prosperity of the settlements. If the who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before is reckoned a public benefactor, surely some consideration should be shown those who are reclaiming the wilderness and turning it into a fruitful field and have done much to open up the country. Mr Editor, will you not use your pen in justice to the pioneers?

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TO PHYSICIANS.

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