

Semi Weekly British Colonist

Saturday, November 13, 1869.

The Water Question.

It would be a grave error, it might be a fatal one, to permit the public mind to be diverted from the important subject of a water supply for this community by the present rain-fall. Without any desire to borrow trouble or anticipate results, it would surely be the height of thoughtless imprudence to forget that the rainy season is usually followed by the dry season, as surely as winter is succeeded by summer, and that the same conditions which occasioned so much concern before the present rains set in, are certain to be repeated another year, possibly in an intensified form.

It is no secret that the fountain whence the supply is drawn has been gradually failing year by year; and it is scarcely to be doubted that it will continue to diminish, so that the supply will be even more scant next year than it has been during the present. Now, surely it will only be necessary to direct the public mind to the prospect thus presented, in order to secure for the subject that earnest thought and practical action which its importance demands.

with Terms.
Nov. 10, 1869.
I notice in a letter headed 'Vox Populi' that you, though not an ardent Confederationist, are in favour of the principle of the measure or not that there was really no option left to the Legislature but to abandon it. This much we say in justice to a body most unwarrantably attacked by an aqueous and flatulent scribbler in another place. The consequences may be very serious should a similar mistake be made this year.

What has been done.

A communication from 'S' which appeared in our columns yesterday, claims a few words from us. The writer of the communication in question finds fault with the manner in which the subject of Confederation has been treated in this journal. He appears to think that we have overlooked the action taken by the friends of the cause, and that we do them injustice in now calling upon all, without distinction, to unite in an endeavor to secure the most favorable terms.

There was very little enthusiasm shown by either side, muggy water having one's feet and a small, eastern falling from one's hat, being conducive to something widely different from enthusiasm. A few jokes—'silly ones'—were attempted by bangers-on, who smiled feebly at their own wit and wondered that no one else saw the point and laughed too. The elections generally voted in grim silence, heaved a deep sigh as if they had saved the country and hurried off home again.

FROM SITKA, ETC.—The steaming Geo. S. Wright returned yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock, bringing Lieut. T. T. Thoruburgh, U. S. A., and Lieut. Geo. B. Hansell, of the U. S. Revenue Service, lately attached to the cutter Lincoln. Lieut. Thoruburgh and Hansell sailed from Sitka on the 25th ult. in the U. S. S. Newbern, Capt. Freeman, touching at Fort Wrangel and Tongas, and arrived at Nanaimo on Monday.

MECHANIC'S INSTITUTE.—Lieut Brodie, R. N., has consented to read at the Mechanic's Institute on Tuesday evening next. There will also be vocal and instrumental music.

The Election.

Drizzle drop pour! slop fall day long! nota dry place anywhere. More miserable, soaking weather could not well be imagined. Little pools of water here, there and everywhere; rivulets of water trickling down the backs of electors, little pearly drops pendant from the ribbons of umbrellas, or coursing their way down the honest faces of Municipal Electors whom duty called away from home on such a soggy, muggy foggy day as yesterday. The rain commenced early, before the sun rose. Indeed it's a question if the sun got up at all yesterday, no person in this latitude having caught a glimpse of his cheerful countenance.

FOR MAYOR.
Trimble.....236 | Macdonald.....167
Majority for Trimble.....69
FOR COUNCILLORS.
Yates Street Ward.
Alloep.....55 | Walker.....50
Lester.....29
James Bay Ward.
McKay.....63 | Carey.....53
Green.....42
Johnson Street Ward.
Gerow.....188 | Russell.....122
Hall.....50

THE LANGFORD LAKE MYSTERY.—Patrick Fowler, until lately proprietor of the Goldstream Home, was arrested by Inspector Bowden yesterday on suspicion of having been concerned in the mysterious murder at Langford Lake.

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE sailed yesterday morning for New Westminster, carrying a few passengers, among whom were Hon. A. T. Bushby and D. C. Maunsell, Esq.

THE STEAMER WILSON G. HUNT arrived at noon yesterday, and sailed again for Puget Sound at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

THE U. S. S. NEWBERN will sail for San Francisco on Thursday, from the outer harbor.

THE STEAMER GEO. S. WRIGHT will sail at 9 o'clock this morning for Portland, carrying a mail.

THE SHIP COWPER is loading at Nanaimo for San Francisco.

Historical Reminiscences Regarding Confederation.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Your correspondent 'S' asserts that the people of this Colony have decided in favor of Confederation, and also upon the conditions which they would accept. He appeals to history in support of his assertion, that history being the history of the Yale Convention. Now, I appeal to history—historical truth. It is well known that the greater number of the people of British Columbia did not know that delegates had been sent to that Convention until they learned it from the Victoria newspapers. It is equally well known that other places took no interest in the matter, and that Nanaimo did not send any at all.

THE CHRIST CHURCH BENEFIT.
Mr DEAK SIN.—Allow me to tender to you my sincere thanks for your liberality in exerting your talents in aid of the Building Fund for the restoration of Christ Church Cathedral, lately destroyed by fire.

VOX POPULI ON CONFEDERATION.
EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—In your issue of yesterday a letter appears under the heading of 'Vox Populi,' referring to a meeting at the theatre, held on 29th January, 1868, as unmistakably proving that the majority of the people of the city of Victoria were in favor of Confederation.

THE RACES.—It will be observed that the Prince of Wales Birthday races will come off to-day provided the weather be fine, otherwise they will be postponed till Thursday. At the request of His Worship the Mayor we suggest to the public the propriety of taking a half-holiday when the races do take place.

A BABY STABBED TO THE HEART.—On of the most singular accidents we have had to record for many a year occurred at the residence of Mr. Vining, near Jones Station, on the line of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railroad, last Tuesday night.

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