

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, May 23, 1865.

OUR CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

The motion of Mr. Denner to tax all Chinamen entering the Colony comes up for discussion to-day. However much the House of Assembly may feel in want of ways and means, we do not anticipate that many members will be found willing to support a capitalization tax of ten dollars on our celestial immigrant. Independent of the unconstitutional proposition of singling out a race of people for special taxation, there is something very impolitic in the step of the present Government. We are not so deluged with European or American immigration that we are obliged out of sheer self-defence to put a prohibitory tax on Asiatics.

On the contrary, our immigration is characterized more by that crab-like progression which is usually denominated "advancing backwards," and there is no immediate prospect of a contrary current. Under such circumstances one would naturally inquire that an influx of any kind would be acceptable rather than otherwise; that an addition to the consumers, even if the increased demand were confined only to rice and opium—would be hailed with joy. Mr. Dennis, however, not satisfied with this way of viewing matters, but stoutly maintains by his proposition that if we cannot get the services of a Chinese population we must have none at all—or, to reverse the homely proverb, we must have "no bread" in preference to "half a loaf."

The motion of the member for Salt Spring is not likely to attract very serious attention of the House, and if the Chinese question came up in so dangerous a shape, we should feel that we were giving the Chinese rather an undue prominence; but there appears to be among a considerable

portion of our population a feeling with regard to the Chinese that is as unjust to the celestials as it is injurious to the country.

There are numbers in our midst who wish to see the Chinaman taxed in every conceivable way, because, though he can live cheaper than a white man, and is contented with less subsistence. Well, we confess we would like to see John wear a stove-pipe and eat and drink as other men; but since he won't, there is an end of it, and we must put up with his clothing peculiarities and his gastronomic obstinacy. We know he has an ineradicable antipathy to settling in the country, and that he very seldom uses a miner's invest when he takes out of the ground on the top of it: we know also that he is a gregarious animal, living in great herds, and that he dislikes going outside his own countrymen to transact the most ordinary business. He is, in fact, the personification of that class which is applied *cram*, non *animus mutant*.

He may cross the seas, and change his climate as often as steam and sailing vessels will enable him, but his mind is still the same, foolish and unadaptable to any least desire of colonial immigrants, and if we were receiving our thousands of civilized races every week, we could well spare the live freight from Hong Kong; but we are leaving California, not Australia, and therefore cannot be so independent. We want the Chinaman, and if we cannot obtain one class, we must content ourselves with another. The great policy is therefore not to diminish any portion of our consumers, however unfavorable they might compare with others, but to turn them to the greatest possible account. When the Chinaman arrives in the country and proceeds to the Island mines, he must be treated exactly as the white man; and him pay his license and other fees, be protected in the same manner. It is the non-collection of licenses which created so violent an antipathy against him in the neighbouring colony. The mining bill at present before the House of Assembly makes, however, the taking out of mining licenses compulsory on every person under a penalty of \$50, and it only requires a little vigilance on the part of the Gold Commissioner to have every Chinaman at Sooke an acceptable contributor to the Crown Revenue. Any remissness by which the Chinese are allowed to work without paying their share to the Government will, while injuring the Crown receipts, create a great deal of hostile feeling against them by the other miners. This should by all possible means be avoided.

We have given what we conceive to be the principal objections against the celestials; but there is the other side of the picture. Of all classes of our population the Chinese are the most orderly and the most sober. They cost the country less in the police and judicial departments. When they buy from the white population they put the money down on the counter, and what is probably the best appreciated of all their characteristics by their lighter colored brethren—they never "skedaddle." Summing up the advantages and disadvantages of a Chinese population at the present time, we should say that every three hundred Chinamen are equal, in a business point of view, to about one hundred whites—proportion we certainly at the present moment cannot afford to dispense with.

The motion of Mr. DeCosmo, Franklin, Tolmie, Dickson, Dennis, and a few others, was carried to adjourn till to-morrow.

COLUMBIA.

Arrived Wednesday, with 32 passengers, the Ven. Archdeacon no are on their way to Victoria. The express was on

interior. The Queen's formed the all absorb- at New Westminster. Indians, it is expected, participate in the *Asias* Governor Seymour.

—As the Reliance was on Saturday, a short time, of her feed pipes giving way, rendering it necessary to make a second start.

Number of passengers on board at Victoria, 150.

The Letitia and General on Saturday, with car-

riage and passengers on board, 150.

—The receipt last week on record. No.

—*AND PERRIN'S* shire Sauce.

EXTRACTS OF LETTER from a MEDICAL GENTLEMAN at Madras, to His Brother at Worcester, May 18.

"Tell Mr. Perrins that their Sauce is highly esteemed in India, and is, in my opinion, the most palatable sauce to me. So that is made,

—*Perrins' Sauce*, and for Export by Fra-

ns Cross and Blackwell, Sons, London, etc., etc.; and in universality, no doubt.

Green & Rhodes, agents for VICTORIA, V.I.

—*UNION*. English Ex-

port to China, and for the

REVERSE SAUCE, which

covered that of the For-

supplied with SPURIOUS, closely resemble those of the one, or more instances the

against any one who may

sue pendents in the various parts

them of any infringement

and for Import by Fra-

ns Cross and Blackwell,

Sons, London, etc., etc.; and

in universality, no doubt.

ELEY'S Cartridges, and

MMUNITION, description for sale.

Military Purposes, of Central Fire Cartridges, for the leading of Guns, Wire

Loading Game, &c., at long dis-

Cartridges, Games, of

Shot-Guns, and Breeches, Pin-

French Revolvers, of 7, 9,

Tubes, Cartridges, and Caps

ane, Tranter's Adams', other Revolvers.

CARTRIDGES, worth, Henry's Ropes, also

terry's Wilson's, Prince's, Breech Loaders, given the weight made by compression

of refined Lead, not

ELEY BROTHERS, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C. Wholesale Only.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, May 23, 1865.

House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present: Messrs. DeCosmo, Franklin, McClure, Tolmie, Dickson, Dennis, and a few others. A few long sit got up a STATE OF THE FINANCES, reading a speech of the Governor.

The Speaker read the following communication from His Excellency the Governor:

"To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

"GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to acquaint you that very early in this year the balance in the Colonial Treasury was reduced to \$10,000.

"The Bank of British North America by which the Bank consented on the 1st January, 1865, to allow the Treasury to overdraw on the public account to the amount of \$10,000, the Government being chargeable with interest on the daily over draft at the rate of one per cent. per month.

"On the 11th January, 1865, the Bank agreed to extend the credit by \$10,700 in order to enable the Government to advance that sum to meet the liabilities of the Corporation of the City of Victoria, an advance which has met with the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

"I had hoped that the incoming revenue would materially lessen, if not entirely replace, the amount borrowed from the Bank under these arrangements, but on the 13th instant the receipt did not prove sufficient to enable me to pay off any portion of the amount of \$20,170 thus borrowed, and in view of the necessity of immediately remitting to England £2000 to meet the amount payable on the 15th July, 1865, on account of interest and sinking fund of the Vancouver Island Read and Harbor Loan and making provision for the current expenditure of the Colony a further credit of \$20,000 was obtained from the Bank.

"At the present time a sum of \$35,794 is due by the Colony to the Bank.

I have the honor to be, &c., Gentlemen, Your most obedient servant,

A. H. KENNEDY, Governor.

CHURCH RESERVE.

Mr. DeCosmo moved that the House fix Monday next to take into consideration the question of the Church Reserve. His only object was to set this question at rest, to decide finally whether the people had any right to the Reserve as a public park or not.

The motion was agreed to.

Dr. Dickson moved for Return of the number of Marriage Licences from 1860 to January 1865, also what disposition had been made of the money.

Mr. DeCosmo seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

BURAL MAGISTRATES.

Mr. DeCosmo moved for an Address to His Excellency praying for the appointment of two Magistrates, without salaries, in Cowichan, and two in Comox. The House had thrown out the proposed salaries of stipendiary magistrates, and the appointment of the kind proposed was necessary. The idea for appointing two in each district was that there were generally two parties in every settlement and it would avoid jealousy.

Dr. Tolmie agreed with the hon. mover that the proposal was a good one.

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