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THE BRITISH COLONIST
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DAVID W. HIGGINS

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One Year, (in advance)	$12 00
Six Months, do	6 00
Three Months do	3 00
One Week	0 25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY MORNING.

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Six Months	4 00
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The Irish Land Bill.

It is something like a year since Mr. Gladstone introduced the Irish Church Disestablishment Bill. It will be recollected how that measure agitated and shook the nation to its very centre—made its very institutions fairly crack with extreme tension. Undeterred by difficulties and unruffled by threats, Mr Gladstone pursued the even tenor of his way; the bill passed the Lower House with a majority which induced the Lords to regard discretion as the better part of valor; and now we find that all parties have settled down in graceful compliance with its conditions and present a striking contrast with the condition predicted by the successors of the Apostles. But Irish reform did not end with that measure. Indeed, no attempt was made to conceal the fact that it was but the first step towards doing justice to Ireland. The nation was given plainly to understand that ecclesiastical reform was to be speedily followed by agrarian reform—that the act which placed religious sects upon the broad basis of equality and 'voluntaryism' must be followed by one which would place tenants on a more just and equitable footing with their landlords, and improve the relations of both to the State. On Tuesday last Mr. Gladstone asked leave to introduce the Irish Land Bill, and its second reading was set down for the 7th proximo. Of the provisions of the new bill we know nothing beyond what one is able to gather from an electric glimpse. In Ireland we know that the relations at present existing between landlord and tenant are extremely, *intensely* unsatisfactory—so much so that the latter class have recently taken to the game so forcibly described by an apostate ecclesiastic as going out quietly and 'tumbling' their landlords. Those who have been able to spare the time necessary to wade through the huge mass of information furnished by the *Times'* Commissioner, will be aware of the fact that in a majority of instances the tenant is literally at the mercy of the landlord, that there is no security for anything—improvements, possession, the family roof-tree, all hang upon the cupidity or caprice of men who in but two many instances would appear to be both *cupidacious* and capricious. Hence it is that, in extreme desperation and demoralization the tenant has adopted the terrible expedient which, in turn, leaves the landlord at *his* mercy. The bill now before Parliament aims at curing this deplorable and truly alarming condition It is scarcely to be expected that the bill will go the length of recognizing the natural right of every man to the use of what land may be necessary for the sustenance of himself and those immediately depending upon him, and thus inferentially deny the assumed right of wealth to a monopoly of land. When our common progenitor was turned out into the wide world he was told that 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread till thou return unto the ground'; and although this was to be the penalty for the sin committed by Adam, in having harkened unto the voice of his wife, rather than to the command of God, yet we may, without violence to the text, discover in it an implied incipient title to a homestead and a grave. The penalty thus inflicted by the Creator would appear to have been greatly aggravated by the merciless greed of land monopolists—an evil and a wrong the existence of which is not wholly confined to the 'Emerald Isle.' Turning to the meagre outlines of the new bill supplied by the telegraph, its chief object would appear to give greater security of tenure to tenants, and affording them protection against the very summary process of ejectment too often resorted to. It also proposes to make provision for facilitating the acquisition of land in fee simple by the tenant. With so little information before us it would serve no good purpose to indulge in comments which must rest on a speculative foundation; but assuming the land measure to be worthy of its great author, we can only wish for it such overwhelming majorities in the Commons as will avert any effective opposition in the Lords. That a measure striking more or less directly at the sacred rights of their order to lord it over the masses will evoke bitter opposition among the aristocracy, there can be no doubt. But that the nation has decreed that these abuses shall be reformed, and that Mr. Gladstone is the chosen instrument for carrying out that decree, would appear to be equally certain. St Patrick is said to have purged the lovely Isle of Erin of snakes and toads. It has been reserved to the great Whig saint to free it from Fenianism and discontent.

Circular.

It has been said that all sublunary existence is in an endless series of circles. In human existence this appears to be more clearly demonstrated. We find the individual; the family; the community; the colony; the nation; the family of nations, comprising all the dwellers upon the face of the earth. The individual, it will be observed, has a place in each of these circles, with duties and functions peculiar and proper to each. To wrap himself up in the first would be to derange and violate the laws of human wellbeing. Suppose all were to act upon the principle of 'looking out for number one,' as it is called, and disregard all the claims of others, what would become of the domestic tie? Or, if every family acted upon the narrow principle and recognised no duties, no claims beyond the domestic circle, what would become of civic or community interests? If every colony overlooked the fact that it formed part of a nation, looking only to its own aggrandisement, what would become of national interests? And if every nation constituting the great human family acted upon the same principle, what would become of the comity of nations and the brotherhood of man? Introduce this narrow, selfish principle into every human relationship, make it the rule in every sphere of life and this not uncomely world of ours would be transformed into a very pandemonium. The opposite principle, which teaches us to live not for ourselves, is the mainspring of human wellbeing—the keystone of national existence—the strong cord which binds individuality into a national bundle. It is quite true that the principle is not equally strong in all these cycles of human existence. Self-preservation is said to be the first law of our nature. The domestic tie is justly stronger than the civic; the civic is stronger than the colonial; the colonial is stronger than the national; the national is stronger than the international. Yet in all the principle is the same. The forbearing unselfishness which gives the home-circle its charm is just the same principle which, when carried into the wider sphere, makes the patriot and the philanthropist. These crude thoughts may not unfitly introduce present duty. In approaching the subject of Confederation it is well to remember that we are something more than colonists. In arranging the basis of union it is fitting that we should bring to the work a feeling of patriotism and national sentiment. As colonists, undoubtedly our first duty is to regard the question from a British Columbia stand-point. But that is not our *only* duty. Did We stop there we should prove our unfitness to form a part of the great nation to belong to which is our just pride; and much more would we prove ourselves unworthy to be pioneer builders in the creation of a second great empire. At the very moment we are calling upon Canada to view the subject of our admission from a high national standpoint, let us take heed that we ourselves do not altogether forget the higher view and the wider relationship. There is observable in certain quarters a disposition to pooh pooh everything like patriotism and national sentiment in this matter. There is in this as in most affairs of life a 'golden mean' at which it is well to aim.

INDUSTRIAL.—The *Pick and Plow* is the title of a new paper just started in Montana.

THE only Councillor now absent is Mr. Walkem.

Legislative Council.

MONDAY, Feb 21, 1870.

Present—Hon President and Hons Messrs Crease, Trutch, O'Reilly, Hamley, Ball, Saunders, Bushby, Alston, Pemberton, Carrall, Robsonl, DeCosmos, Holbrook, Humphreys, Barnard, Drake, Dewdney, Ring, Helmcken.

THE MINUTES.

Upon the minutes being read, Mr DeCosmos said the Clerk had omitted to record the action of the Council on his motion for the consideration of Confederation. Considerable discussion arose, the Attorney General contending that his notice that the question should be taken up on the 1st of March superseded that of Mr DeCosmos',

Mr DeCosmos replied that the report in the COLONIST newspaper contained the fact as it occurred, and moved an amendment to the record to that effect.

The Attorney General moved an amendment substituting his notice for that of Mr DeCosmos', which was carried.

Mr DeCosmos had the names called and gave notice that he would enter a protest against the action of the Council.

The President read a communication from His Excellency acknowledging the rejoinder to the address.

THE GOVERNOR'S REJOINDDR.

Mr President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council—

I receive your Address with much gratification. I anticipate with confidence the continuance of the cordiality of feeling with which our intercourse has happily commenced, and which you may be assured it will be my anxious desire to maintain throughout the period of my administration.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, 21st Feb, 1870.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Dr Carrall to move on Wednesday next that he government should cause a survey and estimate made of the cost of moving certain rocks now impeding the navigation of the Fraser. Also, asking the government to accept the telegraph lines on the Mainland.

Mr Holbrook to ask the establishment of a Labor Exchange.

Mr Drake, that the sum of $1000 be placed in the Estimates to purchase the library of Chief Justice Needham for the Colony.

Mr Barnard, to place on the Estimates a sum for increased postal facilities in the Colony.

Mr Crease, to move to introduce the Crown grant Ordinance.

Mr Dewdney, to ask for an appropriation for a trail to Kootenay.

ARREARS TO SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Mr DeCosmos asked the hon Colonial Secretary 'Whether the government intend to make provision for the payment of arrears due to school teachers, as set forth in the journal of this House for 1869?'

The President said in reply that nothing was placed on the Estimates this year for that purpose, nor did he think the government intended to pay anything unless there was a sum voted by the Council.

LAND REGISTRY ORDINANCE.

The Attorney General introduced a Land Registry Bill, which was read a first time.

MEDICINE AND SURGERY,

The Attorney General introduced an Ordinance respecting practitioners in medicine and surgery—which was read a first time.

THE SISTERS.

Mr Barnard's motion relating to the removal of the Sisters was postponed until the Estimates are before the Council.

COLONIAL CONSTITUTION.

Mr DeCosmos asked that his motion for the reconstruction of the Colonial Constitution be postponed until Tuesday.

SCHOOLS.

Mr Alston moved 'That His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to transmit to this Council a return showing—

1 The Schools in existence under the 'Common Schools Ordinance, 1869,' on 3st December, 1869.

2 The names of the teachers of said schools and the salaries paid or payable to them.

3 The sums granted to each Local Board out of the monies voted for educational purposes for the past year.

4 A statement of receipts and expenditure by each Local Board up to 31st Dec, 1869.

5 The average number of pupils attending each of the said schools during the past year.'

Seconded by Mr. DeCosmos and carried without debate.

ROAD TOLLS,

Mr Humphreys moved 'That a respectful Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, praying that all flour made from wheat grown in the colony be exempted from Road Tolls.'

After considerable discussion Mr Robson moved an amendment 'That a select committee be appointed to investigate the whole question of Road Tolls, as bearing upon colonial flour, bran, shorts and other products.'

Amendment carried, and the following committee appointed:—Messrs Trutch, Alston, O'Reilly, Robson and Humphreys.

COUNTY COURTS ORDINANCE.

Mr Drake asked the hon the Attorney General 'Whether it is the intention of the Government to make any alterations in the County Courts Ordinance with the view of effecting the better administration of justice?'

The Attorney General replied that the Government intended to make no change in such matters, owing to their being under the shadow of Confederation.

DRAWBACKS BILL.

Mr. Drake's motion on this matter was postponed until Friday next.

SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The standing orders were suspended and Mr. Drake gave notice that he would move on Wednesday next that the question of School Teachers' salaries be taken up.

Council adjourned till Tuesday at 1 o'clock, P. M.

[CORRECTION.—We reported Mr. DeCosmos in the debate about the Executive Council as follows.—He [DeCosmos] had no objection to the appointment [of Dr. Carrall], he [DeCosmos] thought it was a right and proper one." It ought to have been as follows:—'That he [DeCosmos] had no objection to the appointment of Dr. Carrall as a man or as a confederationist but he did not concur in altering the Executive Council by the addition of two popular members, thereby reducing the free representative element in the Council.—REP.]

HEAVY ROBBERY.—On Friday night last a lumberman from Puget Sound got drunk and fell among thieves by whom he was robbed of $320 in gold coin, besides a number of small articles, abstracted from his cabin. He complained to the police and officers Kennedy and McMillan were instructed to work the case up. They soon ascertained that a trio of half breeds, named Joseph and Francis Duett and John Manson, had been expending a considerable sum of money in the purchase of coats and trousers, pomade, perfumery and "boiled shirts." As these young gentlemen were notoriously without funds the day previous, their lavish expenditure on Saturday became at once an object of interest to the officers, and they proceeded to the Cerrybonse—a haunt much affected (infected?) by the young gentlemen aforesaid—and there found that they had shortly before taken a boat and gone out to the steamship California with the laudable purpose of bringing in the passengers. The officers, therefore, awaited their return with patience, which was shortly rewarded by the return of the brace of Duetts and the Manson. As they came alongside they were seized and searched and in the pockets of *one* of the Duetts was found $12 in coin and from the boot of Manson was dug $10 in gold. The cabin of the interesting young gentlemen was next searched, and therein were found two pannikins and a few other articles which were identified by Ambrose as part of the property stolen. The prisoners were brought before the Magistrate yesterday, solemnly protested their innocence, and were remanded for three days.

WRECK OF THE SCHOONER LANGLEY OF VICTORIA.—On the morning of the 29th of December last, the schooner Langley, while hove too under close reefed mainsail and jib, in Chatham Straits, drifted ashore and in a short time was dashed to pieces, and everything on board became a total wreck. Mr Sullivan, who was captain and owner of the Langley and her cargo, having with him one Barney Goldman as assistant, remained for four days and nights without any food, but succeeded at last in kindling a fire with which they cooked some mussles they picked up on the beach, and the smoke of their fire attracted the attention of some Indians who came to their assistance, (if such we may call it), and took these men and the plunder of the schooner to Kootznahoo. The Indians treated Sullivan tolerably well, but made a slave of Goldman, robbing him of $80 in silver and clothing. A steam launch from the U S S Cyane was sent ashore and after a great deal of grumbling the Indians gave up both men and the plunder.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.—The Australian mail brings intelligence from Melbourne to the 9th November. The question of the maintenance of the connection with the mother country was being discussed, but the general feeling was favorable to the continuance of the present relations. The famous clipper ship Lightning was totally destroyed by fire at Geelong. From Adelaide we learn that Archdeacon Twopeny fell from his horse a corpse while riding in company with the Governor, Sir J Fergusson. The letters from New Zealand are more cheerful, and a feeling of increased confidence pervades the colony.

POLICE COURT.—Blue Monday was worthily celebrated yesterday. There were a larger number of assault and drunken cases than usual, besides a case of whiskey selling to a native and a heavy robbery—noted elsewhere The Magistrate had his hands full and his *levee* lasted until the time arrived for the assumption of his legislative duties.

HYMENEAL.—Capt H. Lewis of the H B Co's steamer Otter, is on his return from England with a helpmeet, having married the daughter of E E Longford Esq, formerly of Colwood Farm, who eight years ago took his departure for home. The worthy captain will receive a hearty welcome from his host of friends.

H M S ZEALOUS.—This ship lay at Panama as late as January 13th. She was awaiting the arrival of Admiral Farquhar and Staff, when she will be re-commissioned and proceed to this station. She is expected to arrive in April.

THE LANGFORD LAKE MURDER.—Butch surrendered upon his own recognizances yesterday and was ordered to have them continued in the sum of $500 for his appearance at the next assizes.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.—The anniversary of the birth of George Washington occurs to-day and will be quietly observed by American citizens.

BEREAVMENT.—We regret to learn of the death at London, on the 26th December last, of Cecelia Douglas, daughter of W A G Young, Esq, aged six years.

STEAM SUBSIDY.—An influential deputation waited upon the Governor yesterday with reference to more frequent steam communication between this port and San Francisco.

THE BATES TROUPE will arrive on the next steamer from Portland.

H. M. S. CHARYBDIS sailed for the East Coast yesterday under sail.

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Barnard's Express
LINE STAGES,
ON THE OPENING OF NAVIGATION, the stages of this line will be placed on the road and leave
Yale for Soda Creek
On Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays,
Carrying Her Majesty's Mail, Barnard's Express and Passenger, connecting at Soda Creek with the
Steamer Victoria
For Quesnelle and Cottonwood Canon, which in turn connects with the
Steamer Enterprise,
Thence to Fort George, making the trip from Yale to Fort George in Six Days
Through Fare [including First Class Passage on Steamers] Victoria to St George, $36.
Stages will leave Quesnelle every Friday Evening for Barkerville.
Fast Freight contracted for.
Ticket Office, Yates Str
Victoria, B C, Feb 16, 1870 F J BARNARD. fe2 daw

PEACE RIVER MINES.
ON THE OPENING OF NAVIGATION
BARNARD'S BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS
Will extend its operations to the newly discovered mines in the Omineca country.
Regular messengers will be placed on the route, who will visit the various mining camps and undertake transactions in every department of the Express business.
Parties wishing to have their letters forwarded will please register their names at any of Barnard's Offices in British Columbia and of Wells, Fargo & Co., in California.
F. J. BARNARD.
fe 22 d & w

For Peace River Gold Mines.
NOTICE.
ON THE OPENING OF NAVIGATION on the Fraser river, the stmrs.
VICTORIA and ENTERPRISE
Will commence their trips in connection with
Barnard's Express and Mail Line of Stages.
THE STEAMER VICTORIA
Will run from Soda Creek to the Canon at Cottonwood, connecting with the
ENTERPRISE,
Which will be placed on the route from the Canon to Fort George.
Victoria, B C, Feb 16, 1870 fe22 3mw

St. George Hotel,
VIEW STREET VICTORIA V I.
John J. Jacobs - - Proprietor.
THIS FINE BRICK BUILDING IS NOW open to the accommodation of the public.
Suites of Rooms, with Board, for Families. Single rooms, with Board, for Gentlemen.
Meals, Table d'Hote, fe22w

STAFFORD & HICKEN,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
Meats, Vegetables, Etc.
QUEEN'S MARKET,
Corner Government and Johnson St, Victoria, B C
Hotels, Restaurants, Ships and Families supplied at short Notice. fe22w

RICHARD CARR
Commission Merchant.
IMPORTER AND DEALER IN
Groceries, Provisions and Oregon Produce.
WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA. fe22w

WILLSON & RICKMAN,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
Family Grocers,
IMPORTERS OF
CALIFORNIA & OREGON PRODUCE
Corner Fort and Douglas streets,
VICTORIA, V I fe19

Wells, Fargo & Company,
CAPITAL $15,000,000
BANKERS.
General Express Forwarders & Collecting Agents to all parts of the World.
VICTORIA OFFICE—Yates street. fe19

H. MANSELL,
GOVERNMENT STREET, VICTORIA, V I,
Two Doors from the Colonial Hotel,
HAS CONSTANTLY ON HAND A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF
Men's Boots, Shoes & Gaiters,
Ladies' Misses, & Children's Shoes.
Gent's Boots made to order in the most approved styles. Repairing done with Neatness and Dispatch.
fe19

Mutual Life Insurance Co'y,
OF NEW YORK,
Capital - - - $36,000,000
DUDLEY EVANS,
Agent for British Columbia and Washington Territory.
OFFICE Wells, Fargo & Co, Yates Street. fe19

JOHN WEILER,
UPHOLSTERER AND PAPERHANGER,
FORT STREET, VICTORIA, V I.
HAS ALWAYS ON HAND OILCLOTH, Carpets Window Blinds and Curtains, Cornices, Brass and Mahogany Poles.
WALLPAPER, Mattresses, of all kinds, Lounges, Tables, Chairs, Bedsteads, Pictures, and a general assortment of Upholstery Goods.
ALSO—Wall Paper Hung, Mattresses and Lounges Repaired and made to order, Carpets sewed and laid, and all kinds of Upholstery work done at reasonable rates.
fe19 1m JOHN WEILER.