

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, October 29, 1867

Our Social Evil.

It has been the custom amongst English people systematically to ignore the existence of certain widespread evils in the community, leaving their discussion to professional classes and publications of limited circulation. There seems, however, of late a tendency evincing to raise this taboo, as an Act amended last year, entitled the "Contagious Disease Prevention Act," was passed through the English Parliament in 1866, and during its various readings gave rise to considerable public discussion. Hitherto its workings have been confined to certain garrison and sea port towns, but as much benefit has resulted from its operation to the civil population, and more especially in diminishing the loss of efficiency through sickness thus hitherto contracted, other towns, and amongst them several of the London Vestries, have lately petitioned to have its provisions extended to them. In this country legislation on this subject is more imperatively called for on behalf of the Indian races than the Europeans, but the evils resulting are of so Protean a nature that the benefits of such measures would not be solely confined to the native tribes. In going round the coast we hear everywhere of the rapid diminution of the Indian population, the cause of which is mainly due to the prevalence of this disease, bringing in its train premature death, absence of fertility, scrofula and consumption—a heritage descending from father to children, and sapping the foundations of health and life. There are constantly in Victoria, on an average, about five hundred Indian women subsisting on prostitution, who from time to time return in many cases to distant tribes with the earnings of this traffic, and in this way contribute to disperse a disease over the country; and as there are no hospitals admitting the Indian in this Colony, the ravages of the disease, unchecked by medical treatment, are such that it is impossible to realize. The absence of any provision for the relief of disease amongst the aborigines in an English Colony is, we conceive, anything but creditable to our boasted philanthropy, as we have only got to go across the Sound and find attached to each of the American Indian reservations a hospital and medical man supported by the State. The establishment of some institution for the mitigation of Indian suffering is an object that commends itself to the colonists generally, the Clergy, Government and Naval authorities specially; and we have no doubt that the Home Government, if applied to, would supplement, as they do in other sea ports, such a scheme, if only for the sake of the men belonging to the Navy and their better protection. We hope that this suggestion may not be misunderstood, as by endeavoring to mitigate such a disease we are not sanctioning any evil, but by attempting thus to control it we shall aid in preserving the native races until, it is hoped, moral and religious influences have time to take root. For obvious reasons we must refer to a perusal of the Act itself as to its provisions for carrying this suggestion out, and believe that its introduction here would relieve much suffering and be productive of benefit to the Colony generally.

Additional Interior Items.

In addition to the mining news from Cariboo which appeared in our columns of yesterday, it is gratifying to be able to state so far from the mines decreasing either in extent or richness, the opposite is the fact. The want of water has for 3 or 4 weeks past proved a great drawback to the miners. The celebrated Bed Rock Drain, whose history consists of a chapter of accidents, had not, up to the 1st of this month, been sufficiently advanced to prove its great value and utility before the season closes; however, the work will be so far completed as to materially assist many of the claimholders in its vicinity in working during the greater part of the winter. Many rich claims in which work was suspended during the summer on account of the stoppage of the drain in June last, will in all probability be successfully mined for some months at least this fall. The Grouse Creek Flume Company have, no doubt, ere this reached pay, as they had commenced active operations before the express left on what is known to be rich ground. The industry of the farmers of the Upper Country has been bountifully rewarded everywhere; the crops have been all that could have been desired, and the wheat especially—a fact to our mind of the greatest importance—is as fine as any California grain. About 11,000 bushels of wheat of excellent quality have been raised, the soil averaging as much as 25 bushels to the acre. The flour mills of Lillooet and Soda Creek are, as far as machinery is concerned, as complete as possible, all the latest improvements having been adopted in their construction. This is the first step towards retaining and usefully employing the gold which has hitherto but

too rapidly found its way out of the Colony. The above quantity of wheat represents a cash value of at least \$100,000, and this amount will no doubt be nearly doubled next year. Oats and barley a sufficient quantity is already raised to supply the wants of the country above Yale, and we have little doubt that next fall will prove that our farmers can raise all the breadstuffs consumed above that point. Abundance of vegetables, for which the soil seems peculiarly adapted, have also been grown, and with these the miners are amply supplied. Great attention has this year been paid to stock raising, and it is the opinion of practical men that in two years at the farthest we shall be in a position to save the very large sums hitherto of necessity expended in the purchase of beef cattle on the other side of the line. This certainly is a satisfactory state of things and we hope that every encouragement will be given by the Legislature to objects so desirable.

ELOPEMENT.—The Salem (Oregon) Record has the following: "It has been currently reported for several days past that Lyta, the fair-haired auctioneer, has left us, and that a trail article of the other sex has left four trifling responsibilities and one at the breast, to share the fortunes of the irretrievable Lyta. The young woman can figure up her future destination to a nicety. The late partner of the fortunes of the auctioneer is now in the Insane Asylum, where she went after making two attempts at suicide, one a pistol shot, the other by morphine. It was fashionable to call the lady Mrs Lyta, but when she became a candidate for the Insane Asylum, that fellow's oath established the fact that she bore another name, which relieved him of her support. How many more of the sex will fall victims to his superior fascinations, time only can determine. Salem is a bad place for auctioneers, as this is the second one who has appropriated another man's wife."

PAPER HUNT.—Another of the interesting old-country games, styled a "paper hunt," will come off to-morrow at 2 o'clock, sharp. At the previous "meets" the Navy took the initiative and invited the co-operation of the inhabitants. In the forthcoming hunt, however, the citizens have arranged the preliminaries, and have extended invitations to the Naval officers. We are glad to see this reciprocity of feeling growing up in our midst; any movement that will tend to bring the two classes more frequently together should be warmly supported. We understand that Admiral Hastings and Mrs Hastings, and many other ladies and gentlemen, will grace the ground with their presence to-morrow. Remember the time and place; 2 o'clock, sharp, at Beacon Hill.

A VERY SERIOUS AFFAIR.—A despatch from New York, dated Oct. 10th, says: "There was considerable excitement in the Stock Exchange to-day, owing to the discovery of counterfeit seven-thirties, of the issue of June, 1865. These notes are the best counterfeits of Government securities ever issued. It is believed the whole amount is not far from \$2,500,000, as some of the largest dealers in this city have been deceived. It is probable that dealers in other cities have been swindled. The counterfeits are of the second series of seven-thirties, dated June 15, 1865, of the dimensions of a thousand dollars."

HARVEST HOME THANKSGIVING.—An appropriate thanksgiving service was held on Sunday afternoon in the little church on Cedar Plains, on the occasion of the safe housing of an abundant harvest in the surrounding neighborhood. The Bishop of Columbia, assisted by the Rev. J. Reynolds, officiated, and a choral music fitted for the occasion was rendered by members of the Cathedral choir and others. The service was well attended by residents in the district and by persons from the city.

INDIAN MURDER.—Yesterday afternoon, at the Indian village, Esquimalt, two natives quarreled, when one plunged a knife into the other's throat, severing the windpipe, and inflicting injuries which leave no hope of the wounded man's recovery. The perpetrator was arrested and brought to town.

TELEGRAPHIC.—Mr R. R. Haines, of the Telegraph Company, arrived from the Sound yesterday, and, with Mr James Gamble, General Superintendent of the same company, will sail to-day in the schooner Winged Racer, on a tour of inspection of the Puget Sound line.

THE MAYORALTY.—We give place to two communications on this subject to-day. Our columns are open to the friends of both parties, and we shall be happy to insert communications in favor of either candidate without charge. Our aim is to afford both sides a fair hearing; but personalities must be avoided.

THE NEW BRIG Robert Cowan was towed in yesterday from Burrard Inlet by the Isabel. She is laden with lumber for Honolulu, S. I., and after taking in some general merchandise will sail for the Islands. Several passengers can be accommodated on the brig.

A FAVORABLE change has taken place in the health of Charles Kean, who has been for some time on a visit at Court House, Taunton. He is suffering from a total prostration of the nervous system brought on by overwork and excitement.

EARLY.—The steamer New World arrived at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon from ports on Puget Sound, followed closely by the steamer Eliza Anderson from the same localities.

POLICE COURT.—Several important charges of thefts, drunkenness and assaults were disposed of yesterday by the Police Magistrate.

Mr. Macdonald's Address as Candidate for the Mayoralty.

EDITORS COLONIST.—In your Saturday's publication appears an address from our present Mayor to the citizens of Victoria, soliciting their suffrages for his re-election to the Civic chair. In the commencing part of this address Mr Macdonald states that he relies upon the character of his past services as the best test of his fitness for future public duty, and takes up quite a high position; but

unfortunately in the concluding part of it he has to descend a few steps, and address the citizens from a lower stand, inasmuch as he has the charge of it necessary to combat the charge of a want of liberality (rather a humiliating position by the way for a candidate for the office of Mayor of a city to have to stoop to). A suspicion seems to be entertained by Mr Macdonald that to come before the citizens with such an objectionable peculiarity would not be the very best recommendation to their favorable notice and might mar his election. Exception, he says, has been taken to my conduct for not being more liberal, (what does he mean by more liberal?) but he is of opinion that the present general depression does not warrant any unnecessary or foolish expenditure. Who said it did? Who asked or expected any such thing of Mr Macdonald? Who amongst us would for one moment suppose Mr Macdonald would be guilty of any such imprudence? Mr Macdonald as not found fault with for not entertaining the citizens and incurring in these times of depression unnecessary outlay and foolish expenditure, but for assuming the liberal, inviting the Fire Brigade to refreshments and saddling the cost of it upon the citizens, although the amount involved was only the insignificant sum of \$26 50, and which would have undoubtedly figured as an item of corporation expenditure, had not ridicule and irony been publicly brought to bear upon it.—The observations then about unnecessary outlay and foolish expenditure are altogether uncalled for and wide of the mark, and have nothing to do with the matter at issue. The citizens of Victoria are far too 'cute to be bamboozled by such representations. While we admit that there is much that we approve of in Mr Macdonald, and as regards his aspirations for the Mayoralty we can but think that his prudence and regard for economy induced him on this occasion to commit a very offensive blunder. Prudence and economy are admirable qualities, but when overstrained they exhibit very strange peculiarities.

There is yet another misconception entertained by Mr Macdonald which I wish to notice; he alludes to the Mayor giving his time and services gratuitously; this I respectfully deny. Mr Macdonald as Mayor gets all he bargained for; he has his vanity ministered to—his name and position occupy a prominent place in public notice; as his Worship the Mayor he has many flattering attentions paid to him—invitations requesting the honor of his company crowd in, and the entrance into more distinguished and extended circles are opened out. He is in the enjoyment of the honor of his position, and we all know how sweet and gratifying these distinctions are to human nature. Let not Mr Macdonald say his services are given gratuitously—their reward is many would feel it so and be gratified. Mr Macdonald perhaps would prefer dollars, men of course are differently constituted; but I submit the reward of the honor of being Mayor in any British dependency should carry with it sufficient and ample compensation, and that any observations about gratuitous services are undignified and unbecoming.

JUNIUS.

The Volunteers and Mr Scott.

EDITORS COLONIST.—Reading Mr Scott's advertisement in to-day's COLONIST, I am rather surprised at his having such a confident disposition as to believe every statement he hears without taking the trouble to investigate the truth of it. If he had referred to the list of the names of the ten Victoria Volunteers who shot in the last match, he would have seen at once that there was no truth in the report he heard as to our not putting forward the best ten we could, for the New Westminster and Victoria Volunteers have had matches now for the last three years, and the names of the best shots on both sides are pretty well known to all parties. As regards his challenge, I can only suggest to Mr Scott, that if he is dissatisfied at his corps having been defeated during his absence, he had better use his exertion to bring about the return match (which we have been expecting for three months' past), and of course he can then shoot, and have the satisfaction of knowing that he can shoot better than any Victoria Volunteer.

We are always glad of the opportunity of having a shooting match against anyone; but, as Volunteers, we do not care to have any heavy money stake involved, this not being customary among Volunteers, who are always supposed to shoot their best for the honor of their corps.

A VICTORIA VOLUNTEER.

The Mayor as a Politician.

EDITOR COLONIST.—Mr. W. J. Macdonald now offers himself for re-election as Mayor of Victoria. I care nothing whether the Mayor gives "feeds" or not; I think he has done his duty in that respect and deserves our thanks. Had he been content in his reply to confine himself to this part of his duty, little could have been said; but when he reminds us of the course he pursued in the Legislative Council, I think his acts there will hardly bear a close scrutiny. I recommend his fellow citizens who require information on this subject to enquire how Mr Macdonald cast his votes during the whole sitting of the Legislative Council, when I fear the balance will be found sadly against him. He who is not for us is against us; between two stools we fall; no public man can fiddle to both sides. The compromise dodge in matters of importance won't do.

CITIZEN.

Bankruptcy Court.

[Before His Lordship Chief Justice Neidham] In re Charles W. Wallace.—First adjourned examination, Adjourned for amended accounts. Re Paris Carter.—This was a summons taken out by Mrs Martin (a creditor) to show cause why the bankrupt should not make further payments. After hearing the evidence adduced His Lordship stated that the summons must be dismissed as the bankrupt had paid all that he could since his bankruptcy.

THE SPANISH INSURRECTION.

Some Account of its Origin, Progress, and Failure.

(Paris (Sept. 24) Correspondence of the London Times.)

The Spanish insurrection being now at an end, I will give you such particulars as have reached me concerning its origin, progress and failure, premising that they are from the most authentic sources. Prim was, as from the first supposed—although his non-appearance on the scene caused doubts to arise—the leading spirit in the movement. He had the assurance that the garrison of a certain town, of which it is unnecessary to give the name, was prepared to rise at his signal. The 15th of August was the day fixed, and simultaneously with the military, a civilian insurrection was to break out throughout the eastern provinces of Spain. Persons who were on the spot suggested that it would be well to let the troops declare themselves before the civilians should incur the pains and penalties of a revolt which, if not shared in by some part of the army and strengthened by the possession of a fortified town, could hardly be expected to succeed. Prim, however, seems to have been very confident that the word pledged to him would be redeemed, and desired that the outbreak should be general upon one given day. Accordingly, on the 15th, as you know, the insurrection broke out, but the garrison (not a very small one) which was to have lifted the banner of liberty, did not stir. This defection was a death-blow to a plan which otherwise had been well organized and was almost sure to succeed. From the first you were told that without a military element the attempt must ultimately be crushed. And so it has proved. With a body of troops, such as that whose aid was promised, to serve as a nucleus and rallying point, other garrisons, other corps, would soon have joined the insurgents, the Government at Madrid itself would probably have thrown up barricades as in 1854, and the Queen would have fled from her capital. As it was, the insurrection held out for a while in the hope of some favorable turn of the cards, and did what it could with scanty arms and few leaders. In numbers it was by no means contemptible. In Arragon, Catalonia, Valencia, and on the borders of Murcia and Castille, 12,000 men were on foot, including a few hundreds of the carabineros or Custom House Guards, a regularly trained military corps. Besides these there were a certain number of the insurgents who were well armed, (there had been some small arms upon the frontier), but the majority had only fowling-pieces and knives. In the Province of Arragon, where the insurgents were strongest (not less than 6,000 men), many persons of property and position, including Mayors of towns and other functionaries, were to be found among them. After holding out for a certain time, and finding that there was a want of direction, and that the military cooperation promised to them had broken down, these people, many of whom had considerable stakes in the country, families dependent on them, and property to be concealed, have accepted the proffered *indulto* or amnesty, and returned to their homes, whither it is to be hoped they may not be hereafter followed and prosecuted by the bitter reaction likely to follow in Spain. As regards fighting, there has been very little, far less than might be supposed. In the Province of Arragon there has been none; the troops avoided attacking the insurgents. You will remember that the garrison of Reus went out and exchanged a few shots—a man or two wounded on either side—and then retired to its quarters. The affair in Arragon, in which General Manso was killed, was a much more serious business, and very dramatic in its incidents. Manso, it appears, was marching with a few hundred infantry and fifty horses several hours ahead of his main body, when he fell in with the insurgents under Pierrad, about four hundred in strength, half of them being the Custom House Guards, and the other half Arragonese, people of the country, imperfectly armed. In point of numbers the antagonists were pretty equally matched, and it also happened that both sides were but slenderly provided with ammunition. A brisk little action ensued, and lasted till all the cartridges were consumed, when there appears to have been a sort of lull, and, as is not unusual in Spanish civil wars, a certain amount of vituperation was exchanged, in default of bullets; between the Queen's men and the rebels, the former taunting the latter with not coming out, although nothing is said of the reason why they, as the better-armed and regular force, did not set the example. Galled by the reproach, the two hundred Custom House Guards charged with the bayonet; their comrades, the Arragonese paisanos, had no bayonets, but they had fowling-pieces and blunderbusses, and especially they were all provided with those formidable knives, deadly weapons at close quarters, of common use in many parts of Spain. So they went on, too, knife in hand. The soldiers had not expected this, and were taken aback by the novelty of these drawn up Arragonese mountaineers, charging down upon them with gleaming knife-blades a foot long. In short, the combined charge was completely successful, a number of soldiers were killed with bayonet or knife, Gen Manso himself was shot from his saddle by one of those huge bell-mouthed blunderbusses that the Cura Merino particularly affected in his raids against the French, and those of the troops who were not *hors de combat* fled in wild confusion. But a few of them reached Huesca, and, but for one of those accidents common in war, their pursuers would have entered it within them. Huesca would have been taken, Barcelona, close at hand, would probably have shared the same fate, and so the insurrection would have been established in positions within a very short distance of Saragossa, a city usually prompt enough to raise its banner when the cry of 'Liberty' is uttered near its gates. But it was known that the main body of Manso's command was at no great distance behind. Some of the insurgents fancied they caught sight of troops advancing; the cry, 'We are out off!' was raised, and had its usual effect on raw soldiers. The band fled and scattered, and Pierrad was never able to get more than a very small portion of it together again. As you know, he entered France the other day, and is said to be wounded.

CALIFORNIA PATENT ANCHOR.—LLOYD & STEWART'S PATENT ANCHOR.—Some months ago we published a description of a new anchor, invented by Messrs G A Lloyd and O A Stewart, of this city. At that time we expressed our opinion that it was the best anchor yet made, and the tests which have since been applied to it have fully vindicated its claims to superiority over any ground tackle in use. The inventors some time since applied to Washington for a patent, and by the last steamer they received letters patent from the US Government. The advantages possessed by this invention over the old anchor are many and great. In the first place, it dispenses entirely with the old-fashioned, cumbersome stock, which has always been such a source of annoyance to seamen, in getting their ground tackle aboard and stowing it. In the second place, the palms of the flukes are turned outwards; that is to say, they are placed at right angles to the position occupied by the flukes of the old anchor. Instead of their being welded in a solid piece with the shank, they are entirely separate, pivoting on the crown, to which they are secured by a pin, which can be easily drawn, and a strong metal key bolt. Again, the flukes are bent different ways, in the same fashion as a Limerick fish-hook, so that when one enters the ground the other is forced to bite. The strain, too, is equally divided, and from the peculiar formation of the anchor no amount of pitching can loosen its grip; but all such motion only tends to make it bite deeper, and notwithstanding this, it is brought home with far less trouble than any of its predecessors. The absence of the stock renders it absolutely impossible to foul it with its own or any other cable. When fished, it hangs clear of everything, and is easily taken on board and stowed, being in separate pieces. Another advantage arising from this separation of the flukes and shank is, that in case of accident to the former, they can at any time be replaced by spare ones, and the anchor therefore need never be damaged. Messrs L and S have made arrangements for taking out patents in all the principal maritime countries, and they have now a 1000 pound anchor in New York, to be tested by the Board of Underwriters. There can be no doubt as to the value and importance of the invention, and we believe that so soon as its merits become generally known, it will be adopted by every government that regards the preservation of its navy, and every shipowner who cares for the safety of his vessel.—S F Times.

A CURIOUS HISTORICAL FACT.—A curious question was discussed at a recent meeting of the British Royal Geographical Society. Sir Henry Rawlinson expressed the opinion that the sea of Aral—a body of water having an area of 23,000 square miles—had no existence in the long period between 600 years before Christ and 600 years after, and the rivers Oxus and Jaxartes, now flowing into it, both flowing into the Caspian sea. He said: "The sea first comes into notice in the Seventh Century, and these two are spoken of for several hundred years as emptying into it. Another change seems to have occurred between 1300 and 1500, and the rivers again flowed into the Caspian sea; but since the latter date they slowly changed their channels until they found an outlet in the sea of Aral." This theory was combated by Sir Roderick Murchison, the geologist, who affirmed that the mere absence of allusion to the sea of Aral was no proof of its non-existence, and cited the geological evidence that whatever changes the sea had undergone must have occurred long before the birth of history or tradition. Sir Henry Rawlinson, in reply, said that evidence exists in the writings of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries that a common highway of travel from Europe to Asia passed directly over the region now covered by the waters of the Aral. His opponent admitted that such evidence would be conclusive. Here the debate ended, with the understanding that Sir Henry is to collect and publish the proofs of his assertion. 'Pat' said Judge Sniff to his neighbor in a sleeping car, 'you would have remained a long time in the old country before you could have slept with a judge.' 'Yes, yer honor, and ye would have been a long time in the old country before ye'd been a judge.'

Dinneford's Fluid Magnesia

In the great remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations and Billious Affections. It is the Physicist's cure for GOUT, RHEUMATIC GOUT, GRAVEL and other Complaints of the Bladder, and in cases of FEVER, AND FEVERISH IRRITABILITY OF SKIN. It produces grateful cooling effects. As a safe and gentle medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and for the sickness of Pregnancy, Dinneford's Magnesia is indispensable, and when taken with the Acidulated Lemon Syrup forms A Delightful Effervescent Saline Aperient. PREPARED BY DINNEFORD & CO., CHEMISTS, LONDON, And Sold by Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the World. CAUTION.—Ask for "Dinneford's Magnesia," and see that Dinneford & Co. is on every Bottle and Label. FRAUD On the 27th June, 1866, MOTERWALLAH, a Printer, was convicted at the Supreme Court, Calcutta, of counterfeiting the LABELS of Messrs CROSE & BLACKWELL, London, and was sentenced by Mr Justice Phair to TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT; And on the 30th of the same month, for SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES. Bearing Labels in imitation of Messrs CROSE & BLACKWELL'S, SHAIK BACHOO was sentenced, by the Suburban Magistrate at Sealdah, to TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT. CAUTION.—Anyone SELLING SPURIOUS OILMEN'S CROSE, under Crose & Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will be rigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine a good carefully before taking delivery of them. The GENUINE Manufacture of Messrs Crose & Blackwell may be had from EVERY RESPECTABLE DEALER on Vancouver Island. my 29 1 aw