

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

Tuesday, January 15, 1867

The Mail Subsidy Again.

A few days ago we referred to the existing contract with the ocean steamers for the carriage of the mails between San Francisco and this port, and showed that the advantages to be derived from a continuance of the subsidy were not commensurate with the expense entailed. Since the publication of our article a call for tenders for an ocean mail service has appeared in the Gazette, and the Government will soon have an opportunity afforded for a test of the sincerity of its professions of a desire to retrench and economize. Next to the cutting down of the absurdly high salaries attached to the Civil List of the Colony, we consider that this mail subsidy requires an application of the pruning-knife. When the subsidy was first granted it was for an especial object. The loss of the Labouchere and the partial failure of the Big Bond mines, removed all prospect of a healthy opposition to a dangerous monopoly, and rendered a continuance of the system unnecessary and unprofitable. Without taking into consideration the changed aspect of affairs, Government appears determined to repeat an experiment which has not only proved expensive, but which has actually failed in accomplishing the simplest end it was claimed would be gained by its adoption; and it is proposed, in addition to paying an enormous sum of money for the conveyance of the mails between Victoria and San Francisco, to pay the monopoly for extending the trips of the steamers to New Westminster and exclude from the intercolonial trade a British boat in every respect adequate to the service between the last-named ports. When, the other day, the Cariboo miners—numbering 1400 souls by actual count—petitioned for a semi-monthly mail during the winter months to Williams Creek, instead of the monthly service which they now enjoy, (?) what was the answer that our paternal Government vouchsafed to their request? "The country is too poor to pay for the service!" And yet we have this model Government, forgetting that the object of its existence is to work the greatest good to the greatest number, advertising for the carriage of mails by ocean steamships for the special benefit of a community of three hundred souls! Money can be found when the interests of New Westminster are to be subserved; but when the "life and soul" of the Colony—the men who dig and delve, and pay three-fourths of the taxes—who are engaged in developing almost the only source of wealth we have, and without whom Government and people might at once pack up their traps and "skedaddle"—when these men, we say, ask for facilities that will render their life of toil and privation endurable and make them more content to winter in a country as uninviting and destitute of comfort as Cariboo—the answer they receive is a flat refusal. Is there any show of justice in a policy that starves the mind of the producer, while it lavishes its favors upon the less deserving consumer? What we have written of New Westminster will apply almost as forcibly to Victoria. We want direct and regular steam communication, it is possible to obtain it at a figure within our grasp; but at present we are following the boyish example of old Ben Franklin and "paying too dear for our (steam) whistle." We are paying the enormous, the outrageous sum of \$30,000 per annum for a service that would be dear at half the price; and the Government proposes to repeat this folly for the ensuing twelve months, while it professes that it cannot afford to send a mail more than once a month to Cariboo, where the interest on which every other interest depends is located, and where the population outnumbers that of any other community on the mainland to the ratio of five to one! But this is not the only injustice proposed. The call for tenders to extend the service to New Westminster is simply asking a

foreign company to state what sum of money will compensate them for undertaking the job of "running off" from the intercolonial trade a British steamer belonging to a Corporation to which the Colony is indebted for maintaining low and uniform rates of passage and freight in these waters. Drive the Hudson Bay Company's boats out of the trade, and in what position would the subsidy-screamers find themselves after a few months of high steamboat charges? In bankruptcy.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Wednesday, Jan. 8th.

Wreck of the Hawaiian Bark Mauna Kea.

The schooner Gazelle, Capt Nanovich, from the North West Coast, arrived last night off Beacon Hill, having two sailors of the Hawaiian bark Mauna Kea, Capt Robinson, which vessel left Port Gamble with lumber for the Sandwich Islands, on the 2nd of November, and was totally lost near Koskeemo Sound on the 25th of the same month. The bark was thrown on her beam ends, and when off Cape Flattery, on the 10th of November; the deck load went over the side; the second mate, Mr Brooks, was lost overboard, and a seaman, named Johnson, who was in the cabin, drowned. The main and mizen masts were cut away when the vessel righted, but being waterlogged she floated helplessly for fifteen days—the persons on board suffering dreadful privations—when she went ashore at Koskeemo and broke up almost immediately. All hands landed on rafts and were immediately made prisoners by the Indians, who reduced them to a state of slavery. They were held captive for forty days, when the two men who arrived last night contrived to escape, and reached the Hudson Bay Company's station at Fort Rupert on the 28th of December, where their wants were supplied by Capt Monat and passages secured for them on the Gazelle, which sailed thence on the 2nd inst., for Victoria. Capt Monat had despatched messengers to Koskeemo demanding the release of the captives; but no answer had been received up to the sailing of the schooner. Two of the survivors at Koskeemo were terribly frost-bitten and nearly dead from the effects of exposure while on the wreck. The Gazelle will reach port to-day, when full particulars will be gleaned. The Otter was last seen at Fort Simpson, and the schooner Sweepstakes is on the way down.

A SHEL—Yesterday the operator at San Juan Island telegraphed that a large steamer was rounding Race Rocks, bound in. The item appeared on the bulletin boards and speculation immediately became rife, as to what the stranger could be. Satisfied that it could not be the Active, the general surmise was, that it was one of the ships of war, expected from the South. Finally, some wag started the idea that it was H. M. iron clad Zealous. Without waiting to reflect whether this could be possible, since her departure from England has not yet been announced, away flew provision-dealers and navy contractors in hired vehicles, headed by the Red House, of Yates street, each anxious to have the first introduction to the new Admiral, his purser and stewards. The panting steeds were not pulled up until they reached Esquimaux, when, to the astonishment and chagrin of the vigilant trademen "natey" steamer was to be seen. The poor fellows who had been thus victimized, found there was no help for it but to "smile" and look pleasant, while they began to find various pretenses for the flying nature of their visit.

THEATRE.—The Pixley Sisters appeared for the second time last night to a fair house. The entertainment commenced with the farce of a "Pleasant Neighbor," in which the Misses Annie and Minnie Pixley appeared assisted by Miss Jenny Arnot and the Marshes. The piece went off spiritedly. An interlude of song and dance followed in which the three Pixley girls were loudly applauded. Miss Annie is a pleasing, unassuming songstress, possessing considerable compass of voice. Her Highland fling was capitally executed. Miss Minnie sings and dances well and has an evident taste for the comic. Her violin duet with Mr Barney was clever. Little Lucy is also a promising little singer. The performance concluded with a "Borrowed Beau" which was well rendered, though the prompting was too frequent and too audible. Our old favorite Jenny Arnot acted in both pieces in her invariably attractive style.

BAD BOYS.—The city of Portland is noted for the number of bad and reckless boys which it contains. As an evidence of this we mention that yesterday afternoon a boy ten years old stabbed another of his own age in the thigh. Happily for him the wound was not as serious as it might have been. Parents have much to answer for the manner in which they bring up their children.—Oregonian.

I. O. or O. F.—At a meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., held Monday evening last, the following-named gentlemen were elected as officers, and duly installed by D. D. G. M. Jas. Drummond, viz.: J. Sehl, N. G.; E. Hegele, V. G.; John C. Keenan, R. S.; Frank Sylvester, P. S.; Thos. Hammond, T. The following-named gentlemen were appointed to fill the respective subordinate offices, viz.: Rev. Thos. Somerville, Chaplain; L. Vigelius, W.; Robt Lettice, C.; L. Stemmler, R. S. N. G.; J. W. Keyser, L. S. N. G.; H. M. Cohen, R. S. S.; D. W. Lammon, L. S. S.; John Reid, R. S. V. G.; S. R. Hudson, L. S. V. G.; Phil. J. Hall, O. G.; J. Lowen, I. G.

REMOVAL OF THE SHERIFF.—We are sorry to learn that Mr Adamson, the highly popular Sheriff of the Island, has received notice that the Governor cannot confirm his commission. Changes necessary under the Act of Union are assigned as the cause. Mr Adamson has made a valuable public servant, and has discharged his duties in a most unexceptionable manner. We regret his loss. If his removal be necessary to carry out the general retrenchment scheme of His Excellency, no complaint will be heard; but if it be intended to make room for some "court favorite" by dismissing Mr Adamson, the change is nothing less than an outrage.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS.—George E. Cole has been appointed Governor of Washington Territory vice Wm. Pickering, removed. Gov. Cole is at Monticello, and is expected at Olympia on the 8th inst. Mr Cole was a member of Congress from this Territory two years ago. General S. J. McKinney has been appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs vice W. H. Waterman, removed. General McKinney arrived at Olympia on the 5th inst., and it is expected that he will take charge of the office in a few days.

THE TIGERS.—At a regular monthly meeting of Tiger Engine Co., No. 2, held last night, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing six months: Charles Brooks, Foreman, re-elected; A. F. Keyser, 1st Assistant; Jeremiah Madden, 2nd Assistant; Simeon Duck, President, re-elected; James Gillon, Recording Secretary; Ed. S. Jungermann, Financial Secretary, re-elected; Henry Mansell, Treasurer, re-elected.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH FESTIVAL will take place this evening. In addition to the addresses to be delivered, great preparations have been made by the ladies and gentlemen of the congregation for rendering it socially as attractive as possible, and it is fully expected that the building will be crowded. Children will be admitted at half-price. Tea will be served at 7 o'clock.

SALE OF ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL PROPERTY.—Mr McCreight yesterday sold a portion of the St. Nicholas Hotel building and lot for the sum of \$6000, to L. Lowenberg. The property sold comprises 33x120 feet of ground and forty of the rooms of the hotel. The sale includes the stairs and halls. The remainder of the building will be sold in a few days.

JOHN MITCHELL.—This vagabond rebel lately arrived at New York from France. No doubt he has spent the seventy thousand dollars of Fenian money which he took over with him, and is now back for more. He and John Morrissey have probably been called to Washington ere this as advisers of the President.—Oregonian.

NEW TERRITORY.—A memorial has been introduced in the Idaho Legislature asking Congress to create a new Territory, to include all that portion of Idaho lying north of forty-four degrees forty-five minutes, and all that part of Washington Territory lying east of the Cascade mountains. The name proposed for the new Territory is "Columbia."

EXPRESS FOR THE BIG BEND.—The Hudson Bay Company will despatch an express to the Big Bend country by the next trip of the "Enterprise." Parties interested may send in letters, stamped, to the office of the Company by 3 p. m. to-day.

STEALING GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.—Philip Durco was charged yesterday in the Police Court on suspicion of stealing a wheelbarrow, the property of the Lands and Works Department, and was remanded for one week.

THE STEAMER JOHIE McNEAR arrived last night from ports on Puget Sound with 20 passengers and a large freight of stock and produce. She called at San Juan Island, where she was detained nine hours, taking on board cattle for this market.

GREENBAUM, who took French leave of his British Columbia creditors a few weeks ago, arrived at Olympia by the last trip of the Anderson.

ASSAULT.—Charley, a Fort Rupert Indian, was yesterday fined \$20 or two months' imprisonment, for an unprovoked assault committed on Mr J. Kriemler.

THE NEW WESTMINSTER EXAMINER will shortly be considerably enlarged in size and otherwise improved in appearance.

THE steamer Henrietta, Captain Dodge, has been at Olympia for the last week.

Municipal Council.

MONDAY, January 7.

Present: His Worship the Mayor and a full board.

An account for rent was ordered to be paid when funds would permit.

A communication from J. Joseph was ordered to lie over.

A communication from Mr Heberd, in reference to previous proceedings, was ordered to be received and filed.

THE MAYOR AND THE B. C. COUNCIL.

Mr Gowen introduced a motion of which he had given notice, requesting His Worship, the Mayor, to resign his office as Mayor.

Mr Heberd was of opinion that the Mayor could not hold the appointment as Mayor, though he might as magistrate. He asked the Mayor to express his views. He should be glad to see the Mayor in the Council.

Mr Layzell thought that the Mayor, as a Crown nominee, would have his hands tied when a Government measure conflicted with the interests of the people, but he should be glad to see his Worship in the Council.

Mr Gibbs did not apprehend any conflict of interests, and thought that after the compliment paid by the Government in appointing the Chief Magistrate of the city, who was the choice of the people, that his Worship's presence in the Council was advisable, and might be productive of much good.

After a few words from the mover the motion passed without dissent.

The Mayor said he was appointed as a British Columbia magistrate and not as Mayor. It appeared to be the wish of the Council that he should go to the Council and he would therefore accept the appointment, although he should much prefer remaining here and could only go at great personal sacrifice, but he believed the interests of the city required that we should muster all the force at command, and he took the opportunity of saying that he should take his seat there perfectly independent of the Government, and should lend his voice and vote wholly on the side of the Island members in all matters affecting the interests of this constituency.

JAMES BAY.

A petition came up from seven-tenths of the landowners for the compulsory construction of a sidewalk on Quebec street, and the clerk was ordered to notify the parties to have the same laid down.

Council adjourned till Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

Supreme Court.

IN CHANCERY.

Veredythen vs. McHugh, Zinn and Pujol.

MONDAY, Jan. 7, 1867.

This was a suit instituted in equity against McHugh and Zinn to set aside a certain deed of mortgage made in 1864 by Veredythen to McHugh for \$6000, on the ground of material alteration in the deed of mortgage after execution and registration. Zinn was made a party to the suit in consequence of his having purchased the property from the mortgagee McHugh. Mr Pujol was a second mortgagee of the part admitted to have been mortgaged, and claimed to be first mortgagee of the remainder. The matter in dispute was whether 57 feet or 120 feet on Douglas street was really mortgaged to McHugh.

The Solicitor General, instructed by Mr Bishop, appeared for the Plaintiff; Mr Robertson watched the case for Pujol, and Mr McCreight, instructed by Drake & Jackson, represented Mr McHugh.

The case occupied part of Friday last and was continued yesterday.

Mr McCreight closed his address on behalf of the defendant, claiming that the plaintiff was perfectly cognizant of the whole transaction, and really did convey the entire property.

The Solicitor General replied on behalf of the plaintiff, who offered no evidence, contending that his client only intended to convey 33x57 feet of the property.

The case was on when the Court rose.

TUESDAY, Jan. 8, 1867.

The Solicitor General concluded his address in behalf of the plaintiff, and his lordship decided that the evident intention of the plaintiff was to mortgage the entire property, and dismissed the bill, with costs.

INTERPLEADER SUMMONS.—Adamson vs. Nesbitt.—The Sheriff having levied in execution obtained by Kent & Frost against H. Fowler, upon a certain horse claimed by Nesbitt, the parties appeared before His Lordship with affidavits, and the Court sustained the execution.

The Sheriff in person, Mr Green for Nesbitt.

Napoleon Seeking an Anti-Russian Alliance and Agitation in Poland.

(Berlin Cor. of the London Times.)

The language of the Russian Government press in regard to the rising shadow of the Eastern question is becoming so violent that it behooves me to notice it. While the official and semi-official papers of St. Petersburg are encouraging the insurgents, speaking of the overthrow of Turkey as a necessary and, indeed, imminent event, their Warsaw contemporaries have opened a regular campaign against any Powers suspected of being inimical to Russian aggrandisement. Above all others Austria and France come in for a fair share of their wrath. On Russia's present relations with Austria I intend soon to enlarge more fully; but what the Czar's Government thinks of French policy at this moment, notwithstanding its apparent reserve, will be seen from the following:

The Russian Deneznik, a Warsaw Government paper, in the Russian language, intended to publish the appropriate tone to the Russian civil and military service in Poland, among many articles of a similar bias contains the annexed correspondence from Paris: "Even before his departure from Constantinople the Marquis de Moustier began hostile operations against Russia. He has forbidden

den the Porte to cede some islands in the Mediterranean to Russia and the United States. At the same time a great intimacy is represented to have sprung up between France and Russia—a statement, it is thought, designedly made to conceal the intention existing at Paris of concluding an alliance with Russia or England. Some foreign papers, it is true, find a man like M. Lesseps in the field, recommending a Franco-Russian league, remember that such an alliance might be in the interest of France, if she had at all intended to solve the Eastern question. However this may be, certain it is that the recovery of the Aya Sophia would redound to the glory of Christendom, and that foreigners, unacquainted with the Greek religion, are incompetent to form a judgment upon the Eastern question. If Russia becomes the master of the Bulgarians, Bosnians, and Albanians, she will derive as little advantage from their allegiance as does Turkey. She will guarantee them their religion and nationality, but they are too poor to enrich Russia, nor will they render her armies more victorious than at present. It is not Russia who has revived the Oriental difficulty, but that difficulty has revived itself. The Paris Congress having been unable to settle it, did not more than cause its adjustment to be deferred. There is no particular acuteness required to prophesy that Turkey, perhaps, will have ceased to exist six months hence. Everybody nowadays acknowledges that in the whole course of history a more absurd Government than the Ottoman never held sway. But the Eastern question is not confined to one locality only; by the piercing of the Isthmus of Suez it will be removed from the Bosphorus to India."

The inuendo thrown out in the first sentences of this extract is improved upon by the other Government paper of Warsaw, Deneznik Warszawski, which, being written in the vernacular of the country, is meant for the instruction of the native portion of Polish society. The Paris correspondent of the Deneznik says: "I am frequently asked why the Deneznik (the Warsaw paper in Russian above quoted) has lately begun to attack France. Probably it has convinced itself that the Polish worm gnawing at the entrails of Russia is fed by France. Is it decent, is it becoming for the Poles to allow the flames of dissatisfaction to be fanned by foreign fuel and to serve as scapegoats to all the French embassies that will take them in? Russia progresses with gigantic strides. It is—sad infatuation to dream of stopping her onward march. Proud of her riches and intelligence, every one of us rejoices to be called Russian. France, throwing impediments in our way and desirous of marring our development, forgets how much Russian money finds its way into her coffers in exchange for the products of her 'Brammagen' civilization."

From the fact of such sentiments being officially propagated among the dominant as well as the subject race of our neighboring empire, it is, perhaps, not rash to conclude that the Russian Government think they have reason to look forward to foreign complications, against which it would be better to prepare public opinion at once. True, the habit of intemperate thought and language, so characteristic of the Slav, may be observed also in the official publications of the Governments, which, therefore, must not be taken for more than they are worth. In the present instance, however, there is such marked unanimity and perseverance in the attitude of the inspired press that the probability of their perorations being based upon facts, is, it must be owned, greatly increased. Indeed, I was a few days ago in a position to communicate certain intelligence calculated to corroborate the misgivings alarming the Russian mind.

The Saturday Review thus briefly defines the liberty of the Press in France: "Any Frenchman may establish a newspaper, provided he says nothing about politics, but confines himself to reporting scandalous anecdotes and relating delicate stories."

A sentimental young man thus feelingly expressed himself: "Even as nature's beauty, so she endow women with pins."

Can any one tell how men live and support their families who have no income and do not work; while others who are industrious and constantly employed, half starve?

As Gen. Butler was driving from his hotel Columbus, O., to the depot, a man in great haste ran from the sidewalk into the street, stopped the carriage, and exclaimed, holding up a dirty spoon, "Here, General, here's something you dropped."

AN ODD POSITION FOR A CORPSE.—Out West, not long since, a worthy woman lost her worthy husband. In the midst of her grief she was anxious that his remains should be duly honored according to the proprieties. She did the best she could with her own unaided premises to make the needed room. Before the hour appointed for the service, or the expected friends and relatives arrived, in came snuffy Mrs Grundy—on a preliminary call of curiosity and inquisition.

"Laws me!" she exclaimed through her nasal organ, as she peered about. "How nice you do look. All fixed for the funeral very smart, indeed. Borrowed some cheers, didn't ye? Bless me, a new clock, too, since I was here last, there in the corner, haint ye?"

"Oh, no! oh, no!" roared out and groaned the disconsolate widow; "that's my poor, dear husband. We had to stand his coffin up on end to make room enough for the company—oh! oh!"

EXECUTIONS IN SPAIN.—Gaignani describes a singular formality with which executions in Spain are accompanied. After the executioner has performed his office, he is surrounded by gendarmes and loaded with chains, and taken to prison, and thence before an examining magistrate, where the following dialogue takes place: "You are accused of having taken the life of a man." "Yes," answers the executioner, "it is true." "What was your motive for the crime?" "To obey the law and fulfil the mission confided to me by justice." An indictment is then drawn up, and on the following day the man is taken before the tribunal, which immediately pronounces an acquittal, and the prisoner is liberated, after his confinement of twenty-four hours.

ROBBERY.—Richard Hies, John Mepher Middleton, were yesterday before Mr Pemberton charged \$470 in coin and a deposit of \$40 from the sloop Leoneda, the sarge A. Atkinson. Mr Bishop prosecuted, and Mr Ring to defend. The case was further remanded.

DREW'S CHURCH TEA MEETING, was one of the most agreeable to our lot to attend. Tea was Royal Charter building on Fort to which was gained through rear premises. After tea, adjourned to the church, where delivered by Revs Mr Somers, Chief Justice Needham, and others. The ladies were which the party separated more lengthy notice to day.

OF THE LINCOLN.—The U. S. cutter Lincoln, Capt. White, leaving from Port Townsend, to trial of the mail. Among the board were Collector Wilson, Mr Gerrish and Mr Taylor. Mr return to-day. Thick weather the Straits, and nothing was

er Crosby, the vessel that returned from the Columbia River, is still lying in Port Townsend. She will require extensive repairs, and is bound for Port-Juan Island with lime, and south of the Columbia River for afraid to venture across on severe weather.

WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Captain Erskine, returned from Astoria, yesterday with fifteen The most important news in Astoria has been anticipated by the weather on the mainland. The Fidelity has on board salmon for Portland.

had not arrived up to the time to press. The weather in reported thick, which probably her non-arrival yesterday.

FIRE occurred in a house on last evening, but was extinguished the arrival on the spot of the

Douglas and Enterprise steamers New Westminster upon the mail to-day.

LAND.—The steamer Fidelity left Portland at 9 o'clock on Friday

Supreme Court.

Chief Justice NEEDHAM.

TUESDAY, Jan. 8, 1867.

Keenan.—A verdict of \$700 was returned against defendant at the bar of the Court, being the difference in value of land and a fee simple in land estate sold by defendant to \$1500.

General, instructed by Peakes moved to set aside the verdict on account of misdirection and suppression of evidence. Mr McCreight, instructed by Peakes, opposed, and the Court refused.

Bankruptcy Court.

Chief Justice NEEDHAM.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9, 1867.

Bankrupt discharged. A bill in hand to credit of estate to Mrs Meerey for support of

Cowles, and Crooks, of the Work appointed to act with assignee.

Francis.—In forma pauperis; pro-

Francis.—Judgment debtor summoned ordered to furnish security of a note of \$500 in 6, 9 and

Quartz.—Adjudicated a bankrupt on petition.

Francis.—Adjudicated a bankrupt on petition.

Water from Cariboo.

(From the "Columbian.")

W. W. Sankey, who left Williams on the 23d ultimo, and arrived in this city last night, we have obtained the following information:—On Williams Creek continued very mild and all the claims were being worked with success. On the 22nd the washed up 230 ounces, and the was yielding steadily 50 ounces a day on Green Creek; and of \$600 to the share for the Discovery was yielding well. result of mining operations generally as most encouraging. from Canyon Creek was good. in the Washburn claim was in prospect struck.