

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

Saturday, November 28, 1868

THE propriety of extending the provisions of the new Reciprocity Treaty, now in course of preparation at Washington, over this Colony, is being urged upon the attention of the Home Government by British Colonists resident in London, and others having important interests here.

THE elections in Great Britain have resulted in an overwhelming defeat for the Ministry, and the return of the Liberals to power with Gladstone as Premier is virtually secured.

ALARMING ACCOUNTS of the state of public feeling in San Francisco continue to be received here. Several large firms have already closed out their business, and withdrawn from the State, and many others are preparing to follow.

FAMINE AT THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.—Mr Macavish, the Governor of the Red River Settlement, writes that the Council of the district had decided on distributing aid in net-twine, hooks and ammunition to the poor among the settlers to the extent of £500, and on importing flour to the extent of £500, and send wheat to the extent of £600, from the public funds.

THE OYSTER.—This vessel is to leave early this morning, having been detained beyond the time fixed for sailing.

A Washington letter-writer says:—Reverdy Johnson's speechifying diplomacy is only not relished generally here, but is absolutely meeting with disfavor by many of the liberalists of England.

CENTRAL AMERICA.—The Panama Star and Herald of a late date says:—On Saturday some dozen native gentlemen were invited to the Government house on important business, which they found on getting there was for the purpose of borrowing from them the sum of \$8000, on refusing to loan which they were locked up for the night.

ARRIVED.—The bark M B Roberts, Capt. Rollins, from San Francisco arrived yesterday, having left that port on the 11th inst., three days of which time were lost on entering the Straits from light adverse winds.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.—Some sensible improvements are being made in the wings of the different offices at the Government buildings. The old flat roofs covered with tin, which were always leaky, have been raised and shingled.

POLICE COURT.—Two Stickeen Indians were before the Court yesterday on a charge of fighting; they were both bound over in \$30 to keep the peace for six months, or in default to be imprisoned for one month.

RECOVERED.—About two months ago a silver communion plate disappeared mysteriously from the Wesleyan Parsonage, Broad street, and a Chinaman who was employed in cleaning out the premises made himself scarce about the same time.

REARRANGEMENT.—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company is to carry all documents and such other mail matter as may be directed to be sent by that route between New York and San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama; and arrangements have been made with Wells, Fargo & Co. to carry the mails overland between the termini of the Union and the Central Pacific Railroads until the junction is formed between those roads.

EARTHQUAKE AT SEA.—The American ship Isaac Jeans, which arrived last week at Port Townsend from Acapulco, reports that when a few days out from that port she encountered three fearful tidal waves which filled all on board with consternation, and would have caused the ship to founder had she not been 'head on.'

THE LECTURE.—The Committee of the Mechanics' Institute, and the members of the Institution, have made their arrangements for Mr Jenne's Lecture on Thursday night, and are working hard together to make it a great success.

WOLVES.—In the neighborhood of Swan Lake, and even nearer to the Arm, the wolves have recently come from the hills and made serious depredations upon the farmers. Sheep especially have suffered.

SMALL-POX.—Since our last report of this contagion, embracing five days, there has not been a single new case reported to the Town Clerk up to yesterday at noon.

European News Summary.

[DAYS TO OCTOBER 15TH.]

The local Junta of Seville, at the request of the United States Consul, have granted permission to the foreign residents to build a Protestant Church within the walls of the city.

Mr Gladstone made a speech at Liverpool on Oct. 10th. He spoke earnestly of the need of reform, and quoted and dwelt on the words of D'Arcey Mesles, a Conservative, on the cause of Irish discontent as 'a voice of the dead from over the ocean.'

The Pope, having lately been making war on the Freemasons, the latter have taken a cruel revenge. They publish the minutes of a Lodge in Sicily, containing the initiation of P. Jean Masini Ferrafini, better known as Pius IX. This document is accompanied by a photograph, representing the successor of the Apostles robed in Masonic insignia.

The Danish Biagard, on Oct. 15th, in reply to the King's opening speech, regrets the failure of the negotiations with Prussia in the matter of Schleswig-Holstein; rejoices in the unity of feeling between the King and the people; hopes for a continuance of friendly relations with Prussia, and that the international differences may be easily settled.

It was reported in London, on Oct. 10th, that the French Government had furloughed 30,000 men from the army and navy.

The Joint Committee of the Anglo-American and Atlantic Telegraph Companies has decided to abolish, from and after Nov. 1st, 1868, the system of counting letters in estimating tariffs, and to count only by words.

It is announced by an English medical journal of authority that Queen Victoria's health is not sufficiently good to permit her continued residence in London.

Mr Chisholm Anstey decided, in one of the London Revising Courts, that women are entitled to vote under the new Reform Act, on the ground that the term 'man' in the Act of Parliament referred to both sexes unless the contrary was stated.

An official telegram received from Lemvig on the western coast of Jutland, received in Copenhagen September 26, states that the Grand Duke Alexis had been saved from the wreck of the frigate Alexander Newski, and had landed, at Lemvig, in good health. Great exertions were being made to save those of the crew who were still on board.

L'Armees Illustrée of Paris, in its edition of September 24, gives a portrait of Mr Anson Burlingame, with extracts from several English papers, and adds the following paragraph: However the case may be, it is certain the Chinese Embassy will be excellently received in France, not only by the people generally, but also in official circles, which fact will tend to influence the tenor of the treaty that Mr Burlingame intends proposing to the Imperial Government.

The Paris journals publish the following extraordinary case of foetus:—During the war in the Crimea Alessandro La Marmora, brother of the present General, died, as may be remembered, of cholera, and was buried at Balaklava. Some Tartars, it appears, have violated the tomb, stripped the body of the deceased, and carried off the sword which he wore, and the belt which was ornamented with precious stones.

The relations of the Holy See with Austria are very cold and almost hostile. The Pope has sent Mgr Fabelnelli to Hungary to command the priests to have nothing to do with civil marriages and declare them void.

The London Times, of the 29th Sept., in its city article, writing on the bullion supply in England, says:—It was at about this date last year that the effects of the bad harvest began to tell upon the bullion supplies of the Bank of England and from that time until within the last week or two there has been an almost continuous decline until the total of £24,498,447, which was the highest ever reached, had been brought down to £20,736,148.

The London Standard (Israeli Organ) announces that President Johnson intends visiting England at the expiration of his term of office.

The Courrier Russe of St Petersburg says: The entrance into the Bosphorus of the American frigate Franklin, commanded by Admiral Farragut, appears to us as a most serious political event, the importance of which cannot be lessened even by the particular consideration due personally to the Admiral. In fact it is no less than a formal violation of the treaty of Paris.

The official journal of Rome of September 30th publishes an Apostolic letter of the Pope to all Protestant and other non-Catholic religious bodies, wherein his Holiness announces that in his quality of Universal pastor he has evoked a General Council, and his Holiness prays earnestly at this time for their union with the Roman Catholic Church.

The London Times of the 3rd inst, speaking of the Papal invitation to Protestants, says:—But the Pope will pray for us, and even the most extreme Protestants will feel no reluctance in praying for the Pope, especially in his present distresses. The Scotch are said to pray for the 'pair deli', and nobody thinks the Pope as bad as that. We can, however, as we come to think about it, return his invitation in precisely the same kind. He asks us to abandon our ways; suppose we ask him to abandon his? We invite him on our part not to hold the Ecumenical Council, not to anathematize all the rest of the world, not to set himself against the whole course of modern progress.

The London Times of the 13th of October, reviewing the condition of affairs in Mexico from the end of Justice, expresses a strong and popular government, conducted on sound doctrines of finance and true principles of liberty, we shall soon hear news of Mexico. Such rights cannot remain hidden. It may be acknowledged that legislation which dates from the end of May cannot be expected to be in full bearing at the beginning of October. We are quite ready to allow the republic and its Congress a few months more, but we cannot forget that we have been asked for this very indulgence fifty times over.

The Limerick (Ireland) Town Council adopted a memorial in favor of the release of the political prisoners and appointed a deputation to present it to the Lord Lieutenant. In the discussion on the subject Mr Spaight gave the results of his observations during a visit to Millbank, and denied that the Fenian prisoners there were subjected to special hardships or degradation.

The Earl of Mayo has ceased officially to be Secretary for Ireland and a Cabinet Minister of England. He will leave for India as Governor-General early next month.

The annual Congress of the British Association for the Promotion of Social Science was opened at Birmingham on the 1st inst. by Lord Carnarvon, who delivered a lengthy and very able inaugural address, reviewing the progress of reviving reforms in sanitary, scientific, jurisprudence, legislation and so forth.

A Spiritualist has been arrested in Naples, who, by professing to communicate with the souls of eminent men, swindled one of his dupes out of \$60,000. By the demise of Count Walewski a seat is rendered vacant in the Privy Council of France, worth 100,000 francs, or \$20,000, per annum.

The Toulouse papers mention the blowing up of a new bridge in that city by an escape of gas. One man was killed and thirteen passers by were badly wounded.

The Paris Figaro mentions that Count Walewski died comparatively poor—that is, for our time, because, besides the property of the Marais d'Ox, worth about \$300,000, he leaves three houses in Paris, his villa at St Germain, the property of Amphion, near the Lake of Geneva, and decorations at the intrinsic value of \$40,000.

An individual, doubtless driven to despair, advertizes, through the medium of the Figaro, that in consideration of a life pension of \$2,000 settled on his children he will place himself entirely at the disposal of any gentleman who will accept the terms. He will fight a duel with any one, will climb any glacier, descend into the crater of Vesuvius or precipitate himself from a balloon—in fact, undertake any other pastime his master may dictate.

not accept the Spanish crown, even if it were offered to him.

The latest English journals express the opinion that the discovery of the plot to depose the Sultan of Turkey may lead to the most important results. The participation of the presumptive heir may be made, it is said, a pretext for changing the order of succession, and the arrest of a Russian subject may provoke a conflict between the Sublime Porte and the Cabinet of St Petersburg.

The Paris Standard, referring to the announcement of an extensive conspiracy having been discovered at Constantinople, says:—We are in a position to state that so far no information from a reliable source has been received to confirm this intelligence. If any event of importance had occurred in the Ottoman capital the imperial government would certainly have received positive intimation of it.

The accounts from Italy are more favorable. A Paris journal, remarking on the completion of the Italian Cabinet, says:—As now constituted, the Ministry may consider itself to have happily escaped from the crisis that menaced it and on which the opposition seemed already to base hopes. At Florence, as in the provinces, the public shows itself favorable to vigorous measures for the maintenance of order.

The report that the Pope had advised Queen Isabella of Spain to abdicate in favor of Charles VII., is denied from Rome. General Mouravioff is endeavoring to deprive Poland even of its history. By his orders all the objects relating to the history of Poland have been removed from the Vilna Museum to the Romanzoff Museum at Moscow.

The priest of Pontgniraud, France, refused recently to marry a couple on Thursday, giving for his reasons "that the following day being Friday he felt convinced that the prescribed abstinence would not be observed, and refused to be an accomplice to such profanity."

A sergeant of the Fifty-ninth regiment of the line of the French troops now in Rome has deserted and formed a band of brigands on his own account. All his men are French deserters, and they ply their trade with a savoir faire that makes the native amateurs even blush.

The recent disastrous explosion at Metz was caused by a work woman. In a moment of passion, she drew a pair of scissors among the fulminating powder used in the manufacture of cartridges. Forty-five persons were killed, besides twenty-eight badly wounded.

The Fischietto, of Turin, publishes the following caricatures on the Napoleonic policy:—The first represents Napoleon standing on the crater of a volcano (revolutionary tendency) pouring water (suppression) on the fire. "Doubly mad in the hope of extinguishing it, he persists in standing on the crater of a smoking volcano."

The Tory journals do not take up the "No Popery" cry of the Premier, but rest the claims of their party in the Parliamentary canvass on the brilliant foreign policy of the Ministry, the success of the Abyssinian war, the necessity for the defence of the Church of England from the dangers by which it is menaced and the maintenance of the strictest economy in the public expenditures.

For the benefit of the superstitious, we give the following translations of signs, all of which are true, and hold good at any time:—If you break a looking-glass, it is a sign that you will have to get another one. If you help yourself to a piece of butter when you have already a piece on your plate, it is a certain sign that you will have two pieces. Never start to go anywhere or to do anything on Friday, because you can't get a great way before Sunday. If you drop a fork, and it sticks in the floor, it is a sign it's a good fork. If you spill salt, it is a sure sign that you have a salt room. If you spill the dishcloth on the floor, it is a sure sign you will have to pick it up again.

It is stated that the following appointments have been made under the recent Bribery Act:—The Solicitor-General to be the additional Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; Mr Sergeant Hayes to be the additional Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench; and Anthony Olesby, Esq., Q.C., to be the additional puisne baron of the Court of Exchequer.

An affectionate wife in Illinois—not in Chicago—stopped her husband from quarrelling with a man she loved better, by pouring scalding water out of a teakettle down his back.

A Mr Hux has started a paper in Iowa. He says he hopes by hard scratching to make a living for himself and his little children.

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