

The Weekly British Colonist, Wednesday February 8th 1871, Ontario School Bill.

On the 6th of January the Hon Mr Cameron, Provincial Secretary of Ontario, moved the second reading of his new School Bill. It has been the habit of public writers and speakers in this Colony to refer to the Canadian School System, meaning thereby the school system of Ontario, or Upper Canada. It will be as well, therefore, that the reader should carry that fact in his mind, in glancing at the new Bill now before the Ontario Legislature. The new Bill proposes to make very few changes in a school system which has been found to work so well. Some of the changes are, however, important, whether regarded in the light of their relations to Ontario, or as abstract principles; and we would, therefore, invite attention to them. The Bill proposes to make attendance at the Public Schools during a certain period every year compulsory. This is an entirely new principle in Canada. It has long been recognised in Prussia; and has, to a certain extent, been introduced in England under Forster's Bill. In support of this innovation, as some are disposed to regard it, it is urged that, as the Schools are maintained entirely, or almost entirely, at the public expense, upon the principle that ignorance is a public, a national evil,—education of the masses a public, a national good, the public have a right to expect full value for the expense of maintaining these schools. Therefore it is considered desirable and just that all persons having children of school age should send them to school for a reasonable period, in order that they may be educated; themselves benefited, those who support the schools benefited, the state benefited. It appears that during the year 1869, 432,480 children attended the Common Schools, and 34,900 absent themselves. The proportion of non-attendance, although smaller than in almost any other country—smaller, we believe, than in any other country excepting Prussia—may be thought to be too large in justice to the public who support the schools, and too large for the interests of those directly concerned. Under these circumstances it has been deemed proper that the principle of compulsory attendance should be inaugurated. The next change in point of importance is that it is proposed to declare all the Public Schools of Ontario free. Now we must stop to explain in what sense the term "free" is here employed. In Ontario a certain proportion of the money necessary to support the Public Schools is contributed from the general revenue of the Province; and the other portion (about one-half) is raised in the school districts, either by means of a tax levied upon property in each school district or in part by this means and in part by a tuition fee charged for each pupil in attendance. It has been the practice to leave it to the people in each school section to decide whether any school section to decide whether any part of the local quota should be raised by means of tuition fees; and the tendency to do away with these fees has made such progress that out of the 4500 schools now in operation in Ontario, it appears that only in three hundred have tuition fees been retained. The proposition is not to make the schools free in that sense which would throw their maintenance wholly upon the state; but only in that sense which would sweep away the last vestige of tuition fees. Under the new Bill education will be so more largely sustained than has hitherto been the case. The only difference will be that none of the local quota shall be raised by means of tuition fees—the schools shall be thrown open free to every child in the land so far as any direct charge for attendance is concerned. It will be seen that where the percentage of schools still adhering to the free system is so infinitesimal, the change will be more in theory than in practice. The new Bill also provides for introduction into the common schools subjects of education that have not heretofore been taught, such as elements of natural history, agricultural chemistry, mechanics, and agriculture, and thus these schools would accomplish an important work in giving the young an idea of those branches so useful in active life, thereby benefiting the country by developing knowledge and skill. The other provisions of the new Bill are of less public interest, such as making better regulations for the inspection and supervision of schools, ascertaining the fitness of teachers, dealing with the question of school sites, and changing the title of the schools from that of "Common Schools," to "Public Schools," in order to overcome a prejudice. The alterations proposed by this Bill are

Meeting of the British Columbian Investment and Loan Society.

A meeting of this society was held according to notice at the office of Messrs Lowe, Stableford & Co, on Friday, 3rd February. The Chair was taken at 3:30 p.m. by the Vice President, M. T. L. Stableford. The following named shareholders being present: Messrs Aikman, McQuade, L. Franklin, Barnaby, Graciano, Thomson, Garesche, Earle, W. C. Ward, R. E. Jackson, E. Levy, Ruff, W. H. McCrea.

Hon J W Trutch—Correspondence.

DEAR SIR—At a meeting recently held, by many of your friends in the city, we were appointed a committee to wait on you and invite you to attend a public dinner to be given at such a time as you might appoint. Your friends have heard with much regret that you are about to bid a final adieu to the Colony, and they desire therefore to offer you some mark of their respect for you as a private gentleman, and their appreciation of your services as a Public Officer.

Official Notifications.

The Governor has been pleased to appoint Kenneth McKenzie, Esq, to be a Justice of the Peace in the Court of Revision for the Municipal Council, Victoria. More than two-thirds of the resident land-owners or occupiers in Esquimalt, Metehoon, Highland, Kennedy and Lake Districts having applied under the "Fence Ordinance, 1869," that the section of land comprising these districts may be erected into a "Fence District," the same has been created the "Southern Fence District."

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Quebec Maritime Trade.

Returns of inward vessels in the port of Quebec, 1,004 vessels of 728,446 tons. This is in excess of 1869 by 11 vessels and 54,222 tons. Outward, 1,008 vessels of 706,360 tons. This exceeds 1869 by 14 vessels and 36,365 tons.

From Ombak to Ombak.

From Ombak to Ombak.—Sir A T Galt presided at the anniversary missionary meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist, Montreal, on the 9th January. In the course of his speech he said that, before the lapse of another year the Dominion of Canada would extend from ocean to ocean.

The Legislative Triplets.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—The reports of proceedings in the Legislative Council published in the COLONIST cannot be correct. Bunter is made to say 'The people of Comox have a big disgust on towards the Sir James Douglas,' and again he proposes to 'add' one word 'instead' of another.

European Mail Summary.

By the label we have received our English files to the 30th December. The news is meagre. Diamonds of great value and in large numbers continue to be found at the Cape of Good Hope. A new diamondiferous track had been discovered and the old ones were keeping their ground. The diggings now extend over 100 miles of country and the population has increased to 15,000.

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TO PHYSICIANS.

New York August 18th 1868. Allow me to call your attention to my PREPARATION OF COMPOUND EXTRACT BUCHU, the component parts are, BUCHU, LONG LEAF, CURBERS, JUNIPER BERRIES.

THE CONSTITUTION

Once analysed with organic weakness, requires the aid of Medicine to strengthen and invigorate system, which HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU variably does. If no treatment in submitted to, Co. mpt n or insanity ensues.

IMPROVED ROSE WASH

Will radically exterminate from the system diseases arising from habits of dissipation, as the exposure, little or no change in the system, and exposure, completely superseding those unpleasant and dangerous remedies. Copalva and Mercury, in all these diseases.

USE

Helmbold's Fluid Extract Buchu. In all diseases of these organs, whether existing in female or male, from whatever cause originating, and non-removal of how long standing. It is pleasant in taste and odor, "immediate" in action, and more strengthening than any of the preparations of Bark or Iron.

HELMBOLD'S

Druggist and Chemical Warehouse, 594 BROADWAY, NEW YORK. NONE ARE GENUINE unless done up in steel engraved wrapper with fac-simile of my Chemical Warehouse and signed

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By Electric Telegraph

Europe.

New York, Jan 28.—A Paris correspondent gives further details of the bloody outbreak of the Republicans, which was made on Hotel de Ville. At noon of the 22nd about 15,000 men, including large numbers of soldiers of the 101st battalion National Guards, marched in a body to place in front of the Hotel de Ville, uttering revolutionary cries and calling upon citizens to arm. Never during the present troubles a crowd had been seen so vividly to express the horrors of the old French revolution.

They occupied the place over an hour without any opposition, shouting and yelling. In the meantime a small guard of Mobiles Bretons were drawn up in front of the Hotel de Ville, who stood their ground, avoiding collision with the mob until 1 o'clock when the Adjutant in command advanced front of his men on account of the threatened demonstration by the crowd, and was upon and fell severely wounded. The Mob then fired on the crowd, creating terror. A number of persons, who were lookers on, encouraged by the length of which had elapsed without violence, drew front of the Hotel, and received shots in the back. As the crowd flew, fifty of a number fell to the ground, and it was afterwards ascertained that five were killed and eighteen wounded. At the same moment the Mobiles fired, and the mob was discharged from the windows of the hotel on each side of the street, which were occupied by the rioters. Three or four Mobiles fell from the fire, which was badly directed. Old casements above the statue of He Quatre were completely riddled with bullets. After several rounds were fired, the Mob withdrew from the building, and a large number of National Guards came up from the street, and as they appeared the rioters left the houses and flew, the Mob allowing them to escape without molestation.

London, Jan 27.—A dispatch from Brussels says the Germans are before Manteuffel, its bombardment is expected. The city is preparing to defend the place. The Prussians are concentrating at Quinlin, and have occupied Marcinelle. A body of sharpshooters surprised a company of Uhlans and have captured a godson of the Emperor Augusta. They have refused to change him for French prisoners. He was in the hospital at Cambrai previous to his capture.

Versailles, Jan 27.—On Monday, the flag of truce left the French lines, and met by the German. The bearer delivered letters from Jules Favre addressed to Bismarck. It requested permission for some to Versailles. Bismarck replied he might, and at 9 o'clock the same day arrived. The Prussian Premier applied to the Emperor for permission to hold an interview with him. Favre spent the night at the quarters of the Lieut of Police. The next day a council was held to consider the Von Moltke's proposal. The Emperor was present, in addition to the Emperor, President. The council lasted two hours, the result of their deliberations were communicated to Favre who returned to Paris past four the same evening. It is stated that Favre wanted the army in honor to be allowed to march out with full honours, but his position in some cases would not resume hostilities for a term of months agreed upon, and that there should be a triumphal entry into Paris by the Prussians. The terms were refused by the council, informed Favre that the only basis of success that would be accepted would be same Sedan and Metz.

London, Jan 27.—A strong influence work favoring the restoration of the Emperor under the agency of the Emperor Trochu and Favre. The Emperor will not enter Paris, but return to Berlin on Tuesday, leaving the Prince in command of the Prussians. The capitulation and armistice, nothing politically, nor does it insure the war. All depends now upon the assembly.

Brussels, Jan 29.—The city is in a frenzy of excitement now that the capital of Paris is known. London, Jan 29.—There is no prospect that Favre will come to London. Mr. Deloche has been sent to represent France at the Conference.

A revolt has broken out among the Chinese, and at least accounts had alarming proportions. The rebels have many important points. Versailles, Jan 29.—Terms of Peace by Bismarck to the French nation are: 1st.—The cession of Alsace and Lorraine known as German Lorraine. Money indemnity, one thousand million francs. Forty war ships from the French fleet. One of the colonies now held by the money indemnity must be granted by Municipalities, and if refused, the rich individuals will be held posse until acquiescence is obtained.

The state of Paris is terrible. Chances are, and a sortie with 200,000 armed men. Gen Vinoy refusing to allow less butchery, Gen Leffai was put in the Redi demand a new Government, members of the National Guard have chosen for that purpose. Three new were opened to-day between Brieux, Fought, making 23 in all. It is expected that Belfort will yield the 29th.

Florence, Jan 27.—A bill, removing the capital of the Kingdom to Rome, passed by the Senate by a vote of 94 to 39. New York, Jan 30.—The Herald from Versailles yesterday says Favre was entered on the night of the 28th as an engineer. Heavy guns have been moved to forts, as the entente is strongly against no confidence can be placed in the population of Paris till after the general armament. A large force of infantry and artillery have been moved forward to cover the city. The object of the armistice is further bloodshed and give an opportunity to the French people, through representatives at Bordeaux, to start a war or peace. The elections will be free.

The army of Paris, regiments of musketeers and mobiles will be comprised 12,000 men required to maintain Paris. All troops except National