The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday January 12 1870.

The Seat of Empire.

In his interesting but not faultless book, 'Greater Britain,' Sir Alexander Dilke fully recognizes the westward course of empire, and thinks it not improbable that British Columbia may become the chief seat. The shorter and better route across the continent, the immense coal stores on both oceans, and the tidal currents of the Pacific, would all seem to favor the idea. The statesmen who conceived the grand idea of Confederating all the British possessions in North America were doubtless moved thereto in the interest of the greater and grander scheme of empire. Every day appears to increase the interests which cluster round the Pacific, and point to our great Northwest Passage as the highway of nations. Not only is this to be the thoroughfare between the Orient and the Occident, but it is to form the channel of communication between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and her great Southern empire of Australasia. It appears that an English company is at present organizing a line of steamers to run between San Francisco and the colonies of Australasia, including New Zealand; and it is thought this will become the most popular passenger route to Great Britain from the colonies, as it possesses the advantage of being shorter, less rough and dangerous, and affording the traveller an opportunity of seeing much of America. By this change London will be brought within five weeks of New Zealand, instead of eight weeks, as at present. For the present the steamers will land their passengers at San Francisco, to be transported across the continent over the Union Pacific Railway. But it will hardly be necessary to point out that this can only be a temporary arrangement—that so soon as the Canadian Pacific Railroad shall have been opened the steamships will come here. They will come here because this is the British route, ensuring immunity to passengers and traffic from all Customs and other international annoyances; because it is the shortest route, the safest route, the cheapest route, the pleasantest route, and because the steamers can lay in a supply of good and cheap coal at the pits' mouth. While this forms another element in the great question of British consolidation, thus closely intertwining the interests of Australasia and Canada, it at the same time forms another element in the more immediate and more urgent question of direct steam communication between this colony and San Francisco. Until our own railway shall have been opened the traffic between Great Britain and her Southern Empire will be forced to seek a passage across the continent of America through foreign territory. We cannot command that traffic now, but we can tap it. With good and cheap direct steam communication this colony would, in the meantime, reap a great advantage from the stream of British population flowing both ways. Thus an enterprise necessary and promising before becomes doubly so now. We must have direct steam communication with San Francisco; and we must have it without delay. There is really no reason why we should not have it; nay, it is marvellous that we have it not. The line of steamers to which we have been alluding is to be subsidised jointly by the Governments of Great Britain, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand. The amount will be one hundred thousand pounds, divided among the governments in proportion to their respective interest in the matter. Probably fifty thousand dollars would be a sufficient subsidy for a line between here and San Francisco; but suppose it should require twice that amount, we must not higgle about thousands were millions are concerned. Now, is it not highly possible that our little branch concern might be embraced in the larger scheme—that the English company aforesaid might be induced to undertake the service? There is this in favor of the idea that the two steamers they would send here could take return cargoes of coal and thus supply the larger line. They would come up loaded with merchandise, and go back loaded with coal. Doubtless arrangements would be made with the United States Government by which our coal could be supplied to the steamers running to Australia free of Customs dues. It has been stated on a former occasion that Canada would be prepared to grant a sufficient subsidy to give us direct steam communication with San Francisco, and it appears to us that the whole subject derives fresh importance as well as feasibility from the establishment of the new route of travel between Great Britain and her southern colonies. This whole subject we again venture to urge upon the earnest and immediate attention of the people. It is monstrous to think that this fine colony is pining and stagnant for want of population, and that it is destitute of population because the government and the people have not the energy, the enterprise to stretch out the hand and take it. There appears to be no room to doubt that the colony possesses in Peace River alone wealth enough to attract and enrich a larger population than it possesses at present. But of what avail are these stores of gold when no means exist of reaching the colony, or even of obtaining information respecting it? This is a subject more intimately connected with immediate wellbeing than any other now demanding attention; and we again bespeak for it that earnest thought to which it is so justly entitled.

From Kootenay.

Mr Johnston, who left Kootenay on the 20th November last, furnishes us with the following items:

Winter weather had fairly set in at Kootenay, it was storming incessantly, and those who intended wintering below had left at date. About sixty men would winter on Perry Creek, nearly all of whom would be working during the winter on the various shafts and drifts, the weather for this sort of work not interfering as everything was in good working order and properly secured. The Tuye shaft was working every day, the high as pay to a single bucket being $48 which I saw taken out. Although no regular channel had been struck in this claim, the gravel three feet from bedrock has been paying good wages. Two other shafts are going down in this vicinity on the result of this prospect, besides numerous drifts into the hill where the original channel is supposed to be. The Delany Co on the 10th November last struck a channel and pay on the bedrock sixty feet from the creek supposed to be the original. The pay obtained here varied from $3 to $8 to the pan. From the Weaver shaft at the Falls fairer prospects were obtained. A letter received from Geo Weaver to date of Nov 28th report the Delany Co certain that they are in the channel and the same prospects continue to be obtained. Nothing extra from the Tuye shaft, but work was going on as usual. Weaver Co had not struck anything rich up to date, but the indications were favorable, as a stratum of cement was observable. The weather had moderated and sleighs were running to the Old Camp. On Wild Horse creek the hydraulics stopped on the 1st Nov. The Chinamen on the bed of the creek was working up to date by means of large fires. 20 white men and 150 Chinese would winter on this creek. A large number of Chinese were expected next year on the Moojie. No want of provisions is anticipated, as both camps are well supplied principally by the Hudson Bay Co and Milby & Hicks, every miner was well supplied for the winter. Quite an acquisition to the population is the location of Dr Davie, physician and surgeon, late of the U S A, a gentleman well skilled in his profession, and a desideratum that has long been felt at Kootenay. As regards roads through British territory across by the Selkirk and Shepherd mountains they were impassable on account of the depth of snow; came via Pen d'Oreille Lake and Spokane to Colville. On Kettle River the snow was three feet deep and travelling had ceased for the season. Met Lord Rainsford and suite at Colville and accompanied them to Wallula, down the Columbia in a boat, a distance of 400 miles; from this latter place to Portland travelling is very pleasant. From Monticello to Olympia the road is much worse to mud and water than in British Columbia, passengers are obliged to walk or run the risk of being upset every minute, but with careful drivers and strong horses the trip is made in two days, a distance of 80 miles. Every point and place on the Wallula to Portland is dotted with railways in imagination. Every town, I was told, would certainly be the terminus of the North Pacific; even at Columbia City on the Columbia river, which boasts a log shanty and wood-yard, the proprietor informed me the railway line could not possibly come by any other way without detriment to the country and an injury to the company. For the information of intending travelers I will say that the fare from Victoria to Portland, overland, is $21. Portland to Wallula $16; to Walla Walla $4—time seven days. From Walla Walla to Kootenay the distance is the same by Spokane as by Fort Hope, on the Fraser—400 miles.

SEVERE EARTHQUAKE SHOCK AT NEVADA.—On the evening of December 26th, at 5:58 o'clock, a severe shock of earthquake was felt at Virginia City. Vibrations North and South lasted ten seconds. Few walls were all thrown down and bells rang; most all the pendulums of clocks hanging on the east and west walls were stopped. The shock was felt severely in the lower levels of the mines. Dogs commenced howling and horses snorted with fright. Six minutes after the shock another occurred much lighter. Two minutes after, a third shock was felt a little heavier than the second. At Dayton the shock was very severe. At the telegraph office a lamp was thrown down setting the office on fire, which was extinguished with great difficulty before doing much damage. At Austin and White Pine the shock was not felt. The Pacific express train was detained on the road by large rocks sliding on the track caused by the earthquake. The engine was slightly damaged.

THE LANGFORD LAKE MURDER—RETURN OF 'BUTCH.'—The individual known as 'Butch,' but whose real name is Leonard Stanley, for whom anxious inquiry has been made since the discovery of the remains of Joseph Baker, the Leech river miner, arrived in town by the Olympia on Monday night. If we are to credit his story he was not aware that he was the object of affectionate inquiry on the part of the Police until, late on Monday night, he entered a saloon on Johnson street. Here he was told by the proprietor that a man known as 'Butch' was accused of complicity with Patrick Fowler in the killing of Baker. 'Why,' said 'Butch,' 'I must be the man they want, for I remember Baker passing along the road while Fowler and me was cutting a fallen tree out of the way.' Yesterday morning 'Butch' went to the Inspector of Police and gave himself up. He was locked up pending an examination.

A JOURNAL FOR ANNEXATIONISTS.—The New York *World* learns, by private advices from Washington, that the adjustment of the Alabama claims will be made in Washington, and that the Duke of Argyle will be embassador from England, clothed with authority to act upon such terms as may be agreed on. It is likewise said the apology which Sumner insisted England shall make for her course during the war will not be accorded to on the part of that Government; but in lieu of this, the British Government propose to transfer to the United States all that territory lying west of Lake Superior, including British Columbia and all her possessions on the Pacific coast, in consideration of our paying a large sum of money therefore.

MASONIC.—The ceremony of installing the officers elect of British Columbia Lodge, No 1187, E R, was performed yesterday afternoon by the R W D G Master, Robt Burnaby, Esq. The following is the list of officers for the ensuing Masonic year:—Eli Harrison, W M. Henry Nathan, Jr, P M. J Ragozzoni, S W. Thos Stotbolt, J W. N Murray, Treasurer. R H Alexander, Secretary. John Wieger, S D. Henry Brown, J D. John Swanson, D C. J J Austin, Organist. Francis Saunders, I G. W H Thain, Tyler. After the ceremony of installation, the Worshipful Master, on behalf of himself and the Lodge, presented a very handsome Past Master's jewel to the Immediate Past Master, Bro Henry Nathan, Jr, as a recognition of his able service as Master during the past year.

PEACE RIVER DIGGINGS.—Authentic news has been received in town by several prominent and influential gentlemen, confirming the developments in this extensive territory. As high as from $32 to $50 a day to the man has been made regularly, and the diggings give evidence of being very extensive. An agent sent out expressly to ascertain the truth of the report is expected back in about a fortnight, when we shall, no doubt, be able to give all the particulars. In the meantime, we join with all well wishers of the colony that the current reports will be substantiated.

COUNTY COURT.—Hon A F Pemberton, sitting as County Judge, heard the case of the Hudson Bay Company vs L Dodgson, yesterday, with a jury. The suit was to recover a cow, the alleged property of the plaintiffs, which had been sold defendant by J Heal. The case was nonsuited at the last court. The jury returned a verdict in favor of defendant, after an absence of half-an-hour. The court sat till 8 o'clock last evening. Mr Drake (Drake, Jackson & Aikman) for plaintiffs; Mr Bishop for the defendant.

THE following dispatch was received at Los Angelos on the 29th December: About 8 P. M. of the 28th, the steamer Oriflamme, bound down, collided with the steamer Pacific, bound up, about 12 miles south of Santa Barbara. No one was hurt. The Oriflamme towed the Pacific back to Santa Barbara. Arrived at San Pedro at 11 A. M. Her stem is badly damaged; also one wheel. She will leave her passengers at Santa Barbara and come up with one wheel. The Oriflamme's passengers censure the Pacific.

THE MARIA J SMITH.—This wrecked bark was towed out of Barclay Sound by the steamer Politofsky and cast off during a heavy blow. After the blow the steamer lost sight of her. The Smith had a crew on board, and there is just the remotest room for the indulgence of the hope that she will reach San Francisco.

A. J. WELCH, ex-brewer at Victoria and present doctor at San Francisco, has recovered $25 000 from a rich Chinese firm for breach of contract in failing to deliver a quantity of wood—Welch is a lucky fellow.

THE estimated revenue of the city for 1870-71, is $10,000, estimated expenditure, $13,000.

OREGON is suffering from a slight attack of Peace River. In a few days we hope to have news that will increase the fever.

CHORAL services are becoming popular at English weddings.

THE Gussie Fellair is advertised to sail from Portland for Victoria to-day. She can't make it.

GOOD skating and sleighing are to be had at Portland, Oregon. We still await the arrival of similar luxuries.

An old gentleman died in Canterbury, Conn, the other day at the age of seventy-five and was buried in a suit of clothes which he procured when he was a young man, and had worn constantly as a Sunday suit for more than half a century. He had been married four times and on each occasion wore the same suit.

A BAR-ROOM with the high-sounding title of the "House of Commons" has been opened in a low quarter at San Francisco. The proprietor announces a free and easy every Tuesday and Saturday evening.

'HANS, where was you born?'
'On der Halderbarriack.'
'What, always?'
'Yah, and before, too.'
'How old are you, then?'
'Vi, ven de old school is pilt, I vas two weeks more nor a year, what is bainted red, as you go before mit your pack behind you, on de rite hand side de plackesmith shop vat stans where it vas purnt down next year vill be two weeks.'

Brown, who was in love with a young lady, asked permission to call her by the explicit name of some animal, which was granted on condition that she would have the same privilege. On leaving, Brown said 'Good night, deer,' 'Good night, bote,' said she. Brown is disgusted with figurative courtship.

THE LION TAMER, reported killed, is giving exhibitions in Southern California.

St. John's Church.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST.—If treated some abler pen than mine would have drawn your attention to the discourse with which we were favored by the Rev Mr Jeune on Sunday evening last, but as this has not been so, I hope you will allow me to make a few remarks.

I can assure you I was very much astonished to hear the unwarned gentleman apply the term "indecent" to the conduct of the married ladies, and compare the appearance of the young ladies of his congregation to that of disreputable women. Such language as this is utterly unwarrantable and ought to sting from the whole congregation the strongest protest. It is all very well for the reverend gentleman to preface his statements by saying he means no offence but I think if I were to come to you and say I intend no harm and then use an opprobrious epithet, I should most likely find myself out of your office much quicker than I entered. For my part I do most strongly protest against such words proceeding from the mouth of a minister in the pulpit, and I consider Mr Jeune would do his duty in a much better manner if he felt any of his congregation were doing that which he did not consider right by calling upon them privately and pointing out where he considered they were doing wrong, instead of forgetting himself and using the language he did on Sunday last.

Some apology I think ought to be made by him to his congregation, and I would earnestly advise him, when next he wishes to speak on such subjects, to write beforehand what he wishes to say and think carefully over his words before giving them utterance.

ONE OF THE CONGREGATION.

Victoria 4th Jan, 1870.

ENGLISH BAZAAR!

FORT STREET, VICTORIA

MRS. JOHNSTON

Has just received from Europe a large assortment of

ELEGANT GOODS!

SUITABLE FOR

Christmas Presents

CONSISTING OF

USEFUL AND FANCY ARTICLES.

Piano Fortes
Musical Boxes
Musical Albums
Work Boxes
Satchels
Writing Desks
Ladies' Companions
Tatting Satchels.

ELECTRO-PLATED WARE

Salvers
Tea Sets
Biscuit Vases [the only ones imported]
Cake Baskets
Cruet Stands
Dessert Knives and Forks
Jujks and Spoons
Champagne Syphons.

Cutlery of a Superior Description.

Carvers
Corkscrews
Dinner and Breakfast Knives
Penknives and Scissors

MISCELLANEOUS

French Jewelry
Baskets
A choice collection of the most Modern Comic Songs and Piano Forte Music
Toys imported from England, France and Germany, suitable for Christmas Trees
Colored Wax Tapers
Dolls of every size
Bryant and May's Safety Matches and Vesuvians
Cigars of the best brands
Brushes of every description
Pocket Combs and Looking Glasses
Fancy Wool Work
Boots and Shoes, and Hosiery
Berlin Wools and Knitting Wools
Ladies' and Children's Under Linen
Dress Trimmings
Velvets
Braids, Buttons
Dress Suspenders, Woolen Fichus
Millinery Children's Dresses and Cloaks
Stationery, Cricket, Croquet and Archery Sets

Confectionery.

Wortherspoon's (of Glasgow) Candies of every kind and finest quality, in 1lb, 2lb, and 4lb bottles
Toffee, in tinfoil packets
French Chocolate
Scotch Marmalade, Candied Fruit
An assortment of the finest Biscuits
Apple Paring, Pea Shelling and Mincing Machines!

Elastic Sides can be replaced to Boots, by a Machine imported for the purpose.

Orders for the Upper Country Trade Solicited Liberal Discounts allowed. de7 1mdaw

INFORMATION WANTED

OF JOHN HOLDEN LAWTON, AGED 25 years, a native of Manchester, England. The last heard of him he was in the Royal Hospital at Victoria, Vancouver Island, laid up of a fractured thigh, caused by assisting in getting an engine out of the ship RISING SUN. Any information of him will be thankfully received by his father, James M Lawton, 314 Locust street, St Louis, state of Missouri, America. de15 4t

Mineral Boring.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING HAD many years experience in boring for minerals, and enjoyed every facility for acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of the Coal strata of this Colony, begs to inform parties who are about to prospect for Coal that he is now open for an engagement and holds himself in readiness to conduct any operation of that nature which may be entrusted to him.

MR. J. DICK, Nanaimo.

REFERENCES:—Mr J Bryden, Manager V I C; Mr Robt Dunsmuir, Manager Harewood Co. de14 3mdaww

BLANKETS.

2 1-2 Pt. WHITE, GREEN, BLACK, Scarlet and Indigo Blue.

For Sale by SPROAT & CO., de18 Wharf street

Ayer's

Hair Vigor,

For restoring Gray Hair to its natural Vitality and Color.

A dressing which is at once agreeable, healthy, and effectual for preserving the hair. *Faded or gray hair is soon restored to its original color with the glossy and freshness of youth.* Thin hair is thickened, falling hair checked, and baldness often, though not always, cured by its use. Nothing can restore the hair where the follicles are destroyed, or the glands atrophied and decayed. But such as remain can be saved for usefulness by this application. Instead of fouling the hair with a pasty sediment, it will keep it clean and vigorous. Its occasional use will prevent the hair from turning gray or falling off, and consequently prevent baldness. Free from those deleterious substances which make some preparations dangerous and injurious to the hair, the Vigor can only benefit but not harm it. If wanted merely for a

HAIR DRESSING,

nothing else can be found so desirable. Containing neither oil nor dye, it does not soil white cambric, and yet lasts long on the hair, giving it a rich glossy lustre and a grateful perfume.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co.,
PRACTICAL AND ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS,
LOWELL, MASS.
PRICE $1.00.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

For Diseases of the Throat and Lungs, such as Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Consumption.

Probably never before in the whole history of medicine has anything won so widely and so deeply upon the confidence of mankind, as this excellent remedy for pulmonary complaints. Through a long series of years, and among most of the races of men it has risen higher and higher in their estimation, as it has become better known. Its uniform character and power to cure the various affections of the lungs and throat, have made it known as a reliable protector against them. While adapted to milder forms of disease and to young children, it is at the same time the most effectual remedy that can be given for incipient consumption, and the dangerous affections of the throat and lungs. As a provision against sudden attacks of *Croup*, it should be kept on hand in every family, and indeed as all are sometimes subject to colds and coughs, all should be provided with this antidote for them.

Although settled *Consumption* is thought incurable, still great numbers of cases where the disease seemed settled, have been completely cured, and the patient restored to sound health by the *Cherry Pectoral*. So complete is its mastery over the disorders of the Lungs and Throat, that the most obstinate of them yield to it. When nothing else could reach them, under the *Cherry Pectoral* they subside and disappear.

Singers and Public Speakers find great protection from it.

Asthma is always relieved and often wholly cured by it.

Bronchitis is generally cured by taking the *Cherry Pectoral* in small and frequent doses.

So generally are its virtues known that we need not publish the certificates of them here, or do more than assure the public that its qualities are fully maintained.

Ayer's Ague Cure,

For Fever and Ague, Intermittent Fever, Chill Fever, Remittent Fever, Dumb Ague, Periodical or Bilious Fever, and indeed all the affections which arise from malarious, marsh, or miasmatic poisons.

As its name implies, it does *Cure*, and does not fail. Containing neither Arsenic, Quinine, Bitmuth, Zinc, nor any other mineral or poisonous substance whatever, it in newise injures any patient. The number and importance of its cures in the ague districts, are literally beyond account, and we believe without a parallel in the history of Ague medicine. Our pride is gratified by the acknowledgments we receive of the radical cures effected in obstinate cases, and where other remedies had wholly failed.

Unacclimated persons, either resident in, or travelling through miasmatic localities, will be protected by taking the *AGUE CURE* daily.

For *Liver Complaints*, arising from torpidity of the Liver, it is an excellent remedy, stimulating the Liver into healthy activity.

For Bilious Disorders and Liver Complaints, it is an excellent remedy, producing many truly remarkable cures, where other medicines had failed.

Prepared by DR. J. C. AYER & Co., Practical and Analytical Chemists, Lowell, Mass., and sold all round the world.

PRICE, $1.00 PER BOTTLE.

THE PERFECTION OF PREPARED COCOA.

MARAVILLA COCOA.

SOLE PROPRIETORS,

TAYLOR BROTHERS,

LONDON.

THE COCOA (OR CACAO) OF MARAVILLA is the true THEOBROMA LINNÆUS. Cocoa is indigenous to South America, of which Maravilla is a favored portion. TAYLOR BROTHERS having secured the exclusive supply of this unrivalled Cocoa, have, by the skilful application of their soluble principle and elaborate machinery, produced what is so undeniably the perfection of prepared Cocoa, that it has not only secured the preference of homœopaths and cocoa-drinkers generally, but many who had hitherto not found any preparation to suit them, have after one trial, adopted the Maravilla Cocoa as their constant beverage for breakfast, luncheon, &c.

"AN UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS."

See following Extract from the Globe of May 14, 1868.

"Various importers and manufacturers have attempted to attain a reputation for their prepared Cocoas, but we doubt whether any thorough success had been achieved until Messrs Taylor Brothers discovered the extraordinary qualities of "Maravilla" Cocoa.

Adapting their perfect system of preparation to this the finest of all species of the Theobroma, they have produced an article which supersedes every other Cocoa in the market. Pure solubility, a delicate aroma and a rare concentration of the purest elements of nutrition, distinguish the Maravilla Cocoa above all others. For Homœopaths and invalids we could not recommend a more agreeable or valuable beverage."

Sold in packets only by all Grocers, of whom also may be had Taylor Brothers' Original HOMŒOPATHIC COCOA and SOLUBLE CHOCOLATE.

Steam Mills—Brick Lane, London.

my7