SEMI-WERKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL 10.

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VICTORIA. VANCOUVER ISLAND, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1869.

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#### SEMI-WEEKLY BRITISH CULONIST PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

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### Royal Meanesses.

isn't all royal. It is not long since Republicanism was ecandalized in the minds of all monarchical folk, at least, by the "ol' clo' " antics of Mrs. Lincoln. Britishers may well look nearer home, and they will find in the doings of a British Prince what will put poor Mrs. Lincoln's traffic quite in the shade. It is already known that the British Pars liament was recently called upon to vote £3500 towards paying for certain presents made by the Duke of Edinburgh, while in Australia. The Commons didn't vote the sum, small as it was, over-gracefully. There was a sort of undefined feeling that they should not have been placed in so delicate and anybody who was revolted by the disagreeable a position, that the thing ignoble flunkyiem with which the Dake was was paltry in amonat and wrong in principle,—that, in fact, if it so pleased gifts are now discussed, as well as other matters connected with his Royal Highness. to people while relicking round the world he should pay for the luxury out of his private purse. It was, however, explained that as the Prince was travel
and with a view to this has moved for a re
purpose to show that after crediting the boat ing in a sort of representative or semi- turn of the presents made. Why, we really official capacity it was understood that £3000 would be placed at his disposal for the purpose of making presents, and the good-natured Commons passed the item accordingly, although many of them felt that they would prefer paying the amount to voting it. As might well have been supposed this was not the last of it. When it became known in most respectable aper published in Victoria the community where these paltry presents had been distributed, ueither wisely nor well, it is intimated, that the Imperial Parliament had been asked to vote a sum for the purpose of paying the bills the indignation of the colonists ran high, and, if we may accept the tone of the Melbourne Age as an indication, there was a very general feeling that the colony had been scandalized. The loyalty of the colonists, says the Age, has been sorely tried, but it remains unshaken, and it expresses the sincere hope that they may be no more afflicted with such visitations, for they do not wish to be altogether disillusionized in regard to the attributes of royalty. The Australian colonists, it says, "have given the son of of many from Washington Territory also. All their Queen a right royal greeting at will bring with them more or less of nature's an expense of not less than £150,000. and they feel humiliated and scandalized by his application to be reimbursed for the few paltry presents he gave away, not always to meritorious objects, while amongst them. To show the light in which the matter is viewed. our contemporary mentions that a resolution hadbeen laid upon the table of the Colonial legistature moving for a return of the presents made and expressing a desire on the part of the colony to reimburse the British Government for the proportion given away in Victoria, and sarcastically suggests that a farthing subscription will more than suffice for that purpose. The Age

not exceed tenfold in value the presents given by him, his character for generosity must be strangely misunderstood here. We shall being? It is most fitting that we should,

make a good bargain if the House of Com . , mone will pay our bill in requital for our paying the Prince's. In point of fact, it will be found that we have done so already. Our ducel visitor went away on the first occasion leaving many of his bills unpaid, apparently in the hope that we would pay them for him. He calculated rightly in some cases; and in others be took care on his second visit to give us a reminder by léaving portions of them still unpaid. His pees's English friends, and the bulk of his jeweller's bill were paid out of the funds voted by our Perliament. He paid his club bill, for brandy, sods, and eigars, with a flying topsail; but somebody took the blame man, his officers are accused of having at-tempted to bilk a New Zealand washerwon man, who followed the ship trom Wellington to Auckland to get paid £26, and then had to be content with ten shillings to the pound, after spending as much in looking after the money. These things should be known to the holders of the British pursestrings, for there is a possibility of the Prince being reimbursed for money spent

These strictures are severe, but they are scarcely more so than those of the English press. The Pall Mall Gazette says the presents appear to have been intrinsically All's not gold that glitters. Royalty paltry, that their only value in the eyes of the recipients was that they came from the Queen's son as a personal gift, a value of which they are at once deprived by the knowledge that they were paid for by the British taxpayer. The London Morning Star says in reference to this unhappy sub-

not by bim, but for bim. It be leaves these matters to one of his suite, he may not be

aware of what is done in his name, resting

satisfied, as he may well do, with the know-ledge that his visits result in profit rather

"The circumstances are well known in England up to a certain point. It is well known for instance, that the Duke made some so-called presents to persons who entertained him, and that the English tax-payer has since been made to pay for his Royal Highness' munificence. Other circumstances connected with this particularly mean piece of business are less well known, and some of them, as alleged-as to the destipation of certain of these presents, for example-are of a kind which the just rereceived may find a doubtful consolation in the singular freedom with which the Dake's stand some chance of recovering our three or four thousand pounds. Let us roll this delicate morsel under the tongue. And in the second place it is quite certain that we shall never be asked for any more money for 'presents' to the colonists, for no colonist with any spark of self-respect is ever likely to accept any more of these precious gifts from the open-handed Sailor Prince, as they loved to call their guest."

The Melbourne Arous the oldest and

The Duke of Edinburgh's bill for cigars and wine being left unpaid, was disebarged by a colonis, while his bill from the furrier and jeweller for presents to his friends being also left, was paid out of funds voted by the

# The Twenty-ninth.

What about the twenty-rigth? It is the day fixed for the great Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition. It will surely be a great day for Victoria. The Island farmers will come. Many of the Mainland farmers will come; and as the energetic Committee of Arrangement has completely obliterated all international boundaries and swept away international obstructions, and especially as Capt. Wait has undertaken to do the generous thing, we may reasonably expect to have the pleasure of the company rich productions. Let our people then, be resolved to make the twenty-ninth a gala day for Victoria. Let all be resolved to worship at nature's shrine that day, for

"She has a wor'd of ready wealth, Our minds and hearts to bless; Spontaneous wisdom breathed by health, Truth breathed by cheerfulness."

This coming together of the farmers in riendly rivalry, this annual comparing of results and interchange of ideas, is of the utmost importance, especially in a new country. As iron sharpens iron, so does the farmer his fellow, and we cannot too highly estimate the beneficial results of such gatherings. The arrangement by which international barriers have been broken down, enabling the people of a foreign state to participate in the pleasurers and advantages of the approaching exhibition equally with our own people, is a new and happy feature. Why should it not be so? Are we not all brethern, descended "If the presents given to the Prince did from the same good old Anglo-Saxon stock, aiming at the one great end of general well-

upon an oceasion like this, discard all politirivalry. Doubtless our friends from the other tween San Francisco and Victoria a suits side will be able to excel our own farmers able steamship is revived lately. The matand gardeners in many things; but that need ter of direct, regular, cheap and safe not, will not excite jealous y, but rather give communication between the two ports is one rise to healthy emulation. There is no that interests every colonist. A liberal subreason that we are a we of why British sidy would be given by the Government for Columbia should not be a match for Wash. the carriage of the mails, and if the boat larrier's bill for presents to his Royal High- ington Territory, both in agricultural and were essentially the people's property the horticultural productions, and if the people people would have the greatest passible inof the latter have got the start of those of terest in traveling upon and giving her all the former, we will not be the worse for their freight. Two or three steamships, now knowing more about it. It is better that we lying idle at San Francisco, are mentioned of this off his shoulders. Like master like should meet them on common ground, com. in this consection. pare notes and see how it is that they can excell, if indeed, they do excell. We are schooner Kate, Capt Douglass, arrived yester-Committee of Management are very complete barrels of whale oil. Since the date of Capt. of those who may come from afar. The Exa bibition it will be observed falls on a Wednesday. The Hunt will run to suit the convenience of those coming from Paget Sound. The Enterprise will be equally accommodating to those coming from the Mainland; while the Douglas will be at the service of the East Coast settlements.

> Friday Sept 17 "Viator" and the "Douglas."

In another column with be found a communication upon the subject with which we dealt yesterday. "Victor" has evidently either not read the article or else he has read it to little purpose. We yield to no man, not even our correspondent, in a lively appreciation of the substantial advantage conferred upon the East Coast settlements by the running of the Government steamer, and it was an ardent desire to see that advantage increased instead of withdrawn that dictated the remarks we ventured to make; so that the passes made by " Vator" on that point are aimed at a " man of straw," and that, too, purely of his own manufacture. We need hardly say that the hour of 1 o'clock was used hypothetically, as, also, were the names; Samuel Harris, William Nelson. and " Viator" might with equal sense have brought as a crushing reply to our facts the statement that there is not a " Mrs A " residing at Cowichan. As regards the queson of cost to the Colony, our correspon had much bester not have prevened any conpurpose to show that after crediting the boat with \$4,200 for carrying the mails on the coast, she had \$1011.73 appearing to her mast, she had \$1011 73 appearing to ber credit last year. The boat represents, we believe, something like \$30,000 of public money, and the Colony is about to incur a fresh expense of, say, \$10,000 for new boilers. \$40,000 would represent \$4,800 at the rate of interest the Colony is paying, and there would be nothing left for tear and wear and depreciation in value. But of all this we made no complaint; we only desired that the employment of that amount of capital in that particular way should be productive if possible of greater good, by affording increased accommodation to the setlers and "Viator" has in no degree shaken our faith in the practicability of that dedesirable object.

CAN'T GET A UREW .- The ship Windward s lying here wanting a crew, which, it would appear, she finds it difficult to obtain. A few days ago, on the authority of a shipping house in this city, we stated that men were plentiful—that there was no occasion for a vessel to go to San Francisco for a crew when they could be had here. And the very first ship that happens along complains that a crew can't be had except at a rate of wages which no ship that expects to earn money can afford to pay. This is a state of things very damaging to the port and very huriful to our lumber and mercantile interests. Is there no remedy; or will vessels visiting these waters always be subject to such extortions as these?

PEERS OF THE REALM IN TROUBLE .- The affairs of the Marquis of Winchelsea, who declared he would gladly place his head on the block to defend the Irish Church, are in the Bankruptcy Court. Another noble Lord (name not transpired) will be proceeded atainst for forgery. The Duke of Hamilton, deeply involved, offers the fine Island of Arran for sale; the Marquis of Bute bid £400,000; but his bid is trumped by Mr Young, of the Glasgow Parrain and Mineral Company, who offers £450,000. The Island of Arran lies on the west coast of Scotland. near the mouth of the Clyde, and has an area of 165 square miles. In it are found marble, jasper, agates, cairngorms, and a fine species of rock crystal called the Arran diamond. The population is 7000.

THE Grappler and Fly, steaming towards. Esquimalt yesterday with coal caused a report that the Active was in sight.

FROM THE DAWSON WHALING PARTY.—The glad to learn that the arrangements of the day morning from Cortes Island with 150 lation, in- Doufflass last letter two additional whales and that there will be accommodation, inboundlass' last letter two additional whales
struction and amusement for all, whether the
weather should happen to be propitions or
all this season. The company have 450 otherwise, and we feel assured that every barrels of oil at the station. The product proper attention will be paid to the comfort thus far is 20,000 gallons. The schooner will discharge cargo and return immediately to resume active operations.

> THE trial of Walts for the murder of Hib bard on San Juan has been postponed until the next term of the court. In the meanwhile the violation of the treaty by the removal of Watts from military jurisdiction and placing him in the hands of the civil officers, will be referred to the Imperial

CHARYBDIS V. THE FLEET .- The cricket match yesterday resulted in a victory for the Charybdis eleven. The Fleet scored 125 and the Charybdis 127, with six wickets to go down. Lieut. Thomas of the Chary dis scored 28, and Lieut, Wright, R. M., 22, which was the highest on their respective sides. During the first innings the rain poured down; but the afternoon was fine.

FIRE DEPARTMENT. - At a meeting of the Board of Delegates held Septemper 16th 1869 the following officers were elected for the ensuing 12 months; John Dickson, President ; Frank Sylvester, Secretary : E. B. Marvin, Treasurer. Judiciary Committee-Adolphus Peel, Robert Jenkinson, Charles Taylor, Finance Committe-William Dalby.

INQUEST .- The Coroner's jury in the case of the skeleton found in the woods, yesterday, returned a verdict that the remains were those of Joseph Baker, and that there was wood and for a similar reason the stern no evidence to show by what means he came to his death. We hope the case will not rest of brase, the first instance, it is asserted those of Joseph Baker, and that there was no evidence to show by what means he came

pared with good apparatus to overcome all the big fish that may heave in sight in the

A SAWMILL will shortly be erected on the Fraser near New Westminster, where the timber is of a very fine quality.

Robben-Wednesday night. An orchard at Metchosin. Of all the best fruit. Shame !

THE Gas Company are laying in a winter supply of coal.

# The " Douglas"

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST -- As a colonist interested in the East Coast settlement I beg to take exception to some of the remarks in your issue of to-day concerning the steamer Douglai.

You assert that this vessel is maintained at an expense to the Colony and for the express purpose of accommodating the settlers on the East Coast. Permit me to draw your attention to the debate which took place on this subject in the last session of the legislative council, in which was clearly demonstrated the fact that the vessel was not run at any expense to the community; and further let me state that any one may ascertain from reliable sources the truth of the statement that the "Douglas" is running now at a profit.

True, it may be that shortly she is to have placed in her a new set of boilers; but this s not a consequence of her being employed in the way she now is; and granting that the value of the vessel is sunk at present in fostering the infant settlements of the East Coast, and that she deteriorates by wear and tear, may not the employment of her for the number of years past in which she has been engaged and the continuance of that employment be considered as an investment highly profitable to the Colony? Everyone is aware of the great importance which agricultural settlements are to a colony and what difficulties settlers experience in going forward, and I venture to assert that unless the Douglas had been running as she has been, the East Coast settlements would not have been in the state of comparative prosperity they now are.

Again the steamer is maintained otherwise than for the express purpose of accommodating the settlers, such as carrying supplies to

A STEAMER OF OUR OWN .- The proposi- | the Light House, and now that the "Leviacal boundaries and meet together in friendly tion to buy and maintain on the route be- than" (comparitively useless to the Colony) will be sold, the Douglas will still have more work to do.

With reference to the illustration put conperning Mrs. A. let me assure you that it is on extreme and an isolated one. Is Mrs. A. sure that such a charge as 25 cents, was ever made or paid at Victoria for carrying two tin cups over the wharf, or that the steamer charged or was paid 50 cents for cars rying them? To whom did she pay these charges? and at any rate if Mrs . A had asked any one who was going to Victoria to bring these articles, she might have got them I am sure at cost price.

I am inclined to think that the time for starting from Maple Bay for Victoria is 11 or 12 past 11 o'clock, but certainly not 1 o'clock, and when it is found that nine out of every ten clocks in the settlements are from half an hour to an hour wrong, one may easily conceive that a mistake may be made; but for all this it is very seldom that any of the settlers miss the steamer. I have travelled a great deal in the steamer on the East Coset and I speak from experience, and confidently assert that as far as is within the power of the captain of the steamer, the greatest regularity is ensured, and I know that the settlers as a class are well satisfied with her management and regard the weekly trips that she makes as essential to the well-being of the settlements.

VIATOR. Victoria, Sept 16th, 1869.

THE ENGLISH NAVY .- A new unarmored frigate, the Inconstant, has just been built for the English Government, and is exciting great attention from the novelty of her construction. The Inconstant; though without armor plating, is built of iron, sheathed with wood and copper. The wood casing is laid on in three thicknesses, and is fastened to the ship in the following way: Edge strips of thickish iron are rivited to the plating, and the space between them filled in with the first thickness of wood. The next thickness is worked over this vertically, and is fastened by bolts which screw into the edge strips. care being taken that holes for them are not drilled right through the plates, so that there may be no chance of a leak, if by accident the wood planking should get stripped off. The third thickness is worked horizontally over the second, which is fastened by screw bolts, and the ship is then sheath-ed in the usual manner with Muntz's metal below the water line. In order to prevent any risk of galvanic action between the Muntz's metal and the iron, marine glue is interposed between the different thicknesses of

\$800,000 for hull, while her engines, of 1000 nominal horse power, by Penn, will cost \$330,000 in addition, making a total of \$1,-130,090. Having been built for speed, she has a greater proportion of length to breadth than any of the recent ships added to the Royal Navy, the exact figures : length, three hundred and thirty-seven feet four inches, breadth, fifty feet three and a half inches Her speed, at a recent trial trip, exceeded sixteen knots a hour, and it is anticipated that even that high rate may yet be passed.

Two gentlemen just arrived from Montana, report that Wells, Fargo & Co.'s coach, which left Helena, Aug. 29th, was robbed at Malad Summit. Utah, 60 miles north of Corrinne, about midnight on the 31st ult. Eight men. masked, stopped the coach and assured the passengers that they should not be molested. They compelled the driver to deliver the treasure boxes in care of the Express Company, amounting to about \$30,000. The robbers saluted the passingers courteously and rode off with the spoils. The passengers had an aggregate of about \$40,000 on their persons, but no attempt was made to take anything from them.

Australian Preserved Meats.-The reatest satisfaction has been expressed n Melbourne at the success of the Australian preserved meats. The London agents had not only sold all their stock and that which was affeat, but had booked orders to the extent of 213,000 tins, together 1,093,250 lbs., and they had moreover, closed their books, fears ing to commit the Melbourne company further. They report that they can with ease dispose of 100,000 6lb. per week, and this would absorb 25,000 sheep a week, which is ten times the amount the company is at present able to procure .- Dundee Advertiser.

# About Oysters.

A New York paper says : 'Among the many whims of America, few are more mistaken or perverse than that which forbids the eating of oysters in the months without an 'r,' for the deep sea oyster is in his prime in scorehing July, and brings from the pale, cool depths of his abode, a more delightful flavor and a firmer texture than the product at any wintry month

dest'y desire to see established ? I