The Weekly British Colonist,

Wednesday April 12th 1871

The Pensionary Business.

It would appear, from an extract which we publish in another column, from a dispatch of Governor Musgrave to the Governor General of Canada, that the pensioning of officials consequent upon Confederation, is likely to be reduced to a very narrow compass indeed. It is presumable that at most only two of the heads of departments will need to avail themselves of that provision. It is known that the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney General will seek, and doubtless they will obtain, promotion in Her Majesty's service, and it is scarcely less certain that the Chief Commissioner will accept service under the Dominion Government, probably a Railway Commissionership, with a seat in the Senate. The Collector of Customs will probably have the opportunity of retaining his present position, under the Dominion Government, and it is rather more than likely that he will avail himself of that opportunity. The Stipendiary Magistrates will become Federal officers in their double capacity of County Court Judges and Indian Agents, and thus all anxiety on their account is set at rest. We are not disposed, however, to think that these gentlemen will long occupy the position of County Court Judges. Public opinion is too strongly in favor of having the County Courts administered by gentlemen of legal training and experience to admit of the continuance of the present arrangement. But as the country fills up there will be no difficulty in utilizing this class of officers in the Federal service, and the fact that the Dominion Government will have to pension or employ them will always tend in the direction of preferring the latter alternative. Coming to the subordinate officials, it will be seen that they do not come under the head of those whose position will be necessarily affected by Confederation. The passage of the Civil List Bill has created the apprehension in some minds that on the Colony will devolve the responsibility of retaining or pensioning this class. There is however, no good ground for alarm on this point. The object and effects of this Bill which has created so much distrust have been sufficiently explained both by His Excellency the Governor and by the Attorney General. These explanations and assurances concur with reason and common sense, and it is earnestly to be hoped that the public mind will not continue to be inflamed by imaginary dangers conjured up by designing politicians for mere party purposes at a time when it is supremely important that the public mind should be cool and collected.

Are We to Have an Agricultural Exhibition?

The question—Is Victoria to have an agricultural exhibition this year?—has frequently been asked in these columns. It is asked at every street corner. Cowichan, Salt Spring, Chemainus, Saanich, New Westminster are all waiting for an answer. In all of these places and probably in some others it is intended to hold exhibitions: but to so time the holding of them as that they may be auxiliary to the larger and more general one to be held at the metropolis, it is necessary that the day on which the latter is to be held should be announced at once. Spring is now opening the buds, and unless an affirmative answer be quickly returned in the form of energetic action a negative reply will be rendered by the iron and inexorable logic of events. It is difficult to comprehend why Victoria should appear so reluctant every year about holding an exhibition. It is especially strange that so much reluctance should exist this year. The circumstances of this being the first year under the new political relations, taken in connection with the fact that the District Societies are all looking to this as the centre, ought to inspire the movement with new life and lead the people to resolve that the exhibition of 1871 shall excel all previous ones. We would again urge upon the old officers to do their duty by calling a meeting, and either taking the necessary action themselves or being relieved in a proper way of the responsibilities still devolving upon them, so that others may be placed in a position to act. Victoria is the political capital. She is also the commercial capital, and aspires to lead in most matters. Let her look to her laurels in the matter of agricultural exhibitions.

Friday April 7th.

Cariboo.—The *Sentinel* complains about the mail service under the new contract.... St Patrick's Day was celebrated in Cariboo with considerable spirit.... Charles Davidson was dangerously ill of paralysis.... A Chinaman was under arrest on suspicion of setting fire to the Catholic Church.... Gus come, accused of the assault on Port, at Quesnelmouth, is in custody.... There was considerable mining going on. On William Creek the Ballarat took out 48 ounces for the week, and the Forest Rose 30 ounces. On Lightning Creek the Lightning co washed up 235 oz, and the Spruce co 36 oz. On Jack of Clubs the First Chance struck a prospect of from 32 to 3 to the pan. On Lowhee Creek the Brown co took out 40 oz.

Saanich Agricultural Society.

A meeting of the above society was held on Saturday, the 1st inst, at Alphonse's Hotel. There was a fair attendance. A C Anderson, Esq, President of the society, occupied the Chair, Mr Butler acting as Secretary. The meeting proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result: President, William Thomson, Esq. Treasurer, Mr P Imrie. Secretary, Mr G S Butler. A managing committee of 15 was elected. The subject of holding the usual annual exhibition was taken up; and it was decided that the list of articles to be exhibited should be extended so as to include mechanical productions and domestic fancy and needle work. Inasmuch as the local exhibition is designed to be auxiliary to the general exhibition held at Victoria, it was found impossible to decide upon a day for holding the former until apprised of the time for holding the latter. After some discussion upon various topics bearing upon the interests of the society, the meeting adjourned.

Public Meeting at New Westminster.

At 8 o'clock p m Wednesday, a meeting, convened by telegram from Victoria, was held at New Westminster. Mr Ferrie, a farmer, was voted to the Chair. About eighty persons were present. Mr W H Kay was the first speaker and denounced an Act of the Legislative Council known as the Civil List Bill. He said it undermined the liberties of the colony; that it was not yet the law, and that it never would be the law if the people opposed it as they ought. He urged them to protect their liberties, and concluded by proposing a resolution as condemnation of the Bill. Mr Waters, a farmer, said in reply that he was not aware that the meeting had been called in the usual way. It would be an error to accept the opinions of the few assembled at the meeting as the opinions of the citizens of New Westminster. If the people wished to express their views on the subject let a meeting be called in the usual way by the President of the Council. He proposed as an amendment that the meeting be adjourned *sine die*. Mr Humphreys said he agreed with Mr Fisher. That it was he (Humphreys) who had sent the telegram. He regretted the irregularity and would have no objection to the adjournment. The meeting immediately adjourned and several brilliant speeches, pat and dry, remain unspoken.

Queen Charlotte Coal Mining Company's Mine.—A sale of all the property of this company, including the mine, wharf, tramway, rolling stock, buildings, etc, etc, has been made by the s ot for the mortgagees (the Colonial Securities Company of London) to Dr Ash and others for $6800, the amount of the mortgage. The shareholders from first to last, invested about $100 000 in the enterprise which has ended so miserably The company which perseveringly and pluckily continued their operations for eight years, deserved a better fate!

Whisky.—Johnny Manson, a young man, but an old offender, was before the Police Court yesterday, on remand from the 5th, charged with selling whisky to Indians, and by the evidence of two witnesses, convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of $250 to be recovered by distress, or in default to suffer six months imprisonment with hard labor. The Magistrate remarked that he found that the leniency extended toward him (the prisoner) the first time of his conviction for a similar offence seemed to be disregarded and he felt compelled to administer the full penalty of the law.

Government Savings Banks.—Sir Francis Hincks is amending the law regulating Savings Banks to the Dominion. It is proposed that the Governor in Council shall have power from time to time to fix the rate of interest to be paid on deposits, such rate not to be less, however, than four per cent. nor more than five per cent. The Governor in Council will also take power to appoint an Assistant Receiver-General and establish Savings Banks in Manitoba British Columbia or in any other Province which may come in.

From the Mainland.—The steamer Enterprise, Capt Swanson, returned from New Westminster yesterday afternoon, bringing the following passengers, $30,000 in treasure and Barnard's Cariboo Express:—Miss Baley, Miss F Cooper, Miss Hueston, Mrs Herring, Mr Herring, Captain Raymur, F J Barnard, C Staples, Rev Mr Derrick and Messrs Mafony, Simpson, Calbreath, Eaton, Innes, J Irving, J Armstrong, Burke, McLean, J M Castle.

Puget Sound Items.—P D Moore has been appointed Deputy Collector of Customs vice T H Briggs, resigned.... James Anderson, of Port Discovery, had his hand very severely injured in the machinery of the mill. He was attended by Dr Calhoun.... A complete survey of Port Townsend Bay and Long Harbor has been ordered.... The following nominations have been made by the President:—On the 14th ult. Edwin Eells as Indian Agent for Washington Territory. On the 17th ult. Wm Stephens was nominated Register of the Land Office at Walla Walla, and E M Carshon Indian Agent at Neah Bay, W T.... On Sunday morning a stranger was drowned near Hazel Point, Hood's Canal.... Edwin Eells has been admitted to the Bar in Washington Territory.

Matinee.—The Beatty Troupe will give a matinee performance of Uncle Tom's Cabin at the Theatre Royal to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock. This will afford a favorable opportunity for the young people to witness Miss Wells Beatty's touching and inimitable rendition of that delightful character, Eva. The charge will be 50 cents for ladies and 25 cents for children.

Thistles.—Already thistles have begun to poke their heads above the soil. Now is the time to extirpate them by putting in force the Municipal Bylaw.

Licensing Court.

Before Justices Pemberton and Macdonald.

Thursday, April 6th.

An application from Geo Booth by Mr Bishop, for a license for six months for the Hoek Bay Tavern was granted.

Mr Bishop, also on behalf of Mr Lamb, applied for a license for the Park Hotel. The Bench signified their willingness to grant a license provided a good tenant were to apply as having really taken the premises and for that purpose adjourned the Court for one week.

Carnival on the Ice.—The people of St John, New Brunswick, held a grand carnival at the skating rink, on the night of the 9th of March, for the benefit of the poor. Nearly two hundred people were on the ice in fancy customs. The amount realized exceeded 7,000 dollars.

New Design.—Brussels carpets of Pompeiian design—i.e. copy of the tessellated pavement of Diomed's house at Pompeii—were received from England at London House, or Greyhound, not attract and challenge universal admiration.

Suspicious Character.—George Bryant, the vagrant who has been for some days in custody on a charge of being a suspicious character, was yesterday ordered to give bonds for good behavior for three months or suffer one month's imprisonment.

The Fenian Claims.—Referring to the international questions in dispute, the New York *World* says: As to the Fenian raids into Canada, if the Government by neglect of duty caused injury, let us say so at once and pay the damage.

Another Stage Accident.—On the last trip up Johnson & Gerow's stage upset three miles on this side of Lytton. The horses broke loose from the coach and ran into the woods. They were recovered some hours afterwards. There was not much damage done.

The Budget.—Previous to a division upon Sir A T Galt's resolution disapproving of the financial policy of the Government, Sir Francis Hincks said he regarded the resolution as equivalent to a direct vote of want of confidence in the Government. The House divided and the amendment was defeated by 91 to 30, giving the Government the handsome majority of *fifty five*.

From Puget Sound.—The mail steamer Isabel arrived from Port Townsend last evening at 9 o'clock bringing 74 passengers and a large mail, and express. Capt Starr has our thanks for the usual favors.

Divine Service.—The Rev Mr Derrick of Cariboo will preach at the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Pandora street, at 11 o'clock this morning.

A brig which was at first supposed to be the L P Foster or B. Cowan, came ashore Race Rocks yesterday morning, but subsequently headed up the Straits.

Dancing Class.—The MacClure street Dancing Academy will be closed this evening on account of its being Good Friday; the class will meet on Tuesday as usual.

Auction Sale of Furniture.—Excellent prices were yesterday obtained for Mr Bissett's furniture by Mr Franklin. The attendance was large and the result quite satisfactory.

The Greyhound finished discharging her cargo yesterday. She will proceed to Seattle to take in a cargo of coal for San Francisco.

India.—The revenue derived from opium alone, in our Indian Empire during last year exceeded £8,000,000.

The Pacific.—This steamer sailed from San Francisco for Victoria on Wednesday at 4 o'clock p m.

The Taylor Family have gone to San Juan Island to delight the garrison there.

The Fire Department Benefit.

Victoria, B. C. April 5th, 1871.

M. Taylor, Esq.—Dear Sir,—Your communication of the 4th tendering a complimentary benefit to the Charitable Fund of the Victoria Fire Department, has been duly received, and, after consulting with the Trustees of said Fund, and all other members of the Department, I am of opinion that it would be inexpedient to come before the public for a benefit at present, and am therefore compelled, reluctantly, to decline your kind and generous offer.

Very respectfully,
Simmon Duck
Chief Engineer V. F. D.

Papers Relating to Confederation

We have before us copies of papers relative to the proposed union of British Columbia with the Dominion of Canada, submitted to the Parliament of the latter country during its present session. These papers comprise most of the correspondence between the Colonial Office, the Governor General of Canada and the Governor of British Columbia, together with petitions sent from the Colony, and various other matters. It is proposed to make a few extracts bearing upon most points likely to interest local readers. In transmitting the Railway petition which was presented to the Governor in December last His Excellency accompanied it with an extract from this journal, being a report of the conversations which took place between the Governor and members of the Deputation. By far the most interesting of these papers is a dispatch from Governor Musgrave to Lord Lisgar, dated 22nd Nov, 1870. We make room for the following extract:

"The officers who will be affected injuriously by the changes consequent upon Confederation are: The Colonial Secretary Mr Haskin. The Attorney General Mr Phillippo. The Commission of Lands and Works Mr Trutch. The Collector of Customs Mr Hamley. The Auditor General Mr Kerr. And the Stipendiary Magistrates—Mr Ball, Mr O'Reilly, Mr Saunders, Mr Bushby, Mr Pemberton and Mr Spalding.

Of these, the Magistrates may for some purpose be considered a class apart, of whom I shall speak presently. The other five officers will probably be displaced, except, perhaps, Mr Hamley, the Collector of Customs, whose services I think your Government will be glad to retain, and who, I believe, will not be unwilling to serve under them at some slight increase to his present salary, which is now six hundred and fifty (£650) and might be fairly increased to eight hundred pounds (£800). That amount is only equivalent in value here to about four hundred pounds (£400) in Canada.

Mr Trutch would, I believe, not be unwilling to take an appointment from the Canadian Government equal in value to the one he now holds. I regard him as being an able public servant who would be a valuable acquisition to any administration, and I should think that it might not be impossible to find an appointment which may be acceptable to him. Probably Mr Kerr the Auditor General may, in like manner, be united with employment under the Government of the Dominion which will leave him in no worse position than the one he now occupies. There will then remain the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney General, for whom it will be far more difficult to provide, and for whom pensions would be necessary unless the Secrrtary of State should find it possible to afford satisfactory employment for them in some other colony.

The Stipendiary Magistrates form another class of officers who, notwithstanding their value, would almost certainly be disturbed in their appointments on the introduction of responsible government. These Magistrates are not only Justices of the Peace but County Court Judges, Indian Agents, Assistant Commissioners of Lands and Works, Collectors of Revenue in the different departments of the different department of the public service at the several stations hundreds of miles apart and in very extensive districts. I think that these appointments are singularly well filled, and I regard the successful administration of this Government, and the remarkable maintenance of law and order, as compared with the neighbouring territories, as mainly due to the services of these officers.

As the supreme government of the colony as well as the administration of all affairs relating to the Indian tribes, will rest with the Dominion, I regard it as of the greatest importance to the tranquility of the Province and the success of the Union, that these officers should be officers of the Dominion and not be transferred to the control or caprice of local party government who, through mistaken motives of economy, by the substitution of unpaid irresponsible magistrates, or some such policy might entail upon the Government at Ottawa an amount of trouble and expense not easily to be computed.

I propose therefore, that these officers should be officers of the Dominion as they naturally would be in their character of County Court Judges and Indian Agents. The question may arise whether it is desirable they should any longer discharge other duties which will be within the jurisdiction of the Local Government. But if it should not be thought objectional to unite service to the Local Government to responsibility to the Federal authority, they might continue to render aid under the direction of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Chief in the administration of local affairs as they do now in the business of the Lands and Works, the Collection of Revenue, and other miscellaneous duties. But I would have them paid by Canada and not amenable to the control of the Local Administration, except through the Lieutenant-Governor representing the central authority.

This being conceded, I should ask for an assurance to these officers from the Government of the Dominion that their appointments should be considered permanent; and that in the event of any organic change in official arrangements, they will either be provided with appointments of equal value, or allowed to retire on pensions of two-thirds of their emoluments, which may be estimated in each case at five hundred pounds (£500) per annum, though in some instances an extra allowance has been made on account of the greater expense of living in distant districts.

As regards the subordinate officers in public departments, I assume that they will continue to hold their present posts whether the offices to which they belong should be transferred to the Dominion or remain under the administration of the Local Government.

Under the arrangements which I have sketched, if the Colonial Secretary and Attorney General can be provided for I think it probable that the Canadian Government may be relieved from any present necessity for the payment of pensions. But I regard it as absolutely necessary that the provision of pensions should be made, at the rate of two-thirds the present amount of salary as security to the officers concerned that they will not be allowed to go without either employment or pension. It will be easy to provide that the pensions shall not be drawn in cases where the claimants accept suitable employment.

I think it very important that the arrangements in respect to the whole of this question should early be placed upon a satisfactory basis. It is my duty to bear testimony to the loyalty and good will with which I have been supported by the official body in carrying out a policy which they could not but be aware entailed some risk to them as regards their personal interest, and it is not unnatural that the subject should continue to cause some uneasiness and anxiety.

The remainder of the papers we do not regard as of sufficient interest to occupy our limited space. Amongst them are dispatches both from Downing street and from Ottawa to Governor Musgrave, congratulating His Excellency upon the success of the scheme

Sevres, where the porcelain is made, has suffered badly from the war. About 1,200 inhabitants—out of 6 700—still cling to their homes, in spite of their exposure to shells, of which 500 fell in the place within a month. At recent dates upward of 1,100 persons, out of the total 1,200 who remain, were entirely destitute of means, and dependent for everything on the Maire, which supplies soup, bread, and horseflesh.

Shortest Sea Route to Europe.

This journal has more than once referred to the probablity of the Canadian Pacific railway ultimately having one terminus on the Island of Newfoundland and the other on the Island of Vancouver. From an article upon the subject which recently appeared in the *New Dominion Monthly*, we clip the following:—

"These noble unpeopled valleys (of Newfoundland) are a thousand miles nearer Britain than Canada, and yet they are entirely overlooked. They command the entrance to the Gulf of St Lawrence, and here a coalition station for steamers might be established. Here, too, on the shores of St George's Bay, will be the terminus of the Railroad destined one day to traverse Newfoundland, and by connecting the western shores with St John's will furnish the shortest sea route to Europe. It is calculated that swift steamers could make the passage from Valencia, in Ireland, to St John's in four and a half days. The railroad across the island would be 250 miles in length; a steamer would run from St George's Bay to Shippegan Harbor, Bay of Chaleur, in 12 or 15 hours, where a branch of the International Railway would forward passengers and mails to all parts of the United States and Canada. By this route passengers and mails from London would reach New York in seven days, a short sea-passage would be secured, and all the dangers from fogs, ice and storms along the American coasts would be avoided. The dangers of crossing the Atlantic would be reduced to a minimum and three or four days would be saved."

Mr Justin McCarthy, the well-known journalist and novelist, contracted, not long since, to furnish for the periodicals of Harper & Brothers *forty-five* short stories. The stories were to average four thousand words each, or about four columns of *Harper's Weekly* or *Bazar*, and his compensation for each was to be one hundred dollars. He is said to have written the forty-five stories at the end of which time he received forty-five hundred dollars. During the time he was engaged upon them he was also employed in writting for the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Lippincott's Magazine* the *Galaxy*, the *Independent*, and several family papers, besides lecturing constantly, composing a book on America, and reading the newspaper notices of his various articles.

FRAUD

On the 27th June, 1866, MOTERWALLAH, a Printer, was convicted at the Supreme Court, Calcutta, of counterfeiting the

LABELS

of Messrs CROSSE & BLACKWELL London, and was sentenced by Mr Justice Phear to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT

And on the 30th of the same month, for

SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES

bearing Labels in imitation of Messrs CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S, SHARK SACHOO was sentenced, by the Subordinate Magistrate of Sealdah, to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT

CAUTION.—Anyone SELLING SPURIOUS OILMEN'S STORES, under Crosse & Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will be vigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine all goods carefully before taking delivery of them. The GENUINE manufactures of Messrs Crosse & Blackwell may be had from EVERY RESPECTABLE DEALER on Vancouver Island. mw10 1w

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and to see that their names are upon the wrapper, bottle stopper, and bottle.

Some of the foreign markets having been supplied with spurious Worcestershire Sauce, upon the wrapper and labels of which the names of Lea & Perrins have been forged, L. and P. give notice that they have furnished their correspondents with power of attorney to take instant proceedings against Manufacturers and Venders of such, or any other imitations by which their rights may be infringed.

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