

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, March 31 1868.

We want to direct the careful attention of our readers to the following paragraph which occurs in the reply of the Legislative Council to the Governor, passed on Monday:

6. We are glad that a question of such absorbing interest as the Seat of Government in the Colony is at length to receive its final settlement with due regard to public faith and honor, and the just claims of all parties considered.

What do a "due regard to public faith and honor" and the just claims of all parties considered mean? The only sentence in the Governor's speech that alludes to the matter as one of "public faith and honor" reads thus:

"Suffice it now to say that Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that in my Message of 27th March, 1867, I took an extreme view as to the extent to which public faith and honor are pledged to the purchasers of land in New Westminster. Further, that I should consider the public convenience from time to time as the main guide in the selection of a Seat of Government."

Nothing is said about the "just claims of all parties" being "considered;" neither is there the slightest reference to a "due regard to public faith and honor." The Committee who drafted the Reply have taken a most unwarrantable liberty. They have put words into his Excellency's mouth he never uttered. They profess to draw the inference that the paragraph we have quoted carries a different meaning from that it was really designed to convey. They attempt to compromise his Excellency by making it appear that he has recommended "compensation" to New Westminster lotowners, when his Excellency distinctly states that the "extreme" view taken by him in the matter of "public faith and honor pledged to the purchasers of land in New Westminster" is not shared by the Home Government. This, then, is the reason why the Reply was passed *whotus dolus*. The significant paragraph in the Reply indicates that an attempt will be made to impose a burthen upon the whole country by compensating owners of real estate at New Westminster for suppositions losses in the event of the removal of the Seat of Government. Let the principle be admitted in this case and we shall soon have not only losers through bad investments in town lots clamoring to be reimbursed for their losses, but flour and liquor dealers, and speculators in every description of merchandise, will be found poking their "little bills" at the Legislative Council for "compensation" for a fall in the market. Victoria sacrificed her Free Port for Union. Was there ever a word said about "compensating" the merchants who had invested thousands in the erection of costly warehouses, under the pledge that this should continue a Free Port? Hundreds of families settled at Victoria when it was the Seat of Government of Vancouver Island. Were they ever "compensated" for their losses by the concentration of the public offices at New Westminster? Can anybody call to mind a single instance wherein a lot-owner at Langley was "compensated" for the removal of the Capital? Were the people of Quebec, of Toronto, of Montreal, of Kingston, (in Canada,) or of Vallejo or San Jose, (in California,) "compensated" for the loss of the Seat of Government? No. The demand (if made) will be wholly without precedent, will be iniquitous and unjust and the effect, if granted, mischievous. The New Westministerians who invested their means in that town did so with a speculative object in view. If they lose (which we doubt) by the removal of the Seat of Government, who have they to blame but themselves? Besides, their losses are entirely suppositions. At the most, not above fifty persons out of a population of six hundred will have to reside in Victoria, and surely the removal of fifty persons can not materially affect the price of real estate at New Westminster or anywhere else. The Colony will justly regard the proposition (if it be pressed) as a conspiracy to extort money, and should it be carried the Home Government will not fail to visit any official who may connive at the fraud with a severe mark of its disapproval.

Friday, March 27. COUNTY COURT—The adjourned County Court was held yesterday, but the four cases left over from last week had been settled and no proceedings were had.

The Marmora sailed for Shanghai on Wednesday from the outer harbor.

WESTERN EXTENSION.—The Western (Canada) Advertiser, in remarking upon the acquisition of the North West Territory to the Dominion says: "As the acquisition of that immense and fertile territory has already been placed at our option, there is every reason to suppose that Canada, at no distant hour, will stretch its limits from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and there could not be a nobler basis on which to rear the future of an empire. True, this western movement, like the Intercolonial Line, will necessarily involve vast expense. That, however, is a part of the conditions on which we start for wider influence and ampler prosperity. We are placed in such circumstances, that outlay, and large outlay, too, is inevitable, and if affairs are judiciously regulated, the North West at least will yet repay us a thousand fold. There are five sources of expense connected with the acquisition of the North West and Rupert's Land. 1st—The construction of a road from Lake Superior to the Red River Settlement. 2nd—Extinction of the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company. 3rd—The extinction of the possessory rights of the Indians. 4th—The cost of civil government. 5th—The construction of military stations and the distribution of troops along a frontier of a thousand miles—not to protect the country from American aggression, nor the settlers from Fenian raids, but the American frontier from Indian wars carried on from British territory.

INDEPENDENT GRAND LODGE.—The Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of New Brunswick, formed by a convention of sixteen Lodges on the 10th day of October last, was on the twenty-second of January duly consecrated and dedicated according to ancient form and usage. The occasion was one of considerable interest to the members of the Fraternity, representatives of Lodges having attended from all sections of the Province, and there being present a very large gathering of members of City Lodges. There were also present several visiting brethren, including a delegation from the State of Maine, headed by Brother D. E. Seymour, a member of the Grand Lodge of that State, who, amid the plaudits of the Brethren, extended on behalf of the Grand Master of Maine, the right hand of fellowship to the Grand Master of New Brunswick. The Grand Lodge, after the transaction of considerable routine business, separated, and resumed its sittings at three o'clock to-day.

THE RIVER OPEN.—A dispatch from Capt. Irving yesterday announces his safe arrival at Yale in the steamer Onward. The river is now open and travel to Cariboo may now be resumed. The steamer Lillooet leaves this port to-day for Yale.

BAYNES.—Mr. Wilson, the drayman who was run over on Brodick's wharf on Tuesday, is better, and Dr. Trimble entertains strong hopes of his ultimate recovery.

COURT OF APPEAL.—A memorial, praying for the creation of a Court of Appeal, is in circulation among the legal fraternity.

Progress of Confederation!

What the People's Committee asked for.

THE REPLY OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT!

At a late hour last evening the following communication, with accompanying documents and telegram, were handed in for publication by the Committee appointed at the late public meeting. We have only space to direct the earnest attention of our readers thereto, and to add that if the members of the Legislative Council who last year voted unanimously for Confederation, will remain true to the pledge they then gave, the great work of uniting this Colony to the Eastern Provinces will be practically accomplished within the next few weeks. The "obstacle" suggested in his Excellency's speech is dispelled by the telegram:

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—The Committee appointed at the public meeting, held in the Theatre on the 29th of January last, on the subject of Confederation, desire to inform the public through your columns that the following memorial, embodying the terms which they believed would be acceptable to the people, was dispatched to the Government of the Dominion on the first day of February last, and the subjoined important telegram has this day been received in reply thereto, clearly indicating the desire of the Government of Canada to act in accordance with the wishes of the people of this Colony. We trust, therefore, that our Legislature will immediately act upon the suggestion conveyed in the telegram, and pass an address to Her Majesty praying for union with Canada upon the terms contained in the memorial.

To His Excellency the Governor General and the Honorable the Queen's Privy Council for Canada.

The Memorial of the undersigned, a Committee appointed at a Public Meeting of the Citizens of Victoria, V. I., B. C., January 29th, 1868, respectfully represents: 1. That on the 18th day of March last, a resolution was unanimously passed by the Legislative Council of this Colony asking His Excellency Governor Seymour to take measures without delay to secure the ad-

mission of British Columbia into the Canadian Confederacy on fair and equitable terms.

2. That a public meeting was held at the same time in Victoria, expressing concurrent views with the action of the Legislative Council.

3. That the people of Cariboo, the next most populous and influential portion of the Colony, held in December last, a highly enthusiastic meeting, and unanimously passed resolutions in favor of immediately joining the Dominion.

4. That public opinion throughout the Colony, so far as we can learn, is overwhelmingly in favor of Confederation.

5. That there is a small party in favor of Annexation to the United States, and if it were practicable or possible, their numbers would be largely increased.

6. That there is a small party, other than Annexationists, who are opposed to Confederation.

7. Nearly all the office-holders of the Colony are allied to the latter party.

8. The total number of those opposed to Confederation on fair and equitable terms is numerically small, but supported by the office-holders, they may exert a good deal of resistance to the popular will.

9. That from information in a telegram from Ottawa, dated January 22d, 1868, we learn that Governor Seymour has not made any proposition to the Dominion Government respecting our admission, as was expected.

10. That the Legislative Council, the only Legislative body in the Colony, is made up of a majority, consisting of heads of Departments, Gold Commissioners, Magistrates and others, subject to Government influence, and cannot be relied upon to urge on Confederation as it ought to be at the present juncture.

11. That the only popular institutions in the Colony are the City Councils of Victoria and New Westminster.

12. That therefore the people of this Colony are really without the means of expressing and carrying out their wishes through the Legislature.

13. We, therefore, representing the views of a large majority of the people of this Colony, and acting in unison with the general and expressed wishes of the people throughout the Colony, would respectfully ask the Government of the Dominion to take immediate steps to bring this Colony into the Dominion, by telegraphing or communicating with Her Majesty's Government, to issue immediate instructions to Governor Seymour, or otherwise to conclude negotiations as to the terms of admission.

14. We feel that without the help and liberal support of the Government of the Dominion the time will be somewhat remote when this Colony will be admitted into the Dominion, but with the aid which we solicit we believe that there is no obstacle to prevent our admission by the first of July next.

15. We would further represent for the information of the Government of the Dominion that the terms of admission which would be acceptable to the people of this Colony, as far as we can learn, would be:

- 1. The Dominion to become liable for the entire public debt of this Colony, estimated at \$1,500,000.
2. The Dominion to provide for federal officers and services.
3. To grant a sufficient fixed subsidy and per capita subsidy, to insure the support of the Local Government, in addition to the powers of taxation reserved to Provincial Governments in the British North American Act.
4. Representation in the Senate and Commons of Canada.
5. Popular representative institutions insuring responsible control over the Government.
6. The construction of a trans-continental wagon-road from Lake Superior to the Head of navigation on the Lower Fraser, within two years after the time of admission. This is regarded as an essential condition.
7. Hereafter we hope to communicate further information. In the meantime we confidently trust the Government of the Dominion will cheerfully aid the people of this Colony in furthering their immediate admission.
17. Enclosed we send you a copy of requisition to the Mayor to call a public meeting, and also a copy of the Resolutions passed at said meeting held on the 29th January, 1868.

(Signed) JAS. TRIMBLE, A. DE COSMOS, I. W. POWELL, G. J. FINDLAY, E. WALLACE, H. E. SHELLEY.

OTTAWA, Ontario, March 25, 1868. The Canadian Government desires Union with British Columbia, and have opened communication with the Imperial Government on the subject of the Resolutions, and suggests immediate action by your Legislature and the passage of an Address to her Majesty requesting union with Canada. Keep us informed of progress.

S. L. TILLEY, To HENRY E. SEELYE.

Royal Hospital.

EDITOR COLONIST.—Will you kindly allow me to inform the public that the patients in the hospital are sadly in want of books with which to while away the weary hours of their confinement. I feel sure that the medical superintendent would gladly take charge of any books, new or old, which might be sent to him for this benevolent object.

E. G. A.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR Purifying the Blood, strengthening the Nerves, Restoring the Lost Appetite, FRESH'S HAMBURG TEA. It is the best preservative against almost any ailment, used timely. Composed of herbs only, it can be given safely to infants. Full directions in English, French, Spanish, and German, with every package. Price 1/6. For sale at the wholesale and retail drug stores and groceries.

EMIL FRESL, Wholesale Drugist, Sole Agent, 110 Clay St., San Francisco.

A Bill Entitled an Ordinance for regulating the Supreme Courts of Justice of British Columbia.

WHEREAS, before and at the time of the passing of "The British Columbia Act, 1866," there were within the limits of the present Colony of British Columbia two Supreme Courts of Justice, having jurisdiction respectively the one over the then Colony of Vancouver Island, and the other over the then Colony of British Columbia;

And whereas certain doubts have arisen as to the respective powers and jurisdiction of the said two Courts and of the Judges thereof, since the passing of the said Act and the Union of the said two Colonies thereunder;

And whereas it is desirable that such doubts should be removed, and that the titles of the said two Courts should be changed, but that the said Courts should be continued, and that the same powers and jurisdiction should be had and exercised by such Courts and the Judges thereof respectively as were had and exercised by them before the passing of the said Act, and before the Union of the said two Colonies as aforesaid; and that additional powers and jurisdiction should be given to the said Courts and the Judges thereof, and that further provision should be made for the administration of Justice in this Colony;

Be it enacted by the Governor of British Columbia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:

I. All the jurisdiction, powers, and authorities which, before the passing of "The British Columbia Act, 1866," were by law vested in, and had, and exercised by, the Supreme Court of Civil Justice of the Colony of Vancouver Island, and in and by the Chief Justice thereof, both in Civil and Criminal matters and proceedings, shall be deemed and taken to have continued so vested in, and to have been had and exercisable by, the said Court and the said Chief Justice thereof, as if the said Act had not been passed.

II. The Supreme Court established under the name of "The Supreme Court of Civil Justice of the Colony of Vancouver Island" shall, from and after the coming into operation of this Ordinance, be called "The Supreme Court of Vancouver Island," and the present Chief Justice thereof shall be called and known by the name and style of "The Chief Justice of Vancouver Island."

III. The Supreme Court established under the name of "The Supreme Court of Civil Justice of British Columbia" shall, from and after the coming into operation of this Ordinance, be called the "Supreme Court of the Mainland of British Columbia," and the present Judge thereof shall be called and known by the name and style of the "Chief Justice of the Mainland of British Columbia."

IV. Except as hereinafter mentioned, the jurisdiction, Civil and Criminal, of the said Supreme Courts shall be the same, and all the powers and authorities heretofore by law vested in and exercisable by the Judges thereof respectively, in the Civil and Criminal matters and proceedings whatsoever, shall be the same and shall continue so vested in any exercisable by them respectively, as if the titles of the said Supreme Courts, and of the same Judges thereof, had not been changed, and as if the aforesaid Act of Parliament had not been passed.

V. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed or taken to affect the appointments of the present Judges of the said Courts, or either of them, or the tenure under which they, or either of them, hold office, or (except as hereinafter mentioned) the rights of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, or otherwise, of persons holding or to hold the said offices, or to affect the appointments or tenures of any of the present Officers of the said Court, or any of them (except as hereinafter mentioned); or (except as hereinafter mentioned) the rights of the Governor or Judges of the said Courts, or either of them, with respect to the appointments or otherwise of persons holding or to hold such offices.

VI. All the jurisdiction, powers, and authorities which, before the passing of the "British Columbia Act, 1866," were by Law vested in and had and exercised by the Sheriff of Vancouver Island for the time being, in all matters, process, and proceedings, Civil as well as Criminal, and before all Courts in the said Island, under or by virtue of the Order in Council of the 4th day of April, A.D. 1856, shall be deemed and taken to have been and to continue during the pleasure of the Governor vested in the High Sheriff for the time being of British Columbia, as and from the 10th day of November, A.D. 1866.

VII. The provisions of the "Sheriffs' Ordinance, 1867," shall be deemed and taken to extend and apply, and to have extended and applied, to that part of British Columbia heretofore known as the Colony of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies, as and from the passing of such Ordinance.

VIII. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed or taken to affect or invalidate any acts or proceedings done, commenced, or taken in the said Courts, or either of them, or any decrees, judgments, orders, rules, or regulations of the said Courts, or either of them, or anything done in pursuance of such decrees, judgments, orders,

rules or regulations; and all proceedings heretofore commenced and taken in the said Courts, or either of them, may be continued and prosecuted in the Court in which they were so commenced or taken, notwithstanding the change of titles of the said Courts. Provided always, that in all proceedings taken, and in all decrees, judgments, orders, and regulations made after the passing of this Ordinance, the new title of the Court in which such proceedings are taken, or such decrees, judgments, orders, rules, and regulations are made, shall be inserted in such proceedings, decrees, judgments, orders, rules, and regulations, in lieu of the former title.

IX. Either of the said Chief Justices may, at the request of the other Chief Justice, assist such other Chief Justice in hearing and determining all cases, Civil and Criminal, which such last mentioned Chief Justice might have heard and determined; and for that purpose the Chief Justice for the time being rendering such assistance shall have and exercise all the powers, authorities, and jurisdiction which the Chief Justice to whom such assistance is rendered has and exercises; and he may sit either separately or together with the last mentioned Chief Justice, as shall seem best to the said two Chief Justices for the due administration of Justice.

X. Provided always that upon the Mainland of British Columbia, the Chief Justice of the Mainland of British Columbia, and upon Vancouver Island the Chief Justice of Vancouver Island, shall have rank and precedence over the other Chief Justice.

XI. Upon a vacancy being created by the death, resignation, or otherwise of either of the present two Chief Justices, the said Supreme Courts of the Mainland of British Columbia and of Vancouver Island shall be merged into one Supreme Court, to be called the "Supreme Court of British Columbia," and the surviving or remaining Chief Justice shall preside over the said Court, and shall be called the "Chief Justice of British Columbia," and a Puisne Judge of the said Court shall thereupon be appointed by Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, by Warrant under Her or Their Sign Manual and Signet, and receive the annual salary of £1,000, and all the jurisdiction, powers, and authorities of the two present existing Supreme Courts, and of the Judges thereof, shall be vested in and shall be had, exercised, and enjoyed by the said Supreme Court of British Columbia, and the Judges thereof.

XII. The said Chief Justice of British Columbia is hereby authorized and empowered, from time to time, to make all such orders, rules, and regulations as he shall think fit for the proper administration of Justice in the said Supreme Court of British Columbia; and subject to such orders, rules, and regulations, the then existing rules and regulations of the Supreme Court of the Mainland of British Columbia shall have full force and effect in the said Supreme Court of British Columbia.

XIII. Each of the aforesaid Supreme Courts shall have its own Seal cognizable in judicature and thereon, and bearing Her Majesty's Royal Arms, and on such Seal shall be inscribed the name of the Court to which it belongs.

XIV. Whether in any of the Ordinances made and passed in the last Session of the Legislature of this Colony, the words "The Supreme Court," "The Supreme Court of Civil Justice of British Columbia," or other superior "Courts" shall occur, the same shall henceforward, until merger of the two Supreme Courts in British Columbia hereinafter referred to, and unless repugnant to the plain sense of the context, be and be deemed to have been, from the date of the passing of such Ordinances respectively, for the Mainland "The Supreme Court of the Mainland of British Columbia;" for Vancouver Island and its Dependencies "The Supreme Court of Vancouver Island;" and after such merger "The Supreme Court of British Columbia."

XV. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Supreme Courts Ordinance, 1868."

G. SUTRO & CO., Corner of Yates and Wharf Streets, IMPORTERS OF Groceries, Provisions, CIGARS AND TOBACCO.

Lytton Hotel, LYTTON, B.C.

THE PUBLIC ARE RESPECTFULLY informed that the above Hotel is now open for the accommodation of travellers. One of the best rooms in the country is retained at this establishment, and the Bar is supplied with a choice assortment of Wines and Liquors.

W. McWHIR & CO., Proprietors.

Waitresses Wanted.

Young Women to act as Waitresses at the Europa Music Hall, Government street, Victoria. We give \$100 a month. Apply to the proprietor, Mr. F. W. Quilley, from 2 to 6 p.m. daily.

The Weekly British AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, March 31, 1868.

The People's Committee at the late Confederation Meeting submitted a report of their result, so far as known negotiations with the Government. That the right people and the dignity of have been maintained by the Government in every step they have must admit; and that the Government is disposed to pretty much on our own plainly evident by the telegram from the Minister of the Dominion. The terms by the Committee are the debt and pay a subsidy to the support of the local Government in addition the power reserved to Provincial Government in the British North American Act.

And Commons of Canada a suitable local Government, construct a wagon road from prior to Yale, on the Fraser within two years after our Such, briefly, are the conditions which it is proposed to unite to the British North Confederation—conditions which embody the views of the speaker meeting and which are in degree favorable to the Colony even the opponents of the few of whom, we believe, sincere in their opposition constrained to acknowledge cannot, indeed, see how they even an excuse for opposition the part of this Colony to its terms so favorable. The Committee, in addition, acted with consideration and promptitude in laying of their proceedings before us soon as they had assumed an of tangibility—and the telegraph how desirous the Dominion are to admit us to all the rights of members of the Confederation has been Ottawa with the Imperial and our Legislature is urged address to her Majesty request consummation of Union, therefore, with the Council not at New Westminster to take any step and the last "obstacle" way of our prosperity will be a favorable answer to the Her Majesty's Government. It is pledged, in the Act of Dominion, to grant a request British Columbian Legislature the Union; it cannot, if it hold its consent to our admission breaking faith with the Dominion, and history and practice alike opposed to a breach of on the part of the British Empire. In the present stage of the all eyes are turned towards who would be wise to avail of the present opportunity which virtually accepted by the Government are so favorable the matter be delayed by the apathy of the members of the Council, years may elapse before an opportunity will again refusal to accept now may be conditional Union being forced the Home Government. The tically a Crown colony, so perfectly competent on the official as well as powers to unite in ratifying the last session by the passage of address prior to adjourning.

The Boston Traveller, article, has the following protection policy of the United "Shipowners and shipt country over, are becoming at the rapid decline of the While nearly every other been clamorous for protection have been comparatively the consequence is that remembered them only taxes upon them with Before the war our business afford to build vessels for and show a good return for but now all this is change