The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday January 12, 1870.

Self Government.

Almost immediately upon the promulgation of Lord Granville's confederation dispatch to Governor Musgrave, we ventured to express the fear that an attempt would be made to put this colony off with a mock responsible government under the new dispensation. It turns out that the fear was well founded. There is no longer reasonable ground to doubt that such an attempt will be made. It appears that His Excellency, while in theory a strong advocate of responsible government, conceives that the time has not yet arrived when the principle can, with safety and success, be applied to this colony. Now, the first question that naturally suggests itself to the mind is: Has His Excellency enjoyed such opportunities of forming a judgment as would warrant him in pronouncing British Columbia unfit for self government? We have no hesitation in saying that he has not. The experience acquired by His Excellency in such communities as those of the Leeward Islands, Antigua, Nevis and St. Vincent, can scarcely be regarded as constituting a fitting qualification for pronouncing judgment on British Columbia. He found Newfoundland in possession of responsible government, it is true; and, although we are without the means of knowing what are His Excellency's views regarding the fitness of that colony for self government, we venture to suggest that the people of British Columbia should not be judged by any such test as might be furnished by the experience of a colony like Newfoundland. Recent events and information go to show that, in all those qualities which constitute fitness for self government, the people of that colony must rank below the people of British Columbia. It is only in this colony, then, that the Governor could have acquired that experimental knowledge which can alone be held to constitute a proper qualification for pronouncing upon this point. Let us see what opportunities His Excellency has enjoyed for the acquisition of such knowledge: A trip to Cariboo, although performed by means of Barnard's well appointed line of stage coaches, would not be lost upon a man like the Governor. His shrewd and active mind would take in a tolerably correct bird's-eye view of the country and its inhabitants. But to assert that the flying visit paid to Cariboo has placed His Excellency in possession of that thorough knowledge of the mainland part of the colony and its people which would justify him in pronouncing such a judgment would be little short of imputing to him the attribute of omniscience—a power possessed by God alone. His opportunities for judging of the Island have been still less. Unfortunately for himself and the colony, the Governor has been confined to a sick room, and his opportunities of becoming acquainted with the people have necessarily been limited in a great measure to those who have pushed themselves into notice; and such persons do not always afford a fair sample by which to judge of the rest. This is equally true of the Mainland and the Island. In many instances the best men may be the most retiring. We have shown that the Governor has not yet enjoyed such opportunities of forming an opinion from personal observation as would fairly entitle him to pronounce this colony unfit for self government. There remains another source through which he may be presumed to obtain information upon such a subject, and that is the officials with whom he is surrounded; and there can be no doubt that any information coming through that channel would be opposed to the introduction of responsible government. Whether from considerations of self-interest or from educational and social influences and habits the officials of British Columbia will be found arrayed against any change which will make them responsible to the people. It, therefore, becomes the duty of the Governor to receive with very great caution any information or opinions coming from that source. It will scarcely be necessary for us to repeat that we conceive British Columbia to be quite prepared for self-government, and that it will be a serious mistake, it may prove a fatal one, to attempt to withhold such institutions under the new dispensation. Every British community is entitled to such institutions. To withhold them is a violation of those blood-bought constitutional rights which the subject carries with him to the colonies. Responsible government is that form best adapted to every Anglo-Saxon community; and to deny it to a large and highly intelligent English-speaking community on the Pacific surrounded by the most liberal forms of Republican government, will be to injure the best interests, if not jeopardise the allegiance of the colony. We would respectfully, yet earnestly, warn the Governor of the probable, as well as the possible consequences of committing such a grave error.

Road Tax.—Twenty-eight summonses had been issued for road tax to be heard yesterday at the Police Court, and engaged the time of the Court for nearly three hours, Mr E Mallandaine giving evidence in each case heard, and Mr Green appearing for the prosecution. Of these, E Hall, who appeared to answer to the summons, the case being in the usual way, was ordered to pay $2 and costs each, for Victoria and Esquimalt districts. W Newbery, $2 for Victoria district, who pleaded having paid in the city, a like result. E H Anderson, $2, Esquimalt district, and $5 Victoria district, ordered to pay both amounts with costs. G Hudson, Esquimalt town, to pay $2 G Peakes $2—postponed for one day. John Ash $81 32 Esquimalt and Metchosin road district, who pleaded the last of his property not being in a road district, and erroneous assessment in every case—postponed for one week, to allow the Crown to correct, if any error could be proved. A E B Davie $2, Victoria district, sued as administrator of the late J C Davie—postponed one day to allow of the consideration of a point of law. G Birkis condemned to $3 32, Esquimalt district, and costs, to be recovered. One case was dismissed as summoned in error. Sixteen summonses, representing $45 76, were settled by paying the money with cost of summons, into Court, and two others—Jas Baily, $9 and Robt Crarey, $27, both of Lake district—were postponed for one day to allow of proof of summons. G F Foster was postponed for one week. About ten cases will come up to-morrow and several more next Thursday.

From the Northwest Coast.—The schr Nanaimo Packet, Captain Stevens, arrived from a trading expedition to the Northwest Coast yesterday morning. The schooner has been as far north as 54:40 and traded at all the bays and inlets and Indian villages. Severe southwesterly winds are reported the entire trip, which lasted five months. The U S steamer Newbern was seen at Bella Bella on the 16th ult, and the Constantine on Christmas Day off Cape Mudge—both steamers bound north. The schooner ran into Skidegate Bay and saw the coal works and some 900 tons of anthracite at the pit's mouth. At Mosse Station, near Bella Bella, a gang of men were taking out ore, and the sloop Atalanta had arrived at Knight's Canal with the copper miners, who were absent at the seam, which lies 5 miles back of the canal. The Nass Indians and the tribes in the interior are at war. Two of the Nass Chiefs have been killed, and a war party have started to punish their murderers. Forty days ago Capt Stephens spoke the trading schooner Caroline at Carter's Bay, 100 miles above Bella Bella. She was then bound down, but has not since been seen and is supposed to have been lost with all hands. The Caroline was formerly the Meilakatlla, property of the Duncan Mission, by whom she was sold lately to Capt Frank.

The Langford Lake Murder—Examination of 'Butch.'—Yesterday Stealey *alias* 'Butch,' was brought before Mr Pemberton on a charge of being concerned in the murder of Captain Joseph Baker near Langford Lake. The statement of the prisoner was read over to him. In it he stated that Fowler, Baker and he walked along the Goldstream road to a point where a tree lay across the road. Fowler and he stopped to cut it out and Baker went on towards Victoria. Prisoner says he heard no shot fired while chopping, and that no person passed along the road to his knowledge that day except himself and the two mentioned above. His statement differs from Fowler's in two very important particulars: Fowler says that a number of Indians passed along the road shortly after Baker had gone on, and that soon afterwards he heard a shot fired. The prisoner was remanded till Monday.

Capt Pritchard has brought us a cutting from an apple tree in his garden which is thickly covered with buds and new leaves. Nearly all the Captain's fruit trees are similarly advanced. What a wonderful climate is ours. Vegetables growing in the open air, roses and wallflowers and daisies in nearly every garden on Christmas day, and fruit trees budding on the 4th of January at the 49th parallel of latitude on the Pacific. At Portland, 350 miles south, there is fine sleighing and skating, and New York, which lies at 40½ degrees of latitude on the Atlantic, is frozen up and snowed in, whilst every vestige of vegetation vanished months ago.

Testimonial.—Mr. D. McKay, who has been about 8 years in the service of the Hudson Bay Company in this city, was made the recipient of a handsome English lever gold watch—the gift of the Company's agents at Victoria, V. I. The watch bears this inscription—'Presented to D McKay as an acknowledgment of faithful services to the Hudson Bay Company, by its agents at Victoria, V I.' Mr McKay may well be proud of this solid mark of appreciation.

Robbery.—Shortly after daylight yesterday a shutter of Wm Wilson's clothing store was removed, a pane of glass smashed and about $40 worth of shirts and other articles abstracted. Two neighbors heard a sound as of breaking glass about 7 o'clock, but thought nothing of the occurrence. The thief chose for the robbery an hour when the night watch had been withdrawn.

English Shipping.—If the bark Alpha had not sailed on the 27th November from Liverpool with the servant girls, the brig Corsair, loading at London for Sproat & Co. was advertised to sail on the 15th December for Victoria.

The lowest tender for the erection of a frame dwelling on Cadboro Bay road near the Willows, was from Mr J M Baker—$1048. Eight tenders were sent in to Mr Veregouen, the architect.

Earthquake.—A slight shock of an earthquake was experienced at 4 o'clock yesterday. Oscillation from east to west, lasting about eight seconds.

Theatre Royal.—We are heartily sorry that the excellent company now playing at our theatre are not meeting with that support and encouragement their talents merit. No one who goes to see them but comes away delighted with the principal performers and the general success of the pieces, yet the company fail to receive that generous encouragement Victorians were wont to extend to troupes far inferior in point of ability and respectability. Last evening the beautiful comedy of 'Still Waters Run Deep' was placed on the stage in a manner superior to any previous representation, and still the actors played under the chilling influence of a house not more than half-full. It is shameful that such finished actors as Mr Pauncefort, Miss Carter, Miss Cummings, Mr Barry, Mr Morrison and the remaining lady and gentleman *artistes* who comprise the troupe should come so far to provide first-class amusement and to meet with a reception so cold as has been accorded them here. The people of Victoria, for the few remaining nights of the company among us, ought to at least try and make good the losses they have sustained thus far. This evening 'Ingomar' will be produced. Let there be a full house.

The bark Maud Ellen, from Burrard Inlet, arrived down last evening. She is lumber laden, bound for Sydney and sailed at once for her destination.

Ingomar.—This beautiful play will be enacted this evening at the Theatre, when Mr Pauncefort will appear as Ingomar, and Carrie Carter as Parthenia.

Peace River.—About the 1st of February we shall look for a new and startling intelligence from the mines on Peace River.

The earthquake was felt at Swinomish and other places along the Sound—so says a telegram received here yesterday morning.

Tiger Engine Company.—This company have elected Mr. John Taylor 1st Assistant, *vice* A. F. Keyser, resigned.

Installation.—The installation of the officers of Victoria Lodge, F & A M, will take place to-day, at 2 o'clock.

Laid Over.—Three or four communications upon Mr Jenns' last Sunday evening sermon, are laid over.

Wholesome Reproof

Editor British Colonist:—I felt sorry to see in your paper of yesterday a communication signed 'One of the Congregation' of St John's Church, condemning the sermon by the Rev Mr Jenns on Sunday evening last. I for one fully concur in the views enunciated by the rev gentleman on that occasion and think that nineteen out of twenty believe as I do, and that Mr Jenns is deserving of all praise for his boldness in showing up the weaknesses and follies of those who should show better examples to others—for the old adage 'one fool makes many,' was fast becoming realized. It would have been a personal affront had the rev gentleman rebuked privately those he intended his shafts to hit, as suggested by your correspondent. Go on, Mr Jenns, and endeavor by your eloquence from the pulpit to make good and many wholesome reforms where they are needed and you will become as famous a reformer as Pere Hyacinthe, and deserving the thanks of this community.

Observer.

Rev. Mr. Jenns and his Brave Sermon.

Editor British Colonist:—Having heard the brave and excellent sermon of Mr Jenns warmly praised, both by ladies and gentlemen, I was not a little disgusted at reading the sheepish letter of your correspondent 'One of the Congregation.' Its tone of injured innocence is quite refreshing, but it will gull few people who 'know the ropes' in Victoria. We have had too little plain speaking in this place, too much prophesying smooth things, and if Mr Jenns is not to speak out his mind fearlessly and bravely in his own pulpit, what is he here for? All honor to him for not being one of your smiling, easy-going backrupt parsons who have left the Island for the Island's good. 'One of the Congregation' stands aghast at the word 'indecent' being applied to the conduct of married ladies, and at the appearance of young ladies being likened to that of disreputable women. But, sir, my attention has often been drawn to some ladies as they sail up the aisle of more than one of our churches, and it has been remarked afterwards that they were dressed more like women of the 'demi monde' decked for Cremorne than like ladies entering the house of prayer. Besides, I would remind 'One of the Congregation' that people here are not quite fools, and that some of us can see half way through a mill-stone: witness the remarks of Mr Macfie on Victoria, where he says, page 407, 'Nor is scandal confined to *unmarried* or *obscure* circles in the community.'

I confess the nausea I feel in dragging myself through so much mire, but it is not easy to attempt the cleansing of an Augean stable without being bespattered or belonied.

Magna Veritas Prev.

Victoria, Dec 5.

St John's Church.

Editor Colonist:—I desire to ask 'One of the Congregation' whether he has been deputed to ask for an apology from the Rector for the language used by him in his sermon on Sunday evening last, and by what he presumes to say that such language ought to bring from the whole congregation the 'strongest protest,' if he does not write in a representative capacity, he is guilty of arrogance and impertinence in presuming to put himself forward, anonymously, on behalf of the congregation, to censure the Rector. I have been a member of St John's congregation for upwards of six years, but do not on that account conceive that I have any right to say what the Rector should or should not preach, but as a matter of opinion I think the epithet 'indecent' was injudicious as being open to a double construction. I believe that I must have heard nearly two thousand sermons from Clergy of the Church of England, and I have not unfrequently heard dancing, dress, and late entry into the church to the disturbance of the congregation made the subject of remark from the pulpit, but I never heard the subjects handled with so much courage and pluck as by Mr Jenns on last Sunday evening. I heartily thank him for his plain, outspoken words. I do not conceive it to be the duty of a clergyman to preach nothing but honied words, and those who lack the courage to admonish their congregations faithfully and earnestly do not come up to my standard of good clergymen. Your correspondent must have been smarting under a bitter feeling when he wrote his letter, and he could not have heard the sermon or he would have been aware that Mr Jenns prefaced his remarks by saying that he was well aware that what he was about to say would give offence to some, and not 'that he meant no offence.'

These matters ought not to be the subject of newspaper controversy, and I will trouble you no further. I will leave the last word to 'One of the Congregation' having said my say as

A Catholic.

Rev. Mr. Jenns and his Rebuke of Folly and Sin.

Editor British Colonist.—Not many weeks ago the incumbent of Christ Church was ruthlessly dragged through the mire of newspaper controversy; and, although he thoughtlessly exposed his flank to the enemy, yet I greatly question the utility of the discussion.

It would appear that the Rector of St John's is about to be subjected to a similar process, although upon very different ground. Dean Cridge became the victim of his own indiscretion in giving the sanction and the blessing of the Church to professions and practices of doubtful tendency. Parson Jenns is a martyr to the truth—he is to suffer for a fearless and faithful denunciation of sin!

I was both surprised and grieved to see the letter in this morning's paper—surprised that you should publish such a gross and unjustifiable attack upon one of God's Ministers; grieved that there should be found in that good man's congregation one so wicked.

The position taken by the writer of the letter is not new. Without venturing to suggest that the cap fitted him, it is very natural that one guilty of wrongdoing should prefer secret reproof to public rebuke. Nor is it surprising that the carnal heart should desire to hug its darling sin unmolested.

But let us regard this matter from the high and holy standpoint. It is just the old story over again. John the Baptist fearlessly rebuked Herod for living in adultery,—and was beheaded. Christ himself openly and fearlessly rebuked sin whenever and wherever he met it,—and was crucified. Now, I don't for a moment think Parson Jenns in imminent danger either of decapitation or crucifixion, but merely allude to these incidents by way of encouragement to one who is suffering for the truth. The Apostles were distinctly told that they need not expect immunity from those trials and persecutions to which their Master had been so much exposed; and one who claims to stand in the direct line of Apostolic succession must expect to come in for his share of such things. Nay, he ought to esteem it an honor to suffer for the truth.

The writer of the letter thinks the whole congregation ought to protest, and that Mr Jenns should offer an apology. How very like the Scribes and Pharisees of old. Apologise for what? For telling the truth? For boldly grappling with sin sneaking under the skirts of Religion? Is the Church to hug the adulterer and the wanton voluptuary to its bosom and the minister to be gagged?

Make no apology, Mr Jenns. Have no compromise with iniquity. Your Divine Master did not reprove private sins, much less public ones, in secret. He ever denounced all sin publicly; and He did not handle either sin or sinners with kid gloves. He called both by their proper names. Do you likewise. To the shame of the Church be it said, there are very few ministers of the Gospel nowadays found willing to denounce all sin fearlessly. To far too many cares they deal tenderly, gently with it, from a fear to wound the feelings of the wrong-doer. Read the bold denunciations of Christ—how He let them have it slap in the face. How smooth faithful ministers has He now?

I am not disposed to think that the congregation worshiping in St John's are sinners above all the people of Victoria, but I am greatly disposed to think Mr Jenns exceptionally fearless and faithful in the discharge of his duty; and he has a right to expect that good, Christian people of all denominations will rally round him in the noble stand he has taken against sins which have been insidiously creeping into the Church—sins which we have seen seeking the cloak of religion.

H. J.

Canadian Mail Summary,

The last mail places us in possession of Dominion exchanges to the 14th December. H R H Prince Arthur was about to set out on a hunting excursion up the Gatineau river, where moose-shooting is said to be good. The Victoria skating rink, Montreal, was formally opened on the 13th. Prince Arthur was amongst the skaters, and the band of the Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade played upon the occasion. Prince Arthur had accepted an honorary membership in the Montreal Curling Club. The mining news from Nova Scotia was highly favorable. There had been an extensive revival of gold mining in nearly all the districts, and great results for 1870 are anticipated. General Windham has obtained leave of absence for two months. During his absence the command will devolve upon Sir H Doyle, the Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia. The chief topic of interest in New Brunswick appears to have been the trial of John A Munroe. Upon the opening of the case an attempt was made by Mr Thomson, counsel for Munroe, to exclude the press during the trial, on the ground that the interests of the prisoner would be prejudiced by the publication of the evidence. The application was, however, overruled by the court. Great difficulty was experienced in forming a jury. As the case progressed the court house was crowded to excess. The Toronto Knights of St Crispin gave a grand ball. A fossil walrus was lately found on the Intercolonial Railway, near Rix. It is 13 feet long, and was found 100 feet above the level of the sea. It was rumored that the Red River insurgents had intimated their willingness to accept Mr Howe as their Governor, but not Mr McDougall. It is, however, extremely improbable that they will be offered a choice. The Canadian papers notice a growing desire to emigrate from the Western and Middle States to the Dominion and it is thought that a large exodus will follow the opening up of the Northwest. The Windsor and Annapolis Railway was opened on the 10th, and passengers now travel from St John to Halifax in 13 hours. An opposition paper, called the *Evening Mail*, was about being started at Ottawa. Mr James Cotton, of the Ottawa *Times*, was about starting a French paper. With these Ottawa will have six dailies! There was plenty of snow and excellent sleighing in most parts of Canada.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Wrongs and their Remedie.—When the sale treatment of disease, by these purifying preparations, is so simple, and the good results so fully known, it seems almost unnecessary to ask the ailing to give them a trial. The Ointment is infallible in curing skin diseases, healing ulcers, arresting inflammations, reducing enlargements, and removing almost all external maladies. In all affections of the joints, gouty, rheumatic and scrofulous attacks, by which the health of many is daily draining away, Holloway's Ointment and Pills will afford indescribable relief, and will gradually, if they are used as recommended in the accompanying directions, bring about a thorough and lasting cure. These medicaments are suitable for both sexes, and for every age and condition.

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