

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, November 2 1870

The Public Meeting.

Well; the people of Victoria are going to have a public meeting to-night. What will they do with it? It may not be harmful to consider for a moment the very peculiar circumstances attending the getting up of this meeting, and thus endeavour to obtain a glimpse at the object of certain thimble-rigging politicians therewith connected, for it may be an advantage to go to the meeting to-night with both eyes open. It is now about a couple of weeks since Mr DeCosmos, apparently impressed with some attractive issue, some new electioneering cry, suggested the propriety of making the location of the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Victoria and Esquimaux a distinct and absolute condition of Confederation, appealing to all the Island communities not to elect any candidate who would not pledge himself to make such location of terminus a sine qua non of Confederation. The subject was well chosen and the stand boldly taken. We felt it to be our duty to point out the unreasonableness of the proposition, the ill-timed and dangerous nature of the agitation; and, moreover, we ventured to read the flimsy veil and afford the public an opportunity of getting a peep at the man and his motives. The result of all this was that the bait would not take. The hinking part of the community denounced both trickster and trick. The unthinking doubted and turned away. But although there were found none willing to fall into the trap, there were those who conceived it to be not out of place that the Dominion Government should be appealed to on behalf of a railway connecting the principal coal-fields of the colony with the chief commercial city and seaport town, not proposing, however, to present it as a condition of Confederation, but merely pressing it upon the attention of the Dominion and Local Governments as a necessary and important work, and asking, as a favour, rather than a right, that the Canadian Government might guarantee its construction. It occurs to us to remark that those who, with the very best of intentions, espoused this scheme, entered upon dangerous ground at a most critical moment, as the sequel will show. A preliminary meeting, for the most part composed of persons greatly interested in the prosperity of the place, was held on Wednesday, at which it was decided that a public meeting should be convened at an early day for the purpose of taking more definite action with a view to urging upon the Canadian Government the desirability of the early construction of a railway between Victoria and Nanaimo. Nothing was more distinctly agreed upon—it was unanimously agreed upon—at the meeting, than that the scheme was not to be presented in the form of a condition of Confederation; and no one was more explicit in disclaiming any intention to do so than Mr DeCosmos himself. Not content with giving his repeated assurance that it was not intended to make the construction of a railway between Victoria and Nanaimo a condition of Confederation, he again and again asked those present that the No Terminus No Confederation cry might be dropped and forgotten. In truth, he played the penitential part so well that most of those present felt into the trap, and trusted Mr DeCosmos once more and once again too often. The real author of the Victoria-Nanaimo railway scheme made the mistake of permitting this arch deceiver to associate his name with the resolution by moving it; and with what result? At the preliminary meeting every one denounced the idea of making the railway terminus question, or the Victoria-Nanaimo railway question a condition of union; and so Mr DeCosmos turned round and denounced it too. But the 'cloven foot' was not long concealed. The following morning he returned, like a dog, to his vomit, repudiated the vows and professions of the day before, and resurrected the old war-cry of 'No terminus no Confederation,' thus clearly showing that his pretended acquiescence with the gentleman who attended the meeting on Wednesday was a mere trick in order to get a public meeting called, and to lure the scheme of others into a personal triumph for himself. It remains to be seen how far he will be successful in the dishonest trick. Should the meeting to-night permit itself to be led into the trap, thus set for it, should the people of Victoria permit themselves to be placed in the false and dangerous position of making the question of the railway terminus, or what amounts to the same thing, the construction of a railway between Victoria and Nanaimo, a sine qua non of Confederation, the consequences may be more serious than

some persons apprehend. It has already been stated in previous articles that the Dominion Cabinet have agreed to give us as liberal terms as they dared go before Parliament with. To press new conditions now is to involve fresh negotiations and consequent delay. To load these terms already agreed to with fresh conditions is to endanger their breaking down in the Canadian Parliament. To reopen them at all is to incur great risk of having to accept poorer terms, without the ghost of a chance of extorting better. There may be weak-kneed men in the Dominion Government who would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity which would be presented by the re-opening of these terms to modify them, and give us less. As the terms now stand a strong Government will in all probability be able to carry them through Parliament. That Government stands pledged to them now; but once reopened they and the chances are greatly against our being able to obtain equally favorable ones. It would be dangerous to re-open them upon any pretext. It would be utterly insane to re-open them in order to attempt to extort a pledge which the Canadian Government will not and cannot give. The fixing of the terminus of the great transcontinental railway must be the result of a thorough survey. It cannot precede it. To agitate the question now is futile. To make it a condition would be fatal. The question, therefore, for the people to put to themselves to-night is: Shall we accept Confederation now upon the liberal terms offered, relying upon what Nature has done for us and what we can do for ourselves at the proper time to secure the railway terminus at Esquimaux and Victoria? Or shall we, by insisting upon a new and unreasonable condition, imperil and indefinitely delay both?

Dr. HELMCKEN'S ADDRESS. It is decidedly diplomatic and. We have always given the doctor credit for frankness, and cannot therefore believe that the address was written with a view to mystifying or misleading the electors. Yet the honorable gentleman scarcely comes up to popular expectation, which naturally looked for a decided and positive expression on the all-important question of Confederation, which he played a leading part in arranging to the advantage of British Columbia. We have said before, and we now repeat, that the colony owes a debt of gratitude to the Delegates to Ottawa that it can scarcely require. The Terms are so good—so much better than we had any reason to expect—that a universal feeling of satisfaction with them is expressed, and it becomes a gentleman who took so prominent a part in the negotiations to point out a fault that at worst is but presumable. We regret, too, that the doctor is unsond on the Tariff, nor does he give forth the ring of the true metal on Responsible Government; but he recovers himself when he says that the location of the terminus of the railway must be left to competent surveyors and engineers. We presume Dr Helmcken will take an early opportunity to clear up a matter that is uncertain and mysterious in his address, and upon he has done so—considering the relation in which he stands to the Government—too close a criticism would, perhaps, be unfair. Dr Helmcken is certainly to be steered, and, considering his ability, respectability and past services, we confess that we could not point out a better man for the position.

THE EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF LARCENY.—John McTeigh appeared on remand before the Police Magistrate, to answer the charge of larceny preferred against him. Mr Bishop appeared for the defence and produced evidence as to previous good character of the accused. Capt Lewis, who was present, said he did not wish to press the charge. Mr Bishop offered authority to show that the prisoner was not legally, though perhaps, morally wrong. The Magistrate said it was clear, enough that if the prisoner took the stand he was guilty of larceny; the Court would therefore give him a day in which to plead and should he acknowledge the act, the prisoner might be dealt summarily with. The Magistrate complimented Mr Bishop upon the conduct of the case and liberated McTeigh upon the same security until to-day.

QUEER.—A gentleman of this city received a well-written circular from a party signing himself James B Sherman of 109 William street, New York, offering to supply him with any required amount of counterfeit U.S. Treasury notes (elarg term—'queer') at a liberal discount. The writer says he occupies a good position in New York city and can put a fortune in the way of the party he addresses. As an evidence of the 'sublime cheek' of the operator, he says that the gentleman has been recommended to him by a respectable person 'as one likely to take hold, etc, etc.' The mystery is how so great a rascal as the writer can give his address so freely and yet escape unwhipped of justice.

TELEGRAPHIC.—Yesterday we laid before the public 4500 words of telegraphic matter—all fresh news—a portion of which left London the evening before. In the course of a week or two we hope to conclude arrangements for a still greater number of words per diem and to increase in other respects the efficiency and value of the paper to the general reader and advertiser. In the meantime we must apologize to many advertisers for the frequency with which the crowded state of our columns compel us to lay over their favors.

Mr A. R. ROSSIGNOL was yesterday presented with a numerously signed requisition from citizens of Victoria, asking him to allow himself to be placed in nomination for the city; but Mr Rossignol, we are really sorry to say, declines the proffered honor, wishing to devote himself entirely to his profession.

School Examination. Following is the list of prizes given at the examination of Mrs. Wilson Brown's school: 1st CLASS. For English, French, Music and constant attendance—Miss Helmecken. Dr Helmecken's Prize, a silver medal, for excellent conduct—Miss Peets. Composition—Miss Watkins. Reading and general improvement—Miss Branks. Staging—Miss Branks. Diligence—Miss Peets. Drawing—Miss Peets. 2d prize, English—Miss Peets. French—Miss Peets. 2d CLASS. English Lessons—Miss Green. French Writing—Miss Brenda Peets. Music—Miss Heywood. Arithmetic—Miss Moore. Diligence—Miss Heywood. English—Miss Heywood. Music—Miss Brenda Peets. 3d CLASS. English Lessons—Miss Parker. Excellent Conduct—Miss Parker. Arithmetic—Miss Carleton. Writing and Dictation—Miss Joffre. Parsing, Maps and Needlework—Miss Pottinger. French—Miss Elise Peets. Music—Miss Elise Peets. General Improvement—Miss Smith. Music—Miss Parker. Drawing—Miss Elise Peets. In this class prizes for good conduct, reading and spelling, were given to the following little girls: Katie Moore, Edith Helmecken, Maria Peets, Elise Ingram, Grace Golege, Miss Smith. The music classes are under the able direction of Mr Digby Palmer.

METZ.—The capitulation of Metz, with 150,000 men in a grave disaster to the French cause. It is improbable that Bismarck's surrender after exacting a pledge for the withdrawal of the German from all France, excepting Lorraine and Alsace, because his action would not bind the Treaty Government to accept peace on such conditions. Not the war will go on until either Paris is captured or the Germans shall have sustained a signal defeat.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.—The Clerk of the Municipal Council gave notice that a show of hands for a Mayor and six Councillors will take place at the Police Barracks at 12 o'clock, noon, on the 8th proximo, and that a poll, if any, will be taken on the day following at the places indicated in the notice.

COMPLAINT.—has frequently been made to the Police against parties who are in the habit of cutting trees down for firewood on the public park. Yesterday two Chinamen were caught red handed, so to speak, and were brought before Mr Pemberton and put under bonds not to do so again. They had not touched any of the standing trees, but were at work upon the brush and fallen timber when detected.

THE "D" S REVENUE CUTTER.—Lincoln arrived yesterday and will remain till Monday. She will sail here.

HOPS.—At San Francisco hops are quoted at 12 1/2 cts @ 15 cts for new and lots for old.

YAN DRYDEN DISTRICT.—Mr Barnard has retired from the canvass in this District, in favor of Mr Cornwall of Ashcroft.

ALEXANDER DUMAS is at Dieppe, dying of paralysis.

DOMINION MAIL SUMMARY. Our Canadian exchanges are to the 12th inst. The Government at Ottawa received dispatches from Fort Garry on the 11th, the nature of which had not, however, transpired. Col Jarvis was at New York, but would immediately return to his command at Fort Garry. Seizures of smuggled tobacco and liquor have recently been made at Halifax, revealing an extensive system of fraud in operation between Newfoundland and that port. The rumor is contradicted that Mr Geo Ryan is about to resign his seat in the House of Commons in order to accept an appointment of the Intercolonial Railway. It is announced that the Premier of Ontario intends calling the Legislative Assembly to meet on the 15th December for the dispatch of business. Application will be made next session for an Act to incorporate a company for the construction of a wooden or iron railway from Oakville to Bronte, through Milton to Guelph, with power to extend the same to some point on Lake Huron. The Chief of Police at Kingston died in that city on the 11th. The Minister of Public Works had gone to Saint Ste Marie for the purpose, it was understood, of laying out the line of canal to be constructed on the Canadian side, and to select a harbor of refuge on Lake Huron. The latest accounts from Manitoba announce the violent death of Lepine, Riel's Secretary of State. Having made good his escape to the safe side of the International boundary, he struck up a distasteful partnership with the man with whom he lodged, carrying matters a little too far and was shot like a dog by the irate and outraged husband, while sitting in a low chair. Lepine only survived a few moments, during which he confessed to having taken a prominent part in the murder of poor Scott. Riel, it is said, is in the vicinity of Stinking river, endeavoring to gather around him a few discontented spirits, with a view to getting up another rebellion, and it was rumored for the purpose of making a raid upon the military stores on the way to Fort

Garry. Riel had been at Riviere Lake on the 25th and returned to Pembina unmolested. Mr Girard, Treasurer of Manitoba, had met and conversed with him. A party of seventeen carpenters had just arrived from Thunder Bay to work on the public buildings at Fort Garry. The Provincial exhibition, just held at Toronto, appears to have been an immense success. Lord and Lady Lisgar and Sir John A Macdonald were visitors. The report of the Exhibition occupies seventeen columns in the Hamilton Spectator. An Injustice. Editor COLONIST:—It is an injustice to deprive those of us who are thought fit to pay a poll tax from the privilege of voting at the next election. Every person over eighteen in this town is sought after to pay \$2 a year road tax; but we are looked on as minors when something is required to be done that would give us a voice in choosing the gentlemen who make our laws. We must wait till we are twenty-one before we can vote. Call this equal justice? I claim to be better fit to vote than the aged or impetuous who muddle their heads with Bunster. NINETEEN. Nanaimo, Oct 22, 1870. He's R-b-d of his Beer. Editor COLONIST:—At a meeting of bibbers held to-night at the b-m-m-m's retreat, alias Bull's Head, it was conceded by all present that Bunster could not, even if he makes another shipment of three hogheads, as proposed, be successful in his candidature; and it has been decided, therefore, that a better man be solicited to stand. One of the committee, exulting over the fact, says he has had plenty of 'Bunster,' which, by the way, made him quite merry, but he does not know his name, or even tried to rob a poor man of his. BEER. Naimo, Oct 22, 1870. How the Case Actually Stands. Editor BARRISER COLONIST:—There has been a good deal of talk one way and another about the candidates to represent Nanaimo in the Legislature, and as I think it is the duty of every man who calls himself a man to vote for the proper person, I thought I would take it upon myself to make a few remarks on the subject through the paper, and as I think myself that your paper is, by far, the most truthful and reliable one, why if you will be so kind as to publish them, I shall feel much obliged to you. The other paper, the Standard, does not seem to do the fair thing at all. It abuses Mr Robson a great deal too much, and I don't think he at all deserves it. The meetings that have been held here of late have quite gone in favor of the gentleman while Mr Bunster with a few noisy pals has decidedly lost ground ever since that last meeting, when if he had got anything in his head to say, he did not know how to say it. Mr Robson gave us a very interesting, long and useful speech, which the people seemed all to like first rate. He then invited Mr Bunster to say something, who, when he mounted upon the stage, said he was thankful to Mr Robson for inviting him, but he considered he had a right to speak. If he paid five dollars to the Institute of course he had a right; but I think Mr Robson stood treat that time. I should very much like to know, Mr Editor, who it is that the Standard gets all its news about our affairs from. It would be better for that paper a good deal if it was to pay somebody to tell them the real truth. One issue says that Mr Bunster is the favorite candidate and that ain't so; so far as I can see, and I don't think that he ever will be. The news from Comox does not agree at all with a long letter from Mr Coleman, and in fact Mr Robson is all the 'go' up there. The applause at the meeting the other night was all for Mr Robson, and Mr Bunster's people tried to break up the meeting after Mr Bunster had been saying that gentleman for a long time. One fellow said to me the other day 'if Bunster can't talk better nor that to a lot of fools like us, what's he going to do when he gets among the smart men of the country, who are sent to represent the interests of all the districts? We would not let them break up the meeting till Mr Robson had regularly flummoxed the Brewer in answer to his abusive remarks. I tell you what Mr Editor, Mr Bunster's own people say themselves that they thought he could speak, and that his first speech up here was a very good one because he wasn't quite prepared; but this last time he spoke, has just fixed things, you bet. He has at the show of a Chinaman now. I perhaps ought not to say this until we have got all we can out of him, but if I was to do the same for Mr Bunster, I would do, for they don't care a cent who gets in, and if a man don't spend some money at the house where his committee meetings are held, he may as well stop away altogether. I've made my letter longer than I intended, so you must please to excuse me, and I hope it may do good in the right direction. Yours respectfully, JAMES B. SHERMAN.

Help for the Unfortunate. Editor BARRISER COLONIST:—What is it proposed to do with the three unfortunate sisters who have become insane? Is it proposed to leave them in their present pitiable state—one in goal and the other two in a feeble state of both body and mind? Ought there not to be some organized plan to give them some real, substantial and permanent assistance and attention? The Government, I hear, has subscribed \$100 towards their relief, and about \$112 has been collected from citizens. More might be easily had, were the collectors in a position to assure subscribers that the money will be put to practical use. I would, therefore, Mr Editor, suggest that a suitable building be procured and an attendant hired to look after these unfortunate women, whose sad condition appeals loudly to the charitable. Yours truly, JAMES B. SHERMAN.

DRESS-MAKING AND MANTLE-MAKING.—These departments will be opened at London House on Sept 19th, under the charge of a thoroughly experienced cutter, who arrived from England by the California, and who is prepared to produce the latest styles.

The Counterfeit Treasury Notes. The following is a copy of the circular received by a gentleman of this city, wishing him to become agent for the sale of Counterfeit Treasury notes. The affair may be a very clever hoax to put poor human nature on the rack of temptation; or perhaps it is an experiment to find out how many good men there are in the country. BARRISER COLONIST:—Being in want of a steady and trustworthy agent in your locality, I have selected you in preference to a number of others. You were recommended to me by a travelling agent for a large number of good horses in this city. He is a very intimate friend of mine and has accumulated immense fortunes in the business, which he desires your services. Were it not for him I should not repose such confidence in you. Now to business. I have on hand a very large quantity of \$1, \$2 and \$5 U. S. Treasury Notes (Queens) I deal in nothing but first class work, and you may depend upon it that every one of my bills is as well executed both in the engraving and printing as the bills which are issued by the Treasury Department; consequently you need not more risk in passing them than if you were passing genuine money. My bills have been presented to bank officials, and they have almost invariably pronounced them genuine. They are printed on first class bank note paper, are correctly numbered, and the printing cannot be excelled. I put the bills up in packages containing different amounts. The price of a \$500 package is \$100.00. The price of a \$1,000 package is \$200.00. The price of a \$5,000 package is \$1,000.00. In bulk order I give you a fair show at the start. I will not require more than one-quarter of the money down cash. Therefore if you wish a \$5,000 package you will have to pay but \$250.00 for a \$1,000 package but \$50.00 and for a \$500 package only \$25.00. If you do not wish to send your money in advance I will send the stuff to you by express and you can pay for it in the office when you receive it (G. P. D.) If you wish it sent by Express I will assuredly pack it in such a way that no one can possibly suspect the contents of the box. I am an old hand at the business and I can manage everything to mislead the shrewdest persons. When I send you a package by Express I will write to you by mail to let you know that I have sent it. In no case will I send you a package by Express unless I have sent you my letter by mail; and to avoid suspicion say that the letter contains money—nothing but the amount you like. You will not be disappointed in sending me a letter by Express. I will have no other agent near you and it would be impossible for my name to be known to the Express agent. In favour of all applications to send communications by Express, I would even if you have to ride many miles to an Express office. If you can spare a few moments I would much prefer a personal interview. I will send you everything to your satisfaction and be assured that all my representations are correct. If you come on you will have an opportunity to go through the stock and select out whatever denominations suit you best and whatever quantity you can dispose of conveniently. My standing in New York is a matter of high importance. Therefore when you come to my private office, no one will dream what the nature of your business is. You will be as usual as if you were going into a first class shop on Broadway. Were it otherwise I should indeed ask you to come on. I wish one thing to be understood very distinctly. That is I will not deviate from the terms I have given you. I will not give credit. I will not extend more than three-fourths. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I deal on the Square and with that I mean business. I have no thousands of confidence in you, and from representations made to me I believe that you will not be unreasonably with me and if you fulfil my legitimate expectations you certainly will never have occasion to regret it. I think that I have said sufficient. But I must urge you to hasten this matter a profound secret. All fortunes are made in store for both of us; and if you can manage to keep a still tongue all will go well. I give you the following instructions strictly observed. If you remember these instructions no mistake will occur. If you come on in person I will send a reliable agent to me to examine the yard stock, call at my private office No. 52 Broadway street, Room No. 5 private office. Business arrangements be completed here, secretly and safely. If you send me a letter on money by Express I will press direct it to my other place of business, as follows: JAMES B. SHERMAN, 109 William St. New York City.

'Down in the Mouth'. Editor BARRISER COLONIST:—The paper was choice expressions used by the paper, which desires to toast on the Nanaimo people a candidate they won't have, and indicative of the style of address and language its proteges adopts at Nanaimo. To speak of 'Mr Robson as being very down in the mouth, may be useful to relieve the iteizler of his ready supply and overstock of slang, but it does not do Bunster's cause any good; nor does it discourage his opponents; it has had a contrary effect. A general opinion prevails that Mr Bunster can't get to help him here, a single individual who has any respect for himself or the community. The respectable schemes adopted by Bunster, by him, and for him, ought to be strangled and will be treated by every right-minded person as something that is a death what is expected of a man applying to Legislative honors, or of those who are thought qualified to elect. The only wonder is that both Bunster and his BEEB were not trampled as far as possible, or at any rate, not the quality for Nanaimoites. Is a liberal contribution of BEEB the only recommendation required of the person who seeks to represent a man who brings us no benefit? Certificate of Character, will be returned as he should be to the Brewery, but not to the Council of the Colony. OBSERVER. NANAIMO, 26th Oct, 1870.

OF A COUGH... OF ANISED... VETORFORD'S... MID MAGNASIA... CARTRIDGES... OTHERS... LEPILLS... TICE... SON'S... ORSON & SON.