

## The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, April 12, 1864.

## A GUBERNATORIAL RESIDENCE.

The communications transmitted Monday by the Governor to the House, and which we publish in another column, touch on several matters of considerable importance. The principal subject, however, embraced in these documents is that in reference to a Gubernatorial residence. The Duke of Newcastle appears to have given this matter a consideration of no ordinary character, for he actually interests himself in the design of the building. A London architect is required to draw out the plan, instead of a resident in the colony, with a view, no doubt, to inculcate amongst us the taste for a higher order of architecture than our public buildings are said to exhibit. We might object to this part of the programme, on the ground that it discourages colonial enterprise; but the mere dread of obtaining another specimen of the Indian-Dutch-Chinese order, as displayed in the pagoda wigwag across James Bay, at once reassures us to the decision of the Duke. We have no doubt, therefore, when the subject comes up before the House, the members will accept with gratitude this thoughtfulness of the Secretary for the Colonies, and adopt, at once, the civilized design of a London "professional." The financial part of the proposition, however, is more likely to meet with opposition from the House. It is not two months since the members refused to vote a Governor's salary, on the ground that the colony was unable to afford it; and also with the view to precipitate a union with the neighboring colony. At that time no reliable information had been received of the appointment of a Governor for British Columbia, and it was hoped by the Assembly that its resolutions on the civil list might reach the colonial office in London before any appointment was made. That hope of the House is now blasted; for the next steamer will probably bring Governor Seymour to our shores. Two separate staffs of officials will therefore be maintained by the two respective colonies.

We know that the leading men in the Assembly are against committing themselves to any course that might retard the consummation of union, and we may, therefore, expect on Thursday next, when the debate on this question of Governor's residence will take place, a fierce opposition to the scheme of the Duke of Newcastle. The old ground of the Civil list and the Crown lands will, doubtless, again be gone over; the smallness of our revenue will again be paraded; and another resolution will probably be drawn out for the Duke's especial benefit. A great deal of this playing at cross-purposes is, no doubt, the natural result of the neglect with which we have been heretofore treated by the Colonial Office. Amongst other things the Crown land question should have been settled by the Secretary for the Colonies four years ago, and an arrangement made with the Hudson's Bay Company that would have left us at least a piece of land for a Governor's house. It is of course no use bringing up such complaints now, so far as the present question is concerned, but such apathy shown by the Imperial Government may account, for much of that feeling which is occasionally exhibited in the House against the policy or arrangements submitted by the Duke of Newcastle.

We cannot see, however, how the Governor's communication on the question of residence can be otherwise than entertained. The Duke of Newcastle requires, in his dispatch, that the House of Assembly should vote the requisite funds for building a house, and also for furnishing the public apartments—a proceeding that will no doubt cost the colony \$50,000 at least. The Governor, however, leaves to the House the question of a temporary or permanent residence, and is ready to submit a definite proposal on either or both subjects. That His Excellency must have a place in which to reside, is by no means an unnatural request; and that the colony should pay for it seems also reasonable enough. If we had a revenue like that of British Columbia, we would not hesitate for a single instant in erecting a building, suitable in every way for the representative of Her Majesty. But this is just the point; we cannot afford to go to any such expense. We cannot think of incurring an outlay of \$40,000 or \$50,000 on a building of this description. We shall have to run the danger which Dr. Helmcken dreads, of being snubbed by the Duke of Newcastle, in our application for assistance in this matter. The clause relating to a Governor's residence, in the resolutions passed in February, was struck out, ostensibly on the ground of the Duke being likely to refuse the application, but virtually, we believe, as part of a scheme, by leaving the house unbuilt, to increase the chances of union. The hopes as we have already said, entertained by the members then, have been, to a great extent dissipated. Union cannot possibly take place for a year or two under any consideration, in fact in the resolution it is stated to be in the present time "unadvisable if not impossible," and in the meantime we shall have to provide Governor Kennedy with a respectable residence. The question, therefore, resolves

itself into whether that residence shall be a temporary one, paid out of the colonial revenue, or a permanent one built with the assistance of the Imperial Government. Under present circumstances we shall have, of course, to accept the temporary scheme, until the intention of the Secretary for the Colonies is known on those questions stated and implied in the resolutions sent home. We shall anxiously await in the meanwhile, the action of the House on Thursday next.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS.  
SPRING RIDGE WATER WORKS.

The Committee met at one o'clock, p.m.—Present: Colonel Foster, Chairman, and Messrs. Street, Trimble, DeCosmos, and Denness.

The cross-examination of Mr. Martin was concluded, and Mr. McCreight, Counsel for the promoters, called Mr. Cochran, and examined him as to the present condition of the Victoria Water Works Company. The witness had been Secretary, but had now resigned. He produced the minute books, from which it appeared that at the last meeting of Directors, a resolution had been passed calling a general meeting of the Company, for the purpose of winding up. The meeting had been advertised, but no one attended. Witness could not say whether anything was going to be done by the Victoria Water Works Company.

A resolution had been passed to give Mr. Tiedeman \$300 in full of all claims against the Company.

The following letter was put into witness's hands; he said he thought it was in the handwriting of Mr. Tiedeman.

VICTORIA, Feb. 27th, 1861.

SIR,—With pleasure I answer your communication. I have no objection whatever to sell my interest in the Victoria Water Works Company, as promoter and engineer of the same, for the sum of five thousand dollars, (\$5,000) to the other Company. For this I will deliver all maps, drawings, etc., and report to the Company. In regard to other members, I will communicate with you as soon as possible. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
H. O. TIEDEMAN, C. E.

Witness could not say whether the sum of \$5,000 was a moderate sum or not.

Mr. Pearce, acting Surveyor General, was called by the committee, and said that the plan handed to the committee by Mr. Martin was intelligible, but rough; it would be sufficient to work from.

The case for the promoters was closed.

Mr. Wood, on behalf of Mr. Tiedeman, the single opponent of the Bill, commenced his case, but was stopped by the ringing of the committee, who sat again on Monday at 12 o'clock.

MONDAY, April 4th, 1864.

Present: Colonel Foster, Chairman, and Messrs. DeCosmos, Trimble, Denness and Street.

Coe & Martin's water bill was again brought up.

Mr. Green sworn, and examined by Mr. McCreight.—Had had considerable experience in carrying through bills in the House of Commons. In that body in cases such as water companies, telegraph companies, &c., working plans were not required, unless power was required to take private lands. Had deposited the necessary plans here in compliance with the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly. The ten years monopoly clause was given up in order to prevent probable opposition.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wood.—Had known private individuals granted power to carry on public works. The Stockton Gas Company in England had power given them to form a company. They simply complied with the standing orders of the House. Coe & Martin had not formed a company; did not know whether they intended to do so or not.

Mr. Wood.—What are the means of Coe & Martin?

Mr. McCreight objected.

The Chairman asked Mr. McCreight to show him in May's Parliamentary Practice that a bill may be put down on account of objections made to it.

Mr. McCreight read from the Standing Orders of the House of Commons showing that the bill may be put down in committees before deliberation, and argued that it was impossible to expect a bill to go through committee without alteration. The committee were simply asked this, that as a waterman may be protected from having his cart smashed in the streets, so Messrs. Coe & Martin may be protected from having their pipes injured.

Cross-examination of Mr. Green continued.—Messrs. Coe & Martin have deposited 5 per cent of the estimated cost of the works in the bank.

Mr. Cranford re-examined by Mr. Wood. They had made an estimate of the cost of the works during the ensuing year, which was in round numbers \$50,000. An estimate had been made for an additional engine and pipes. \$22,000 had been already expended by Coe & Martin of their own means and credit. The company proposed to establish a joint-stock company to carry out the scheme.

Mr. McCreight objected to the assets and liabilities of Coe & Martin being gone into.

The Chairman said suppose the committee see fit to grant an exclusive privilege of ten years to Coe & Martin in order to protect the interests of the public?

Mr. McCreight said he would be very much afraid that the object of the committee would be to place Coe & Martin in such a position that they could not carry out the scheme, and so would be obliged to give it up. He would continue to recommend Coe & Martin to throw up the demand for exclusive privilege, as he feared the only object of granting it by the committee would be to throw out the bill. His sole object now was to protect Coe & Martin's property; it is not clear at present whether Coe & Martin are not trespassers in laying or repairing their pipes, and it was for the committee to say whether they would protect Coe & Martin or not. He (Mr. McCreight) would press his objection.

The Chairman said they had already allowed Counsel a very great deal of latitude, and he did not think they could admit this objection. The committee, however, would deliberate on the point.—The room was ac-

cordingly cleared and on the doors being re-opened.

The Chairman said the committee were of opinion that all possible information in the matter should be laid before the public.

Mr. Cranford, in answer to Mr. Wood, said he had no doubt that if their bill were passed persons could be found who would furnish plenty of funds to carry out the works. He did not know that an Artesian well was proposed to be made; did not know that an Artesian well was impossible; believed the contrary; he knew that Liverpool had been supplied for a long time by wells—a city of 300,000 or 400,000 inhabitants, and they were applied for a long time from seven wells. An Artesian well was not deemed necessary here because an abundant supply of water had been found.

Mr. Wood addressed the committee, stating that Messrs. Coe & Martin had traded in the most unfair manner on their having given up their demand for monopoly; with this demand, however, the committee, however, to do; it rested with the committee, however, to say whether a proper company, properly constituted and with proper guarantees as to means, should not be allowed such a monopoly as would enable them to carry out their scheme profitably and with advantage to the community.

Mr. McCreight objected to the learned Counsel now advocating a monopoly when his clients had withdrawn their demand.

Mr. Wood continued, saying that Messrs. Coe & Martin were simply the stalking horses of a company that was to be, and who designed to trade on the permission of the committee in supplying the city with water. Mr. Tiedeman comes forward simply in order to ask the committee that he may be protected in the expenses he has undergone in surveying Elk Lake. Coe & Martin proposed simply to supply the city of Victoria with water from Spring Ridge, which they admitted was simply a basin, and in order to cover this doubtful source of supply, have inserted the word "elsewhere" in their preamble. They have not specified any other particular source, and beyond doubt they intend to rely simply on Spring Ridge. He would say that there was never an instance of a town being supplied with water from intermittent springs, where a reliable source was to be had. Messrs. Coe & Martin proposed to construct reservoirs to supply the city in dry weather, but they had only calculated for a sixty day's supply, when it was calculated by engineers that a six months supply should be provided in cases where the supply of a community depended on springs. The learned counsel urged the great necessity for a large supply of water for fires, flushing sewers and many other purposes, and which he maintained could not be had from Spring Ridge. Besides this basin was so near the town, exposed to contamination from filtering through all kinds of filth, that it was simply a question as to whether the city should be supplied from such a source or from a great natural reservoir such as Elk Lake.

The learned counsel argued that Coe & Martin were totally incapable of carrying out the scheme themselves; they could only sell out to this mythical company, whom the committee knew nothing about. These gentlemen had already taken an unfair advantage of the committee in laying their pipes and by publishing letters, trying to influence public sentiment. Messrs. Coe & Martin were unscrupulous men, who did not intend to carry out this scheme; they could not do it, for they had not capital. He would call on Mr. Tiedeman to show that Spring Ridge afforded a totally inadequate supply for a large city.

Herman, the learned counsel, examined—Had examined Spring Ridge, and tried to ascertain the quantity of water in the wells, and had concluded that the supply was insufficient. He had then taken the levels of nearly every spring within a radius of 7 or 8 miles round the city, and also of the lakes, and it was no joke to say that the water was very bad, and badly laid, and were constantly bursting. He (witness) would make his reservoir about 1½ miles from town and 142 feet above the level of the town, and could throw water from his mains 90 feet higher than Church Hill. The water never flows but to wait for hours in summer before they could get their carts filled. The Victoria Water Works Company were not wound up, nor likely to be; they still intended to bring water from Elk Lake.

Cross-examined by Mr. McCreight.—The company only reorganized to get two or three persons out; knew where to get funds to bring water from Elk Lake; the main at Spring Ridge were supplied from surface water; would swear that this was the case, and could prove that from the statements of Coe & Martin; if there were fissures such as they describe, why did they not put their pipes into it and draw their supply from there; he would swear that no water falling on any of the hills or mountains in Vancouver Island could, by subterranean passages, reach Spring Ridge; had sunk wells around Spring Ridge, one 36 feet deep; Coe & Martin had only gone 25 feet deep. His (witness's) interests were affected by Coe & Martin's scheme; his company was prevented by Coe & Martin from bringing in a plentiful supply of water; he believed that in some cases water carts were preferable to pipes, that is to carrying pipes. Mr. McCreight showing witness's letter to Mr. Franklin, offering to sell out his interest for \$5,000. Do you mean Coe and Martin by the term "the other company?" Ans. I did not know anything about Coe and Martin. Then if this \$5,000 were paid you by Coe and Martin you would relinquish your claim?

Mr. Wood objected to these questions.

Examination resumed.—Witness's complaint against Coe & Martin was that they should have the sole privilege to bring water into the city; under a plea of sinking an Artesian well they drained the public springs; he also objected to the way the works were carried on; he wanted more than the \$5,000 to

withdraw his opposition; if Coe & Martin's bill were thrown out, he would undertake to bring in water from Elk Lake in the course of the year; he did not object to Coe & Martin being protected in laying their pipes; he objected to the prices they proposed to ask; if Coe & Martin's bill were thrown out, he (witness) would bring in a bill to bring water from Elk Lake, without asking any exclusive privilege; witness was not a man of capital himself; expected he would get persons to assist him.

Mr. Street.—I will assist him—if it is a good scheme.

Witness.—Dickson, Campbell & Co. will take about \$5,000; witness refused to tell who were the other parties interested in the Elk Lake scheme.

The committee decided, on consultation, that asking Mr. Tiedeman to name his proposed associates and their means, was irrelevant, because Mr. Tiedeman was not before the committee with a bill.

Witness said his only argument against Coe & Martin was that they could not supply the town with water.

By the Committee.—Was the letter produced as written by Mr. Tiedeman addressed to Mr. Franklin?

Ans.—Yes, it was.

Ques.—Why?

Ans.—He asked me one day what I would charge for my services done on the Elk Lake survey.

Ques.—Is Mr. Selim Franklin Messrs. Coe & Martin's agent?

Ans.—I do not know.

Ques.—If Messrs. Coe & Martin should be recognised by the Legislature, would any other company be justified to bring in water in sufficient supply without an exclusive privilege?

Ans.—I think not.

Ques.—(to Mr. Cranford)—Is Mr. Selim Franklin Messrs. Coe & Martin's agent to engineer the bill through the House?

Ans.—No; he has been conditionally engaged to organize a joint-stock company.

By Mr. Street.—Were you aware that Mr. Franklin was a member of the Legislature?

Ans.—Yes; but it was at the recommendation of Mr. Walker, the manager of the Bank of British Columbia, who said that Mr. Franklin would have much more influence with the capitalists of the city than any other broker in the place, that we engaged him.

This closed the examination of witnesses, after which Messrs. Wood and McCreight addressed the committee, and the room was then cleared for deliberation.

We learn that the committee have arrived at their decision, which however will not be made public till it is reported to the House.

## REVIEW OF BOOKS.

The following newly published books have been laid out on our table by Messrs. Hibben & Carswell:

THE RED EAGLE: or the Whaler's last voyage. By R. M. Ballantyne, author of "The Young Fur Traders," "The Coral Island," &c. Crosby & Nichols, Boston.

This is a charming little tale, written in Mr. Ballantyne's usual lively fascinating style. It is an exciting narrative of a whaling voyage in the South Seas, of strange adventures on the coast of Africa, and of the wonders and perils of the mighty deep. Some idea of the style of the book may be gathered from the following sketch of

A HARPOONED WHALER.

Up he comes again, foaming, breaching, and plunging from wave to wave, flinging torrents of blood and spray into the air. At one moment he reared his blunt, gigantic head high above the sea; the next he buried his vast and quivering carcass deep in gorges, carrying down with him a perfect whirlpool of foam. Then he soon rose again and made straight for the boat. Had he known his own power, he might soon have terminated the battle; but, fortunately he did not. Tim Roken received his blunt nose on the point of his lance and drove him back with mingled fury and terror. Another advance was made and a successful lance-thrust delivered.

"That's into his life," cried the captain. "So it is," replied Roken. And so it was. A vital part had been struck. For some minutes the huge leviathan lashed and rolled and tossed in the trembling waves in his agony, while he spouted up gallons of blood at every throes; then he rolled over on his back, and lay extended a lifeless mass on the waters.

The book is a neat little volume, of 400 pages, well printed, and handsomely bound in cloth gilt, and will prove a most acceptable addition to the libraries of our juvenile friends.

FRANK WILDMAN'S ADVENTURES.—By F. Gerstaeker, translated from the German by Laessle Wrazall.—Crosby & Nichols, Boston.

An exciting and interesting book, full of hair-breadth escapes and startling adventures. The hero of the tale, a young German, leaves his wretched home on the banks of the Hudson, and ships on board a vessel bound to the Brazils, which turns out to be a piratical slave. After a variety of thrilling incidents the slave is blown out of the water by a war steamer, and the only survivor, our young adventurer, is taken by the steamer to the Island of Java, when he, in company with a naturalist who is going to explore that rich and fertile but little-known island, meets with many strange and wonderful occurrences with the natives and wild beasts which abound. He then returns to America, and becomes a planter in the South, where he falls in with some of the old piratical crew who had escaped destruction with the slave, and detects them in an attempted scheme of robbery and murder. The tale is full of the wild romantic incidents of German story, and will be eagerly read by all boys.

MARMADUKE MERRY, THE MIDSHIPMAN; Or, My Early Days at Sea; by Wm. G. H. Kingston, author of "Peter the Whaler," "The Three Midshipmen," &c. Crosby & Nichols, Boston.

This is an excellent sea story, written by a favorite author among juvenile readers. It contains some capital "sea-yarns," spun by "old salts," in the most approved style, and will doubtless become as popular with our boys as it was in England when it first made its appearance.

DICK ROBERTS, or the Adventures of An Elton Boy.—By James Grant, author of "The

Romance of War," "Jack Manly," &c.—Crosby & Nichols, Boston.

Another tale of the Sea, of shipwreck and adventure among savages and wild beasts. A splendid book for boys, and sure to become a favorite.

I WILL BE A SAILOR.—By Mrs. S. C. Tuthill—Crosby & Nichols, Boston. A book for Union boys, showing the progress of the war on the sea, and the triumphs of the Federal Navy.

## ITEMS FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

[DATE TO FEBRUARY 6TH.]

The threat of Denmark to blockade Hamburg excited but little alarm.

Mr. W. Ewart gave notice in House of Commons that he should move for leave to introduce a bill to abolish the punishment of death.

New writs were ordered for the election of representatives for the boroughs of Durham, Tewkesbury and Winchester.

Mr. S. Fitzgerald gave notice that upon the motion for Supply on Friday he would call attention to the circumstances attending the capture of the Springbok and Syria at Matamoros, of the Saxon within the limits of the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and to the Margaret and Jessie. (Hear, hear.)

The telegraph brings us intelligence of the death, at Venice, on Monday last, of the Duchess Louise Marie-Therese, of Bourbon, daughter of the late Prince Charles Ferdinand of Artois, Duke of Berry. The Duchess married in November, 1845, Prince Ferdinand Charles III. of Bourbon, Duke of Parma, who succeeded to the Dukedom of Parma, Plaisance, and the States annexed, on the abdication of his father Charles Louis, in March, 1849. His Royal Highness did not long reign over his Duchy, nor was his short reign by any means peaceful or happy. His career was cut short by an assassin, who stabbed him in the abdomen with a dagger in the streets of Parma, on the afternoon of March 26, 1854, and after lingering for two days he expired. Immediately on his death the late Duchess, his consort, was proclaimed Regent during the minority of her son, Prince Robert.

A clever saying is attributed—We know not with how much truth—to Lord Stanley, with regard to the Danco-German contest, that England is no doubt morally responsible to Denmark for a certain amount of physical as well as moral aid, but what Europe wants is some system of war with limited liability. We might then say, take shares to the amount of three millions sterling in the Danish adventure, but decline to be liable to any further extent. The idea is a bright one, and no doubt is already adopted in the ethics of private friendship, which permits one friend to assign explicit limits beyond which he cannot aid another, even in the noblest cause.

As applied to war, however, we fear the idea implies that England's obstinacy should be as strictly "limited" as her liability—an assumption which would be sure to falsify that theory.—Spectator.

One of the few measures named in the Queen's speech is the appointment of a Royal Commission to revise the various forms of subscription "requiring to be made by the Clergy of the Established Church," of which it is said that the Archbishop of Canterbury will be the head. Of course, no very great simplification of the intellectual conditions now imposed on the clergy, will either pass the present parliament, or, in all probability, be proposed by such a commission. For any real expansion of these restrictions, we must look to the legal interpretations of our highest court of our ecclesiastical law, from which a judgment is expected next Monday, that will, in all probability, greatly stretch the range of dogmatic meanings to which the narrow school of theologians would like to limit the comprehension of our formulas.—Id.

Late in the debate Mr. Lyard read out a despatch of Herr von Bismark, which was supposed to contain the assurance that the German Governments would maintain the Treaty of 1852. The reading excited "loud laughter," and well it might, for after remarking that invasion involved the acknowledgment of the terms of 1852, the most material sentence was this:—"If, however, in consequence of complications which may be brought about by the persistence of the Danish Government in its refusal to accomplish its promises of 1852, or of the armed intervention of other Powers in the Danco-German conflict, the King's Government were to find itself compelled to renounce combinations which would no longer offer a result proportionate to the sacrifices which events might impose upon the German Powers, no definite arrangements could be made without the concurrence of the Powers who signed the Treaty of London. (Laughter.)" In plain English, if the creditor does everything the debtor likes, and Providence does so too, then the debtor will pay the debt. That is not quite equivalent to a promissory note at sight.—Id.

A clergyman has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for a libel. The Rev. T. R. Birch engaged himself as tutor to Mr. F. Taylor, a merchant residing at Slough. He discovered after his engagement that Mrs. Taylor was a divorcee, who had borne her present husband two children while living with the first. Mr. Birch disliked either his position or his duties, complained of false representations, and after dismissal addressed to his successor letters warning him that "he had entered into a sink of the grossest crimes and infamy and vilest disgrace." Mr. Birch denies peremptorily that he wrote this letter, but he was found guilty, and sentenced as we have said, the Recorder, in his judgment, declaring his belief that the libel was written simply in consequence of his having been discharged. The sentence will, we trust, put a stop to a practice always frightfully common.—Id.

WAS IT THE ALABAMA?—A despatch from San Francisco to the Oregonian on the 29th, says:—The ship Portsmouth, which had arrived at Acapulco is reported to have seen a suspicious steamer reconnoitering fifteen miles south of the entrance of that harbor. It is not likely to have been a French vessel as she was too far south. There are many surmises as to her character and objects. It is understood that the United States war vessels now in those waters are to be ordered to the Gulf of California.

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any of these maladies the rubbed at least three times a day, the upper part of the chest, the glands, as salt is forced into the pores, and inflammation is removed, and the worst cases will yield to this simple and effective medicine.

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