

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, August 1, 1868.

Dark Hours.

To all mortal beings, for some wise purpose, there are allotted many, many dark hours—when they feel inclined to abandon the best of enterprises; hours when their hearts' dearest hopes appear delusive; hours when they feel unequal to the burden, and when all their aspirations seem worthless. These dark hours are the common lot of humanity and none can claim exemption. But sad and depressing as they are, they oftentimes serve a beneficial purpose by proving whether we are the current coin or not. As man is but an epitome of nations theirs is the same lot; and we now as a people are surrounded by our dark hours. Struck down from a prosperity which at one time seemed to have no limit, to a condition which has certainly little to make it endurable, the people have become in some measure querulous, and inclined to be unjust to themselves and others. In such times the press is always most severely judged and almost severely tried, for it is amidst the complicity and conflict of ideas most difficult to determine which is its exact line of duty. In allying itself with the wants of the people of this Colony, with their sufferings and wrongs it cannot, however, go astray; and this paper, in seeking at times to do justice to the country, has never for a moment, as some may think, forgot its duties to the people, and never will. The injustice of its official martyrdom, by which its revenues are exhausted in supporting men who are not wanted, and in maintaining departments that are disagreeable; the cruelty of its Executive apathy by which its material interests are allowed to waste away; the injustice of looking up its agricultural and mineral lands by which they become valueless, or of restricting the actions of those who do attempt their development, with obligations which render them helpless; the short-sighted impositions upon our commerce—the irregularity of our mails; the neglect of education; these grave subjects and a score of other grievances which retard the return of prosperity have never been overlooked for one moment. But the question is at present, what is the best policy to adopt so as to obtain the immediate relief required? This is a question affecting the interests of everyone. To remove our present irresponsible form of Government; to compel a change in the constitution of the Legislature, and to reduce the enormous official expenditure, are the three first things to be done. Towards accomplishing this object the press in this Colony can only go so far—that is to take the lead in the discussion, and suggest such action as may eventually become conducive to the public good. If it goes further than this, its influence is lost by rising the cry of personal malice, vindictiveness and design. The crowning act of triumph must come from the people themselves through the means of public meetings. They cannot be accused of improper motives, nor can their remonstrances be disregarded. Convinced of this, we have repeatedly urged a public meeting to discuss the points referred to, that such a remonstrance may be sent home as will compel attention in the proper quarter. For this purpose all parties can unite as friends engaged in the same good cause, for there can be no sectional difference upon the resolutions to be adopted. For this purpose we shall now work, and shall shirk no responsibility it involves.

The Saskatchewan Country.

The proposition emanating at first, we believe, from His Grace the Duke of Buckingham, and recently mentioned in this paper, of extending the boundaries of British Columbia to the other side of the Rocky Mountains, is to us of far greater import than it may at first appear. Few of us on this side the mountains have any adequate idea of the fertility of the land referred to; and still fewer recognized the absurdity of limiting the great gold

parallels within the lines of Montana. The truth is, there can be no doubt the gold parallels intersect this Colony from one end to the other, cross the Rocky Mountains within our own possessions and traverse considerable of the Saskatchewan on their way north to Canada. A portion of that territory attached to this Colony would, therefore, be of immense value to us. It would be valuable for its agricultural capacity, and by drawing attention to our mines as it gradually filled up with settlers. But the great advantage of such an addition would be the power it would give us hereafter in framing the terms of Confederation, or in completing any other scheme which may be carried out by the occupation of this incredibly rich territory. Whatever intention there is on the part of the Imperial Government to extend our boundaries in that direction should be at once ascertained, and nothing left undone to induce it to complete such intentions. The additional official expense to our already overburdened exchequer, would be trifling until the settlement of the great questions pending, or the plans for the future, which are to effect our destiny, develop themselves in the Dominion. The idea of Mr Aytoun as to the extension of territory being injurious, is proved to be false by the success it has met with amongst our neighbors. It was the fallacy of such ideas which lost us for ever the narrow seaboard stretching down from the former Russian possessions, and which some day will be injurious to our interests. Yet at one time that territory could have been obtained on the most reasonable terms. Nature intended it to belong to this colony, but it is lost by apathy and neglect. Circumstances in the future will make the land we now speak of as important to our interests and necessities, though from different reasons, as that on the seaboard would have been; and from the want of a vigorous administration of our affairs, we shall possibly lose it also. Most certainly something ought to be done to ascertain the precise intentions of the Home Government.

Tuesday, July 28th.

THE IMPROVEMENTS AT ESQUIMAULT.—The buildings being erected at Esquimault by the Hudson Bay Company are progressing towards completion, and with the works being carried on by the Admiralty, (mentioned a short time since) are causing no little stir and speculation as to the future of the town and harbor of Esquimault. A substantial wharf 110 feet long by 52 feet frontage, with 23 feet of low water, may be mentioned as being constructed with the warehouses. The warehouse, built substantially of stone, is almost finished, is two stories in height and measures 100 feet by 50. There is also in course of erection a frame building, intended for warehousing, 100 feet by 50 and two stories in height. The work will be contracted for by Messrs Emery and Smith. The Company is constructing under the supervision of Dr Tuck, a large portion of the work by daily hire. There are about fifty hands employed one way or another.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—The building committee of this church have awarded the contract for the erection of this new structure to Messrs Hayward and Jenkinson, of Langley street, from the plans of Mr H O Tiedemann. The building is to be of brick and the work will be commenced immediately; to-day the lines will be struck. It is to be of Gothic style of architecture, consisting of a nave and two side aisles, double gabled arches, plastered interior and with a handsomely designed organ screen. The dimensions will be, length, 82ft. 10in; by 50ft. in width. The whole will cost something like \$10,000. A neat and handsome iron railing has been presented to the Trustees and only awaits, we believe, the order of shipment from Glasgow.

MAIL FOR KOOTENAY.—It is said to be the intention of the Government to dispatch a mail to Kootenay and intermediate places on the arrival of the California steamer. While on this subject we repeat the necessity for something being done with reference to the trail from Fort Shepherd to Wild Horse Creek. The good news from that section is being confirmed from other sources; and as the sum of \$2,000 only is required to open the country so as to secure the trade to ourselves, no apology can be accepted for its not being done at once. Cannot a gentleman be spared from amongst so many of our official staff to inspect, at least, and report upon the road?

THE CABLE.—One section (about two miles of the new line) of the cable has been laid between Sidney and James Islands under considerable difficulties, arising from the tide rips and strong currents of the San Juan archipelago.

The Fire Inquest.

[Before the Magistrate yesterday.]

The additional information on the cause of the late distillery fire is now complete, as far as known. The Revs. Garrett and Somerville both saw the fire from the same point, and though they were not together, appeared to agree as to their being two fires in the building at first, while the additional evidence of Mr Farrill seems to point the commencement of the fire to the chimney as first stated.

Rev T Somerville.—Remember the night of the fire; was driving from Craigflower about 10 o'clock; immediately after passing Mr Wallace's house noticed a light near the roof on the side opposite Victoria; thought it might be a fire; about two minutes afterwards, on reaching the bridge, also noticed fire in the corner next to Victoria; saw the fire in two places distinctly from the bridge, the first fire was in the middle of the building in the roof, but not near the chimney.

Cross-examined by Mr Copeland.—Was near Booth's when I first saw the fire; was on the bridge when I saw the fire in two places; on reaching the foundry the whole building was in flames.

By the Bench.—About ten minutes elapsed from the time of seeing the first fire to the time of getting to the foundry; the progress of the fire was very rapid.

Rev Mr Garrett.—Remember the night of the fire; was returning from Esquimault; was crossing the first bridge coming to Victoria from Esquimault, when I first saw the fire break out on the north side of the mill, on reaching the other bridge the whole building was in flames; it could not be more than five minutes before the whole side of the building next the water was in flames; it was my impression at the time that the fire must have been burning for some time inside of the premises.

Mr Farrell.—Was standing on Brodick's wharf in company with another man; when we first saw the fire, it was issuing through the chimney; thought it must be a fire from the white smoke coming out; waited a little, not wishing to make a false alarm; and was satisfied in a minute's time that the building was on fire; ran to the Hook and Ladder Engine House and gave the alarm; returned to the wharf in about five minutes, when the building was entirely enveloped in flames.

This completed the additional evidence, so far as obtained. It will now be taken as a Police Court matter to test the criminality or innocence of Jenner. In the absence of an explanation of his contradictory statements and singular conduct on the night of the fire, the Magistrate felt it his duty to remand him again for one week to enable the Police to extend their investigations.

POLICE COURT.—William Cameron charged with breaking a door belonging to a Chinaman valued at \$2 50; fined \$10 or in default of payment 14 days imprisonment. ... To Ka, a Kanaka, charged with stealing a quantity of oranges from the Margaret Brander, discharged. ... Two Fort Raper Indians, a man and woman, charged with stealing blankets and other articles from a Fort Rupert Indian woman, of the value of \$70, were up under remand. The woman was discharged and the man again remanded.

WORKS.—We are not alone in our experience of these calamities. There were last month no less than four wrecks on the Thames between London and Gravesend. Such a state of things is said to be quite modern and points to something being wrong somewhere.

THE GOVERNOR held an Executive Council yesterday at the Public Office, James Bay. The members present were the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works and the Collector of Customs. The Council sat for two hours.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD.—Baltimore the capital of Maryland, has been the scene recently of a most destructive flood. Several millions worth of property, have been destroyed, and the loss of life is above the usual average of such events.

Worthy of Emulation.

EDITOR COLONIST.—Nothing is more calculated to create so wide a breach between our business and working classes as when those in position, absent themselves from any festive or joyous occasion under the auspices of the former. It is, I regret to say, merging into a custom that social distinctions are drawn too fine in this our very small community, hence it often arises that petty jealousies exist between classes that ought not. At the picnic given by the Firemen on Saturday last, the Chief Justice did much to break down this custom, and to set an example to this class I allude to by his presence affability and long stay on the ground, he did much to enhance the pleasures of all. His Excellency the Governor paid a flying visit at a very late hour of the night, and then was only seen by a few. He might do much to endear himself to the people by lending his presence occasionally at such gatherings as last Saturday. OBSERVER.

The North-West in Parliament.

Sir H. Verney moved for an address, praying that Her Majesty would be graciously pleased to issue a Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the capability for settlement and the best means of settling Her Majesty's territory lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific, especially as to the provision for telegraphic and other communication through Her Majesty's dominions from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Mr Kinnaird seconded the motion. Having served two years on the Hudson Bay committee, he could state that the bulk of the evidence showed that the Saskatchewan Valley, instead of being wild and sterile, was remarkably fertile, and afforded a most favorable opening for settlement. He could not help thinking that had the territory belonged to any other country it would not have been treated with such neglect. It might, and in all probability would, one day form the highway between Europe and China and Japan, and it would be to the lasting disgrace of this country should this magnificent territory be lost through the supineness of the Government. He would therefore support the motion for a commission, which would furnish to the public information of the highest importance, and which was urgently needed.

Mr Aytoun opposed the motion on the ground that the only justification for the settlement of this new territory would be that it would strengthen the country in a military point of view, or would be advantageous to the people at home by affording increased facilities for emigration. It was, however, quite notorious that the source of our military weakness in Canada was the vast extent of territory we possessed, and its scattered population. To further extend our territory by the settlement of the Saskatchewan Valley would increase that weakness, while we had ample territory in British North America and Australia to supply all the demands of the country for surplus land as a field of emigration. Canada already cost us a million a year, and if the settlement of this territory was proceeded with, it would only increase the taxation of the people.

Mr Addeley was of opinion that the ultimate settlement of this important district, and its retention by the British Government, would be of the utmost importance to the country at large. He firmly believed that it would, after certain engineering difficulties in the vicinity of St Lawrence were overcome, form the easiest access to Vancouver Island and the Pacific. The Government earnestly desired to see the district settled, and were indifferent to the nationality of the settlers so long as they were only of the Anglo-Saxon race, and the territory was retained under British sovereignty. Nothing, however, could be done until the pending negotiations had been concluded between the Hudson Bay Company and the Canadian Government, under which this district would eventually be placed, and which would not towards it as a mother country, and no doubt largely assist in its settlement. Under these circumstances it was obviously unnecessary, and it would be wrong for the Home Government to interfere in the negotiations.

Mr C. Ross was also of opinion that there was no need for any such inquiry as that proposed. No portion of the uncivilized globe had been more carefully inquired into than this territory, and all possible information which they required was at present in their hands.

Viscount Milton said the British Pacific colonies derived their food from the United States, in consequence of their being unable to draw the necessary resources from the interior, which was well calculated to supply them. There was consequently a growing desire to join America, and under the circumstances, he could not blame the colonists for desiring such a thing. The prosperity of these colonies was due to the individual enterprise of Americans, and if England wished to preserve them she must give something more than vague promises.

Mr Cardwell was glad to learn that the Government had no intention to issue a commission on this subject. They could not derive any more information than they had, and to institute such an inquiry would be to reverse the settled policy of previous years.

Sir H. Verney then consented to withdraw the motion.

THE NATIVE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS. The Paramatta, Capt. Williams, is daily expected to arrive from Sydney with the Aboriginal Black Eleven from Australia. Before sailing the Black Eleven played a match with an eleven of the Army and Navy, with Caffyn in, in the presence of his Royal Highness Prince Alfred, and although the match was not played out, the blacks had much the best of it, having scored in their first innings 237 runs against 64 on the part of their antagonists. The names of the Aborigines are Bullocky, Tiger, Red Cap, Mullagh, Cuzens, King Cols, Dick-a-Dick, Pelter, Twopenny, Jim Crow, and Lawrence.

At the conclusion of the match with the Army and Navy eleven, the blacks displayed their athletic powers to Prince Alfred—Mullagh jumped 5ft. 7in. running and Cuzens 3ft. 7in. standing. Dick-a-Dick threw a cricket ball 117 yards, and then exhibited marvellous dexterity in defending himself against numerous expert throwers, who pelted him with cricket balls at a range of bat 20 yards, using in his defence, we are told, only a small shield and "a hangle"—whatever that may be. The Aboriginal Black Eleven are to play the first public match at the Oval ground on Monday and Tuesday in the Derby week. [They have since been beaten in one innings by the gentlemen of the Surrey Club.]

At the recent arts examination at Apothecaries' Hall, Mrs Isabel Thorne presented herself in company with sixty-six gentlemen. Out of the sixty-seven candidates, forty-seven passed. Mrs Thorne came out among the first six, and her papers were so excellent that the usual "viva voce" examination was dispensed with.

CURES AND COMFORT FOR THE BED-RIDDEN.

Holloway's Ointment.

The wonderful Ointment acts like magic in relieving curing old sores, wounds, bad legs, ulcers and eruptions of the skin; when rubbed on the surface it penetrates and purifies each tissue on its passage, and exerts the most wholesome influence over the internal circulation, and expels the disease which it comes in contact, and thereby promotes a sound and permanent cure.

Gout and Rheumatism.—To sufferers from these painful affections and Gout this Ointment will prove invaluable. After formation with warm water the soothing action of this Ointment is most remarkable; it causes an open lesion, inflammation, ease pain, reduce the swelling, restore natural circulation, and expels the disease. For the above complaints Holloway's Ointment and Pills are infallible and safe.

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This class of diseases may be cured by rubbing the Ointment, three times a day, upon the throat, chest and back of the patient. It will soon penetrate and give immediate relief. In all stages of Influenza, Colds and Bronchitis, this treatment may be followed with efficiency and safety—indeed, it has never been known to fail.

All Varieties of Skin Diseases, Scrofula and Scurvy.

This Ointment is a certain cure for Ringworm, Scabby Scrofula or King's Evil, and the most inveterate skin diseases to which the human race is subject. They cannot be treated with a safer or more powerful remedy than Holloway's Ointment, assisted by his celebrated Pills, which act powerfully on the constitution and purify the blood; these disorders are completely eradicated from the system, and a lasting cure obtained.

Dropsical Swellings.—Be aware of this dangerous and healthy complaint which frequently creeps upon us by insensible degrees, or trifling jaundice, of which little or no notice is taken until the legs begin to swell. The cause of the evil must be looked for in the liver and stomach, therefore set to work earnestly by taking Holloway's famous Pills according to the printed instructions and rubbing the Ointment very effectively over the pit of the stomach and right side where the organs lie. Most dropsical swellings will readily yield to the combined influence of the Ointment and Pills.

Piles, Fistulas, and Internal Inflammation.

These complaints are most distressing to both body and mind, and are duty compelling them from the knowledge of the most intimate friends. Persons suffer for years from piles and similar complaints when they might as well take Holloway's Ointment with instant relief, and effect their own cure without the annoyance of explaining their ailments to any one.

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Are immediately relieved and ultimately cured if this Ointment be well rubbed twice a day, into the small of the back, over the regions of the kidneys which it will gradually penetrate and in almost every case give immense relief; but perseverance will be necessary to effect a permanent cure.

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SIXTH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION

The Mechanics' Institute.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE Mechanics' Institute hereby give notice that the Sixth Industrial Exhibition of that Association will be held some time in August next, in a building to be erected for the purpose in Union Square in this city. Every preparation will be made to accommodate exhibitors and visitors with a view to make the Exhibition profitable, instructive and pleasant to all parties. During the three years which have intervened since the holding of the last Exhibition in this city the manufacturing, mechanical, scientific and useful and ornamental arts have made unprecedented progress on this coast, and it is believed that the proposed Exhibition will exceed any other in value that has ever been held on the shores of the Pacific.

The plan of building to be erected, which has been adopted by the Board of Directors, it is believed will prove to be the best adapted, both for display and convenience of the public, of any building ever erected in this city. The building will be perfectly water-tight, being covered with a shingle roof, so that no damage from the elements can be anticipated.

All parties who are interested in any of the branches of Manufacture, Mechanics, or the Arts and Sciences are invited to exhibit in the proposed Exhibition, and to share in the publicity and consequent profit which always attend such enterprises. Suitable premiums will be offered, and the specific date of opening the Exhibition will be published at some future time.

By order of the Board of Directors, HORACE D. BURN, Cor. Secretary.

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