

## The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday February 23, 1870.

## The Omissions.

Having made a cursory disposition of the conditions submitted by the Executive as the basis of the proposed union with Canada, let us consider for a little what we conceive to be the omissions, to the supplying of which it is hoped the Legislative Council will give attention. Proceeding to deal with these in the order of their relative importance, we must be permitted to place the subject of Responsible Government in the foreground. Without possessing that elasticity of principle which enables some would-be tribunes of the people to advocate one thing one day and the opposite the next, our belief in the fitness of this colony for a judicious exercise of the rights of self-government remains undisturbed. The man who believes that the authorities at Ottawa, or rather, the people of Canada, for it really comes to that, can manage our local affairs better than we can do ourselves has a perfect right to hold such an opinion; but we imagine there are few persons in this colony who will concur in so palpable an absurdity. The right to a voice in the expenditure of revenues to which they contribute is one enjoyed by all free-born Britons, and which can only be forfeited by high crime or misdemeanour. Was it a crime for British subjects to cross an ocean and a continent to establish and consolidate the institutions and authority of their country on the shores of the Pacific? The colonists have already spent a whole decade in seeking a restoration of those rights bought by the blood of their forefathers; wrested from the aristocracy of England by plebeian steel; and it would, indeed, be strange if the constitutional changes about to take place were unaccompanied by this long sought political manumission. The colonists will look to the Legislative Council to have included in the terms of union such a provision as will entitle British Columbia to a constitution based upon the great principle of responsibility to the people—a guarantee that the affairs of the colony shall be administered according to the well-understood wishes of the tax-payers. This the colonists ask not as a favor or concession. They demand it as a right!

When it is remembered that the Indian population of this colony bears so large a proportion to that of the whites, one would naturally expect to find in the schedule of terms some allusion to the important subject of an Indian policy. We are aware that Canada has her Indian policy; and we are also aware that it is one which has proved eminently successful. It may be assumed that, as a matter of course, the Indian policy of Canada would extend over British Columbia as the result of union; yet in dealing with conditions of union, it may be well to assume nothing that can be easily and properly expressed in explicit words. The question of an Indian policy is surely one of sufficient importance to entitle it to specific mention; and it should be distinctly understood that the Dominion Government will be prepared to at once organize an efficient Indian department, with all its necessary agencies, in British Columbia. The subject of a geological survey is one which ought also to have been provided for. The importance of such a survey in this colony cannot easily be overestimated. At present, searching for mineral deposits very much resembles play at "blind man's buff," and a geological survey would in a great measure remove the handicaps from the eyes. In a country so large and, in great part, so difficult to penetrate, a knowledge of the general formations would be of incalculable value to the prospector. A. has been stated in a previous article, the Dominion possesses a very efficient geological staff, and has set apart a fund of \$100,000 for the purpose of carrying on surveys extending over five years. It would not appear unreasonable to expect that the turn of British Columbia should follow close upon the heels of Confederation; and, in order that there may be no misunderstanding about the matter, it may be well just to mention it. The policy of establishing a free port here is one regarding which we are free to admit some difference of opinion exists; and it is just in consideration of this difference of opinion that we propose to seek power for the Provincial authorities to deal with the question in accordance with the well-understood wishes of the people; after which, rather than to see the establishment of a free port by the Dominion Government, as a condition of Confederation. All the reflected must show the wisdom of this course. If after union the people should, upon mature reflection, find it to be greatly to the interest of the colony to possess a free port, it would be very convenient to have the power to establish it. It may be said that such matters might well be left

open for the Dominion Government to deal with as the exigencies present themselves, and that if at any time it can be shown to the satisfaction of the larger Government that the establishment of a free port on the Pacific would promote local welfare without injuring general interests, it would be conceded. For our part, we regard the commercial position and interest of this colony as being so exceptional, and the establishment of a free port as being so essential to any large measure of immediate prosperity that we conceive the insertion of such a provision in the terms asked for from Canada to be not only justifiable but highly proper. There is only one other omission of which we will call attention at present, and that is provision for vegetating, on the credit of the Dominion, a loan for the construction of efficient water works for this city. We may be told that this is a subject of too purely a local and municipal character to enter into the list of conditions. Although in a great measure local, yet we claim for this question colonial, or national breadth and importance. The early introduction of an ample supply of good, wholesome water is essential to the very existence of Victoria. The whole colony is surely interested in the prosperity of its chief maritime and commercial city. The Dominion is concerned in the advancement and commercial prosperity of its chief outlet on the Pacific. The master is undeniably local; but yet it possesses sufficient general interest to justify us in asking the Dominion to lend us a portion of its credit for such a purpose. Indeed all objections of this sort must vanish before the fact that the Dominion Government was found willing to undertake precisely similar duties with respect to a less important colony. The public will certainly expect the Legislative Council to supply this omission—one involving such far-reaching considerations to the Dominion, but fraught with importance to us.

Friday Feb 18  
Arrival of the Enterprise.—News  
from the Mainland.

The steamer Enterprise, Capt Swanson, returned from New Westminster at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, bringing 19 passengers amongst whom were Chief Justice George Baggie, Hon. Dewdney and Holbrook, and Messrs Nelson, Robertson and Franklin. From Mr. Dawdney (who came through in 6 days from Soda Creek) we learn that the Hudson Bay Co.'s express from Peace River had not reached Soda Creek when he left, but was hourly expected. G. B. Wright was having a new keel placed on his boat with a view to sending her through the canon in the spring. Boatmen were offering to freight goods from Quesnelmouth to the landing at Lake Taia for 7½ cents per pound. Much interest is manifested in the upper-country towards the Omineca mines. There had been no communication with Cariboo for several days, and as heavy snows had fallen, the road was believed to be blocked. Mr. Dewdney found excellent shooting as far south as Cornwallis' the river below Yale in view of ice and canoeing good. Two men named Ned Allen and — Kay had a fight on Grave Creek. Allen was shot through the bat and Kay was badly cut with an ax. Allen was committed to await trial. One of the Pearson brothers was found lying dead on the road above the Junction a few days ago. He had left home some hours before on a mule. He was picked up and promptly attended to, but remained insensible for six days, and at last accounts lay in a critical condition. The injury is a heavy bruise behind one of his ears—but he can give no account of how he was injured. The German tinsmith at Lytton, named Spitzer, has been drowned by falling from his boat.

SIR ARTHUR AND LADY KENNEDY.—We have been favored with a copy of the West Africa Liberator, of the 11th December last, which contains a long account of the reception of Sir Arthur Kennedy, Lady Kennedy, and Miss Kennedy upon their return from England. Sir Arthur is Governor-in-Chief of the West African colonies, and his administration would seem to have given very general satisfaction to the people. If we are to judge from the enthusiastic description of his reception and the tone of the numerous addresses. Lady Kennedy was also the recipient of an address expressing the popular estimation at her return. The many friends of Governor Kennedy and his family in the colony will be glad to learn that they occupy so high a place in popular regard.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE having expressed some very natural suspicion that the British Columbian petition was the production of American politicians, Mr. Vincent Colyer declares it was signed by citizens of Victoria without any outside influence whatever. To this the Toronto Globe rejoins. Very likely, but that there was plenty of American influence at work, there is no doubt. British born subjects do not play adventurers or the "Dover stamp" to carry positions to foreign rulers. But, really, the thing is not worth controversy. Vincent Colyer are a great assistance to the Washington Cabinet as to other people—only, like them, they worry you less if you don't attempt to show them your own opinions.

THE TRUNKS.—Arrangements are being made for the putting of the southern line in a complete state of efficiency. Re-arrangement has been made of the colour and the timbers will be sent through the timbered country with instructions to renew poles, wire and insulators and to cut and clear among the trees until a broad avenue on either side of the line shall have been cleared. With these arrangements carried out, there will be no danger of comprising that the wires are down.

THE ZEALOUS.—Letters and papers from England to H. M. S. Zealous have been received at Esquimalt. The big ship, then, is safe to say, will soon arrive here from the South. On the 30th December arrived the

The Active arrived down on Tuesday,

Wednesday, Feb 22, 1870.

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SEEDS FOR PEACE RIVER.—On Wednesday Mr. J. O. Seedy purchased of Jay & Bales a large quantity of vegetable seeds for Peace River. It is the intention of the purchaser to sow the seed in some eligible spot on or near the Findlay Branch of Peace River and raise vegetables for the incoming miners. Vegetables and wheat may be grown successfully in Omineca, as was demonstrated by the H. B. C. a number of years ago.

MARRIAGE.—A Kennedy, E. son of His Excellency Sir Arthur Kennedy, C. B., Governor-in-Chief of the West Africa settlements, to Miss Bruce, the lovely and accomplished daughter of Mr Justice Bruce of Jamaica, and the heir and representative of the late Right Honourable Lord Justice Knight Bruce.

ANOTHER DISAPPOINTMENT.—Our special dispatch from San Francisco last night states that the next direct steamer will sail sometime in March. The colony, then, must either run a boat of its own, grease the Holliday wheels more liberally, or await Confederation and its accompanying blessings to secure a better service. But what about the Spring immigration?

HOUSING CORPS CO.—A general meeting of the above company was held yesterday. It was decided to have a survey of the mine. The accounts were submitted and the Directors' report, which were severally received and adopted. The election of new Directors resulted in the re-election of the gentlemen formerly in office. A suggestion was made to send a quantity of ore to England, which is likely to be acted upon.—[Guardian, 18th.]

RELEASED.—Patrick Fowler, late of the Goldstream House, was yesterday released by order of the Chief Justice, upon furnishing his own recognizance to appear for trial at the next Assizes. Fowler is accused of knowing more than he will tell of the murder of Baker at Langford Lake.

BRITISH SUBJECTS will decide the fate of Confederation in this colony. At the next election for the Legislative Council foreigners will not be allowed to vote.

## PROPOSED TERMS OF CONFEDERATION.

AS AGREED UPON BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

*Resolved.* That it is expedient that the Colony of British Columbia should be Confederated with Canada, on the following terms and conditions—that is to say:

1. Canada shall be liable for the Debts and Liabilities of British Columbia existing at the time of Union.

2. The population of British Columbia shall for the purpose of financial arrangements be estimated at 120,000. British Columbia not having incurred debt equal to that of other Provinces now constituting the Dominion, shall be entitled to receive, by half-yearly payments in advance from the General Government, Interest at the rate of 3 per centum per annum on the difference between the actual amount of its indebtedness at the date of Union and the proportion of the Public Debt of Canada for 120,000 of the population of Canada at the time of Union.

3. The following sum shall be annually paid by Canada to British Columbia for the support of the Local Government and Legislature, to wit—

An Annual Grant of \$35,000, and a further sum equal to 80 cents a head per annum of the population, both payable half yearly in advance, the population of British Columbia being estimated as aforesaid at 120,000. Such grant equal to 80 cents a head to be augmented in proportion to the increase of population, when such may be shown, until the population amounts to 400,000, at which rate such grant shall thereafter remain.

4. The Dominion shall guarantee Interest at the rate of 5 per centum on such sum, not exceeding \$100,000, as may be required for the construction of a first class Graving Dock at Esquimalt.

5. In addition to the other provisions of this Resolution, Canada shall assume and defray the charges of the following Services.

a. Salary and Allowances of the Lieutenant Governor.

b. Salaries and Allowances of the Judges and Officers of the Supreme Court and of the County Courts.

c. The charges in respect of the Department of Customs.

d. The Postal Department.

e. Lighthouses, Buoy Beacons and Lightships, and such further charges as may be agreed to and connected with the Services which by the British North America Act, 1867, appertain to the General Government, and are or may be allowed to the other Provinces.

f. Suitable Pensions such as shall be approved by Her Majesty's Government, to be provided by the Government of the Dominion for the services of Her Majesty's Subjects in the Colony, whose position and emoluments derived therefrom would be affected by political changes on the admission of the Colony into the Dominion of Canada.

g. The Dominion Government shall supply a "honest and regular" post-horn system of communication between Victoria and San Francisco by Steamer, adapted and giving facilities for the conveyance of passengers and goods.

h. Inasmuch as no real Union can exist between this Colony and Canada without the speedy establishment of communication across the Rocky Mountains by Coach Road and railway, the Dominion shall within three years from the date of Union, construct and open for traffic such Coach Roads from some point on the line of the Main Trunk Rail of this Colony to Fort Garry, of similar character to the said Main Trunk Road, and shall further engage to use all means in her power to complete such railway communication as the earliest practicable date, and that Survey to determine the proper line for such Railway shall be at once commenced.

i. and that a sum of not less than One Million

Dollars shall be expended in every year, from and after three years from the date of Union, in actually constructing the initial sections of such Railway from the Seaboard of British Columbia to connect with the Railway system of Canada.

j. The Dominion shall erect and maintain a Penitentiary, or other principal Prison, at such place in the Colony as she may consider most suitable for that purpose.

10. Efficient Coast Mail Steam Services, in connection with the Post Office, shall be established and maintained by the Government of the Dominion, between Victoria and New Westminster, Nanaimo, and such other places as may require such Service.

11. Whatever encouragement, advantages, and protection are afforded by the Dominion Government to the Fisheries of any of its Provinces, shall be extended in similar proportion to British Columbia, according to its requirements for the time being.

12. British Columbia shall participate, in fair proportion, in any measures which may be adopted and funds which may be appropriated by the Dominion for the encouragement of immigration.

13. British Columbia shall be entitled to be represented in the Senate by Four Members, and by Eight Members in the House of Commons, until the Year 1871, and thereafter in the Representation in the Senate and the House of Commons shall be increased, subject to the provisions of "The British North America Act, 1867."

14. The Union shall take effect on such day as Her Majesty, by Order in Council (on an Address to that effect, in terms of the 14th Section of "The British North America Act, 1867") may direct; and British Columbia may, in such Address, specify the Districts, Counties or Divisions, if any, for which any of the Four Senators to whom the Colony shall be entitled shall be named—the Electoral Districts for which, and the time within which the first Election of Members to serve in the House of Commons shall take place.

15. The Constitution of the Executive authority and of the Legislature of British Columbia shall, subject to the provisions of "The British North America Act, 1867" continue as existing at the time of Union, until altered under the authority of the said Act.

16. The provisions in "The British North America Act, 1867" shall (except those parts thereof which are in terms made, or by reasonable intendment may be held to be specially applicable) to and only affect one and not the whole of the Provinces now comprising the Dominion, and except so far as the same may be varied by this Resolution, be applicable to British Columbia in the same way and to the like extent as they apply to the other Provinces of the Dominion, and as if the Colony of British Columbia had been one of the Provinces originally included by the said Act.

With reference to Defences—

4. That it shall be an understanding with the Dominion that their influence will be used to the fullest extent to procure the continued maintenance of the Naval Station at Esquimalt.

5. Encouragement to be given to develop the efficiency and organization of the Volunteer Forces in British Columbia.

WHAT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDE FOR.

Lieutenant Governor, £1,000.00

Colonial Secretary, £1,040.00

Treasurer, £712.00

Land and Works, £1,100.00

Native Affairs, £8,000.00

Postmaster General, £3,450.00

Keep Prisons, £1,518.50

Magistrates, £3,678.00

Jurors, £1,000.00

Charitable Allowances, £10,000.00

Revolving Fund, £1,000.00

Works and Buildings, £9,000.00

Roads, £2,300.00

Macmillan's Almanac, £1,220.00

Land Revenue, £1,000.00

CHARGES OF WHICH THE DOMINION RELIEVES US.

Customs, £1,000.00

And War, £1,000.00

Judicial, £1,221.00

Bags, £1,000.00

Postage, £1,000.00

Banking, £1,000.00

Salting Funds, £10,197.00

Interest on Debts, £10,400.00

Governor's Vessel, £1,700.00

Miscellaneous, £1,000.00

Total, £40,172.00

REVENUE THE DOMINION WILL TAKE.

Customs and Port and Harbour Duties, £20,000.00

Excise Duties, £3,000.00

Postage, £18,000.00

Fees of Supreme Court, £10,000.00

Remuneration in aid of "Douglas," £10,000.00

Dominion Bank, £8,750.00

Total Revenue for 1870, £101,050.00

SURPLUSARY TO THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT.

50 cents per head on 100,000 inhabitants, £50,000.00

Squadry, £10,000.00

Interest on difference of debt at 5 per cent., £5,000.00

Interest on Debts, £10,400.00

Domestic Revenue, £10,