

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, July 31, 1869

Our London dates are to June 26th. The English papers come filled with reports of the debate in the House of Lords upon the Irish Church Disestablishment Bill. The bill, with amendments, passed the Lords, to a second reading by a majority of 33. Both the English Archbishops abstained from voting. The Archbishop of Dublin voted against the bill. The only Bishop who voted for it was Dr. Thirlwall, Bishop of St. David's. Thirteen English and two Irish Bishops voted against the bill. There was a considerable list of absentees. It includes the Bishops of Bath and Wells, Carlisle, Chichester, Exeter, Manchester, Oxford, St. Asaph, Salisbury, and Winchester. The Bishop of Lincoln is without a seat in the House of Lords at present. Lord Shaftesbury having lost a sister, did not take part in the debate, and writes to the Record to say that the will of the nation had reduced the constitutional action of the House of Lords to a protest. The Times is dreadfully severe on the young Duke of Newcastle, who has just dragged an honorable name through the mire of the Bankruptcy Court and brought ruin upon himself and his family. The Times says at the very time when the whole country was awaiting the verdict of the Upper House on an issue, as some thought, of constitutional life or death, and the most frivolous Peers felt an unwonted thrill of patriotic responsibility, "the last of the Duke of Newcastle's horses, comprising brood mares, stallions, horses in training, and yearlings, were sold at Clumber in the presence of a large assemblage," not, as we need hardly add, for his own benefit, but for that of Mr. Padwick and his other creditors. Yesterday the plate, wines, cigars, and carriages, at his mansion in Carlton House Terrace, were brought to the hammer "without reserve." To-day and to-morrow most of the furniture will be disposed of in a similar manner, from the most superb work of decorative art to the meanest kitchen utensil. On Thursday, china, books, painting, Court-swords, and drawing-room finery will be lumped together with the Duke's boots and cane, "two yachting suits," "seven pairs of trousers," and "twenty-one pots of gooseberry jam," to be cast into the same crucible of assets, and melted down into so many shillings or pence in the pound. Never, probably, since the treasures of Stowe and the historic accumulations of centuries were put up to auction, has the interior of a ducal residence been turned so ruthlessly inside out for the satisfaction of vulgar curiosity. It is the old story—a thrice-told tale.

Not a keepsake valuable only to its owner, not a crucifix or sacred engraving, not a family picture or precious memento of travel, except those relics which the provident care of the Duke's father or mother-in-law may have designated as heirlooms, would appear to have been excepted from the inventory. Not a bedroom is closed against the inroads of that squalid crowd of brokers and bargain seekers which seems to be called into existence by auctions, just as birds of prey flock to a carcass from invisible regions of the atmosphere. In one part of a room are two life-size portraits of the late Duke ticketed for sale; in another lies a broken guitar, once, perhaps, a favorite instrument of the Duchess; one lot is "a Court suite of blue velvet, coat and vest embroidered," the next is "six table cloths and half-a-dozen roller blinds;" the costliest articles being rendered all the less saleable by the addition of a coronet and cipher. Everything is pulled about and discussed with the coarse familiarity which loves to have aristocratic grandeur at its mercy, and the purse-proud cynicism which is willing to pay a fancy price for a token of aristocratic humiliation. The Bethells (Lord Westbury's boys) are again in trouble. They disgraced their poor old father when he was Lord Chancellor and forced him to vacate his high position, and have played the blackguard generally before the English public for some years. A few days ago in London in an action upon a bill

of exchange drawn by the Hon. R. Bethell upon, and purporting to be accepted by the Hon. S. Bethell (sons of Lord Westbury), the latter obtained a verdict on a plea that his acceptance of the bill was a forgery. Count Bismarck has had a great defeat in the Customs Parliament, and a great defeat in spite of enforcing his recommendations by a threat. He had proposed an import tax on petroleum oil, and had declared that if it were not accepted the President of the Zollverein would veto other amendments in the tariff of the Zollverein. In spite of this the tax was definitely rejected. Count Bismarck finds all his three Parliaments full of German stiff-neckedness, and quite indisposed to submit to dictation even from a Bismarck. The feeling against Mr. Lowe's proposal as to the Law Courts is evidently very strong, and the Government apparently found that Sir Roundell Palmer would beat them heavily on a division. Accordingly, Mr. Gladstone has proposed fresh delay. He has moved for a select committee to inquire into the site and charge of the new Law Courts, and has deferred for a month the order for the second reading of the Law Courts' Bill, that the committee may have to report. The Spectator thinks the Queen should make Archbishop Manning a Peer. He can have no children, he would be welcomed by the Lords and he would supply a great want, that of somebody within the Legislature entitled to speak on behalf of the Catholic Church. Sir George Bowyer used to perform that function, but since his rejection by Dundalk there is no one who can say clearly that this or that compromise is possible. We dare say Lord Granville knows whether the priesthood would accept manes, but we want the information at first hand, and the reasons for the decision. The Italian mind is just now agitated by a very discreditable scandal. It is affirmed that the arrangement for a concession of the tobacco monopoly, which is at the basis of the tobacco loan, was obtained by bribing members and persons about the Court. S. Lobbia offered to prove this by documents, whereupon somebody, whether implicated or not nobody knows, tried to assassinate him. He is however recovering, and is going on with his profits; but so great has been the hubbub, that Parliament has been prorogued. Italians always exaggerate scandals, believing everybody guilty of everything, because they do not much care if he is or not; but there would seem to be some foundation of some kind for this story, or otherwise it would hardly have created such excitement in Parliament. It is stated that Lord Napier, of Magdala, has resigned his post as Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, and that Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir Augustus Spencer, K.C.B., has been no inated to the chief command of the presidency. At Aldershot during some cavalry movements, two troops, one of the 6th dragoon and the other of the 7th dragoon Guards, came into violent collision, the result being that severe injuries—in one case it is feared fatal—were caused to nine men. Lord Cranston, a Scotch Peer, and Mr. Hurlstone, a well-known artist, are dead. The Prince of Wales presided at a meeting yesterday, at which it was agreed to raise by subscription a monument to the late Professor Faraday. At a pigeon shooting match, between members of the Houses of Lords and Commons, the Peers, who included in their number the Prince of Wales, were successful. A fearful disaster occurred at Carnarvon, Wales, during the carting of some packages of nitro-glycerine from the harbor to the quays. The material exploded on the way, and the cart, horses and men attending them were blown to atoms. A railway station near the scene of the explosion was torn to pieces. A village about a quarter of a mile distant was much damaged by the shock, which caused much consternation among the inhabitants. Four men were killed by the explosion.

A Contemplated Change of Government in the New Dominion.

The Montreal correspondent of the New York Tribune says: Are there troubles ahead for the New Dominion? Here is something remarkable. I have it on authority, the probability of which will be seen as these lines are read, that the Premier, Sir John A. Macdonald will soon be found wanting in his high place. Although his position at the head of the Government is a strong one, more especially so as the Tory leader of a coalition party, he is likely to be cut adrift from the helm of state. Briefly, the object of a movement under way is to oust Sir John and make Sir George Edouard Cartier the Premier; the hon. John Rose, Minister of Finance; the hon. Joseph Howe, (but lately the well-known Nova Scotia Independentist), President of the Council and the hon. Mr. Macdougall are said to be resolved upon resigning unless Sir John himself takes the initiative by

himself resigning. The idea is to form a ministry more in accordance with the good of England—one whose chief will not be foolish enough to dub Mr. Monsell, English Under-Secretary for the Colonies, "an underling," as Sir John was silly enough to do the other day. Cartier is now Minister of Militia, and seems to be the pet of all parties, his recent successful Hudson Bay negotiations in England having contributed not a little to his popularity. Along with the honorables named, Mr. Bellerose and Mr. Holton are spoken of as pretty certain of office. Mr. Holton was former Minister under the last Liberal Government. Meanwhile Mr. Galt, undoubtedly the most able man in the Dominion, and Mr. Huntington, of Independence celebrity, are quiescent. Scarcely a doubt exists that the battle of party will soon be fought out here, and that it will bring about sweeping and immediate change. Still less doubt that Sir John A. Macdonald's resignation will be gracefully if not gratefully received.

The Political Outlook

Is encouraging. Mr. Masgrave, it appears from a letter received yesterday by Mr. Arthur Fellows of this city, is coming out at a salary of £2500 per annum. There is to be a general retrenchment all around and, perhaps, amalgamation. It is not to be supposed, when the Governor has accepted the position at a reduction of about 35 per cent., that other reductions will not follow. We are not a friend of low salaries. Every official ought to be well paid—good pay is the best guarantee of honesty; but it ought always to be earned. If Mr. Masgrave is a workman he will take precious good care that every officer of Government is a workman, too. With the exception of two or three the pay of public officers is not large; it only seems so when contrasted with the value of the services rendered. Under Mr. Masgrave the country looks for a general and complete remodeling of the system with a view to giving every man a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. There is no reason to doubt that Mr. Masgrave's mission to steer British Columbia into the Dominion. His task will be comparatively easy. The new Governor is expected, we learn upon good authority, to arrive here in the course of a fortnight. The sooner the better. We say this without wishing to reflect upon the present Government, but when public affairs are in a transition state, with no one willing to assume the responsibility of a step beyond the well-beaten path of routine, such a condition of things cannot be considered satisfactory or conducive to the advancement of the Colony.

Saturday July 24

NAVAL.—The flying squadron, which is destined to go round the world, left Plymouth Sound on June 21st, under command only for Bahia. The frigate Liverpool, 35, Capt. J. O. Hopkins, bearing the flag of Admiral G. T. P. Hornby, cleared the west end of the breakwater at half-past 4 o'clock, and was followed by the Scylla, 21, Capt. Herbert, the Eudymion, 21, Capt. Lacey, and the Liffey, 35, Capt. J. O. Johnson. At 8 o'clock they were joined by the Bristol, 31, Capt. F. W. Wilson. On departure the wind was N. N. W., a moderate breeze, but it soon altered to S. W. The squadron went to the eastward of the Eddystone. The Barroso, 17, Capt. Gibson, the repairs of which are not complete, will follow them to Bahia.

IMMIGRANTS.—Some weeks ago we announced the arrival here with letters of introduction to Mr. Barnaby of a number of Englishmen from Grass Valley, who desired to secure land in the Colony with a view to removing their families hither and settling among us. These men all secured land on the lower Fraser and are establishing homes there. Yesterday two more Englishmen also, of Grass Valley, and also representing families, arrived and are preparing to secure farms. They state that their example will be followed by many others as soon as they can dispose of their property in California.

BEARDS.—Yesterday an order was received from the Admiralty rescinding the regulation requiring Naval officers and seamen to shave their beards and mustaches. By the new regulation officers and men may wear the full beard and mustaches, or they may wear the whiskers without the mustaches, as now; but they may not wear mustaches only, or a full beard and whiskers without the mustaches. If they shave at all, it must be after the style they have been accustomed to follow from time immemorial.

CANADA is shortly to be honored with the presence of General McClellan, who prefers the invigorating and health restoring climate of the Dominion to that of the United States

A THISTLE BY-LAW.—What is required here is a bye-law that will force people to out down the pestilent thistles upon their premises under a severe penalty. The Corporation are striving to remove the nuisance from the streets and sidewalks; but their labor and money will be expended in vain if the owner of lots wherein thistles are blossoming like the "red, red rose," are not forced to do their share towards extirpation.

WORTH KNOWING.—An impression prevails among visitors from abroad that customs duties are collected at this port upon the carriages, horses, and private effects generally of such visitors. This is incorrect. Private effects enter free; and the duties charged upon private carriages and horses, intended for use here by the owners, are always returned when the vehicles and animals are reshipped.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO AND PORTLAND.—The steamship Moses Taylor, Capt. Metzger, arrived yesterday morning from San Francisco via Portland. The Taylor sailed from San Francisco on the 15th inst., and brings 40 passengers, the American and English mails, and 300 tons of general merchandise for Victoria consignees.

The passengers from Victoria who failed to "make the connection" at Astoria with the California steamer, were taken on board the steamship Oriflamme on Wednesday, and sailed immediately for San Francisco. The Oriflamme's freight and passengers for Portland were taken up Columbia river by the Gussie Telfair.

ARRIVAL.—The bark seen outside on Thursday night and supposed to be the Lady Lamson, of London, proved to be the Gem of the Ocean, Capt. Mitchell, from San Francisco, bound for the B C & V I Mills, Burrard Inlet, to load with lumber.

THE arrival of the mail yesterday prevented the Agricultural and Horticultural Society meeting. The Society will meet on Monday next at 11 a. m., for the election of officers and the transaction of other important business. There should be a large attendance of members.

CEDAR HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT.—A meeting of the inhabitants of Cedar Hill School District will be held at the Cedar Hill Church this afternoon at two o'clock. The object of the gathering is to devise ways and means for the opening of a public school and to meet its expenses.

THE EXECUTION of the Chemainus Indian will take place at 7 o'clock this morning. The scaffold was erected last evening in the lot adjoining the barracks. The prisoner was visited by his wife and mother yesterday and exhibited great concern.

VALUABLE SPECIMEN.—There was placed in the corner stone of a public building at Shermantown, Nevada, a specimen of ore from the Eberhardt mine, worth at the rate of \$24,000 per ton. This is the richest yet heard of.

THE farmhouse of Mr. Bailey, in Lake District, has been totally destroyed by fire. Much of the furniture was saved. The fire started in the brush and swept down upon the dwelling, consuming the fences and crops in its path. The loss is about \$1500.

OUR COAL INTERESTS.—A gentleman representing San Francisco capitalists arrived on the Moses Taylor to make a thorough examination of our coal deposits and report thereon to his principals.

NOT BROKEN.—The young man Millington, who was run over by Tiger engine on Thursday, escaped with a few severe bruises. Neither his arm nor leg were fractured.

CAMP MEETING.—The Enterprise took up a large number of passengers yesterday morning to Maple Bay, where the Wesleyan Camp Meeting will be held.

The steamers Gussie Telfair and George S. Wright were announced to sail from Portland on Thursday night for Victoria.

To Close.—The mail and express per Moses Taylor will close at 9 o'clock this morning.

The steamship Pacific sailed from San Francisco on Thursday for Portland.

THANKS TO MESSRS. WELLS, FARGO & CO. for a file of late papers per Moses Taylor.

THE REPORTED MURDERS IN ABYSSINIA.—It will be remembered that in the two accounts received respecting the murders, one from Kerim Bagos, Abyssinia, and the other from the French Vice-Consul at Massowah, mention is distinctly made of Mr. Powell's servant having been killed. The servant was generally supposed to be Donald, a Scotch game-keeper, whom Mr. Powell had taken with him. The intelligence just at hand appears to contradict this, a telegram having been received by Mr. Walter Powell, M.P., through the Foreign office, to the following effect: "Donald, Mr. Powell's game-keeper, is reported to have escaped and to be at Massowah, so possibly other parts of the first story may have been exaggerated." It is impossible to judge from this whether there is any probability of Mr. and Mrs. Powell being alive, but the intelligence, at least, throws discredit on the first information.

The Spiritualists.

Mr. Home was present on Wednesday night at a meeting of the committee of the Dialectical Society, which is investigating spiritual manifestations, and gave a long account of his experience. Certain manifestations, he said, only occur in a trance. He is sometimes awakened even out of a sound sleep by a presence in the room, and then the spirit will tell him what is doing at a distance. He writes it down at the time, and it invariably proves correct. "The only thing," he added, "I can explain about a trance, is that I have always found it necessary for the people about me to be in a harmonious condition. Then I become like one in a dream, and then comes a dizzy sensation, and I forget everything. When I awake, it is sometimes with the utmost difficulty that I get the blood to circulate. I never know what occurs in a trance. Indeed I am sceptical as to what people tell me I have said while in that state. It is very unpleasant to me." Being asked what he meant by persons being "harmonious," Mr. Home said, "I cannot tell anything more than that on going into the drawing-room I sometimes feel at home at once; and at another time you go in when two or three persons are there, and you don't feel at home. It is nothing more than that." Mr. Home said that he had been given over by the doctors several times, but the spirits told him he would get better. During the progress of the lawsuit with Mrs. Lyon he had congestion of the brain, and his memory left him. The spirits told him he would recover, and he had recovered. Mr. Home related a fact which occurred some years ago in the presence of the Emperor Napoleon. "We were," he said, "in a large room in the Salon de Louis Quatorze. The Emperor and Empress were present. I am now telling the story as I heard the Emperor tell it. A table was moved—then a hand was seen to come. It was a very beautifully formed hand. There were pencils on the table. It lifted, not the one next it, but one on the far side. We heard the sound of writing, and saw it writing on blue notepaper. The hand passed before me and went to the Emperor, and he kissed the hand. It went to the Empress; she withdrew from its touch, and the hand followed her. The Emperor said 'Do not be frightened,' and she kissed it too. It was disappearing. I said I would like to kiss it. The hand seemed to be like a person thinking, and as if it were saying, 'Why should I?' It came back to me. It had written the word 'Napoleon,' and it remains written now. It was as much a material hand seemingly as my hand is now. The writing was an autograph of the Emperor Napoleon I, who had an exceedingly beautiful hand." Mr. Home said that the Emperor of Russia had seen hands and had taken hold of them, when they seemed to float away into thin air. In reply to a question whether he was able to give any information as to the state and condition of departed human spirits, Mr. Home said that his information led him to the opinion that precisely as we go to sleep here so we awake in the other world—Wesleyans were Wesleyans. Swedenborgians were Swedenborgians, Mahomedans were Mahomedans. As to future rewards and punishments, bad spirits see the continuous result of the wrongs they have done, and in some instances have endeavored to repair it by declaring where concealed papers were. Two or three other persons expressed their opinions on this subject. One of them, a Mr. Damrain, who said that, though not himself a medium, he had been in the presence of a hundred mediums at two hundred seances, and had in his library five hundred volumes on spiritualism, gave it as his opinion there were marriages in the spiritual world between opposite sexes, but no spiritual children. Spiritual boys go to school, and continue to grow until 35; old men return to that age; painters paint with spiritual pigments, and mechanics make spiritual tables.—London Times.

SENATOR STEWART AS A LAWYER.—The Oakland [Cal.] News relates the following story, told by Dr. Merritt, ex-Mayor of that city, at the expense of Senator Stewart, of Nevada: Dr. Merritt having occasion some years since to employ a lawyer in Virginia City consulted a friend as to whom he had best retain. After stating to his friend the nature of his suit his friend advised him to employ Stewart.

"Is he a man of ability?" asked the Doctor. "Yes," replied his friend, "Stewart is an able man, a good lawyer, well read, and gives great care to his cases. He has a wonderful faculty of analysing a case—determining at once what is necessary to be proved and what is not. Now, when you call upon Stewart he will ask you to state your case. You commence a recital, and he listens attentively. You make an assertion, and he stops you and asks if you have a witness to prove it. You have and he tells you to go on. You state another point in your case, the importance of which he immediately detects and again asks if you have a witness to prove it. You reply in the affirmative, and he bids you proceed. You go still deeper into the case, until his quick perception detects another important point, and he asks: 'Have you a witness to prove it?' 'Well—no,' you reply. 'You have no witness to prove that point?' asks Stewart. 'None,' you reply. 'Then,' says Stewart, emphatically, 'you must go right off and get him!'"

The Doctor supplemented the joke by stating that he employed Stewart, and of course won the suit.

It has been often said that what is everybody's business, is nobody's business, and most especially to Horticultural Societies. A program proposed exhibition has been made public, and was reasonable to be interested in these would have come for his assistance and doing the affair a success? An attempt to procure a meeting to arrange preliminaries; day after day unsuccessfully, not per response, a sufficient having made their place appointed. These sources of well so far declined the attention? The result the case; they are into the most important country, and are progress, those which the safest foundation. Such an exhibition suicidal; we are sim of our soil that we them, when we should solicitude for their exceptionally fertile exceeded in the v Our cereals are sup Pacific Coast, and of flavor, equal to a great progress with and our means of it pertains to profitable bounded. From so son we lack in spirit wanting in the en country great. It city our tendencies ure towards comm bear in mind that succeed in that respect home market first, at By fostering and en ment of the land, we number of our cost the firmest basis for ly hope that a full found on the day app oned meeting of the above referred to, a ments then decided every way product tended. We hope, be of such a liberal c tract visitors from e us.

LIFE ASSURANCE.—It adds to his business is money; and it, light, large-mindedness sure. A merchant on clerk. Out of two hundred the place, he was influential one by the year that he had kept a life years. The great New \$32,000,000 capital, o months in the way of Life markedly low rates, second patrons all the advantage a Saving's Bank and a numbers among its policy financiers and shrewdest country. The agents for Colonies is Colonel Duc Fargo & Co.

FROM PUEBLO SOUND.—G. Hunt reached her wing, bringing a large number of the Sound yesterday. The steamers Wright and to Seattle, and the latter Both are due here to-day. Parker of the Hunt has a ligation; for the usual fact arrived on the Hunt.

LAKE DISTRICT.—Mrs settler whose farm building by fire a few days ago, ca that the conflagration work of an incendiary. a barn belonging to this and a man was arrested, crime and sentenced to ment. He was pardoned tion of the term and is no lice are engaged in work

THE Steamship Pacific from Portland for San Francisco on about the 31st inst