

The Session and its Work.

Yet a few more days—holidays for the most part—and the Legislature will be convened. Probably no Legislature was ever called together under circumstances of greater public interest. The work of former sessions has to receive the finishing touch. The ardent hope of weary years is to be realized—or crushed. The completion of Confederation constitutes the great work, almost the sole work of the approaching session. In truth, we are apt to think that the less also is attempted the better. That legislation on other matters is needed cannot be denied—but it will probably be more in accord with public sentiment, and we may add, with public interest, too, that the Colony should at once assume its new position and relationships, leaving general legislation to be looked for under more auspicious circumstances. Confederation may, therefore, be regarded as the work of the session; and, thanks to the Governor and his advisers, that work will be presented in a condition of such complete readiness that a simple "aye" or "no" is almost all that need be uttered. A motion to accept the Terms agreed to by the Dominion Cabinet, and an address to the Queen, asking for admission upon these Terms, will do the work. Knowing the composition of the new Council, one may not, perhaps, venture to hope that all will be content with pronouncing the monosyllabic fiat which is to knock the rusty shackles from the stunted limbs of this colony, or to rivet them still tighter. There is still room to fear that an effort may be made to delay or endanger Confederation by mixing it up with issues which, however important they may be in themselves, are separate and ancillary in their character and relations. We have witnessed an attempt to embarrass the great question of Confederation by so connecting it with the location of the western terminus of the railway as to make the former contingent upon the latter. The issue was artfully raised and, from its very nature, evoked no little interest. But, although, at one time, it was to be apprehended that popular sentiment might to some extent be misdirected through what must be regarded as a cunning artifice, all danger from that quarter has happily been averted. The next attempt will possess the advantage of even greater plausibility and more general approval. No Responsible Government, no Confederation, is to be the battle-cry with which it is now hoped to rally a sufficient backing outside of it. Now we will yield to no man in an earnest desire to see Responsible Government conferred upon British Columbia, coincidentally with its admission into the Dominion; but we must protest against making even that all-important question an absolute condition, a sine qua non of Union. There must be no conditions, save only the Terms as they now stand before the country, agreed to by the Canadian Government, universally accepted by the country, only a waiting formal ratification by the Legislature. It is now known that the Dominion Cabinet takes its stand upon these Terms, that to attempt to alter in any way involves them in complications which are so intricate and so numerous that the country does not want them; and, that it understands their value too well for that. But there is no need to comb the Terms with the question of Responsible Government as, indeed, any other question. As we took occasion to point out when the Terms were officially promulgated, the schemes have been wisely divested of every issue not being an essential part of it; and, although the two questions of a choice of Customs Tariffs and Responsible Government were understood to be virtually submitted to the test of a general election along with the Confederation Terms, and although the country has pronounced its unequivocal verdict upon these two questions, yet the matter has been so arranged as that the "aye" or "no" upon these issues in no way interferes with the main question. Such an arrangement was most wise and necessary in order to avoid that delay which the colony could so ill afford. But, even if it were otherwise, what would the country gain by refusing Confederation because Responsible Government could not be had simultaneously with it? Would Responsible Government give us Responsible Government? Or would not Confederation be the shortest road—the only road to Responsible Government? As has been repeatedly said in these columns, we see no insuperable obstacle in the way of obtaining Responsible Government along with Confederation. But should the former be withheld, although wrongly, surely it would be supreme folly on our part to refuse the latter. To employ a phrase very much more pungent than polite, British Columbia cannot afford to bite off its nose to spite its face. To be pedantic, we say to the people of British Columbia, Get Confederation with Responsible Government if you can; but get Confederation.

Mechanics' Literary Institute. It will be observed by reference to our advertising columns that arrangements are being made for holding a

grand concert at the Theatre Royal, on Monday evening in aid of the funds of the above institution. In the midst of such frequent appeals to the public, in aid of various objects of a more or less meritorious nature, it may be well that the grounds of the special effort now being put forth by the new Board of Management of the Institute should receive a little consideration. Owing, doubtless, to the dullness and, we may say, general impatience with which this community has been afflicted during the past year, the funds of the Institute have, unfortunately, been permitted to run behind to the extent, we believe, of some five or six hundred dollars. Debt is essentially bad; but it is especially perplexing to an institution such as the one under review; and the determination of the gentlemen comprising the present Board of Management to get rid of it is highly to be commended. The peculiar claims of the Institute to general sympathy and support are possibly liable to escape the observation of such as are not the subjects of its more palpable and direct benefits. There are hundreds of this community deprived of home comforts and advantages; and to such the Institute presents the ready and convenient means of spending the spare hours of evening in rational amusement or mental improvement; and it is not too much to say that, in this way, it has been instrumental in keeping many a young man from a course which would make him less valuable as a citizen and less happy as a man. It is, therefore, the duty, if it is not the direct interest, of all classes to share in the maintenance of the Institute in a condition that thorough efficiency which is incompatible with debt. There is another ground upon which the entertainment may be regarded as presenting an additional claim to the patronage of the public. It would, indeed, be an unbandaged leg for all the time and trouble which are being devoted to preparation, should the ladies who have so kindly volunteered their services be permitted to "waste their sweetness on" half filled benches. Of course, we do not regard such a contingency as at all probable. It may be proper to state that, for this occasion more than usual effort is being made and we must be allowed to bespeak a corresponding appreciation on the part of the public. Of one thing we are certain, those who do go will be amply repaid by the entertainment itself, to say nothing of its object. Let the public, then, generously respond to an appeal so agreeably made and place the Mechanic's Institute at once out of debt.

BEAM AT SEATTLE.—Dr Beam smuggled himself on board one of the Sound steamers at Victoria on Tuesday last, and reached Seattle the next morning at 3 o'clock, and shortly afterwards visited the premises of his victim's parents. The Intelligence says: "Her room is on the second floor in the rear of the building, which he had not slipped beneath her window and sought the advantage of a bench to get closer still. She was sound asleep. Rearing the bench against the side of the house at an easy angle, he slipped up its frosted sides to the window sill, but could get no further. Fearful of disturbing the household, he was unable to rouse his slumbering bride—just for one word of explanation; no other recourse being left, he fastened a letter upon the window sill, and slid down again. The girl's mother heard a scrambling noise outside the house, stepped to her window, and got there just in time to see her promising son-in-law in the descending act, whom she mistook for the partial light for their big black dog. But the dog theory was disposed of the next morning by the finding of that letter, in which the absconding husband and general reprobate tried to explain his conduct in part, and renewed his tale of love. In connection with his ardent declarations he tells her that he is poor, but has a good profession, (that way is italicized) and if she will fly with him they'll be happy yet; but if she won't he'll take her anyhow. The letter also states that he would go up to Olympia the same night and see the Governor and that he would be back again next day. The impression was that he lurked around the outskirts of the town intending another attempt to see his wife. This new role which the Doctor has assumed revives some interest in him.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT, made upon what our Seattle contemporary regards as good authority, that the North Pacific Railway Company have bought the entire property of the Bellingham Bay Company, although chiefly interesting to dwellers on Puget Sound, is by no means devoid of interest to the people of British Columbia. Of course we regard the purchase as indicating Bellingham Bay as the terminus of the Railway, for it is scarcely conceivable that so large an expenditure would be incurred with a less important object. Bellingham Bay is within fifteen miles of the International boundary, twenty-eight miles of the Langley, thirty-two miles of New Westminster, and fifteen miles of the track of steam navigation between Victoria and the Mainland. But the relations in which Bellingham Bay stands to Esquimalt concern us most. Distant some fifty miles, it must be reached through the intricate and dangerous navigation of Rosario Straits. It is considerably more distant and greatly more difficult of access than Port Townsend, while it is less distant, but about equally difficult with Nisqually. It will thus appear that should the North Pacific find a terminus at Bellingham Bay the Canadian Pacific would still possess a very decided advantage with its terminus at Esquimalt. The former would not be a more formidable competitor with its terminus at Bellingham Bay than it would be stopping at Nisqually, although with a terminus at the former place it would possess a decided advantage over Burrard Inlet, inasmuch as it would only be about half the distance from the Straits of Fuca. With their railway terminus at Bellingham Bay the San Juan question would derive increased importance to our neighbors.

PUGET SOUND ITEMS.—Condensed from the Seattle Intelligence of Tuesday: It is reported from quite a reliable source that the North Pacific Railway Company have purchased the entire property of the Bellingham Bay Coal Company for the sum of \$1,000,000, payment, to be paid in railroad shares. The Pirley Troupe played at the Pavilion on Monday night. The house was well filled and the performance is described by the local press as the best ever witnessed at Seattle. The Seattle Hook and Ladder Company are making arrangements for their anniversary ball, to be held on the 8th proximo. The bark Tidal Wave sailed from Port Madison for San Francisco on Saturday. The ship Commodore sailed from Port Ludlow on the 8th for the same place. The barkentine Fremont arrived at Seattle on Monday, and the bark Free Trade sailed from that port for San Francisco on Tuesday. The Railroad Committee sailed at noon on Sunday on the Lincoln for Sp. Sound ports.

EDUCATIONAL.—It is scarcely probable that the subject of Education will receive that attention during the next session necessary to the establishment of a liberal and efficient school system. The country will not tolerate even for a year longer a continuance of the present system without some amelioration. Under these circumstances, what is to be done in this all-important matter? Probably the most ready and effective measure of relief will be found in a simple amendment to the existing Ordinance by which the public schools will be very much more liberally, if not wholly, sustained out of the general revenue; and, with this view, we would respectfully suggest the propriety of suitable provision being made in the Estimates. To tide over the session without attempting any mitigation of the present truly deplorable condition of the Educational interests of the Colony must be thought of.

NEARLY A SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—Yesterday afternoon, on Government street, a horse attached to a wagon in which were seated Mr Lawrence and Mrs Fisher, of Metcalchin, took fright at the unusual appearance of a steam fire-engine belching forth flame, steam and smoke, and in place of running away from the strange object, backed into it while the engine was in full motion under a heavy head of steam. For a moment it seemed as if the occupants would be thrown upon the engine and seriously injured; but they were rescued from their perilous situation by the fireman, who drew them from the vehicle, and drove the horse to a place of safety.

THE MAIL STEAMER, Capt E A Starr, arrived here yesterday afternoon about six o'clock. She brought Wells, Fargo & Co's Express and a quantity of freight to order. Amongst her list of passengers we notice the names of the Hon Philip Rix, Dr G. G. Turner, Miss Hilton, Mr J D Spruiell, Mrs O E Ferguson and the Bird Troupe. The label will leave this morning at eleven o'clock, connecting at Pt. Townsend with the Strm. Alida for Olympia and way ports on the Sound. Purser Parker has our thanks for the customary favors.

JAMAICA.—In the absence of Gov. Grant, the Colonial Secretary is administering the Government of Jamaica, and the Hon W. A. G. Young, so long and prominently identified with this colony, is Acting Colonial Secretary. Many of our local readers will be glad to hear that Mr Young likes Jamaica very much, and that he and his family are enjoying health and prosperity.

ONE OF THE best operators on the Mainland Telegraph Line, is a young girl of twelve years of age, named Sarah McClure. She is stationed at Mtsqui Prairie, where her father resides, and repeats every message that passes over that portion of the line. She receives messages by sound and is singularly correct.

GRAND MASONS BALK.—The Masonic Fraternity of this city have decided to hold their agreeable annual reunion on the 27th inst.—St John's Day. Masonic Balls have ever been the most successful given in this colony, and it is with a feeling of pleasure that we announce that the forthcoming affair will probably in every respect excel the previous efforts of the Craft.

CATTLE SALE.—Mr Franklin's cattle sale will be held at 12 o'clock to-day. The stock to be offered are prime Durham and will, no doubt, find ready purchasers.

TO PHYSICIANS.

New York August 14th, 1868. Allow me to call your attention to my PREPARATION OF COMPOUND EXTRACT BUCHU. It is composed of pure BUCHU, LIME LASS, CURRUBS, JUNIPER BERRIES; MESS OF PARANATHON—Buchu, in vacuo. It is prepared by displacement with spirits obtained from Juniper Berreries; very little sugar is used and a small proportion of spirit. It is more palatable than any new preparation. Buchu as prepared by Druggists, is of a dark color. It is a plant that emits its fragrance; the action of a flame destroys this (its active principle), leaving a dark and glutinous decoction. Mine is the color of ingredients. The Buchu in my preparation predominates the smallest quantity of the other ingredients are added, to prevent fermentation; upon inspection it will be found not to be a mixture, as made in Pharmacopoea, nor is it a Symplic and therefore can be used in cases where fever or inflammation exists. In this you have the knowledge of the ingredients and the mode of preparation. Hoping that you will favor it with a trial, and that upon inspection it will meet with your approbation. With a feeling of profound confidence, I am, very respectfully, H. T. HELMBOLD. Chemist and Druggist of 19 years' experience.

(From the largest Manufacturing Chemists in the World.) NOVEMBER 4 1864. I am acquainted with Mr. H. T. Helmbold; he occupied the Drug Store opposite my residence, and was successful in conducting the business where others had not been equally so before him. I have been favorably impressed with his character and enterprise. WILLIAM WRIGHTMAN, Firm of Powers and Welch man, Manufacturing Chemist, Ninth and Brown streets, Philadelphia.

HELMBOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU! For weakness arising from indigestion, the exhausted powers of Nature which are accompanied by so many alarming symptoms, among which will be found, Indigestion to Excretion, Loss of Memory, Wakefulness, Horripilation of Disease, or Forboding of Evil; in fact, Universal Lassitude, prostration, and inability to enter into the enjoyment of society.

THE CONSTITUTION Once afflicted with Organic Weakness, requires the aid of Medicine to strengthen and invigorate system, which HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU variably does. If no treatment is submitted to, Consumption or Insanity ensues.

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HELMBOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU Will radically exterminate from the system diseases arising from habits of dissipation, as little exposure, little or no change of diet, no inconvencence or exposure, completely supplanting those unpleasant and dangerous remedies, Opium and Mercury, in all these diseases.

USE HELMBOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU In all diseases of these organs, whether existing in male or female, from whatever cause originating, and no matter how long standing. It is pleasant in taste and odor, "immediate" in action, and more strengthening than any of the preparations of Bark or Iron. Those suffering from broken down or delicate constitutions, procure the remedy at once. The reader must be aware that, however slight may be the attack of the above diseases, it is certain to affect the bodily health and mental powers. All the above diseases require the aid of a Diuretic. HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU is the great Diuretic. Sold by Druggists everywhere. Price \$1.25 per bottle, or 6 Bottles for \$6.50. Delivered to any address. Describe the symptoms in all communications.

H. T. HELMBOLD, Drug and Chemical Warehouse, 594 BROADWAY, NEW YORK. NONE ARE GENUINE unless done up in steel engraved wrapper with fac-simile of my Chemical Warehouse, and signed H. T. HELMBOLD.

NOR-LOVE CAMOMILE PILLS ARE CONFIDENTLY RECOMMENDED AS A simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They are responsible for any disease contracted by the crew of the above vessel without his written order. JAMES STRACHAN, Victoria, V.I., Dec. 9th, 1870.