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ARED BY CONNOISSEURS

TO BE

ONLY GOOD SAUCE

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LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

their names are upon the wrapper, label

foreign market having been supplied

Borshtshire Sauce, upon the wrapper

which the names of Lea & Perrins have

been placed by power of attorney to

protect against Manufacturers of other

imitations by which their right

A & PERRINS' SAUCE, and see Name

Upper, Label, Bottle and Stopper.

and for Export by the Proprietors Wm

Blackwell, London, &c., &c.; and

Oliver University,

Salta w

LES, SAUCES, JAM

&c., &c.: Free from Adulteration.)

Manufactured by

E & BLACKWELL'S VARIOUS

Mincing Mincers are obtainable from

in the Colony. Purchasers should

it is not all uniform, for some

to be substituted. Their Pickles are al-

Pure Malt Vinegar, and are pre-

quality to those supplied by them

er Majesty's Table.

invite attention to the following—Pla-

tus, Sauces of all kinds, Jams, Pot-

Coke, Calf's Foot, and other Ta-

re Medicines, &c., &c., all of which are of the highest

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Purity and Wholesomeness. The

finest imported.

are Agents for LEA & PERRINS'

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE

Sir Robert Peel's Sauce, M. Soy-

fish and Aromatic Mustard, Bay-

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my Paste,

RY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE,

ILORODYNE.

COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE

am cure in Cholera, Dysentery, Diarrhoea

his Browne's Chlorodyne—Extract from

Board of Health, London, as to its efficacy

are we willing of the immense

and value of this new remedy in adopting it in cases?" From A. M.

late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay—

a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia

Dysentery. To fully owe my restoration

after eighteen months severe suffering and

remedies had failed.

Collis Browne's Chlorodyne.—Caution

the world is put on record that Dr

was undoubtedly the inventor of Chloro-

dysentery, and he regretted to say it had been

the 3rd July 1864.

Collis Browne's Chlorodyne.—The Righ

tress communicated to the College of Physi-

licians, that he had received information

that he was the inventor of any series in Chloro-

dysentery. See LANCET, Dec. 31, 1863.

Collis Browne's Chlorodyne—Extract from

Jan 12th, 1864, is prescribed by scores

medical practitioners. Of course it would not

nearly popular did it not supply a want and

is Browne's Chlorodyne is the best and

remedy in Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Con-

stipation, Rheumatism, &c.

Calcutta, Scott, Thompson & Co.; W. J. Peart,

et al., Medical Hall Company, Bombay—

Hong Kong—Mr A. S. Watson.

Port, 33 Great Russell Street, London,

by the statements of unscrupulous

defendant was torned by the Vice-Chan-

teal

“VICTORIA” DYES

ON'S

DYE—DYE—DYE—DYE—

Violet

water

a ROSE

mark:

COOK,

in

8s. per lb.

8s. 2d. per

8s. 4d. per

LONDON.

NS Victoria Dyes through any Merchant

in England.

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ing made Easy!

FAMILY WASHING

fully accomplished, to the great delight

of menold, by using Harper's Laundry

Soap Powder."

man's wife says, "one half of Soap,"

two-thirds of time, and three-

quarters by all Storkepers,

Harper Twelver, Esq., Bromley

Agents for Vancouver Island.

SES. JANION, GREEN & RHO

BROS. LTD.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 8.

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1867.

NO. 20

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HIGGINS, LONG & CO.

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For Six Months.....	4 00
For Three Months.....	2 00
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Our Coasting Trade—Its Legal Aspect.

We yesterday pointed out the injury that would result to Colonists

were foreign vessels allowed to enter

into competition with British vessels

for the carrying trade of this Colony;

and objected, as an abstract principle,

to power being placed in the hands of

His Excellency to grant permits to

foreign bottoms to engage in that trade.

We are prepared to-day to show to

the satisfaction of our readers and the

Government that the Council cannot

confer upon the Governor any such

power. Any attempt to do so is il-

legal and unconstitutional—as was

ably contended by Messrs DeCosmos

and Helmcken.

The Queen in Coun-

cil has alone that power, and even

Her Majesty cannot exercise it unless

upon the receipt of an address from

the Legislature of the Colony inter-

ested praying that its coasting trade

may be opened to the vessels of na-

tions other than British.

The power is specially reserved as a Royal pre-

rogative, and no permit issued by

His Excellency will be worth in law

the inspiration that has dictated the

preparation of every important measure

brought before the Council during the

session; the other is the officer whose

department was specially concerned

in the passage of the clause—who is

handsomely paid for attending to the

duties of that department, and who is

supposed to have known what the

Customs' laws at his finger ends.

Yet we find both

these gentlemen sitting in the Council

in a state of beatific ignorance as to

the laws under which they hold their

positions, and actually aiding by their

voice and vote in the passage of a

clause they should have known was

an invasion of a prerogative of the

Crown. After this, we are prepared

for anything ridiculous and absurd

from the official members of the

Council.

THE ESQUIMALT TRAGEDY.

VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.

An inquest was held yesterday afternoon

by Coroner Pemberoy on the body of

Thomas Madden, infant son of John Madden,

Governor, Lieutenant Governor or

other person so administering

such Government, shall be deemed to

have been done by or with such par-

ticular officer or at such particular

place, as the case may be, and as re-

quired by Law; and all Commissions,

Deputations and Appointments grants

to the Government in any such Pos-

session, and every Act required by any

Law to be done by or with any parti-

cular officer or at any particular place,

if done by or with

WEEKLY COLONIST AND CHRONICLE

**The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.**

Tuesday, March 26, 1867.

American Affairs.

Every measure that President Johnson has recommended calculated to reconcile the conflicting elements of the country and restore peace, has been voted down by a hostile Congress, and measures of their own, of a very different tenor, substituted. The last act of the late Congress was to pass a Reconstruction Bill, by virtue of which the Southern States are converted into Military districts, with standing armies quartered and Territorial Governments established, and Governors appointed by the General Government. As the appointing power has just been taken out of the hands of Mr. Johnson and placed in that of the Senate, we may be sure that none but dyed-in-the-wool Radicals will be chosen to direct matters. These territories will not be entitled to a representative in Congress until they have been converted into States by an Act of that Congress. An Act already in force provides that no territory shall be admitted into the Union until it has first accorded to all its citizens the right of suffrage. It will therefore be seen that the South will only be "reconstructed" after it has extended the right of suffrage to the blacks. The Supreme Court has lately decided that the passage of a measure affecting the status of any State of the Union, while that State is unrepresented by at least one member in the national Legislature, is unconstitutional in fact and revolutionary in tendency. Congress has, however, fallen into a way peculiar to itself of settling such questions, and whenever it is found that a measure it deems advisable to pass will conflict with the constitution, the first step taken is to amend that instrument so as to allow the measure to take effect. And as for the Supreme Court, which is the only non-elective body in the States, the Congressmen propose to bowl its Judges off the bench, like so many pins in a ninepin alley, by passing an Act enabling them to "reconstruct" it to suit their own ends, and admit none but political friends to seats in the new Court. Congress has determined that the South shall be reconstructed on the Universal Suffrage basis, and there is not the slightest hope of President Johnson being enabled successfully to resist it. Indeed, if the President escape Impeachment at the hands of Congress it will be "with the skin of his teeth," and because no act that will warrant the adoption of so extreme and dangerous a course can be brought home to him. It is pleasing to observe that a committee of the Thirty-ninth Congress—composed entirely of political enemies of the President—have reported that after a diligent inquiry they have been unable to discover that Mr. Johnson has been guilty of any corrupt practices, and ask to be discharged from further service. What unprejudiced person could fail to have confidence in Mr. Johnson with this testimony of his political enemies recorded in his favor?

The first election in the district of Columbia (the thirty-mile square plot of ground in the centre of which the city of Washington stands, and over the government of which Congress has exclusive control) under the new Act which enables negroes to vote, has been held and resulted in the Radical candidate for Mayor receiving a small majority of 79 votes over his competitor, who had held the office for many successive terms. The polling passed off quietly—the colored voters being protected by a military force. The opposition of the Southerners to universal suffrage avails little. Tennessee has permitted her negroes to vote, and it is only a question of time when her example will be followed by other late Slave States. The number of blacks is very large throughout the South, and as no person who bore arms against the Union, or who held office under the late Southern Confederacy, will be allowed to vote, it will be readily seen how completely the Southerners have fallen into the hands of their late slaves, who will hold office

and direct the public affairs of their old masters before the expiration of two years. It needs only the confiscation of the property of late rebels and its distribution among the loyal men (which means the blacks) to effect the most extraordinary political change ever known, and place the white Southern rebel in the position of "hewer of wood and drawer of water" for a race that he held in bondage for a period of upwards of two centuries.

CONFEDERATION MEETING.

The theatre was filled last evening by citizens who had met upon the call of the Mayor to consider the question of Confederation.

Ex-Mayor Lumley Franklin, upon motion of Mr. Pidwell and with the unanimous consent of the meeting, took the chair and called the meeting to order. Mr. Seelye was chosen Secretary.

Mr. Franklin briefly stated the object of the assemblage, which was to consider the advisability of this colony joining with the older provinces in a Confederation, and forming an Empire having control of its own destinies. It was a question that required much consideration, and he urged upon the citizens not to repeat the mistake made when they rashly consented to unconditional union (applause).

R. Finlayson, Esq., rose to move the first resolution, and said that since the year 1819 the colony had been struggling along under various forms of Government without making much progress, because it was found impossible to attract a permanent population to our shores. It was now sought to enlist our Eastern provinces and to make this colony to them. He heartily approved of the scheme (applause). A great many people looked upon the Rocky Mountains as a great obstacle or barrier to communication with the East, but he would say that the most pleasant journey he had ever had was one that had once taken from Canada to British Columbia across those mountains. He hoped soon to see the day when stages would be running from Yale to Pembina (applause). He thought it was a disgrace that this Colony, of seventeen years standing, was tittering on the verge of bankruptcy—not through any want of resources of her own, but because the expenses of Government were too heavy for the country to bear (prolonged applause). Mr. Finlayson here read the first resolution, which was as follows—

"That this meeting views with great pleasure and much satisfaction the scheme which is now before the Imperial Government for the Confederation of the Colonies of British North America."

Mr. Pidwell came forward to move the second resolution. He fully recognised the importance of the question, and did not believe that any great good could be accomplished by any country without union. He fully endorsed the Confederation Bill, and called on citizens to throw aside personal considerations and discuss whether its adoption would not be better for their race and their country. The speaker then reviewed the condition of Canada before '37, and repeated the opinion of Lord Durham, who claimed that the extension of the area of political liberty to Canadians would only rile their loyalty and devotion to the Crown the more. He believed that Confederation would draw the colonies still closer to Mother England (applause). The speaker denied that the Confederation movement was anti-English. English statesmen were getting awake, and were determined that every Anglo-Saxon should enjoy the liberty of Britons. We had an area that would swamp England and France some day, and we could build up a greater country than either (cries of dissent and 'yes'). With Confederation we should have all the freedom of a republic without its weaknesses; we should have all the strength of Great Britain without her incumbrances. If the Cabinet did wrong, the people could say, you shan't stay there; they would not have to wait four years—as in the United States—before getting them out of office (applause). The Provinces or States would have the benefit of all the minerals, &c., and every revenue save one—the general impost; and each Province would be independent, except that the General Government would have a right to do what it pleased for the general benefit. The speaker then proceeded to expatiate upon the agricultural resources of the country, but met with some marks of disfavor from the audience. He then showed the advantages of Confederation in constructing the overland railway and telegraph, and retired amid applause.

The resolution was put and carried by acclamation.

Dr. Carroll, in a few well timed remarks, in which he congratulated the meeting, by its endorsement of the previous resolution and action of the Council, in having done that of which they and their descendants would feel proud, moved the following resolution:

"That a delegation of gentlemen representing the views of this meeting, be appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Governor respecting the foregoing resolutions and respectfully to request him to take further measures, either by delegation or otherwise, to secure the immediate admission of the Colony into the Confederacy upon a just basis."

Mr. Waddington, who was loudly cheered, seconded the resolution, confining himself to a subject which he has studied for some time—the Overland Route. There could be no connection without communication. He proceeded to show the feasibility of this projected enterprise. The only real barriers that had presented themselves were the Rocky Mountains and Cascade Ranges. The Vermilion Pass, which was first thought to be the most feasible one for crossing the Rocky Mountains, was 5000 feet high and was covered with from 25 to 27 feet of snow. The Yellow Head Pass, which was only 3630 feet high, was then found to be the most practicable, the ascent being almost imperceptible. He was happy to state that the company for making a line of rail from Bute Inlet to Quesnel, 222 miles was nearly completed, most of the capital having been subscribed and he would add that Messrs. Galbraith, Peet and Brasseys were interested in the undertaking, the latter gentleman being a personal friend of his. (Cheers.) There were really no difficulties in the way of the undertaking. There was a break this side of Lake Superior, which was, however, not insurmountable as his canyon at Bute Inlet. The real difficulties were all this side. The Cascade range, which was a sea of mountains, is divided by the Bute Inlet Valley. The speaker described the line of road with accuracy, the distance available for steam travel on the upper Fraser by overcoming the difficulties presented by four canyons, three of which were but trifling obstacles, the 170 miles that would carry the line across the Yellow-head pass where the chief difficulties were fallen trees to the Saskatchewan, and the significant and fertile plains beyond that would be traversed to Lake Winnipeg, forming an almost natural highway, the 1100 miles of splendid scenery communication to Fort Garry, interrupted only by five miles of rapids. Then the fine travel to St. Paul's, which would enable the traveller to take rail and go to Halifax. (Laughter.)

M. Seelye read an extract from the New York *Advertiser*, foretelling that 20 years would find British North America one of the most commercially powerful nations in the world, with an unbroken chain of communication from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Mr. Bishop asked if the movement was not intended for the advancement of the Hudson Bay Company? [Applause and "turn him out!"] He also objected to a remark of Mr. Pidwell that people who had come here from the other side of the Rocky Mountains had not shown sufficient pluck, Laughter and applause.] He opposed the scheme, which he considered only raised to benefit the Hudson Bay Company. [Hisses, applause and "give him a brandy cocktail!"] I. we were nearer the other side, we might be benefited, but it would be madness to rush blindly into Confederation. He asked that the scheme be well grounded [Voices: "The Active's a ground!"] before it be accepted. [Sit down, dry up, etc.]

U. B. Young mounted the stand, and was received with applause and cries of "fish." He asked the people not to rush blindly into Confederation.

A voice—"Now, Mr. Young, are you speaking as an Englishman or as an American?"

Mr. Young—I am speaking as one in whose veins flow the pure blood of both. [Ironical applause] The speaker then reviewed the manner in which Union had been brought about and spoke forcibly against Confederation amid much opposition. Canadians, he said, were great politicians, and they would be continually trying to get office. Mr. Watkins was at the head of this scheme, and that was enough to damn the whole thing. He [the speaker] was shortly going to leave the Colony, but as long as he

was in it he would do his best for its interests. The only advantage to be derived from Confederation would be a road across the country.

The resolution was then put and carried by an immense majority.

The chairman stated that the committee had telegraphed to Canada for information as to the provisions in the Confederation Act for the admittance of this Colony.

Dr. Powell came forward to propose the second resolution, which was as follows:

"That the Colony of British Columbia would be greatly benefited, its progress and permanent prosperity secured by its admission into the proposed confederacy of British North America upon fair equitable terms."

Dr. Powell pointed out that the terms under which we would consent to join in the Confederation must be *fair and equitable* and *explicitly stated*. He denied that this was an attempt to alienate the Colonies from the Mother Country, and read the draft of the first Confederation Bill prepared by the North American delegates to prove that the object of Confederation was to cement and perpetuate the connection with the Mother Country. Was it not better if we could ally ourselves with 4,000,000 people, obtain responsible government, and have taxation reduced than to remain as we are—a petty, oppressed, tax-paying colony, with our destinies in the hands of a capricious stranger? [Great applause and cries of "yes"]. The doctor then proceeded to state the area of the provinces, their resources and climate, the statistical information furnished being listened to with profound interest. In concluding, the doctor said that Mr. Young, in attempting to show what responsible government meant, exhibited his utter ignorance of the subject. Dr. Powell retired amid much applause.

M. Young, in explanation said, his knowledge had been taken from the same source as Dr. Powell had derived his information from, and there was not a word about Responsible Government (oh! and cheers). The Chairman here read the telegram to the COLONIST, published elsewhere, giving the resolution unanimously passed in the Legislative Council, which was received with a storm of applause.

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The Chairman here read the telegram to the COLONIST, published elsewhere, giving the resolution unanimously passed in the Legislative Council, which was received with a storm of applause.

M. Robertson seconded Dr. Powell's resolution in an excellent and telling speech in favor of Confederation, pointing out the means it would afford of changing our present unpopular form of Government for one more in keeping with the spirit of the age—a Government by the people that would enable the people to legislate for themselves and manage their own affairs. He furthermore showed how it would be the means of attracting population and capital; and of strengthening and perpetuating the bond that united them to England. He enlarged fully upon the advantages that a trans-continental route would unfold, and believed that instead of severing the bond of connection between the colonies and the mother country it would be the means of cementing and counteracting the present tendency to drift independently but surely towards annexation. He considered that it was with this view the measure met with so much encouragement from English statesmen. In conclusion, he urged upon his hearers to identify themselves with the scheme, believing, as he did, in a maxim of Macaulay that a country was always prepared for self-government; that it would considerably reduce the burden of taxation, foster loyalty, and give the colony a status it did not now possess. The learned gentleman was loudly applauded.

The resolution was put and carried by acclamation.

Dr. Carroll, in a few well timed remarks, in which he congratulated the meeting, by its endorsement of the previous resolution and action of the Council, in having done that of which they and their descendants would feel proud, moved the following resolution:

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WEEKLY COLONIST AND CHRONICLE.

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Tuesday, March 26, 1867.

The Confederation Meeting.

It is more natural than surprising that the proposed admission of this Colony into the Confederation of British North America should be opposed by professed sceptics, unprepared or unwilling to become converts to the popular measure. Opposition is healthy; it is as necessary to the well-being of the body politic as meat and drink to the body corporate; it is, in fact, the true and only specific whereby the life blood of progressive reform is strengthened and purified; checking abuses, preventing excesses, and pointing out the shoals and quick-sands on which the ship of State through over zealous and rash navigation would be liable to suffer shipwreck. The opposition at the meeting of Monday night was feeble, and the resolutions were carried with almost one voice; yet would it be madness to close our eyes to the arguments used against the extension of the scheme to the west of the Rocky Mountains, and if they fail to carry weight when placed in the balance with the many advantages that this Colony will derive from becoming the western link of the chain, they will at least cause us to avoid the folly of again blindly confiding our interests in other hands, and to hesitate before we consent to any other than "fair and equitable terms." It is superfluous to travel again over the now well-beaten track, and to reiterate the benefits that this country will derive by the proposed change. It must be too obvious to every thinking man that the exchange of a free and liberal form of Government—the Government of the people by the people—for the hybrid constitution we now possess; the absorption of our Colonial debt, amounting to some \$150 per head, by the large area of the federal population; the great reduction of taxation by dispensing with an extravagant civil list; the sure and certain completion of the great overland route, and the consequent influx of population and capital, are blessings that will and can alone flow from the golden opportunity now within our reach. Of each of these heads the speakers at the meeting spoke convincingly. We will therefore confine ourselves to some of the arguments used by the opponents of the measure. And first for Mr. Bishop. That gentleman called upon the meeting to weigh the pros and cons well before giving its assent to the scheme. To this there was no dissent. He reminded them of the disastrous consequences of previous hasty and ill-advised legislation. In this all concurred. Having delivered himself of this specious little exhortation, the oratorical powers of the learned gentleman were exhausted, and he then thought him of the old clatter-cry of "Hudson Bay Company." Here was a bugaboo that would startle the auditory. The tocsin of alarm was sounded with legal emphasis, and "took" for a few moments. Encouraged by cries of "go it, Bishop," "pitch it in," &c., the speaker grew bold and warned the people that the whole scheme was a Hudson Bay movement, got up by the Company for their especial aggrandisement, and that by making ourselves a party to it we should only let ourselves into the trap they were laying for us. Now to all who have watched and are conversant with the movement from its inception to the meeting of delegates and the framing of the Quebec scheme, the absurdity of this insinuation must be too apparent. The Company, it is true, might be enabled to dispose of the Red River territory to advantage, but, on the other hand, would not the opening of the large section of country between this and Fort Garry to settlement be the surest means of effectually destroying the large and profitable trade with the natives which for ages has proved a source of untold wealth to this ancient Corporation? At one time we hear the Company accused of being antediluvian fossils, obstructives in the way of all progress and civilization,

sympathizers with the aborigines and enemies to the approach of the white man, whom they regard as an intruder on their primeval privileges. At another time, because a chief factor in the company is sufficiently expanded in his ideas to move a resolution in favor of nationalizing British North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the opposite cry is raised, and one of the grandest and most progressive conceptions of modern times is pronounced "a Hudson Bay affair." The next opponent was Mr. Young, who advanced nothing very cogent beyond a wholesome warning against precipitancy, and stating how the Colony would have escaped its present incubus had his advice on the subject of Union at any price been followed. The gentleman disapproved generally of the scheme, and of placing ourselves under the power of Canadian politicians and office seekers, but his remarks were destitute of pith or argument. The last opponent, Mr. Fisher, usually a clear-headed speaker, confined himself chiefly to pointing out the previous political blunders that had been committed in this Colony and the danger of rushing into another. This was in a measure traveling over the same ground as those who preceded him, and had this gentleman confined himself to this line of argument, and to pointing out the risk of losing the valuable aid of the fleet at Esquimalt, it would have been all very well, but exposed his weakness when he urged among other objections that it would be distasteful to our American neighbors. No doubt America does covet British North America, but as she never can be allowed to have it, the best thing we should imagine for her interests would be the formation of a separate and distinctive power on her northern boundary with whom she could contract reciprocal commercial treaties that need not be interrupted by international differences with other governments. A small number can make a great show of opposition in a public assembly, but if no more formidable opposition against the Confederation scheme, as applied to this Colony, can be brought to bear than what we have yet witnessed, its adoption on fair and equitable terms may be regarded as the almost unanimous desire of this section of the Colony.

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

Legislative Proceedings.

EXCITING DEBATES.

Confederation Resolution Carried!

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 18.—Helmcken presented a petition from certain persons against the granting of a license (?) DeCosmos presented a petition from dry goods (clothing?) dealers for a uniform duty on dry goods of seven and a half per cent. Robson presented a petition from attorneys at Victoria praying that the rights of barristers might be extended to them.

The committee on the currency bill had a long discourse on the circulation of florins; it was ultimately struck out of the bill. Appeals followed. Committee rose.

In committee on the gold fields bill, amendments and preamble were agreed to and bill reported complete.

Ways and means was adjourned.

The Customs bill for tariff led to a determined opposition by DeCosmos and Helmcken. DeCosmos characterized the action of Government in relation to double duties as that of so many officers of banditti.

This speech made a strong impression. Clauses one to ten and twelve to fourteen were carried.

Harbor dues, also opposed by Helmcken and DeCosmos, was brought forward. A warm debate followed with speeches from Walkem, Helmcken, DeCosmos, Robson and others. After a few of the clauses had been passed the committee rose and reported progress.

Clauses asked leave to bring in a bill to improve the law relating to mortgage in this Colony. Leave granted.

Bill to repeal tax on real estate, second reading on Thursday.

A long and interesting debate followed on confederation, resulting in the unanimous adoption of the following resolution introduced by Pemberton. That this council is of opinion that at this juncture of affairs in British North America east of the Rocky Mountains, it is very advisable that His Excellency be respectfully requested to take such steps without delay as may be deemed by him most advisable to insure the admission of British Columbia into the confederation on fair and equitable terms. This council being confident that in advising this step they are expressing the views of the colonists generally.

Accident to the Active.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 18th.—The Active arrived about seven o'clock last night and steamed up towards the Camp, delighting the citizens of the Capital by firing her gun from time to time as she passed along. When about a mile above the city she struck in the mud. Some efforts were made by the

boats from the men of war to help her off, but they were fruitless. The passengers were put ashore in boats and had to walk down to the city.

The Active got out of the mud about three o'clock this morning.

LOUISVILLE, Mar 16.—Railroad communication with Memphis is suspended. The road along the Cumberland river being several feet under water.

LONDON, Mar 16.—Large bodies of troops have been sent to Liverpool to preserve the peace. An Irish uprising is apprehended in that city. A large number of Fenians have been captured in various parts of Ireland, and many have been committed for high treason.

Lord Derby says officially that the forces of the Sublime Porte are to leave Belgrade. The authority of the Turks there is to be merely nominal. Lord Lyons at Constantinople writes that they will push the reform in favor of the Christians in Candia and elsewhere.

A Servian despatch says the south Turkish forces have been successful in a battle with the rebels in Thessaly.

LONDON, Mar 16.—A general rising of Fenians is expected to take place throughout Ireland to-morrow, St. Patrick's day. The police, who are fully informed of the movement, it is believed will be able to repress the insurrection before it assumes very formidable proportions.

The immigration to America from Cork for the past few days has been extremely large. Many emigrants are being arraigned as being connected with a recent uprising near Killarney.

PARIS, Mar 16.—The *Moniteur* to-day, in an official article, says Marshal Bazaine and the last French troops left Mexico on the tenth of March,

VIENNA, Mar 16.—A despatch announces that the Turkish Government has consented to the return of the Cretan exiles.

The Candian deputies to the Sublime Porte have reached Constantinople.

Mexico.

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar 17.—Advices from Acapulco state that the town is still in the hands of the Liberals, and that trade had again opened. The usual supplies for both ships and passengers were to be had. The last of the French men-of-war was still in port and understood to be waiting for the mails which were brought by the Golden Age.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 20—Robson gave notice of motion to apply \$1300 to payment of debts due by hospital at New Westminster.

Smith gave notice of motion to admit barley for brewing purposes duty free, and also the appointment of magistrates to certain districts.

Helmcken's motion for grant to Royal Hospital, Victoria, was carried.

Robson's motion for premium of five thousand dollars to quartz mill at Shuswap carried.

Legal Professions bill committed for Friday.

Currency bill, with some slight amendments, reported complete and read a third time and passed by suspension of standing orders.

Some further progress was made in committee on ways and means.

The Harbor Dues bill report in committee was adopted after strenuous opposition from DeCosmos and Helmcken to clause 5, which gives Governor power to grant licences to foreign bottoms in the river and coasting trade; licences to be granted for coasting and river trade, so that vessels may run direct from Victoria to Yale. Rates of licence: Coasting steamer, \$1 50 per ton per annum; sailing coasters, \$1 per ton per annum.

Victoria Incorporation bill committed for Friday.

Europe.

LIVERPOOL, March 18.—There has been an unusually small number of arrivals at British ports for two or three days owing to the strong easterly gales.

LONDON, March 18.—One of the ironclad ships of the fleet at Woolwich has been sent to Liverpool.

Despatches from Constantinople report that the Sublime Porte shows a disposition to grant the demands of the Viceroy of Egypt.

Eastern States.

NEW YORK, March 20—Nine car loads of Fenian troops, fully equipped, left for Oswego to-day. It is doubtless intended that they shall operate in the apprehended movement of Fenians against Canada.

The last despatches give no encouragement to the Brotherhood. The excitement has subsided. The belief is that a general insurrection is intended in Ireland, and that the disturbance was accidental and temporary. The movement against Canada claims more attention, and is believed to be near at hand.

Montreal has been greatly excited for several days over the report that the Victoria bridge and the powder magazine would be blown up. A Council has been held and more troops sent to England. Many Irishmen are assembling at St Albans, and it is supposed that that place will be the base of the Fenian movement.

NEW YORK, March 18—St. Patrick's day was celebrated by a great turnout, and a stand of colors was presented to the 69th Regiment. A serious riot occurred in Grand street, east of Broadway, to-day, growing out of obstruction by a dray. A policeman protecting the dray was attacked and the fight became general. Thirteen policemen were badly injured. Stones, swords and pistols were used. Several rioters were arrested, one a marshal of the procession.

CHICAGO, March 18—The floods in the South are receding. Railroad communication will soon be reopened through the country.

ST. LOUIS, March 18—The passengers and crew rescued from the steamer Mercury had arrived at that place. Many of the passengers were badly frozen by standing in the water.

Capt. Dickenson reports that the crew of the steamer Gord Palmer plundered the wreck of the Mercury, and rifled the passengers baggage, even stealing the underclothing of the ladies. Seven men who floated down the river on cotton bales and lodged against the drift, were killed by a tree blown down by the storm.

NEW YORK, March 18—A royal decree has been issued in Spain, authorizing the Spanish Minister of Marine to contract for a submarine cable to Porto Rico, Mexico and Panama.

Canada.

MONTRÉAL, March 18—Although there is nothing on the frontier to cause alarm at present, active preparations are being made to have troops in readiness to move at once to any point.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 19—Helmcken moved that \$3000 be granted to the Royal Hospital as having been spent in expectation that it would be granted by the Legislative Assembly.

Robson moved that \$5000 be voted as a premium for the first quartz mill in Shuswap.

DeCosmos stated that some apprehension had arisen about his language of the previous day. The President received the explanation.

Gold Fields bill read third time and passed Customs Declaration Ordinance brought up and passed with an amendment introduced by Hon. Young, that all duties at present collected on goods imported into New Westminster from Victoria shall terminate on the 30th March.

Customs Tariff bill passed through Committee. Standing orders were suspended, and the bill read a third time and passed.

Miscellaneous.

The Hope went up river this morning with the Express and quite a number of passengers, but it is not ascertained how far she will reach.

Telegram on Confederation.

The following is a copy of a despatch received by Dr. Powell from Canada, to which allusion was made at the Confederation meeting on Monday:

OTTAWA, C. W., March 19, 1867.
Received 11 a. m., 20th.

To J. W. POWELL, Esq.

British Columbia may be admitted by order in Council upon address from Parliaments of Canada and Columbia.

Signed W. POWELL.

There is some ambiguity in the telegram which, perhaps, could hardly be avoided in the necessary process of condensation, but we take its literal and simple construction to mean—first, that full provision has been made in the Imperial Act for the admission of this Colony into the Confederation at any time that it may seek it; secondly, that such admission is to be effected by an Imperial order in Council; and thirdly, that such order in Council may be obtained upon address emanating from the Canadian Parliament and British Columbian Legislature recommending the same, and of course setting the conditions upon which such admission has

been acceded to. Then arises the question as to the settlement of those conditions. Here an obstacle presents itself, which appears to us can only be overcome by a delegation to Canada. This Colony is sufficiently independent in its position to insist upon entering the Confederation only on the fairest and most equitable terms. Much valuable time might, and no doubt would be wasted in arranging those terms, and, after all, lead to no practical results. The scheme could only have been perfected on the Atlantic side by the various delegations that have met to discuss it in its different phases, and if we hope to attain our end we must follow suit, and lose no time in despatching one or more competent delegates, empowered to negotiate the terms of our admission into the new and promising nationality.

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WEEKLY COLONIST AND CHRONICLE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

[Specially Reported for the British Colonist.]

Wednesday's Sitting.

New Westminster, March 9th.

The Council met at 3 p.m. Present—Hons DeCosmos, Barnard, Cox, Kobson, Young, Pemberton, Franklyn, Birch, (presiding) Brew, Smith, Hamley, Wood, Southgate, O'Reilly, Stamp, Sanders, Helmcken, Ball, Trutch, Crease,

The Postal Act was read a third time and passed.

The House went into Committee on the Marriage bill, Hon Franklyn in the chair.

Hon Pemberton moved the addition of a new clause by which clergymen will be entitled to a fee of five dollars for the solemnization of each marriage. The House divided on the resolution, which was carried by the casting vote of the chairman.

Hon Helmcken—A very serious omission has been made in the bill; the clause entitling clergymen to a fee of five dollars was well enough, but there was no penalty in the bill to enforce payment; under these circumstances, he should recommend the insertion of an additional clause by which, in case of non-payment of the fee of five dollars, parties would be imprisoned for three months, (great laughter.)

The Committee then rose and reported progress.

The Oaths and Evidence bill next followed in committee, hon Cox in the chair. Certain amendments were passed, and the Committee rose.

Hon Wood said in relation to the Medical bill which next came under consideration, that the bill was in an excessively crude state, and would certainly not pass the House in its present form. He should therefore recommend, as an economy of time, that it be referred to a select committee; decided accordingly.

Hon Barnard moved that an address be presented to His Excellency stating that in the opinion of the Council all hay, barley, oats, and bran used by packers and teamsters on the road should be exempted from tolls.

Hon Barnard—All grain growing in the Colony was at present free of charge, but as a large quantity of foreign grown grain was necessary, the toll was evaded, and the foreign grain passed through as home grown. The amount of toll proposed to be remitted was small; but it would afford immediate relief to those upon whom the tolls bore heaviest.

Hon Barnard—The toll was necessary for removing the toll, the amount was small, and the relief would not be felt, on the other hand farmers below Yale desired protection, they had established farms in that vicinity on the understanding that they were to have that protection.

Hon President opposed his motion, as the toll would be reduced as soon as the revenue to touch them at present.

Hon Robson—The \$40 per ton on feed was a very different matter to such an impost on merchandise; to increase facilities of obtaining feed for packtrains, &c., was to increase the facility of transmission of goods to the mines.

Hon Smith—The remission of the one cent toll would afford immediate relief to packers and teamsters, he thought that farmers below Yale had quite sufficient protection in the freight and charges on imported grain.

Hon Helmcken understood road tolls were under consideration, and he thought would be abolished in whole or in part this year; he did not see why gentlemen should feel alarmed lest it should not meet with proper attention. Every one knows that the revenue this year will be very large; he thought that part of the road tolls might be remitted without affecting the revenue to any sensible degree.

Hon Birch thought the home grown grain quite sufficient to supply the demand for that article at sale.

Hon Robson was much gratified to observe the change that had taken place in the views of the hon senior member for Victoria. He (the hon member for Victoria) had been warning us all season that the revenue would not amount to the sum required by the estimates, now he saw the revenue through a different medium. He (Mr Robson) was delighted with the change, but failed utterly to account for it.

Hon Helmcken—Since he had expressed his opinion in reference to the probable revenue, the tariff had been revised and the alterations there made had induced him to alter his views. He thought the one cent might be taken off without materially disturbing the revenue. The resolution was negatived—10 to 8.

Hon DeCosmos desired to postpone his motion for alteration of constitution of Council till after the question of Confederation had been disposed of.

Postponed accordingly.

Homestead bill was referred to Assimilation Committee.

Thursday's Sitting.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 14.

Council met at 3 p.m. Present—Hons Cox, O'Reilly, Young, Crease, Trutch, Ball, Brew, Barnard, Walkem, Franklyn, Pemberton, Southgate, Stamp, Wood, Hamley, Robson, DeCosmos, Helmcken, Birch, (presiding)

Hon DeCosmos brought forward a resolution relating to fences.

Hon Helmcken moved that foreign corn be admitted free of duty, to be manufactured into flour for exportation, and for the use of Her Majesty's forces. He also gave notice of motion to move the Custom House to Victoria.

Hon President moved the recommission of the Marriage Bill. Carried.

Hon Franklin in the chair.

Hon Walkem thought the clause providing a fee of \$2 to clergymen for solemnizing marriages, ought not to interfere with the entire control of the province of that house, and recommended that the clause be struck out.

After some remarks from Hons. Wood, Walkem and Robson, replied to by Hon Pemberton, the House divided, and the clause was struck out. The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

Hon Crease moved the postponement of the legal Professions Bill. Postponed accordingly.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Hon Robson then introduced his motion relating to Juries and Limitation Acts; he said that great inconvenience and delay arose from the difficulty of finding 12 men who could agree on a verdict; the ends of justice were often defeated from this cause, particularly in civil cases; he recommended the introduction of a measure that would enable the Courts to take the verdict of a majority of the jury. It often happened that some factious juries held out persistently against the decision of the remainder of the jury, thus creating much delay and expense to suitors. He also proposed a revision of the laws on the subject of Limitation. It was most unjust that creditors should be allowed to pursue debtors into this Colony, and take advantage of our laws to do what they could not accomplish in the country where the debt was contracted.

The statute of Limitations was only three years in California, whereas, here it was 6; men had often become liable for debts not arising from any misconduct of their own, often from naturally becoming security for a neighbor. He thought debtors under such circumstances should have protection, or at any rate, that debts should not be recovered here that were outlawed in the country where they were contracted.

Hon DeCosmos supported the motion. Hon Walkem—The nature of the licence was misunderstood; it was in reality a lease of Government property. He knew the case of Carter v. Crane. The defendant in that case had no licence, and therefore was not in possession of the ground.

Hon Robson thought the principle of the clause bad. It would just be as fair for any lessor to jump our houses, our property, our wives and our children [great laughter].

Hon Wood—People and the strange idea that miners were all men wearing delapidated hats and pantaloons patched with bread bags. This was a mistake. The miner was often a capitalist, and he deprecated the existence of a law that would make the tenure of mining property so brittle. Capitalists would eschew the country altogether. The clause only allowed three days. Miners in the upper country were always consulting the books in order to take advantage of these accidental oversights to jump valuable mining claims.

The amendment was lost.

Hon Helmcken was surprised that the hon member for Gold Commissioners had attempted to carry a measure against Government in the face of the usual majority.

Hon Walkem—it is not a Government measure, so the hon gentleman's assertion is false.

Hon Wood could only enter a protest.

Hon Robson proposed that claims should be settled by the miners; also, that the price of miner's certificate should be reduced from \$5 on Vancouver Island, the diggings there to the ground.

Hon Wood proposed that claims should be settled by the miners.

Hon DeCosmos advocated the shortening of the period according to the statute; he thought 3 years long enough.

Hon Robson—it was imperatively necessary that the law should be altered at once; why should the whole Colony be exposed to the inconvenience for 12 months longer? There were important measures remaining to be carried through the Council this session, and he did not see why so necessary a reform in the law should not be accomplished forthwith.

Hon Crease was opposed to a reform of the period existing by our present statute, short periods might do in populous countries, but we were not yet prepared for such a alteration.

Hon Young thought the resolution should go to the assimilation committee.

Hon Robson—The Act in reference to Juries had worked very well in Vancouver Island; he did not see why it should not be extended to the whole Colony.

On division the resolution was carried.

Committee on Gold Fields Act, Hon Franklyn in the chair. Certain amendments were deemed necessary, so committee rose and reported progress.

The House went into Committee of the whole, on the Indian Liquor law, Hon Ball in the chair.

Hon Young proposed to exempt all steam vessels and ships of 1000 tons and upwards from the action of the law.

Hon Hamley thought the matter might be left in the hands of the magistrates.

Hon Southgate would exempt vessels over 150 tons, and thought the value of the vessel too great to admit of owners risking confiscation which would be the case under the present law.

Hon Robson opposed the exemption as likely to induce large vessels to engage in the traffic.

Hon Franklyn supported exemption.

Hon Helmcken believed that no law would prevent the traffic; Indians will always get all the liquor they want.

Hon Hamley—No restrictions would prevent the sale of liquor to Indians for half an hour.

Hon Pemberton supported the resolution.

Hon Franklyn—The measure was loudly called for, particularly in respect to Indians; their insecure fences did not prevent the incursions of white settler's pigs, and the consequence was that some of those pigs had been shot. In one case lately an ox was killed. Under these circumstances it was not surprising that much ill-feeling existed on the subject. He thought the measure proposed would meet the difficulty.

Hon Young—Indians were quite prepared to erect the necessary fences if they were shown what was required. The appointment of Government agents under the proposed law would remedy this.

Hon Walkem supported the resolution. The law should be prepared without delay.

Hon Smith did not think the law would apply only to Indians.

Hon DeCosmos supported the amendment.

The amendment was then added to the bill in place of clauses 11 and 12, struck out in accordance with His Excellency's instructions.

Hon DeCosmos brought forward a resolution relating to fences.

Hon Helmcken moved that foreign corn be admitted free of duty, to be manufactured into flour for exportation, and for the use of Her Majesty's forces. He also gave notice of motion to move the Custom House to Victoria.

Hon President moved the recommission of the Marriage Bill. Carried.

Hon Franklin in the chair.

Hon Walkem thought the clause providing a fee of \$2 to clergymen for solemnizing marriages, ought not to interfere with the entire control of the province of that house, and recommended that the clause be struck out.

After some remarks from Hons. Wood, Walkem and Robson, replied to by Hon Pemberton, the House divided, and the clause was struck out. The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

Hon Crease moved the postponement of the legal Professions Bill. Postponed accordingly.

The House then adjourned.

Friday's Sitting.

FRIDAY, 15th March.

The Council met at 11 a.m. Present—Hons Cox, Hamley, Franklyn, Sanders, O'Reilly, Ball, Stamp, Cox, Pemberton, Walkem, Southgate, DeCosmos, Trutch, Barnard, Smith, Birch (presiding), Helmcken, Robson, Crease, Wood, Young.

There being no notices of motion, the House went into Committee on the Gold Fields Act, Hon Franklyn in the chair,

Hon Wood opposed the sum of \$10 being charged for a summons in the Gold Commissioner's Court; he said the sum was altogether too large, and would move the insertion of £1 instead.

Hon DeCosmos supported the views of the hon Solicitor General.

Hons Walkem, Cox, O'Reilly, Ball and Smith opposed. The amendment was negatived.

Hon Wood objected to the wording of the present Act in relation to the compulsory holding of miners' certificates; a man might lose a fortune from the accidental neglect of himself or agent to take out a miner's certificate.

Hon DeCosmos supported.

Hon Walkem—The nature of the licence was misunderstood; it was in reality a lease of Government property. He knew the case of Carter v. Crane.

Hon Robson supported the resolution; the Custom-house would have extra control, and would check any discrepancies. Every foreign dollar added to the revenue was worth 3 or 4 from our own people. It would not infringe on any interest, and was a matter easily controlled.

The resolution was carried by a large majority.

Hon Helmcken moved that in the opinion of this Council it is advisable that the Custom-house should be at Victoria, where the greatest amount of revenue, in the shape of duties, is received. The measure would give confidence below. It was true that the Custom-house would be taken there shortly, under any circumstances, but the present measure would prevent any uncertainty, and trade would go on as usual.

Hon Wood moved an amendment in clause 6, that a court of record be established with a specific seal. The bill was then reported complete and the committee rose.

Hon DeCosmos moved that the committee now rise and report progress, and ask leave to sit again to-morrow. Carried.

The House then went into committee on the Gold-fields bill, Hon Franklyn in the chair.

Hon Walkem moved that the word "claim" in the interpretation clause be struck out as inserted in the margin, and the old clause stand as passed; struck out accordingly.

Hon Wood moved an amendment in clause 6, that a court of record be established with a specific seal. The bill was then reported complete and the committee rose.

In Ways and Means, Hon DeCosmos thought the customs laws required careful revision; there were several acts that required to be repealed or included in the present one. The bill should not be pressed too hurriedly on the House. It might be referred to the Home Government.

Hon Hamley would decidedly not telegraph.

Hon Helmcken—I wish the hon Collector of Customs would not be so cross [laughter.] It is rather suspicious that the bill is being forced through so rapidly.

Hon Birch—The hon senior member for Victoria seemed to know all about the subject, and was decidedly better informed than he.

Hon Hamley would decide not to telegraph.

Hon Walkem—The removal of the chief department to Victoria can do no harm.

Hon Hamley would vote against any such measure; let that House attend to its own business, the Governor would attend to his.

After some further remarks the resolution was carried, amended by the insertion of the word "chief" before "Custom-house."

The Currency bill was read a second time and then committed. Hon Franklyn in the chair.

The clauses were all passed to the word florin, which elicited considerable discussion.

Hon Young proposed that the English money now in the Colony be disposed of to best advantage. Carried.

The bill was ultimately postponed to admit of reconsideration.

Monday's Sitting.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 18.

Council met at 11 a.m. Present—Hons Brew, Pemberton, DeCosmos, Helmcken, Sanders, Southgate, Franklyn, Walkem, Cox, Macdonald, Birch (presiding), Ball, Robson, Hamley, Wood, Crease, Trutch, Young, O'Reilly, Smith.

Hon Helmcken presented a petition from certain publicans against the granting of a license to a person named Edwards, on the ground that the business was not sufficient to maintain those at present engaged in it.

Hon DeCosmos presented a petition from the importers and traders of Victoria praying that the duty on dry goods be charged at a uniform rate of 7½ per cent.

Hon Robson presented a petition from the Attorneys of Vancouver Island, praying that in the Legal Professions bill they (the Attorneys) be placed on the same footing as Barristers.

Hon Helmcken wished to be informed as to whether the duties on goods landed in New Westminster from Victoria were to be continued, and for how long? Hon Helmcken moved that His Excellency be informed that the Council was prepared to receive His Excellency's message relative to the sea of Government.

Hon Robson moved for returns of expenditure of schools in Vancouver Island.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Currency bill, Hon Franklyn in the chair.

Hon Wood—It is impossible to make English money current. It would be better to abolish English currency altogether; this was the only place on the Pacific where English money was current.

Hon Helmcken—it would be better to scratch out the values in

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5

deposit \$10 in the bank, and have a great quantity by him. He would be run all round to his neighbors to get notes here and there in order to do so.

further discussion the florin of the bill, amidst applause, "rent coin" was substituted for the following rate was adopted; to be 25 cents; the sixpence, threepenny pieces, 6 cents, mos moved that the committee and report progress, and ask again to-morrow. Carried. then went into committee on this bill, Hon. Franklyn in the

then moved that the word "claim" relation clause be struck out as the margin, and the old clause struck out accordingly.

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then—I wish the hon. Collector could not be so cross (laughter.) I suppose that the bill is being so rapidly.

The hon. senior member for ways suspicious; hon. mem- mone enough to examine the. Postponed till to-morrow.

(Tariff) bill was then taken in committee, Hon. Ball

would refer the hon. Col- loms to May's Parliamentary 34, where it was distinctly imposition of the duties takes

on the bill being received

committee, or from a date expressed

said he was not convinced; in accordance with law.

contended that the clause

and should be deferred for

the hon. Colonial Secre- undescended to give any in- requested so to do by the ber for Victoria; he would self to the hon. Attorney Gen- terests of his constituents in d required him. He wished

the duties were to be enforced 9th November, 1866. He attention of the Press to the official reticence. He compared

of banditti, and could not

ment how they could at- tain prior to 1866; it was the name of Government. It

as putting their hands into

there was only one thing on

that was doubt. It had been

in that House that hon. tools to doubt the legality of

He would now ask the hon. if it was the intention of

select those duties, as in

would be compelled to place the Home Government.

overnment that the people Australia, had sent home Gov- levying illegal duties. The

duties was an act likely to or into conflict with the

idence in Government was

to legalise such laws the same effect as it had

Governor Darling.

language used by the for Victoria was extraor- like to hear an explanation

If the officers of the seen guilty of what the hon. with, they were aman-

of the land and should be

ad been accustomed to

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member for Victoria.

oved that the Committee report progress, with leave

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of 8 to 4, with leave to sit

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members,

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the power to open

we were pursuing a policy

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hon. member speaks for

country, and it is only fair

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Governor was necessary.

had a strong impression

Marine Act of 1854 ap-

of the Crown. It would

prudent on the part of

the consideration of those

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Colony, and showing a

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once foreign vessels in the coasting trade. He saw much in what the previous speaker had said that pointed to Victorian interests. No doubt the hon. member would object to withdraw his former resolution, and to be allowed to introduce a new one, to the effect that such measures should be taken for the immediate entrance into the North American Confederation as had been provided by the Imperial Parliament.

Hon. Robson was opposed to the resolution, as he was in the dark upon what conditions British Columbia would be allowed to enter the North American Confederation. It was very desirable to express their opinion.

Hon. Walkem—The question was not whether the Council was to receive the law from the hon. Collector of Customs, or, by proper investigation, to arrive at a proper conclusion. He had no doubt, so strongly were Victorians opposed to the Active coming here, that they had certainly paid her to run upon the mud (laughter).

Hon. Franklyn—Although he belonged to the banditti, he had been called the British Lion, so strongly marked were his feelings of loyalty. It would be suicidal not to give the Governor the power stated in the bill.

Hon. Trutch thought the Active would not be doing a coasting trade in leaving one portion of her cargo at Victoria and bringing the remainder to New Westminster.

Hon. McDonald thought the Governor should have the power conceded by the bill.

Hon. Pemberton moved that after the word "Governor" the words "by and with the consent of the Legislative Council" should be added (laughter.)

Hon. Southgate thought the Governor should have the power where British vessels could not be obtained at a reasonable price.

Hon. Young—if the words suggested by the hon. member for Victoria district were inserted, the Council might continue its sittings from January to December.

Hon. Pemberton—if hon. members continued to make such long speeches they certainly would be there the whole year.

Hon. Birch objected to the supposition that the legal officers of the Crown were not fully alive to any defect in the law.

Hon. Crease thought that by adopting the resolution we should be asking admission to the Confederation on any terms; he was opposed to flinging ourselves at the head of the Confederation immediately if not sooner. It would require calm deliberation on our part.

Hon. Macdonald would ask the Council to defer any action on the resolution until the opinion of their constituents was heard; there would be a meeting that night in Victoria to consider the matter. The people were divided in opinion on the subject. It would be far more dignified to leave out the words "immediate."

Hon. Walkem—the hon. member asks the motion to be deferred, in deference to a public meeting.

Hon. Southgate was in favor of the motion as it stood; it would spread confidence abroad and cause people to invest.

Hon. Bull would ask what advantages were to be acquired by us from Confederation; he got the advantages were all the other way, as we are possessed of the gate to the Western Pacific. The Canadas must offer our good terms.

Hon. Robson would recommend that the word "immediate" to be erased; it would not hasten the matter, and was indicative of precipitancy. He did not see what advantage we should derive from Confederation at present; there were 2000 miles of country hostility to the interests of our own merchant marine; he would concede a port of discharge and a port of loading, but nothing more.

The amendment of Hon. Helmcken was then put to the House and lost by 11 to 8.

Hon. Southgate pointed out that by the system of taking the tonnage for dues, from the register, British vessels were charged one third more than foreign, as the measurement of American vessels, for instance, was considerably less than British.

Hon. Robson thought the Bill defective in this respect; the charge on British vessels was nearly double that on foreign; some clause should be inserted that would adopt some system for both.

Hon. Hamley could only charge ships according to their registered tonnage and could only find that out by referring to the register in each case.

After some remarks from several hon. members, the further consideration of clause 11 was deferred.

Hon. Pemberton—The law should provide that fines, fees and forfeitures be paid into the Colonial Treasury.

Hon. Hamley—the hon. member for Victoria District had no doubt reference to pickings, in which case, the reflection would tell with equal force on the hon. gentleman himself. The law on the subject was clear, and the law provides specially for the colonies.

Hon. DeCosmos—There were always serious obstacles in the way, when it was proposed to take money out of the pockets of officials by certain alterations in the law. He would oppose any laws by which an official was allowed to draw one cent more than his stipulated salary.

Hon. Helmcken moved that all action under the 5th section in the Bill should be deferred until after the assent of Her Majesty should be obtained to the necessary modification. Whatever was done under the present Act would be illegal.

Hon. DeCosmos—the amendment proposed by his colleague was in the right direction; if it was not adopted, the only alternative was an appeal to Her Majesty to disallow any dues that might be collected under its provisions; a regular organization of the people was necessary. He would cheerfully support the Governor in all measures for the welfare of the Colony, but he protested against hanging out a sign as this law most assuredly did, to foreign ship-owners, in order to take the bread out of the mouths of our own people.

Hon. Helmcken's amendment to refer the question to Her Majesty was lost on division by 12 to 4.

The committee then rose and reported progress, to sit again to-morrow.

Hon. Crease asked leave to introduce a Bill to improve the present law relating to mortgages; leave granted.

The House in committee then resumed the adjourned debate on Confederation, Hon. Brew in the chair.

Hon. DeCosmos—From what he had learned since the subject was last before the House, was induced to ask permission to withdraw his former resolution, and to be allowed to introduce a new one, to the effect that such measures should be taken for the immediate entrance into the North American Confederation as had been provided by the Imperial Parliament.

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

[Specially Reported for the British Colonist.]

New Westminster, March 9th.

Saturday's Sitting.

Present: Hon. Sanders, Franklyn, Cox, Pemberton, Stamp, Southgate, Smith, Crease, Young, Ball, Birch (presiding), Walkem, De Cosmo, Wood, Trutch, Helmcken, Hamley, Barnard, Robson, O'Reilly.

Hon. Crease read report from the committee on Assimilation of Laws.

Hon. Helmcken rose to ask an explanation from the House in relation to a pair of boats. The House might think the question of the most trivial character, but he assured hon. members that it was of the most vital consequence, although only relating to a pair of boats. The boats were manufactured in the city of Victoria, and were a credit to the country. He thought that Vancouver Island was an integral part of the colony of British Columbia, but when he was told that duty had been charged on a pair of boats, the produce of one section on being carried to another, he had much reason to doubt it. He wished to learn from the proper authority why the duty of \$1.75, which was paid, had been charged.

Hon. Hamley (excitedly) conceived the hon. member for Victoria had been endeavoring to make an infinite deal out of nothing. Duties had never been charged twice except in one case, and then they had been at once returned. He objected to complaints of such a nature being made in such an improper manner.

Hon. Helmcken said he had made the complaint in a proper manner. The duties had been charged, and he had a perfect right to call the attention of the House to the circumstance.

Hon. Robson said the statement of the hon. member for Victoria was quite out of order, and questions being brought forward in such an irregular manner would lead to endless discussion.

Hon. DeCosmos—The statement of the complainant was quite in accordance with parliamentary usage, as it was calling the attention of the House to a breach of the law.

After remarks from several hon. members,

Hon. Hamley said the subject had been brought forward in an improper manner, and he declined to give any explanation until it was submitted to the usual way.

Hon. Cox had a parcel sent to him from Victoria containing a pair of boats; he sent to the boat for it, when the duty of \$1.75 was charged. He had no intention of bringing such a trivial matter before the House.

Hon. President called the attention of members to the important business before the House, and after the usual form the Council went into committee of the whole on the Bill to prevent the sale of liquor to Indians.

Hon. DeCosmos said the bill was most objectionable, it was almost word for word with a similar bill that had been brought before the Legislative Assembly of Vancouver Island, and then objected to. It had much too wide a range and would apply equally to the trade with the Sound; it was not advisable to inflict restrictions on trade. No farmer residing on the coast would be able to proceed to his farm before going to the Custom House; the bill would put the community to serious inconvenience, he did not think captains of vessels would be able to obtain the required bonds.

Hon. Wood said some restriction on the sale of liquor to Indians was absolutely necessary, it would prevent the shipment at Victoria, which was now carried on to a great extent without any one troubling himself about the destination. He had seen the vile compound being carried about the streets in oil tins; he denied that it would interfere with trade at all, the objections to the bill were merely fanciful; some bonds were necessary.

Hon. Southgate believed the bill to be wholly impracticable, a vessel taking a few gallons for stores would require to give bonds, as would also small vessels, and as in the latter case it would be impossible the Bill would put a stop to the trade with the Sound or elsewhere.

Hon. Wood said that whisky sellers had formed a depot on Discovery Island, where the Indians congregated to buy whisky, and the most disgraceful scenes of riot and drunkenness took place.

Hon. Helmcken said the bill was utterly mad, he was only surprised that such a bill should be brought before that house. What were hon. members asked to do? to remedy one evil by perpetrating another far worse. The bill would create a most intolerable nuisance, as every boat would come under the surveillance of the Custom House. If such an absurd law passed every schooner or boat would have to give bonds; it would ruin trade, as it would be impossible for some vessels to ply under such restrictions. The only effect would be to cause American vessels to carry cargoes across the Sound and clear from Port Townsend for Sitka or elsewhere, merely throwing the trade into the hands of Americans, it would be productive of many evils without the end desired; it would ruin the trade of Victoria and drive the people from the country by depriving men of their livelihood.

Hon. Stamp said the measure was unjust and unwise, captains would be unable to procure bonds.

Hon. Franklyn said a law to do away with the liquor traffic would be only a dead letter, a permit system might do, taking the captain's personal bond.

Hon. Helmcken said that it was well known that the principal whisky selling was not on Vancouver Island, but on the northern coast principally about Stickeen River.

Hon. DeCosmos said the men who now take the responsibility under the present law would do the same if the present bill was passed, hence the law would be ineffectual, any one knowing the coast sufficiently could easily evade Customs surveillance; it would only do injury to the coasting trade.

Hon. Trutch thought the bill in the present form would embarrass trade, and suggested that vessels "going" foreign or to Russia should be exempt from its provisions.

Hon. Crease had formerly opposed the bill on the ground that it was opening a way to fraud, but after discussing the subject with his colleagues he had considerably modified his views on the measure and would not oppose the bill.

Hon. Birch thought it might meet the difficulty if the clause exempting foreign going vessels was inserted.

Hon. Helmcken would oppose the measure to the death; the Bill would not prevent the traffic without the expenditure of large sums for its suppression; the Americans would supply the Indians if we did not; they had no restrictions.

Hon. Trutch shouldn't regret the Americans taking the trade, and thought some restrictions necessary. The Americans had preventative laws.

Hon. Young could not see the difficulty that troubled hon. members so much; there would be no harm in opening the Indian trade to Americans. The cost of punishing crime committed in consequence of the traffic was far greater than the cost of means necessary to prevent it. When the Clive was at Port Rupert a schooner was lying there selling liquor to Indians, which was very nearly productive of a most serious misunderstanding. If the law had allowed of the schooner's cargo being seized the danger would have been avoided. It would not interfere with trade to require every vessel to make known the destination of her cargo; Captains had to go to the Custom House under any circumstances.

Hon. DeCosmos—A small vessel could take a cargo to a dealer at Comox, reship a portion and when the whisky was got rid of could return to Nanaimo; thus complying with the law and evading it at the same time; he was sure that the Governor would not be in favor of such a measure, and would veto it if passed; he recommended postponement.

Hon. Young said no vessel could escape if without a permit, in such a case a vessel could be stopped.

Hon. Helmcken said there was nothing in the United States law to prevent the traffic, and that in conversation with American officers they stated that if any such law existed, it would be ineffective; hon. members were perfectly mad on this Indian liquor question, and he thought it mere sentimentality. Indians would always obtain all the liquor they wanted, it would only tend to injure themselves; boats could only leave the harbor during office hours, and would require to obtain a certificate from the consignee to show delivery of liquor when they came back.

Hon. Walkem belonged to the sentimental class, and thought the traffic should be suppressed, but believed that the present Bill would not answer the purpose; the machinery would be too expensive and its provisions would cripple trade. Ships when buying whisky bought other articles; a canoe could be seized if without a clearance; the police necessary to suppress the traffic would be too costly.

On the motion of Hon. Helmcken, the Bill was postponed.

Hon. Walkem moved that the Governor be respectfully requested to lay before the Council a statement of the debts due by Vancouver Island and British Columbia, respectively, at the time of Union, and also that all fines and fees from public departments be paid into the Colonial Treasury. Carried.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

The bills to establish a standard of weights and measures, and to appropriate the sum of \$566,659.30 for the contingent service of 1867, were read a third time and passed.

The House then went into committee of whole on the bill relating to Licences and direct taxes on persons, Hon. Ball in the chair.

The several clauses were then passed with certain technical amendments. A discussion arose on the propriety of inserting the penalty of imprisonment for nonpayment of fines levied for offences against the act, Hon. Helmcken opposing. The amendment was lost on division, 11 to 9.

Hon. Helmcken observed that only one elected member had voted for the clause.

Two messages from His Excellency the Governor referring to the proposed Tariff, and the administration of oaths, were referred to by the President; the latter was taken into consideration by committee of the whole, Hon. Cox in the chair. It was then moved that the Committee do report progress, which was carried, and the Committee on the Postal Bill was then formed with hon. Ball in the chair. Several amendments were then proposed.

Hon. Robson proposed a uniform rate of five cents on letters to and from all sections of the Colony. He said that miners might not object to paying 25 cents as had been stated by honorable gentlemen, but the citizens in all parts of the Colony should be considered and he believed that a low rate would produce more revenue than a high one; high rates caused evasion of postage altogether.

Hon. Crease said the present was a question of revenue, the low rate might do with a large population, but under present circumstances it was impossible; the lower rate would not affect the number of letters sent through the Post Office. He was in favor of a low rate, but under existing circumstances it was not practicable.

Hon. Walkem said that he had been misunderstood in reference to his statement that miners would not object to 25 cents postage; he merely stated that in reference to a weekly mail to Cariboo so much desired by miners, and if a regular weekly service could be established, he had no doubt the miners would willingly pay 25 cents for their letters; he was, however, in favor of a five cent rate, particularly if the weekly service was not attainable.

Hon. Robson—Miners don't write much; three letters go up to Cariboo for every one that comes down.

Hon. Southgate supported the five cent rate; it was possible that the revenue might suffer the first year, but ultimately it would be benefited by a low rate.

Hon. Trutch supported the increased rate in Committee in order to secure a weekly service to Cariboo; with the double rate, the Government would have double the present revenue, and would thus be enabled to secure the additional number of mails.

Hon. Birch was decidedly in favor of cheap postage; but could not see how it could be accomplished at present, particularly in view of the additional services; he conceived, however, that the honorable member for New Westminster must be wrong respecting the relative number of letters sent to and from Cariboo; the revenue would not admit of a low rate at present.

Hon. Helmcken contended that the five cent rate would equally secure the additional service if the proper steps were taken. During the past year the express company had not carried the mails up with the high rates as often as they might have done. They would have a weekly express under any circumstances, and could carry the mail at the same time if required so to do.

Hon. Walkem—The express company only carry up the mail matter according to contract, the consequence was that letters frequently lay in the New Westminster post office 8 or 10 days which was a great hardship to the miners.

Hon. Helmcken supported a uniform rate of five cents; any scale such as that proposed by honorable Mr. Young would only complicate the post office regulations, he deprecated any attempt to squeeze the last cent out of the unfortunate miners.

Hon. Birch could not understand how gentlemen advocating the high rate to committee should turn round and support a low rate now. He conceived the Colony was not yet prepared for a low rate.

Hon. Robson contended that a low rate of postage was the surest way of raising a

revenue, it was a fallacy to suppose that high rates were the best means of raising revenue. So far as the miners were concerned it would be better to carry their letters for nothing.

Hon. Birch was at a loss to know where the members of the select committee were, who had recommended the high rate.

Hon. Trutch was delighted with the graceful manner in which his colleagues of the select committee had turned round, and now contended for the low rate.

Hon. Cox supported the 25 cent rate and a weekly service; he conceived without the higher rate the additional services would not be obtained.

Hon. Walkem feared, despite the pathetic speech of the hon. member for New Westminster, that a five cent rate was not compatible with a weekly service; he inferred, from what had fallen from the hon. President of the Council, that Government had determined on what rate should be charged.

Hon. Birch only opposed the low rate in consideration of revenue, he had no determined course to pursue.

Hon. Walkem said a weekly mail was necessary if even higher rates were charged.

Hon. Young said a weekly mail was not inconsistent with a five cent rate; he believed that a low rate would produce a larger revenue than the higher one; double postage would not produce double the revenue, as instance the increased duties on opium, which absolutely produced less revenue than at the lower rate of duty. 12½ cents on foreign letters coming into the Colony was altogether too much as the payment of a five cent rate would be by stamps, the loss of these would add considerably to the revenue.

Hon. O'Reilly was in favor of cheap postage.

The House then divided, when the members were 12 to 6 in favor of a uniform postage of five cents on letters and two cents on newspapers throughout the Colony. The bill was then passed.

Hon. Smith's motion for the abolition of the Road Tolls then came up for consideration.

Hon. Smith explained the hardship and injustice of the Road Tolls, which fell heaviest on the packers, and were likely to compel them to stop altogether if not abolished wholly or in part this year.

Hon. Barnard, in seconding this motion, said the Road Tolls bore heavily on every man in the upper country. Governor Douglas had been appealed to in 1861, when he visited the country above Yale, and in consideration of a toll of one cent being paid, ordered a trial to be made; this, however, did not meet the difficulty, and miners were compelled to leave the country in consequence of the scarcity of provisions. He was again appealed to and visited the country, when the present road was agreed to in consideration of another cent being imposed. The road saved the country, as miners were actually on their way down, and obtained a supply of provisions returned to the miners.

Hon. Robson attributed opposition to the bill by members from Victoria to the opposition which he and others had offered to Victorian measures of retrenchment. They (the members from Vancouver Island) were never adverse to the expenditure of money on the Island; but when any question of retrenchment for the people of the mainland was brought up, they were anxious to pile it on.

Hon. Helmcken—The position taken by hon. DeCosmos was perfectly in accordance with what had been previously stated by him, and he (hon. DeCosmos) was not responsible for any votes that had been cast by other parties.

Hon. Robson attributed opposition to the bill by members from Victoria to the opposition which he and others had offered to Victorian measures of retrenchment. They (the members from Vancouver Island) were never adverse to the expenditure of money on the Island; but when any question of retrenchment for the people of the mainland was brought up, they were anxious to pile it on.

Hon. Robson—It came from them, he thought, with a very bad grace; the Press, however, would warn the people of their one-sided policy; they wished to kill the goose that laid the golden egg. The people of Yale would dwindle away and mining would sicken; he asked them to be wise in time or greater sacrifices would be required from Victoria; was Government prepared to take the places of the packers and wagoners in order to save the Yale people from ruin? Let the Government issue Treasury Bonds; let the interest only amount to \$5,000 a year, and a small increase in the tariff would provide that, and so abolish the Road Tolls at once. If the Road Tolls were abolished, probably it would reign throughout the country; if they were not abolished, prosperity would cease.

If it was not possible to do away with them entirely; let the Government meet the people half way. All Governments were supposed to sympathize with the people, and where taxes were so oppressive as the Road Tolls, the duty of Government was to remove them, and in so doing would show their sympathy with the people in the broadest sense of the word. The colony was now a unit, and they could not get off the right hand by abandoning the Road Tolls.

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WEEKLY COLONIST AND CHRONICLE.

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had suggested a tax on rice, think that it would produce the if an additional rate was imposed would use flour instead, could be more likely to reduce the revenue. Although he could be abolished, he did it could be accomplished at

as convinced that the tolls imposed with at present, and an additional tax on cattle and amount to a prohibition, been spent on the road; when in a position the tolls would no part; if the tolls were abolished, the Government to aid, as they could not afford to repair. The road by Lillooet in repair for two or three hours; the one by Yale was very could not be dispensed with

I had been twitted by hon being opposed to the scheme hon members for Victoria, for of the Estimates. Now he inconsistent that hon gen Had the three advocates of their own way, they would the Estimates by \$25,000, we members succeeded, they reduced the Estimates by this amount would have been \$6,800 for salary, a third to constables, a fourth to posmos.—The hon member for Ken in his conclusions. He had acted quite independently the members on that side of the same; if he had been could have reduced the Estimates, and so enabled them to take Tolls, but inasmuch as hon granted the Estimates, and others to grant such reductions, he his proposal for reduction as impossible to carry it. The position taken by us was perfectly in accordance had been previously stated (hon D-Cosmos) was not reany votes that had been cast.

attributed opposition to the from Victoria to the opponents and others had offered to Victoria's of retrenchment. They (the Vancouver Island) were never expenditure of money on the any question of retrenchment people of the mainland were anxious to pile it on them, he thought, with a very Press, however, would warn their one-sided policy; they goos that laid the golden egg of Yale would dwindle would sicken; he asked in time or greater sacrifices from Victoria: was Government to take the places of the givers in order to save the in ruin? Let the Government Bonds; the interest would only 100 a year, and a small tariff would provide that, and Road Tolls at once. If the abolished, prosperity would at the country; if they were prosperity would cease. If it to do away with them government meet the people. Governments were sympathize with the people, and so oppressive as the Road of Government was to remain so doing would show their the people in the broadest d. The colony was now a could not cut off the right hand much suffering to the whole Road Tolls were an incubus. They would kill the food (laughter) supplies; were the goose, and if we egg would not be laid; we the proper food. He dey for the Road Tolls; they amount over the general but injuring the general revenue burden should be removed the shoulders of the many of our mineral resources fit of all. It was injurious much now and lose all; but what we have. Be wise in the miner and trader with the action of Government. The blood and thunder right one; people did not about additional representation had great difficulty in filling occupied in the Council, did not listen to the wants of political agitators from intended people would assist Let them not rush to a subject; let them sleep on it

only advocated the remission Tolls last year, and had the en suggested been carried they would be in a better the abolition this year, however. The Government could the revenue. He, for one, to abolish the tolls by adding tariff, but there was still consistency, as to how much would the Tariff, as it stood, produced at present \$14, but any addition to the press cause flour to be substituted, would lose all. The not the serious burden on hon member for New Westerlsh them to appear; the sufferers but the miners; borne in mind that freight viboo was only 7 or 8 cents the very high rates of former the very large sums expended miners, and the facilities thus to the miners a weekly mail not otherwise have. The consumers, and they paid They were not discontented picture drawn by the hon doleful and much over teamsters nor packers were as the up-country consumer. Government would be able the year to take the whole of the tolls into considera

Hon Birch—The hon member for New Westminster has urged the abolition of the tolls, but has no proposal as means of replacing the revenue. It must be lost in consequence. The proposal to borrow the money is entirely out of the question.

Hon Robson—The committee was not bound to provide for money to replace Road Tolls. The amount could be raised by bonds. What has Union done for us? It was to raise our credit in the English market; we should surely be able to raise the money with the additional strength ensured by the marriage tie. Government will make a great mistake by voting in favor of the amendment brought forward by the junior member for Victoria. They were told that the measures were all tentative till the amount of revenue was known. He begged of them to be aware of the Idea of August; the results of the present measures could not be known till next year. The interest fell in the repeal of the Road Tolls was as great in New Westminster as it was up country. He trusted they would not come to a premature conclusion by voting to maintain the tolls; it would be better to leave it an open question in order that time might be afforded them to devise measures for their abolition.

Hon Young was in favor of abolishing every tax that could be remitted, but it was quite impossible to reduce the Road Tolls this year. To make any addition to the Tariff would be to pursue a retrograde policy; but the Tariff, if increased, would not produce the revenue expected: the duties were much higher than they ought to be at present. Hon members must recollect that when the Road Tolls were imposed freight to Cariboo was 75c; the present freight was on'y 10c; hence, with the addition of the Road Tolls—2½ cents—the consumers were still gained to the extent of 62 cents per pound on their goods. It must be remembered at what cost the road had been built with borrowed money. The interest amounted to \$60,000; the Road Tolls by the showing of hon members, were not sufficient to pay the interest on the loan. If the revenue was flowing in it would be well enough to abolish the tolls. To attempt to borrow money would be only exhausting the credit of the country. Taxes were high at the time the tolls were imposed; they were equally high now. He was ready to admit that the tolls should be abolished. Traders did not pay the taxes; it was the miners. If we take off the Road Tolls and add to the Customs, the miner would equally pay. He should recommend Government to take off the whole or part when feasible. \$200,000 had been borrowed in London, and the Road Tolls were nominally pledged as security to bondholders. The Government, therefore, was not in a position to recommend the removal of the tolls until they had been replaced by some other security. The amendment of the hon junior member for Victoria was the best that could be adopted by Government. It would never do to take the tolls off blindly until the proper time arrived.

Hon Walkem knew that the consumers paid the tax, but the carriers were nevertheless seriously affected; they were always compelled to provide ready cash for the payment of the tolls, and then had to lie out of their money. The gate at Clinton was a serious inconvenience, and left the trader and packer at the mercy of the teamsters. Hon members had raised a great cry about taxing Chinese miners as being a vicious principle, involving class legislation. The principle held equally good in reference to the Road Tolls. If the roads had not been made the miners would not have been in the country. Were they going to adopt a resolution before giving themselves the trouble to think about it? Hon members were very tenacious of their rights when Victoria was affected, they, no doubt, raised their voices as conscience guided them. He could not imagine anything more shallow than the pretence that the whole revenue could not guarantee a few thousand to abolish the tolls; the money would be repaid to them from other sources in a few years. The Road Tolls were only a system of protection for Victoria, at the general expense.

Hon Young had not stated that the tolls were specially pledged, but the advertisement in the London paper had stated that the loan was for the purpose of constructing roads and that a special toll would be imposed for the purpose of repaying the loan.

Hon Helmcken came up to vote against the tolls; he had been urged by gentlemen in Victoria, who were equally affected with any other people, to use his best efforts for their abolition, but in the present circumstances of Government he could not consistently vote for their abolition. He did not believe in taking of tolls to increase the tariff. He had more confidence in Government since he saw they had desired to retain the tolls. The tolls would doubtless be abolished when Government was in a position to do so. They had all an equal regard for the upper country, as upon that Victoria depended for an existence. He was doing the best he could in maintaining the Road Tolls for the present. We have plenty of taxes over Vancouver Island; there are Road Tolls over the Island; everyone has to pay there. The tolls were no exception to this; he paid \$30 or \$40 a year himself. As far as the information of the hon member for Gariboo about class legislation, it was totally false. Victoria had her municipal taxes, which were quite heavy enough; be presumed they would not like the tax extended to British Columbia. The whole system of Government he insisted was a failure; but he had confidence in it from the good sense it had shown in retaining the Road Tolls. The only way to bring about their abolition, was by Government curtailing their expenses to the utmost extent. Let the amendment stand on its own merits.

After some remarks from the hon Crease in support of the amendment, the house divided when the amendment was carried by a majority of 13 to 5.

Tuesday's Sitting.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 12.

Connel met at 3 p.m. Present—Hons Brew, Harvey, Pemberton, Crease, Wood, Barnard, Franklyn, Robson, DeCosmos, Smith, Sanders, O'Reilly, Helmcken, Southgate, Stamp, Cox, Trutch, Birch, (presiding.)

Hon Stamp, in asking the House for the assistance set forth in his motion, only sought what was applicable in case solitary case. The company in erecting the saw mill had invested a great deal of money, and if these indulgences were granted, they

would encourage other companies to enter into the trade which would be of great importance to the Colony. No loss could accrue to the revenue, as the expenditure for feeding men, cattle, and other outlay would amount to \$151,000. He asked that all dues be remitted on imported necessities for the mill, and the hands employed, or a drawback be allowed by Government of one dollar per thousand feet of lumber manufactured.

Hon Pemberton thought one dollar per thousand feet of lumber manufactured not unreasonable. This branch of industry must be encouraged; several large manufacturers had been established on the Island which proved total failures in consequence of the competition of the mills on the Sound, which was secured many privileges by the United States Government. Numbers of ships were loaded with lumber at the Sound Mills, when not one came this way, because the advantages enjoyed by those mills enabled them to compete successfully with ours. He should recommend \$1.50 instead of \$1 per thousand.

Hon Young would be very glad to support the motion if he could conscientiously, but he did not see how that could be done. To remit the duties would be a great mistake; it was wrong in principle, protection had already been extended to the trade by the duties levied under the tariff. It would be combining protection with free trade and it was impossible to grant the privilege asked by the hon member for Lillooet, which was to tax the whole community in order to support one branch of industry, every tradesman might claim privileges with equal reason; the coal company at Nanaimo might ask the same advantages and be fully as much entitled. Protection was not necessary to the lumber trade; it ought to thrive as well as elsewhere. Would not the hon member for Victoria district be asking for a bounty on every ton of produce shipped from Victoria? It was impossible to make exceptions by sacrificing one to assist another.

Hon Robson did not see how the hon member could take exception to this particular case, had they not offered a premium for the erection of a Quartz Mill? the same principle was involved in the one case as in the other; this could not be termed class legislation, or, as the hon M. Young had stated, a bounty given to develop one branch of industry at the expense of another. It was the duty of Government to assist the mill owners in order that the Colony might be benefited. The resolution, however, was not in the proper form, as he could not admit the propriety of remitting duties. He should recommend Government to take off the whole or part when feasible. \$200,000 had been borrowed in London, and the Road Tolls were nominally pledged as security to bondholders. The Government, therefore, was not in a position to recommend the removal of the tolls until they had been replaced by some other security. The amendment of the hon junior member for Victoria was the best that could be adopted by Government. It would never do to take the tolls off blindly until the proper time arrived.

Hon Young voted for premium to Quartz Mill, which was perfectly consistent with his refusal to grant a bounty on lumber. Miners might as well ask for a drawback on every ounce of gold exported.

Hon DeCosmos had listened attentively to hon members on the subject under consideration; in the present circumstances was prepared to support recommendation to afford relief to lumber interests, but not to the extent of one dollar per thousand. He wished to enable mill owners to manufacture lumber in this city as cheaply as elsewhere; the local demand was not large; there were only three towns where any amount of lumber was consumed, and that was now chiefly for repairs, viz Victoria, Nanaimo and New Westminster. It was the misfortune of this country that loss so frequently followed the investment of capital, he would like to see at least one undertaking successful.

Hon Helmcken rose in conformity with orders of the day, to present the following motion to the House: That His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to lay before the Council the amounts of debt due to him from the Government, respectively of British Columbia and Vancouver Island at the time of Union. He had brought the motion forward in conjunction with other members of the Council; he trusted there would be a surplus of revenue in the course of the next few years, and he trusted that such surplus would be equitably applied.

Hon Crease did not see any necessity for the motion, the amounts had already been stated in the estimates.

Hon DeCosmos—Members of that House were entitled to the information as far as it could be obtained, but he thought the terms of the resolution open to objection, as an approximation was all that could be expected at that time; and this, as public men, they were entitled to.

Hon Birch—The information required was contained in three acts of the mainland and two of Vancouver Island, which could be consulted by honorable members at any time; he really did not see any necessity for the motion.

The resolution was then placed on file.

The third reading of the bill for Trade Licences was then brought up for consideration.

Hon Young—There is no provision for the taking of licences, he thought some provision should be made in this respect.

Hon Crease—There was a clause in relation to magistrates that he thought would meet the difficulty.

Hon Wood—According to the strict letter of the law, licences could not be transferred; thought that something should be inserted to admit of transfers being made, and so make the machinery of the bill complete. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The House then went into committee of the whole on Ways and Means. Hon Ball in the chair.

Hon Barnard, supported by Hon Smith, objected to 30 cents per 100 lbs on grain.

Hon Pemberton, Southgate, DeCosmos supported the tax. Hon DeCosmos would rather take off one cent toll on feed, carried away Yea, than interfere with the principle of protection involved in the tax.

Hon Smith objected to \$1.50 on flour as too high, and proposed \$1; after some discussion the House divided, and the amendment was lost; original rate carried.

During the subsequent discussion the following alterations were made: Peas were ad ed to barley, oats and malt at 30 cts per 100 lb; split peas were added to beans, at 1 ct per lb; cider was raised from 10 cts to 15 cts per gall.

Hon Robson objected to 2 cts each duty on Manila cigars, being same as that levied on regalies, five times their value.

Hon Robson would support the resolution of the hon junior member for Victoria, as some information was necessary on the subject.

Hon Crease—To allow a drawback proportion to duties paid would compel Government to watch every article consumed at the mill; the system would not work—it wouldn't wash.

Hon Ball recommended obtaining information relating to lumber manufactured and consumption at mill. At present they were merely talking in the dark.

Hon Franklin—Coal interests of Nanaimo, he thought, were equally deserving of support. There were 800 persons engaged in the collieries, and if the estimate of taxes paid by each person in the colony was correct—\$120—they paid in the aggregate \$96,000 of taxes. Surely they deserved a bounty.

Hon Birch thought there should be some drawback, but in the absence of statistics it would be impossible to arrive at any conclusion. He should recommend a postponement of the motion.

After some further remarks from several hon members, the motion was postponed for a week.

Hon Pemberton, in pursuance of notice of motion, was of opinion that all fines and fees should be paid into the Colonial Treasury; they had amounted to large sums occasionally. He could not understand how any English Act of Parliament could be brought to act on colonial funds. He was supported by other colonists in asking that the colony have the benefit of them. He denounced any system by which colonial officers looked to pickings as a part of their income. He had heard rumors on the subject.

Hon President would like to know the rumors.

Hon Pemberton—The rumors he spoke of were prevalent before the Union.

Hon Crease—Fines and fees were specifically disposed of under Customs Consolidation Act.

Hon Franklin had paid all fees into the Treasury every month.

Hon Young—Fines, fees and forfeitures are levied under Customs Consolidation Act. It was necessary to be consistent with the Act.

Hon DeCosmos—In reference to general principle all public officials should pay into the Colonial Treasury all moneys received under any law. When a certain salary was paid to an official all fines, fees and forfeitures should go to the revenue.

Hon Hamley—The disposal of fines, fees and seizures was provided for under the Customs Consolidation Act, and were distributed in the following manner: one-third went to the Colonial Treasury, one-third to the Governor of the colony, and one-third was divided between informer, seizing officer and prosecutor in each case. When he came to the colony he found affairs in a state of confusion, and at first declined to take his share, but was ultimately induced to do so; since that time had always appropriated the prosecutor's share, and a very small share it was. He was always prepared to meet these questions.

The other day he had had a pair of boots shaken at him; they would find it was like kicking the dead lion.

Hon Robson—The resolution should be withdrawn; the fines and seizures were distributed the same way in Canada. We could not make exception here to general system.

Hon Ball—in the proposition as stated by the Collector of Customs, did hon members for Victoria district pretend to tax the Governor with a tendency to pickings? All magistrates paid the fees into the Treasury. The resolution was then withdrawn.

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WEEKLY COLONIST AND CHRONICLE.

The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, March 26, 1867.

Our Coasting Trade.

We believe that the freer the intercourse between nations, and the fewer the obstacles that are placed in the way of trade and commerce, the more prosperous and happy will those countries become. Under the working of the Reciprocity Treaty, the British North American Provinces advanced so rapidly in every interest that could add to the material wealth and prosperity of a nation, that even the subsequent imposition of unjust and unequal duties by a powerful neighbor, has failed as yet to check their growth. The operation of this Treaty made merchants of North American traders, and now that the ports of the United States are hermetically sealed against their products, we find the commercial men on the other side of the mountains successfully competing with American merchants and manufacturers for the trade of remote markets. This competition is not confined to merchandise; it is directed also to the carrying trade. British and Colonial built vessels are gradually driving American shipping out of trades which the latter once bid fair to monopolise, and are causing them to confine their operations to their own waters. Hence we find that, although being gradually shut out, in consequence of the higher cost of their vessels, from the carrying trade of foreign countries, the Americans are determined that their own coasting trade shall remain uncontaminated by the presence of a single foreign bottom. They have no "notion" that foreign vessels shall plough the waters of their rivers and inlets, or be permitted to "tote" a cargo of goods direct from one American port to another. While their vessels are not debarred by law from free intercourse with nearly every European nation, and may engage in any coasting trade they find profitable or agreeable, our affectionate "cousins" close their ports to the ships of other powers as emphatically as an oyster at the approach of danger clasps its shells together to protect the delicate morsel from the ravenous destroyer. Now, we propose to measure Brother Jonathan's corn with his own bushel. We would give him all the liberty in our waters that he gives us in his, and—no more. Is it not notorious that a British vessel cannot sail from Victoria and visit more than one American port without first returning here and taking a fresh start? or that she cannot sail from one American port to another without laying herself open to seizure? Is there such a thing as a "special permit to coast" known to the Americans? Why, it is only but three weeks ago that two British steamers, owned and commanded by Americans, undertook to tow a waterlogged American ship from Esquimalt to Port Madison, on the American side of the Straits, for repairs; and because the steamers were British bottoms, they had to cast the distressed vessel off at Port Townsend, Three or four different companies are at work getting very satisfactory indications. The creek is in great favor. On CANADIAN CREEK.

Up to the 5th nothing had been struck. The Ericsson, United, Homestake and Hood are all running tunnels to their background, where they know they have pay, having previously sunk shafts to test it. On this golph there is an immense amount of prospecting going to be done this season, in consequence of an undoubted back channel having been found.

STOUT GULCH.

Some half dozen claims are at work, all taking out more or less pay. On CONKLINS GULCH.

There is no washing going on at present. The Ericsson, United, Homestake and Hood are all running tunnels to their background, where they know they have pay, having previously sunk shafts to test it. On this golph there is an immense amount of prospecting going to be done this season, in consequence of an undoubted back channel having been found.

CANADIAN CREEK.

Nothing struck. Two companies prospecting, one of which is fully satisfied they have found the back channel in which they suppose they will find the old lost lead. LOWHIRE CREEK.

Has grown in favor very much of late, in consequence of some Dutchmen finding a back channel on the right hand side going down stream, in which they found very heavy coarse gold. They had only a very common way of working, yet got an ounce to the hand. The whole of that right hand side has been taken up and commencing to run tunnels in to prospect it. There is an undoubted rim rock found. A few claims have taken out all winter.

MARTIN CREEK.

Nothing struck. Two companies prospecting, one of which is fully satisfied they have found the back channel in which they suppose they will find the old lost lead.

LATER.

Mr. Jones, of the Bank of British Columbia, received a telegram from Quesnelmouth last evening, stating that the Washburn Co., on Canyon Creek, had struck the lead very rich at a depth of 50 feet.

(From the British Columbian.)

CORRECTION.—In our notice of a case that occurred in the Police Court yesterday, the disturbance alluded to was inadvertently stated to have occurred at Commercial House, instead of Hotel.

MARKET.

Flour, 25c; Butter, \$1.75; Sugar, 45c; Tea, H. B., \$1.75; do U.S., \$1.25; Candles, English, \$1.15; do American, \$1; Gum Boots, American, \$16; do English, \$12.50; Bacon, 75c. The above are retail rates.

The weather during the winter has been very mild. Plenty of snow. Good sleighing. The general feeling in Cariboo was never better than at present.

(From the British Columbian.)

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