



# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday April 5th 1871

Responsible Government—What is it Like?

A London 'cabbie'—so the story goes—upon hearing some remarks about the Reform Bill, innocently inquired, 'What is it like?' 'Anything like beer,' for instance? The people of British Columbia have long and eagerly sought for constitutional or responsible government. That form of government lies within their grasp, bounding only upon nomination and upon good behaviour. But the war to judge the whole community by those who speak in ultra opposition to the Civil List Bill at the public meeting on Friday night, the conclusion that an amazing degree of ignorance pervades the public mind concerning the true, nature and practical working of that form of administration which has been attained or is about to be attained after so long a struggle. In truth, it would require no very great stretch of the imagination to conceive of one at least of the speakers at the public meeting as inquiring in full view of the London assembly, 'What is Responsible Government like? Anything like beer, for instance?' The public have had a lecture placed before them, and they are asked to believe that it is a fair and responsible representation of what responsible government would be, should the Civil List Bill become law. This caricature exhibits the fatuous Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia as refusing to consent to any measure, excepting or repealing the Civil List Bill, and using the revenues derived from Canada for the payment of the Civil List in direct opposition to the will of the people, or the votes or protests of their representatives in another place of this Legislature, represents the Lieutenant Governor as referring any bill repealing or amending the Civil List Bill to the Governor General, the Governor General, in turn, referring it to the Queen, and the Queen reversing her assent.

Unless upon evidence of a responsible official who positions might be

settled by such Bill, legal facts are

most evident to the Lieutenant Governor's

and is not very clear, other his minis-

ters are not grouped together with

in occupying the position of an

absolute despot in so far as he may

dictate the Civil List out of reverence

derived from Garibaldi, or indeed

from any other source, it comes out. This

no account of the working of responsi-

ble government can be given by Garibaldi,

but as far as the public are concerned

it is the exception that proves the rule.

With the exception that, as ob-

serves a fact, and that it does not well

fit in with the description of an

backward, the description of an

absolute. We must confound that

description which have been given of

the possible working of, perhaps,

we could be more correct to say, the

working of responsible government. In

event of the Civil List Bill passing the

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something still less excusable. We

are told in the speech of the cardinal

principles of that form of adminstration

commonly known as responsible govern-

ment, with the sincere hope that mis-

apprehension may be dispelled at a

time when it is evidently destined that

the public mind should be as free as possible

from all bias or obfuscation. The re-

marks of one of the speakers at

the public meeting suggest the desir-

ability of presenting that the constitut-

ion of Canada, like that of the par-

liamentary, is in great part univer-

sal, and that the constitution

of British Columbia is undesirable

is based upon which it is to be

settled, with like manner of in-

part unwritten or traditional. For in-

stance, we have been reminded of the

fact that there is nothing in the Con-

stitution Act passed during the session just

concluded to prevent the Lieutenant

Governor retaining his office as his

minister, the press, Colonial Secre-

tary, Attorney General and other Com-

mmissioner without these orders having

any thing to do with the Legislative body or being

in any way responsible to the people.

Now it is quite true that the Act re-

ferred to contains no words or provi-

sions prohibiting such and condition

has not been apprehended, yet, we de-

termine, honest mistake. But that is not

the advice of the responsible Ministers

as far as we are concerned. We

would mention many other knowledge-

able and probable characters against whom there

are no words in the Act providing a remedy.

For instance, whereas he express power

which requires the Governor to be guided by

the advice of his responsible Ministers

is there any regulation of Ministerial

or appeal to the country when necessary

to call in the confidence and advice

of a majority of the people's representa-

tives. Yet both of these are fundamental

principles in responsible government.

But the Act and every other will remain

as it is now, and will remain, as it is now.

The former will be put into effect

as soon as the Legislature is convened.

But such provisions will not be found in the

constitution of Canada or England, or

form part, a most vital part of the

traditional constitution. They are not

written upon parchment but engraved upon

the bosom of the national heart; and

would, therefore, be quite as reasonable to

abolish the colonies as to abolish the

colonies of Canada or England.

Our exclusive dispatch received late

last night announces that the Terms of

Confederation have finally passed the

Senate with a majority of eighteen,

and that above will be debated in the

Senate to-morrow. Our correspon-

dents regard their passage without

amendment as certain, although the op-

position is strong. We suppose

that the Governor General will assent

to the bill.

YESTERDAY'S BRITISH WORLD AND A London 'cabbie'—so the story goes—upon hearing some remarks about the Reform Bill innocently inquired, 'What is it like?' 'Anything like beer,' for instance? The people of British Columbia have long and eagerly sought for constitutional or responsible government. That form of government lies within their grasp, bounding only upon nomination and upon good behaviour. But the war to judge the whole community by those who speak in ultra opposition to the Civil List Bill at the public meeting on Friday night, the conclusion that an amazing degree of ignorance pervades the public mind concerning the true, nature and practical working of that form of administration which has been attained or is about to be attained after so long a struggle. In truth, it would require no very great stretch of the imagination to conceive of one at least of the speakers at the public meeting as inquiring in full view of the London assembly, 'What is Responsible Government like? Anything like beer, for instance?' The public have had a lecture placed before them, and they are asked to believe that it is a fair and responsible representation of what responsible government would be, should the Civil List Bill become law. This caricature exhibits the fatuous Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia as refusing to consent to any measure, excepting or repealing the Civil List Bill, and using the revenues derived from Canada for the payment of the Civil List in direct opposition to the will of the people, or the votes or protests of their representatives in another place of this Legislature, represents the Lieutenant Governor as referring any bill repealing or amending the Civil List Bill to the Governor General, the Governor General, in turn, referring it to the Queen, and the Queen reversing her assent.

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By Electo. J. G. L.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

## Europe.

LONDON, March 24.—Sayset, Son, Lamois and Victor Schoelcher have undertaken to concentrate their talents of national guards in the Place de la Bourse, and to re-establish staff headquarters there.

Sayset is disposed to pardon all regular soldiers and sailors who have in the various empires, to restore national franchises, to continue the pay of the national, and revoke the law in regard to payment of bills at maturity, and to urge the Assembly so to legislate as to recompense all the communiting interests.

Other journals refuse the charge made by the *Rapport* that the *Parti* had in the family of Wednesday night funds of peace.

VERSAILLES, March 24.—Favre received two German dispatches declaring it to be the duty of Versailles Government not to conquer sedition. The Germans have distinctly stopped withdrawal from France and levy additional and cruel taxation.

LONDON, March 25.—The military services are entrusted to Bismarck.

The Place Vendôme Committee and Financial Delegate have ordered certain dues to be paid as usual or energetic measures will be taken.

By an agreement with the Committee and Mayors the commercial election is reported for Thursday and Saturday.

The removal of paper money is expected.

The Versailles Assembly passed a law for the payment of commercial bills.

BUCKINGHAM, March 24.—In consequence of the intervention of the German Consul, the Prefect of Police is dismissed. Disturbances are apprehended.

LONDON, March 27.—A special says that the Government of Versailles has ordered the arrest of Garibaldi upon his appearance on French soil.

Cherbourg's state prisoner succeeds to the Ministry of War.

It is now generally thought that the Government is defeated and that Thiers will be made to resign. A leader succeeds him.

Thiers says privately that when he has 100,000 men he will resign.

VERSAILLES, March 27.—The insurgents have captured a gunboat on the Seine and also the crew and documents.

The official journal of the insurgents says that 18 out of 20 arrondissements in Lyons support the Commune. The new Government is proclaimed without violence or bloodshed.

The Prussian envoys have been advanced to Vincennes.

LONDON, March 27.—The decisions in Paris passed of quelling the rebellion were decided by a majority of Communists.

The revolutionary authority is completely destroyed. The election of Sissons as Mayor of Paris increases the success of the revolution, which within a week will spread to all the towns and render the position of the Government in the rural districts untenable.

Bazaine is going to France. Letours is to the Hague.

A revolution is prevailing in Algeria.

VERSAILLES, March 27.—The War Minister has asked the Prefects for a battalion of mobilized volunteers from each of the Departments, in pursuance of a law just passed. They are to be forwarded to Versailles immediately. Volunteers will receive 1½ per day.

MADRID, March 28.—Espaço will probably be president of the Senate.

Republican bands have appeared in the Province of Segovia.

PARIS, March 24.—The Central Committee seized copies of the address to mayors yesterday at the printing office. Since then the office has been guarded by a battalion of the friends of order.

The alarm yesterday in the Bank of France was caused by the seizure by royalists of two carts loaded with bread.

The official journal says the Central Committee asserts that numerous Bonapartists and Orleanists are stamping to strike offals.

PARIS, March 26.—An insurgent proclamation says Seisset has planned a complete recognition of the right of municipal franchise and election of officers of nations, including Commander-in-Chief and a modification of the military law. The insurgents will maintain its original constitution or replace it with a new one.

It is expected that Piatt and Vermorel will be leading candidates with Blanque and Flourens in the new Government.

PARIS, March 28.—All is quiet. The revolutionary Committee still retains all important positions.

The Committee largely dismissed its members.

Garibaldi is appointed commander of National. Supporting journals demand the employment of a body of troops of militia for the cause of order.

A battalion of 1,000 men attempted to seize money of bank deposit in the Rue Lille, but were opposed and retired. Several insurgents were stopped, but there was no fighting.

The Montmartreans and Garibaldians with two guns invaded the Place de la Bourse yesterday, charged and demanded the surrender of the Mayorality. Negotiations were resumed, the insurgents promising that the Mayorality should remain in the hands of the acting committee providing the municipality should support the elections and the election of Commandant of the guard.

The communists have centralized its military power to Daval, Bignon, and Endes, who are promoted to general.

Cantillon is appointed commander of artillery.

The Bank has again advanced 50,000 francs to the insurgents.

PARIS, March 29.—All is quiet. The red flag is seen everywhere.

The Red Committee have split. The *Cain* and *Saint-Sulpice* are in the same party.

Paris, March 24.—A violent scene occurred at a meeting of the Central Commission. Some members differed with Gen. Luttrell, Commander of the National Guards, who is in command of the Parisians.

Paris by Scholte, who is in command of the German troops at St. Denis, is in a peaceful and passive tone, but allows no friendliness for the insurgents.

The movements of German troops have been active in various parts of France lately, but

PARIS, March 26.—The Journal *Politique* advises the people to abstain from voting.

The Official organ of the insurgents prints a manifesto signed by Bouher and Stourns, strongly maintaining the right of municipal authority as a defense against arbitrary and political encroachments, and demanding that the army should be composed only of national Guards.

The Central Republican Committee have released Cluny and Lougeard.

LONDON, March 26.—Order still prevails at Lyons.

BIRMINGHAM, March 26.—The Representatives of Spain, Italy and Hungary have congratulated Emperor William on the congratulations of the respective sovereigns on the restoration of the German Empire.

PARIS, March 26.—It is now dusk and the city is resuming its normal appearance. The barricades still remain in the streets, but the canons mounted upon them are withdrawn or turned inward.

Voting commenced this morning and is now getting on. There will be very few voters.

The *Courrier Correspondant* yesterday interviewed the whole Capital Committee at their Hotel du Ville. The members of the Committee organized in the first place on account of information they had received that Thiers was cooperating with Bismarck for the overthrow of the Republic, evidence of which was overwhelming. Thiers had tried to provoke the Committee to acts of violence, but they waited and he himself first committed outrages by attacking Bourassa. The object of the Committee was to secure for Paris free elections, and the abolition of the payment of rent during the siege, and to form one Republic under the regime of Communes which is to be more comprehensive than that advocated by Blanco and Flourens, and to be based upon compulsory education. The Committee says they ignore the Versailles Government and declare all its acts to be null and void. A fresh appeal will be held and a new Assembly chosen, having its seat in Paris. The Committee will not accept office in the new government but form a *Gouvernement Savoia*, having supervisory power over it. The people of all ranks are daily offering their services to us and officers and men are deserting from Versailles and placing themselves at our disposal. We don't want any needless execution of blood. Gen. Chanzy will not be executed, but Duero and Troche will be if caught. We have appointed Garibaldi Commander-in-Chief. He will arrive here tomorrow. Moncada and Garibaldi will be his aids.

At a meeting to-day of Deputies of the Republicans left in the Assembly, it was resolved to support the Government as long as it remained true to the Republic.

BANGKOK, March 27.—Negotiations for a final peace between France and Germany are imminent.

PARIS, March 29.—*M. Assay*, in a speech threatened all conspirators and said open war would be shot.The *Journal de Paris* says the National Guard of the city costs this hundred thousand francs have been dissolved and the Ministry remains powerless. The town is quiet.PARIS, March 29.—*M. Assay*, in a speech to the *Assemblée* to organize a force to march on Paris. The Government has decided the legitimate Deputies from holding meetings.

PARIS, March 29.—It is stated that the Orleans fusion has been accomplished with Orléans de Chambord at its head; that its object is forming a liberal constitution with Parliament on a model of England. The Government rejects that the Orléansists oppose Gen. Descaux who superseded Vinoy.

Gen. Chassot has arrived, also eight thousand Britons.

A Telegraph special says there was picketing during the night between the national and the Government in the Versailles.

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strictly in accordance with the principles of peace.

The *Croix Gazette*

says that Gen. Garibaldi has

been recalled from Washington at his own request.

London, March 27.—In the House of Lords, to-night, the bill legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister was rejected.

PARIS, March 27.—Le Nord says that the initiative of the Dutch Cabinet for the new legislation of private property at sea has been successful. Austria has made a similar proposal to the Brussels Cabinet.

MADRID, March 26.—The Imperial says that a quarter of a million of soldiers were beaten and dispersed. There were attempts at disorder on Sunday in Saragossa, Cordova and Valencia.

There is a republican agitation at Asturias, and *Cavista* demonstrations in the Balearic Islands.

Spanish envoys have gone to Tangier to press claims in behalf of Spain.

LONDON, March 27.—The *Times* says that the Commission of the Adamjee and Parma *Bank* is investigating the disorder.There is a republican agitation at Asturias, and *Cavista* demonstrations in the Balearic Islands.

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## Legislative Council.

TUESDAY, March 28.

### PROGRESSION.

The Council met at 2:30 p.m., all the members being present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

At a quarter to three o'clock His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Private Secretary, entered the Legislative Chamber and took the chair of the Speaker, and read the following:

### SPRACH.

*Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the Honourable Legislative Council.—*

The period has now arrived when I may with propriety relieve you from further attention to legislative duties as you have had under your consideration all those subjects with which the expedition to deal at the present time.

I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies an intimation of the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have regarded the intelligence of the unanimous passing of your Address to the Queen, praying for Union with the Dominion of Canada. There is no reason to doubt that the Parliament of the Dominion will also adopt a similar course during their Session. We may now, therefore, confidently anticipate that within a short time the formal declaration of Union will be proclaimed.

Will the House of Commons be sufficiently instated to work out a possible Government? These are questions which suggest themselves to a thoughtful mind. While, as we trust, a feeling of concern for the future of the country abounds upon the minds of every thoughtful person. Will the

House of Commons make a wise use of their new power?

Will the public opinion of the country be sufficiently instated to work out a possible Government? These are

questions which suggest themselves to a thoughtful mind. While, as we trust,

realizing the gravity of the situation and the possible stumbling-blocks, we

are enabled to look hopefully and confidently to the future. The

House of Commons has been kept too

occupied in the red-tape of Down-

town rules, and, consequently, its

strength of walking may be expect-

ed to be somewhat more awkward than

it has been the case under proper

guidance. But if such experience

as fall it will do again, all the

more for them, and at first it don't

it will fit the body. At any

rate, it cannot learn to walk younger;

the sooner it begins the sooner it

will get through the stumbling-pe-

riod. As the conclusion of a session begun

under so great a sense of responsibility, and

with so many important duties incumbent

upon us in the arrangements necessary for

the future, I congratulate you upon the man-

er in which the business has been conducted

and upon the success of your labours. In the

measures which I have recommended to you

I have been guided by the experience which

I have acquired of the working of Repre-

sentative institutions under different circum-

stances in several other colonies. No ad-

mirable precautions are perfect, and doubtless

imperfections will be discovered which from

time to time will require correction. But

I am confident that the practical test of ex-

periment will justify the wisdom of the

principles upon which we have proceeded in

shaping the political machinery for the

future administration of the Local Govern-

ment and the enactments by which we have

endeavoured to carry those principles into

action. With regard to one of these, the Civil List Act, which is in fact ancillary to the Constitution Act, some erroneous im-

pressions have been received. The measure

was not intended to render the several de-

partments of the Public Service indepen-

dent of the Legislature of the Colony, nor

can it have that effect. It will not prevent

the creation of any Official for misconduct,

nor be an obstacle to systematic remodeling

of Public Departments. But experience

has shown without exception that the ten-

dency of Responsible Government in small

communities is to increase Public Expen-

iture and to provide for party followers at

the expense of public interests. The opera-

tion of the "Civil List Act," while it is of

a certain protection to individuals new in

the Public Service from unjust removal, is

mainly valuable as a restraint upon the Ex-

ecutive authority, and to prevent any elon-

gation or increase of existing departments

without the well considered sanction of the

Legislature. There is nothing contained in

the Act to prevent amendment or modifi-

cation whenever such a course shall be de-

liberately and constitutionally adopted.

Your assistance at the first Representative

Legislature of the united Colonies of British

North America and Vancouver Island, will be ap-

preciated. Another of the measures to

which I have referred will be the cause of

your own extinction and the substitution of

a larger and differently constituted Legis-

lative Body. But your members may reflect

with pride that to you has been confided the

privilege of deciding upon the most impor-

tant and questions which have hitherto arisen, or

we likely to arise for years to come in the

colonies of the colony; to you belongs the

task of extending the limits of the British

American Confederation to the shores of the

Pacific, and of completing the foundation of

a great and prosperous state, whose future

is to be enlightened and progressive.

For myself I feel proud that I have been

permitted to participate with you in this

work. But one of its effects will probably

be soon to terminate my official connec-

tions with the colony. I may not again

meet the Legislature in session assem-

bled, and I embrace this opportunity to ex-

press my thanks for the support which I have

obtained at your hands, and my mo-

stern acknowledgments of the harmonious re-

lations subsisting between the legislature and my

self during the whole period of my admis-

sion. Whatever may be my future fortune

I shall carry away with me from British Co-

lumbia, and I hope you will retain a pleasant

recollection of good feeling and mutual

assistance in accomplishing the work which

we undertook to perform.

I now prologue your honorable Council,

and the same is hereby prologue according-

ly.

HIGH COMPLIMENT FROM A HIGH SEASON.—In

the British House of Commons, in reply to

some remarks from Mr Disraeli, Mr Gladstone

said: "We stand at the present moment

upon the very eve of dispatching to Amer-

ica a Commission, of which my noble friend the

President of the Council will be on the

British side, the head, with my noble friend

the Earl of Shaftesbury, the able, pro-

and trusty representative of this country, and

Sir John Macdonald, whom persons

are so well qualified to represent the inter-

ests of the empire in any particular affairs.

His propeller will sail at daylight

Monday and will be brought before the

British North America [sic] [sic] [sic]

Court of Admiralty to-morrow.

MELANCHOLY AND FATAL ACCIDENT.—In our telegraph columns will be found an account of a most distressing accident at New Westminster.

Dr Black came to this colony from Australia in 1862. Soon after his arrival he proceeded to Victoria, where he engaged in mining and practised his profession.

In the autumn of 1863 he was elected to represent the West Riding of Cariboo in the Legislative Council of British Columbia.

From that time up to the day of his death he resided in New Westminster, where he married and settled down at his profession.

He held the appointment of Medical Officer of the Geological Survey of Canada, and was Lieutenant of the Seymour Artillery Corps.

He was greatly esteemed.

He was about forty-five years of age, leaves a widow and an interesting young family to mourn his nativity.

He died on Saturday evening last, at his residence in Victoria.

He was buried on Sunday morning at the

old cemetery in Victoria.

He was a man of great personal

character and a good citizen.

He was a member of the Royal Canadian

Hunting and Fishing Association.

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By Electric Telegraph,  
Exclusive to the "Colonist".

Canada!!

Confederation before  
Parliament!

The Terms Pass the  
Commons by 88

Majority 101.

The Government passes the  
Budget.

Many amendments were passed in Com-  
mittee of the Whole, but all failed, except  
one.

The Government passed the budget  
and the terms were passed in Committee  
of the Whole by a majority of twenty-two.

The People generally are satisfied  
with the result.

# STEAM TO CARIBOO!



## The British Columbia GENERAL TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

**Will place Four of THOMSON'S PATENT ROAD STEAMERS on the route between Yale and Barkerville in the First Week in April, and will be prepared to enter into Contracts for the conveyance of Freight from Yale to Soda Creek in Eight Days. Through Contracts will be made as soon as the condition of the road above Quesnelmouth permits.**

**Rates of Passage will be advertised in due time.**

**BARNARD & BEEDY, Managers.**

**OFFICE—Yates Street, next door to Wells, Fargo & Co.'s**

### Shipping Intelligence.

**PORT OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA,**

**March 23.—Sister Isobel Starr, Port Townsend.**

**Sister Isobel, Mrs. Beedley, R. McDonald, Mrs. G. C. Miller and wife, C. Wood, L. Wood, Miss Morris, Mrs. Webster, Baron Rothschild and others.**

**Per ship ISABELLE from Puget Sound.**

**Miss Morris, Mrs. Webster, Baron Rothschild and others.**

**March 23.—None.**

**Per ship SISTER ISABEL from San Francisco.**

**Sister Isobel, Mrs. Beedley, R. McDonald, Mrs. G. C. Miller and wife, C. Wood, L. Wood, Miss Morris, Mrs. Webster, Baron Rothschild and others.**

**Per ship SISTER ISABEL from San Francisco.**

**March 23.—None.**

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