

At the present time, when out of the scattered British North American Possessions is being created an empire, it is of the utmost importance that the management of public affairs should be entrusted to men of large progressive views and tried statesmanship. And it is not the least gratifying circumstance connected with the great scheme that just such men as the progeny of the times demanded have been brought to the front. Look at the three Knights occupying the most prominent positions. They are, all of them, men fit to stand side by side with Imperial Statesmen. The Premier is, indeed, a remarkable man. To deny him the possession of extraordinary abilities would be to fly in the face of the historical facts of nearly a quarter of a century. Through evil report and through good report, in times of especial trial has he succeeded for upwards of fifteen years, with one or two insignificant exceptions, in retaining the most important post for which any of his countrymen could be called; and that he is as novice in statescraft as the present proud possessor of the country testify. Crowding close upon the heels of Sir John, we have Sir George E. Cartier, who, if not so thoroughly up in statescraft as scarcely to rate second in ability. Of Sir George it may, perhaps, be asserted that Confederation made him, rather than that he made it. It was after many years of wrangling and fighting for ascendancy between the two great parties of Upper and Lower Canada, the latter of which looked to him as its leader, that Sir George was invited to come to view matters from the stand-point so long occupied by his fellow-countrymen and co-religionists, and unit with the Protestant party of the West in constructing a coalition Ministry, the chief mission of which would be to seek in Confederation a remedy for those loose and sectional squabbles, and although the changes were such as must forever deprive his own party of all hope of attaining a preponderating power in the Federal councils of the larger state, yet he hesitated not to identify himself with a former enemy, and work for the greater and more lasting object. In taking this bold and patriotic step Sir George risked much; for it was doubtful whether he would be able to carry his countrymen with him in a movement calculated to arouse prejudices of race and religion and designed to effectually curtail their political power. He ventured, and won; and to him the country stands much indebted. Few men placed in a similar position would have had either the nerve or the ability to play the same game successfully. If we rank Sir Francis Hincks third in order, it is that we conceive him to stand in that relation, in point of those talents which go to make up the statesman. Sir Francis is second to no man in Canada in that respect. Like the Premier, he is a self-made man, born though his hand must be somewhat out of Canadian politics. Yet we are greatly disposed to regard his return with satisfaction, and also think that, if separated from a few more years, Sir Francis will supplement his former record in such a manner as to give the country additional cause for cherishing his memory. Coming to the Hon S. L. Tilley, we find a gentleman of superior abilities, and of more than ordinary moral worth. Still in his prime, he is without doubt destined to attain very great influence in the councils of his country. A polished man, guided by high motives and liberal principle, Mr. Tilley may still be regarded as a rising statesman. The Hon Joseph Howe has established a reputation both in England and Canada of which he may well feel proud; yet there is no doubt that the unwise course he adopted in the first instance in regard to Confederation tended in some degree to impair his popularity and influence, but after making due allowance for that, also step, the presence in the Cabinet of the veteran and eloquent reformer cannot but prove an element of no little strength. The advent of the Hon Alexander Morris should scarcely fail to be regarded with satisfaction by the great Confederation party. One of the first to realize the importance of opening up the Northwest, and to grasp the greater scheme of a Confederated Empire, Mr. Morris did much toward bringing together the leaders of the two parties, for the purpose of achieving a "link" bigger than all-party considerations. Such a young man, possessed of a liberal and honest mind, and endowed with a sense of no mean order, Mr. Morris bids fair to act an honorable and important part in the history of the young Empire. The Hon Mr. Dunkin is also a man of considerable promise, a lawyer by profession, and likely to make himself felt in the Cabinet; but with his history and political antecedents and ability we are less familiar. Of the other members

of the Government we know still less. There are two Canadians whose names from the Cabinet cannot but be a subject of very general regret. We allude to Sir Alexander T. Galt and the Hon. George Brown. Were these two men united with those already mentioned, Canada would possess a Government of sufficient strength and talent to undertake the administration of the affairs of a much more important country. The talents and past services of both entitle them to a front place, and a change which will give the country once more the benefit of their talents and influence would be hailed with very general satisfaction.

Friday Jan 21

FROM THE MAINLAND.—The steamer Enterprise, Captain Pamphil, returned from New Westminster shortly after 4 p.m., yesterday, bringing a few passengers and a local mail and express. The Cariboo express did not reach New Westminster in time to connect with the Enterprise, having been delayed by ice in the river below Yale, so that we are without any later news from the interior. As far as probability the express would reach New Westminster yesterday or today, and may be expected to arrive by the steamer Esme, now at Burrard Inlet. On her way up on Wednesday, the Enterprise met some floating ice in the river, but it was not of sufficient body to prevent any serious obstruction to navigation. At New Westminster the snow had fallen to a depth of about three inches, and Mr Lewis' sluices were raising between the city and Burrard Inlet. The weather had been very cold during Sunday and Monday, but a thaw set in on Wednesday. A number of ratemakers having presented a requisition to the President of the Municipal Council asking him to call a public meeting in order that Messrs Brook and Robson might have an opportunity of stating their views on the question of Confederation, the meeting was held at the Tyack Hall on Wednesday evening. W J Armstrong, Esq. J P, in the Chair, and the meeting was very largely attended. A letter from Mr. Hulbrook, declining to attend, on the ground that his views were already known to the public, was read. Mr. Robson having addressed the meeting, a resolution was unanimously adopted, expressing entire confidence in him as the representative of the Districts. Mr. Barnard, being loudly called to address the meeting, the young lord was enjoying the duel on the ice on Baileys Lake since the cold weather set in. The Bank of British North America.—A general meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of British North America was held at the London Tavern, under the presidency of Mr. A H Philpot, who announced that the Queen's warrant extending the privileges of shareholders until the 1st June, 1881, had been received. He was sorry to say that the confidence which was left in the bank in the Dominion of Canada had never been greater than at the present moment. The appointment of general manager vacant by the resignation of Mr. Paton, who had been in the service of the company since the year 1842, would be shortly conferred on Mr. McNab, the former secretary of the company, who had lately travelled through Canada, and had also visited New York, California, Vancouver Island, Brantford and other places. The directors believe that Mr. McNab would be a safe and capable man to fill the office. A. REVENGE.—Cornwall, France: after Frenchmen in custody on a charge of receiving stolen goods, now do from bloodshed to the last extreme.

The brig Byzantium, Calcutta, was loading at Honolulu, S. I., for Victoria, on the 15th Dec.

THANKS.—To Mr Emerson, Purser of the California and Mr Connor, W F & Co's agent for usual courtesies.

The report that Polly Lee had been killed at Honolulu by a fall from a tightrope was a hoax.

The California brought up anchors and chains for the bark Ruby.

European Mail Summary.

Dates to Dec. 25th.

The master of a barge at anchor off Sheerness, finding his craft endangered by the violence of the sea, put off for shore, with his sister and five children, but the boat was upset, and all the children drowned.

The Marquis of Bute took with him from Scotland to Rome a magnificent silver cross of Grubis workmanship, adorned with Scottish stones, and presented it to the Holy Father, who directed that it was to be used at the processional cross of the Council. The cross was made by a well-known Catholic jeweller in Glasgow.

The cross of Lord Nunburnholme.

The cross of the impostor Dick Bedford.

The cross of Lord Hubert L S. Ainsley.

The cross of the Holy Father.

The cross of the Holy Father.</p

By Electric Telegraph.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

CANADA.

S. PAUL, Jan. 17.—Late advices from Fort Garry report a serious state of affairs. The French, under Reille, are masters of the situation and have seized the Hudson Bay Company's sale with two hundred and fifty pounds of gold to pay the troops. Father Thibault and Col. de Salaberry, Commissioner of the Canadian Government, are at their way to open negotiations with Reille.

It is reported that the Sioux Indians are coming down into Dakota and Minnesota.

The people are much excited, and fears of another Indian war are entertained.

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The Weekly British Colonist

is issued at noon daily—has issued
on Wednesday January 26 1870.

The Great Work and the Best Oppo-
sition.

Doubtless some have thought our
views upon the subject of the Canadian
Pacific Railway a little Utopian; while
others may possibly have felt disposed
to vote us a vote; yet is our constant
iteration of these views should in any
degree tend to arouse home and colo-
nial thought to a correct apprehension
of duty and of interest in relation to
this matter; we shall be well content to
bear the reproach of such as cannot see
in the perpetuation of the power and
influence of Great Britain in Europe,
and the erection of a Greater Britain in
America. The subject has a negative,
as well as a positive importance. The
abandonment of this greater enterprise
involve the waste of British power in
Europe, and the utter annihilati-

nation of British influence in America. Hold-
ing, as we do, these views, it is any
wonder that we should persistently seek
to impress them upon others, even at
the risk of being considered madmen? Ob-
viously reverting his warning about
the colonial policy of his time until the
public began to suspect that he could
think about nothing else. Calmly con-
sidering, "Defend et Cithago," as the
bright two ideas in his head. The old
science were even led at length to think
Demosthenes was sound, with his ever-
lasting Philippics. And if we fare no
better at the hands of the public, yes
considerations of this nature must not
be permitted to enter into the calculation
when a question involving such
momentous consequences is at issue.
But we are not disposed to think that
any considerable part of the public,
either here, in Canada, or in Great
Britain, view this question as at all
Utopian. Indeed, our readers have
been placed in possession of facts
which go very far towards proving
the contrary. But it is especially
interesting to know that the
same mind in fact ripening on the sub-
ject, brooding quite prepared to regard
the immediate construction of the railway
in the light of a national necessity
and a national duty. That such is the
case we have from time to time adduced
proof from the English press. We were
especially gratified, however, to meet
with an article upon this subject in a
leading London journal, and from which
we make the following extract:

THAT'S ALL.—The old favorite of
Victoria, Mrs Fanny Morgan Phelps, took a
sooth last night, and we are glad to say, had
a good house. The soul-stirring and
awful military drama of "The Child of the
Regiment" was wisely chosen for the occasion,
and most excellently put on the stage.
Throughout Mrs Phelps did full justice
to herself and to the pathos and sentiment of
the play. We wish not only to commend
the admirable manner in which she was
sustained by the company—especially by
Miss Cummings as Duchess de Graafstal
and Mr. Barry as Pamporeckle. The enter-
tainment concluded with the inimitable
Mrs Carter, who, after affording one of
the most agreeable evenings afforded by the
company during their stay here.

THE BERRY, BAY MURDER.—We learn
that the Executive Council have held a sit-
ting upon the case of McShae, convicted of
killing Armand Campbell in a most cold
blooded manner for mercenary objects. The
decision arrived at is not known—but how
any difficulties of opinion as to the propriety
of hanging the guilty murderer exist, we
cannot discern. However, if the Government
fails to do its duty, the rebels will not fail
to do theirs when McShae emerges from
confinement. No man's life will be safe in
the district if McShae escapes.

A. M. S. M. Daws, has been appointed
Collector of Pigeon Sound by the President.
This clearly indicates that Gadsden, the
Delegate from Washington Territory, has
done all his own way with Gen. Grant.
Gadsden, lately bad, Flanders, the Gover-
nor of the territory, removed—the most
creditable act he has ever done.

THE STEAMSHIP, CALIFORNIA.—The Port-
land papers say that the California will
touch at that port before coming on to Victoria.
The Portlanders had better keep her
she is advertised to sail from Portland to
Victoria on the 16th instant, and her
arrivals in Victoria will be no joy.

THE STEAMSHIP, PACIFIC.—A rigid
investigation will be had, mean while the
Captains of both vessels have been suspended
from duty, and their services are to be
done elsewhere.

These words (some of which we have
emphasised) from such source possess
very great importunity. They not only
place the surprise in its true light,
but fully recognise the necessity for the
early completion of it, as a whole. The
opening up of the "Strait Belt" may be
doubtless in a point of pressing im-
portance to Canada; but we have to
warn both the Canadian and the Im-
perial Governments that if the emer-
gence of Canada, we know ours to
demand immediate consolidation by the
only bond strong enough to retain
British Columbia. The idea of the
construction of the western section
being undertaken simultaneously with
the rest of the line is a capital one;
and it is one which the people of this
colony might associate with Canada in
procuring upon Imperial attention. In
fact, it is not too much to ask for an as-

sembly—A skat fell upon Harris
Bottom on Monday and received so severe a
bruise on his forehead that he had to be
carried home.

ACCIDENT.—A skat fell upon Harris
Bottom on Monday and received so severe a
bruise on his forehead that he had to be
carried home.

JAMES JONES was yesterday ordered to
find security to be of good behavior for one
year, or six months' imprisonment.

Pop Jimmy!—such a noise

and noise

Court Cost—Marie v. Franklin.

Pemberton yesterday gave judgment in this

case, awarding \$25 damages to the plaintiff.

BUTON.—The Magistrate yesterday de-
clined to discharge Bowby and ordered him

to be held in custody three days longer.

HARRIS AND SKEENE FOXES were crowded

yesterday by persons skating. The

ice is as smooth as glass.

Wednesday Jan 26.

THE BUS ON THE TRADE.

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THE GRAND PROMO-
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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

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