

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, September 14, 1870.

The Artful Dodger.

Mr DeCosmos has induced one of his constituents, who has been in town for the past few days, to write a letter to his paper, obviously as a pretext for placing before the public what professes to be a true account of the attitude of the Artful Dodger on the question of retrenchment during last session of the Legislative Council. Now we should have no objection to Mr DeCosmos adopting this means of reproducing his legislative eccentricities, were he only content to do so without gross violation of the truth, and with due regard to the rights of others. But when we find him making such a rehearsal the occasion for indulging in the most wanton and gross misrepresentation of the acts and motives of others, we hope to be permitted an opportunity of reply. And before entering upon the subject proper, let us draw attention to the repeated allusions made to the late Evening News. The whole matter, Mr DeCosmos reminds the public, was discussed and explained in the Evening News; and again, 'The Evening News of the period in question had published some scathing articles on Messrs Robson and Barnard.' It is no more than right that the public should be reminded of the fact that 'The Evening News' of the period in question was the mere 'hack' of Mr DeCosmos—the vehicle through which he, with the most brazen front, glorified himself and slandered all who would not obsequiously follow him. Indeed, it must still be in the recollection of many in this community how the paper in question was specially devoted to a most vindictive and unscrupulous persecution of Messrs Robson and Barnard, and particularly the latter—a policy which was carried to such a length as completely to disgust every right-thinking person, and most especially kill the paper itself. The present references to the account contained in 'The Evening News' of the period in question will, therefore, be likely to pass as their true value. But let us come to the gist of Mr DeCosmos's defence. The only consistent and persistent opposition to their (the Estimates) passage was made by Messrs DeCosmos and Humphreys—so, at least, says Mr DeCosmos. Now, had the sentence run as follows it would, we venture to think, have been more susceptible of belief: 'The only unreasoning and factious opposition to the passage of the Estimates was made by Messrs DeCosmos and Humphreys; for scarcely such was the general impression at the time. But it is scarcely modest on the part of Mr DeCosmos to ask the public to believe that he and his single follower were in reality the only consistent and independent men in the Legislature. To do so betrays peculiar weakness and excessive credulity. Again, Messrs Robson and Barnard are charged with having made a most unparliamentary attempt to prevent the votes on the Estimates being recorded, leaving it to be inferred that they wished to conceal those votes from the public eye. The fact is that they did nothing of the kind. Some of the members did protest against such a waste of time in the recording of the votes; but both of the above-named gentlemen said: 'Let them be taken; the object is sufficiently transparent.' Mr DeCosmos next intimates that the pressure of public opinion was so great that on February 26th Mr Barnard brought forward a motion in Mr Robson's handwriting, &c., &c., and continues.

The Attorney-General, Mr Alton, Mr Trutch, Mr Dewdney and others, so completely disgusted were they with the conduct of their supporters, Messrs Robson and Barnard, that they manifested towards them the utmost contempt, declaring in the Estimates, and it was most inconsistent in them to bring in a resolution for more clap-trap. It will hardly be necessary to say that the above is pure fabrication. The Government members unobscuredly opposed the resolution. But, while opposing it, they tacitly admitted it to be what it certainly was, the only really feasible attempt at retrenchment made during the passage of the Estimates. It may be proper to state here that in asserting that Mr Barnard's motion was in Mr Robson's handwriting, Mr DeCosmos, for an evident object, asserts a deliberate falsehood. As for the alleged copypitancy of the action of Messrs Robson and Barnard in bringing forward the resolution in question, it will only be necessary to state that these gentlemen decided upon that course more than three weeks before, as the only legitimate means within the reach of the Council, as at present constituted, for attaining any considerable measure of retrenchment—an attempt, however, rendered ineffective by the recalcitancy of

Messrs DeCosmos and Humphreys. It is asserted that the real object of the supporters of the resolution was to escape public censure. That may be the opinion of one habitually acting from such motives; but it is untrue, nevertheless. The public are next asked to believe that Mr DeCosmos was desirous of supporting the resolution, and was only prevented doing so, on account of its authors insisting upon retaining the words 'This Council is powerless.' So, words which he claimed were not true. It would be interesting to know how often the Council has been pronounced powerless to effect any reform, by Mr DeCosmos himself. But here, again, he is guilty of perpetrating a literary fraud by mangling a sentence of the resolution so as to convey a false impression. The whole sentence runs as follows: 'That though the expense of conducting the government of the colony is out of all proportion to the number, need and ability of the people, this Council is powerless to effect any material reduction, after the Estimates are framed by the Executive and submitted in detail, without more or less disturbing the harmony and impairing the efficiency of the whole.'

It will be observed that the resolution did not assert that the Council was powerless to reduce the Estimates. Mr DeCosmos wrongly makes it say that, in order to justify his own base description of the cause of retrenchment. That the Council could not reduce the various items in the already prepared Estimates, without more or less disturbing the harmony and impairing the efficiency of the whole, no one knew better than Mr DeCosmos himself; for in his action in having some salaries raised, during last session, he rendered it necessary for the Council to return to salaries already passed and raise them also, in order to maintain 'harmony,' &c. What! Mr DeCosmos raising salaries! Oh, yes. We are afraid the public cannot be expected to believe that Mr DeCosmos was honestly acting in the public interest in refusing to join the other representative members in passing a resolution, at the proper time and in the proper form, which was calculated to effect a very large measure of retrenchment, without in any way disturbing the harmony or impairing the efficiency of the prepared Estimates and the public service. And his conduct in this matter is the more remarkable when it is remembered that the action of those who brought forward the resolution was in strict harmony with that of a party in the Council with which he himself acted during a previous session; and that the scale of reductions therein recommended were almost precisely the same as those submitted by himself at the Yale Convention. Much as we dislike uncharitable conclusions, we fear that, in this instance, Mr DeCosmos's opposition to the retrenchment scheme under discussion is to be found in a peculiar condition of mind which leads some persons to oppose anything and everything that does not originate with themselves—that is not the product of their own imaculate minds. Such persons, instead of representing constituencies which may be so unfortunate as to return them, virtually disfranchise them!

Mail Communication.

Not the least of the many benefits expected to flow from Confederation may be regarded that of greatly improved ocean mail communication. We are to have fortnightly communication with San Francisco and semi-weekly communication with Puget Sound, and the service in both instances is to be performed by steamships of a class adapted to the carriage of passengers and freight. It is not easy to overestimate the importance of these changes. The ocean is at present our only highway for inter-communication, and it must continue to be so until such time as the colony shall have been connected with the railway system of Canada; and this is a consideration which must greatly increase the importance of the contemplated improvements in our ocean communication. These improvements will immediately follow union. But union is presumably twelve months away. Shall we, meanwhile, rest content with things as they are? Not, surely, if we have the means of improving our condition in this respect. The object of the present article is to show that we do possess the means, the easy means, the cheap means. The mails now come to Port Townsend twice a week. We only receive the United States mail contractor, is prepared to let us have them twice. For a most reasonable consideration, one quite within the ability of the colony to pay—mere trifles in fact when viewed in the light of the benefits certain to accrue to the country—he is prepared to place two steamers on the route and give us regular semi-weekly communication. The value of such an arrangement must not be measured by the mail communication it would afford. It is even more important as a means of facilitating travel and international commercial in-

tercourse. The result of two—with the opposition, three—steamers coming here from the Sound every week and remaining in our port over one day, would at once be felt by our business people, by every class, in fact. It must be remembered that Puget Sound is no longer the stagnant place of past times. It is now rapidly filling up and expanding its trade and industry, and it is, therefore, well worth our while to cultivate closer business relations with our thriving neighbor. If, as we have stated, there is a party prepared to give us semi-weekly communication with Puget Sound right away, and on terms quite within the financial ability of the colony, why should we wait another twelve months for such a desideratum? By all means let us have it at once. To this really important matter we respectfully but most earnestly solicit the immediate attention of the Executive.

New French Hospital.—The contractor, Mr. D. Adams, has virtually completed the new wing of the French Hospital, raised the old building twelve feet, and converted the establishment into one of the most complete and beautiful *Maison de Santes* on the Pacific Coast. There is such an air of comfort and rest and thankfulness pervading the establishment that the prospect of a long illness is robbed of half its terrors. The establishment contains spacious rooms for male and female patients, three bath-rooms—one on the Russian principle—drawing-room, kitchen, closets, &c. A wide piazza surrounds the building. The grounds are about one acre in extent and will be laid out with walks and beds, and planted with flowers, shrubs and fruit trees. At present there is but one patient. The establishment is well worth a visit and inspection.

LIBERAL.—Mr J. Chester, Sales has received the following from Mr. Briggs, Collector of Customs for the district of Port Townsend, with respect to articles from the American side intended for exhibition: 'Yours of yesterday is at hand, and in reply I have to state that all articles sent from this side for exhibition at Victoria will be allowed to return duty free. Certificates must, however, be obtained when the articles leave this port, so that they may be identified upon their return.'

Syracuse.—Capt. Calhoun of the brig *Syracuse*, during his repeated voyages between this port and Honolulu, has noticed frequently large schools of seals in a certain latitude and longitude about 1000 miles from any known body of land, and the belief of Capt. Calhoun is that at least, at present unknown to navigators, exists in that part of the Pacific Ocean. It is his duty, and British Columbia ought to send out expedition and, if found, take possession of it in the name of the New Dominion.

SALES.—We publish this Bill to-day. It is about, but long enough to show that in the hands of the Governor is reposed full power. In the House of Commons, on the 5th of August, Mr. Whitwell asked the right hon. gentleman, the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, to state the nature of the new constitution proposed to be given to the colonies. Mr. Russell replied that, under the provisions of the Bill the governing body would not be entirely nominated by the Crown as at present, but a majority of its members would be nominated by the people. The Bill was then read a second time.

At the place grounds on Monday evening last, some alterations took place between David Borwath and James Butler, when the latter struck Borwath on the head with a blunt object, inflicting a serious injury. A charge was laid before the Police Court yesterday and Butler was arrested; but owing to the injury sustained, Borwath was unable to attend the prosecution. The trial will come off to-day at 11 o'clock.

Mr. TAYLOR AND THE RAILWAY.—A private letter has been received from Mr. H. M. Tribel, dated at London. The hon. gentleman expected to be at Ottawa on the 4th inst. and at Victoria on the 10th of October. He writes that the Imperial Government are anxious to promote Confederation and are willing to attach their guarantee to the Canadian guarantee for the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway within the time specified—ten years.

THEY.—At Toy's, Chinaman, for stealing plants from the garden of Miss Yates, was yesterday convicted and remanded three days for sentence with bail for appearance. Mr. Bishop for the prosecution and Mr. McCright for the defence.

INDIAN TALKER.—On the steamer *Favorite*, which sailed for the Northwest Coast yesterday, there were eight sales of blankets valued at \$150, the property of an Indian.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.—At a meeting of the U. S. L. Co., No. 1, held last evening, Messrs S. Duck and F. G. Richards were nominated as Chief and Assist. Engineers of the Victoria Fire Department. Mr. John Vaughan was elected Assistant of the company, vice Mr. A. Pele, resigned. Mr. W. H. Huxtable, 2nd Assistant, vice Vaughan, promoted, and Mr. George Cohen Secretary. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Pele for his efficient services for the past year.

WHAT splendid sailers are these Hudson Bay Company's ships. The *Prince of Wales*, in her last passage from Victoria to London, made the best recorded time, and yesterday the *Princess Royal* arrived at San Francisco in five days and eight hours from this port. Match this she can't do.

County Court.

Monday, Sept 6, 1870.

Parson v. Larkin—Plaintiff sued for gold dust valued at \$60 and interest, lent as he alleged to defendant in 1863, at Castibon. Defendant said it was a gift made by plaintiff to himself, and the remainder to one Jas. Larkin, deceased. Defendant relied on the plaintiff, never having treated the transaction as anything but a gift from that time until now, except that on one occasion, about a year and a half ago the plaintiff, when he (the defendant) was drunk, coaxed the defendant into giving an order on one O'Dwyer to pay the plaintiff the amount. Defendant further urged the statute of limitation. Plaintiff, however, contended that this order took the case out of the operation of the statute of limitation, which contention the defendant resisted and relied on authority to show that, independently of the drunkenness of the defendant, at the time he gave the order, the order itself did not operate as a promise so as to take the case out of the statute of limitation, and that the order was not a part payment within the statute.

The Judge remarked that he must defer the decision, both as to the fact—as the evidence was conflicting—and, as to the law point.

Mr. Drake for the plaintiff, and Mr. McCright, instructed by Mr. Davie, for the defendant.

Tax Returns.—Called for New Westminster at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Among the passengers were the Messrs Macgrave and Mrs. Hankin. The Governor's carriage and horses were forwarded.

A Young Swan.—We are happy to announce that Mrs. F. M. Bates—the gifted and amiable lady who has so often delighted crowded houses at Victoria with her histrionic ability—has been safely delivered of a daughter at Portland, Oregon.

Tax bark *Adels*, consigned to Mr. J. Robertson Stewart, arrived yesterday morning from San Francisco. She will load with lumber at Sooke.

The Fox BELL.—All the material for the erection of the fox-bell is at Race Rock and the contractor will commence work to-day.

The Bazaar commenced taking in her charge yesterday and expects to be ready for sale in a week or two.

EXAMINER'S CLAIM.—An effort is being made in the United States to induce President Grant to pardon Gen. O'Neil and other Fenian convicts, now serving out their sentences in States Prison.

A BIG CATCH.—Fifty-five French Generals are prisoners of war in the hands of Prussia. Such a haul of Generals was probably never made before.

THE H. B. CO. BANK.—The H. B. Co. Bank of Victoria is leading at London for Victoria, to sail between the 1st and 10th of October.

The steamer *Isabel*, advertised to sail on Thursday evening for Port Townsend, has been postponed.

A BILL.—The bill for the amendment of the provisions of the Act in relation to the appointment of Justices of the Peace, &c., &c., was introduced for the consideration of the House of Commons.

Whereas in pursuance of the powers vested in Her Majesty by Act passed in the session held in the twenty-first and twenty-second years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act to provide for the Government of British Columbia,' Her Majesty did, by an Order in Council, bearing date of the eleventh day of June one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, constitute a Legislative Council consisting of the Governor and of British Columbia.

And whereas by the British Columbia Act of 1860 Vancouver Island was united to British Columbia and was made subject to the said Legislature, and the number of the Legislative Council was increased so as to provide for the representation of Vancouver Island.

And whereas it is expedient to alter the constitution of the said Legislature, and to amend the provisions thereof, by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, doth hereby enact, that the said Legislative Council shall consist of the Governor and of British Columbia.

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Letter from Paris.

July 30, 1870.

The press is still somewhat like Mahomet's coffin in relation to war, some, it is high crime and misdemeanor to raise to the military movements, beyond what is posted up day and night in the *Freemason's Bureau* at the Home Office. Knowing that if they order this matter better in France, one must not complain—there is a ray of hope that severity may be relaxed, it is quite contrary to the journals are presented alike for publishing false news as well as truth. If an editor is naughty at Paris, the Police pay attention to him; it is the same at the camp, the soldiers prepare to make an example. The only outsiders popular at the camp are the Prussians—two officers belonging to whom, who were taken prisoners, had the honor of dining with the Minister of War. The first instalment of 'The Boy's Life' are expected in Paris to-morrow. If they appear on the boulevards, they will out-rival the celestial Ambassadors in interest. The first catch of the net is ever the most exciting. The grand journals of the capital have experienced the calamities of a premature commencement. With a view of placing the proceedings of the campaign within the reach of 400,000 mothers, who have given their sons to the Holy War, these journals brought out a halfpenny edition of their morning news, when the law imposed silence and thus measures the innocents—one of whom has been cited before the Tribunal for giving intelligence, and likely to influence the *Comte de Moltke*.

The Emperor acted wisely to leave for the camp quietly. When he brings *Prussia's* back the durable peace he goes to sign, *Nick* Charlemagne, with his sword, the *cad mille*, *faulx* extended to him will be but the greater. The Emperor saw him off at St. Cloud like any other wife in France, holding her tears till the warriors were out of sight. A few days ago, in the early morning, the Emperor went quietly to the station of *Notre Dame des Victoires*, to see off their prayers for France. She has placed in the same edifice a *Vierge*, which will shed a dim religious light during the continuation of the struggle. She did the same during the Italian campaign. It was her own hands that packed the *Prince Imperial's* portmanteau, and report admits that even a scolding tear has been dropped therein. Even the young Prince, with his hair cut in *Tutu*, appeared grave on parting. In the railway carriage the mother and son, said adieu, but an eye witnessed the separation. The moving accidents of food and field, now about taking place under conditions without parallel, may well make the seated bearbrook at the risk of the Emperor's health.

The Emperor has confined the upholding of order in Paris, and the protection of the Republic, to the National Guard—a very popular measure. To see now the last and greatest citizen, in blue uniform and white facings, occupy the posts lately occupied by a *Turco* or a *Grandmaitre*. It is known to look at a *garde national* of Parisian proportions, beside the stately *bourgeois* which and him there is the same proportion as the halfpenny worth of brass to the imperishable deal of sack. But they will do their duty. The Paris contingent of the National Guard Mobile, commenced moving for Orleans on Thursday. The people observed them as if they were the grand army departed. The members of this grand army very young men who are very enthusiastic and courageous. They carried in their hands little tri-color flags. Their uniform is smock blue with red facings, and *gilette*, which is all based for freedom of movement. Despite of fortifications defending the city, and the preparations against a surprise, Paris will be a stiff mortar for any foe to be fought.

Place au Pape.—One of the happy results of war will be the liberation of France from her false position of policeman at the Vatican, and—disgraceful to the 28 Republic which first sent troops there, and Mr. Rother's *gilette*, that from there they would not be asked. But love laughs at *politicians* as well as lovers' battles. Let the Pope look after himself now—being infallible he can dispose with omniscience. The affair of the *Treaty* is being regarded, nearly unanimously, as a mere nest. That the matter was discussed is not denied—but the objection is one thing, and the execution another. The *Treaty* has destroyed the sensation by alleging the treaty was offered by France for Prussia's acceptance during the last three weeks. No one believes this. France, for last three years, has remained *in garde* towards Berlin, and the Emperor is *trop fin* to forfeit the good-will of England, by leaving in Bismark's hands—who already depicted in the evidence against crime and humanity.

All Bismark's assertions must be taken as *grano salis*. He has not annexed *Balka de Grammont's* dispatches to his *degage* with Prince Leopold in 1869. He asserts that the treaty is in the French Ambassador, Bismark's hand writing. This gentleman will duly reply, though the form of the documents and its style indicate the Prussian hand. On the whole, Bismark is *ave* both powers, Bismark, in finishing the *Times* with copy of a strictly confidential matter, cannot build a claim for sympathy. Surely there is some code of diplomatic honor, which does not allow of secrets ever being divulged, and which, if the nation extend, will render international relations as impossible.

Mrs. Castelar is a representative business man in her diplomatic position. The *Marsellaise* favors the subsidies, and the citizens have very well treated to arms, and thoroughly understood the sacred joys of country. The wind is now setting in for Maudslayi's *German* *Times*, which he reminds the *Tatlers* that the *Gaule* has already crossed it, and that some will not set against. 'E raise be to God! an *Adel-Kaiser* will be short. The *prophet* in the *prophet* *Charras* is good. It represents a soldier turning a *mitrailleuse*, before which he is laid covered with the *aim*. The soldier says, 'I have been in work for two days, five minutes, and the war is over—my nose remains to be killed, and my limbs are mangled. I was at work yesterday. The *prophet* fired 60 glasses of beer out of it, in as many seconds as he did yesterday.'

Wednesday, September 14 1870.

Responsible Government.

It is of supreme importance that the subject of Responsible Government should be thoroughly understood, inasmuch as the people will, in a few weeks at most, be called upon to decide whether or not they desire to have that form of Government inaugurated in this Colony...

The Mediterranean of the Pacific.

Such is the title conferred upon the principal paper in Harper's Magazine for the present month. The paper is from the pen of the Rev. Thomas Somerville, late Minister of St Andrew's Church in this city. It will, therefore, possess peculiar interest to the bulk of our readers, as well on account of the high estimation in which its author is held here as because it treats upon matters of local interest.

across whether we have Responsible or Irresponsible Government? The chief difference would be this: Under Responsible Government the people would have full power to fix the expenses high or low; whereas, under Irresponsible Government they would not possess that power.

Such is the title conferred upon the principal paper in Harper's Magazine for the present month. The paper is from the pen of the Rev. Thomas Somerville, late Minister of St Andrew's Church in this city.

It is only a few years ago since the Great Northwest indicated the States of Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, and the States between New England and the Rocky Mountains. Since that time the cry of gold has led thousands of our population across the Rocky Mountains and the glistening peaks of the Nevada range...

trapper hears it, and hurriedly gathers up his traps and little 'skixes,' and, with his squaw and half-breed brood, retreats before the surging flood of immigration. They hear, not afar off, the rush of waves, where soon shall roll a 'human sea'—a sea that shall sweep them before it.

Having given a very readable account of the earlier history of this question, he proceeds to put the case in the following rather lucid way: The treaty appears to have been made under the erroneous impression that there was only one channel between the mainland and Vancouver Island.

THE ARTFUL DODGER AGAIN.—On Wednesday we took occasion to expose a very glaring attempt to vindicate the base desertion of the cause of Retrenchment by Mr DeComes during last session.

County Court.

Ab Queen vs Dodd and Yates.—This case, after occupying several hours, was adjourned one week with a view to its being withdrawn from the Court.

THE LADY.—This steamer called at 2 1/2 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Port Townsend, she will return on Monday afternoon with the Alida's passengers and freight which will be transferred at Port Townsend.

THE CITY.—The present member for District No 2—apparently convinced that his chances for re-election by that constituency are about as substantial as one of Green's Ghosts—has intimated his intention of standing for the City.

FOR VICTORIA.

The fine schooner Lovett Peacock has been put on the berth by Messrs Pickett & Harrison at San Francisco for this port to sail on the 15th inst.

THE GRACES OF WAR.—A correspondent of the Times, writing from Metz, states that among the prisoners taken by the French in the skirmish at Niederrhein were two officers of the Baden army, who upon their arrival in Metz were lodged at the Hotel de l'Europe.

Powell's Balsam of Aniseed. EXTRAORDINARY CURE OF A COUGH. HER MAJESTY'S GUNBOAT "NETLEY".

The Water Boundary.

The book written by Lord Milton, entitled 'The History of the San Juan Water Boundary Question,' has already been noticed in our columns. We are glad to see that it has attracted considerable attention at home.

It is quite probable that very few of our English readers have heard little more of the San Juan question than that it is one of those outstanding diplomatic difficulties which have so long existed between Great Britain and the United States—the merits of which no Englishman outside of the embassy at Washington or some special department of our Foreign Office can affect to understand, much less to solve.

Unquestionably the history of our diplomatic relations fully justifies this conclusion. In every instance where the dispute has been one of territorial boundary this has been strikingly verified. Look we to the Atlantic, we find that territory now constituting the State of Maine lost to the British Crown through the stupidity of a weak and unappreciative Commissioner.

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It is quite probable that very few of our English readers have heard little more of the San Juan question than that it is one of those outstanding diplomatic difficulties which have so long existed between Great Britain and the United States—the merits of which no Englishman outside of the embassy at Washington or some special department of our Foreign Office can affect to understand, much less to solve; and being of no material importance is certain sooner or later to be settled by a specious, but really one-sided compromise, in which the hesitation and easy indifference of our own representatives is to be rigidly contrasted with the determined, encroaching, and not always very scrupulous attitude of Transatlantic diplomatists.

Unquestionably the history of our diplomatic relations fully justifies this conclusion. In every instance where the dispute has been one of territorial boundary this has been strikingly verified. Look we to the Atlantic, we find that territory now constituting the State of Maine lost to the British Crown through the stupidity of a weak and unappreciative Commissioner. In that instance the loss is less when viewed in the light of the intrinsic value of the territory than from the consideration that it deprives the Dominion of a most valuable frontage on the sea and of the magnificent winter harbour of Portland. Passing to the middle of the continent, British interests have scarcely fared better. By the most culpable weakness and want of foresight the Dominion has been robbed of its natural pathway across the western plains by being crowded back upon the rough and broken country lying between Lakes Superior and Winnipeg. Coming over to the western rim of the Continent, how do matters stand in this respect? Alas! the worst of all is here. Half of Oregon and the whole of Washington Territory by every consideration of fairness and right belonged to the British Crown; and would belong to it now had it not been for the diplomatic atrocities of limp and stupid Commissioners. The full import of this sacrifice who can estimate? Two of the most valuable States of all the thirty-seven east away from us! The Columbia—'The Abilites of rivers,' as it has been called—lost to us; Puget Sound—the Mediterranean of the Pacific—with all its magnificent sea and forest wealth, with its fertile valleys, and snow-capped mountains—all lost! British America has been sandwiched on the Pacific; it has lost the control of those magnificent inland seas on which will yet be centred the commerce of the world, and is now found weakly parleying about the possession of an Island which, though insignificant in itself, may be said, in the hands of others, to dispute our passage. British diplomacy in this respect has only one more not remaining to be performed in order to fill the cup of its culpable, unreasonable, iniquitous folly; and that is the surrender of San Juan Island. That done, Great Britain might well abandon all pretensions to empire in the West. That crowning act of perfidy accomplished, she might well be supposed to withdraw from the Continent, Vancouver Island, in its relations to these waters, being described as 'The strong man armed, keeping the door.' But it should be remembered that there is a context to that: 'But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.' Such we fear, may be the position of Uncle Sam in possession of San Juan Island. Expressing his fears as to the result of conditions portrayed in the above extract, our London contemporary continues:

This, we are afraid, very likely to be the ultimate result; if so, it will be an act of the weakest and most imbecile policy as regards Imperial duties and interests, as also of grossly culpable negligence and a highly criminal sacrifice of the future interests, the well-being and even the integrity of British America. The vast tract of territory stretching from the Dominion of Canada on the Atlantic to British Columbia on the Pacific, isolated and unpopulated as it is at present, is nevertheless rich in all material resources. It enjoys a position not only in relation to British interests on the one hand and the United States on the other, but also as affects the course of European commerce with India, China, and Japan, of the highest importance to the future standing of England in its rivalry with the American Republic. It is the imperative duty and policy of Great Britain to maintain her right over these important territories, and to develop them as a counterpoise against the great American democracy, not only in her own interests, but in those of every nation of the world, which even now is aghast at the rapid progress which the American Union is so likely to make in a generation or two hence, animated by all the uncontrollable impulses and passions of an extreme but all-powerful democracy. Great Britain, holding Imperial rights over this vast extent of territory, has also Imperial duties to discharge, and upon every ground of duty and policy ought to regard herself as a trustee for the future prosperity of these important provinces of her empire.

These words indicate, thanks to Lord Milton, some degree of awakening in the English mind to a realization of the importance and destiny of British North America, as well as a more lively apprehension of the bearing of the San Juan Question. Yet we must confess that, in so far as this particular question is concerned, we are disposed to look more hopefully to Ottawa than to London; and the best guarantee for the safety of British interests would be found in Canadian intervention. At any rate, it is the duty of Canadian Statesmen to watch carefully the progress of any negotiations that may be going on, and stand by ready to avert national disaster by strengthening invertebrate Commissioners.

County Court. (Before Hon. J. P. Pemberton.) FRIDAY, Sept 9, 1870. Fall & Finlayson vs Eddy & Robinson, for an account. Judgment for plaintiffs—\$166 with costs. Goodson vs Asken. Action for an account. Judgment for plaintiffs—\$6 25 with costs. Several judgments were confessed and a number of cases were settled out of Court. The Court adjourned to meet on Tuesday, 13th inst.

CITY REPRESENTATION.—Dr. Trimble authorizes us to say that he will not be a candidate for the city representation. Mr. A. R. Robertson has been asked to stand for the city and it is rumored will consent. Mr. Robertson would make an excellent member. We advise electors not to pledge themselves until all the candidates are known and authentically announced.

SUPPOSED LOSS OF H. M. S. CAPTAIN.—The telegraph announces the loss of the ship, Captain of Cape Finisterre with 500 lives. Can the lost vessel be the new iron-clad frigate Captain, whose performances on her trial trip created so much satisfaction lately?

CRICKET.—The return match between the Boxer and Victoria Juniors will be played to-day at Beacon Hill, commencing at one o'clock.

TRUTH ABOUT.—A gang of desperate villains from the other side are reported in town awaiting a chance to commit depredations. The Police are watching the rogues; but citizens must do their part towards removing temptation from the path of the thieves by looking well to their fastenings.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER BALL.—We understand that the Columbia Royal Arch Chapter of Masons will celebrate the anniversary of the formation of the Chapter and the installation of its Officers, by a ball on the 23d inst.

YAKIMA BEES.—We were shown yesterday, at Victoria Market, several magnificent beehives fed on the rich hunch-grass of Yakima Valley, Oregon. These beehives, bred from the choicest stock, have positively arrived at perfection and no finer animals were ever driven to market.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.—At a special meeting of the Hook & Ladder Company, held last evening, the following gentlemen were elected Delegates to represent the Company at the Board of Delegates: Messrs. Jenkinson, Dalby, and Hayward. Mr. Ferguson was elected judge for the approaching election.

STRENGTH MOVEMENTS.—A telegram from Portland last evening states that the California will sail for Victoria to-day, and that the Idaho, due there from San Francisco, was not reported.

LARGE EARNINGS.—It has been computed that during the year 1868 the gross earnings of the railroads of the United States were four hundred millions; and that during 1869 they were five hundred millions.

THE PRISONER.—Ah Toy was yesterday brought up on remand and sentenced to three days' imprisonment from the day of his arrest, which time having expired the culprit was set at liberty.

THE COMRADE.—It is reported that a bark rounded Race Rocks last evening—supposed to be the long delayed Corsair.

THE TELEGRAPH REPAIRS will complete their duties in about one week's time.

THANKS.—To Capt. Kennedy of the Ocean Pearl, for files of late papers.

THE QUARTS OR ROCK at Mount Douglas improves as the miners descend.

DOWN WITH HIM! EDITOR BARTLEY COCKBURN.—Because Mr. Pemberton turned the key upon the gifted Amor DeCosmos, Amor DeCosmos demands that the people shall petition for the removal of Mr. Pemberton, Dick or Harry: looked up, there would, of course, be no crime in the act.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—The schooner Ocean Pearl, Capt. Kennedy, arrived from San Francisco yesterday morning in fourteen days, having sailed on the 26th. She brings a mail cargo of goods consigned to Messrs. Millard & Beedy and five passengers. Capt. Kennedy reports a French or English bark in the Straits. He also spoke the ship John Jay, 20 days out from San Francisco, bound for the Sound.

REAL ESTATE.—Mr. Franklin, yesterday, sold at auction lot 44, Spring Ridge, 1 1/2 acres, for \$130. Lots in Victoria West went from \$20 to \$30. Farm in Lake district, \$3 25 per acre. House and lot on Johnson street, above Quadra, \$500. Discovery street lots, from \$125 to \$130. The attendance was large.

THE schooner Dreadnaught will sail from San Francisco for Newcastle Island immediately to take down a cargo of stone. Mr. Emory, contractor of the San Francisco Mint building, who is now in town, having telegraphed to San Francisco to that effect yesterday.

A FIXER.—The attempt to get up a petition to remove Mr. Pemberton has completely failed. The first difficulty was to find some person to circulate the document; and when a paid agent had been procured, the next difficulty was to get a baker's dozen to sign it. This last difficulty was insurmountable, and the petition has been returned unsigned to the Standard Office.

IRELAND AND THE WAR. From the Pall Mall Gazette. Our Cork correspondent telegraphs: Eight or ten thousand people assembled at Treaty Stone, Limerick, yesterday, to express sympathy with France. A brass band attended and a profuse display of banners was made, bearing various inscriptions, one being 'God save France and our Holy Father the Pope.' Resolutions were passed, expressing the hope that France would come victorious out of the struggle, and declaring that the splendid example of France, whose people surrounded the flag in irrepressible unity, should admonish Irishmen to sink their differences and unite for the interests of Ireland in a spirit of patriotic devotion. A speaker who ventured to say the Irish would defend Queen Victoria, evoked great uproar and indignant denials. An-

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