

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, November 27, 1866.

What Next?

We thought that we had completed the tale of woeful mismanagement under the new regime, but it seems otherwise. Not content with charging the owners of the Enterprise before leaving this port \$35 for New Westminster port charges and \$20 for Victoria port charges, the steamer on her arrival at New Westminster was made to pay the New Westminster port charges over again, with \$25 head-money on her passengers, in all \$115 for the round trip! But this is not all: Duties were levied on all goods laden on board the steamer...

THE CHINA MAIL'S FIRST STEAMER, 'THE COLORADO.'—The steamer Colorado is undergoing very extensive alterations, to fit her for the China Mail service, to start on the 1st of January next. She has had her outer line of state-rooms taken from the main deck, and the guards that lately overhung the water some ten or twelve feet, are reduced from three to two feet. The guards forward of the wheel-houses have been reduced to the same proportions, and all round the ship, fore and aft, short heavy timber knees are being placed to strengthen the guards and deck-frame from the rough seas which prevail in stormy weather in the vicinity of Japan and China. Another change in the appearance of the Colorado is her rig, she now having three masts in place of two.—S. F. paper.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE

THE BELL-RINGERS' BENEFIT.—Our people responded handsomely to the call of the Bell-Ringers for a benefit last evening, and gave them a "whacking" house. Little Miss Clara was in excellent voice and sang several songs with her usual naïveté, invariably calling forth an enthusiastic encore. Mrs Blaisdell on the harp; Mr Moore on the flute; Mr Godley on the cornet, and the Blaisdell Brothers with the great bells, filled the house with sweet melody. The petite Comedy of "The Willful Ward," was presented in the interval between the first and second parts of the entertainment with great success. Miss Jenny Arnot represented the ward admirably, and was very well supported by Messrs R. G. and George Marsh, Mr C Clarke and Mr Reubens. The troupe will leave for Puget Sound this morning; they carry with them the best wishes of their numerous admirers in this city, who recommend them warmly to the Sound people.

THE ACTIVE will leave San Francisco for this port at noon on Saturday. So says a private despatch.

FOR METLAKATLAN.—The schooner Kate is taking in a cargo of goods for the Metlakatlah Mission.

FROM BIG BEND.—Mr W. L. Wade, of Walla Walla, who has spent the summer in the Big Bend mines, arrived in this city last night, and furnishes us the following facts in relation to those mines: He says that about one thousand men have been in the mines of French creek, McCulloch's creek, Carnes' creek and on the bars of the Columbia between Gold and Carnes' creeks. Very few men have made expenses. The only creeks that have paid anything worth speaking of are French and McCulloch's, which are tributaries of Gold creek. On all the streams upon which gold has been discovered, the bed rock is so deep that it cannot be reached without better appliances for the protection against water. The number of men there a month ago was probably not more than two hundred and fifty, as at an election at which nearly everybody voted, only two hundred and twenty-seven votes were cast. Mr Wade says that more than three-fourths of all the men who came down on the Forty-nine when he did, came as dead-heads, by force, having no means of paying their passage. A few men will winter there, and perhaps another season be able to reach the bed rock in their claims, when all feel confident they will obtain big pay.—Oregonian.

THE DUTCH BILL, BROUSE, SIMMON and Hoffman, paying 1 1/2 to 2 ozs a-day to the hand. Allan (colored) continues to take out his quiet 5 to 6 ozs a day, working all alone. The United made a dividend for the week of \$184 to the share (16 shares). The Borealis, \$150 to the share (14 shares). The Never Sweat, \$200 to the share (8 shares). The Caledonia, \$180 to the share (8 shares). The Forest Rose doing well; Stout's Gulch, Alturas, and Floyd ditto.

THE CELEBRATED HERON CLAIM continues to give weekly dividends of \$800 to \$1100 a week to each share (8 shares). The Full-Rigged Co. is paying about equal to the Heron. The Never-do-Well is paying \$40 to \$50 a-day to the hand. The Rankin doing well. The Short Bend giving fair weekly dividends. Prospecting is being carried on extensively and with great spirit. The reported discovery of rich dry diggings is confirmed.

CONSIDERABLE PROSPECTING is being carried on, chiefly in the hills, in the direction of Grouse Creek, and much confidence is felt as to the result.

AN IRISHMAN missed his footing last week and fell head first down the Raby shaft, depth of 65 feet, and, strange to say, escaped injury. On descending to his assistance he was asked if he had hurt himself, and Pat exclaimed, with characteristic humor, "Be Jabers, that's what I'm trying to find out!"

THE GOVERNMENT LABORERS have been withdrawn from the roads.

Self Defence.

DOWNING STREET, 4th September, 1866.

SIR.—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 51, of the 9th of July, enclosing a copy of a Memorial drawn up at a public meeting which was held at New Westminster on the 22nd June last, praying that an Imperial force may be stationed in British Columbia as a permanent guard.

IT IS MY earnest hope that these loyal and patriotic efforts will be prosecuted in such a manner and spirit as to place the defence of the Colony on a satisfactory and permanent footing.

THE OFFICER administering the Government of British Columbia.

From Cariboo.

THE STEAMER Reliance, Captain Irving, arrived from Yale on Monday with a large number of passengers, a Cariboo express for Dietz & Nelson, and about \$35,000 of treasure in private hands. Amongst the passengers were Mr F. Laumeister and Mr A. C. Campbell. Mr Campbell is on his way home to Ottawa, Canada. He carries with him as the result of his three years' operations in Cariboo a considerable sum, and still holds a share in the Heron claim on Grouse Creek, one of the richest claims in the country. Mr Laumeister speaks with the greatest confidence respecting the prospect of the gold mines. He gives it as his opinion, and his opinion is worth much in such matters, that Cariboo at the present moment, presents a more encouraging aspect than at any period since its first discovery. Whatever dissatisfaction there is must be attributed to commercial failure, resulting from the most reckless overtrading, not to any want of confidence in the richness of the country. Mr Laumeister left the creek on the 12th inst. The weather was mild for the season; the snow was five inches deep on the creek. Markets well supplied and prices very moderate. Flour selling at 18 to 20c. The following are the principal claims working:—

WILLIAM CREEK. The Dutch Bill, Brouse, Simmon and Hoffman, paying 1 1/2 to 2 ozs a-day to the hand. Allan (colored) continues to take out his quiet 5 to 6 ozs a day, working all alone. The United made a dividend for the week of \$184 to the share (16 shares). The Borealis, \$150 to the share (14 shares). The Never Sweat, \$200 to the share (8 shares). The Caledonia, \$180 to the share (8 shares). The Forest Rose doing well; Stout's Gulch, Alturas, and Floyd ditto.

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Additional.

FROM MR ADAIR, who left Williams Creek on the 13th inst., we have the following: About 150 claims had been staked off on the newly discovered diggings between Grouse and Antler Creeks, and considerable prospecting would be done. The prospects obtained so far varied, and no positive opinion could be experienced as to the richness of the ground. About 300 men would winter on Grouse Creek.

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taking the wife's part, began to make the husband's position rather hot. A large crowd likewise assembled upon the quay, and gave expression to all manner of threats against the fugitive. Some of the most courageous amongst the female passengers proposed to tie a rope round his waist and give him a few dips in the river. Upon hearing this, the renegade husband resolved to return home with his wife, which the latter at once consented to do, and the pair soon thereafter left the boat, the husband retreating under a series of groans and hisses from all who witnessed the affair—the widow being left on board lamenting. As very little sympathy was extended towards her by the other female passengers, and as fears were being expressed that violent hands might be laid upon her by some of the more demonstrative of her sex, she was removed by one of the officials on board the steamer, and locked up in a room. The affair caused great excitement, and at one time it was deemed necessary to seek the aid of the police in order to prevent the husband being summarily chastised for his faithlessness. The parties were very respectably dressed, and appeared to belong to the middle class in society.—Glasgow Herald.

De Omnibus Rebus.

There seems to be a large crop of bigamists in Chicago. Aside from politics the South is reconstructing rapidly. The prizes at the Paris Exposition will amount to \$190,000. The United States send 90,000 barrels of flour to Brazil yearly. Bishop Soule is the oldest Methodist minister in the world. A pretty young girl was raffled for in Rome. Tickets sold readily. A Methodist clergyman of Missouri died in his pulpit on the 10th inst. Mrs John Wood writes that she is homesick in London. "Ministers of the gospel" are carried for half-price on the Boston and Worcester railroad. Galveston, Texas, had 8,000 inhabitants before the war, and now 20,000. A crowd destroyed the St. Louis dead house by fire, burning five bodies—cause, fear of cholera. Seventeen men have just returned to Iowa from Montana with 700 pounds of gold dust—\$140,000. Catholics and Protestants are to exhibit the evidences of their missionary labors at the Paris Exhibition. Victor Hugo does the most of his work before breakfast, and writes standing. Of course, his writings are standard works. The hotels of Switzerland are crowded with German Barons, Counts and bidders who have escaped the clutches of Bismarck. An English justice says that calling many witnesses to prove one fact, is like adding a large quantity of water to a small glass of brandy—it weakens. Already the beggars are boring Rector soliciting contributions to send flannel shirts and moral pocket haddkerchiefs to the Feejee Islanders. The Prince Imperial will make his first communion in Notre Dame, in October, and Paris is preparing for a grand festival on the occasion. Mr Noble's statue of Sir John Franklin, the Arctic explorer, has been erected in Waterloo place, London, at the side of the Athenaeum Club. Hon Lawrence Oliphant, M. P., formerly Lord Elgin's Secretary in China, is in Montreal, in company with two Japanese gentlemen, on a visit to Canada. Mr Greeley, in his second volume, gives to General Hunter the honor of being the first to direct the organization of colored men as soldiers; and that this current of events soon carried General Butler along with it. A Southern paper speaking of the bright business prospects in London county, Virginia, says: "The spirit of improvement seems to pervade society generally. The waste places are being rebuilt, and by local legislation relative to the poorer classes this portion of the state will soon forget the effects of the destruction that recently swept over her." General Lee is said to have been much bored by the proprietors of Northern watering-places asking him to spend the summer at their establishments, free of cost. This was a new advertising dodge. The late Tom Sawyer's monument is completed. The champion's dog is represented guarding the entrance to the tomb, and above is a medallion of the deceased. The whole monument, which is very massive and weighs eight tons, is executed in Sicilian marble. Lamartine, although the largest size charity-boy in Europe, gives very jolly dinners. The beverages are excellent old Monceaux wine from the poet's estate, a little champagne and with the dessert a glass of admirably perfumed Cyprus wine, which he brought from the East in 1832. A late London letter to New York says: "You are going to have a visit from our Queen of comedy actresses, Miss Amy Sedgwick, which will be a happy thing for all who will have the good fortune to see her. No actress in England is more admired and beloved. She is a favorite of the Queen and Royal family, and everybody's favorite besides."

MENTAL AND MANUAL LABOR.

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A Scotch Elopement.

ON Monday afternoon, a domestic scene, of a somewhat unusual character, took place on board the screw-steamer Snipe, previous to her starting for Liverpool. Among the passengers observed on board, was a man generally well advanced in years, who was paying devoted attention to an elderly but tolerably good-looking female. The harmony subsisting between the loving pair was somewhat disturbed on the arrival of the train from Glasgow, which brought with it a careworn, motherly looking woman, evidently labouring under great excitement. On coming to the steamer she pushed past the ticket-collector, and confronted the male personage, who turned out to be her husband. Turning to his female companion, the infuriated wife seized hold of her by the bloomer but which she wore, and almost tore it in shreds and otherwise assailed her. A number of passengers here interferred, and the two women were separated. The wife explained aloud to the passengers that the man was her husband, was father of nine children, and grandfather to several more—that he had eloped from Edinburgh (where he resided) that morning with the female, who was a widow, and that having got a hint of the affair she had started with the next train for Glasgow. Upon reaching the Broomielaw the injured wife found that the steamer had sailed. She then took the first train for Greenock, and caught the faithless pair as above stated. To settle matters a compromise was proposed, but the wife proclaimed her intention of following her husband, go where he would. Ultimately the husband got a ticket for her to accompany him to Liverpool; but the other passengers,

