

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1870. NO. 15.

THE BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED DAILY BY
DAVID W. HIGGINS

TERMS:
Per Annum, in Advance, \$12 00
Six Months, do 7 00
Three Months, do 4 00
One Week, do 1 00

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AGENTS:
Messrs. G. & J. Ross, Victoria, B.C.
Messrs. G. & J. Ross, Vancouver, B.C.
Messrs. G. & J. Ross, Seattle, W.T.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.
The figures opposite the address on each wrapper indicate the date of expiration of the subscription.

The Tollgate Question again.
The proposition to remove the Clinton tollgate to Soda Creek appears to have evoked very great interest and no little indignation throughout the Midland Districts.

The proposition to remove the Clinton tollgate to Soda Creek appears to have evoked very great interest and no little indignation throughout the Midland Districts. Last evening brought us "shewers" of communications upon the subject. Having dealt pretty fully with the various points raised in these communications, and feeling well assured that the recommendation of the Hon. Mr. Bernard will be carried out by the Executive, we should not feel justified in devoting so much space to the subject now. Let it suffice that the communications now before us substantiate in the fullest degree the grounds of objection raised against the proposed removal of the tollgate. Nothing could well be clearer than that the change would result in considerable loss of revenue as well as in very great hardship to a large class of farmers who use the road at all. One very ugly feature of the case consists in the fact that the foreign produce consumed in the entire country between Clinton and Soda Creek would be released from road tolls in order to catch farm produce. And it must be admitted that if a cent a pound is a heavy toll upon general merchandise it is a crushing toll upon flour. Besides this, the imported merchandise uses the entire length of road, whereas much of the flour uses little or none of it. But the argument which we fancy will have most weight with the Executive is that the tollgate being placed at Soda Creek would find its way through traffic diverging from the trunk road West of Soda Creek, and thereby evade tolls altogether. This is no mere hypothetical objection. Three trails now leave the main road West of that point, and they are used for the supply of the Forks, Quiesnel, Kaitley, Horeby, Antier and Cedar Creek country. Nor is this all. A trail has been recently opened leading to the Forks of Quiesnel, which it is claimed will, to a great extent, supersede the present highway as a means of traffic even to William Creek. Not only is this trail said to be a near cut, but it passes through a country abounding in feed for animals. It leaves the trunk road some 27 miles on this side of Soda Creek, and it is said, and with much show of reason, that the presence of a tollgate at Soda Creek would exert a potent influence in augmenting the traffic thereupon. It must be perfectly clear that to remove the tollgate to Soda Creek would result in loss of revenue as well as in great injustice to those who have shared into large transactions upon the faith of existing conditions; while it would inflict very great hardship upon the entire farming community along the valley of the Fraser between Big Bar and Soda Creek—the principal wheat-growing country East of Clinton.

But there is a distinct point raised in one of the numerous communications which have reached us, and which we think ought to receive attention. We will permit our correspondent to present it in his own graphic language: "But why cannot the toll be equalized? Why should a four-horse team load of flour that travels 10, 20 or 30 miles over the road and does it comparatively no injury, pay as much toll per pound as one that travels 200 miles on the same road and loads from 10,

000 lbs to 15,000 lbs on one wagon, that rips up the road like a subsoil plough, crosses bridges and moves culverts bodily before it from their places—keeps the road continually in bad order, and makes a strong repairing force necessary to keep the road at all passable? But still worse. Suppose this big Prairie Schooner is loaded with some of the exports, say, barley, wheat or salmon, and is drawn by 12 or 14 head of oxen or 10 mules, the toll amount to six or eight dollars, against fifty or sixty that the load of flour must pay. What reason, what justification, what cause or palliation is there for this gross, say, wanton inequality in taxation? The true policy of the Government would appear to be clear. Let the recommendation of the Legislature Council be carried out at once, and let the second tollgate be abolished altogether, as soon as the financial condition of the colony will admit of it. Should the Canadian Government assume the principal part of the Trust road, agreeably to the resolution of Mr. Bernard, the road toll grievance would be removed.

very oppressive. We have seen that it would appear to be very important that the Government should lose no opportunity of making its policy in this matter known, for not only is the public mind in the interior painfully disturbed, but there is danger of the spring sowing being greatly affected by existing drought.

Legislative Council.
Monday, April 4.
Council met at 1:30 p.m.
The following message was read:—
The Governor has received the resolution of the Council embodying the proposed Terms of Union with the Dominion of Canada, with certain modifications and additions suggested as expedient by the Honorable Board. These shall be presented for the consideration of the Government of Canada. And the Governor proposes to the Council that he should be authorized to make provision for the necessary expenses of a delegation to be composed of three members of the Council whom the Governor desires to send to Ottawa for the purpose of submitting the proposed terms, with the necessary explanations, to the Government of Canada.

On motion the Council decided to go into the consideration of the message on Wednesday next.

SHIPPING.
Dr. Helmcken presented a petition complaining that British ships in the colony were owned and controlled by American citizens.

COUNTY COURTS.
Mr. Humphreys gave notice to move on Wednesday next to go into the consideration of the petition from the inhabitants of Lillooet respecting County Court Judges.

SAN JUAN.
Mr. Robson gave notice to move an address to His Excellency the Governor respecting San Juan Island.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.
Mr. DeCosmos moved that a respectful address be presented to His Excellency the Governor praying that enquiry may be made into the amount assessed under the "Road Ordinance, 1869," against shareholders of companies and partners in firm owning land and doing business within the colony, as there are reasons to conclude that a very large sum of money has not been assessed, either in 1869 or 1870, against some of the said shareholders and partners. Carried.

THE CROWN GRANTS BILL.
The Crown Grants Bill was read a third time and passed.

SUBSIDIES TO FLOUR MILLS.
Mr. DeCosmos moved that this Council, after having had under consideration the petition respecting the granting of subsidies to flour mills, is of opinion that it is expedient to encourage the manufacture of flour from home-grown wheat, and would therefore respectfully recommend to His Excellency the Governor—
1 That proclamation be made in the Government Gazette to the effect, that if any owner of a flour mill in Victoria, Saanich, Cowichan, or Comox shall prove, to the satisfaction of the Governor that he has, in any one year, manufactured five hundred barrels of good merchantable flour from wheat grown in the colony, such mill owner shall be entitled to receive from the Government \$500.
2 That if any such mill owner shall also prove to the satisfaction of the Governor that he has, in any such year, manufactured more than 500 barrels of flour from home-grown wheat, he shall also be entitled to receive \$1 per barrel for every barrel exceeding 500 barrels, all the number shall have reached 1000 barrels.

3 That the proposed subsidies shall, if the conditions be complied with, be continued for three years from the date of this proclamation.
Resolved, That this Council pledge itself to make good any sum of money that may be issued by His Excellency the Governor in accordance with the foregoing recommendation.
The resolution was supported by Messrs Wood, Alston, Humphreys and Robson, and opposed by the Attorney General, Messrs Pemberton, Dewdney and Barnard.

Mr. Robson moved an amendment to include New Westminster in the first clause, which was carried.
The resolution was then taken in sections, which were all carried except clause 2, which was lost.
The committee rose and reported the resolution as passed—and on motion to adopt the report the Council divided as follows:—
Ayes—Sanders, Drake, Robson, Humphreys, King, DeCosmos, Wood, Alston—8.
Noes—Pemberton, Bell, Dewdney, Barnard, Pemberton, Hamley—7.

YALE TOWN NEWS.
Mr. Bernard asked the Governor whether steps had been taken to secure to the settlers in the Okanagan Valley and nearby the mail communication recommended by the Council.
The hon. Postmaster General replied that no steps had yet been taken.

THE OIL COMMISSIONERS.
The Oil Commissioners said the government had not decided to reduce the price of oil, nor was it the intention of the government to lay out lots on the river front. The government would not do so without an act of the legislature.
The Council went into Committee of the Whole on the 2nd of September.

THEATRE ROYAL.
Under the Gaslight depends for success almost entirely upon the excellence of stage machinery and scenic effect. The play has a plot, it is true; but it is being largely sold by the author, and the last act is an important attempt to unite the broken threads of the story. But in Colleen Bawn we have a play abounding in startling incident and scenic effect combined with a story so well told that the interest never flags from beginning to end, while the last act is the best of all and the curtain is set down upon a house that has listened to the tale with absorbing interest, and whose only regret is that they have seen the last of it. This great play will be produced this evening at the Theatre, and the management, we think, find cause for self-congratulation in the admirable manner in which they have cast the piece. As Ann O'Leary Mrs. Bates has been most effectively placed, and no one could imagine the piece a success with Miss Mandeville in any character, save that of Eily O'Connor. Then we have Mr. Bates in the role of Mr. O'Connell.

ARRIVAL OF THE U. S. S. MONROE.
The U. S. steamer Mohican, 3 guns, Capt. W. W. Low, bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Wm. Rodgers Taylor, arrived yesterday afternoon in 14 days from San Francisco, under sail. The officers report a pleasant passage, with light head winds the greater part of the time.

LIST OF OFFICERS.
Commodore Wm. Rodgers Taylor, commanding Squadron, Pacific Fleet. Commander Wm. W. Low, commanding Mohican. Lieutenant Wm. H. Brownson, executive officer. Master Sam W. Very, navigator and ordnance officer. Ensign H. K. Knott, H. B. Mansfield, J. M. Walcott, and R. Robb, lieutenants at sea. Mr. J. B. St. John, secretary. Ch. J. Reatt, Chief Steward. J. B. Redfield, Surgeon, F. E. Foster, Assistant Surgeon, J. E. Gillespie, Second Assistant Engineer, F. W. Towarow, Mate—Richardson, Hall, Jamieson and McCreary. Boatswain, J. O'Connell. Gunner, J. B. Grainger. Sailmaker, R. E. Tatem. Carpenter, — Dryer. Captain's Clerk, R. Baker. Paymaster's Clerk, — Mansfield.

MASONIC FUNERAL.
The funeral of the late James McCulloch, took place yesterday and was numerously attended by the Masonic Fraternity. The deceased was a member of Victoria Lodge, No. 783, under whose auspices the ceremonies were conducted, but the attendance from the District and Provincial Grand and other Lodges was very large. The procession marched from Masonic Hall to St. John's Church, where Rev. Mr. Johns read the burial service of the Church of England and the choir sang appropriate music. The funeral was held at the cemetery—the Masonic Funeral Services was read by Rev. Mr. West, W. M. of Victoria Lodge, and the body was interred to the grave. Mr. John Gordon McKay acted as Director of Ceremonies.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY REGATTA.
A preliminary meeting held at Gerrick Hall last evening a deputation was appointed to wait on gentlemen with a view to forming a powerful committee to conduct the Regatta on the 24th of May. The list of names to be composed of will be published in a few days, and the presence of Her Majesty's Fleet on this station at that time will, no doubt, add to the interest of the occasion.

THE CALIFORNIA REACHED PORTLAND.
The California reached Portland on Saturday.

PLATE RIVER SILVER LEADS.
It was reported yesterday that a silver location had been made on Plate Creek for one of the early prospectors of the Peace River country. The law is very liberal—allowing a block of 500 acres to every company of ten men, for prospecting purposes, for two years.

TRAVEL DELAYED.
The message of His Excellency the Governor intimates that three members of the Council will be deputed to bear the Confederation Terms to Canada. Whether if the members of the delegation will all be opposed to Popular Rights and Responsible Government?

TRAVEL DELAYED.
The Enterprise resumes her semi-weekly trips to-day. It is thought that the Onward experienced but little difficulty in reaching Yale and that she will return to New Westminster to-day. The number of passengers and the amount of goods forwarded to-day will be ascertained.

TRAVEL DELAYED.
The trading sloop J. Thornton arrived from the West Coast yesterday with a cargo of furs, skins, and oils. She sailed from Barclay Sound on Friday last.

TRAVEL DELAYED.
Sons Rogers having injured or stolen West's Union Telegraph Company's property, a notice appears this morning forbidding the vessel from leaving the port until the property is restored. The vessel is bound for Seattle and will load with lumber there.

TRAVEL DELAYED.
Queen's Birthday, under the Governor's patronage.

A DANDY.
The days of dandyism are gone forever. When King Brummell was depicted it lost its most powerful support and its grandest exemplar. It made its last and bravest stand in that gallant regiment, the Tenth Hussars, in Dublin, the Tenth, when quartered in the city—in the dandy days of 1862 or thereabout—made themselves famous by their exclusiveness, their puppyism, and their affected sublime horror of the Irish barbarians. Many stories have been recorded of their excesses directed for the feelings of the people, high and low, with whom they were placed. Most of these stories were unfounded. Not some and those the most harmless, have been preserved. I will relate one which I think is worth keeping, and which I believe has not found its way into print. Lord E. F. in the Tenth Hussars, sauntered one day into the Royal Arcade, Dublin. After looking about him he walked into a glover's shop and selected a pair. While trying them on he inquired of the old lady behind the counter what he was to pay. "Two and ninepence sir." "Two and ninepence!" he exclaimed, lifting up his eyebrows: "how much is two and ninepence?" "Three shillings all but three pence," replied the lady smiling. "Ah," he said, "three shillings I see. He took out his purse and placed three shillings on the counter. The shopwoman opened the bill drawer, took from it three penny pieces, folded them in a bit of paper and handed them to the officer. "Your change sir, My change is oh I say, I say very sorry." He went on sitting on his gloves. "Pray have you a porter?" "There is a porter in the Arcade, shall I call him?" "Oh thank you; too much trouble, I am sure I will pay." "No trouble at all sir." The old lady went to the door and beckoned to some one in the distance. "A man in faded blue and yellow entered the shop. Here's the porter sir," said the lady. "Oh I will thank you, I'm sure," rejoined the officer. "My man" turning to the arched official "do you know the Portobello sir?" "Sure and it's me, that does, Haven't I a cousin in No. 5 troop of the Tenth Hussars?" The officer, handing a card to him, pointed to the pence on the counter, and said: "Take that luggage to my servant at this address, and here's half a crown for your trouble." *British Paper.*

TRAVEL DELAYED.
No man in England thinks of blinking his own boots, said an Englishman to Mr. Lincoln. "Whose boots does he blink?" Mr. Lincoln quietly asked.

TRAVEL DELAYED.
They follow once declared in a public company that he could not find bread for his family. "Nor I," replied an industrious mechanic. "I am obliged to work for it."

TRAVEL DELAYED.
What brought you to this prison, my colored friend? "Two constables," said Yes, but I mean had intention anything to do with it? "Yes," said dey was hot, dey was hot, dey was hot.

TRAVEL DELAYED.
A white boy met a colored lad the other day and asked him what he had such a short nose for? "My pock-it won't poke itself into other people's business," was the reply.

Visiting the "Monarch" at Annapolis.
A special dispatch from the New York World dated Washington, Feb. 23th, says:—
This morning the high public officials of Washington and their guests set out for Annapolis on an official visit to the Naval Academy and the British Iron-clad Monarch.

Four of the finest cars on the Washington and New York Air-Line Railroad, under charge of Special Conductor Blank, were provided for the party, which numbered in all about two hundred persons. Cards of invitation had been previously issued by Secretary Robson, Admiral Poirer, and Commodore Worden, so that the party could not have been more select.

The train left the depot at Annapolis Junction at 9:10, and the locomotive was in waiting at the Washington depot. The city was well thronged with spectators, and a large crowd had assembled at the depot, comprising several of the oldest families of Annapolis and numerous representatives of members of the Maryland Legislature.

A little after 12 o'clock the party embarked in two divisions of boats of the Severn. The water was smoother than it had been for several days past, and the trip occupied but little time. At the two vessels heaved the great iron-plate which floated without any perceptible motion on the surface of the water, a shrill whistle and the deafening voice of a half a dozen of boatswains were heard, and the next moment the rigging and spars of the vessel were alive with sailors, who clambered out on the yards and lined the pendant ropes until the head became dimly at the sight of what appeared their critical position. The movement was beautifully executed, a veteran Admiral of the navy set making that he had never seen it more cleverly performed.

Captain Commerell and the whole body of his officers were drawn up on the deck of the Monarch. As the Pilot, closely attended by her consort, touched the vessel's side the latter, owing to bad steering, partially stove in her starboard paddle-box, and the accident created for moment no small degree of confusion. The boats were ably coupled however, and, ascending the gangway with the middle ships crew posted guardedly at them over the iron-plated sides of the Monarch, the company reached the deck amid a "crash" of music, and greeted by the military salutes of the British officers and marines. The brilliant uniforms of the latter, and their martial bearing, made the scene a striking one.

A moment was spent in looking at the lowering proportions of the vessel as they appeared from without, after which Captain Commerell led the way below, and assisted by his officers, proceeded to explain in detail the various objects of interest as they severally presented themselves. The turret was made to revolve, and the ingenious yet simple mechanism producing the movement caused the scientific portion of the visitors to make minute and searching investigations as to its mode of operation. Judging from what was said, our naval architect will be likely to learn a profitable lesson from their visit.

In accordance with the previously expressed wish of the Thornton, the British Minister, fired had already been kindled on board of the Monarch, and while the visitors were being regaled at a sumptuous collation in the after cabin—the same place the remains of Mr. Peabody lay in state—the anchor was hoisted and the vessel was put under headway and headed down the bay. So noiselessly did the huge mass of iron leave its ocean bed that hardly a soul knew when its ship first began to move.

The announcement that the turret 6000 pounds were to be fired, drew everybody with a rush to the spar deck, whither they waited with breathless interest the signal to begin firing. The report of the two guns, one containing a solid ball and the other a shell, was absolutely deafening, although the spectators were removed from the turret for at least thirty yards. The ball struck the water about three-fourths of a mile off, and immediately sank; but the shell contained its flight for some distance further, and finally exploding on its second descent, with a hollow roar, and sending up a column of water into the air to an astonishing height, a second shell was discharged, and the vessel was again started.

The Monarch steamed about sixteen miles down the bay, when she departed for home, leaving after a most delightful trip, in which music and dancing were prominent and most agreeable features.

On returning to Annapolis, Commodore Worden extended to a few of his particular friends the hospitalities of his house; and here the party lingered until the lateness of the hour proclaimed the necessity of once more taking train for home.

To make little boys' trousers last, when you make a suit of clothes for them, finish the coat first and by so doing you will make the trousers last. It is the only way the thing can be done.

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By Electric Telegraph. SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

Europe.

London March 19.—The Bank of England has determined to express the assay of gold in thousand grains instead of in carats.

A contract for the construction of the Honduras railroad was signed here on Thursday. The work is to be begun within the year.

Among the sporting men the odds are against the Cambridge crew in the coming race with the Oxford.

A letter says the Prince of Wales has received an additional £200,000 per annum from the Queen in consideration of his evidence in the Mordaunt case.

Rome March 19.—The funeral services of Count Montalembert, organized by Gen. Democoin, in which Bishop Desjardins was to have taken part, were countermanded by the Pope, as this was regarded as a manifesto against the Ecumenical Council. This incident has produced great bad effect.

Lisbon March 21.—Later advices from Rio Janeiro are received. The late war news is unimportant. The revolt was still prevalent in the city, but the ravages were mainly confined to foreign residents.

Madrid March 21.—A deep interest is felt in political matters and a crisis is imminent. Prim's victory on the loan bill involves the necessity of the retirement of regent Serrano.

Dublin March 21.—The funeral of Curry, the Fuzian poet, occurred in this city yesterday. A vast crowd was in attendance.

London March 21.—Cook defeated Roberts at billiards last Saturday night.

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is unimportant. The weather has been very stormy for the past day or two—several inches of snow fell last night and it is still coming.

Tours, March 27.—Prince Bonaparte was acquitted. There was a strong appeal of the Procureur General for a verdict of guilty with extenuating circumstances. The jury was out only an hour. As soon as the verdict was announced counsel for partie civile demanded 1000 francs damages. In consequence of this demand the Prince was not released from custody; he was excitedly indignant because he was not allowed to leave the Court room immediately, and said he wished to show that he was not afraid of the menaces made against him.

The closing arguments of Lavie for the defense laid great stress on the constant, violent demonstrations against the Prince at Havre and in other cities in France calculated to exasperate him.

Paris, March 27.—The news of the acquittal of Prince Bonaparte has created everywhere an intense sensation, and it is the universal topic of conversation.

The strike at Orzol continues many arrests have been made, but as yet no collision between the troops and workmen has taken place.

Paris, March 28.—Cardinal Antonelli's reply to Daru's dispatch was made public. It substantially denies the interpretation of the Emperor's policy and pretensions of the Pope.

The High Court condemned Prince Bonaparte to pay the family of Victor Noir 200,000 francs; also to pay the cost of his suit.

London, March 28.—The Times, reviewing the proceedings of the High Court of Tours, pronounces Prince Pierre Bonaparte a creature not to be trusted with a deadly weapon, but to be kept like a madman and constantly watched.

London, March 28.—The acquittal of Prince Bonaparte is much commented on here.

The Post urges the policy of extreme rigor towards Ireland.

Liverpool, March 28.—Outward bound transatlantic steamers are ordered to take a westerly course in order to avoid icebergs, unusually large numbers of which are reported.

Lisbon, March 28.—The South American steamer has arrived, bringing dates to the 7th inst. from Rio Janeiro. At last accounts from Paraguay the Brazilian troops were rapidly moving in pursuit of Lopez.

Madrid, March 24.—Gen. Prim has issued orders to army officers and the Madrid garrison to obey no orders in extreme cases unless signed by him.

Tours, March 24.—In the Bonaparte case, Mosel, a reporter of the *Monteur*, testified that witnesses who will swear to Fouville's admission that he had killed the Prince, did not say so at first. M. Milles and other witnesses testified to the physical weakness of Noir; and denied his striking the Prince as alleged by the defence. During the intermission of the Court many of the friends of Rochefort gathered round him, when the gens d'armes interfered and surrounding the prisoner, pushed his friends back.

Paris, March 25.—The Emperor in a letter to Olivier is warmly applauded by Orleansais. The journal *Les Debates* pronounces it a restoration of parliamentary regime.

The opposition organs continue to censure the Emperor's letter to Olivier as an outline to the coup d'etat of December, 1852.

Petitions against Papal infallibility are circulating in Switzerland.

Eastern States.

New York, March 20.—There is no foundation whatever for the rumor that Collector Bailey has been arrested. There are conflicting reports regarding him—some that he was to be arrested, that he committed suicide. The defalcation, it is now thought, will exceed \$200,000.

Edwin James, yesterday applied to the U. S. Circuit Court for a warrant for the arrest of Postmaster Jones who, acting under instructions from Washington, sends all letters addressed to known swindlers and gift enterprises in this city to the dead letter office.

There was a large meeting of Freemasons last evening to take steps for the erection of a Masonic Temple and Asylum for aged Masons. Ground for the building has been purchased at the corner of sixth avenue and 23rd street, at a cost of \$140,000. Past Grand Master Simmonds in the course of a speech warned his hearers that the Ecumenical Council was trying to put down masonry as opposed to religion. He said we will show them that the influence of masonry is beneficial. Large subscriptions for the temple were made.

Richmond, March 20, midnight.—Ellison's Police are attempting to clear the streets. A large crowd of negroes fired on the police, one of whom was killed and one wounded. The police returned the fire and drove off the negroes who carried their dead and wounded with them. All is quiet at this hour.

Washington, March 29.—The news of the death of General Geo H Thomas occasioned intense sadness among circles here. A general order announcing his death to the army was issued this afternoon. The President has addressed a telegram of condolence to Mrs Thomas at San Francisco. The last sad rites due him as a General and a soldier will be paid to-day on the arrival of his remains. The friends of his family and all his acquaintances gathered to mourn in the adjacent hall at the military post and stations. Flags will be displayed at half mast and 100 guns will be fired on the day after the receipt of this order. The chief badge of mourning will be worn for thirty days.

Washington, March 30.—The speaker of the House presented a message from the President of the U. S. announcing the promulgation of the ratification of the 15th constitutional amendment, and directing it to be a measure greater in importance than any of the kind from the foundation of the government, calling on Congress to do all in its power to encourage popular education throughout the country, and on the people to see that all who possess equal political rights shall have the opportunity to acquire knowledge to fit them for a share in the government to be made the Constitutional amendment a blessing and not a danger. The Proclamation was read and received with applause on the floor and in the galleries.

Petersburg, the reference of the message and Proclamation to the Judiciary Committee. Wood denied the special part of the Proclamation as to ratification by the State of New

York, as his side of the House did not think that State had ratified the Amendment.

Black declared that the certificate in the office of the Secretary of State that Indiana had ratified the Amendment was not true and asked for a resolution of censure against the Secretary of State, who withdrew his motion of censure, and the House again went into committee.

West Indies.

SAN DOMINGO, March 10, via Havana, March 21.—The vote on a petition in this city stood 1000 in favor of 9 against. After the election the American flag was triumphantly carried through the streets. In Torro the inhabitants, eagerly for the measure. The general impression is that the government has been severely working to influence the young. The revolution remains stationary.

The San Domingo charge that annexation was carried by means of ballot-box stuffing by government officials.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 22.—For several days past work has been nearly suspended at the new mine because the stone-cutters in the mill have been on strike for eight hours. They are at work again. To-day the first of the heavy iron beams of the second story were laid to their places.

About one hundred men commenced the work of grading Yerba Buena Park this morning. Nearly five hundred men working were on the ground this morning, clamoring for a job. The offices of the Mayor Auditor and Treasurer were besieged by crowds anxious to get work. It is stated to be the purpose of those having control of the matter to employ only those who cannot get work elsewhere and are in straightened circumstances.

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Lisbon, March 28.—The South American steamer has arrived, bringing dates to the 7th inst. from Rio Janeiro. At last accounts from Paraguay the Brazilian troops were rapidly moving in pursuit of Lopez.

Madrid, March 24.—Gen. Prim has issued orders to army officers and the Madrid garrison to obey no orders in extreme cases unless signed by him.

Tours, March 24.—In the Bonaparte case, Mosel, a reporter of the *Monteur*, testified that witnesses who will swear to Fouville's admission that he had killed the Prince, did not say so at first. M. Milles and other witnesses testified to the physical weakness of Noir; and denied his striking the Prince as alleged by the defence. During the intermission of the Court many of the friends of Rochefort gathered round him, when the gens d'armes interfered and surrounding the prisoner, pushed his friends back.

Paris, March 25.—The Emperor in a letter to Olivier is warmly applauded by Orleansais. The journal *Les Debates* pronounces it a restoration of parliamentary regime.

The opposition organs continue to censure the Emperor's letter to Olivier as an outline to the coup d'etat of December, 1852.

Petitions against Papal infallibility are circulating in Switzerland.

Eastern States.

New York, March 20.—There is no foundation whatever for the rumor that Collector Bailey has been arrested. There are conflicting reports regarding him—some that he was to be arrested, that he committed suicide. The defalcation, it is now thought, will exceed \$200,000.

Edwin James, yesterday applied to the U. S. Circuit Court for a warrant for the arrest of Postmaster Jones who, acting under instructions from Washington, sends all letters addressed to known swindlers and gift enterprises in this city to the dead letter office.

There was a large meeting of Freemasons last evening to take steps for the erection of a Masonic Temple and Asylum for aged Masons. Ground for the building has been purchased at the corner of sixth avenue and 23rd street, at a cost of \$140,000. Past Grand Master Simmonds in the course of a speech warned his hearers that the Ecumenical Council was trying to put down masonry as opposed to religion. He said we will show them that the influence of masonry is beneficial. Large subscriptions for the temple were made.

Richmond, March 20, midnight.—Ellison's Police are attempting to clear the streets. A large crowd of negroes fired on the police, one of whom was killed and one wounded. The police returned the fire and drove off the negroes who carried their dead and wounded with them. All is quiet at this hour.

Washington, March 29.—The news of the death of General Geo H Thomas occasioned intense sadness among circles here. A general order announcing his death to the army was issued this afternoon. The President has addressed a telegram of condolence to Mrs Thomas at San Francisco. The last sad rites due him as a General and a soldier will be paid to-day on the arrival of his remains. The friends of his family and all his acquaintances gathered to mourn in the adjacent hall at the military post and stations. Flags will be displayed at half mast and 100 guns will be fired on the day after the receipt of this order. The chief badge of mourning will be worn for thirty days.

Washington, March 30.—The speaker of the House presented a message from the President of the U. S. announcing the promulgation of the ratification of the 15th constitutional amendment, and directing it to be a measure greater in importance than any of the kind from the foundation of the government, calling on Congress to do all in its power to encourage popular education throughout the country, and on the people to see that all who possess equal political rights shall have the opportunity to acquire knowledge to fit them for a share in the government to be made the Constitutional amendment a blessing and not a danger. The Proclamation was read and received with applause on the floor and in the galleries.

Petersburg, the reference of the message and Proclamation to the Judiciary Committee. Wood denied the special part of the Proclamation as to ratification by the State of New

York, as his side of the House did not think that State had ratified the Amendment.

Black declared that the certificate in the office of the Secretary of State that Indiana had ratified the Amendment was not true and asked for a resolution of censure against the Secretary of State, who withdrew his motion of censure, and the House again went into committee.

West Indies.

SAN DOMINGO, March 10, via Havana, March 21.—The vote on a petition in this city stood 1000 in favor of 9 against. After the election the American flag was triumphantly carried through the streets. In Torro the inhabitants, eagerly for the measure. The general impression is that the government has been severely working to influence the young. The revolution remains stationary.

The San Domingo charge that annexation was carried by means of ballot-box stuffing by government officials.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 22.—For several days past work has been nearly suspended at the new mine because the stone-cutters in the mill have been on strike for eight hours. They are at work again. To-day the first of the heavy iron beams of the second story were laid to their places.

About one hundred men commenced the work of grading Yerba Buena Park this morning. Nearly five hundred men working were on the ground this morning, clamoring for a job. The offices of the Mayor Auditor and Treasurer were besieged by crowds anxious to get work. It is stated to be the purpose of those having control of the matter to employ only those who cannot get work elsewhere and are in straightened circumstances.

London, March 28.—The acquittal of Prince Bonaparte is much commented on here.

The Post urges the policy of extreme rigor towards Ireland.

Liverpool, March 28.—Outward bound transatlantic steamers are ordered to take a westerly course in order to avoid icebergs, unusually large numbers of which are reported.

Ayer's Cathartic Pills, For all the purposes of a Laxative Medicine.

Perhaps no one, however, is so generally and so successfully relieved by Ayer's Cathartic Pills, as those who have not known that it cured them; those who have not known that it cures their neighbors and friends, and all know that what it does once it does always—that it never fails through any fault or neglect of its composition. We give thousands upon thousands of certificates of their remarkable cures of the following complaints, but such cures are known in every neighborhood, and we need not publish them. Adapted to all ages and conditions in all climates; containing neither calomel or any deleterious drug, they may be taken with safety by anybody. Their sugar coating prevents them from being unpalatable to take, while being purely vegetable no harm can arise from their use in any quantity.

They operate by their powerful influence on the internal viscera to purify the blood and stimulate it into healthy action—remove the obstructions of the stomach, bowels, liver, and other organs of the body, restoring their regular action to health, and by correcting, wherever they exist, such derangements as are the first origin of disease.

For Biliousness, Indigestion, Headache, Constipation, and Loss of Appetite, they should be taken moderately to stimulate the stomach, and to give tone and action.

For Liver Complaints and its various symptoms, Bilious Headache, Sick Headache, Colic and Bilious Fevers, they should be judiciously resorted to, to correct the diseased action of the liver, and to give tone and action to the system.

For Dyspepsia or Diarrhoea, but one mild dose is generally required.

For Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Pains in the Back and Limbs, they should be judiciously resorted to, to correct the diseased action of the system. With such change these complaints disappear.

For Dropsy and Dropsical Swellings they should be taken in large and frequent doses to produce the effect of a drastic purgative.

For Suppression a large dose should be taken as frequently as the desired effect by sympathy.

For Constipation a large dose should be taken to promote digestion and relieve the stomach.

An occasional dose stimulates the stomach and liver, restores the appetite, and invigorates the system. Hence it is a valuable remedy in all cases of indigestion, biliousness, and other derangements of the system.

These Pills make no serious derangement of the system, and are perfectly safe in all cases. Their use is recommended by the highest authorities on their cleansing and renovating effect on the system.

DE-W. C. AYER & CO., Practical Chemists, LOWELL, MASS., U. S. A.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla, FOR PURIFYING THE BLOOD.

The reputation of this excellent medicine enjoys a high and deserved fame, and many of which are truly marvellous. In various cases of Scrophulous diseases, where the system seemed saturated with corruption, have been cured by its use. It is a powerful purifier of the blood, and restores the system to its natural purity.

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Ayer's Hair Vigor, For restoring Gray Hair to its natural Vitality and Color.

A dressing which is at once agreeable, healthy, and effectual for preserving the hair. Faded or gray hair is soon restored to its original color with the gloss and freshness of youth.

Thin hair is thickened, falling hair checked, and baldness often, though not always, cured by its use. Nothing can restore the hair where the follicles are destroyed, or the glands atrophied and decayed. But such as remain can be saved for usefulness by this application. Instead of fouling the hair with a pasty sediment, it will keep it clean and vigorous. Its occasional use will prevent the hair from turning gray or falling off, and consequently prevent baldness. Free from those deleterious substances which make some preparations dangerous and injurious to the hair, the Vigor can only benefit but not harm it. If wanted merely for a

HAIR DRESSING, nothing else can be found so desirable. Containing neither oil nor dye, it does not soil white cambric, and yet lasts long on the hair, giving it a rich glossy lustre and a grateful perfume.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., PRACTICAL AND ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS, LOWELL, MASS., U. S. A. PRICE \$1.00.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, For Diseases of the Throat and Lungs, such as Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Consumption.

Probably never before in the whole history of medicine, has anything been so widely and so deeply upon the confidence of mankind as this excellent remedy for pulmonary complaints. Through a long series of years, and among most of the races of men it has risen higher and higher in estimation, as it has become better known. Its uniform character and power to cure the various affections of the lungs and chest, has made it known as a reliable protector against them. It is a valuable remedy for all cases of cough, croup, and other affections of the throat and lungs. As a preventive against sudden attacks of Croup, it should be kept on hand in every family, and in all cases of incipient consumption, or in any other affection of the throat and lungs, it should be given for its restorative effect. It is a powerful purifier of the blood, and restores the system to its natural purity.

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The Weekly British Colonist. Wednesday April 6, 1870.

Laying Over Mining Claims.

Most of our readers in this colony at least will be aware that the mining claims in Cariboo as well as those in Kootenay are 'laid over' during the winter season—that is to say, the provision in the Gold Mining Ordinance requiring each claim to be represented or worked uninterruptedly by at least one miner, is suspended during the winter. This proceeding takes place upon the assumption that mining operations cannot be carried on in these goldfields during what is called the close season. Although such was the popular belief at the period the Ordinance was framed and this sweeping practice of laying over claims was inaugurated, matters are very much changed in this respect now; and although it is an idle and transparent exaggeration to say that mining operations can be carried on during winter, as well as during summer in Cariboo, it is perfectly correct to assert that work can be carried on with advantage in many of the claims—that is, the deep digging where work is prosecuted under ground and consequently beyond the influences of winter cold. Everyone must know, however, that the washing process cannot be carried on to any considerable extent during winter, and for two reasons, viz., the absence of a water supply and the influence of the cold. That the miners can winter in Cariboo with such a degree of comfort and cheapness as to render a trip to the seaboard an extravagant luxury is undeniable; but living with comfort and economy and working the mines through the winter are two distinct things. It by no means follows that because miners can now winter as comfortably, and almost as cheaply, in Cariboo as in Victoria, therefore they can pursue mining with advantage during the winter. We have long felt, however, that the time has come when this wholesale and indiscriminate laying over of claims during four or five months in the year should cease. In addition to laying over claims generally during the winter, the Ordinance makes provision by which the Gold Commissioner can, for cause shown, lay over any claim, at any time, and for which a fee of two dollars and a half is chargeable. For instance, in laying a claim over to the Commissioner and securing him therefrom, from want of water or other conditions over which he has no control, it is impossible to work his claim, save at a loss, and applies to have it laid over during the prevalence of such disabling conditions. It would, under such circumstances, be harsh, unjust, unreasonable and unreciprocal to compel that man to continue his presence on such a claim in order to keep up his title thereto. It is in his own interest and that of the Colony that the man should have an opportunity of earning money meanwhile, while he waits to prosecute the development of his own claim with greater vigour, so soon as the disabling condition shall have disappeared. This is the view taken by the law, and the Commissioner accordingly lays over the claim under certain conditions, in order that the owner may, without imperilling his title thereto, be free to employ his time to the best advantage. For this he pays \$2 50, not as a tax for inability to work his claim, but as a nominal fee to meet the expense of enquiry, registration, &c. Our own impression is that the system of laying over claims indiscriminately during the winter season in Cariboo should cease, and that claims should only be laid over for cause shown, under the provision to which we have been alluding. The resolution brought forward by the Hon. Dr. Carrall, asking that this fee of \$2 50 charged for laying over a claim for cause shown should be made to cover a set of claims, as well as a single claim, is in perfect accordance with reason and fairness. As we have said the \$2 50 must not be regarded in the light of a tax or fine for inability to work a claim; else it would partake of injustice and cruelty. As a fee to meet the expense of the operation, it would cover a set of claims just as well as a single claim. A company of say, eight persons hold as many claims in common. They find themselves unable to work for a month or two in mid-summer, owing to the dryness of the season; and they wish to go out prospecting or working for hire. To lay over the eight claims would cost \$20, although the expense to the colony is not greater than to lay over a single claim. Thus a tax, a heavy tax, is made to fall precisely where it can least be borne—these eight miners are subjected to an exceptional tax, because of the temporary misfortune. Nothing could be more unjust or unwise. It may be said that the \$2 50 a piece is not much; but it is much to the man just at that time and under these peculiar circumstances. Mark, his case has nothing whatever to do with the practice of laying over claims during the winter, and the proposition to make it apply to a set of claims as

well as to a single claim cannot, therefore, be open to the objection of encouraging that practice. Neither can it be urged that the change would tend to facilitate and encourage the laying over of claims in the sense in which it does apply. Sufficient cause must be shown; and it is scarcely conceivable that men would remain idle upon their claims rather than pay \$2 50 each for laying them over, even if it were desirable. We trust we have succeeded in making ourselves understood, as we find that the whole question has been mixed up in certain quarters. The recommendation of the member for Cariboo District is clearly in the right direction, and in no way contrary to the spirit of the Mining Ordinance, and we are bound to believe that it will be acted upon by the Executive. Possibly it may be as well not to attempt any radical alterations this session in a Mining Law for the most part very satisfactory and complete, but there is no reason why so simple an alteration, amounting to little more than an interpretation, in fact, as that recommended by the resolution, should not be made. A Bill, however, has been introduced in the House of Commons, U. S. Senator Pomeroy, from the Committee on Public Lands, has reported in favor of a bill to grant to the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company to extend their line from its terminus on Red River north to the Winnipeg frontier. Senator Ramsey, of Minnesota, has assurances that American capitalists will construct this road to Pembina as soon as the Northern Pacific road can be built from Denver to Red River, which will be in the course of a year. A Washington letter says that this measure will be supported on political grounds, as the most favorable expression by the United States Government of sympathy with the struggle of the Winnipeg people for republican institutions and as a checkmate to the Canadian scheme of a Pacific railroad, which is about to be brought forward at Ottawa. For the Upper Country.—A considerable movement in merchandise for the Upper Country was observed yesterday and the Enterprise will carry forward a large freight and at least a majority of the passengers are destined for Peace River. It is expected that the steamer Onward will experience little difficulty in making her way through the ice blockade between New Westminster and Yale, as powder for blasting a channel through it, if necessary, will be taken up by Capt. Irvine. Above Yale the wagon road is in fine traveling condition. Accounts that reach us of the suffering and distress in San Francisco continue to be the most deplorable characters. Ten per cent of the population and reduced to a state of starvation and misery, commerce is paralyzed, manufacturers are dead, labor maintainable and money scarce and high. A more distressing picture than is drawn by persons who have witnessed the state of affairs could not well be imagined. Real estate sales, which a year ago averaged \$7,000,000 a month, now scarcely reach \$1,000,000 with a falling market. Black Justice.—Few persons, we apprehend, will be surprised at the result of the mock trial to which Prince Pierre Bonaparte has been submitted, for the cowardly murder of Noir. The faint scold admirably to ride over a crisis which would foibles otherwise have culminated in revolution; and it, at the same time, rescued the Prince from the just verdict of Judge Lynch. The award of 200,000 francs to the family of the murdered man is little better than adding insult to injury. Nothing will, however, relieve the Prince of the foul stigma of cowardly murder. Police Court.—Yesterday, but for the appearance in the dock of Master James McGilvery, who is charged with being a rogue and a vagabond, there would have been a clean street at the Police Court. James is charged with being a persistent lazy-bones, a practical beggar, and a pickpocket of unconsidered trifles, of which a liberal supply of dirt forms not the most considered part. He was remanded for three days. Cricket.—The match between Eleven of Victoria and Eleven of the Fleet and Equipment will commence at 10 o'clock Saturday morning at Beacon Hill. The Victoria Eleven are: Richardson, Bacon, Gibson, Walker, Wilson, Drake, Hemmingsway, Marshall, Dewey, Good and Pooley. The name of the opposing Eleven will be announced to-morrow. A great deal of interest attaches to this, the first match of the year. City Collector.—Mr. Edward Mallandaine has been appointed City Collector. Mr. Mallandaine is a stirring, active gentleman and is thoroughly honest and capable. The appointment is most judicious. A London telegram states that strong evidence has been produced to show that the young claimant of the earldom of Wicklow is a founding taken from the Liverpool Workhouse. The steamship California, with lime and coal from Portland, arrived yesterday morning from Oresk Island and Nanaimo, and will sail at 5:30 o'clock this morning for her destination. Purine Hone Proprietary.—The Chapter of the California Senate made favorable mention in his prayers, the other morning, of the new National flag of California. A scheme for a new and lighter trans-Alpian cable than any yet laid, is on foot. There is also a project of connecting by cable Great Britain and all her colonies. The Florence Sewing Machines.—Mr. Robt. Bevan has been appointed agent in British Columbia for the sale of these celebrated machines.

The Seed Store, YATES STREET, VICTORIA. JAY & BALES. Have for Sale Wholesale and Retail an entire NEW STOCK of Island Raised Agricultural, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, GUARANTEED OF THE BEST QUALITY AND TRUE TO NAME. ALSO, Fruit Trees and Bushes, Evergreens, And every description of NURSERY STOCK.

CURES AND COMFORT FOR THE BED-RIDDEN. Holloway's Ointment. This Ointment is a certain cure for Rheumatism, Scurvy, Scrophulous King's Evil, and the most inveterate skin diseases to which the human race is subject. It can be used with a salve or more speedily remedied than Holloway's Ointment, assisted by his celebrated Pills, which act upon the liver and stomach, and give the blood that these disorders are completely eradicated from the system, and a lasting cure obtained. Dropsical Swellings. Swellings of this dangerous and painful kind, which frequently correspond to bright yellowish or trilling jaundice, of which little or no notice is taken until they begin to swell. The cause of the evil is not seen from the liver and stomach, therefore they work curiously by taking Holloway's famous Pills according to the printed instructions and rubbing the Ointment over the swollen part of the stomach and night after night where those organs lie. Most dropsical swellings yield to the combined influence of the Ointment and Pills.

Victoria Nursery & Seed Establishment MITCHELL & JOHNSTON, ARE NOW RE-OPENED WITH NEW SEEDS For the Farm and Garden. The Superior Knowledge of their SEEDS is fully Established. Every requisite for the Farm and Garden at the Store. OCCIDENTAL BUILDINGS, FORT STREET VICTORIA.

NEW GOODS EX "PRINCE OF WALES." HENRY NATHAN, JR. & CO. Have in Store and offer for Sale The following NEW GOODS!

Dr. Joseph Walker's CALIFORNIA VINEGAR BITTERS. Manufactured from the native Herbs and Roots of California. THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER. FOR INFLAMMATORY AND OBSCURE PHEUMONITIS AND GOUT, DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION, BILIOUS REMITTENT AND INTERMITTENT FEVERS, DISEASES OF THE BLOOD, LIVER, KIDNEYS and BLADDER, these BITTERS have been most successful. Such diseases are caused by VITIALIZED BLOOD, which is generally produced by derangement of the digestive organs. Cleanse the vitiated blood, whenever you find its impurities burning through the skin in eruptions of Scoria, or when you find it obstructed and disordered in the veins, cleanse it when it is foul, and your troubles will tell you, when you keep the blood healthy and all will be well. AGENTS R. H. McDONALD & CO. DRUGGISTS, Corner Pine and Sanson Streets, San Francisco.

Dr. Joseph Walker's CALIFORNIA VINEGAR BITTERS. MORE THAN 200,000 Persons Bear testimony to the Wonderful Effects of Dr. Joseph Walker's CALIFORNIA VINEGAR BITTERS. This Bitter is not a diluted pill to delude the eye of the patient, but a medicinal preparation composed of the best vegetable ingredients.

R. H. McDONALD & CO. DRUGGISTS. ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN NEWS. THE MAIL. A Paper containing the news, the principal leaders, a well-digested summary and all interesting matter from the Times, and is the most reliable, in a cheap form, for persons residing abroad or in the colonies. The days of publication are Tuesdays and Fridays, in the afternoon, and the price is 6d. per copy, or 8d. a week post free. Subscribers can obtain THE MAIL through Newspaper Agents, or may have it from the Publisher, on prepayment, at 11 and 12 Aldersgate Street, London.

BLANKETS. 2-1-2 point Blue, 2-1-2 Black, 2-1-2 do. White. Tickings, Blue Cottons, Horricks' Long Cloth, American Drilling, Grey Calicoes, White Saxony Flannel, Tartan Plaids, Winceys, Lustres, Silk and Gold Coburgs, Delaine, Alpaca, Poplins, French Merino, Flannels, Gingham, Chintz, Prints, Mullins, Embd., French Merino Dresses, Fancy Wool Skirts, Skirts, Balmain, Mohair, Wincey, Rep., Linings, Jackets, Black Cloth, Plush, &c., Velvet, Irish Linen, Hair Nets, Ribbons, Trimmings, Pearl and Other Buttons, Patent Linen Thread, Spool Cotton, Table Oil Cloth, Oiled Silk, Tablecovers, Hickory, &c., Pants, Pilot, Tweed, Doe, Black Ribbed, Molestin &c., Vests, Black Cloth, Pilot, &c., Inverness Capes, Boys' Suits, Black & White Checked and French Flannel, Flannel Shirts, Hickory & Serge do, Hats, Bik & Col Felt and Plush, Cambrie Handkerchiefs, Umbrellas, Black Silk Handkerchiefs, White shirts, Swansdown do, Braces, Neckties.

SEAWALS. Real French Baroque, Long and Square, Saxony, Trammis, Trimmed, Queensland, &c., Scarfs, Navy Caps, Canvas, Meerschaum and Biarrot Pipes, Cigar Tubes, English Straw Paper, Cotton Spine Twine, Hemp & Sturgeon do., Ship Trawls, Scanning do., Harbour's Shoe Thread No. 10, Fish Lines, Wax Candles, Tapers, Pickers' Vegetables, 3000 Sardines, Pickles, Vinegar, Pickles, Currants, Raisins, French Preserved, Chain, 8-4 and 7-8, Grain Sacks, Sheet Lead, Shot and Ball, Yellow Metal & Nails, Liverpool Salt, Fine Pot Glassware, consisting of Decanters, Wines, Hooks, Tumblers, &c., made to order. IN BOND & DUTY PAID. Jamaica Rum \$6.0 P, Hennessy Brandy, Hollands Gun, Red and Green Case do, Hunt's Port & Diamond, Sherry, Duff, Gordon, Old Tom, Bass Pale Ale, Whisky, Orange Bitters, &c. GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF GROCERIES. Henry Nathan, Jr. & Co. WHARF STREET VICTORIA, N.I.

LA COCOA. PREPARED COCOA. BROTHERS, DON. COCOA OF MARIANO LINNÉ. COCOA of which Marianno is a true and genuine article, having secured a valuable patent, that it is not only a healthy and nutritious food, but also a most excellent beverage, and is now being prepared in this colony. It is a most valuable article, and is now being prepared in this colony. It is a most valuable article, and is now being prepared in this colony.

PEARLS, DRUGS, &c. The Weekly British Colonist, Wednesday April 6, 1870.

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday April 6, 1870

The Two Ways.

In the early part of the present Session of the Legislative Council we were told that there were two ways open to this colony—i.e., to Ottawa and to Washington. It has also been asserted that a preponderance of our people look to Washington in preference to Ottawa—that the benefits to be experienced under Annexation are incomparably greater than those likely to be realized under Confederation. Now, we have no intention of reopening a controversy which may truly be said to be dead and buried; but rather to point out the fact that it is dead and buried, never, in all probability, to be resurrected, that is to say, should the affairs of the new Empire be managed with wisdom and justice. Probably in no part of British North America might the inducements to seek union with the Great Republic be presumed to be more palpable and felt than in the Northwest Territory. Yet we find that in defiance of repeated attempts of clever and designing agents of the Republic, the inhabitants of that Territory, whether whites, half-breeds or whole-breeds, remain firm in their allegiance to the British Crown. Nor is it necessary to account for this steadfastness wholly on the ground of innate attachment to the British Crown and institutions. In this, as in most instances, loyalty and self-interest go hand in hand. The New York Herald, a paper scarcely open to the charge of partiality as against the country in which it is a leading organ, tells us very plainly—and with surprising candor for the Herald—why the people of the Red River country do not desire Annexation. The assertion that they do desire it on contemporary characteristics as 'a humber' and he proceeds to state the reasons thus:—A glance at the difference in the cost of living at Red River and in the United States is sufficient to dispel all ideas that those people favor annexation. We will take for illustration five articles—tea, sugar, tobacco, rum and Mackinaw blankets, all of which are raised in vast quantities among the settlements, and by the Red River traders who go out among the Indians for furs. These articles are purchased in New York in bond, and it is a practice among the more thrifty settlers and traders to make up a sufficient sum of money to send direct to England for their supplies, and bring them through the United States in bond. The comparison between Red River and New York wholesale prices is sufficient. The figures are in currency, with the exception of rum:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Tea, Sugar, Tobacco, Demerara rum, and Molasses. Prices are listed in dollars and cents.

Demerara rum, which is extensively used by the Red River people, costs them in bond but \$1 25 gold, per gallon, while the import duty in this country alone is \$2 50 gold, per gallon. These differences in prices apply to all woolen goods, dress goods, calicoes, colored handkerchiefs, beads and other articles so largely used by the settlers, especially in trading with Indians; and it is ridiculous to expect those people to abandon all these advantages and shoulder the burden of American taxation simply to become a territory of the United States, which virtually would amount to about as much as some of the outlying countries of Minnesota. The above extract conveys a valuable lesson, one which should have its due weight with Dominion statesmanship. The best way to fill up the immense territory about to be placed under the control of the Canadian statesmen is to throw open its gates for the admission of cheap goods. Let everything that the people do not produce themselves come in as cheaply as possible, and we shall have no occasion to apprehend a desire for Annexation. A liberal and enlightened commercial policy, combined with self-government will make a great and loyal people. Now is Britain's opportunity, while the United States are inextricably entangled in a ruinous commercial and fiscal policy. We must make hay while the sun shines. The Canadian Tariff must be greatly reduced upon all British manufactures. Our own Tariff must undergo a complete revolution with the same object. Two issues will doubtless be submitted to the people of British Columbia at the next election. These issues will not be Ottawa or Washington, but Confederation and Responsible Government. The people of British Columbia do not look towards Washington. They know well that they shall enjoy advantages under Confederation—provided that Confederation be brought about upon fair and equitable terms, and accompanied by Responsible Government—which it would be utterly idle to expect from Annexation. What do the most enlightened American politicians on Puget Sound say? If you can get Confederation on the terms proposed in the

Government scheme, or anything approaching to them, accept it; for we could offer you no such advantages under Annexation. And such is undoubtedly the fact. But we must adopt a liberal and attractive commercial policy, whether in the Dominion or out of it.

Omneca Intelligence.

Lamont, the Omneca pioneer expressman, arrived at Barkerville on the 16th March from Vitale creek, making the round trip in about six weeks. He took two dogs and tobacco, with provisions, and the dogs, fed on dead salmon, did their work well. Lamont was somewhat frostbitten in the hands and feet, but accomplished his perilous journey successfully.

A letter from Sylvester to a friend here says:—I cannot tell you yet what I think of the mines, but I think this will be a good goldfield—after it is well prospected. Yet there has not been anything found beyond this [Vitale] creek, and this does not promise to pay for any great length—yet no one can tell. The best claim here has not paid more than an ounce per day, as far as can be ascertained. I am hard at work prospecting, but I cannot send you any good word yet. I cannot advise you to come up here, nor will I say to you not to come.

Left Queenstown on the 31st January with an express for the Omneca mines. Went by the telegraph trail. Bonded the snow on the trail from Queenstown to Ulkar station—a distance of 85 miles—averaging a depth of three feet. From thence the snow decreased and averaged from eight inches to a foot in depth around the neighborhood of Sicut and Nootka lakes and Stony creek, including a distance of 75 miles. From thence the snow became deeper, and around Fraser lake it averaged about 2 feet 6 in. Crossing the mountains from Fraser lake to Stuart lake the snow lay from 5 to 6 feet deep, and around Stuart lake about 2 feet 6 in. Crossed Stuart lake, then proceeded by Netahie river and across Lake Tromley, up Middle river and across Lake Tatalah to the Landing, traveling on the ice of those lakes and rivers all the way from Stuart lake to the Landing. The ice was covered with snow from 20 in. to 2 ft. deep. Arrived at the Landing Feb 22. No one had passed Stuart lake to Tatalah landing during the winter save myself; nor had any person passed from Queenstown to Stony Creek, nor from Fraser Lake to Stuart Lake. Found Chapman, Hawkins, and Gaden at the Landing. Remained two days at the Landing to rest self and dogs. Left the Landing next day and arrived on Vitale Creek in the afternoon. The snow from the Landing to the Creek averaged about three feet. Measured frequently to ascertain the depth of snow.

Found the boys on the Creek in good health and spirits and received a very hearty welcome from them, as they were all glad to hear from the outside world. They had spent their time in freighting their provisions from the Landing to Vitale Creek, and in building cabins at both places. The only mining done was by Sylvester and Black who had passed and reeked out about \$400 from the edge of the Discovery ground. Sylvester commenced a shaft in the Adair ground. At a depth of three feet he struck a bed of dry slum, nine feet thick. Sank through the slum and came to a bed of gravel, when he was driven out by water and cold weather. The gravel looked well and Sylvester thought the bed-rock close at hand. Black and Sylvester also sank a hole on a branch of the Great coming in from the right. Found a little gold, but nothing to pay. Sank another hole on Vitale Creek, about two miles above the Discovery ground, and found nothing.

From the same mountain in which Vitale Creek takes its source, another creek, running nearly parallel with Vitale Creek, and named Silver Creek, takes its course; and empties into Discovery Creek. It was named Silver Creek on account of the silver found in it. It also contains coarse gold. In the summer of 1868 Evans & Co. reeked out boxes of heavy gold from a point of bed-rock on Silver Creek, and sent fall by Ryan panned out \$4. Two parties were preparing to start for it and prospect. There is another creek named Byrnes Creek, which also heads in same mountain as Vitale Creek.

The miners seem to be of one opinion as regards Omneca, viz. that it will turn out well. Lamont's opinion of Omneca coincides with that of the miners. In 1867, Lamont and two other prospectors wintered at the mouth of Nation river, and in the month of February they fitted up toboggans and drawing them, laden with provisions, on the ice, made their way up Nation River. Forty miles from the mouth of the river they got into a slate and granite range, well defined and running from south-east to north-west. Wherever bed-rock was seen innumerable veins of quartz were visible. They proceeded up the river and came to a creek running in from the south. Followed the creek a distance of ten miles and commenced sinking holes in a small gulch, running into the creek. Found gold in every place they tried, but the weather was so cold that they could not prospect satisfactorily. After five days of prospecting their stock of provisions became so reduced as to necessitate leaving.

Left Vitale creek on March 1st, and arrived at Tatalah Landing early on the second day. On the 6th, arrived at Stuart lake and laid over at Fort St James a day and a half. Here our hospitable friend, Mr Ogden, gave us an invitation to a ball, to be held in the evening, which was graced by the presence of his wife and daughters, and other ladies from the suburbs.

Left the Fort, March 8th, and arrived at Queenstown on the 14th, Barkerville 16th, altogether sixteen days from Vitale creek. On the way from Stuart river to Stony river, at the crossing of Nicharoe river, saw a notice posted which read as follows: 'Walter, take the left hand trail. There is plenty of fish at the rancherie.' It had no signature. In coming along the trail saw marks in the snow which showed that some person had been travelling, without snowshoes, and as if in distress. Met an Indian at Stony creek, who said his boy had seen two white men at the rancherie, about two miles from the creek, and in a starving condition. They traded for fish at the rancherie, and went on to Stuart lake. About six weeks ago, a party of three men,

consisting of Fred Little, Brown and Walter, left Queenstown for Omneca. They went up the river, and on coming to the forks of Nicharoe and Stuart rivers, had gone up Nicharoe river, which leads to Fraser lake. Travel on Nicharoe river was so difficult that it is presumed one of the party, probably Walter, mentioned in the notice, may have perished.

Return of H.M.S. Sparrowhawk.

H M S Sparrowhawk, Capt Mist, returned yesterday morning from a visit to the east coast of the Island and the north-west coast of the Mainland, after an absence of some fourteen days. After leaving Victoria the Sparrowhawk passed through the Dardanelles, a narrow and little-used passage lying south of Nanaimo, by means of which the run to that port is shortened by some two hours. After coaling at Nanaimo the ship anchored overnight in Oyster Bay, and on the following night anchored off the Catholic Mission near the entrance of Knight's Inlet, where she remained one day. Next day the ship proceeded to the head of the Inlet, where Dawson's party were found encamped, awaiting an opportunity to visit the Mesgrave Copper Lead, which is situated two miles up a river and four miles back from the bank. Dawson presented the officers with some beautiful specimens of pascook ore, nearly pure. At the Catholic Mission, Maloney, representing the Mesgrave Copper Company, was lying with the allop, awaiting a chance to ascend to the lead. The country bordering on Knight's Inlet is described as grand and wild. Tall mountains, eternally capped with snow, and immense glaciers, rise up on either side of the Inlet which is from half-a-mile to a mile and a half in width and very tortuous. The highest peak is 7000 feet in height. There was some snow on the banks. Dawson spoke well of the disposition of the Indians towards the whites and anticipated no trouble. The Indians who stole bark, etc, from McGraw (before noted in this paper), acknowledged their guilt before Capt Mist, and were ordered to return the value of the stolen property to McGraw, and in pledge of their good faith, placed 18 blankets in the hands of the Captain. Capt Mist also inquired into the murder of a number of Indians from Victoria at Knight's Inlet, and found the published reports to be substantially correct. Several men and one woman were shot and stabbed to death during the melee and their property seized. The Sparrowhawk then crossed to Fort Rupert where one of the murderers gave himself up to Capt Mouat, by whom he was handed over to the Sparrowhawk and brought to town yesterday. After leaving Fort Rupert the Sparrowhawk called at Comox, Burrard Inlet, Nanaimo and Maple Bay.

GENERAL GEORGE H. THOMAS, (or Old Pap Thomas, as his soldiers called him) whose death we announced yesterday, was one of the remarkable men who came to the surface during the great rebellion in the United States. Like Grant and Sherman and Sheridan and a host of others who now occupy the front rank in American public life, General Thomas was unknown before the struggle commenced. A simple lieutenant of artillery before the war, without the occurrence of the terrible emergency which called his active powers into force, he must have continued to fill a subordinate and obscure position. Once, however, started upon the road to fame his rise was rapid. He was noted for the correctness of his judgment and the unflinching bravery with which he encountered and overthrew opposing armies. At Chickamauga Rosecrans commanded the Federal forces and was beaten by the Confederates. Rosecrans retreated, but Thomas rallied the flying and disorganized Federals and after a struggle that lasted many hours, drove back the rebels. But his greatest achievement was in front of Nashville, in 1864, where, with raw recruits, he fought and routed the Confederate General Hood and his well-seasoned army, and gained the first of a series of brilliant Federal victories which practically closed the war. Last year Gen. Thomas visited and inspected Alaska, in the steamer Fidelity, and upon his return he announced the purchase as wild and foolish and as entailing enormous expense upon the nation without yielding a compensating return. On his way up and down the coast he stayed several days at Victoria. In person he was tall and somewhat corpulent, dressed in a faded artillery suit, and resembled a comfortable farmer much more than a great general.

CARIBOO NEWS.—We have the Sentinel of the 5th, 12th and 19th ult. The cold snap extended to Cariboo and sent the mercury 38 degrees below zero. The Coombs claim on Stuart gulch has been sold for \$250 to Chinamen. Fourteen boats have been built at Queenstown for freighting goods to Omneca. Mr. Bray, Magistrate, is still too unwell to hold Court. Six hills and four creek claims on Vitale creek were recorded on the 18th ult. at Barkerville. A rich strike of gold has been made on Lightning creek in the Dunbar claim. About 700 lbs of quartz from the Wright-Lovell claim have been sent to the mill to be crushed. Work on William, Lightning and Chisholm tracks and McCullum, Stout and Conkita gulches was being pushed to a limited extent, with small results. Flour has advanced \$2 per 100 lbs. Colonial flour now sells for \$18 and California \$20. A small quantity of vegetables arrived on the 15th and sold readily at 14c. Some potatoes also came in from Olinot. Feed stands at previous rates—14 cents for barley and oats and 12c cents for hay.

FYRLOUGH.—Hon. Dr. Helmcke, after many years of uninterrupted service, has been granted a furlough by the H B Company. Can this furlough have sought to do with the presentation of the Terms of Confederation to the Canadian Government by a British Columbian Delegation?

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—It will be observed by reference to our advertising columns that a preliminary meeting will be held at Mr Chadwick's saloon, on Monday, for the purpose of making preparations for the Queen's Birthday Regatta.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise, with 50 passengers, Barnard's express from Cariboo with \$44,000 in gold, and 250 barrels of salmon consigned in F Kaye, arrived from New Westminster at 6 o'clock last evening. Among those on board were Messrs Barnard, Cooper, Reid, Pless, Kaye and Korwan, Mrs J Wark, Mrs Anderson, and Mrs McQuade. The steamer Oswald was announced to leave for Yale, at 6 o'clock this morning. Capt Irving would take only a small amount of freight because of the low stage of water. Burrard Inlet road is to be immediately repaired. Mr Morrow, excise officer, is dangerously ill. The three rifle corps of New Westminster will probably be consolidated with Capt Pritchard as Lieutenant-Colonel, and a committee has been appointed to wait upon the Governor.

FILLING UP THE NORTHWEST.—Referring to the filling up of the Great Northwest, a London journal says:—'Thousands of Canadians have already taken into consideration the means of establishing themselves in the new province, and there is no lack either of men or money for legitimate enterprises. In the south and west the States have many fields for emigration; Canada has but one—the North-West, and has done more for it than its larger, but much more busily occupied rival. As a British colony, the Northwest territory will have poured into it not only vast numbers of the best of our Canadian population, but the stream of emigration from the British Isles will be directed to it in a volume which has no parallel in our past history.'

AGRICULTURAL.—A meeting of the Agricultural Society was held at Mr Barnaby's Office yesterday for the purpose of making arrangements for the next Exhibition. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and a number of gentlemen were present. Last year's prize list, with a few additions, was adopted and a committee was appointed for the purpose of ascertaining whether a suitable site can be obtained, either in fee or under lease, for holding the Annual Exhibitions of the Society. The prize list of the year will be issued in the course of a few days. Encouraged by last year's success the exhibition and prizes will be on a more liberal scale this year; and it has been decided to continue the exhibition over two days.

FROM BIG BEND.—Mr P Reid arrived in this city last evening with a Big Bend mail. Mr Reid left French Creek on the 9th March, encountered very deep snow on the mountains, and experienced considerable interruption from ice on the lakes. The winter on French Creek had been very mild and open, so much so that mining operations had been only partially interrupted. One company (Brady's) only lost three days during the entire winter. The yield of the mines has continued steady, averaging considerably over average. The market was well supplied, and the people were in excellent health and spirits.

FROM THE WEST COAST.—The schooner Alert, Capt. Carleton, arrived from the West Coast of this Island on Thursday night. She reports rain along the coast for several days. The steamer Leviathan and sloop Thornton were at Barclay Sound loading with furs and oil for L & J Boscowitz of this city and the schooner Surprise was undergoing repairs.

POLICE COURT.—Yesterday John Hickling was charged by John Stevens with drawing a pistol upon him and John Stevens was charged by John Hickling with assaulting him. The Magistrate bound both over to keep the peace. Two Indians, for smuggling potatoes and eggs from Port Angeles, were remanded.

THE UNION HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY design removing their house from its present location, which it has occupied since 1859, to a lot on Government street opposite Mr Lowenberg's office, and advertise for tenders for the work.

THE ALPACA.—This fine bark will commence discharging cargo on Dickson, Campbell & Co's wharf on Monday next.

SEVERAL flags were set at half-mast yesterday as a mark of respect to the memory of Gen. Thomas.

AN Executive Council was held yesterday.

H M GUNBOAT BOXER went to San Juan yesterday morning.

APRIL FIBRE was ushered in with a reasonable shower.

What Can it Mean?—EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir, My attention was arrested by the following passage which occurs in the leading article of yesterday's News: 'A Prince of Royal blood may invade the precincts of the quiet family circle, abuse the hospitality of a too-confiding private gentleman by tampering with the virtue of his wife, thereby entailing ruin, misery, and degradation upon a once happy home, and when called to answer for it in a court of law, the guilty one is honorably acquitted while the victim of his passions is proclaimed a lunatic.'

What can the writer of the above mean? Is it possible that he refers to the Prince of Wales, in connection with the Mordaunt divorce case? If so, the allusion is as stupid as it is unjustifiable. The Prince was not put upon trial, but was merely called as a witness; and that His Royal Highness was thus afforded an opportunity of refuting a foul slander, all England rejoiced. The unhappy Lady Mordaunt has been pronounced 'a lunatic,' by authority which it will be admitted is less likely to err than the writer in the News, while intelligent public opinion has acquiesced in the Prince, who is this that condemneth? ANGLO-SAXON,

For Peace River Gold Mines.

NOTICE

VICTORIA and ENTERPRISE

Will commence their trips in connection with the Victoria Express and Mail Line of Stages. THE STRAITS, VICTORIA Will run from Bods Creek to the Canon at Cottonwood, connecting with the ENTERPRISE. Which will be placed on the route from the Canon to Victoria, B.C. Feb 15, 1870

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the sale of Town Lots at Granville, advertised to take place on the 4th inst., is postponed until Monday the 11th inst. By Command, JOSEPH W. TROUT, Lands and Works Office, Victoria, April 2d, 1870.

LANDS AND WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sale of Town Lots at "Granville," Burrard Inlet.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT A portion of the Town Reserve, in Coal Harbour, Burrard Inlet, adjoining, westward, the lands of the British Columbia and Vancouver Island Spar, Lumber and Sawmill Company, has been set out into lots and will be offered for sale by Public Auction, on the spot, at noon on MONDAY, the 11th day of April next ensuing. The town will be called "Granville," and plans of the surveyed portion thereof may be seen at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, New Westminster, and at the Custom House, Burrard Inlet. The upset price of lots will be stated at the sale.

CONTRIBUTORS OF SALES.

Payments to be made in cash as follows, viz.—one half the price bid for the lot to be paid on the knock of the hammer, and the remaining half on the 4th of August, next ensuing, to the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works of New Westminster District, at his Office at New Westminster, or at the Lands and Works Office, Victoria. The holder of any lot to which substantial improvements have been made will be allowed, to purchase the same at the upset price, provided he has the sanction of Government that such improvements have been made by him on the said lot prior to the date of this notice. The Certificate of Purchase will not be transferable, and Crown Grants will be invariably issued in the name of the original purchaser only. In default of payment of either of the said instalments on the day appointed for such payment, as aforesaid, the lot will absolutely be forfeited to the Government, and no further notice, together with all improvements thereon and all monies which may have been paid in respect thereof. For further particulars and information apply at the Lands and Works Office, Victoria, or at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, New Westminster. By Command, JOSEPH W. TROUT, Lands and Works Office, Victoria, April 4th, 1870.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing between the undersigned under the style of SEBEL & SANFORD, at Bonarville and Cache Creek, C. in this day dissolved by mutual consent. All debts will be settled by W H SANFORD, who will also collect all outstanding accounts. CHARLES A. SEBEL, W H SANFORD, BONARVILLE, March 29th, 1870.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO THE late firm of SEBEL & SANFORD will please settle their accounts immediately with W H SANFORD, BONARVILLE, B.C. March 29th, 1870.

BASS' ALE.

NO. 3 AND INDIA PALE, IN BULK—For sale by HENRY NATHAN, JR & CO. 414 1/2 St. Wharf street, Victoria.

Partnership Notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the copartnership heretofore existing between James McNeill and William Fortson of Vancouver, British Columbia, Millwrights, has been this day dissolved by mutual consent. The said William Fortson carrying on the business, collecting all debts and paying all liabilities of the late firm. JAMES McNEILL, Wm. FORTSON, Wm. J. Skinner, J. W. Charles, Wm. Fortson, dated the 9th day of February, 1870.

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

THE BOXER CARTRIDGES For Snider Enfield of .57 bore, and for the Henry, and Martin-Henry Enfield of .45 bore, adopted by the British War Department, also of .450 bore for Military Rifles. WATERBURY'S Central Fire Metallic Cartridges with enlarged Bore for small arms, adopted by foreign governments for the converted Chassepot, Berdan, Remington and other military rifles, also Cartridges for Ballard, the Spencer, and American Henry Repeating Rifles. The 'ELEY BOXER' are the choicest of cartridges known, carrying their own ignition and being made entirely of metal, are water proof and impervious to any weather. The above Cartridges come (empty) of all sizes, and in the different systems of breech loading. Rifles can be fitted with or without the suitable Bullets and Machines for firing the Cartridges. BOXER CARTRIDGES of .450 bore for revolving Pistols used in Her Majesty's Navy. Copper Rim-Fire Cartridges of all sizes, for Smith and Wesson's, Tranter's, and other Pocket Revolvers. Pin-Primer Cartridges for Lehighets Revolvers of 12m, 2m, and 3m. Central-Fire and Pin-Fire Cartridges for all sizes and systems of Guns, Rifles and Revolvers. Double Waterproof and E.P. Patents W.C. Cartridges, Full Sun Wadings for Brown and Minnie Loaders, and every description of Sporting and Military Ammunition. ELEY BROTHERS, 20, GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON, E.C. Sole and Wholesale Agents.

DINNERFORD'S SOLUTION OF

DINNERFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA

Is the great remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations and Bilious Affections; IT IS THE PHYSICIAN'S GURE FOR GOUT, RHEUMATISM, GRAVEL, and all other complaints of the Urinary System. And as a safe and gentle medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and for the sickness of Pregnancy, Dinnerford's Magnesia is indispensable. Sold by all Druggists and Storekeepers. NEW ASK FOR DINNERFORD'S MAGNESIA. J. G. NORRIS, Agent, 424 1/2 St. Wharf street, Victoria. PLANKS - MORTGAGES, DEEDS, RECEIPTS, Bond or Loose, done, Law, at the BRITISH COLONIST Job Printing Office.

The Weekly British

Wednesday April 6,

The Ocean Wave

Our sole means of communication with the rest of the world outside barbarians, is by sea. There could not well be provided we had suitable placed upon the 'pathless years has this colony been mercy of not only the winds but, what is still worse, the elements of the condemned state foreign neighbor. We have been the plaything of British Public expectation was what by a show of doing made by the Executive, a ago; but nothing practical appear to have come of it, an colony drifting helplessly open season under a dark ever, at least so far as any liberation is concerned. It true that we have Confederation; and it is not unexpected that with it we shall dial and general improvement ally if the people are to be with the management of the affairs. But Confederation ing for us this year. It may thing next. Surely present not to wait upon prospect. This season presented conditions favorable to immigration. There are thousands of persons in this who would gladly come here mine, some to engage in pursuits, others to seek employment in our lumbering mills and fishing grounds. But the of obtaining reliable information this colony; and there are really good means of where there an Emigration Agency established since, and did facile and efficient exist, there can be that population would flow in on a steady stream—in fact, for our present maintenance and absorption. In facts, incontrovertible fact how can one account for, to satisfy the strange persistence the Executive refuses to do its duty? We confess to comprehend the malice we undoubtedly were one must be convinced of expecting any degree of product fresh population. It clear that population alone obtain prosperity. Every element wealth Nature has given world really presents great substantial advantages or a able home. How is it, with all these attractions, tages the cry is still for Simply because the colony kept all this a profound outside world knows nothing no means of reaching it, are a strange people—a people utterly unworthy entrusted with the destiny magnificent country. Mic we have been waiting for turn up, for fortune to force upon us. When Jefferson T. Confederate Commander the army in Arkansas, di herose he told them that had been lying skulking in until the moss had grown long on their backs, and God the Federal authority hang every one of them the they got. How much better and our government been been waiting in helpless without putting forth one rediant effort, until, like Jeff heroes of the Arkansas, have become moss-grown, look to Confederation for we stoke everything upon card? Let us have a can do not by such conduct unworthy of joining Canada eration may be less near the pose. Shall we starve mean imperial Government is will does pay, one moiety of the side between this colony an else. Let the Executive, without delay and have a steamer placed upon the to be run in the interest of Let the \$5000 set down to tion be made available for San Francisco, and let the of Lands and Works seek likely to settle upon land, val, and conduct them to steads, where they may in without having occasion to single tree. There are mill of such land within a day this city, and none have till the ground. What are thinking about? What is ment doing for its bread an

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Wednesday April 6, 1870.

The Ocean Wave.

Our sole means of communication with the rest of the world, with the outside barbarians, is by way of the sea. There could not well be better, provided we had suitable conveyances placed upon the pathless deep. For years has this colony been left at the mercy of not only the winds and waves, but what is still worse, the erratic movements of the condemned steamers of a foreign neighbor. We have, in fact, been the plaything of Ben Holday. Public expectation was raised somewhat by a show of doing something made by the Executive, a few weeks ago; but nothing practical would appear to have come of it, and we find the colony drifting helplessly into another open season under a darker cloud than ever, at least so far as any present amelioration is concerned. It is perfectly true that we have Confederation in prospect; and it is not unreasonable to expect that with it we shall have immediate and general improvement, especially if the people are to be entranced with the management of their own local affairs. But Confederation can do nothing for us this year. It may do something next. Surely present duty ought not to wait upon prospective change? This season presented conditions peculiarly favorable to immigration from California. There are thousands, we would probably be safe in saying tens of thousands, of persons in that country who would gladly come here, some to mine, some to engage in agricultural pursuits, others to seek employment at our lumbering mills and on our vast fishing grounds. But there is no way of obtaining reliable information respecting this colony; and there is no reasonably good means of reaching it. Were there an Emigration and Intelligence Agency established at San Francisco, and did facile and cheap communication exist, there can be little doubt that population would flow into this colony in a steady stream—fast enough, in fact, for our present means of employment and absorption. In view of these facts, incontrovertible facts we take it, how can one account for, much less justify, the strange persistency with which the Executive refuses to do what little is in his power to do? We confess utter inability to comprehend the matter. Population we undoubtedly want. Every one must be convinced of the folly of expecting any degree of prosperity without fresh population. It is equally clear that population alone is needed to obtain prosperity. Every element of dormant wealth Nature has given us with lavish hand. Probably no country in the world really presents greater or more substantial advantages or a more desirable home. How is it, then, that with all these attractions and advantages the cry is still for population? Simply because the colony has carefully kept all this a profound secret. The outside world knows nothing of it—has no means of reaching it. Verily we are a strange people—a feeble people, a people utterly unworthy of being entrusted with the destiny of such a magnificent country. Miswiser-like, we have been waiting for something to turn up, for fortune to force her favors upon us. When Jefferson Thomson, the Confederate Commander-in-Chief of the army in Arkansas, dismissed his heroes he told them that many of them had been lying skulking in the swamps until the moss had grown six inches long on their backs, and he hoped to God the Federal authorities would hang every one of them the first chance they got. How much better have we and our government been? We have been waiting in helpless imbecility without putting forth one manly, self-reliant effort, until, like Jeff Thomson's heroes of the Arkansas swamps, we have become moss-grown. Now we look to Confederation for relief. Shall we stoke everything upon that single card? Let us have a care that we do not by such conduct prove ourselves unworthy of joining Canada. Confederation may be less near than we suppose. Shall we starve meanwhile? The Imperial Government is willing to pay, does pay, one moiety of the mail subsidy between this colony and San Francisco. Let the Executive set to work without delay and have at least one steamer placed upon the route, so as to be run in the interest of the colony. Let the \$5000 set down for immigration be made available for an agency in San Francisco, and let the Department of Lands and Works seek out those likely to settle upon land on their arrival, and conduct them to free homesteads, where they may farm for years without having occasion to cut down a single tree. There are millions of acres of such land within a day's travel of this city, and none have been found to till the ground. What are the people thinking about? What is the Government doing for its bread and butter?

PEACE RIVER!!

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY OUNCES OF DUST IN TOWN!!

MR. OGDEN'S OPINION!!

Encouraging Letters from the Prospectors.

By the express on Friday evening the Hudson Bay Company received at their office in this city 158 ounces of gold dust from Mr Ogden; their agent at Fort Stuart—the nearest station of the Company to Vitale Creek. Accompanying the consignment is a letter from Mr Ogden, in which he states that the dust was received from a small party of prospectors in payment of goods purchased from him. The prospectors dug the dust on Vitale Creek. This stream he describes as small, but he says all the miners are confident that other and larger streams, rich in mineral wealth, abound in the district. The Government Prospecting Party, he adds, confessed to him that while at Quesselmonth they said as little as possible about their discoveries. Mr Ogden condemns the present use of the Skeema route because of the obstructions which now exist there. He also condemns that by way of Fort George and Salmon River, but commends the route now used via Lake Tatta. The report that he had commenced sending supplies into the diggings on dog sleds Mr Ogden says is incorrect; therefore, those who rush in earliest must be prepared for a scarcity of food for a few weeks. The gold dust, which was kindly shown us by the Company, is of dark hue, not unlike that obtained on Keithley creek. It assays \$17 50 per ounce. The pieces range from five cents to \$5 in weight. Among the gold are a number of small lumps of silver which weigh, perhaps, 1 bit each. The dust attracted much attention yesterday. The following letters also give a much more favorable color to the news than the report which appeared in the Sentinel; in confirmation of those letters there is the dust—vouchered for by an unimpeachable witness as the product of the new mines, of the richness of which we entertain no doubt; but of course their extent has got to be determined by the results of this season's work.

Peace River and its Surroundings—Early Discoveries—Topography, etc.

The internal discoveries in North America have been largely due to the hunter of the northern rivers, and the voyager of the western prairies. An investigator of a higher and more intelligent class, presented himself for the exploration of the district west of the Rocky Mountains, in Alexander, afterwards Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who in 1789 undertook the task of examining the country north of the extreme point then occupied by the fur-traders, in order to discover a passage by sea from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Departing from Fort Chipewyan, he proceeded above Hearne Lake, entered a river, until this time unknown to Europeans, except by report, which has been called by his name, Mackenzie River, and following its course, arrived at the end of July at its mouth, in lat. 69°. Having thus established the fact of the continuation westward of that northern ocean which Hearne had, in 1771, discovered more to the eastward, he returned home. Mackenzie's second expedition, more directly affecting the region now under consideration, was commenced in October, 1792, when, leaving Fort Chipewyan, he ascended the Peace, or, as the Indians call it, Unjiah River, for upwards of 200 miles to a point in latitude 56° 2', where he built a log-house and spent the winter. Departing thence on the 9th May, 1793, he proceeded up the river, and in June reached its source. This he found in a small lake situated in a deep snowy valley, embosomed in woody mountains. The lake is about two miles in length, and from three to five hundred yards wide; he found in it trout and carp, and his banks were clothed with spruce, white birch, willow, and alder: it is in lat. 54° 24', long. 121° W., by his computation. This is the principal water of Mackenzie River; which, after its junction with the Elk River below the Lake of the Hills, having already run a distance of upwards of 500 miles, reaches under the name of Slave River, and Mackenzie River, the Arctic Ocean after a further course of 1000 miles. From this lake he found a beaten path leading over a low ridge of land of eight hundred and seventeen paces in length to another lake, rather smaller than the last. It is situated in a valley about a quarter of a mile wide, with precipitous rocks on either side, down which fall cascades, feeding both lakes with the melting snows of the mountains. Passing over this lake, he entered a small river, which, however, soon gathered strength from its tributary mountain streams, and rushed with great impetuosity over a bed of flat stones: these are the head waters of the Tatchoua, or Fraser's River. Continuing his journey to lat. 52°, he then returned up the stream to lat. 53°, whence he proceeded towards the Pacific by land. On his way, he noted women clothed in matted bark, edged with the skin of the sea-otter. In July he found the mountains covered with compact snow, and yet the weather was warm and the mountains beautiful. Descending the main chain of the Rocky Mountains, he found the country covered with large trees, pine, spruce, hemlock, birch, elder and cedar. It abounded with animals. After awhile, continuing his course down the river in a large canoe, he

arrived on the 19th of July at its mouth. Thence he went on along the coast, and across the sand to Point Menzies. On the south-east face of the rocks bordering what he subsequently ascertained to be the Cascade Canal of Vancouver, Mackenzie inscribed in large characters with vermilion mixed in melted grease, his brief memorial: 'Alexander Mackenzie, from Canada by land, the twenty-second of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four.' He computed the latitude as 52° 21' N. On the 23rd he reached the mouth of the river whence he had set out, and from thence returned by the Tatonoua and Peace Rivers to Canada.

In 1806, Mr. Fraser, an employe of the North-West Company, crossed the same chain, and established a post on a lake at the Tatchoua Peace, called, after him, Fraser's Lake and River, one hundred miles north of Mackenzie's track. Still later Mr. Harmon, a partner in the same company, made an expedition in the same direction, the results of which he published, in a thin volume, at Vermont, in 1822. The passage through which this gentleman entered Caledonia was in latitude 56° 30'. The northern boundary of the district, he says may be taken in latitude 57°, close to the southernmost of the Russian settlements. The length, therefore, will be about 550, and the breadth from the mountains to the Pacific from 300 to 350 miles.

The height of the passage he gives at not more than 4000 feet, but the chains are so lofty as to be generally covered with snow. The river, he says, is not very rapid; few falls occur, and the portage is not more than twelve miles in the whole. Two branches, one from the north and the other in the south, unite at mouth of the passage; the latter having held its course along the foot of the mountains about 200 miles; the former or Finlay's branch, having its source in the Musk-que Sa-ky-quin, or Great Bear's Lake, nearly west from the junction, at a distance, as it has been supposed, of 150 miles.

The whole of this vast district is so intersected with lakes and rivers of various dimensions, that it has been computed that one-sixth of the surface is water. Of these lakes one of the largest—Stuart's Lake—is about fifty miles in length, and from three to four miles in breadth, stretching away to the north and north-east for about twenty miles, and studded, in this direction, with beautiful islands. The circumference is supposed to extend about 400 miles. The western shore is low, and indented by a number of bays, formed by wooded points projecting into the lake, the background rising abruptly into a ridge of hills of various height and magnitude. On the east, the view is limited to a range of two or three miles; by the intervention of a high promontory, from which the eye glances to the snowy summits of the Rocky Mountains in the distant background.

Here the Hudson Bay Company established a post. Fifty miles west from this is Fraser Lake about eighty-five miles in circumference. Here, too, a post was established. M'Leod's Lake in latitude 55°, is in circumference about fifty-five miles, and was also furnished with a post. The waters of this lake fall into Peace River; those flowing out of the other two lakes are supposed to empty themselves into the Pacific. The immense quantity of salmon which annually visit them, leave no doubt whatever of their communication with the Pacific; while the absence of this fish from M'Leod's Lake makes it almost equally certain that its outlet is not into that ocean. The river flows out of Stuart's Lake, passes through the populous tribe of the Natche-Tains, who informed Mr. M'Leod that white people came up in large boats to trade with the A-t-e-nas—a nation dwelling between them and the sea; a statement fully confirmed by the guns, iron pots, cloth, tar, and other articles found in their possession. Speaking of the lake scenery of this district, Mr. M'Leod writes:—"The different parts of the country, towering mountains, hill and dale, forest and lake and verdant plains, blended together in the happiest manner, are taken in by the eye at a glance. Some scenes there are which recall forcibly to the memory of a son of Scotia the hills' and glees and 'bonnie braes' of his poor yet beloved native land. Now Caledonia, however, has the advantage over the Old, of being well wooded, and possessed of lakes of far greater magnitude; unfortunately, however, the woods are decaying rapidly, particularly some varieties of fir, which are being destroyed by an insect which preys on the bark."

Letter from Quesselmonth.

QUESELMONTH, March 20th, 1870. EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Two weeks ago Spring was smiling on us cheerfully, and the snow and ice were fast disappearing. Everything seemed to indicate an early season. But on the 9th a strong north wind set in, and old Winter obtained a new lease of life. For four days the cold was intense, mercury being congealed each night. The wind blew a gale, and in consequence all travel and business were entirely suspended during that time. It was impossible for a man to face the storm, even for a few moments without freezing. Jack Frost, aided by the strong wind, found his way through every cranny and chink, and the cold was felt far more than the unprecedented winter of 1867, when the thermometer indicated 24°. At present the weather has moderated and we are having a mild snow storm. We hope soon to see a south wind, and with it a fast thaw. The spring will be at least a month later than last year. On the 10th of March 1869, the farmers in the vicinity were ploughing and sowing grain; now the ground is frozen several inches deep, and the sleighing is finer and better than it has been during the winter. By the river, the snow does not exceed one foot or eighteen inches, but back on the hills and timber lands, it gradually increases to three and four feet. Between Van Winkle and William Creek, it is said to be seven feet fully. We all expect a great freshet during the summer. Lamont's Omnibus express arrived here a few days since, via Stuart Lake, bringing news from Vitale Creek up to the last instant. Nothing has been done during the winter in prospecting. The great depth of snow and unusual severity of winter has prevented the few miners up there from at-

tempting anything except the transportation of their supplies from Lake Tatta to the diggings. This had been accomplished when Lamont left, on 'sabogans' with dogs. About half a dozen comfortable cabins had also been built on Vitale Creek, and preparations are being made to go to work.

A new creek called 'Silver Creek' about five miles south of Vitale Creek had been struck off. This in the stream on which Byrnes prospected last year. It is now known that they obtained good prospects on it, in one instance making twelve ounces to the hand for a few days labor with a roaker. Two thousand feet of the stream are now taken up, and some of the miners there have disposed of their old claims in order to take up new. It bids fair to be the richer stream of the two.

Two other creeks called Humphreys and Dan Creeks also prospect well. There is no doubt that a cluster of streams empty into Finlay Branch which are all gold bearing and in spots rich. It is the opinion of those who have seen the locality that better diggings may be found on the head waters of Nation River, situated from 80 to 90 miles north-east of the present mines. If so, the nearest route to them will be via Fraser River and McLeod Lake. This river was formerly travelled by Peace River miners, who, by making a portage of three miles, and dragging their canoes found themselves in the waters of Peace River.

Lamont says the miners up there are very sanguine, and think the country will prove to be the best mining region which has been found outside of Australia or California. They are all afraid of an early immigration, as they know that provisions cannot be obtained till after the ice in the lakes is gone, and they fear that they will be run out of supplies. At the present time this town is quite lively. Boat-building is all the go; about a dozen boats are already completed, and three are in process of construction, which will carry from 8 to 12 tons each. They will all ply from the head of steam navigation of the Fraser River to the landing at Lake Tatta. Some freight has already been contracted for at the rate of 75 cents per pound from this place. I wish to give a word of advice to miners coming up. Although it may be spring with you, we are yet in the midst of winter here. There is no probability that the river will be open before the 1st of May, and the lakes will probably be ice bound until the 20th of May. Before that time there is no earthly chance of getting a pound of grub into the mines—so that, if men rush up here in a hurry, they will be compelled to wait on the road somewhere. If they are at this place by May 15th it will be quite early enough. Two or three parties will start out with 'sabogans' and dogs in a day or two, but they shipped up goods by boats last fall.

Extract from a Private Letter received by Hon. Edgar Dowdney.

RODA CREEK, March 19, 1870. Hon. E. Dowdney, Sir.—Lamont came down four days ago, bringing me a letter from Jim May, Grant and Byrnes. May says there has been but little prospecting, and he cannot write definitely about the mines; but his belief is they are good. Black was out North when the express left. May would start out the day after he wrote. They say there are three creeks that will pay from \$5 to two ounces per day to the man. Byrnes says prospecting has only commenced. He talks of taking me up a silver claim. Grant says things look favorable. The general tenor of all the letters is unmistakably encouraging, but they seem to be afraid they might picture it too good and so they rather understate than overstate. May starts for the head of Nation River. He seems to think that will be the centre of the mines. He advises his friends to come and take a chance—so you can form your own opinion of the news. From what I know of the man I think the country good beyond a doubt. P. C. D.

The Peace River News.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir, I confess to some surprise on comparing the Peace River news which appeared in your paper this morning with reliable information reaching me through private channels. It is well to give both sides, where there are two sides, as is usually the case; and I have no disposition to find fault with the desired you have evinced to avoid undue excitement about the new goldfields in the North. No true friend of the colony can desire to see these mines attract a larger population than their intrinsic value will justify—but there can be no reasonable doubt that the information you published from the Sentinel leans too much in an opposite direction. One can easily understand that there should be a desire in commercial circles on William Creek to discourage anything like a rush from there to the new diggings; and your contemporary is doubtless acting in his own interest, as well as that of the community upon which he relies chiefly for support, in seeking to discourage such a result. G. R. Victoria, April 2, 1870.

A LOANING INSTITUTION.

We understand that the City Council has set \$37 last month by the City Pound. Why this waste of city revenue?—News of yesterday. It costs from \$5 to \$10 per week to feed a full-grown man or woman. What a shocking waste of Victoria! Why don't the men or women who are eating and drinking? Why is it expensive to have with-in-garrets? I asked clothes eat? The Pound costs \$57 a month to maintain. To escape the fearful waste of the city revenue, the News would let down the bars and suffer the animals to roam through the streets to gore children, less citizens and consume the 'poor widow's' vegetable garden! ADVERTISING.—The store of Messrs Fall & Finlayson, on Fort street, was entered from the rear during Friday night and robbed of four cases of tobacco, a chest of tea, a number of ten-cent pieces, and a quantity of small goods, valued in all at \$200. Entrance was effected by removing a few bricks from the chimney so as to admit the hand of the invader and enable him to remove the wooden bolt from the back door. Indian thieves are suspected, and two are in custody.

THE CRICKET MATCH.

The match between the Fleet and Esquimalt and Victoria Eleven yesterday, resulted in a victory for the Victorians, who scored 105 in the first innings. The Fleet and Esquimalt then went in and made 84 in their first and 44 in their second innings. Drake and Hemmingway led off in Victoria's second innings and finished the match without calling upon the remaining nine of their side. The highest score of the day was by Drake. The fielding by the Fleet and Esquimalt was splendid, and the triumph of the Victorians was due to their excellent bowling.

THEY TOLL NOT, NEITHER DO THEY SING.

Yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 'A lily of the valley,' the first, we believe, in the colony, was blooming in Jay & Bales' show-window on Saturday and attracted a great deal of attention and admiration.

THE STEAMER SIR JAMES DOUGLAS ARRIVED.

at 5 o'clock last evening from Comox, Nanaimo and way ports, bringing eight passengers and a few tons of freight. The news is unimportant.

THE BRIG KITTY COBURN SAILED LAST EVENING FOR GALELAW WITH A FULL CARGO OF LUMBER.

NUMEROUS.—For a felon—arrest and imprisonment. For a satchel in the side—pay your tailor's bill. To avoid rheumatic pains—don't sleep in attic rooms. To prevent the hair from becoming gray—dye instantly. For a tightness of the chest—join a charitable association. What medicine does a man take when he has a cross wife? Blight. Why is a fir's heart like an omnibus? Because there is always room for one more. To cure deafness in another—tell him you want to pay 'that little bill' so long due to him. Administer chick-wed to hens, dog-wed to pups, cat-wed to kittens and pig-wed to swine. To give tone to the stomach—get it lined with bell-metal. If the patient is a young lady—ring her. To avoid bunions—be large-souled and let your life-journey be a pleasant one and not a Pilgrim's Progress. A dandy enquired at a fruit stall, 'Are these apples fit for a hog to eat?' 'Try one and see,' said the woman.

HOW THE TIMBER GOES.

Speaking of the rapid diminution of the forests of America an eastern journal says: 'The present consumption of wood in the United States is enormous. One hundred and fifty thousand acres of the best timber is cut every year to supply the demand for railway sleepers alone. For railway buildings, repairs and cars, the annual expense in wood is \$38,000,000. In a single year the locomotives in the United States consume \$56,000,000 worth of wood. There are in the whole country more than 400,000 artisans in wood, and if the value of their labor is \$1000 a year each, the wood industry of the country represents an amount of nearly \$500,000,000 per annum. It will be seen, therefore, how extensive are the interests dependent on the production of lumber. Laws will eventually have to be enacted by the State Legislatures to prevent such destruction of the forests as will be likely to result in natural injury to the country, and it may be necessary to encourage the planting of forests to meet the demands of the future.'

HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?—Where? To the Blue Post, where the lunch that is set from 11 till 3 each day would overtake an opinion with delight. Change of fare each day, with the exception of 'Gothic Pudding,' which is a 'institution' at the Blue Post.

A MAP OF THE PEACE RIVER MINES, prepared from the best information at hand at the Lands and Works Office, and copied by permission of the Hon. Chief Commissioner, may be obtained of Fred's Daily Photographer, Fort street.

REMEMBER THE FATE OF ABALON.—Fred Payne, Topographical Artist, 'Shaving 12½c, Hair Cutting 25c, Shampooing 25c. That original cheap Shaving Shop stands on the sunny side of Johnson street.

FALL'S OFFERS.—superior to any other brand manufactured on the Coast, may be obtained of all respectable dealers throughout the Colony.

HOLLOWAY'S PURGATIVE AND PILLS.—The time has not long passed when chronic ulcers constricted their victims to a bed of suffering for weeks or months. The discovery of the above remedy, however, dispensed with the sore trial to both temper and constitution. By careful attention and implicit obedience to the instructions 'folded round every pot of Ointment had legs can now be healed by these well-known medicines without the days' withdrawal from occupation duties, and every person thus afflicted may with certainty ensure a complete, economical and rapid recovery. If the patient add the Ointment by proper doses of Holloway's purifying Pills his improvement will be hastened and he should persevere without losing courage or confidence till soundness returns.

BRACEBURY'S ODOUR.—BRACEBURY AND COMPANY'S.—The very agreeable character of these preparations has rendered it a general favorite. The CIVIL SERVICE GARDEN.—This singular success with which eggs are raised by his honorable preparation of oococ has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected oococ, Mr. Brace has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is simply what the system needs. Sold by the trade only in 4lb. 4lb. 1lb. tin-lined packets. Labels—James King & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.

WHEN ALL EMPLOYMENT BECOMES IRKSOME and the mind incapable of continued application to any subject through weariness and exhaustion of the body, than some healthful tonic, acting gently but surely upon the liver and stomach, and gradually increasing the force of the circulation, and of the digestive system will be found to remove the difficulty. Such a medicine is Dr. Walker's VERMIFUGUE VERMIFUGUE, which, by purifying the blood restores the system giving it renewed vitality and force as of youth again.

FOR SALE.—A FARM IN NORTH SAANICH DISTRICT, containing 500 acres, dwelling house, barn, &c. 400 acres fenced in. Apply to T. ALLARD, Land agent, 400 Government street, Victoria.

THE OCEAN WAVE. Our sole means of communication with the rest of the world, with the outside barbarians, is by way of the sea. There could not well be better, provided we had suitable conveyances placed upon the pathless deep. For years has this colony been left at the mercy of not only the winds and waves, but what is still worse, the erratic movements of the condemned steamers of a foreign neighbor. We have, in fact, been the plaything of Ben Holday. Public expectation was raised somewhat by a show of doing something made by the Executive, a few weeks ago; but nothing practical would appear to have come of it, and we find the colony drifting helplessly into another open season under a darker cloud than ever, at least so far as any present amelioration is concerned. It is perfectly true that we have Confederation in prospect; and it is not unreasonable to expect that with it we shall have immediate and general improvement, especially if the people are to be entranced with the management of their own local affairs. But Confederation can do nothing for us this year. It may do something next. Surely present duty ought not to wait upon prospective change? This season presented conditions peculiarly favorable to immigration from California. There are thousands, we would probably be safe in saying tens of thousands, of persons in that country who would gladly come here, some to mine, some to engage in agricultural pursuits, others to seek employment at our lumbering mills and on our vast fishing grounds. But there is no way of obtaining reliable information respecting this colony; and there is no reasonably good means of reaching it. Were there an Emigration and Intelligence Agency established at San Francisco, and did facile and cheap communication exist, there can be little doubt that population would flow into this colony in a steady stream—fast enough, in fact, for our present means of employment and absorption. In view of these facts, incontrovertible facts we take it, how can one account for, much less justify, the strange persistency with which the Executive refuses to do what little is in his power to do? We confess utter inability to comprehend the matter. Population we undoubtedly want. Every one must be convinced of the folly of expecting any degree of prosperity without fresh population. It is equally clear that population alone is needed to obtain prosperity. Every element of dormant wealth Nature has given us with lavish hand. Probably no country in the world really presents greater or more substantial advantages or a more desirable home. How is it, then, that with all these attractions and advantages the cry is still for population? Simply because the colony has carefully kept all this a profound secret. The outside world knows nothing of it—has no means of reaching it. Verily we are a strange people—a feeble people, a people utterly unworthy of being entrusted with the destiny of such a magnificent country. Miswiser-like, we have been waiting for something to turn up, for fortune to force her favors upon us. When Jefferson Thomson, the Confederate Commander-in-Chief of the army in Arkansas, dismissed his heroes he told them that many of them had been lying skulking in the swamps until the moss had grown six inches long on their backs, and he hoped to God the Federal authorities would hang every one of them the first chance they got. How much better have we and our government been? We have been waiting in helpless imbecility without putting forth one manly, self-reliant effort, until, like Jeff Thomson's heroes of the Arkansas swamps, we have become moss-grown. Now we look to Confederation for relief. Shall we stoke everything upon that single card? Let us have a care that we do not by such conduct prove ourselves unworthy of joining Canada. Confederation may be less near than we suppose. Shall we starve meanwhile? The Imperial Government is willing to pay, does pay, one moiety of the mail subsidy between this colony and San Francisco. Let the Executive set to work without delay and have at least one steamer placed upon the route, so as to be run in the interest of the colony. Let the \$5000 set down for immigration be made available for an agency in San Francisco, and let the Department of Lands and Works seek out those likely to settle upon land on their arrival, and conduct them to free homesteads, where they may farm for years without having occasion to cut down a single tree. There are millions of acres of such land within a day's travel of this city, and none have been found to till the ground. What are the people thinking about? What is the Government doing for its bread and butter?

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