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## THE BRITISH COLONIST

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## THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

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## THE EXPLORATION REPORT.

The report of the Exploration Expedition is at last before the public. It is a pamphlet of twenty-seven pages, and gives a detailed account of the expedition which started from Victoria on the 7th of June last under the command of Dr. Brown. Much of the report has at different times appeared in the Victoria papers, but there is also a great deal of interesting matter which will be found entirely new to the Victoria public. To give briefly the routes taken by the expedition and the general results of the undertaking is all we can pretend at present to do.

The party were taken from Victoria to Cowichan in the gunboat Grappler; from Cowichan they pushed forward by land and river travel to the Great Cowichan Lake, which they reached after a journey of seven days. In ascending the Cowichan river, which is forty miles in length, the color of gold was discovered everywhere, and in two or three places prospects of from one to one and a half cents to the pan were obtained. Coal was discovered cropping out in one locality. Excellent timber was found growing along the margin of the river and extending to a considerable distance backwards. The timbered land, the report says, is excellent soil, and would pay well in spars for its clearing. The country round about the lake was explored with the following results: The lake was found to be from twenty to twenty-two miles in length, and from 1 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile in breadth, and surrounded by two ranges of mountains from 2,000 to 3,000 feet high. A stream running into the Cowichan lake, called Foley's creek, gave good prospects of gold, as high as four cents to the pan having been obtained. Copper was found in many places—in one locality showing a rich seam of nearly twenty feet in width. Iron stone was also discovered. On June 20 the party, comprising eleven persons, was divided, one portion, under command of Lieut. Leech, making for Port San Juan, and the other portion, under Dr. Brown, intending to reach the sea at Whyack, the fortified village of the Nittinat. The latter journey does not seem to have given many practical results. The travel was for the most part performed in canoes down the Nittinat river, on which the color of gold was found as well as on the neighboring creeks. The timber along the Nittinat was very gigantic—some of the spruce and cedars measuring thirty-eight feet in circumference. The party reached Whyack, and after a short stay, scudded along the coast, and arrived at Port San Juan. On account of the difficulties of the route taken by Leech, his men did not reach this place until many days after the arrival of Dr. Brown. The former's journey did not seem to be much more productive than that of the commander. The country was very mountainous and unfitted for agriculture. It gave, on the other hand, rich metallurgical indications, plumbago and argenterous rock having been discovered to considerable extent. Its principal character, however, was its gold-bearing qualities, which were indicated by most of the creeks and by San Juan river. Coal was also discovered in various places, but not in sufficient quantities to justify the expenditure of much capital. The next point made was Sooke, which was reached by the coast line. On this route the Sombrio and Jordan rivers were passed and gold prospects obtained. Coal was also observed in many places. Of the discovery of gold at Sooke the public are already well informed. After prospecting Sooke and Leech rivers the expedition directed its steps overland to the starting point at Cowichan. The latter district, according to the report, "abounds in minerals, marble, coal, copper, &c., and gold

has been discovered on the Koksaila river." The next portion that attracted the attention of Dr. Brown was the country between Nainimo and Comox and the Courtenay river. In alluding to the tract of land extending from Rio de Grallas to past Quall-e-hum river, the report says—"These meadows in almost every instance are well watered by creeks flowing through them on their way to the sea. The worst of them are as good as the famed Essex flats on the Thames." Falling into the Courtenay, two miles from its mouth, is the Puntledge, and five miles up the Puntledge debouches a river which has been called Brown's river, after the commander of the expedition. "On this river," says Dr. Brown, "I am fortunate enough to be able to report the existence of one of the finest seams of coal hitherto discovered, at least as

far as the Pacific Coast. The seam is six feet thick on the outcrop and one hundred feet is exposed. The coal the report says is very suitable for coke. The position of this valuable field, which is shown to be extensive, is easily accessible from Comox harbor, being but five miles distant from navigable water, and the intervening country eminently adapted to a railway.

The above is an epitome of the results of the exploring expedition of the Southern portion of the Island. That these results are well worth the money which was expended on the undertaking no person, we are sure, in the community will attempt to deny—that they are of a sufficiently hopeful character to impel us to still further exertions in the cause of exploration is, we think, equally apparent. We have yet much to learn of the topography and general character of the Island. The extreme northern portion and the southern portion are now tolerably well known, but the great central region—the widest portion of the country—is still a terra incognita. We would, therefore, urge upon His Excellency Governor Kennedy the immediate dispatch of another expedition. We are now by practical experience enabled to improve on our former efforts. We see the lumbering nature of a popular but irresponsible Committee, and we see the folly, which was one we pointed out at the commencement of a large expedition, which merely becomes an embarrassment to itself. One-half the number of members would have accomplished more, and saved a large expense. The House of Assembly has voted several thousand dollars for explorations and land surveys—all it requires, therefore, to organize a second expedition that will make gold prospecting more of a specialty, and that will start better provided with implements is a display of that energy and vigor on the part of Governor Kennedy which resulted so successfully last year. This time we hope, however, to see the Government undertake the complete supervision of the affair and relieve it of the anomaly, which was previously presented, of public money being spent by men, who, however entitled to public thanks, were nevertheless totally unauthorised in the expenditure.

**AMERICAN AFFAIRS.**  
The intelligence from the States so far throws but little additional light on the late murderous conspiracy to assassinate the principal members of the Cabinet at Washington. The man recognized as Surrall, who made the attack on the life of Secretary Seward, has been arrested, but the more successful actor in the bloody drama has hitherto escaped. By last accounts Booth appears to be in Pennsylvania, having failed evidently to cross the Potomac and reach Maryland. He seems, withal, to have numerous aids and abettors, or he would never have been audacious enough to risk a conflict with the Federal cavalry, and having done so, would never have evaded capture another twenty-four hours. With the telegraph in the hands of the Government, however, and with the immense network of Government surveillance in the Northern States, the murderer's arrest cannot be long delayed; the only misfortune to be feared is the probability of his dying by the too honorable death of the sword, in his efforts to escape justice. For such wretches as he civilization is almost inclined to go back to the rack of the Inquisition, and apply all the tortures that human ingenuity has conceived. Republics cannot afford to be merciful, when their Chief Magistrate is liable at any moment to be struck down by the assassin. They must make, for the sake of example, the punishment commensurate with the crime. Regicide has always been looked upon as an offence too great for ordinary punishment, and the life of a man placed in authority, not by the accident of birth or the violence of bloodshed, but by the voice of his fellow-men, can scarcely be esteemed less sacred than that of king or czar.

The intelligence of Secretary Seward's recovery is as remarkable as it is gratifying, when we consider the circumstances

and nature of the attack. The wounded man was sufficiently convalescent to sit up and witness the funeral cortege of the deceased President as it passed mournfully along the streets on its way to the Capitol, where the remains are to lie in state, preparatory to being escorted to their final resting place in Illinois. The recovery of Seward is an additional guarantee that the policy of the administration will be unflinchingly carried out. To him more than to any other man was the late President indebted for advice and assistance in his trying position, and the same ability which helped to guide Lincoln politically safely through the difficulties of the civil war will be no doubt gladly embraced by President Johnson. The "situation" in the future is moreover one more diplomatic than military.

Southern people have to be brought back, not only to allegiance to the Federal Government but to the paths of peaceful industry; the immense armies that have been fighting in both parts of the Republic have to be gradually disbanded; slave labor has to cease, and the toil of the hired worker on the plantation made remunerative to the manumitted slave as well as to the speculative employer. These are tasks sufficient in themselves to strain the powers of statesmanship as well as those of diplomacy to their utmost.

Since the capitulation of Lee but little interest seems to be attached to military movements. Johnson's surrender to Sherman was almost a foregone conclusion when the Richmond army yielded, and the same spirit of succumbing to circumstances is indicated in almost every part of the Confederacy. Mobile, whether it was because the news of Lee's discomfiture and its result, had not reached the garrison, or whether its defenders were determined to make themselves celebrated in history as the last to lay down their arms, forms an exception. There the fighting has been going on almost continually, and the capture has been anticipated over and over again, but incorrectly. The accounts this time reiterating the taking of the city are, however, more reliable in their appearance than former ones; for we find that Fort Blakely has been captured, and with it 2,400 men. The surrender of this stronghold is virtually the surrender of the city. If, therefore, the intelligence of the latter's capture, like the former statements, too premature, there is every prospect, from the taking of Blakely, of an immediate capitulation. The place in a few days would, under any circumstances, be rendered entirely useless to the South, the interior of Alabama being now literally overrun by the Federal forces. Montgomery, the capital, has fallen; and Columbus, an important town in a military point of view, on the Alabama and Georgia boundary line has also surrendered to Thomas' troops. In a few days the entire State will be under Northern dominion; the Confederacy will have virtually collapsed, and the years of interminable guerrilla warfare so seriously predicted on the downfall of the great Southern armies will enter into that region of false prognostication which has allowed up so many European hypotheses in reference to the American war.

## SHOOTING AFFRAY ON THE FRASER.

An affair occurred on the steamer Hope on her way to Yale which is likely to end unfortunately for one of the parties concerned. A person named Dan Copland, well known in sporting circles, while inebriated, quarrelled with some Chinese passengers and wanted to drive them out of the saloon. He struck one of them and cut off his pigtail. The purser interfered and told him that such conduct could not be allowed, but it is said that Copland presented a pistol at him; ultimately he discharged one chamber of his revolver, but fortunately he hit no one, though the engineer of the boat had a narrow escape—the ball passing through the sleeve of his coat. Copland and one of his companions named Wright, left the saloon and went on to the guards where Copland discharged another bullet into a crowd of Chinamen, wounding two in their legs. The Reliance being a little behind the Hope, and it being known that Mr. O'Reilly, J. P., was on board, the captain sent a note detailing the occurrence by a passing canoe. The Captain of the Hope shortly afterwards got rid of Copland and Wright by landing them on Jeffrey's Bar, and when the Reliance came up they walked quietly on board and were at once arrested, and finally lodged in gaol at Yale. On the arrival of the Hope at Yale with the witnesses, which would be about 3 p. m. on Friday, they were to be brought before the resident magistrate, Mr. Sanders.—F. Times.

## OSCULATORY.

A young fellow once offered to kiss a Quakeress. "Friend," said she, "thou must not do it." "Oh, by Jove! but I must," said the youth. "Well, friend, as thou hast sworn, they may do it; but they must not make a practice of it."

## CABBAGE.

Sambo says: "Dee folk make a good many of dese 'patches from de seat of war out of whole clof."

## EASTERN NEWS.

Dates to the 18th.

**BOOTH, THE MURDERER OF LINCOLN, SURROUNDED. SURRENDERED. TEMPTED MURDERER OF SEWARD, CAPTURED. SEWARD RECOVERING RAPIDLY. PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S POLICY. GENERAL LEE RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM IN RICHMOND.**

From the North Pacific Times.  
WASHINGTON, April 16th.—Gen. Ord has issued the following order: All officers of the army of Northern Virginia who were not present at the surrender on the 9th, are hereby informed of the terms of capitulation, the same being extended to them. They can at once avail themselves of the same by

the gentleman who communicates the intelligence says that Lee did not, after the surrender repair to North Carolina, but has been remaining at Appomattox Court House to carry out the terms of the capitulation, and it is supposed by this time he is in Richmond.

Grant having extended to him, through courtesy, an escort of 100 cavalry, the best possible feeling exists between the two Generals. Nothing definite has been heard recently from Johnson's army. It is the impression that it will be disbanded, or else melt away by desertion, provided a spirit to conciliate the deserted elements be manifested.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—The city was perfectly quiet last night, and business is generally resumed to-day. The military has been withdrawn from the streets, but sufficient force is kept under arms ready to be called out on the first indication of a disturbance. During last night and to-day the city has been flooded with rumors of riots in New York, Philadelphia, and Richmond, and that a general massacre of Secessionists had been inaugurated in the North.

Legal Tenders, 67 to 67 1/2. Gold on Saturday, 155, and is reported higher.

## LATER.

From the British Columbian.  
Owing to the funeral of the President taking place yesterday, the office hours of the Telegraph Company were from 3 to 10 and, consequently, the following dispatch is all we are enabled to lay before our readers to-day:

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—The funeral of President Lincoln will take on Wednesday at noon, instead of Thursday, as heretofore reported. Johnston has surrendered to Sherman. Secretary Seward is recovering.

## Special Dispatch to the "Columbian."

WASHINGTON, April 18.—To Sanford, Uncle is much better; he sat up for a quarter of an hour this morning, and was bright and cheerful to-day. There is a marked improvement upon yesterday. Frederick Seward is but slowly regaining consciousness—has spoken twice this forenoon. He sleeps much of the time, and breathes regularly. His pulse and appetite are good. Every one feels encouraged in regard to both. The messenger and nurse are both doing well.

C. A. SEWARD.

BALTIMORE, April 18.—A gentleman who was at Point Lookout, Maryland, yesterday morning, was informed by the officers of a gunboat that Booth and other conspirators, about thirty in number, were in St. Mary's County heavily armed, endeavoring to make their way across the Potomac River, which was strongly picketed, no one being allowed to pass. He also stated that on Sunday evening a small squad of our cavalry had a collision with them, and were repulsed but succeeded in capturing one of them. Our cavalry were reinforced yesterday, and were understood to have them completely surrounded so that escape was impossible.

A highly important arrest was made here to-day. The name of the party is for the present withheld. He has made a full confession of being one of the conspirators against the life of the President, and acknowledges himself to be the author of the letter found in Booth's trunk.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Late last night a man disguised as a laborer, carrying a pick on his shoulder, approached a house occupied by a family of the name of Surrall, in this city, and was about to enter when he was arrested. Upon washing the dirt from his face he proved to be quite a different looking person from what his appearance at first indicated. He called himself Payne and exhibited not a little embarrassment, and managed to ask in an agitated manner why he was arrested. The colored servant of Secretary Seward was sent for, when he exclaimed "That's the man. I know him by general appearance and by his mouth." The servant said there could be no mistake. Others in Seward's house at the time will probably have recollection of Surrall's appearance, and will be afforded an opportunity of recognizing him. The man is believed to be Surrall who perpetrated the dreadful acts at Secretary Seward's house.

BALTIMORE, April 18.—It is understood that the party allied to as under arrest here states that the original design of the conspirators was merely to capture President Lincoln some time back, making him prisoner, and in this way compel a general release of all rebel prisoners held by the United States. When the general exchange of prisoners commenced, however, this project was abandoned by him and others as no longer necessary. He says he refused to have anything further to do with it, and endeavored to induce the others to give up their design

upon the life of President Lincoln. This is substantially a correct statement of what he has so far divulged. His well-known residence is in Baltimore.

NEW YORK, April 18.—Last special dispatch says President Johnson yesterday said to a clergyman, who begged him to be merciful to rebels, that mercy to individuals was not always mercy to States. He also declared to prominent members of Congress that he was willing to act with the utmost leniency towards the common people of the rebel States, but unrepentant leaders must be punished.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, April 9.—To Halleck.—Spanish Fort and its dependencies captured last night, with 25 officers and 583 prisoners, five mortars and twenty-five guns. Major Fort, of the garrison, escaped by water. Blakely is already invested, and will be assaulted to-day unless he can

Gen. E. H. S. CANTY, JR.  
HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, April 9.—To Grant.—I have the honor to report the capture this day of rebel forts at Blakely, with 2,400 prisoners and twenty guns.  
(Signed) CANTY.  
NEW YORK, April 18.—The Herald's Richmond dispatch of the 14th says that Gen. Lee arrived in that city at 8:30 p.m. He and his staff were received with the greatest enthusiasm by the populace, cheer upon cheer being given them, even Union soldiers raising their caps to him.

## LATEST.

[SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE COLONIST.]

DATES TO THE 20TH.

## THE PRESIDENT'S FUNERAL.

Immense Gathering at Washington.

CORTEGE OVER THREE MILES LONG.

Narrow Escape of President Johnson.

Probable Arrest of Booth.

Seward and his Son Recovering.

Columbus and Montgomery, Ala., Captured.

MOBILE AGAIN REPORTED FALLEN.

Moseby Surrendered.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The solemn funeral rites and obsequies of the late President took place to-day in the Capitol. Never was greater fealty to the memory of the illustrious dead ever demonstrated in the annals of civilization. The citizens poured forth by thousands into the streets, and by 10 o'clock many parts of the city were rendered impassable. At 2 p. m. the remains were taken to the Capitol by a procession extending over three miles in length, and were placed in the Rotunda where they will lie in state until to-morrow, when they will be conveyed under escort to Springfield, Illinois.

NEW YORK, April 19.—It is estimated that 125,000 people were in Washington to-day to witness the funeral ceremonies of President Lincoln.

READING, PENN., April 20.—Lyon, United States, furnishes the following: Booth was in Reading yesterday. He left on the train for Tomoga (?) means being taken for his arrest which for obvious reasons were kept secret.

NEW YORK, April 20.—The capture of Mobile was announced by rebel deserters in Savannah.

APRIL 14.—Columbus, Alabama, has been captured by Thomas' cavalry after a hard fight with Forrest, who had 400 of his men taken prisoners. Montgomery, Ala., is also captured.

Ex-Governor Farrel of Wisconsin was the first to notify Andrew Johnson of the murder of Lincoln. Johnson had retired to rest but, as soon as he had been notified prompt measures were taken for his protection; but for this action of Governor Farrel in all probability President Johnson would have been murdered. An unusual stir was heard in the room adjoining in which unknown men with pistols and dirks were found.

Moseby surrendered his forces on the 17th to Gen. Chapman on terms similar to those granted to Lee.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Secretary Seward was so much better to-day that he was able to be taken from bed and supported at a window, whence he witnessed the passage of a portion of the funeral procession. Frederick Seward is also improving. Greenbacks, 71 1/2.

The steamer Geo. S. Wright leaves Portland for Victoria on Monday evening.

MR. GARFIELD'S ORATION AT THE THEATRE.—In our notice of the proceedings in the theatre on Wednesday in commemoration of the death of President Lincoln, we unintentionally omitted the names of the following gentlemen who occupied seats on the platform: Messrs. J. Curtis, Major Gillingham, M. Moore, Bagley, W. T., Edgar Martin, Thos. Lowe and others. The names of Messrs. Stemmler & Co. should also have been mentioned in connection with the interior arrangements of the building.