

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 5. SYDNEY VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUE. DAY, AUGUST 23, 1864. NO. 41.

THE BRITISH COLONIST. EVERY MORNING. (Sunday's Excepted). AT THE OFFICE OF THE PROPRIETOR, 138, QUEEN'S STREET, SYDNEY. TERMS. ADVERTISERS. SINGLE COPIES.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST. Published to subscribers for six years; at the rate of 2s. 6d. for three months; payable in advance. NOTICE. L. P. FISHER, Sole and only authorized Agent for the collection of advertisements, etc., in San Francisco.

AGENTS. Messrs. G. & J. Fisher, 138, Queen's Street, Sydney. Messrs. W. & A. Gilbey, 13, Old Bailey, London.

Later Eastern News. Grant fighting near Richmond.

Special Despatches to British Colonist. Monticello, August 20, 5 1/2 p.m.

Washington, Aug. 19.—Correspondence from Grant to the 16th, 9 p.m. says: The fighting on North James River to day, resulted favorably but without any decisive result. The army lost about 1,000 men, and the rebels about 2,000. The rebels retreated to the south side of the river, and we are now in pursuit of them. Our loss in killed and wounded is nearly equal to that of the rebels. The rebels' loss is very severe.

Democracy. General credit in the General Assembly, Ottawa and Col. Cameron's Station. Washington, Aug. 19.—Letters from the Army of the Potomac at noon of the 17th, say the 23rd Corps have been successful in their attack on the rebel works near Lees Ferry.

WINSTON'S DEMAND FOR CONFEDERATE AGENTS from the London Star. U.S.S. 'Kearsarge'.

THE REPLY. JOHN A. WINSTON: Sir, I received your letter of June 21. You are right, I have no power what so ever to do for the French Government, and should have been sent to the authorities to whom you allude, and I do not see why I should be held responsible for the actions of the French Government.

WASHINGTON, August 18.—News from Shantao-day is favorable. Sheridan is pushing Early from point to point at every encounter. The reinforcements of Early by Longstreet's corps are doubted, as he is believed to be in Grant's front.

Hagerstown, August 19th.—Exciting and conflicting rumors from the Valley were received here to-day. A very reliable source showed that they were moving toward the Shenandoah. Refugees are arriving bringing intelligence of rebel advances.

STANLEY, August 18.—Vallandigham addressed a mass meeting to-day, and said he expected the nomination of the Chicago Convention to be pledged for a suspension of hostilities, and a convention of the majority of delegates from the North-West committed to that doctrine. This evening the principal speaker was John B. Weller of California, who reviewed the history of the Administration,

denounced the arbitrary and unconstitutional character of many of its acts, and expressed himself in favor of an armistice, and a convention of the States, believing both Sections would be benefited thereby. He believed a reunion possible. The South has proposed, through its President and his agents, to meet us, and had if we could not agree, and instead of war, an armistice and a convention. He considered, with a Republican form of Government it was impossible to keep States together by force of arms. He was for trying reconciliation, and compromise. The resolution was unanimously adopted, declaring the country as passing through a fearful political convulsion, and that violence by force of arms had been exercised under the mask of patriotism.

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE. New York, Aug. 11.—The steamer Paris has arrived. The French dispatch, London to Paris, and Paris to London, has been published. In the House of Commons, Mr. Disraeli has announced that he has proposed to the Government, without waiting for State and Territories, under James to be brought within the authority of the new Government. Lord Howard called attention to the enrollment of emigrants in America, and complained of British subjects being entrapped. He urged the necessity of watchfulness to put it down. Mr. Layard admitted there were great complaints, but the Government could do no more than it had done. He trusted that the American authorities would endeavor to check the abuses. Several other speeches were made, including one by P. Taylor, who defended the Federal Government, which was determined, he said, to get down the slave-holder's rebellion.

On the 29th, Parliament was prorogued. The Queen's speech was read by a Commission. It deeply regrets a continuation of civil war in America; promises a continued strict neutrality, but would rejoice to see a friendly reconciliation. It expresses satisfaction at the influx of cotton from all parts of the world; and commends mitigation of the distress in the cotton manufacturing districts. It regrets the Danco-German war, and hopes that negotiations at Frankfurt will be successful. The rest of the speech enumerates accomplished facts, and rejoices at the continued prosperity of the country.

Nothing is known as to peace negotiations at Vienna. The Copenhagen Journal says that the report of the alleged armistice for nine months is premature. Prussia agrees to the entry of the Federal troops into the Rhineland. The Bank of France has gained over 6,000,000 francs in specie during the week. The Boresse was flat. PARRIS (Canada East), August 15.—The steamer North American, from Liverpool on the 14th, and London on the 15th, has just arrived. The political news is almost blank.

The London Times publishes a letter from Richmond, dated June 27th, in which the writer expresses his belief that Grant knows full well that neither Petersburg nor Richmond can be taken by fighting, and that he will make no more onslaughts on the Confederate breastworks, but quietly assume the defensive. He says the question is one of subsistence, but that Richmond can never be starved out until the two railroads from the South, as well as the James River Canal and the railroads from the North be utterly annihilated; which he contends Grant is not strong enough to do. He admits that Grant's operations may cause the Confederates to be placed on half rations, but this will not affect the result.

The Alexandria (Egypt) correspondent of the Times gives the particulars of a quarrel between the American Consul and the Egyptian Government. An American, in erecting a steam engine, partly destroyed an aqueduct for supplying the town with water. The Consul, on being applied to by the authorities, stopped the works, but subsequently permitted them to proceed. The Government then forcibly interfered, and ejected the men from the works. The Consul thereupon demanded a satisfactory apology for the insult to the American flag. He refused to accede to the proposal that each party should send an engineer to inspect the alleged damage, agreeing to abide their joint decision, and threatened to strike his colors unless satisfaction was given in 24 hours. Accordingly after that time elapsed the flag was hoisted down, and a despatch from the Government, which arrived almost immediately afterward, was returned unopened. The Consul has telegraphed to Constantinople, and the matter rests for the present.

The Times says it appears likely that America will recognize the new Government of Mexico before England. Vienna despatches state that an armistice has been concluded with Denmark for three months, to terminate on six weeks' notice. The House of Lords has decided that Yerverton failed to establish the validity of his marriage.

A CASUALTY.—We learn from a private letter received by a gentleman in this city last evening, that Dr. Bellows, the talented and eloquent President of the United States Sanitary Commission, intends to visit Victoria, and may be expected here in a week or ten days. He will be in Portland about the 20th; where he will remain two days, and after a trip to the Dalles, make his way across to this city by Olympia, lecturing at his different stopping places. Our citizens may, judging from the notices, expect a most interesting and eloquent oratorical treat when this eloquent and patriotic gentleman arrives amongst us.

OUR LONDON LETTERS.

THE VOICE OF DENMARK. The Palmetto Government has had a narrow escape, for although a majority of 18 was managed to be caught in the House of Commons, by which Mr. Disraeli's resolutions were defeated, the majority of 18 against them in the Lords on the same evening, the 8th inst., was taken into consideration, and they must go to the right-about. Lord Palmerston, however, has completely ignored the vote of the Upper House, and carries on his course of proceeding just as if nothing whatever had been said or done against his administration. Of the details, and of its results in the House of Commons, I am able to relate several particulars, for I will not say it was my privilege, but rather my misfortune, to be present in the Reporter's gallery, the four weary nights through which it dragged its very slow length along. On the 25th, the House of Commons assembled, and Mr. Disraeli rose to read a resolution, which was not only a declaration of war against Denmark, but also a declaration of war against the King of Denmark, and against the Princes Hans, his sons in his difficulty. Negotiations for peace are proceeding as I write to you, and doubtless ere another fortnight will be reported the latest news, the dread of war will have entirely evaporated, and arrangements be entered into to save Denmark from a repetition of those horrors which have desolated a large portion of her provinces, and destroyed so many once happy homes.

NEW HOLY ALLIANCE! In the midst of "wars and rumors of war," the public has been startled by an announcement in the Morning Post, that Russia, Prussia and Austria, have formed a solemn league and covenant, to act together defensively and offensively, and to withstand the progress of liberal principles, not only in their own dominions, but in every other country of Europe. The manner in which this announcement was put forth in a journal, is so singular and so surprising, that it has induced a universal belief in its accuracy. Each of the supposed allied powers, however, has positively contradicted it, using the strongest terms of denial, so strong, indeed, that most people are disposed to think, that the paper is a joke.

THE TROUBLES OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COLONY are very far from being ended. The news of the last mail is very sad, relating as it does the defeat of Her Majesty's 43d Regiment by the Maories, and the death of many gallant officers, both military and naval. General Cameron, no longer daunted, however, by the repulse which has been so disastrous, is preparing to renew the attack, and to attack them in another stronghold to which they had fled, availing themselves of the darkness of the night, after their successful resistance to the British troops. That they will succeed, and that they will be completely annihilated, is a possibility, but it is not to be predicted.

THE WHOLE TOWN was set upon the qui vive on Wednesday by a report being circulated that the Federal steamer Kearsarge would land at Bournemouth, and come to grief off Jersey, having been encountered by the Florida, and so disabled as to have sought shelter in port Goree, about 15 miles above St. Helens. But a few hours served to dispel the general excitement which this report aroused, inasmuch as there has not only been no landing at Bournemouth, but the Kearsarge is still lying at anchor off Dover. By the bye, efforts have been made again by Mr. Mason, the Confederate agent here, to induce Lord Palmerston to do something in the way of interference. Mr. Lindsey, the ship builder, introduced Mr. Mason yesterday to the Premier, but nothing came of the interview beyond an exchange of civilities, and an assurance—which very safely might be said—that when matters appeared more ripe for consummation interference might be thought of. Lord Palmerston having already had his fingers burned by interference in foreign affairs, has no intention whatever of departing from that neutrality which has been determined upon with reference to American affairs.

BUT WHAT has become of you, Miss Bellows, our Danish correspondent, whilst this article has been going on? She has found at last, and to her cost, that there is nothing to be expected from England. She is therefore busy in striving to make terms with her opponents, and to obtain from them as much of their "tender mercies" as they may be persuaded to bestow. Louis Napoleon has, however, at last made some sign of taking up a cause that he has hitherto sacrificed quite as much as Earl Russell has done; and he can do what he is disposed to venture upon with a much better grace, inasmuch as he has not humiliated anybody, and then left those whom he pretended to "help in the lurch, but has merely showed an apparent indifference, which can at any moment be thrown off. I say "apparent indifference" since nobody believes that the Emperor is so good as to let his "American" partners, except an oratorical treat when this eloquent and patriotic gentleman arrives amongst us.

THE DISMISSAL OF HIS CABINET by the King of Denmark is attributable solely to the advice he has received from Louis Napoleon, to whom the King's brother Prince Hans, has gone in his difficulty. Negotiations for peace are proceeding as I write to you, and doubtless ere another fortnight will be reported the latest news, the dread of war will have entirely evaporated, and arrangements be entered into to save Denmark from a repetition of those horrors which have desolated a large portion of her provinces, and destroyed so many once happy homes.

THE MORNING POST adheres to its first statement, and continues to circulate a correspondence, which bears upon its face every feature of truth and accuracy. The real state of things between those powers is, doubtless, in effect, that a tacit arrangement has been come to between them, but it has not been put upon paper, by which means they can deny in one sense, that which they can not repudiate in another! The time is coming, when doubtless the great antagonism between the systems of the past and present will take a more positive and critical position than has ever yet been attempted. Diplomacy may strive to avert such a European catastrophe, but it looms in the distance, and a spark of any kind might in an hour be fanned into a furious flame. What the results would be, it is not easy to conjecture; but the struggle, whenever it commences, will be short, sharp and terrible. Expect, from the assertion that such an alliance had been formed, great news of the utmost importance.

THE TROUBLES OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COLONY are very far from being ended. The news of the last mail is very sad, relating as it does the defeat of Her Majesty's 43d Regiment by the Maories, and the death of many gallant officers, both military and naval. General Cameron, no longer daunted, however, by the repulse which has been so disastrous, is preparing to renew the attack, and to attack them in another stronghold to which they had fled, availing themselves of the darkness of the night, after their successful resistance to the British troops. That they will succeed, and that they will be completely annihilated, is a possibility, but it is not to be predicted.

THE WHOLE TOWN was set upon the qui vive on Wednesday by a report being circulated that the Federal steamer Kearsarge would land at Bournemouth, and come to grief off Jersey, having been encountered by the Florida, and so disabled as to have sought shelter in port Goree, about 15 miles above St. Helens. But a few hours served to dispel the general excitement which this report aroused, inasmuch as there has not only been no landing at Bournemouth, but the Kearsarge is still lying at anchor off Dover. By the bye, efforts have been made again by Mr. Mason, the Confederate agent here, to induce Lord Palmerston to do something in the way of interference. Mr. Lindsey, the ship builder, introduced Mr. Mason yesterday to the Premier, but nothing came of the interview beyond an exchange of civilities, and an assurance—which very safely might be said—that when matters appeared more ripe for consummation interference might be thought of. Lord Palmerston having already had his fingers burned by interference in foreign affairs, has no intention whatever of departing from that neutrality which has been determined upon with reference to American affairs.

BUT WHAT has become of you, Miss Bellows, our Danish correspondent, whilst this article has been going on? She has found at last, and to her cost, that there is nothing to be expected from England. She is therefore busy in striving to make terms with her opponents, and to obtain from them as much of their "tender mercies" as they may be persuaded to bestow. Louis Napoleon has, however, at last made some sign of taking up a cause that he has hitherto sacrificed quite as much as Earl Russell has done; and he can do what he is disposed to venture upon with a much better grace, inasmuch as he has not humiliated anybody, and then left those whom he pretended to "help in the lurch, but has merely showed an apparent indifference, which can at any moment be thrown off. I say "apparent indifference" since nobody believes that the Emperor is so good as to let his "American" partners, except an oratorical treat when this eloquent and patriotic gentleman arrives amongst us.

THE DISMISSAL OF HIS CABINET by the King of Denmark is attributable solely to the advice he has received from Louis Napoleon, to whom the King's brother Prince Hans, has gone in his difficulty. Negotiations for peace are proceeding as I write to you, and doubtless ere another fortnight will be reported the latest news, the dread of war will have entirely evaporated, and arrangements be entered into to save Denmark from a repetition of those horrors which have desolated a large portion of her provinces, and destroyed so many once happy homes.

ROYALTY has scarcely been felt at all. There is a lesson to be taught, which they who run may read, if they wish to do so.

THE WHOLE CITY has been all the week in the greatest state of excitement and consternation, on account of a most deliberate and horrible murder committed on the evening of the 9th inst., in a first-class carriage of the North London Railway. I will not attempt now to enter into the details, which will be applied to you by the papers forwarded to you by this mail. I may, however, just as well tell you, that not only are the murderers and murderers undiscovered, but that the police have really no positive clue to them. If the criminals should escape, this is only another specimen of the inefficiency of our police force, in spite of all that is said of its being perfect in all its details.

TRADE AND COMMERCE. Things are getting slack, but the assurance that war has been prevented, is having its effect upon all classes, and prognosticates a prosperous amount of business after the approaching autumn holidays.

RESIGNATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. Mr. Cary yesterday sent in his resignation of the Attorney-Generalship, which was accepted by His Excellency. The vacancy thus caused will doubtless be filled provisionally at once, from among our local barristers, although the appointment rests with or must be confirmed by the Crown. We hope that His Excellency, in making his selection for the Acting Attorney-Generalship, will consult the feelings and wishes of the community, and avoid the odium that would inevitably attach to an unpopular and unsuitable appointment. It is possible to secure for the position a gentleman of integrity, ability and colonial experience, qualifications that unfortunately have heretofore been "conspicuous for their absence," and the want of which in the official adviser of the Crown has caused so much dissatisfaction to the public generally.

LEACH RIVER JUSTICE. Editor British Colonist.—The following is a description of the manner in which the cases before our Gold Commissioner are conducted will be a novelty to your readers, if not very edifying to them. As the case will be brought under the notice of a higher authority than Mr. Goldidge, I abstain from entering into its merits. I had a written report before me, Goldidge on Wednesday last, setting forth fully the wrong I had to complain of, and in accordance with his desire, on the following morning went down to his camp with my witnesses—a distance of 2 1/2 miles. I met a constable who requested me to return with him to the claim, I did so, and then again started for the Commissioner's tent, before reaching it, I met Mr. Goldidge, who told me he had adjourned the hearing until Friday. On that day Mr. Goldidge heard the case for my opponent, but on my calling a witness to disprove his statements, he refused to hear him—said at once gave the decision against me. I requested him to swear as the witness on the other side, on the ground of false evidence, which he refused to do. I add no comments, these facts tell their own story. I complain of the hardship of obliging me again to bring my witnesses 2 1/2 miles away from their work, and as my opponent was working the claim in dispute, I requested him to lay it over; his answer, if not intentionally rude and over-bearing, was anything but satisfactory or gentlemanly.

NEW WESTMINSTER EXPLORING ASSOCIATION.—This association has despatched its first regularly organized exploring party, which has gone out from New Westminster on the 17th inst. and is composed of four of our citizens with as many Indians to do the packing, etc. The company is not numerically strong, but is composed of men possessing both scientific skill and a practical experimental knowledge of prospecting, and quartz as well as placer mining. The route laid out for them is to ascend the valley of the Coquitlam river until they arrive at the watershed from whence one of the rivers take their rise, where they will be guided by circumstances and indications as to the course they may take. It is proposed that they remain out about a month; but, of course, in this as in other matters they will necessarily be guided very much by circumstances. Recent prospectings of the most superficial character would lead us to hope that gold may be discovered in paying quantities, on the Coquitlam river. A party of pleasure seekers happening to be about four miles above the Pitt river road on that stream a few days ago washed up several pans full of surface dirt from which they obtained prospects which although small yet were of a character to indicate the near proximity of the source from which the particles of gold had come. The pieces were not of the class of floor or scale gold, but minute nuggets of that sharp angular description which prognosticate that they had not been washed any considerable distance from their native bed.—Columbia.

FEDERAL PRISONERS.—The Richmond Examiner says that there have been 97,000 prisoners received at Libby since the battle of Bull Run.

A GOOD PRIZE.—It is stated that by naval laws, when an inferior vessel sinks a superior one, her entire value goes to the victor. The Alabama being estimated to be worth \$500,000, Captain Winslow will be entitled to from \$70,000 to \$100,000, while the seamen will get from \$1,200 to \$1,500 each.