

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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THE BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED DAILY BY
DAVID W. HIGGINS:

TERMS:
One Year, (in advance).....\$10 00
Six Months, do..... 6 00
Three Months do..... 3 50
One Week..... 0 25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TERMS:
One Year.....\$5 00
Six Months..... 3 00
Three Months..... 1 50
One Week..... 0 12 1/2

AGENTS:
B. D. Lewis, Nanaimo, V. I.
Geo. & Clark, New Westminster
James's Express, Yale, B. C.
do do Vancouver
do do Richmond
do do Barkerville
do do Omineca
Owen & Lewis, Seattle, W. T.
Mr. Fox, Olympia, W. T.
David Sims, Port Townsend
H. & M. McKee, New York
P. A. Galt, 11 Clement's Lane, London
S. Street, 39 Cornhill, London
D. F. Fisher, San Francisco

Schools and Roads.

It is not always an easy matter to so adjust taxation and apportion expenditure as to mete out even-handed justice to every class of the inhabitants and every locality in the country; and yet the attainment of that result should be the aim of legislation. It has appeared to fall within the scope of our duty as a public journal more than once to point out the gross violation of this true principle of legislation in the case of Nanaimo. It is not our present purpose to revert to the period when certain politicians laying claim to great breadth of view but too successfully opposed the creation of a port of entry at Nanaimo. It is enough to say, generally, that for some reason or other, Nanaimo has, in a greater degree than any other locality with which we are acquainted, been the victim of injustice.

In respect to taxation and expenditure, as well as in respect of the general policy of administration. The second largest and, in proportion to its size, the most largely productive community in the United Colony, the largest consumer of dutiable goods, and, therefore, the largest contributor towards the public revenue, Nanaimo may be said to have been neglected, legislated down, cut off almost without a bidding. We will not now stop to consider how far this condition of things may be owing to the wants and claims of Nanaimo not having been presented in the Councils of the Colony with that faithfulness and force they deserved; but it may be remarked, in passing, that under the new system now being inaugurated, it will rest with the people of Nanaimo to say by their votes at the polls whether or not this systematic injustice shall continue. If the people will only make a wise use of their new-gotten power, such things will be impossible under the new system. Gabriola Island lies directly opposite the magnificent harbor of Nanaimo, and is washed by the Straits of Georgia, the north-western part of it being about eight miles distant from the town. It is about eight miles in length, by an average breadth of two miles and five eighths, and contains about thirteen thousand five hundred acres. Although in some portions rough and broken, it contains much excellent land for agricultural purposes. There are at present sixteen settlers on it, all of whom, with one exception, have families, and most of whom have made large improvements. Probably in no part of the colony can more industrious, well-doing and well-deserving settlers be found. These Gabriolites have not been neglected in so far as taxation is concerned. In addition to the heavy taxes which they have to pay, and which their representative in the Legislature would compel them to continue to pay, upon everything they eat and drink and wear of imported kind, they have been made to pay a heavy road tax, and for what? They have been left to make their own roads, wholly unaided by the Government. And right bravely have they come to the work. The chief settlement is on the lower or more distant end of the Island, and Mr. John Dijk and his fellow settlers have made a wagon road, eight miles in length, a portion of it being over soft ground involving a large expenditure of labor. All praise to these industrious, self-reliant men; but surely it is most unjust that they should have been made to pay a heavy road tax, and be left to make their own roads. This is not

the way to recognize the value of such settlers. We have said that all the settlers on Gabriola Island, save one, have families. The suggestion is obvious enough. They need a school. The number of children is, we believe, over twenty-five; and as it has been seen that the nearest part of the Island is about four miles distant from the town of Nanaimo, the sole means of communication therewith being by water, it will scarcely be necessary to say that the children of these valuable settlers must of necessity be educated on Gabriola Island. How is this to be accomplished? Are these sixteen settlers to be left to build a school-house, hire a teacher and maintain a school at their own sole expense?

No; that must not, shall not be. These hardy and courageous settlers contribute their share and more than their share towards the public revenue, and they must not be left to struggle on wholly unaided and unprotected by the State. They must be met in their manly efforts to create permanent homes for themselves and their offspring, in a spirit of justice and kindly recognition on the part of the Government. At the very least their children must be educated, and they, themselves, freed from a road-tax for which they have never received the slightest value. Let it not be imagined that Gabriola Island is singular in this respect, because we have singled it out. A notable instance, it is yet only a representative case of assiduous attentions on the part of the tax-gatherer, and of cold neglect on the part of those who apportion the public revenue.

Tuesday, June 27.
THE CIVIL LIST BILL.—It will be observed by the following communication from the Governor to the Mayor that this bill has received Her Majesty's assent and is now law:
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, June 24.
SIR,—With reference to certain resolutions passed at a public meeting in Victoria respecting the Civil List Act, 1871, which were forwarded by you for transmission to the Secretary of State, the Governor is instructed by Lord Kimberley to inform you that those resolutions have been carefully considered by him, but that looking to all the circumstances of the case, he has not thought it his duty to advise Her Majesty to withhold her assent from the bill.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient and humble servant,
A. MURRAY, Jr.,
Private Secretary.

PIRATE SOUND ITEMS.—Hon E. F. Phelps died at Seattle on Saturday last. An election of officers will take place at Seattle in fortnight. The boiler of Mr. Brown's Brewery at Seattle exploded a few days ago, slightly scalding the proprietor. The 19th of June being the seventh anniversary of the splendid naval achievement by which the pirate Alabama was destroyed and Capt Winslow, of the Keersarge, succeeded to a Vice-Admiralty, the ward-room officers of the Saratoga distinguished the event by giving an entertainment on board to the Admiral, his wife and daughter, and a number of invited guests. So says the Seattle Intelligencer.

DEATH OF AN ACTRESS.—Mrs Sue Robinson Getzler, who will be remembered by residents of Victoria as far back as 1861 as a member of the first company that performed at the Theatre Royal, died suddenly at Sacramento California, on the 17th inst. In the winter of 1861 Mrs Getzler—then Miss Robinson—was engaged to be married to Capt Jamieson of the steamer Fort Yale. It was arranged that the steamer should make one more trip to Yale and that on her return the marriage should take place at New Westminster. On the passage up the river, the steamer blew up and Capt Jamieson and many others were killed outright.

ROBBERY.—On Thursday last a man named Charles Brant stole a valise and overcoat from Coggan & Co's stage office, Olympia. The fellow proceeded at once to dispose of the stolen articles round town overlooking, however, a buckskin purse in the bottom of the valise containing \$300, in \$20 pieces. The thief was arrested and most of the property recovered. The property belonged to F. H. Lamb, Esq, Telegraph Superintendent.

BOAT ON FIRE.—The enterprise for New Westminster and the Lillooet for Yale will make but one trip per week till further notice. The Enterprise will leave Victoria on Wednesday and return on Saturday. The Lillooet will New Westminster on Thursday and return on Saturday.

SAN JUAN MAIL.—Capt Coupe has been awarded a renewal of the contract for carrying the mail from Port Townsend to San Juan Island. The steamer Success will make the trip on Mondays instead of Tuesdays as before.

IT IS reported that the member for Victoria District, taking alarm at the prospect of a successful opposition for the Commons in his own district, is about to canvass the country districts—although, we are persuaded, his chances will be even more slim there than in the city.

THE SURVEY.—The provisions for the party of that portion of the surveying party who will go to Kamloops will be forwarded by the Enterprise to-morrow.

Police court.

MONDAY, June 26, 1871.

Wm Targoose was charged by David Marcotte with killing a dog. The plaintiff failed to make his case good and the charge was dismissed.
Hoy, a Chinaman, was brought up from remand on a charge of carrying concealed weapons, and ordered to find security in the sum of \$50 to be of good behavior for 3 months or suffer 14 days imprisonment.
Samuel Wilson, charged with leading undutiable goods and avoiding the Customs House, pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a fine of £20, or be committed if not paid immediately.

Chas Lee, for fighting in the public streets, pleaded guilty and was placed under bonds for three months.
Over to keep the peace for three months in the sum of \$100.
Hugh Wilson, on a charge of being a straggler from Her Majesty's navy, was ordered to be given up.
Ab Hoon was placed in the dock on a charge of stealing chickens, partially examined and remanded for one day.

SHOCKING MURDER IN A COURT OF JUSTICE IN PORTLAND.—On Wednesday morning a colored man named Isiah Graham was shot and instantly killed by another colored man named Thomas Ward, in the office of T. J. Dryer, Justice of the Peace and Coroner of Multnomah county. A charge of assault had been preferred against Ward by Graham and was being heard by the Justice, when Ward turned toward the witness, and as he did so, drew a Colt's navy revolver from a pocket in his clothing and advanced toward Graham without saying a word. Graham evidently saw the movement, for he jumped up and retreated rapidly toward the rear end of the room as if to throw himself behind Mr Dryer. He turned, then, toward his antagonist, and just as he did so Ward fired. Graham, without speaking, reeled a moment and fell nearly under the Justice's table. Mr Dryer instantly sprang to his feet and seized hold of Ward to get the pistol away from him. The latter struggled with him a moment as if trying to shoot again, but by the opportune assistance of other bystanders he was in a moment disarmed. The revolver, when taken from him, was found cocked in readiness to fire again. There was some struggling between the prisoner and his captives till he got outside the door, when he gave up and was immediately taken to the county jail by the Justice himself and one of two others who he summoned. Graham breathed but a moment or two after falling. It is said Graham had seduced Ward's daughter.

BARKER'S 'FOUR RIVERS OF THE WEST'.—Mr. Stephen Barker may well feel proud of the results which attended the first exhibition at Victoria of his fine paintings. It is true that there were a few 'bitches' in unrolling the canvases, and that in some of the scenes the light was not effectively toned; yet these are matters of detail which a second exhibition will remedy, and which do not detract from the artistic merit of the paintings. The audience was large and respectable and the applause frequent and well-merited. All of the scenes are original, and several show artistic talent of a high order. The perspective is in all cases good, and the moonlight scenes are exquisitely lovely. The view of Victoria from the very good; but we regret to see that the artist has not taken advantage of the fine view of the Yukon River etc, in our estimation, the best of the series. Upon the fall of the curtain Mr Barker announced that he would exhibit once more in this city on Wednesday evening; the announcement was received with cheers.

STRAWBERRY STORY.—A writer in the St Paul (Minn) Press tells the 'buge' strawberry story. He says he has seen scores of miles of country a degree of latitude north of Fort Totten, which was an almost continuous growth of wild strawberries, growing in many of the richer spaces, not on horizontal vines, but on bushes, many of them three or four feet high, on which the clusters of this delicious fruit attained a size rarely reached by cultivated strawberries. So profuse was this native production of strawberries on the cart wheels, crushing the berries as they revolved, were perfectly red with the wild vintage of the plains, and left long crimson trails, as of blood behind them.

KALAMA-TY, SURE ENOUGH.—A private letter from Kalama says:—'The river bottom is all under water. Such a sight I never saw. They use the cars for a walk, and they are nearly covered with water. In some of the houses the water is up to the windows. In second street the water is eight feet deep about 400 feet back from the river. So you see it is lively times here trying up the small houses and moving up stairs in the larger ones. All work has been stopped on the railroad and there is not any show to do anything. I do not want to try this country much longer.'

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.—In noticing the Auditor General's statement of revenue and expenditure for 1870 our local contemporary says:—'The actual revenue for 1870 was \$495,352, which includes \$11,295 of cash in hand.' It need hardly be remarked that the actual revenue for 1870 did not include \$11,295 as how could it? The actual revenue for 1870 was \$495,352 1/2, to which add \$11,306 1/2 balance on hand on 1st Jan, 1870, and you have \$506,658 7/2 as the total available revenue for the year.

Supreme court.

MONDAY, June 26.

Re Queen Charlotte Coal Company.—Mr Johnson, applied on behalf of Mr Thomas Russell, late Superintendent of the mine, for payment of Mr Russell's salary from the commencement of the winding up, as part of the costs of liquidation, in priority to ordinary creditors. Mr Drake represented the liquidators.
His Lordship made a declaration authorizing the payment accordingly, and granted the costs of the application.

THE CIVIL LIST BILL.—Her Majesty has assented to the Civil List Bill of last session and the law officer of the Crown has given it as the opinion of the Crown that it will be just and competent for the local Legislature to amend or repeal it in any other local statute. Is it not too bad that the colony should have been 'stumped' for nothing? What will Othello do, now that his occupation's gone?

DEATH OF MR. W. CARM.—Mr W Carme, one of our earliest and oldest French residents, died last evening, having attained an advanced age. Mr Carme was a pioneer business man, but of late years his infirmities have been such as to unfit him for active pursuits, and after a long and painful illness he fell asleep at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr L. Blum.

THE NORTH PACIFIC REACHED HER WHARF AT 8 o'clock last evening, having sailed from Olympia at 8 1/2 o'clock yesterday morning. She brought a large number of passengers, who all speak highly of the accommodation afforded and the speed of the boat. She will sail again for the Sound at 12 o'clock today.

A BRITISH COLEMANIAN from Ope District Utah, reports that all the old Cariboo hands he has met there are anxious to return. The first good news from Omineca will bring 500 back before the season closes.

ITEMS IN BRIEF.—The Isabel arrived from Nanaimo on Sunday with coal for the Starr Line. The Nanaimo Free Masons has a grand picnic on Saturday. The D. C. Taylor and Shooting Star were ready for sea on Sunday. The U. S. surveying brig Fauntleroy lies at Gadobote Bay. The public accounts will be closed on the 1st July.

HARD CURRY and Dud Moreland own interests in the Tiger Silver Claim at Arizona that are worth \$200,000. Lately a lady visited the mine and she and her husband and others with a silver brick appropriately inscribed.

THE OLYMPIA.—This steamer arrived at 2 1/2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, bringing 84 passengers; Wells, Fargo & Co's Express and a freight of five stock. She will sail again at 11-30 o'clock this morning.

HON J. W. FAUCON.—A rumor which gains strength daily and is generally credited, makes the Hon. J. W. Trutch Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

NEW SEAM.—On Newcastle Island a seam of coal 20 inches thick has been struck 90 feet from the shore and only 10 feet below the surface.

OTHERS.—Colonel Larrabee lately received three thousand Chesapeake Bay oysters, at Olympia, and has had them planted in Butler's Cove, Puget Sound.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.

West Indies.

St Thomas, June 17.—The troops of Ben and Cabrel numbering 15,000 each had a fight at San Juan on the 4th. Cabrel was defeated with heavy loss and retreating from San Juan fired the magazine and nearly destroyed the town.

California.
San Francisco, June 23.—Arrived.—Ship Grace Darling, Seaboard. Ship J. Kaeler, Port Gamble. Ship J. Kaeler, Port Gamble. Sailed.—Ship John Jay, Seattle. Flour.—No sales. Wheat.—Market quiet at \$2 50 1/2. The steamer Libad sailed this afternoon to receive the passengers of the disabled steamer California.

Europe.
Paris, June 22.—Prince Napoleon has declined a nomination to the Assembly in the department of Cherbourg in favor of Rouher. A letter from Guizot on the state of France is published. It counsels the maintenance of the present power, approves of his policy and desires the speedy solution of the monarchical question.

London, June 24.—An imperative demand has been made for the immediate payment of the first instalment of the indemnity which it was agreed should be paid within thirty days after the reestablishment of the Versailles authority.

VERSAILLES, June 23.—In the Assembly today the Minister of the Interior in answer to a question as to the vote of Paris stated that the government would allow citizens every liberty at the coming elections not inconsistent with public safety.

PARIS, June 23.—A paper reports a violent quarrel yesterday in the Boulevard between the promoters and a party of Prussian officers, and in consequence Marshal McMahon requested the Prussian Commander to prevent his officers from entering the city.

The stringency of the passport system increases and arrests continue.
BRUSSELS, June 22.—Baron Dabouth informed the Chambers to-day that as far as known of the Communists under arrest in Paris, 16,000 are subjects of Belgium. He said he had not asked for their release, and does not intend to, but would see that they had an impartial trial.

London, June 23.—It is rumored Prince Arthur will be made Duke of Devon and that the Government intends before the prorogation of Parliament to produce a bill for the purchase of a Royal seat in Ireland.

The cable between Hong Kong and Shanghai is repaired and communication resumed.
London, June 23.—The News says the promotion of religious liberty in Russia will shortly arrive in England.

BRUSSELS, June 23.—Bismarck writes to members of the Reichstag that while the Catholic opposition he is assured that Cardinal Antonelli and the Pope disapprove their course.
London, June 23.—It is said that Napoleon will reside at Au Mainbeud, in Douvres.

The report that the Comte de Paris has arrived at Versailles is false.
There is great apathy in Paris relative to the elections.
Friedrich, the French Charge d'Affaires at Berlin has arrived there.

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