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And Victoria Chronicle.

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WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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AGENTS.

Alexander & Co	Nanaimo, V. I.
John Meakin	do
Holder & Hart	Comox, do
Sam'l Harris	Cowichan do
Clarkson & Co	New Westminster
Barnard's Express	Quesnelle, B.C.
do do	Lytton
do do	Yaqwinkle
do do	[illegible]
do do	Cariboo
do do	Cameronstown
do do	Clinton
A.S. Pinkham	Seattle, W.T.
F. Fisher	San Francisco
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The War on the Plains.

The dillydallying of the U. S. officers on the plains is bearing its natural fruit. The Indians now attack whole trains of emigrants, railroad construction and telegraph repair parties, and sometimes detachments of troops. The massacre at Fort Phil. Kearney, where one hundred American soldiers were decoyed into ambush and slaughtered to a man, must be still fresh in the public mind. Some of the very bravest generals in the American army, with veteran troops at their command, have passed months on the plains; but their efforts to subdue the savages have thus far utterly failed. The reason is plain enough. Regular soldiers have never fought Indians successfully. They proved their inability in New Zealand to put down the Maories, and it was only after the regulars were recalled and a local volunteer army organized that the native insurgents were subdued. If Uncle Sam is in earnest and really wishes to bring his savage subjects under control, he had better let the contract for whipping them out to hunters on the Plains—men who are as well acquainted with every inch of the ground as the natives themselves, and who have studied their habits and haunts—place them under some "irregular" Indian fighter, and recall his regulars. With a volunteer force in the field, the red man would soon pass into history, and the overland route become as safe for travel as the main thoroughfare in an Eastern city.

The Mining News.

The news is encouraging from creeks outside of William. Cedar, Grouse and Lowhee are turning out well; and the gulches and small tributaries that make into William Creek are proving rich beyond expectation. The trouble on William Creek has arisen from an uncommonly dry season and the failure of the miserably-managed institution known as the Bed Rock Drain. Had it not been for the blunders of the Drain Company the season, now almost past, would have proved much more profitable than it has, and we should not now have to lament a lack of prosperity on the banks of that famous creek. The stoppage of the Drain, however, has had in one respect a good effect; miners have been forced to prospect the surrounding country, and at least one rich creek has been discovered. The first fall of snow at the mines occurred on the 7th September. It only reached a depth of two or three inches, but the early appearance of the white visitor is regarded as the harbinger of an early winter.

Monday, Sept 23rd.

THE SHOOTING MATCH—The shooting match between Messrs Schmidberg and Soars, on Saturday, was won by the last-named gentleman, who scored forty-three points to the other's seventeen. In justice to Mr Schmidberg, it must be remembered that he had never fired an Enfield rifle previous to Friday, and that, while he was a stranger to the ground, his competitor was well acquainted with the ranges, having shot over them many times. Mr Schmidberg, however, displayed considerable nerve and skill. His position was well chosen, and the manner in which he handled the Enfield showed that he was no novice, and convinced all present that with a little practice he would be no mean competitor of the best shot on the Island. The health of the winner and loser was drank at the Colonial in the evening.

VOLCANIC.—A dense cloud or volume of smoke was observed over the Olympian Range, near Dungeness, yesterday afternoon, and was attributed to volcanic agency. An excited citizen who ran into the office announced that a mountain had "busted." We incline to the opinion that the supposed "bust" was a bank of clouds.

THE COMING PRIZE FIGHT.—We understand that Joe Eden is undergoing the heaviest kind of training, at Quesnellemouth. His trainers, George Fairbrother and Jim Boland, have their hands full in looking after him. He is very much reduced in weight since he left here, having lost about 18 lbs., but for all that, he often distances his trainers, coming home after a ten mile run in the morning. In the afternoon Joe divides his attention between his pets, as he calls the gloves, the pullies, &c., and venting his spleen by unmercifully pounding a 200lb. sand bag, which he sometimes imagines to be Wilson, by giving it an extra punch by way of retaliation for the hard work he undergoes.—*Cariboo Sentinel.*

THE CONCERT—The theatre was filled on Saturday evening and the performances were of a very high order. The beneficiary (Miss Soledad) was very successful in her dances; her "Norah Darling" was not well sung, the young lady's voice lacking volume; but "Neil Cardinell" was given very prettily. From "Norma," Signorina Bellini and Signora Garofali sang a delightful duet, which was rapturously encored; and Signor Bianchi's solo, "Still so gently o'er me stealing," in "Sonnambula," proved one of the gems of the season. Signorina Bellini sang a solo in "Traviata," which closed the performances amid the most enthusiastic manifestations of delight from the audience.

LAUNCH OF THE NEW BRIG—The new brig Robert Cowan was successfully launched at Sooke on Friday. The vessel is the largest yet built in the colony. Her length is 110 feet; beam, 28 feet; 9 feet 6 inches depth of hold. The vessel will have first class cabin accommodation, and is intended to ply regularly between Victoria and Honolulu. She will be ready for sea in ten days from date. The successful launching of this new vessel is exceedingly gratifying to the friends of the colony, and should she answer the anticipations now formed of her, other and larger vessels will soon be placed on the stocks at Sooke.

THE BAYNES SOUND COAL MINE.—The following notice appears in the last *Government Gazette*: "Notice is hereby given that the tract of land, 6,400 acres in extent (formerly held by Messrs Fell, Heywood and others, under a Local Mining License from the Government of Vancouver Island), extending southeasterly along the shore of Baynes Sound, from a point about 12 miles south east of Comox, on Vancouver Island, is reserved by Government for a period of three months from this date."

RICH QUARTZ SPECIMEN.—Mr Patrick Brennan, of Cowichan, came to town on Saturday, bringing with him a beautiful piece of quartz rock richly interspersed with gold. Mr Brennan says it was picked up at the foot of a mountain by a Mr Shaw, and was evidently brought down by a slide from the mountain side. Strong [illegible] its discoverers will have their "piles."

THEATRICAL REVENUE RETURNS.—The returns at the Internal Revenue office for the month of July, by the proprietors of the different places of amusement, show the following receipts: Maguire's Opera House, $13,012; Metropolitan Theatre, $12,747; Academy of Music, $6,228; Olympic (melodeon,) $5,661. Total, $37,648.—*S. F. paper.*

PRESENCE OF MIND.—A window-curtain in Captain Nagle's house took fire on Friday evening, and but for its timely discovery by a little son of the captain, who with great presence of mind tore down the burning curtain and extinguished it, might have resulted in serious consequences.

THE ALEXANDRA—This steamer, owing to the fog on Friday, did not reach Westminster until 9 o'clock on Saturday morning. She left for Victoria early in the afternoon of the same day, reaching here at 10 o'clock in the evening with Cariboo and Kootenay expresses and mails.

THE base ball match between the "Pretty Nine" and the "Ugly Beauties," on Saturday, was won by the first-named by 21 points. The highest score was made by Powell, 12.

THREE of the ship Day Dawn's crew have deserted at New Westminster. Three of the crew of the ship Anna Dorothea, just laden with lumber for Australia, have deserted the ship at Burrard Inlet.

GOLD PROSPECTING—The Nanaimo *Tribune* mentions that a party are about to start out and prospect the headwaters of Nanaimo river, which are believed to be rich in gold.

THE GAS—It is reported that the Directors of the Gas Company are about to reconsider their recent action and agree to a considerable reduction in present rates.

NANAIMO SHIPPING—The ship Helois arrived on Thursday last, to load, and the bark Ava sailed on Friday, with 730 tons of coal, for San Francisco.

THE BARK PALMETTO.—This bark is now laden with wire and will sail for New York so soon as a crew can be procured.

THE ENTERPRISE was launched yesterday from Laing's ways, and will, we hope, be soon placed in running order.

THE OREGON—This steamer passed on her way to Nanaimo at 7 o'clock yesterday morning.

THE brig Shelekoff will sail to-day for Nanaimo to load with coal for Sitka.

THE fight between Wilson and Eden will come off to-morrow.

The Sparrowhawk Company Demand a Name.

GROUSE CREEK, Sept. 10, 1867.

EDITORS COLONIST:—In your weekly issue of the COLONIST and CHRONICLE, of the 27th ultimo, an article appears, purporting to be a telegram from Quesnellemouth, dated Aug. 23rd, 10 a. m., headed and set up in your paper in large italics:—"From Grouse Creek," &c., &c.

The article to which I refer you will not have forgotten and cannot mistake, upon receipt of which you say: "We telegraphed for confirmation, which was at once furnished, with a responsible name attached." Now, my object in addressing you, gentlemen, is to demand the name of the author of that false and villainous despatch; for

"A lie that is all a lie, is easily met and conquered,
But a lie that is half the truth is another matter to fight."

[illegible] other similar despatches that have emanated, I suppose, from the same source of late, referring to the troubles between the Canadian Company and the Grouse Creek Flume Company. It should have been expected of you by this time that you had satisfied yourselves of their unreliability, but it is surprising that you will persist in publishing such false and absurd reports. Truth will prevail, Messrs Editors, but patience on our part ceases longer to be a virtue; these aggravated and pernicious falsehoods are undoubtedly gotten up by some morbid sympathizer or stock-holder in the Grouse Creek Flume Company, and intended to create a prejudice amongst the uninitiated in their favor against the Canadian and Sparrow Hawk Companies, whose cases must ultimately and that e'er long come up for trial before the Courts.

It is clear, then, that our only recourse at present to put an end to these false and cowardly libels is to get at the root of the matter and demand who the author of them is, that we can hold him responsible. You will please then be kind enough to furnish us the name of the author of the despatch referred to above, otherwise we have determined to hold you accountable for the libel.

I remain, most respectfully yours,
GEO. MURDOCH,
A Share-holder and in behalf of the Sparrowhawk Company.

[Unless Mr Murdoch and his partners can convince us by the production of unimpeachable evidence that they have not taken possession of the Flume Company's ground, we certainly shall decline to furnish the name of the author. If the Sparrowhawks consider themselves aggrieved, the columns of this paper are open to them; or, should they prefer a legal remedy, the Courts of the Island are available. And while on this subject it is, perhaps, as well that we should state that our latest intelligence from Grouse Creek confirms in every particular the statements contained in the despatch.—ED. COLONIST.]

A Very S(h)ellish Communication.

EDITORS COLONIST:—The base ball match for the oyster supper resulted as I predicted, that is, the losing party didn't win. Of course, doubtful things are generally uncertain, and there was a strong doubt about Clarke's side winning when they took Howlet away. I was assured after the match that the losing party were decidedly the stronger; but the winning hardly as weak. I do not pretend to know much about the matter, but I fancy I would rather have been on the latter side. Many of the players on one side appeared to be thinking more of OYSTERS than HOISTERS, for they had neither MUSSELL to hit the latter nor catch them, hence they were knocked into a cockle-shell. Wilson and his men all played well. Powell on the first base; the ubiquitous Robert's thirds were just chain-lightning; Moses *pitched* into 'em good and gave the boys an *airins*; Morrison gave 'em *pills*. On the other side Clarke played like a lady's parson; Callingham got wild and danced; Ball couldn't hold HIMSELF; Billy played with a dog; Kent couldn't CANTER-BERRY fast; Austin wasn't collected; Davies couldn't knock 'em down to Lusch's; Fowlis was as bad as the other FELLOWS, and Harry was only just worth a tinker's curse. Gillon umpired well and promised his services as judge again should they need them. Wob scored as many as all the players put together.

Now I flatter myself I've given you a good account of the game, but to describe the supper rather gets me. You've seen cards announcing 'oysters in every style:' well we had them in every style, and one over. You ought to have seen Marsh, the comedian, eat them and then have heard his fishy jokes after. I've often been in a stew, but I never before put such a stew in me as that of last night. Then there were oysters stewed in *pastry*, of which Cal. partook and afterwards sang like a *Patti*. Even the *stakes* were handed over in oyster sauce, and "raws" were established for the defeated party. Cal. sang songs and chaffed Clarke about his new song, the "Hen Convention," till he declined to sing it, at which much disappointment was expressed. (I understand Signor Bianchi has offered him an engagement, consequently he is saving his voice.) Wilson served his *dry* stews; J. B. smiled contentedly; Marsh, Gillon and others related funny stories, and simple conumdrums went around till the hour of parting. The Honorary Surgeon was present and recommended crabs and cucumbers to the players. As you love me, come and have a Bee-Hive stew and invite yours, very much indeed,

SCOLLOP.

BASE BALL.—An enthusiastic base ball player declares that our 'national game' was known in Bible times; in proof of which he refers to the question in the parable of the leper—"But where are the nine?"

The Streets of Victoria.

EDITORS COLONIST:—I am glad to see that some attention has been direct d to the condition of our streets by "Paul Pry." Paul objects to the geese *et hoc genus omne*. So do I. But those that waddle along our gutters are not so bad as their brethren to be seen lolling on chairs upon the pavement of our main street, with their legs stretched toward the sky. This position may signify what part in their opinion should hold the highest place, and may be an appropriate emblem. But, as a citizen, I object to have the path blocked up, and to hear the senseless remarks make in regard to the ladies and all others passing through the fire of their staring eyes.

I wish also that the corner saloons could give sitting accommodation to their customers. It is too bad to see them waiting patiently on the outside between the occasional intervals of supporting up the house. Besides, it renders it difficult for industrious citizens to turn the corner. Their handsome figures may be highly ornamental, but I object to them monopolising so much of the pavement.

THADDEUS.

Overland Route.

VICTORIA, Sept. 21, 1867.

EDITOR COLONIST:—I was surprised to learn from the report on Friday upon the audience with His Excellency concerning the Overland Route, that Mr Southgate had obtained a grant for a line by the Savanna Ferry and the Boat Encampment. This scheme, which, though affecting the interests of the whole Colony, has remained unknown, I believe, to everybody but the contracting parties, may look very well on paper or to send to England, but it is in reality so totally impracticable that it borders on the ridiculous. I wonder who can have put it into Mr Southgate's head, and for what purpose? But what makes the matter still more surprising to me is that before leaving I gave Mr Southgate a warm letter of introduction to my family, with whom he was to make some stay, and that his last words on parting were "that I might be sure he would do all in his power to promote the Bute Inlet enterprise at home."

ALFRED WADDINGTON.

[From the Cariboo Sentinel.]

Mining Intelligence.

WILLIAM CREEK.

We were hopeful that the snow, which fell to the depth of two or three inches last Friday morning, would increase the water in the creek, but in this we were disappointed by the counteracting influence of the cold, frosty nights that succeeded the bright warm days. Nothing short of a heavy rainstorm will do us any good now, and this we may calculate on before the present month draws to a close.

The yield of gold on this creek for the past week, has been so small that it is scarce worth noting. Old California co, at Richfield, washed out for three days' work, 35 oz. Black Jack co., are making $16 a day to the hand. Aurora co., washed up for the week 278 oz. Never Sweat co., are making wages. Caledonia co., are cleaning out their drifts, and preparing to wash. Last Chance co., are running a tap drain. Cameron co., are making wages. Forest Rose co., took out 46 oz. They will commence to sink a new shaft during the week. Raby co., washed out last week about 70 oz.

STOUT GULCH.

The Floyd co., in consequence of the stinted supply of water, have been unable to take out pay yet. Alturas co., washed up for the week 176 oz. Taftvale co. cleared up for the week 251 oz. Jenkins co., are making about wages. Mucho Oro co, had 40 oz for the week's washing. Emery co. are making wages. Total for this gulch, 467 oz.

CONKLIN GULCH.

Renfrew co., washed up about 60 oz for the week.

MUTQUITO GULCH.

Job co., are doing well; they took out on Wednesday 4 oz from half a set of timbers. Willow co., washed up on Wednesday 12 oz for two days' work. Jeffree co., also washed up on Wednesday 36 oz. Holman co., are taking out big pay.

LOWHEE CREEK.

Most of the companies below Mr Hough's store are busy at work and doing well. First Chance co., washed for the week 60 oz. Calaveras co., cleaned up for the week 57 oz.

GROUSE CREEK.

Great developments are expected to be made at the upper end of this creek within the next eight or ten days, when many of the shafts now being sunk will be bottomed, and high hopes are entertained in consequence.

Hard-up company are still drifting, with indications of soon reaching the Heron channel.

Heron company declared a dividend last week of $100 to the share. Ne'er-do-Weel co., washed up for the week 80 oz. Full Rigg and Discovery co's., are taking out very good pay. Caroline, Rankin, and Shy Robin co's., have been laid over for want of water. Cascade co. are getting good prospects, and preparing to wash.

STEVENS CREEK.

There are on this creek some six companies at work, most of whom are meeting with success in their prospecting operations. The Good Will company, immediately below the Flume co's. claim, took out for three days' work of two men last week 10 ounces. On

NELSON CREEK

The Dominique co., are making as high as $25 a day to the hand, and two other companies are doing very well.

BEGGS GULCH

The Ancient Briton co., took out 5 oz., last week, among which was a nugget weighing 2 oz. They are not on bed rock yet.

CANYON CREEK

Mr Christie, foreman of the Washburn Quartz co., who left Hixon creek on Tuesday last, informs us that work on the ledge had been suspended on the 5th ult., but that the arrastras were kept going at intervals since that time, and over ten tons of the rock taken out of the drifts at a depth of sixty-two feet, had been crushed. The first crushing gave a return of $14 from about 6,000 lbs of what was considered poor rock. The second yielded 8¼ oz. of dust from 4,000 lbs. of rock, and the third netted 9 oz. from 8,000 lbs, of the same description of rock. This disparity in the yield, it is said, arose in a great degree from the newness of the apparatus, but it is Mr Christie's opinion, from observations made by him, that the rock taken indiscriminately from the ledge, and worked by the arrastra process, will average $10 a ton, and if culled an average of $25 might be obtained. The great trouble appears to be to find a solid ledge, but this desideratum, it is believed from the present inclination of the reef, will be obtained when the shaft has been sunk fifty feet deeper. It has been noticed that the gold becomes more silvery in appearance the deeper the rock is obtained.

Mr Christie estimates the number of white men on Hixon creek at 20, and the Chinese at 200. There are two stores there, one kept by a Chinaman and the other by Mr Pollock, and a boarding house. Morrison & Co. are taking out from $8 to $9 a day to the hand; several other companies are making from $3 to $4 a day. Fred. Black and I. Stevens are prospecting the old Quesnel creek ground and had cleaned up 2 oz. from their ground sluice when our informant left.

Terry creek is nearly abandoned; 6 white men are all that are working there at present.

There are about 10 Chinamen working on a small stream that empties into Government creek, in which they make small wages,

NEW CREEK STRUCK!

Mr Oliver Urquhart and his two partners, who have been out prospecting for several months past, returned on Monday evening, and reported the discovery of a creek in which they found gold in paying quantities. The creek has been named Mustang creek, and is situated about 25 miles to the north-west of William creek and four miles to the north-west of Sugar creek; it is about one and a half miles in length and empties into a large creek which was also named by the party Beaver creek, from the great number of beaver that abound in that vicinity. Urquhart and his party have located and recorded a discovery claim, about 500 feet from the mouth of the creek, and have prospected it sufficiently well to know that they can make from $12 to $20 a-day to the hand, and even more if there was a plentiful supply of water. The ground is not over 8 feet in depth, so far as they have found, and the pay appears to be confined chiefly to the gravel, near the bed rock, although there is a strata of top gravel that yields a fair prospect. The bed rock is a hard, blue slate, intermixed with small quartz veins, and resembles in appearance the rock on this creek. We were shown by Mr Urquhart about 15 ounces of the dust, which appears coarse and well washed. Its quality is much about the same as that of the gold found on Sugar creek. There are a number of other creeks and gulches in the vicinity that look equally as well as the one referred to, which it is the opinion of our informant, who prospected some of them, will pay well. These will no doubt receive a thorough prospecting from the number of miners who have been attracted there within the last two days, by the flattering prospects obtained in that quarter. Mr Urquhart and party returned yesterday with a stock of provisions, and will commence sawing lumber and prepare to take advantage of the fall rains.

Cricket a Jewish Game.

Sept. 21, 1867.

EDITORS COLONIST:—An item in your paper to-day reminds me that Cricket is clearly mentioned in the Bible, not as Base Ball—a defunct or languishing game, *apparent by the absence of the nine*, but in a highly flourishing condition, to wit: "Then stood up Peter with the *eleven* and was bold" (bowled).

Yours, wicketly,
STUMPS.