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DAVID W. HIGGINS

TERMS:
Six Months, in advance, \$10 00
Three Months, do, 5 00
One Month, do, 1 50
One Week, do, 25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TERMS:
One Year, in advance, \$25 00
Six Months, do, 15 00
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One Week, do, 50

AGENTS:
S. D. Levi, Victoria, V. I.
C. G. Clark, New Westminster
Barnard's Express, Yale B. C.
do, Lytton
do, Vancouver
do, Richmond
do, Barkerville
do, Camerontown
do, Olinville
Crosby & Lowe, Olympia, W. T.
Perkins, Seattle, W. T.
David Street, Port Townsend
Hudson & Metcalf, New York
F. Alger, 29 Corahill, London
S. Street, 11 Clement's Lane, London
L. P. Fisher, San Francisco

The War in Europe.
"Man proposes, but God disposes."
How very strikingly has this been verified in the present most eventful war. The echoes of the French battle-cry, "On to Berlin," had not yet died away in the valley of the Moselle, when the shout, "On to Paris," was raised by King William's victorious soldiery in the passes of the Vosges! The grand army of France was to have made a six weeks' march to Berlin. The army of Prussia made an eight weeks' march to Paris! The announcement made by Napoleon that he would "return to Paris a conqueror or a corpse" had scarcely been repeated in the streets of the metropolis ere he had laid his unused sword at the feet of King William! Where is all this to end? This crash of empires, what does it tend to? The dizzy whirl of the most astounding events takes one's breath clean away, leaving the most profound and the most superficial thinkers upon a level with our common exclamation, "What next? What next, indeed! Are the dire consequences of that fatal drink of Ems water to roll on until France shall have ceased to be numbered among the Great Powers? Or is this mad fatalist only marching to his own destruction? It is said that the hereditary malady of his family, which carried off his father in a state of religious mania and his brother as a hypochondriac, betrays itself in King William through an inconceivable worship of his place and prerogative. He believes in the infallibility of monarchs as devoutly as Pius IX in the infallibility of Popes. So firm is his faith in the divine nature of his position that he keeps, and has for years kept, a minute diary of everything which happens to him, and whenever any new emergency arises he turns to his diary to see what he did, or did not do, on the corresponding day in all the previous years of his life of now seventy-three years. But even William may yet have to learn the truth of the proverb with which the present article commences, as many a proud monarch before him has. What now about the announcement made at the beginning of the present war, that he fought against a dynasty, not against France? Did not that dynasty fall at his feet on the banks of the Meuse? Why, then, are his armies beneath the walls of Paris? It may be that, regarding the present merely in the light of a Provisional Government, King William does not recognize the end of the Napoleonic dynasty; and it may be that as this war was forced upon him and so many thousands of his subjects have been sacrificed, he may feel justified in taking the position that from Paris alone will he dictate terms of peace to a nation which thought to dictate its terms to him from Berlin. Such a resolve would not appear altogether unnatural; yet it may prove to be fatal. Should that marvelous run of "luck" which has characterized the war up to the present time continue unchecked, we shall doubtless soon hear of Paris being in the hands of the Prussians; and then, indeed, may William make what terms it pleases him. But, if it should so turn out that he has carried victory too far, and has passed from justifiable defense to unjustifiable aggression, is it not possible that the God of Battles in whom he professes to trust may yet be found on the side of the French battalions? France is humiliated, but not annihilated; and the announcement that Prussia "will pro-

ceed to the war indefatigably rather than abandon the idea of territorial aggrandisement," is causing a revulsion of the moral sentiment of the world. Prussia is strong, and her needle-gun is unerring; but even she cannot afford to lose the moral support of the civilized world. Let King William have a care. The "divine right" by which he professes to reign implies doing the right; and neither God nor man will passively witness the sacrifice of so many millions of unoffending people, the annihilation of a great and brave nation for the sake of territorial aggrandisement. So long as Prussia fought against an unjust and unprovoked invasion she had the sympathy of all disinterested Christendom. So long as she fights in order that her own peace and that of Europe may be placed on a more permanent basis, she has a right to count upon the moral support of the nations. But the moment these motives disappear, whenever the war becomes one of pure self-aggrandisement the whole situation is changed. Will the accession of Alsace and Lorraine by Prussia contribute to the maintenance of peace in Europe? Will it tend to the internal peace and wellbeing of Prussia herself? These are questions to which Great Britain appears to have returned a negative answer. All Europe must return the same answer. The opinion was expressed in these columns some weeks ago that the establishment of Alsace and Lorraine into an independent territory, the neutrality of which to be guaranteed by all the Great Powers, would constitute the best security for the peace of Europe, as well as that of the two nations now at war. The question now arises whether, in offering indemnity for the expenses of the war, the dismantling of her frontier fortresses, and the reduction of her army and navy, that is, assuming that she really did make the offer, France has not done all that Prussia has a right to demand. The present attitude of our own nation occasions some surprise and murmuring; but, if we accept as reliable the announcement of Lord Granville having definitely stated to Thiers that the Queen's Government positively declines to interfere, why should we not also accept along with it the statement that it was absolutely certain that Thiers was at London without instructions, credentials or any power whatever of offering any guarantee on the part of France? It is most natural that Great Britain, in common with all the monarchical powers of Europe, should regard with especial disfavour the establishment of a Republican Government in France; yet we are extremely reluctant to believe that she will look on with sphinx-like indifference, should this terrible war be pushed beyond those well recognized landmarks of justice and humanity, set up by all civilized nations.

THE GREAT BOAT RACE—EXTRAORDINARY ENTERPRISE.—The latest instance of newspaper enterprise has cropped out in the Standard of this city. Our cotemporary, who is always 24 hours behind *The Colonist*, failed to receive a dispatch from Montreal announcing the result of the great boat-race. *The Colonist*, however, did receive a special and exclusive telegram on Saturday, posted it on the bulletin-board the same afternoon and published it on Sunday morning. Yesterday—four days after the race had taken place, with the telegraph line up all the way to Canada and ample opportunity afforded, by the expenditure of a few dollars, of ascertaining particulars—our cotemporary doubts the correctness of our dispatch! Nay, more; he actually announces—upon the excellent authority of *Bell's Life of April* or *May* last—that the race didn't come off at all!

CITY TAXES.—Of the summonses issued for hearing yesterday several were settled out of court, ten on the morning of hearing, and the remainder, sixteen, were proved against the parties, or otherwise dealt with. Wm. Blew, road and school taxes \$4, without costs to pay in a week; B. Salvin, \$4, to pay on Friday; John Burroughs, postponed till Friday; Ah Ching \$4, and \$1 50 costs; John Costello, \$2 school and 95 cents costs; Ohong Mann, \$2 school and 75 cents costs; R. Opland, \$2 school; J. Canning, \$2 school and 75 cents costs; Cam Toy, exempt, under age; J. Anthony, \$4, exempt by order of the Mayor. District Tax—Robt Cray, Lake District, who did not appear in answer to his summons, had an order made against him by the Magistrate for \$27 80 and 75 cents costs, the case having been proved by Mr. Wallandaine.

RIDICULOUS.—The *Alta California* is silly enough to propagate the following:—"Popular petitions to the Queen are being circulated in Canada, praying that discussion of the question of annexation of the United States be legitimized." This is even more absurd than the story about the Victoria petition to President Grant. It is surprising how eagerly every nonsensical and absurd looking in the "manifest destiny" direction is elbowed at by a certain party over the line.

THE BROWN JEW.—This favorite piece of report has been sold by Mr. Golden to Mr. Gus Coover, whose excellent reputation as a host needs no panegyric from us.

CAT-ASTROPHE EXTRAORDINARY.—Our San Francisco dispatch alludes to the extraordinary escape from a horrible death, of Mr. Alexander Gabel by the Providential intercession of a cat. Mr. Gabel is a prominent resident of San Francisco, and head of the Masonic Fraternity in that State. Without any disposition to make a pun upon so serious an incident, we may be permitted to suggest that the escape of Mr. Gabel is indeed an extraordinary *Cat-astrophy*.

FROM PORT TOWNSEND.—The steamer *Isabel*, Capt. Starr, arrived from Olympia last evening, bringing 75 passengers and six horses. The steamer *Elias Anderson*, Capt. Finch, arrived from the same place yesterday morning.

THE IDAHO.—The steamer *Idaho* arrived at Esquimalt at 10 o'clock yesterday morning having left Portland Saturday afternoon. She brought a small express for Wells Fargo & Co, but no mail, the latter having come on by the California. She will sail for Nanaimo at 2 o'clock this afternoon to load with coal, and will sail hence for San Francisco on Friday evening.

THE PANORAMA.—Mr. Barker, the artist, whose paintings we noticed a few weeks ago, has just completed a fine view of Lake Tahoe, California, by moonlight, with a stag and doe in the foreground. The noble sheet of water and the surrounding hills are well portrayed, but the animals are exquisite touches from Nature. Mr. Barker is a rising artist.

KEEN.—The *Eliza Anderson* and *Isabel* will sail at 5 o'clock this afternoon for Port Townsend and Sound ports. This Sound opposition grows interesting. Both boats have new boilers. Yesterday the *Isabel* crossed the Straits in 2 1/2 hours from what to wharf—best time ever made.

THAT TERMINUS.—The *Seattle Intelligencer* does not know where the terminus of the railway will be, but thinks it will go at least as far north as that town, and will run several miles to the eastward of all the up-Sound towns.

A TRIFLING LIGHT AS AIR.—The late stage accident turned out to have been a trifling affair. No passengers were hurt; the horses took fright at the flapping of the canvas cover of a wagon. The wagon was uninjured and neither of the wheels ran off.

BUT ONE TRIP.—The *Enterprise*, during the present week, will make but one trip to New Westminster. She will sail hence tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock and will return on Saturday.

COURT CASE.—Fall & Finlayson vs W. B. Robinson. This case occupied the Court for half the day yesterday and was postponed until today.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.
California.
San Francisco, Sept 17.—Sailed—French ship *Malabar* for Port Townsend to load for Gallo, bark *Jonny Pitts* Seattle.
The flags of the different Consuls were displayed to-day, and salutes were fired from Alcatraz in honor of the anniversary of the Independence of Chili.
Owing to the increase of professional beggars, many of whom are revolting to look at, and who are causing serious consequences in many instances, the San Francisco Benevolent Association has applied for assistance from the Police, and all such characters will hereafter be sent to the almshouse, and if destitute to fall on their faces.

Several crates of fine woolled sheep arrived here by express from Chicago yesterday to-day.
Los Angeles, Sept 18.—There is great excitement at Prescott, Arizona, over rich gold discoveries near there.
Sailed—Steamer *Oriflamme*, Portland.
San Francisco, Sept 19.—The French held an enthusiastic meeting last night. The Republicans and late Imperial patriots united and sent the following telegram to the Provisional Government: The French in California admire you; they have faith in your patriotism. Save the Republic. An address was also adopted, and is to be sent by mail.

General Jordan, a veteran of the Mexican war, died here yesterday.
San Diego, Sept 18.—Efforts are being made to establish this as a military post for southern California and Arizona.

Europe.
London, Sept 18.—The *Observer* says Lord Lyons conducts the negotiations between Jules Favre and Bismarck. It is said that a brief armistice has been arranged already.
There is great excitement in diplomatic circles to-night over a report that an alliance between Austria, Italy and Russia has been completed, the object of which is to be the division of the Turkish Empire, the annexation of Prussian Poland by Russia, the annexation of Egyptian Soudan by Austria and the surrender of the Italian Tyrol to Italy. It is believed that Europe is on the eve of complications more formidable and extensive than were dreamed of a few weeks ago.
Yesterday morning a column of three regiments advanced from Melun upon Corbeil, 14 miles from Paris, with the object of destroying four mills and seizing the granaries at that point, and to throw forward a force to the city to cut the direct line of the Orleans railroad 2 miles farther north at Juvisy. The second object was attained, but the Prussians having pushed on three miles farther to Ablon, were attacked by a superior force and after a severe conflict routed and compelled to retire to their entrenchments on the hill at Juvisy, commanding the passage of the Loire, the bridge over which had been destroyed by the French. At the same time the Prussians at Corbeil having established themselves in the hamlet of Ris were attacked by a French force. They succeeded in maintaining their position.

A detachment of Prussian cavalry attacked the station at Longueval, 3 miles from Amiens, capturing a train from Brussels and burning the buildings.
We have a rumor from Mons, via Ostend, that the force under Canrobert on Wednesday attacked and defeated the Prussians near St. Quentin, and that the action was going on on Thursday near Lauchy. It is believed Canrobert has formed a junction with the troops from Valenciennes, Lille and Arras, and that he is threatening the right of the Prussians before Paris, at Compiègne.

The Prussians have appeared on the heights of Villeneuve and Brandy.
Cannonading is now heard towards Bievre. Prospects for peace look more favorable today. The statement that Bismarck had consented to receive Favre formally is regarded here as a good indication.
New York, Sept 17.—It is reported that a plot was discovered among the French populace, and that 20,000 stand of arms had been found.
A report had reached Rouen of the escape of 10,000 French prisoners.
London, Sept 19.—The report of an armistice is said to be unfounded, nor are the peace prospects any more reliable.

London, Sept 18.—A Berlin special has the following to the *Tribune* from Strasburg: The Germans have succeeded in erecting a battery on the left bank of the Rhine, opposite Kehl. A sortie was made last evening from the citadel against this battery by 16,000 French troops. They were resisted by 11,000 Baden troops, who held their ground until reinforced by the Prussians, when the French were driven back with heavy loss.
The crowning of the glacier has been completed.
A clear breach has been made in the wall. Calamar is occupied by the Germans who are marching on Mariok Solheim.
Paris, July 18.—There was an engagement yesterday before fort Tierney between the Prussians and 3 regiments of the line, some battalions of the Guard Mobile and a battery of artillery under the commandant of the fort. At the last moment the Prussians appeared to have fallen back.
Jules Favre has issued an important circular in support of the Provisional Government.

London, Sept 19.—The Prussians appear to be advancing simultaneously by Oureay

and the Seine valley to a long chain of hills extending from Cour de France along by Juvisy to Ablon, Ablon and Villeneuve be taken. Meanwhile the troops continue their movements to surround the city.
London, Sept 17.—It is announced from Brussels that the International Societies have begun to disseminate throughout Southern Germany documents calling on the people to make common cause with the people of France and to demand the abolition of nobility and monarchies.
It is certain that the Bavarian Government has been forced to declare that it is no way adheres to the project of consolidation with the North German Confederation.
A formidable popular demonstration was made in Vienna yesterday before the hall of the Imperial Parliament. A German banner of 1848 was raised in the procession. A few arrests were made but there was no bloodshed. The excitement among the people in Prague and other cities of the Empire is on the increase.

London, Sept 18.—On Saturday General Venoy made a reconnaissance from Paris and discovered a force of 30,000 Prussians posted at Gretiel. A skirmish ensued, in which the French lost 15 killed and 30 wounded. A combat followed, which lasted two hours. Cannonading has been heard in the direction of Forts Ivry and Charenton.
Berlin, Sept 18.—A correspondent writing on the 13th, said the plan of operations at the siege of Paris is, that the French being unable to oppose the Prussians with any considerable army in the field, the Seine will be crossed by successive divisions in order to attack the weakest points of the fortifications, those of the south front, where elevations exist from which an effective fire can be opened on the French forts. During the first few days after their arrival the Germans will be occupied preparing entrenchments and reconnoitering. The investment as far as practicable will follow soon after. Communication on the north has already been cut off, and the approaches on all the other sides soon will be. There will be no delay down to the moment when peace is declared, or an armistice is actually signed, which is not anticipated before the 15th falls.

London, Sept 19.—Vareloid is raging among the French prisoners at Mayne, Bargaud and Wirmberg.
Paris, Sept 19.—A fragment of the Sedan army has arrived at Rouen. It consists of 800 men, who had previously escaped from Metz.
There has been considerable fighting near here to-day.
London, Sept 19.—A special telegram from Paris to-day says that a fight took place yesterday, 10 miles from Paris, between the Prussian advanced guard and a French reconnoitering party. The latter were driven back and the Prussians established themselves on the heights which the French had held. The Prussians numbered 30,000. The combat was bloody and the French, though beaten, inflicted heavy loss on the enemy. The engagement lasted for more than two hours.

The *Tribune's* special correspondent at Paris on the 17th writes that the large force which began marching out of Paris on Wednesday, had occupied Vincennes.
Two Uhlans, captured at Meaux, have been brought to Paris, and followed through the streets with imprecation and insults by the populace.
Cannonading was distinctly heard at Paris this morning.

WM. DALBY,
HAVING LEASED THE
Rock Bay Tannery,
From Mr WEBSTER, and purchased THE STOCK in value has now on hand a
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
HARNES, SOLE, ROUSSET, BRIDLE,
APARAJO, CALF, KIP
And other kinds of
LEATHER
He has on hand the Best and Largest Assortment of
TEAM, FURLEAD SINGLE BUGGY
CART, DRAY AND TEAM
HARNESSES
And has received,
EX CORSAIR, FROM LONDON,
Ladies' and Gent's
RIDING SADDLES,
BRIDLES
AND WHIPS
All of which will be sold
CHEAP FOR CASH
To make room for other Goods
A large assortment of Ladies' and Gentlemen's
TRUNKS
and Valises.
SOLE LEATHER TRUNKS & VALISES
Made to Order.
MANUFACTORY and SALESROOM,
St Nicholas Building, Government Street.
20 St. Nicholas Building, Government Street.
London, Sept 19.—The Prussians appear to be advancing simultaneously by Oureay