The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, December 27, 1864.

THE REPORTED FALL OF SAVANNAH.

In to-day's issue we give the reported fall of Savannah and the capture by Sherman of 4000 men. The G. S. Wright will probably arrive to-day with a confirmation or confutation of the report. We, however, do not see much reason to doubt the correctness of the statement. In the latest news from Southern sources—the Richmond *Dispatch* of the 13th—we find that Sherman was within five miles of Savannah, and that he was on the eve of a battle. Another paper asserts that the communication between Savannah and Charleston had been destroyed for several days. This latter feat was, no doubt, accomplished by the Federal general Foster; for he held, as we stated yesterday, a position on the line of railway between Charleston and Savannah. If Sherman had reached within five miles of the latter city at the time the Richmond papers speak of, he has assuredly taken it by assault and captured its garrison. The position of Foster prevented any reinforcements arriving by way of Charleston, and few could have gone by way of Augusta, so that, in all probability, Sherman had to fight an indiscriminate army of crude materials, hastily collected together as auxiliaries to the garrison, which could not in itself have numbered many thousand men. Beauregard might possibly have forwarded some troops to Savannah's assistance; but when we think of the roundabout route he would have been obliged to take—from Macon to Albany by rail, and thence by a wagon road to Thomasville station in Southern Georgia, which is connected by rail with Savannah—we think the probabilities are against it. Assuming that Sherman has succeeded in capturing the principal city in Georgia, the second city in the State—Augusta—is bound also to fall. This town is situated about 135 miles to the north-west of Savannah by water communication, and is the head of navigation on the Savannah river. With the latter city in the hands of the Federals, the light draft gunboats will no doubt be able, especially at the present season of the year, when it is approaching high water, to make their way to Augusta. As the river forms the boundary line of South Carolina and Georgia, it can easily be perceived that its possession virtually cuts the Confederacy asunder, and accomplishes what we have all along maintained was Sherman's great object in his invasion of the latter State. There is, however, another, and to the Northern mind a more satisfactory, feat looming in the distance—the taking of Charleston. The large Federal force that can be speedily massed against this famous city, if Savannah is in the hands of Sherman, makes the Southern tenure of Charleston exceedingly slender. The Federal force under Forrest already holds a strong position about sixty miles from the city of Charleston, and is now in all likelihood acting in conjunction with Sherman. All this while Hood is busily engaged in Tennessee, wasting his forces in offensive operations against General Thomas. Grant's movements continue to be slow but still progressive. Butler at present holds a position from which it is thought Richmond can be shelled. The Dutch Gap canal, which has been suffering a heavy and continuous fire from the Confederate batteries, is at last, according to the Richmond papers, ready for the final blast, which will admit the water. When the gunboats have gone through this artificial water-course Grant will no doubt make his great offensive movement. The delay, hitherto, has been on the completion of the canal. The despatches speak of continued reinforcements arriving to the Federal commander, so that we may presume Grant to have at the present time little short of 200,000 men—the largest force the civilized world has ever seen besieging the stronghold of an enemy.

THE CAPIAS EVIL.

Yesterday, as an official of Washington Territory was proceeding to the steamer *en route* for Washington, he was arrested on a *capias* for a debt contracted in Washington Territory. This, however, is a small part of the joke. The arrest was made on a bill for cord wood or lumber to the amount of $260, which, of course, was liable in Washington Territory to be liquidated by greenbacks; but our benign jurisprudence allows the creditor to arrest the debtor for $260 in *gold*, or for an amount considerably over a hundred per cent. more than the legal liability. The gentleman is obliged to obtain bonds for this sum, and is further mulcted into the expense of $10, all of which tells largely in favor of Victoria, as affording especial facilities for travellers. We shall recur to the matter in more detail, but in the meantime, would suggest that our *free* port should be more definitely defined: for instance, a port in which everything that "enters" is free, but everything that attempts to "clear" is placed in "bond."

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD.—B. W. Pearse, Esq. has been appointed member and chairman of the Light House Board, *vice* J. D. Pemberton, Esq., resigned.

CALIFORNIA.

THE BARK HARTFORD LOST ON HUMBOLDT BAR.—A letter has been received by Captain Watson, the Lighthouse Inspector, from R. E. Foster, Keeper of the Lighthouse on Humboldt Bay, to the effect that the bark Hartford stranded on Humboldt bar about 5 o'clock, p.m., on the 14th of November in attempting to enter the harbor. The passengers were landed on a sandy point about two miles to the south of the wreck, and on the return of the boat to the vessel those remaining on board took to the boat and left for the brig George Emery, which was then anchored about two miles off the bar. About 2 o'clock the next morning a gale set in, and the brig was obliged to go to sea. It is supposed, although not positively known, that Captain Wilkinson and crew of the Hartford are on board the George Emery. During the gale the bark drifted about two miles to the southward, and at last accounts was imbedded in the sand, the waves making a clean breach over her. She would probably prove a wreck. The cargo would be saved.

PROFESSIONAL COURTESY.—Everyone who has heard Charley Backus's imitation of Charles Kean has been struck with the remarkable similarity of voice, intonation and gestures of the original and the imitation. Backus on a late occasion was giving his imitation of Kean's performances in Hamlet, when that gentleman happened to be in the theatre, and was himself struck with the accuracy. He subsequently invited Backus to his rooms, at the Occidental Hotel, and telling him that as he (Backus) made the imitation a specialty, he might as well do it correctly, on the principle that "what is worth doing at all, is worth doing well," he then rehearsed to Backus the scene between Hamlet and the Ghost, explaining each intonation, gesture and modulation of voice, Backus repeating the text after his teacher, until with the instructions given, the imitation is so like the original that it is but necessary for the hearer to shut his eyes to make the illusion complete. Those who are amused at the imitation given by the minstrel are under obligations to the renowned actor for his courtesy.—*Bulletin.*

THE CAMANCHE AGAIN.—Yesterday afternoon there were nine thicknesses of plate on the turret; but two more remain to be put in. The walls will then be eleven inches thick, solid layers of wrought or rolled iron. The pilot house will surmount the turret, resembling a smaller turret on the top of a larger one. The little cylinder-like apartment has an interior diameter of six feet, with eight-inch walls, formed like the turret of iron plates, only having eight thicknesses, or three less than the turret. Near the top of this cylinder pilot house are eight look out holes, circled at equal spaces around the upper rim, and funnel shaped, flaring inward, the holes being at the outer surface but about two inches in diameter. The weight of the pilot-house alone is fifty thousand pounds; the weight of the turret and two guns is one hundred and sixty tons.—*Call.*

CALIFORNIA BABIES.—The following statement shows the increase from year to year of the number of children born in California, as returned by the School census: Year ending November 1. 1858, 38,546; 1859, 42,450; 1860, 51,361; 1861, 59,644; 1862, 70,734; August 31, 1863, 74,835.

TREASURE SEEKERS.—The Smiley treasure party left yesterday for the scene of their former labors, i. e., the site of the Golden Gate wreck, where they intend to get the balance of the lost treasure of the Golden Gate, if possible. The old steamer Commodore, formerly used on the Sacramento, took the party down. It is understood that arrangements have been made with the underwriters and other claimants, by which the wreckers receive the whole of the treasure hereafter recovered.—*Bulletin.*

FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.—Kennard, the contractor for the erection of a fire alarm telegraph in San Francisco, sailed from New York on the steamer of the 3d inst., with all the materials for that work, and will be here before the end of the month. He will commence the work of erecting the telegraph immediately after his arrival, and complete it in about six weeks.—*Ib.*

IDENTIFIED AT LAST.—The body of the man who was found hanging to a tree near the Six Mile House has to-day been identified as that of Edmund McCann, formerly a boarder at the United States Hotel, and a native of Canada.

ST. ANDREWS' SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY.—The members of the St. Andrew's Society held their anniversary banquet last evening at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, at which also were present a large number of invited guests, including Gen. McDowell, Mr. Booker, the British Consul, and other distinguished gentlemen. After the eatables were disposed of, toasts, speeches and songs, patriotic and national, were in order until a late hour.

DEATH OF AN OLD PIONEER.—Frederick D. Kohler, an old pioneer, died this morning in this city, in the 54th year of his age. Deceased was the first elected Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of San Francisco, having been elected in 1850. In 1855 he was elected County Recorder of this county, which position he held two years. He was a native of New York city, was formerly Assistant Engineer of the New York Fire Department, and at one time Alderman, representing the Sixth Ward, in the Common Council of that metropolis. He came here in 1849, and in the early days had an assay office on Clay street, in Partnership with Brodrick. He was a member of the Pioneer Society. He leaves three sons, all of whom are in this country. The funeral will take place at 2 o'clock to-morrow from the Pioneers' Hall, on Montgomery street. The City Hall bell was tolled this morning immediately after his death, and the flags on the engine houses placed at half-mast in respect to his memory.

FUCA STRAITS COAL MINE.—The Directors of this company have received advices that work is proceeding very satisfactorily at this mine. The workmen have got out a large quantity of coal which is only waiting shipment. The steam tug Cyrus Walker went down on the 17th, and took on board 25 tons, which was put on board with a shute in an hour and a half. She will henceforward coal there regularly once a week. The damage to the wharf can be easily repaired so soon as the coal is removed.

INDIAN PRESENTATION.

Yesterday the annual presentation of blankets and clothing to Indians of the Songish tribe took place in the Indian school room on the Reserve, in the presence of the Revd's. Archdeacon Gilson, Dundas and Garrett, A. F. Pemberton and E. G. Alston, Esquires, Indian Commissioners, and others. The amount expended was $260, each man, woman and child receiving in value $5. The above sum constituted the year's rental of lands on the reserve let for various purposes. The amount is not sufficient to enable the Commissioners to make presents to each individual of the tribe, and consequently the gifts are made in rotation.

The Indians in the fore part of the day were engaged in a so-called annual religious festival, and at the appointed hour, 2 p. m., only a few had collected, when a messenger arrived from the Songish village to the Rev. A. C. Garrett, their teacher, requesting that so soon as the Governor arrived word might be sent to the chief, who would then attend. Owing to the pressure of business His Excellency did not arrive at the hour named, which disappointed the Indians, as they had many questions to ask the great *Tykee*. A message was sent to Governor Kennedy, and in the interim the distribution took place. One of the old men, who was not a recipient, sagely observed that it was a pity the gifts were made but once a year, as some would not live to reap the benefit.

His Excellency arrived shortly after 3 p. m., the Indians in the meantime having directed the women to leave, as it was not customary for them to take part in councils.

A series of questions were then submitted to His Excellency, the Rev. A. C. Garrett acting as interpreter. Some of the interrogatories were pertinent and showed that the Indians had an eye to their own well being.

His Excellency was first informed that the tribe had no fire wood. That when they attempted to get any they were driven away by the owners of the property, and they wished to know what they were to do for wood to burn.

His Excellency said he would make no promises on the subject, and would consider what was best to be done to remedy the grievance.

The same complaint was made with respect to water. His Excellency advised them to find labor to dig a well, and he would direct some one to instruct them how to do it.

His Excellency enquired if any of their young men were willing to learn trades, because if so he would take steps to have them instructed. He had been given to understand that some of their boys after twelve months apprenticeship would be able to make shoes better than what had been given to them to-day, and that if they wished to live near the white man they must work, or otherwise go into the bush.

One of the Indians replied that they did not approve of work, that Jim their chief was a great man, had plenty of money, and his back had never borne a burden.

Complaints were then made of the close proximity of the Hydah Indians, who shed their blood, quarrelled with them, but they (the Songish) did not retaliate.

His Excellency stated that the Hydah Indians would in the Spring be directed to move their camp. He further stated that there was no intention to act wrongly or behave cruelly towards the Indians by the Government and that whatever was done would be for their good.

During the above conversation one of the chiefs told His Excellency that they had great affection for Governor Douglas while he was here, and that he had treated them to their favorite "*mukkamuck*" (bread and molasses), but that as Governor Kennedy had commenced to do the same they had transferred their attachment to him. This concluded the *wa-wa*, and the natives quietly dispersed.

THE ARMIES IN VIRGINIA.

The following extracts from a letter from Grant's army, published in one of the Eastern papers, shows less of that bitterness or hatred than is usually supposed to exist between the soldiers of the Federal and Confederate armies:

When the last salute was finished, there was some cross-firing of words between the aroused pickets along the vidette line. 'How are you, Atlanta?' called out one of the boys. 'You had better try and take Petersburg, now,' was the rebel response. 'Sheridan is after you fellows, sharp,' said Yank. 'Won't you send some more of your colored brudders into another mine?' asked Johnny. 'Don't you wantsome coffee and sugar?' inquired our men tauntingly. 'Wouldn't you like to exchange your wormy hardtack for our Johnny sake?' replied the foe. This last hit was a hard one, and unexpected. Our poor soldiers do have shockingly poor bread just now. The worms in it are very large and very lively. We did not know before that they had been seen from the enemy's works! There was more of this verbal sharpshooting. While the two lines are in such close proximity, no orders will prevent intercourse, even among those who are true and loyal to their respective sides. . . . . There is a cornfield between our lines at one point, adjacent to the left of Cemetery Hill. The opposing pickets will creep into that for an occasional friendly chat, or for a barter, or for a game of cards—only think of it! Two of them were playing a game a few days since, with Abe Lincoln and Jeff Davis as imaginary stakes. The Lincolnite lost. 'There,' says the winner, 'Old Abe belongs to me.' 'Well, I'll send him over by the Petersburg Express,' responded the defeated Yank. One day last week there had been lively shelling and some musketry firing during the forenoon—of course but little talking. After dinner there was a lull of hostilities. A Johnny rose up on the parapet of his line, and shook a paper as a sign of truce, and then sprang over into the cornfield. At once a hundred men from either line were over the works and side by side, swapping papers for papers, tobacco for coffee or jack-knives, hard tack or sugar for corn-cake. New acquaintances were made. In some instances old acquaintances were revived. A Connecticut Sergeant found a townsmen and schoolmate in a Sergeant from over the way. A Connecticut officer found a kinsman in a rebel officer. A loyal Maryland regiment was *vis-a-vis* with a Maryland secession regiment. Many links of union were there. One found a brother on the other side, and yet another his own father. There's a romance of war for you! After a little time the swapping of the day was done, and the officers and men returned to their own lines. All was quiet again until the artillery re-opened fire. Then a half score of loiterers sprang up from their concealment in the corn, and scrambled back to their places behind the works. Thus the fighting and the chatting alternate. Queer business this war.

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Piles, Fistulas and Internal Inflammation.

These distressing and weakening diseases may with certainty be cured by the sufferers themselves, if they will use Holloway's Ointment, and closely attend to the printed instructions. It should be well rubbed upon the neighboring parts, when all obnoxious matter will be removed. A poultice of bread and water may sometimes be applied at bed time with advantage: the most scrupulous cleanliness must be observed. If those who read this paragraph will bring it under the notice of such of their acquaintances whom it may concern, they will render a service that will never be forgotten, as a cure is certain.

Rheumatism, Gout and Neuralgia.

Nothing has the power of reducing inflammation and subduing pain in these complaints in the same degree as Holloway's cooling Ointment and purifying Pills. When used simultaneously they drive all inflammation and depravities from the system, subdue and remove all enlargement of the joints, and leave the sinews and muscles lax and uncontracted. A cure may always be effected, even under the worst circumstances, if the use of these medicines be persevered in.

Eruptions, Scald Head, Ringworm, and other Skin Diseases.

After fomentation with warm water, the utmost relief and speedier cure can be readily obtained in all complaints affecting the skin and joints, by the simultaneous use of the Ointment and Pills. But it must be remembered that nearly all skin diseases indicate the depravity of the blood and derangement of the liver and stomach; consequently in many cases time is required to purify the blood, which will be effected by a judicious use of the Pills. The general health will readily be improved, although the eruption may be driven out more freely than before, and which should be promoted; perseverance is necessary.

Sore Throats, Diptheria, Quinsey, Mumps and all other Derangements of the Throat.

On the appearance of any of these maladies the Ointment should be rubbed at least three times a day upon the neck and upper part of the chest, so as to penetrate to the glands, as salt is forced into meat; this course will at once remove inflammation and ulceration. The worst cases will yield to this treatment by following the printed directions.

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Victoria, V. I., December 1, 1864.

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Said Cornelius Halsey, having died intestate, notice is therefore given to all persons indebted to said deceased, in this Consular District, embracing Vancouver Island and British Columbia, to make immediate payment to the undersigned; and all persons having claims against said deceased, within said Consular District, are requested to present the same for settlement

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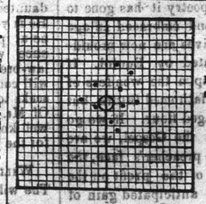

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