

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 6. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 1865. NO. 30.

**THE BRITISH COLONIST**  
PUBLISHED  
**EVERY MORNING**  
(Sundays Excepted.)  
AT VICTORIA, V. I.  
TERMS:  
One Year, (in advance), \$10.00  
Six Months, do 6.00  
Three Months, do 3.50  
Single Copies, 10 cents.  
Subscribers in Victoria will be supplied by the carriers for 25 cents a week.

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Published every Tuesday morning.  
One Year, (in advance), \$5.00  
Six Months, do 3.00  
Three Months, do 2.00  
Single copies, 25 cents.

**AGENTS.**  
John Meakin, Nanaimo  
Clarkson & Co., New Westminster  
Diets & Nelson, Yale  
Barnard's Express, Quenelle, B. C.  
" " " Lytton  
" " " Vanwinkle  
" " " Richfield  
" " " Barkerville  
" " " Camerontown  
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G. Street, 30 Cornhill, London

**SIMON TAPPERTIT.**

Who has not read of Simon Tappertit, that ambitious youth who divided his attentions between his legs and his looking-glass? How he admired Simon and how he worshipped Tappertit! With what pompous majesty he strutted along the public highway, looking at his proportions through almost a Ross' telescope! Dickens has done him justice, and we do not wish to mar the beauty of the picture drawn, but we desire to take advantage of the photograph and apply it mentally, at least, to that modest scribe who leads public opinion in our morning contemporary. "When Horace cries bravo, be sure he has died." When Simon Tappertit of the *Chronicle* shouts about the iniquity of taxing land speculators and the infamy of discussing the question of the Church reserve, be sure he has been stuffed. Be sure his head has been distended by the professional operations of Drs. Helmcken and Tolmie. His normal faculties might possibly enable him to discern that weighty topic—the right of Government of "Church and State" or, in other words, the right of the State to enlarge his observations and, thinking of his own cerebrum and cerebellum, give us a dissertation on a cabbage; but to enter into more prosaic subjects the stuffing process is required, and so poor Simon falls, as we have shown before, to the "first comer or the last speaker." The *Chronicle* burdy gurdy has its tunes set, and all that Tappertit is required to do is to grind. The notes may be base or *falsetto*, but it is all one to him. With a self-satisfied smirk, and a truly itinerant hitch of the unmentionables, this unsophisticated dispenser of ready-made music goes through his rotatory process. The worst feature is, however, that he has rather indistinct ideas as to when the tune is to stop, and we therefore find him at one time giving us the same monotonous, dreary air over and over again, and at another mixing up the anti-land tax polka with the Church reserve "Old hundredth." In last week's issue we have specimens of this musical melody that must have astonished the professional composers, as much as it amused the public. The Tappertitian performer, however, seems no way discomfited the while, but continues his grinding with an earnestness that is irresistibly comic. On Saturday the tune is a little changed; another composer has stepped in and arranged the burdy gurdy, and we are enlivened by the strains of Powell's grand oratorio. The *falsetto* is here indulged in largely, and the little automaton works, therefore, with unusual vigor. Still the same peculiarity—the same eccentricity of musical genius makes itself apparent—and we have, therefore, a dozen other melodies uniquely interwoven with the oratorio. The "political agitation" quick step runs into the "legislative bunkum" quadrille, and there is quite a host of refined airs about maggots and blow-flies, suggestive of an extremely pure imagination. The "political agitation" has become on the burdy gurdy the cant phrase for every honest attempt to improve the condition of the colony, and "legislative bunkum" is applied to the acts of those in the Assembly who have the malignancy and the integrity to expose public outrages. Charges of falsehood are also the stock in trade of this music vendor, on the old principle of the pickpocket crying "stop thief!" To show the truthfulness of Tappertit in reference to the attendance of Dr. Powell in the Assembly, we have only to say that during the month just past Dr. Powell's presence in the House was only to be observed during nine days of the nineteen the Assembly met—about the average we assigned him of twice a week. Tappertit's thirty out of forty days is purely a Tappertitian fabrication.

So much for this newspaper charlatan and for those who supply him with his nutritious mental pabulum. We shall be very much mistaken, however, if he is not required to grind out different tunes before many months are over. A newspaper that is so totally devoid of character and political principle as the *Chronicle* can never expect to have influence with an intelligent and independent public, and, if it hopes to live at all, must leave off the tumbling tricks of the mountebank and assume something like honesty of purpose. A journal that espouses in our present condition the cause of the land speculator against that of the working man and struggling settler—that calls upon the people quietly to submit to a public wrong because it is done by a bishop and those in authority—that attempts to defend the vacillation or servility of public representatives on questions affecting the general interests of the community—that misstates, either through ignorance or design, the facts in connection with the great questions that at present agitate the colony—is not exactly the organ suited to the people or the wants of Vancouver Island. So far as we are concerned, we shall allow no Assembly membership or other position to interfere with the honest discharge of the duties of public journalism. If we find public men shirking public responsibilities or abusing the trust confided in them, we shall expose them without mercy. The time is gone by when colonial interests are to be trifled with. We have, indeed, arrived at that condition of affairs when every individual from the highest to the lowest must come forward and bear the responsibilities of his manhood. The people cannot any longer afford to allow every good measure introduced into the Legislature to be destroyed by recreant members in the one House, or nincompoops in the other. We must be up and doing. It is to political agitation and it alone, that we can hope to place affairs on a healthy footing—that we can hope to open out the agricultural lands for settlement, and make the country a fitting receptacle for that immigration without which we can never progress; and that we can hope to have a popular element in the government of the country, giving us an unimpeachable guarantee that the interests of the colony will no longer be bartered away, or tamely allowed to be tampered with. In such a spirit we call upon every person who has a spark of independence in his breast, and who has even the slightest interest in the colony, to assist in getting up a demonstration that will show to the opponents of progress in our midst, that the government of the country must be carried on no longer but by that system laid down by one of England's greatest statesmen—the "well understood wishes of the people."

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

If ever there was an unfortunate subject of legislation it is the School question in Vancouver Island. After seven years of repeated grumbling, remonstrance and petitioning, a kind of emasculated bill passed both Houses and received the Governor's sanction. The people were, however, glad to obtain any measure that promised, in a reasonable time, the blessings of free education, and so they hailed the promptitude which His Excellency evinced in signing the bill as an earnest that the measure would receive from the Executive the most vigorous aid. That their hopes have been sadly shattered we have only to direct our attention to the names composing the Educational Board. There we shall find the men who are to direct the imperfect machinery given into their hands by the Legislature, and to direct it with justice to all denominations on the island, exclusively members of the English church, with but two exceptions. This is carrying out non-sectarian principles with a vengeance, and affords rather a queer contrast to His Excellency's liberal views when he first arrived on the island. We cannot believe, however, the appointments have emanated originally from the Governor. From the denomination of the majority of the members we should be inclined to suspect that they were suggested especially by some of those clerical gentlemen who have hitherto opposed the principle of non-sectarian education so bitterly. There is something in such a system of appointment so glaringly absurd and so intensely unjust that we can scarcely believe the members themselves, for very shame sake, will act. If they do, we would earnestly recommend them to appoint a Church of England Superintendent and give us a good old-fashioned prejudiced denominational management. It will help education wonderfully, and inspire all the other denominations with the most profound respect for those into whose hands has fallen the prerogative of royalty.

## TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

(FROM THE "BRITISH COLUMBIAN.")

**SAN FRANCISCO, May 29.**—The case of William and others of the Mexican emigration expedition was committed until to-morrow. Williams being released on \$2,500 bail, the others not asking to be admitted to bail, Alexander Campbell appeared as counsel for the defence.

W. T. Coleman, a prominent merchant of this city, died this morning.

Professor Cohen, the astrologer, was arrested and held to answer on a charge of rape.

Private advices report the death of Col. John B. Kellogg, at City Point, (Va.) April 25th. Col. Kellogg served in this military department from November, 1861, to June, 1864, as Commissary of Subsistence of the army of this coast.

M. B. Farry made a complaint to-day before the U. S. Commissioner, charging Henry C. Bateman with using complimentary letters out of the post office, opening and reading them.

In the U. S. Circuit Court the motion for appeal in the case of the City of San Francisco vs. the United States, involving the titles to the outside or the public lands, was denied.

The mining share market continues depressed, and the whole list is again lower to-day.

**Legal Tenders, 7 1/2%.**  
Flour—a good home track demand prevails at current prices. Included in the sales since our last are, Napa City, \$14 and \$15 50; 1100 q sacks Oregon, chiefly Magnolia, part for Marshville, \$13 50 and \$14. Local mills and repacked Chili at former figures. Wheat is inactive. Barley—sales of 275 sacks domestic, \$1 75. The new crop has made its appearance in sacks—the first of the season—and are expected here during the current week. Oats dull; 300 and 400 sacks in lots, at \$1 65; and 100 choice at \$1 80.

**SALT LAKE CITY, May 29, 1 p. m.**—On Saturday about noon, a party of Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians, cut and carried off the wire for some distance, and destroyed the posts for a few miles beyond St. Mary's station, about 160 miles east of this city, and during the afternoon attacked and burned the telegraph station. The operator, Mr. Sinclair, and three soldiers, the only men there, took refuge in an old cellar near by, and defended themselves throughout the night. They were armed with Henry's rifles, and succeeded in driving away the redskins. These men escaped to South Pass station yesterday. Major Baldwin, by order of Col. George, commanding the district, left for Bridge early on Sunday, with 100 men, to overtake and chastise the Indians. They took with them to repair the line, and will probably reach the break to-morrow, when it is hoped the line will be repaired, and in working order.

St. Mary's report the Indians to have gone east from there.

**SAN FRANCISCO, May 30.**—In consequence of the proclamation of the President of the United States appointing Tuesday next as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, the bankers have agreed to close their places of business.

Fare by the Golden City, which leaves on the 3rd of June—first cabin, \$187 50; second cabin, \$100; steerage, \$70.

The Belcher mining company have declared a dividend of \$51 per foot.

Stock still depressed. Legal tenders, 7 1/2% to 7%. The slight decline is due to the large disbursements made by the military department this week.

Flour—large operations in Chile are understood to be pending.

The steamer Geo. S. Wright has arrived from Victoria.

A fire broke out in the Cosmopolitan hotel this afternoon, and about \$2,000 damage done. One man burned seriously.

The Board of Supervisors have offered a reward of \$100 for the conviction of any person detected in giving false alarms of fire.

The ship Meander has arrived, 140 days from Calcutta.

**SAN FRANCISCO, May 31.**—To-morrow will be generally observed as a fast day in this city. The banks, public offices, and many places of business will be closed.

The Provost Marshal and other mastering departments are about removing their offices to the buildings that remain on Custom House, several of the property holders having left their buildings, being under the impression that government would confiscate them and then lease them to the original owners.

Friends of the liberal cause in the suffering republic of Mexico, will hold a meeting at Platt's hall to-morrow night, for the purpose of expressing their sympathy with the cause of that republic, which is now struggling for freedom. The meeting will be addressed by Gen. Ochoa, Gov. Ogasan, Gen. Placido Vega, and others.

Information has been received from Washington to the effect that the government had effected a final settlement of the accounts of harbormaster Parker, and find that government is indebted to him in the sum of \$103. This evidence of facts affords another reason for wonder at the removal of Parker.

The Mansion House at San Jose was destroyed by fire this afternoon, with furniture. Prior to the late municipal election, the county commissioners offered a reward of one hundred dollars for the conviction of any person detected in illegal voting.

The *Bulletin* asserts that a party named John Stratman caused the conviction of Cornelius Sullivan on the charge of voting twice, and that upon applying for the reward, the President professed ignorance, and the Secretary informed him there was no money in the treasury.

Money stocks are fluctuating. There seems to be little desire to invest in this kind of security at present. The stagnation in the

money market is principally due to the break in the overland telegraph, which precludes the receipt of eastern orders.

**Legal tenders, 7 1/2%.**  
Flour—a steady market for home consumption at prices which indicate no essential change. Sales include Golden Age extras, quarter and half sacks, at \$14 50 @ \$15. Wheat sales—140 sacks Stockton at 4 1/2 c. @ 4 1/4 400 gunnies Oregon, private. Barley—we have only to report 300 sacks feed at about \$1 50 @ \$2 10. Breeding at \$1 50 per 100 pounds. Oats—360 sacks sold at \$1 80 per 100 pounds. Hay—a cargo of 20 tons new sold at \$14 per ton. Wool—2,000 pounds sold at 20c. @ 23c. Potatoes—new are in brisk demand at \$4 @ \$4 50 per 100 pounds.

**PORTLAND, June 1.**—It is estimated by competent judges that \$50,000 worth of goods were packed off during the late confagration at Idaho city. Total loss is not less than \$600,000.

A tensity enthusiastic mass meeting took place at Platt's Hall, last evening, to give expression of sympathy for Mexico. 3,000 persons were present, many were unable to get inside the hall. The motto of the Monroe doctrine, was conspicuously posted and elicited rounds of applause. Speeches were made by Dr. Rowell, Thompson, Campell, Generals O'choa and Vega. Every allusion to the Monroe doctrine was received with loud applause. Universal opinion is that Maximilian must leave Mexico.

Samuel McContra, steamboat fireman, was burned to death in the great fire, corner of Jackson and Drum streets on Wednesday last, lost at the fire about \$25,000.

The Salvador pirate case came up to-day, Guild and Pixley are for the defence. Counsel contended that the prisoners had not violated the usages of war, nor been guilty of any infraction of its laws, and that when the officers of the Lancaster came on board; the Salvador was in the Bay of Panama, and all hope of capturing the steamer had ceased, and when they were subsequently arrested the intention to commit the act had been abandoned. Pixley's arguments closed with saucers at Captain Davenport, who was congratulated by the prisoners that he had encountered the Confederate flag for the first time when it was locked in one of the prisoners' trunks instead of floating proudly from the masthead of the Confederate man of war. The case was adjourned until Wednesday, when the Judge Advocate will argue for the prosecution.

The Spring Valley Water Company to-day declared a dividend of fifty cents per share.

Legal Tenders, 7 1/2%.

Flour sales—1,000 half-sacks Chili in bond for export to China, on terms reserved. In domestic brands there is a fair trade. Sales including 900 q. sacks Oregon, on private terms.

Wheat quotable at 4 1/2 c. per lb. Market quiet.

Barley—Sales 150 q sacks @ \$1 60; 200 @ \$1 62 1/2; and 350 @ \$1 90—the latter for brewing.

Oats—300 sacks ordinary sold at \$1 55 per 100 lbs.

Hay—A few sales to-day at \$11 @ 12 per ton for good.

Arrived—Ship Cornelius, 50 days from Hong Kong; bark Bararico, 61 from Pisco Pierre; bark Carmic, 55 from Hong Kong, via Honolulu.

The steamship Golden City carries East a large number of passengers to-morrow.

The Overland Line is up as far East as Fort Laramie, which is beyond the seat of Indian difficulties. The Line reported down in the vicinity of Platte River and Fort Kearney since the 23d, is not yet in working order.

**GOLD DISCOVERIES IN IDAHO.**—The *Oregonian* of Thursday thus alludes to the reported discovery of rich placer diggings on the Coeur d'Alene Mountains, which were engaging considerable attention in the upper country: "A great excitement exists throughout the upper country on account of the discovery of gold in large quantities on the Coeur d'Alene. The *Radiator* of Lewis-ton gives a flattering account of the wealth of these mines. From other sources these statements seem to be wholly confirmed. The rapid development of the mines of Idaho gives assurance that the wealth of that region will soon exceed that of any other on the Pacific slope. The amount of gold produced on the tributaries of the Columbia this season will be greater than that of former years." These diggings are situated between latitude 47 and 48, and longitude 114 and 116, and are at the farthest within 125 miles of Lewiston. They are said to be of great extent, but although the Idaho journals place faith in the discovery, they speak of them with considerable reserve.

**A QUARANTINE LAW.**—The notice of motion given last week by Mr. Duncan for the extension of the English quarantine law to this colony is one which ought to receive the prompt and earnest attention of the Assembly. Recent advices state that that horrible disease Asiatic leprosy, which was brought to the Sandwich Islands by the coolies imported there from China, has lately greatly increased, and the recent arrival of so many Chinamen in this colony gives rise to the dread of a similar misfortune. Indeed we were yesterday told by a gentleman who has seen something of the disease in other countries, that he saw a Chinaman only the other day who presented the appearance of suffering from this loathsome and contagious malady. The House should take up the subject without delay.

## British Columbia.

The steamer *Fidelfer* arrived on Friday from New Westminster via Nanaimo with over 20 passengers and the usual freight. She left Fraser River on Thursday morning, calling en route at the way settlements.

**FROM CARIBOO.**  
From our Cariboo correspondence we glean the following items of intelligence:  
The *Forest Rose* Co. were taking out fifty ounces a day.

The *Bald Head* Co. had again struck pay and were taking out about sixty ounces a day.

The *Aurora* Co. having bailed the water out of their shaft had commenced working again.

The *Saw Mill* Co. had also begun to work with expedition.

Business is reported to be dull in consequence of the scarcity of money. The only flush establishment, our correspondent says, is the *Hurdy Gurdy* dance house.

The provision market remained without change.

**THE CHILCOATEN MURDERERS.**—Mr. Moss arrived in this city on Tuesday with the two Indian prisoners Anan and Lootas. They were examined before the Hon. Mr. Brew yesterday and committed for trial. Anan quite admits having shot at Peter McDougal, but says he was only one of four who shot at him, but Lootas says he was alone in the matter. Lootas admits being present at the murder, but says he took no part in it, he only having shot one of the horses. Both these Indians say that Klatassan, the Chilicoaten chief, one of those executed last year, insisted upon their assisting in the murder, threatening them with death if they refused. Ochipshermoo, the Indian who was brought down last year, was a witness against them. He identified them as having been present at the massacre, and it is stated that Anan afterwards pointed out the fatal wound in McDougal's body as having been inflicted by himself. Mr. Moss acted as interpreter to the Court. It is highly probable that a special commission will be issued to enable Mr. Brew to try these Indians and thereby avoid the needless expense and delay of waiting till the fall.

**THE OVERLAND TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**—Mr. Conway and Major Pope and party went up to Yale yesterday by the steamer Lillooet. Major Pope and party will proceed at once to Fort George to commence explorations. Mr. Conway goes through to the Junction (Clinton) to look after the working party.

**THE SEAB TRADE.**—We learn that Captain Stamp has chartered the ship *Aquila*, a 200 tons burden, now at San Francisco, to take a cargo of spars from Burrard Inlet. She will be one in less than a week.

**THE ALEXANDRIA ROAD.**—We believe the contract for this road has been awarded to Mr. Robert Smith for \$40,000, said to be \$12,000 lower than the next tender.

**ANTOINE.**—H. M. ship Beaver has gone up the coast in search of this villain. We devoutly wish the expedition success.

**CONTEMPLATED VICE-REGAL TOUR.**—We understand His Excellency the Governor proposes setting out about the 20th of the present month, for the purpose of visiting the various gold-fields. His Excellency will first proceed to Williams' and other creeks in Cariboo, and returning as far as the Bonaparte, cross over, via Kamloops, to the Kootenay country. His Excellency appears determined to make himself acquainted, by personal observation, with the most remote and inaccessible portions of the colony, the affairs of which he has been appointed to administer.

**NOT CAUGHT YET.**—The Indian convict, whose escape from the chain-gang we noticed a few days ago, is, we hear, with his tribe at Chilliwack, strutting about armed with a knife and a revolver, setting the whole world at defiance and vowing that he will shoot the first officer that attempts to make him a prisoner.

**FROM SAN FRANCISCO.**—We understand the *Palmetto* has sailed from San Francisco for this port, loaded with material for the Collins Overland Telegraph. After discharging here she will be employed in conveying coal from Nanaimo to the company's stations on the coast.

**THE BELL TOWER.**—The schooner *Alpha* arrived yesterday with 70 tons of stone from Salt Spring Island for the foundation of the tower. We understand that the contractor (Mr. McCready) will be up in the course of a few days to commence active operations on the building.

**THE ALEXANDRIA ROAD.**—Mr. Smith has called upon us to say that we were in error in stating that the price of the contract awarded to him is \$45,000, as it is considerably higher.

**THE RECOVERY OF MR. CARSWELL.**—The news brought up by the steamer yesterday of the recovery of Mr. Carswell will be received with feelings of joy throughout the entire community; and we, in common with our fellow-citizens and Island neighbors, would offer our congratulations to that gentleman and his more immediate circle of friends.

**COST OF THE ENTERTAINMENT.**—We understand that the entire cost of the recent entertainment and presents given to the Indians, falls under \$5,500—rather a cheap affair—less than 50 cents a head.

**LEWIS RIVER.**—Barnett, the Expressman, informs us that the river is still too high to admit of work being carried on. Nothing had been heard of the prospecting party since they left, but intelligence is daily expected of their progress.