men, the force it counted
war. It has been ascertained
onnage of steam and sailing
United States is 1,109,267 tons,
of steamers is 2942; sailing
; all of which have been
ed with registered numbers.
t 5—The correspondence bet
rans and Lee is published.
essed a letetr to Lee, asking
arding the country, the wishes
of the people of the South,
ormer army officers. Lee's
by Gen Lee, Beauregard,
ther politicians. The follow-
almost entire:
pinions may have prevailed in
gard to African slavery or the
te to secede from the Union,
xpress almost the unanimous
he Southern people when we
hey consider these questions
war, and it is their intention,
o abide by that decision. At
he war the Southern people
arms and sought to resume
lations with the United States
rough their State Conventions,
d slavery, annulled the ordin-
ion, and returned to peaceful
a sincere purpose of fulfilling
nder the Constitution of the
which they had sworn to sup-
ey been met in a spirit of
ordiality, we believe ere now
uid have passed away and the
ed by the war would have
measurs healed.

Europe.

ug. 31—The resignation of
lbstro, Minister to Rome,

ug. 31—The Portuguese
en prorogued.
g. 30—The great success
ne, and the great wide spread
ver its suppression are signs
temper sufficient to alarm
Added to these are cir-
e expense of keeping an
nament on foot and the
to war by the success of
There is reason to expect
or spring. Corroboration
sought in the recent leading
Constitutionel, urgi the
Empress Eugenie to the
is anticipated that the
t have to lead the army and
the perils of the field. To
reboding there are official
ace daily made and advices
alists to act as if assured of
e argument so frequently
French Government, "That
g of the amendment is a
eace."

ping Intelligence.

CTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ENTERED

, McKenzie, San Juan
, Pritchard, San Juan
ve, Collins, N W Coast
Lewis, Port Townsend
Langdon, Port Townsend
in, San Juan
radley, Nanaimo
Kay, Honolulu
Swanson, New Westminster
rd, Nanaimo
na Anderson, Finch, Port Townsend
ton, Saanich
Packet, Stevens, N W Coast
reaux, Burrard Inlet
terprise, Swanson, New Westminster

CLEARED.

t, Carlton, San Juan
, McKenzie, San Juan
ll, Burrard Inlet
tive, Floyd, Astoria
Langdon, Astoria
rren, Cowichan
don, Burrard Inlet
offee, Maple Bay
Swanson, New Westminster
s, Middleton, Saanich
prise, Spring, Metlahkatlah
son, Finch Port Townsend
terprise, Swanson, New Westminster

PORT TOWNSEND, W. T.

ENTERED.

John L Dimmock, Mitchell, from San
Port Gamble for Shanghai.
n Sidney, Bartlett, loads at Utsalady

vere, McIntyre, from San Francisco,
very for San Francisco.
garet Brander, returned from Victoria
repairs, loads at Port Gamble for

S Wright, from Portland via Victoria,
y ports.
Anderson, from Victoria to Olympia
, from Victoria with passengers for

CLEARED.

ucky, Willaston, Islay, Peru.
San Francisco.
S Wright, Portland via Orcas Island
nderson, Finch, Victoria.

PASSENGERS.

ANDERSON, from Puget Sound—
lure, Mrs Grant, Mrs McAllister, Miss
essrs W W Miller, O'Neal, Carson,
Wilson.

CONSIGNEES.

ANDERSON from Puget Sound—
Lardy, J Murray.

IMPORTS

ANDERSON from Puget Sound—
fruit, 50 hydes, 24 cattle, 2 calves,
g Eastern mail.
VORITE from Honolulu—400 bbls
ar, consigned to J R Stewart.

BIRTH.

toria, on Wednesday, the 16th inst.,
. Drake, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIED.

14th inst., by the Rev. Mr Jamieson
, to Miss Ellen Hawkins, both of
alt. Compliments of the bride and
.
n this city, by the Rev R Jamieson
firm of Messrs A & W Wilson, For
West, of the city of Quebec, Domin-

DIED.

5th, Richard Knight, infant son of
aged 8 months and 15 days.
ox, July 19th, 1868, John Holder

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 9. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1868 NO. 47

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY,
HIGGINS, LONG & CO.

TERMS:

Per Annum, in advance	$6 00
For Six Months	4 00
For Three Months	2 50
Per Week	0 25

PAYABLE INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

OFFICE—Colonist Building, Government and Langley streets, adjoining Bank of British Columbia.

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Public Men and Motives.

The report of the proceedings of the Yale Convention is now before our readers, and we would ask those who are willing to think and judge for themselves, to peruse the resolutions which have been passed, with care, and having done so, to judge for themselves how far they justify the tone which has latterly been adopted by the opponents of Confederation, there really seems to be little in the resolutions to give rise to that suspicion of evil, which we are told exists in the minds of many intelligent men, with regard to the movements of those in favor of Confederation, nor can we see the slightest reason, outside of political and party motives, for hinting at "the ultimate design of the more active movers in the drama." Those gentlemen who have attended the Yale Convention, cannot with justice be charged with any motives, beyond, or foreign to those principles which guide and determine the actions of men who, having the welfare of their country at heart, have sufficient energy to take an active part in public affairs; whilst others professedly equally desirous of witnessing national prosperity, cannot exert themselves to do more than find fault. Public men, and politicians above all, are subject to severe criticism and frequently fall under the imputation of being actuated by impure or selfish motives, because their very activity tends to advance them to positions in which they take the lead to a certain extent of their fellow men, so far as public affairs are concerned; thus if a public man is ambitious and would push himself into the front ranks in politics he is accused either of having personal ends to serve, or of being willing to sell his country for his own aggrandisement; whereas the military or naval man who has no ambition to distinguish himself, or the professional man who makes no endeavor to outstrip his competitors, is regarded as but a shade removed from unfitness for the profession which he may have undertaken. It is however apparent to all who will take the trouble to analyse motives, and to connect them with prospects of success, that the politician who does not, whatever may be his private convictions and secret aspirations, so control his public words and actions, as to endeavor by them to forward the public good, cannot ultimately succeed in raising himself to position, power, or fame, because the very essence of the politician's ambition as well as its source and motive spring, must be the desire of the public good. Subjecting the motives of the delegates who have just returned from Yale, to the severest tests that can be applied to them, we cannot see that the leaders of the opposition to Confederation can fairly attribute to them anything but a desire to discharge their duties as citizens. Doubtless similar motives actuate the party that opposes Confederation, but those who have taken the initiative in mooting this question in such a way as to bring it fairly before the people of the Colony, are certainly entitled to the thanks of those who wish for reform. It is to be regretted that those who are now moving against Confederation had not sooner come out with some plans and suggestions which might satisfy those who are not content with the simple process of existing under a government in which they have no lot or share beyond contributing to its existence. It is very easy to say that "there are other safer and more certain means as a remedy for our ills than Confederation," but it is somewhat strange that those who admit the existence of evils can be content to remain passive, so far as any attempt at reform is concerned, whilst by their inactivity they strengthen the hands of a government which is not of or for the people. There is, however, one step in reform which we suppose all parties in the Colony, except perhaps the officials, would cordially unite in welcoming, that is the alteration of the constitution of the Legislative Council. The Governor, if he has the slightest desire to carry out the wishes of the people, would surely prefer a Council of which two-thirds should be elected by a popular vote; the nominated element would even then be so strong as almost to insure a majority to the Government upon all purely government measures, which were likely to prove useful to the Colony, whilst the people would be able to exercise a proper and useful check upon public expenditure. If the people were really represented in the Government, there is little doubt that their wishes upon all important questions would not only be known, but would be felt and command attention. With even such a semblance of representative government as two-thirds of the Council would give us, there would be every prospect of the great questions of the day being fairly ventilated and discussed, and it would be simply the fault of the people if right was not then done. We do not pretend to say that such a form of government would in any way approach perfection, but it would be one step away from the depth of imperfection of the present system.

Friday, Sept 25

COAL AT SAANICH.—Some few days ago we gave an account of certain parties of this town prospecting for coal at North Saanich, under circumstances, which gave them just reason to anticipate final success. Yesterday a Mr Reed, of Saanich district, arrived in town, bringing to the parties concerned, the cheering news that the seam, on Monday last, suddenly opened out *four feet nine inches* thick; the presumption from this fact is, the junction of the two seams, which the workmen have been sometime following down, has been struck, and instead of giving out, has formed a seam of splendid coal five feet wide. There seems to be no reason to doubt the correctness of this information. Mr Reed adds that the settlers in this busy and prosperous settlement are having a jubilee over the discovery of their new wealth, as it must necessarily be beneficial to all. In support of the news we may say, that the shaft has been going down for months, and the seam at the junction of the two, where now struck, is not much less than 100 feet deep. It is not the accident of a surface discovery, but the result of labor.

ST JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Ground for this structure will be broken next week. The building will be 40 by 25 feet, with a porch 10 by 13 feet in front. The exterior will be ornamented with pinnacles and gothic arches; the interior will be plainly plastered; but for musical considerations, there will be inside a lower self-supporting roof, with decorated principals, by which vocal music will be regulated and its echo reduced. For the first time in the Colony, Mr Tiedemann will introduce the system of mixing coal oil with mortar; this, it is said, not only makes the walls waterproof but gives them a handsome light brown color, which forms an excellent contrast. In connection with this undertaking, the Bishop has not only contributed with funds, but he has also given the ground for the site. The School House will stand on the lower portion of the garden of St John's Rectory, and will face on Douglas street. The cost will be $1200.

MASONIC.—Columbia Chapter, No 120, Registry Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, held its annual festival on Thursday 23rd inst, A L 5873. The following Companions of the Holy Royal Arch were duly installed by Past Principal Z Dr Powell; Robert Burnaby, 1st Principal Z; T S Allatt, 2nd Principal H; Freek Williams, 3rd Principal J; Henry Nathan, Scribe E; Wm H Thain, Scribe N; Joseph Blackbourne, Treasurer; Wm Clarke, 1st Sojourner S; A Theakstone, 2nd Sojourner S; Eli Harrison, 3rd Sojourner S; G Creighton, Janitor. The Order sat down in the evening to a sumptuous repast, served up by Companion Astrico, at the Chapter rooms, in Farron's Building, which passed off in the most agreeable manner.

ADDITIONAL FROM KOOTENAY, &c.—A prospecting party had gone over to Skookum Chuck, and it is believed they have struck some good mining. The man Devlin, who shot Walsh on the 4th of July, was mining on Libby Creek at latest accounts. The inhabitants of Kootenay appointed Mr N M Hicks to represent them at the Yale Convention, but he did not get over in time. On Rock Creek there was considerable successful mining going on. The Bed Rock Flume Co were doing well; Tillotson & Co average an ounce a-day to the hand hydraulicing. The steamer Forty-nine was at Colville on her last trip up to Big Bend. When she left Big Bend, there were 40 miners, for the most part doing well.

THE STEAMERS.—By telegraphic communication we learn that the Active and G S Wright would leave Portland for Victoria yesterday. The gun heard yesterday afternoon, supposed to be the Del Norte calling in the Straits for a pilot, was fired by H M S Pylades, as the Enterprise passed her coming from Esquimalt. The Del Norte is now over due from San Francisco and may be expected any hour.

Editorial Correspondence No. 10.

[Concluded.]

A visitor in Washington is struck with the spectacle of several thousand ragged negroes who infest every nook and corner. in search of food or work. A more wretched set of beings I have never seen. Thrown by the late civil war upon their own resources, and utterly unused to provide for themselves, the elder members of the race have suffered and still suffer incalculable misery and have sunk to a state of degredation and wretchedness truly awful to behold; yet they prefer flocking to the city to pick up a precarious livelihood as best they may to remaining in the country and resuming the duties of farm laborers. The labor market is overstocked. The rates for ablebodied male servants are $8 and $10 per month (greenbacks) and board. Females receive about half these rates, and a stout girl to take care of children may be had for her clothes and 'keep.' A splendid chance for Victoria dames, who are pestered by the nomadic nature of their 'help,' to recruit is here presented. Nearly all the black boys one sees are bootblacks. With small boxes containing brushes and blacking slung about their necks, you meet the little fellows by the score, and from all sides are saluted with, 'Shine um boots, sah' See yerself in um, sah, dats a fack!' etc. I do not think I should overstate the mark were I to set the numerical force of the Washington Bootblack Brigade at 1000. No sooner do you entrust one to black your pedal encasers than at least a dozen others gather around, unsling their little boxes and sit down upon them to watch, openmouthed, the operation. This watching appears to be characteristic of the Washington freedman; for positively I have not seen one colored man or boy carrying a package that I have not observed at least three ragged conferees accompanying him empty handed. What will be the result of this state of affairs it is difficult to say. The whites declare, with an air of satisfaction that the negro is dying out fast, for *want of proper nourishment and medical attention*, and that there are at least 1,000,000 less blacks in the United States than before the war! What an admission! A million white lives sacrificed in freeing the slave, and a million slaves dead because they could not live free. Am I not justified, then, in believing that so far from any real benefit having been conferred upon the black race by the struggle, it has proved their greater injury? From what I see here I am convinced that gradual emancipation would have met the case; but the wholesale liberation of the poor, ignorant masses has proved a curse, the effects of which will be felt by this nation for generations. A great many prominent men have been pointed out to me since my arrival. Among others, I have seen Ben Butler (nicknamed 'the beast') senators Sumter, Wade, Doolittle, Hendricks, Frelinghuysen, Yates, Chandler, Fessenden, N P Banks, and Fernando Wood and John Morrissey of the House. Butler in the flesh is no improvement on his portrait in the illustrated press. Sumner has a tall, commanding figure, hair slightly mixed with grey, and dresses with scrupulous neatness. His voice is deep and sonorous and when he speaks he invariably commands the attention of the Senate. Fessenden is the most intellectual looking man in the Upper House. In person he is of the average height, his complexion and eye dark, hair slightly grey and well brushed back from a broad forehead. Wade is President of the Senate. He has an ill-natured, querulous look. It is said he can swear more and harder than any other man in the United States. Chandler is the senator who is continually introducing Fenian resolutions and threatening to make war on Great Britain. His appearance is sinister and his demeanour low. One of the cleverest men in the Senate is Mr Yates—that is, when he is sober. His face resembles that of a drowned man—blue and bloated; his black hair is unkempt and his whole make-up that of 'one who tarries long at the wine-cup.' Last winter he joined the Congressional Temperance Society, and in making a speech favoring total abstinence, he said—There was great sorrowing last week among the whiskey-sellers when they heard Dick Yates had joined the Temperance Society. The consumption of the fluid fell off immediately and whiskey declined 20 per cent in value. But 'Dick' Yates' temperance principles were short-lived, he soon broke his pledge and whiskey went *up* as soon as here commenced to pour it *down*. Senator Doolittle is a plain, farmer looking man, well proportioned, has light hair and impresses one with an idea of earnestness and honesty. Senator Hendricks is a man verging on fifty, has an intelligent face and polished manner; he is a rapid, fluent speaker, but in addressing the Senate is sometimes given to ranting, which detracts considerably from the effect. John Morrissey has not been in his seat in the House since I arrived, but is to be seen daily at the Metropolitan Hotel, reclining against one of the lofty pillars and gazing listlessly upon the crowds of people who continually pass this spot. It is said John keeps a 'tiger' [faro bank] shut up in his private room and that not a few of my Congressional friends nightly tussel with the dangerous animal. Morrissey is about 5 feet 11 inches tall and well built. He wears a full black beard and moustache on a face which bears evidence of the severe blows its owner sustained in his pugilistic encounters with Sullivan and Heenan years ago. Fernando Wood is a slightly-built man and is distinguished by a moustache as white as snow. Thad. Stevens is ill; it is said he is dying. His age is 76 and he has lived a hard life. [Since dead.]

Large accessions have lately been made to the working force of Congress by the admission of delegates from several of the reconstructed Southern States. These delegates are known as 'Carpet baggers,' from the fact that few if any of the number resided South previous to the war, and that they are political adventurers whose entire property consists of a carpet bag containing a change of clothing. They were elected by negro suffrage, and are a hard-looking set Their speeches are sometimes unique and amusing. One of their number [Deewes], upon the bill to arm the Southern blacks so that the elections might be carried for the Radicals, aired his vocabulary in an eloquent style. I quote from the *National Intelligencer*: 'This carpet-bagger looked intensely professional and characteristic, though he did not have his carpet-bag in hand. He was red in the face, small in stature, bobbed his head vigorously like a pendulum, backwards and forwards, and showed a contempt for Lindley Murray only equal to his estimate for arms and loyalty. He dwelt repeatedly upon *Northern* and *Southern* men. In 1865 the rebels had been sent home with arms in their hands'—a very pointed reflection upon General Grant's ability to manage a surrender. Judge Woodward inquired of the carpet-bagger if the bogus governments could be maintained otherwise than by the point of the bayonet. 'Certainly' responded the carpet-bagger, 'if you will only give them the arms.' '*Them* guns is still in the hands of the rebels.' He referred touchingly to the idea of 'trampling out us *carpet-baggers*,' thus fully acknowledging his moral status and precise quantity of personal baggage. One of the Radical members seeing how badly this individual was making out to the great edification of the ungodly, inquired if their bogus government now 'had any arms.' Delighted to be thus interrogated, the gentleman responded on the spot, '*that they had not one single solitary pocket-pistol*,' a condition of sobriety and peaceful temperament which challenges our most respectful admiration.' The bill was not allowed to pass by the Radicals, who feared the unfavorable influence its passage might have upon the northern elections. The Alaska appropriation bill, however, went through safely, and a bill organizing Alaska into a Territorial Government also became law. Its provisions I have not learned. The Alaska purchase money was paid yesterday to the Russian Minister. The Committee of Ways and Means had agreed upon a report on the question of trade with the British Provinces. The report of the committee states that the question of trade with the Provinces includes also the navigation of the St Lawrence and the adjustment of the fisheries; that the latter two matters are questions over which the British government and not the provinces, exercises control, and that therefore, the proper course to pursue is to open negotiations with that government and ascertain what concession Great Britain is willing to offer for a liberalization of trade between Canada and the United States, and which will cover all matters of commerce, navigation and the fisheries. Mr Seward informed the committee that he would consider this report as ample authority to open negotiations. The report will be submitted immediately upon the reassembling of Congress. It is stated that it is probable that Mr. Seward may consider the conclusions of the committee as sufficient, and will not wait for the formal presentation of their report. Brother Jonathan, you will see, is preparing to eat 'humble pie.'

Three members of the House have been appointed to visit Prince Edward Island in a gunboat, and ascertain whether the overtures made by the Government of that Colony pointing to negotiations for a Reciprocity Treaty with the United States are genuine. As I hinted in my last letter, the committee will find that the little island has been 'putting on airs,' and that she would no more be allowed to consummate a treaty with the United States than she will be suffered to shake off the authority of the British Crown. Prince Edward Island can only enter upon the benefits of Reciprocity through the Dominion door. There is no other avenue.

In our rambles about the city we strolled into the Smithsonian Institute buildings, where we had the pleasure of grasping by the hand Mr H Elliott, who accompanied the Western Union Telegraph expedition through British Columbia, and were introduced to Professors Henry and Baird of the Institute. The Professors inquired particularly concerning the meterological changes and geological formation of the Cotony, in which they appeared much interested. Both gentlemen seemed well informed as to the capabilities and resources of the country, for which we are somewhat indebted to the researches of Mr Elliott and Dr P Comrie, R N. Leaving the Institute we called on Hon Anson Burlingame and lady of the Chinese Embassy. In the evening there was a reception at the Metropolitan Hotel. The reception took place at 9 o'clock, the guests being received by Mr and Mrs Burlingame with Chih-Kang and San-Chi-Ku, [the two last Mr Burlingame's associate ministers of the Chinese Legation.] The three parlors of the hotel were filled with a throng of distinguished visitors, among whom were the President, the Secretaries of State and Treasury, the Postmaster General, Mr Evarts the Attorney General, Mr Thornton, the British minister and his wife; Baron Gerolt, the Prussian Minister and his family; Prof Henry and lady; many officers of the army and navy; Senators and members of Congress, and gentlemen connected with the leading newspapers of the country. After some time thus pleasantly spent, the company proceeded to the dining room, where a supper was served up in the most liberal style, into which all entered with great spirit. The distinguished Orientals were in full force, and seemed to enjoy the affair to the fullest extent. The reception we believe, was enjoyed by all present, and was a decided success.

This evening, we visited the scene of Lincoln's assassination, and saw the room in which he died, in a house opposite the theatre. The theatre was purchased by the Government, and is now used as a medical museum. Among the curiosities is the spine of the assassin Booth, with the rifle ball which ended his career still embedded in it.

Congress took a recess to-day until Sept 21st, when it is feared they will take up and pass the new impeachment articles, so as to turn Mr Johnson out before November and thus insure the return of Grant and Colfax by hook or by crook. It is quite evident the Radicals do not intend that the Democrats shall win the election. On Sunday night a special session of the Senate was held to consider appointments, and the corridors leading to the Chamber were thronged with lobbyites, among whom were several charming looking women, who pressed the claims of their favorites by appeals to the senators as they occasionally came into the hall to draw a breath of fresh air.