

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 7.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1866.

NO. 23.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

ESTABLISHED 1841.
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS:
By Post, in Advance, for 12 Months, \$10.00
By Post, in Advance, for 6 Months, \$5.50
By Post, in Advance, for 3 Months, \$3.00
Single Copies, 10 CENTS.

Subscribers in Victoria will be supplied by the carriers for 25 cents a week.

Advertisements: 10 Lines for 1 Week, 25 CENTS
10 Lines for 2 Weeks, 45 CENTS
10 Lines for 1 Month, 75 CENTS
10 Lines for 3 Months, \$1.50
10 Lines for 6 Months, \$2.50
10 Lines for 12 Months, \$4.50

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

Published every Tuesday morning.

TERMS:
By Post, in Advance, for 12 Months, \$6.00
By Post, in Advance, for 6 Months, \$3.50
By Post, in Advance, for 3 Months, \$2.00
Single Copies, 10 CENTS.

Subscribers in Victoria will be supplied by the carriers for 25 cents a week.

Advertisements: 10 Lines for 1 Week, 25 CENTS
10 Lines for 2 Weeks, 45 CENTS
10 Lines for 1 Month, 75 CENTS
10 Lines for 3 Months, \$1.50
10 Lines for 6 Months, \$2.50
10 Lines for 12 Months, \$4.50

AGENTS.

John Mackin, Nanaimo
Clarkson & Co., New Westminster
Bernard's Express, Quesnelle, B. C.
" " " Lytton
" " " Vancouver
" " " Richmond
" " " Barkerville
" " " Camerontown
" " " Clinton
L. P. Fisher, San Francisco
F. Algar, Clement Lane, London
G. Street, 80 Cornhill, London

THE NEWS.

The most important telegraphic news today is the defeat of President Johnson by Congress on the Civil Rights Bill. A few days ago we laid the case before our readers and anticipated what has taken place—a vote in the Senate of 33 to 15 against the President's veto—more than the requisite two-thirds majority. This is the most important Congressional proceeding that has taken place for many years. The Senate was densely crowded with visitors, and the debate lasted several days. The bill was to have been taken up immediately in the House, but its discussion there will not occupy much attention, as it formerly passed by the enormous majority of 111 to 38. It may be therefore safely said that the bill has passed, and that President Johnson is thoroughly beaten in the antagonistic attitude he has assumed towards Congress. The powers which are conferred by the constitution on the President are very great, but against a two-thirds vote of both Houses he is powerless.

The House of Representatives say it is law. There is of course still the proclamation power to be used, under certain restrictions and in certain circumstances, and the President has made a very unwise use of it in the present imbroglio. He has issued a proclamation of peace in which it is stated that the insurrection in the Southern States, with the exception of Texas, is at an end. The object of this proclamation, at a time when the Civil Rights Bill was under discussion, was to take away all grounds for dealing with the Southern States in an exceptional manner. But Congress was not to be drawn away from the point at issue, and we have the Senate passing the bill as if no such proclamation had been issued. A measure so important as this Civil Rights Bill probably to many of our readers requires a little explanation. It is entitled an act to protect all persons in the United States in their civil rights and furnish means for their vindication. By the first section all persons born in the United States, and not subject to any foreign power, excluding Indians not taxed, are declared citizens. The colored population everywhere throughout the Union are to have the power to make and enforce contracts, sue and be sued, give evidence in courts, purchase, lease, sell, hold, and convey real estate and personal property, and to have full and equal benefits to all laws the same as white citizens, and to be subject to the same punishments, pains and penalties, in connection with white citizens and no voters. Another section imposes penalties upon members of the Legislature of any State who may pass laws contrary to the spirit and meaning of this act and upon judges or officers who may attempt to execute them. It will thus be seen how important is the measure which has just been passed in the Senate over the President's veto. It is the crowning work of a people desirous of getting rid of slavery for ever— anxious to avoid the possibility of another civil war—and determined to deal out even-handed justice to all classes of the population. Without some such bill, the Southern forces on the battle-field would have been defeated in vain, and the beneficent fruits of the civil war would have been irrevocably lost. The class legislation of some of the Southern States would have quickly brought into being a species of barbarity and tyranny just as bad as that which existed in the days when slavery was in the ascendant. The victory of Congress, therefore, is a victory on the side of humanity; for it puts an end to the cruel and petty despotism of one race over another. It is a victory, also, on the side of republicanism; for it destroys the power of the old slavery-loving oligarchy,

and awards to all classes of the population the same civil rights.

By our Canadian files we learn that the Confederation scheme is making good progress in the Eastern provinces. Newfoundland has given its adhesion to the scheme by a vote of nineteen to seven in the Lower House and unanimously in the Upper. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are both expected to follow the example. Vancouver Island and British Columbia are now looming up in the press of Canada as integral portions of the great confederation. "Those who look forward," says the *Toronto Globe*, "to an ultimate union of all the British North American Provinces, must feel a lively interest in the progress of the Pacific colonies, and especially in those developments which hasten the time, when a union between the Provinces east of the Rocky Mountains with those on the west side will be practicable." Our Canadian contemporary then goes on to allude at some length to the recent discoveries at Big Bend, and gives the mingling results as they appeared in the press of these colonies. "What is now required," it says in conclusion, "to give an impetus to the development of the gold mines on the eastern slope of the mountains, and to make Canada and the Lower Provinces the highway to the Pacific Colonies, is the speedy settlement of the North-west question, the formation of a satisfactory union between the eastern or Atlantic colonies, and the opening up the land and water communications with the great West. With the means of reaching the head waters of the Saskatchewan rendered tolerably convenient, a mining population would soon be found firmly planted upon the eastern slope; the development of the rich agricultural lands of that country would follow, and before long, the Atlantic and Pacific Colonies would be found united in a Confederation of all the British North American Colonies."

By the Arrival of the California, we have files of San Francisco, papers to the 7th, kindly supplied us by Purser Morton, containing Eastern news to the 6th. The following are the chief items of interest.

The Navy Department has received a despatch from Com. Rogers and his subordinate officers of the Vanderbilt, Powhatan, and Monadnock, announcing their arrival at Valparaiso, Chile. The dangers of the trip are deemed to be ended, the remainder being plain sailing. He says the powers of the Monitors have been more than equal to the voyage. It was observed that in the South Pacific's long sea the Monadnock took very little water, rising over waves easily and buoyantly.

JEFF DAVIS.
New York, April 6th.—The *Times*' Richmond correspondent says, after consulting, it has been agreed by the friends of Jeff Davis, who had proposed to sue out a writ of *habeas corpus* in his behalf, to abandon the movement, as the cause might embarrass President Johnson.

THE TEST OATH.
New York, April 6th.—The *Times*' Washington special despatch says the President will, in a few days, send a message to Congress asking a modification of the test oath, in order to enable the Government to appoint revenue officers in the South. Col. A. A. Markland has been appointed Special Mail Agent for the Pacific coast.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEACE PROCLAMATION.
I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the insurrection which has heretofore existed in the States of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida and Texas is at an end, and henceforth to be so regarded.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord 1866, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 90th.

ANDREW JOHNSON,
President of the United States.

W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO.
The Civil Rights Bill was carried in the Senate over the President's veto by 33 to 15, amid great rejoicing.

EUROPEAN.
The San Francisco papers contain the following additional European telegrams:

The Reform bill was explained in the House of Commons by Mr. Gladstone on the 12th. The main features of the bill are, a reduction of qualifications of county voters from £50 to £14 occupancy, and for boroughs to £7 rental, and to lodgers paying £10 or upward for apartments. The measure adds about 4,000,000 to the number of voters. The bill deals only with franchise, leaving the redistribution of representation for another session.

After many speeches for and against the proposal, Mr. Bright expressing satisfaction with it, the bill was read the first time.

The Liberal journals generally approve the measure, although it hardly comes up to their wishes. The chances of the bill

continue to be the subject of discussion. The Conservative journals demand its rejection. Others call for amendments. The *Daily Telegraph* declares it is growing quite clear it will become a law. The real crisis of the measure was its first appearance, which it passed through safely.

The Parliamentary oath proposed by the Government, as modified in the first two classes by Disraeli, is adopted.

Accounts from Spain state the Spaniards to be in a perfect fury at the disorders which have befallen their squadron in the Pacific, and the papers breathe vengeance against the Chileans, who fled their Covadonga from them, and drove their Admiral to commit suicide. They invoke immediate hostilities, without any regard to remonstrances either from North America, or from England, for no one has a right to interfere between them in the performance of what they believe to be their right and their duty.

MEXICAN NEWS.
New York, April 4.—Advises from the City of Mexico to March 19th say that Gen. Ortega has proclaimed himself President of the Republic by virtue of the Constitution of 1857, at the town of Cuicatlan.

Gen. Masder (Imperialist) had insisted a severe reverse upon the plains of Uruapan where, it is stated, 200 prisoners were shot in retaliation for the execution of Liberals under the recent decree of Maximilian.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The Mexican Minister has received intelligence from El Paso confirming the reported successes by the Liberals, and announcing the expectation that Juarez will establish his seat of Government at Chihuahua at once.

CANADA.
MORE FENIAN EXCITEMENTS.
CHICAGO, April 5th.—The Canadians are again in great alarm. They have reliable reports that war vessels and convoys, including two schooners loaded with cannon, are fitting out at Chicago. There are rumors that an expedition under B. Moran Killian, consisting of three steamers, with 5,500 men, has sailed from New York for New Brunswick, and another report gives Bermuda as its destination. It is believed that General Sweney designs an attack on Central Canada. An official proclamation from Colonel O'Mahony, announces the escape of James Stephens from Ireland, his arrival at Paris, and his speedy arrival in the United States to head the Fenians. Discussion is prevalent in the North and the West.

EUROPEAN NEWS SUMMARY.
DATES TO FEBRUARY 24th.

The Bishop of Oxford has recommended the clergy of his diocese to set apart a day of fasting and humiliation during lent on account of the cattle plague.

The usual Easter Monday review of the South of England Volunteers is to be held this year at Brighton.

Mr. David Munro, the Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives, has been knighted.

The Lords of the admiralty have resolved that lads under 18 years of age shall not in future be subjected to the terrible punishment of flogging.

Retaining a reserve fund to meet outstanding liabilities of £4,000, the committee of the late Dublin Exhibition state their net profits to amount to £10,000.

The *Sunday Gazette* says that Mr. Layard has been appointed to the vacant Trusteeship of the National Gallery.

The number of wrecks reported last week was 43, which makes the total for the present year 136.

The Earl of Kinross died at Torquay, on the 18th, in his 81st year. He is succeeded in the title and estate by his son, Lord Dupplin.

The Bishop of Ely has recommended his clergy to invite their parishioners to set apart a day of humiliation early next month on account of the cattle plague.

The Royal English Opera, Covent-garden, London, was suddenly closed on the 17th, owing to pecuniary difficulties.

Mr. Adams, the American Minister in London, will not yet quit his post. His Government have requested him to stay longer, on the ground most honorable to him, — that they cannot spare him.

A telegram states that inquiries are general in ports of Spain for foreign vessels, as Spanish ship owners object to the risk of encountering Chilean cruisers.

The 29th of June, 1867, will be the 1800th anniversary of St. Peter's death. On that occasion the Pope is to convoke all the bishops of Christendom to Rome, where a grand jubilee will be celebrated.

Advices from Copenhagen state that the young King of Greece is expected shortly in that city, and will remain there about three months. In the interval a regency will take charge of the Government.

Intelligence from Copenhagen states that the marriage between the Princess Dagmar and the Hereditary Grand Duke of Russia is determined upon, and that the ceremony will take place in April, on the anniversary of the birth of King Christian IX.

The Spanish squadron in the Pacific will, says a Madrid journal, soon be increased to two armor clad frigates, eight screw frigates of from 40 to 50 guns each, five transports, and seven screw sloops of great power.

A balloon train, to ply between the Place de la Concorde and the Champs de Mars, is spoken of as one of the schemes to be tried during the great gathering in Paris next year.

The cholera still prevails in Southern Russia, where the mildness of the winter has produced a great deal of illness. At Moscow there have been so many cases of typhoid fever lately that the hospitals are quite full.

Petitions have been presented against the return of seventy-one members of the House of Commons. The Conservatives petition against forty-one Liberal seats. The Liberals oppose twenty-five Conservative returns, and there are five contests between Radicals and the sitting Liberal members.

It is understood that upwards of £300,000 have been privately subscribed for the Atlantic Telegraph Company, and an appeal will probably be made to the public for £250,000, to complete the manufacture of new cables, with a view to another attempt at submerging them during the present season.

William Read, one of the heroes of Trafalgar, has just died at Waltham. Read was captain's consort and captain of the masted on board the *Agamemnon*, and was in that ship at the battle of Trafalgar, when the gallant Nelson fell, and he remembered seeing Captain Berry leave the ship to go aboard the *Victory* to see the dying hero in his last moments.

Credit is taken for the *Empress Eugenie* for not having been present at General Fleury's party when Theresa sang. The heroine of the *Aleazar* now finds the best salons open to her, and in the fashionable prints her movements are chronicled as carefully and respectfully as those of Mdlle. Patti, or any of the great musical artists.

The death is announced of Mr. Andrew Spottiswoode, lately the head of the house of Eyre and Spottiswoode, Queen's printers. He was M. P. for Colchester for a short time in 1831 as a Tory, but was unseated as holding a Government contract. He succeeded his uncle, Mr. Andrew Strahan, as Queen's printer in the same year.

The *Morning Herald* makes the following statement: "It is rumored in Parliamentary circles that Sir Hugh Rose has demanded further instructions from the Government with regard to his duty in Ireland. Sir Hugh says that he has the example of Governor Eyre before his eyes; that he knows how to put down a rebellion, but that he cannot act without further orders."

Queen Victoria is gradually returning to public life. She will hold during the season, at Buckingham Palace, five courts for the reception of a certain number of ladies and gentlemen—each reception being limited to two hundred and fifty, to avoid fatigue.

Messages were presented in both Houses of Parliament from the Queen, on the 20th, stating that provision had been made for the Princess Helena on her marriage, and Prince Alfred on his coming of age.

The Peruvian iron-clad corvette *Independencia*, which has been so long watched in the Scheldt at Antwerp, was allowed to put to sea on the 19th of February.

The London *News* makes the announcement that Generals Grant and Sherman will visit England in May next.

Prince Alfred is gazetted to the rank of captain in the royal navy.

In the House of Commons on the 22nd, Mr. Gladstone, in some appropriate remarks, proposed the granting of an annuity of six thousand pounds, and a dowry of thirty thousand pounds to the Princess Helena, upon her marriage, and an allowance of fifteen thousand pounds a year to Prince Alfred, the Queen's second son. Both propositions were agreed to.

Another proposal made by Mr. Gladstone was that a monument to Lord Palmerston should be erected in Westminster Abbey at the expense of the nation. Mr. Gladstone pronounced an eloquent and glowing eulogy on the late Premier. Mr. Disraeli seconded the motion, and also passed a short eulogium on the late minister. The motion was agreed to.

The bill to reorganize the government of Jamaica was passed to a second reading.

In the House of Commons on the 23rd Mr. Gladstone, in reply to Mr. Baxter, said that no communication had taken place with the United States regarding the propriety of sending a joint squadron to the coast of Cuba, for the purpose of preventing the importation of slaves into that island. There were communications between the two governments in 1864, with respect to the expediency of sending a small American squadron to the African coast, but the United States government expressed a wish that the vessels employed in the service should be released from the operations of the restrictions placed on the United States cruisers generally under the neutrality obligations. Her Majesty's government were prepared to assent to that proposal, on condition that the vessels so released should be employed exclusively in suppressing the slave trade; but the United States government declined to accede to that condition, and her Majesty's government being unable to waive it, no arrangement was come to.

The London *Shipping Gazette*, of February 20th, says "letters from Dublin, state that although the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* has taken the whole population by surprise, no persons were so much astonished at the proceedings of Saturday as the Americans who have infested Dublin for some weeks past. The

number of persons in custody appears to have been exaggerated. It was previously stated at two hundred and fifty, but later and more trustworthy advices from the Irish Capital affirm that there are one hundred and thirty under arrest.

In many cases the prisoners protested that they were mere victims of suspicion, and abjured Fenianism with considerable energy. Many more stood on their dignity and gravely cautioned their captors that the American citizen was not to be trifled with, and the President would exact a terrible revenge. Neither persuasion, expostulation, nor threats, saved the suspected. The news spread with extraordinary rapidity, and those fortunate strangers whose names were not on the list, or whose lodgings were unknown to the police, remained in cover until nightfall, when an unusual number of cabs were seen driving along the North Wall. The muffled passengers stopped nowhere, passed all their usual haunts, asked no questions, carried no luggage, and made all speed on board the Liverpool steamers. Fortunately for them, the police interposed no hindrance, and as the departing excursionists had suddenly forgotten their own rank and dignity, they did not receive any ovation from the crowd that looked on. Another detachment of Federal officers fled by the mail train to Cork, and these, in all probability, have already sailed by the Cunard steamer. But beyond doubt many are still secreted in Dublin, and i ever there is to be an outbreak, the suspension of the act must precipitate the action of the Fenian leaders.

According to one account no fewer than from 1,400 to 1,500 American officers took their departure on Saturday night by the Liverpool steamer. As the the Irish population forms a very strong proportion of the inhabitants of Liverpool, a good deal of uneasiness was created by this sudden and unexpected irruption.

The London *Times*, of February 19th, says there is reason for believing that small arms, of spurious manufacture, have been sold in extraordinary numbers by a firm in the city of London, and that a fresh consignment has been made to them. There is no question but that they have disposed of as many as eight thousand muskets of the kind mentioned, and have in their possession three thousand more barrels, supposed to be of American manufacture, and to have been originally fabricated for the Confederate service during the American civil war; but that is only conjecture.

The *Moniteur*, of February 16th, says that private letters from Rome to the 14th instant, announce the official rupture of relations of Prussia with the Pontifical Government. Cardinal Antonelli is said to have received a note from Prince Gortzhakoff, who refuses to disavow the language uttered by Baron De Neudorff in an audience he had with the Holy Father on the occasion of the Christmas festivities. Russia will merely retain an unrecognized agent at Rome.

It is stated that the advanced liberals in the Prussian Chambers had resolved to call on the government to withdraw a letter addressed to the Chamber by Count von Bismark, otherwise they will decline to discuss any future bills presented by the government.

Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department, in asking leave to bring in a bill suspending the Habeas Corpus act in Ireland, at a special meeting of Parliament held on the 17th, said that the Fenian conspiracy had only recently assumed its recent proportions. It was necessary to strike an effective blow at the Fenian schemes, which were wholly discontinued by the American government. The loyalty of the British army was beyond a doubt. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland earnestly requested the suspension of the act, saying that he could not hold himself responsible for the safety of the country if power were withheld from him.

Mr. Disraeli, leader of the Opposition, concurred in the remarks of Sir George Grey. Mr. Bright protested against the suspension of the act, but said he would not oppose the government. Leave was then given to suspend the Habeas Corpus act in Ireland by a vote of 364 to 6. The bill was then passed through all the stages and sent to the House of Lords, who likewise passed it without opposition. The royal assent was given to the measure at eleven o'clock the same night.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF BIG BEND.—The Toronto *Globe* of March 9th contains a long and favorable article on the Big Bend Digging. The San Francisco journals continue to give the reports from these mines a conspicuous place, and from passengers who arrived yesterday by the California, we gather that they were creating considerable excitement in California. Owing to the cheap rates of fare down to Portland and other causes, many preferred taking the more circuitous and in the end more expensive and tedious route up the Columbia River. Nevertheless the succeeding boats to this port will, it is thought, bring a good number of passengers.

which it is easy to walk, or in fast Stages.

running from San Francisco of passengers, by way of Fraser River, being under British Colonial Governments, charged are very low, and expeditiously, comfortably and by Victoria to the

on San Francisco to the Gold Mines will derive advantage by visiting the F VICTORIA. In Victoria supply themselves with require, free of duty, and cheaper than they can buy Victoria or Oregon.

Victoria, Big Bend, 473 Miles
Astoria via 752 Miles
Bend, 752 Miles

STATEMENT OF DISCOMPILED FROM OFFICERS.

Vancouver Island.
MILES
by steamer 80
Ferry, by stages 113
uswap Lake, by steamer 34
River, at a point 30
proposed head of navigation
Trail 20
by boats 473

via Portland.

MILES
..... 95
..... 110
..... 100
..... 210
where the Trail from
strikes the Columbia
..... 216
..... 72
to the Big Bend Mines
BY WAY OF VICTORIA
..... 20
..... 473

respecting the probability of Travelling from VICTORIA, have been compiled by well known British Columbia Stage Proprietor:

over the Wagon Road, and Beds through.

Dist. Time. Rates. Meals
175.....24 hrs.....\$4.....\$6
33.....24 hrs.....40.....\$ 6
20.....15 hrs.....10.....\$ 4

35.....18 hrs.....9
ours travelling, 81

Yale to Lake Kamloops, and at Wayside Houses.

Dist. Time. Rate. Meals
75.....24 hrs.....\$4.....\$6
33.....5 days.....20
20.....1 day.....10.....\$ 4
35.....2 days.....9

own Food on Steamer, From Yale to Lake Kamloops, and Provisions on the Steamer.

75.....24 hrs.....\$4.....\$6
33.....5 days.....5
20.....1 day.....10.....1 50
35.....2 days.....9

land, 1866. tel 5

of the Victoria Chamber

& Rueff,

MERCHANTS,

Wholesale Dealers

Provisions,

and Shoes.

VICTORIA, V. I.

use, Cariboo.

& CO'S.

Public will find them a House, and also at

and House,

MURPHY.)

ased. Comfortable Ac

ations,

Liquors, &c.

US.

UL & CO.

ml 14