

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST And Victoria Chronicle.

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### WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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**AGENTS.**  
S. D. Lewis, Victoria, B.C.  
H. D. Lewis, Victoria, B.C.  
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**Things Which ought to be Done by the People Themselves.**  
It is the peculiar province of the Anglo-Saxon race to grumble; there is a sort of safety-valve about the system that lets the steam escape in a good hearty growl, and for the time being we feel better for it. Akin to this habit of grumbling is the idiosyncrasy of throwing the blame upon others, which belongs perhaps to human nature, but more particularly to that large family of which we Anglo-Saxons are members; thus whilst on the one hand the people cast blame freely upon the Government under which they happen to live, if everything does not progress according to their desires; on the other hand, those in power are very apt to censure the conduct of the people, and blame them for failing to submit kindly to the settlement of affairs by those set over them. But we should never allow a habit or custom to hold our reason in confinement, and we must not forget, whilst attributing blame to the Government for shortcomings traceable only to those in power, and for evils which seem to lie at the door of those charged with carrying on the Government, that there are some public duties towards the commonwealth which are almost exclusively within the province of the people; many of these duties, it is true, are delegated by the people to Municipalities, which later are by some supposed really to be the people in a condensed form; how far this is correct, we leave it to the electors to say—if it be so, then in blaming the Municipality for any errors that they commit, we are in effect blaming the people themselves, and this is as it should be; for they are clearly not immaculate. We are very apt to forget, whilst in the midst of the enjoyment of a glorious summer, that there are any evils closely appertaining to the season which is in itself so thoroughly enjoyable; day after day of uninterrupted sunshine tempts us from our homes to wander for hours through the wild lovely country around us, each excursion presenting to our eyes scenes of beauty from which we return to our daily avocation, refreshed in mind and body, and too often unmindful that with all its many incentives to the healthy exercise of the human frame, the very brightness and beauty of the season brings with it a certain amount of evil, if not carefully guarded against. It is in this beautiful summer season that those who live in cities feel the great necessity for complete and perfect sanitary arrangements, and it is too frequently the case that the early settlers who build the first towns in a new country, in their haste to shelter themselves with houses, neglect these requirements of civilization, which at first might have easily been arranged, but which, if forgotten when the city is in its infancy, become year by year more difficult as they become more and more necessary. These sanitary arrangements are generally entrusted to Municipal officers by the people, but they are nevertheless, and ought to be in all well regulated communities

the special and direct care of the people themselves; prominent amongst them are the proper laying out and grading of towns, proper system of drainage, and an adequate water supply, and whilst the two first named can with propriety be left to the Municipality, diligence should be used in attending to them for it is much easier to provide and regulate them in the early days of a city, before buildings which are albeit oftentimes erroneously supposed to be landmarks, are erected. As regards an abundant supply of water, it seems to be the business of individual members of a community to take it in hand than for the Municipality to do so. Large undertakings, which may be likely to afford a profit to those who carry them out, can in general be managed in a more economical manner by Joint Stock Companies than by Municipal Corporations. The great objection of want of funds does not apply with equal force to the former as to the latter, for funds are invariably forthcoming for works which are necessary for the comfort and well being of a number of people; and when we consider that the cost of bringing into the town an abundant supply of water will be to-day but a tithe of what it may be some years hence, when property has very much increased in value. As a commercial venture, there ought to be less difficulty in raising capital for such a purpose now than at a future day. There can be no doubt that an abundant supply of water is essential to the comfort and health of those who are compelled to live in towns, and with such long day summers as ours, it must be admitted that there is more urgent necessity for such abundance and plenty; we must also seek for all the profits that can be obtained. Now from time to time this water question, for good reason, has forced itself into notice in Victoria, and has provoked discussion amongst those qualified to offer opinions on such things. Is it not most desirable that out of this discussion should grow up some resolution amongst the practical men of the city, which is admitted on all hands that there would be no real difficulty in bringing abundance of good water into the town. It would be well then if some of the citizens in whom the public could have confidence would form themselves into a committee with a view to inquire into the best means of bringing an ample supply of water into town, following up the inquiry by the formation of a company to undertake the work. Without looking solely to the immediate profit of our scheme, which might be approved, but more to its qualities of durability and abundant supply, we believe that there would be no difficulty in raising the capital necessary for the works. This is a matter in which every family is interested, every householder would gladly put his shoulder to the wheel, to assist in bringing abundance of water to his doors; if the whole of the capital were not at once subscribed amongst us; there would be no difficulty in procuring money elsewhere for such an object. The Government would no doubt be eager to render every assistance, by conferring powers upon a company formed as we have suggested, and the Municipality would also lend their aid; indeed it might be possible for the shareholders to be guaranteed a certain percentage which would put them beyond risk, always supposing that the Government in this instance, would show a readiness to perform their share in the work when the people have taken the initiative. Here it appears to us is a field for the exercise of practical philanthropy, which can be coupled in this particular case with utility, and may be combined also with profit and advantage to the projector. The matter is open for any private individual to take up, let us not then waste time in casting about for scapegoats to bear the blame for our present wants, but let us earnestly set about providing a remedy.

**The Lower Fraser Settlements.**  
Friday, Aug 28.  
We learn from the Rev. A. Browning, who has lately returned from visiting the district of New Westminster, that the farmers and others in that locality are hopeful and prosperous. On the Chilliwack the crops are very heavy and are being harvested in fine condition. Evans & Wells will gather 60 acres of fine grain, and Kip and Co. much more than that. The finest kind of Timothy is grown there, pressed and sent up country, finding at Yale a ready market. Other farmers than the above are also doing well, and new settlers are coming in. At the Sumas the farmers are doing well; Miller and the three Chadseys, McGilvray, and Hall are all doing a large stock and dairy business supplying New Westminster with splendid beef. The good butter of these settlements sells readily in New Westminster for 50 cents per pound, and if the island farmers do not look out they will find the Chilliwack and Sumas butter taking the lead in the Victoria market. The low bottom ground of the Fraser produces rich grass, in addition to which, many of the farmers keep only really choice cows. A hundred dollars is nothing unusual to hear a cow priced at. One was sold to Barnard on Wells' herd for ninety dollars, but that was because she had a short tail and could not brush away the mosquitoes! In these settlements the Wesleyans hold services at regular seasons, which are well attended, persons coming from a distance on horseback, a very pleasant mode of locomotion, on the wide open prairie. If the Government ever 'dike the Sumas,' thus keeping the low land from overflowing a vast settlement, fertile and healthy land will be opened to agriculture.

At Burrard Inlet, Moody's new steam mill is near completion. It is reported to be longer than Stamp's mill but not quite so wide. At Stamp's mill there were four vessels lying, which gives it quite a mercantile appearance. Mr. Andrew Smith, well-known in Victoria, is appointed foreman of this mill, and under his direction things may be expected to improve. Moody & Co. will soon have two mills working, and the progress of the mill, they will most certainly prosper. A brisk opposition is kept up by the stages running from New Westminster to Burrard Inlet; passengers are carried free, with, as one report saith, their meals over.

**THE PAME CIRCUS.**—This company gave their first performance last night to a crowded house, it being estimated there could not be less than eight hundred people present. The performance on the whole gave general satisfaction. Sticksay makes a good clown, and says some clever things. The Donovan brothers carry the honor of the entertainment for grace, agility, skill and drollery in their performances; and it is difficult to say in which they excel most, as acrobats, on the trapeze, or in the Big Head family. The horsemanship, we thought, was somewhat below the standard of what we have seen; the tent wants more light. There can be little doubt of the success of the company, during their short stay amongst us, and we can safely say all classes may visit the Paris Circus with pleasure and satisfaction. A performance will be given to-night with a change of programme.

**IMPORTANT DISCOVERY OF ANOTHER ANTHRACITE COAL MINE.**—From a gentleman who has lately returned from a pleasure cruise north, we are informed that a hunter whose name was not remembered—an ex-Sapper and Miner, has discovered a good vein of anthracite coal, about ten miles south of Nanaimo. The vein is said to be only a mile from the water of a well sheltered bay, in which vessels of any tonnage can anchor with perfect safety at all times. Our informant talked with the lucky finder of this coal and has no doubt of the truth of the statement. It appears also that some of the coal has been tried and found to be first class. The discoverer was engaged building a house on his property which will account for the circumstance, that some of the coal was not brought to town, but in a week or two we expect that five or six tons will be shipped here.

**NEWS FROM THE YALE EXAMINER.**—More goods have been forwarded up country during the past week than during any week of the year. The sum of \$414 had been collected, up to Monday, to be applied towards the Yale Agricultural Exhibition, which will be held on 17th September. The Rook Creek bed rock frame was finished and washing had commenced with satisfactory results—\$450 had been obtained from tailings. Forest fires appear to be making havoc of the timber through the country.

**The Dock.**—Some of our people imagine the proposed dock at Esquimalt will not answer the requirements of the country. They must recollect that it will be a hydraulic lift dock, the capacity of which, we are assured by a naval authority, is sufficient for any vessel as large as the Zealous. In that case it will be superior to any dock in San Francisco. The parties who have succeeded in carrying out this all-important undertaking have £130,000 in hand. It is supposed the dock will be ready for use in eighteen months. The site chosen, we believe, is that previously fixed upon—Constance Cove.

**GRIST MILL.**—Since the destruction of Gowen & Co's building by fire, people have asked, what is to become with the wheat of this season, as they supposed there was no other mill on the Island. This is not so. Bunter's mill was but very slightly damaged by the destruction of his brewery by fire, and with an expenditure of probably \$100 his mill can turn out fifty barrels a day. This will certainly obviate all difficulties when this season's grain comes to market.

**ALASKA.**—A Mr F. A. Crawford, writing to his father in Portland from Cape Opatsook, Alaska, July 10th and 19th, and who was on board the Russian ship which was wrecked on the coast, some 70 miles above Kodiak, on July 9th, says: the ship Torment was stove upon the rocks yesterday morning; officers and crew saved; lost everything I had; got into Kenoy Bay and cast anchor; the whole country around is a perfect pea bog. The boats start for Kodiak soon.—Oregonian.

**THE WHALING BUSINESS.**—Captain Roy experimented yesterday morning off Beacon Hill, with his improved whaling lance, when it appears that it penetrated the water to a very considerable depth, showing clearly that its former defects have been remedied, and that certain annihilation, awaits any of those deep sea monsters which should be come up with. Increased vigor, we are told, will be applied towards renewing and carrying on the whaling business.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.**  
Tuesday, August 25, 1868.  
Councillors present—Lewis, Allatt, Crump, Jeffrey and McKay.  
The annual report from the Fire Department was submitted to the Council.  
On motion, ordered to be received and filed. (Will shortly appear.)  
A communication from the Secretary of the Spring Ridge Water Works Company, applying for permission to make excavations on Yates and Government streets, read.  
On motion, permission was granted, subject to the supervision of the Street Committee.  
A communication from Messrs Drake & Co, Attorneys, relative to a sidewalk, read.  
On motion, ordered to be received and referred to the Street Committee, to report thereon at the next meeting of the Council.  
The application of Charles Gowen to erect a brewery on Yates street, read on 11th inst, was then considered.  
On motion, the application was granted, provided the expense of the proposed culvert does not exceed \$100, of which the Corporation will pay one half.  
The Finance Committee, on motion, were granted further time to report upon the account of John Jeffery.  
Councillor Lewis then moved that the Street Committee be instructed to draft a contract, and award the same to the lowest responsible bidder, for the construction of a wooden culvert to connect the View street drain with the brick culvert on Yates street, taking the same across Blanchard street.  
Council adjourned until Tuesday next, unless earlier convened by the Mayor.

**California.**  
SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 20.—Copies of Sacramento papers of to-day's date were received in this City via Vallejo at 11 o'clock A. M., to-day.  
A grand Union mass meeting, under the auspices of Freedmen's Defenders, will be held this evening at Platt's Hall, to rally the reminiscences of the State and District nominations. Hon. E. M. Field, Treasurer of the Democracy held a large meeting at Platt's Hall last evening, and was addressed by Mr Casserly and Judge Harry.  
In the suit for breach of promise, Ellen Byrne vs. Henry Saxtorph, the jury returned a verdict for plaintiff for \$1000.  
The Sisters of Mercy have volunteered to act as nurses in the small pox hospitals in this city. They have taken possession of one of the hospitals already.  
H. Wright has been fined \$500 by Judge Hoffman, for resisting the Internal Revenue officer.  
Henry Baker has sued the California Russian Fur Company for \$7500 for services as Secretary.  
This morning the steamer Commodore laden with 125 tons of wheat for this port was beached at Seal Point, about seven miles above Benicia, by being run into by two schooners. Her cargo is supposed to be badly damaged.  
John Lindroth has brought action against O. C. Dall, master of the steamer Sierra Nevada, for the recovery of \$5000 damage for alleged cruelty, by causing him to be ironed.  
The Bulletin publishes a lengthy letter from Secretary Browning, of the Department of the Interior, to Commissioner Wilson of the General Land Office, relative to the matter of lands on the route of the Southern Pacific Railroad; that railroad company having failed to designate its route in connection with the law. The order withholding certain lands from pre-emption and reserving them for railroad purposes has been revoked, and the land will be restored to pre-emption and homestead entry at an early day.  
Mining stocks continue to show an upward tendency.

**South America.**  
LISBON, Aug. 13.—The regular mail steamer from Rio Janeiro has arrived. A Ministerial crisis has taken place in Brazil. All the members of the Cabinet tendered their resignations to the Emperor. The Viscount Stabetary was summoned by the Emperor and directed to form a new Cabinet. When the steamer sailed the new Government had been completed, with Stabetary as Prime Minister, and was in successful operation.  
Lisbon, Aug. 14.—The Brazilian Cabinet is composed as follows: President and Minister of Finance, Viscount Itabardely; Minister of Foreign Affairs, Paranto; Minister of War, Marilabe; Minister of Public Works, Commerce and Agriculture, ———; Minister of Marine, Galegype; Minister of Justice, Alectar.  
The Rio newspapers print an account of a Paraguayan expedition against a couple of Brazilian ironclads. The boats of the Paraguayans were run off, and the project abandoned.

**Europe.**  
BRUSSELS, Aug. 13.—The Prince Royal Leopold Fernando is confined to his bed by illness, the result of which is doubtful.

**The Agricultural Exhibition.**  
EDITOR COLONIST.—Allow me to ask, through your journal, the Secretary of the 'Agricultural and Horticultural Society' to explain the principle on which he has constructed the list of prizes to be given at the show in October next. The principle observed in all previous shows held in this Colony, and the one followed in all other countries where Agricultural shows are held, is to give the highest premiums to the most valued exhibits—horse, cattle, &c. Why is this general rule departed from in the list of prizes advertised? There the highest prize is offered to the lowest interest in the Colony, the mere vegetable grower, an occupation followed here chiefly by Chinamen. Such an arrangement is anything but complimentary to our Agricultural and Horticultural interests, or the good sense of the promoters of this show.  
J. CLAYTON,  
Moss street Nursery.

**NOTICES.**  
JAMES GIBSON, of the firm of Messrs Gibbon & Co, has removed to the premises of Messrs Gibbon & Co, 111, 113, 115, 117, and 119, Queen street, and will continue to carry on the business as heretofore.

**MARRIED.**  
At the Cathedral, by the Bishop of Columbia, Julius F. E. son of the late George Engel, to Sarah Maria, only daughter of M. Thain, of Victoria.

**DIED.**  
19th inst, Alfred Adams, son of F. Adams, aged 3 months. Papers please copy.

At the Royal Hospital, of com., native of Scotland, aged 28.

**J. DURHAM,**  
Notary Public.

**MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**  
The Victoria, V.I.

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