

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 6.

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NO. 50.

## THE BRITISH COLONIST

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### AGENTS.

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### THE METCHOSIN ELECTION.

This event came off on Saturday, and resulted in the election of Dr. Ash, the close of the poll showing Dr. Ash 25 and Mr. Elliott 8. Many of the former gentleman's voters had promised to vote for Mr. Elliott, some even working for him up to the morning of the election; but the old free port screw was put on, and the "free and independent" had to do as their master or master's bade them. Some, indeed, to save a portion of their self-respect, refused to vote at all. Altogether there was the usually unscrupulous character about the free port contestants. One young gentleman from Wharf street went far enough to attempt to vote on his father's power of attorney; and would undoubtedly have done so, supported as he was by a Wharf street crowd, had not his vote been challenged and the oath presented. Dr. Ash's return was protested against on the ground that it was William Ash who had been proposed at the nomination, but John Ash who was elected—a fact which threw the hangers-on around Dr. Helmcken as well as the worthy doctor himself into a state of trepidation. The whole affair, however, passed off quietly, and short speeches were made at the close by both candidates. Being the first glimpse of sunshine the free port party have received throughout the present to them disastrous political year, they might well be excused for indulging in extravagant rejoicings. Small favors are thankfully received by the repeatedly defeated and the success at Metchosin which makes them no stronger than they were before—Mr. Burnaby resigned is a small favor indeed. When Falstaff courageously plunged his sword into the dead Percy he took elaborate pains to show that he was the victor in a deadly contest—our free port friends are successful emulators of the ludicrous Sir John, and are already blustering over that immense battle fought and won by twenty-five electors who have never yet dared to vote according to their inclinations. The election of Metchosin is over, and Dr. Helmcken's pocket borough has returned Dr. Helmcken's Esculapian candidate. We had hoped it would have been otherwise; but it appears that Metchosin to-day is still the Metchosin of old, with its twenty-five electoral sheep driven up by Shepherd Helmcken to the McKenzie shambles. Poor unfortunate creatures, many of them had promised, as we have shown, in an independent moment their support to the Tariff candidate, but they were obliged at the eleventh hour to drink bad whiskey and deep humiliation to the dregs, and vote for the *favilla* of the free port. Common schools and a duty on brandy smash may produce a change; in the meantime, we must acknowledge that the position of Metchosin is impregnable to union and tariff assault.

We seek not to inquire what peculiar pressure the Speaker of the House is able to put upon the unfortunate settlers, but of all mortifying punishments that which obliges a man to do what he himself acknowledges is fast driving him to beggary must be the most intolerable. Thanks, however, to the other farming districts, in conjunction with the city of Victoria, the sheep of Metchosin will be saved in spite of themselves and their pastoral guides. The political position of parties in the Assembly is the same now as it was before the election. The tariff members present the same impregnable phalanx.

There is one feature, however, in the late Metchosin contest which the people of Victoria, as well as the members of Assembly, will do well to bear in mind, and that is the nervous anxiety and active interest taken in it by the same free port individuals who tried during the last Victoria election, by twenty dollar pieces and gross intimidation to shake the purity and independence of our

citizens. These men have got their fingers burned once, and burned pretty severely; but it is evident they want another "scorching." They have been treated too mercifully by the victors, and like all small-minded people have attributed our forbearance to fear or weakness. It is clear it would have been more genuine mercy to have dealt with them summarily. While they have been using all the petty-minded and malignant instruments in the free-port laboratory to injure publicly and privately their opponents, the latter have treated their puerile efforts as the good-natured mastiff treats the snaps of the impotent cur. The cur, however, is growing, from this over-generous treatment, too great a political nuisance, and we shall have to administer to him, the ensuing session, a lashing that will send him back to his kennel howling as whipt cars invariably do.

The twenty-five free and independent sheep of Metchosin have got, thanks to the tricksters of the olden days, the privilege of sending two members to the House of Assembly, while Victoria, with its two hundred and forty tariff voters, can only send in four. This is a state of affairs that requires alteration. The inhabitants of the capital of Vancouver Island must possess a larger proportion of representatives, not on the grounds of any political expediency—for a general election to-morrow would send into the Assembly at least twelve tariff members out of the fifteen—but on the principles of justice.

In conclusion, we congratulate Dr. Helmcken on his success in retaining his dutiful flock in their primitive adherence and simplicity. We have scriptural authority for extolling good shepherds, and we are willing to extend our admiration to the clever and experienced workman, wherever he can be found, even though he have no finer element to manipulate than the potter's clay. The doctor, however, we are afraid will be no great gainer by his success. He has already had Mr. Burnaby as his obedient politician in the House; but both he and his cause were failures. Dr. Ash may not prove so narrow-minded as his predecessor, but we think he will be no more powerful acquisition to the remnant of the once free port party.

### THE BRIDGE RIVER MINES.

The report of Mr. Jamieson, the commander of the Government expedition sent to Bridge river, appears in Saturday's *Columbian*, introduced by the following letter:—

The Magistrate at Lillooet to the Hon. A. N. Birch.

LILLOOET, B. C., Oct. 10, 1865.

I enclose Mr. Jamieson's report with a specimen of gold found on Cadwallader's Creek.

The result of the expedition is regarded here as highly satisfactory. All the men composing the party have taken up claims and recorded them; and in addition I have recorded some twelve claims to-day.

I have the honor, &c.,  
(Signed) A. C. ELLIOT.

LILLOOET, Oct. 9th, 1865.  
Sir,—I have the honor to report for the information of His Honor the Officer Administering the Government, that the party sent out by you, on the part of the Government, and under my command to prospect for gold in that section of country lying between the Chilacosten and Bridge Rivers, have succeeded in finding gold in paying quantities at various points on the head waters of the latter stream.

The party left Lillooet on the 7th of August last, travelling by the way of Fraser River as far as Big Bar, from thence in a westerly course until Gallaher Creek was struck, the first point at which gold was found. This roundabout course was chosen from the fact that it was known that pack animals could be taken into the country by this route. John Gallaher (one of the party) having been here in the previous summer. As your report concerning our operations on this creek has already been published, it is unnecessary to say more on the subject here except to state my decided opinion, from evidence that will presently appear, that coarse gold in paying quantities will yet be found in the deep channel of this creek. Of course we could very easily have built a wheel to drive the pump, and thus put down a shaft in a regular form; but in doing so we should in all probability have spent all the time at our disposal (being strictly limited to two months) in prospecting a piece of ground, perhaps four feet by six feet. As it was now quite evident that the original channel was at a great depth, immediately after your departure we moved the camp about twelve miles down stream in order to try various other streams in that locality. The accompanying sketch will give an idea of the route travelled and the relative positions of the various streams on which gold has been found; nothing further than this is attempted in this sketch, the distances and bearings being merely guessed at, as the only instrument I had with me, a small pocket compass, was lost while only a few days out.

The next creek tried was that marked Clear Water; it is one of the branches of Tyaghtoa

or Gallaher Creek. Nothing of any consequence was found here except a few specks on the top of the ground. The next marked on the sketch is Gooseberry Creek, a small stream flowing nearly due west, and falling into the main stream nearly opposite the Clear Water. About a mile from the mouth of this creek some coarse gold was found in the bed rock, which in this instance proved to be soft and full of crevices; it was only a small spot, however, and although tried at various points nothing further of consequence was found. Enough, however, was found to prove that coarse gold is to be obtained in this section; and if it is anywhere it is most likely to be found in the deep original channel of the main stream.

I now determined to cross Bridge River and get on to the South Fork and its tributaries where, I was assured by one of the party, (E. Cadwallader) who had been there before, that much better prospects would be found. It was near the end of September, before we got to the place where the best prospect was found on this side of the river, having had literally to cut our way nearly all the distance through a mass of fallen timber and underbrush with which the whole face of the country is covered. The streams also were greatly swollen from recent rains which had fallen almost incessantly for some eight or ten days, thus preventing us from prospecting, and rendering it dangerous in some instances to cross the creeks.

It was thus that by the time we got to the place where we intended to operate it was almost time to turn round and go back. However having found a place that satisfied me would pay, and in order to test it as thoroughly as circumstances would permit, I had a couple of sluice-boxes made and set the men to work to wash as much of the dirt as possible in the short time that we had at our disposal. In the meantime I, in company with Cadwallader visited various other branches of the same stream, finding gold, more or less, wherever it was tried.

The bed-rock in this part of the country is of precisely the same kind of slate as that found on Williams Creek in Cariboo, and from the general appearance of these creeks, will be found at no greater depth than from three to ten feet. The facilities for working these streams could not be better, as they have plenty of fall, abundance of water and any quantity of excellent timber near at hand.

Numerous veins of quartz of good appearance may be seen all over this section; some as much as four feet in thickness.

On our return to camp I found that the amount of work done did not much exceed one half day's work for one man with the proper facilities, the men having had to throw the dirt from the one to the other in order to reach the boxes, and as there were only two boxes used, a great deal of the gold must necessarily have been lost; yet notwithstanding all this, nine dollars (\$9) of coarse gold was washed out, taken entirely from about three feet in depth of the top gravel. The bed-rock at this point was hard and smooth, and consequently but little was found on it. At other places, however, in the same vicinity where the rock is soft, as much as three bits (37½c.) to the pan has been found.

Being thus fully satisfied that good paying diggings had at last been found, and our time having expired, we at once returned home with all possible speed reaching Lillooet on the 8th inst. On our return home, we camped at the mouth of a large creek, marked Gun Creek on the sketch; it falls into Bridge river some ten or fifteen miles below the South Fork, and on the opposite side. I washed several pansful of the top gravel at various places on the bars of this creek, and am fully satisfied that from \$5 to \$8 per day can be made here by using quicksilver in sluices.

The shortest and best way to get at these mines is unquestionably by following the main stream of Bridge River.

I have the honor, &c.,  
(Signed) ANDREW T. JAMIESON.

FREIGHT TO SAN FRANCISCO—The bark Domingo, placed by her agents, Messrs. Pickett & Co., on the berth for San Francisco, will leave in the course of the week, with about 300 tons of freight, for San Francisco, consisting of liquors, oil, cranberries, deer skins, iron, steel, and sundry merchandise.

BRIDGE RIVER MINES.—Mr. Jamieson's official report on the new diggings discovered on Bridge River appears in its entirety in another column. The report is very moderately written and not calculated to cause so great an excitement as was anticipated. Those who know Mr. Jamieson say that implicit reliance can be placed on his statements.

KILLED.—Among the victims of the recent explosion of the steamer Yosemite, on the Sacramento river, was Mr. J. E. Myers, a rising young comedian, well known in Victoria.

## TELEGRAPHIC.

(By dispatches to the Oregonian.)

### CALIFORNIA.

FURTHER ABOUT THE EXPLOSION OF THE YOSEMITE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14.—The wreck of the Yosemite has been towed down to this city and is now lying at the Potrero. The cause of the explosion is a mystery. The evidence before the Coroner, at Rio Vista, yesterday, was abundant and positive to the effect that there was no lack of water in the boiler. The gauge cocks had been tried less than two minutes before the explosion, and showed four full cocks of water in the boiler, which would leave from 25 to 30 inches above the fire. The safety valve was blowing off steam under a pressure of 25 pounds. The Yosemite register allowed 35 pounds. The steamer had been detained from five to seven minutes at the landing. The only reason for the explosion, that the engineer is able to give, is that there was some concealed defect in the iron which could not be discovered by an examination of the boiler. Of one thing both the engineer and other officers of the boat are satisfied, and that is: the unsoundness of the theory that boiler explosions are always owing to a lack of water, for there can be no doubt that there was an abundance of water in the boiler of the Yosemite at the time of the explosion. The theory advanced in the report sent from Sacramento yesterday, that the explosion was caused by listing of the boat, which threw the water too much on one side of the boiler, is scouted as absurd by the officers, who, like the engineer, can only account for the catastrophe on the supposition that there was some hidden imperfection in the iron.

The following is a list of killed and missing: William Stephenson, J. M. Fallon, John E. Myers, T. Major, W. S. Sutherland, Louis Lillie, H. Rounberger, David Barratt, Marcus Champion, of Rio Vista; Henry Bethel, of Fort Churchill; C. C. Jacks, of San Francisco; Charles Lewis Smith, Henry M. Dakin, Isaac Harris, Minor Moore, Patrick Crowell, J. H. Barnes, M. M. McCreary, of Sacramento; Joe. Butler, cook; G. W. Seaton, Senator elect of Amador county; George L. Smith, of Boston; Wm. Rodgers, Ar. Ole, a Chinaman employed on the boat; twenty-nine other Chinamen and one China woman were taken from the wreck yesterday morning. A Leander, of Virginia City; two Chinamen. These are the only passengers known to be missing, but it is thought that others may have been blown into the water and drowned. Mr. Seaton made his will on board the Cryopolis; Wm. Wilkinson, deck boy, badly scalded and injured; S. M. Craig, Clerk of the steamer, slightly scalded; Captain E. A. Poole, of the steamer, was thrown from the boiler deck forward, to the end of the main deck and received no injury; S. Hase, of Sacramento City, was cut in the face; A. Pinkhausen, of San Francisco, badly scalded and wrist broken; J. W. Haskin, blown into the river and swam to the opposite shore, slight concussion; G. W. Baisin, of Sacramento, badly scalded; E. L. Hastings, slightly scalded; G. Christy, leg broken and badly scalded; John Ramsay, of Sacramento, scalded on the back of head; Jimmy Griffiths, slightly cut in the head and a scald in the leg; C. Wilkins, of Sacramento, scalded; Wm. Rogers, killed; three white men killed, names unknown; J. Weskawisky, of Virginia, scalded; E. Jacobs, Sacramento, foot broken; Cooper, messenger of Wells, Fargo & Co., was blown to the opposite shore and returned uninjured; Michael Chancy was very badly scalded; Captain W. Campbell, badly bruised; Wm. Sharon, President Branch Bank of California, Virginia City, slightly injured; Capt. Ager, San Francisco, badly bruised; L. J. Chase, leg broken and scalded; Peter Burke, cook, badly scalded; Geo. Bowers of Chatlestin, badly scalded; Jansen, of Jansen, Bond & Co., scalded and ankle slightly injured; Robert Barlsipe, engineer of the Yosemite, badly scalded.

It will probably take a month to repair the Yosemite so that she can resume her trips on the river. The expense of her repairing will doubtless amount to \$20,000.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 15th.—Our city is again in mourning. Flags are at half mast all over the town. To-day will be given up almost exclusively to paying the last sad honors to the departed. The bodies of Stevenson, Jacks, Leslie, Dakin, Sutherland, Bauer, Champion, Regensburger, Mayer and others, are at Grays, Those of Senator Seaton, the boy Johnson and Henry Regensberger have been taken to their late residences, and the bodies of Fallon and Major, are at Massey's. The bodies of J. H. Barnes and Mr. Kelly were brought down by the Antelope last evening.

Since the above was written, we learn that the body marked C. C. Jacks, is that of Henry Bethel. The mistake arose

from the fact that Mr. Jacks had just handed his drinking flask, marked with his name to Mr. Barnes, and the flask was found in his hand. The body of Mr. Jacks has been sent to Napa for burial. The funeral will take place to-day. The remains of Mr. Butler will be buried to-day by the masonic fraternity.

There was another very slight earthquake at half past 11 o'clock last night; and quite a smart one at five o'clock this morning.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 19.—The following was the result of the election in this city yesterday: the total number of votes polled was 11,051, being 2,375 less than were cast at the September election. Sanderson has 465 majority over Heartley; Dwinette, Independent, 784 majority over Clement, Union; Sherard, 248 over Bryan, Democrat.

The Democrats elected four out of six Justices of the Peace. Partial returns are received from 22 counties, in all of which Sanderson has a majority, except in Calaveras and Sonoma, leaving him 4,120 ahead.

The sum of \$920 was contributed to the Benevolent Society at yesterday's election.

The funeral of Gen. and Mrs. Wright, will take place on Saturday, the 21st inst., instead of Friday, as heretofore announced.

The eclipse of the sun occurred this morning as predicted.

A. P. Johnson, photographer, pleaded guilty to the charge of misdemeanor in taking obscene photographs, and will be sentenced to-morrow.

Depression in mining stocks continues and a further heavy decline took place to-day. There were sales of \$15,000 legal tenders at 7½c.

### MARKETS.

Butter, 1sthus sold at 20¢42½c.  
Flour—An active home trade and export at \$6 75, and \$7 for standard in quarter sacks, and \$6 50 for superfine.

Wheat—Steady sales; 2035 sacks choice at \$2; 150 do. No. 1 at \$1 92½; 700 at \$1 95; 162 No. 2, at \$1 92½, and 1000 chicken gunnies coast for \$1 75.

Barley—A brisk demand prevails, in part for export. Sales include 13,000 sacks prime for export to Peru by British ship Monatoc, 50,000 at 65¢@71¢; 3000 do. for feed in lots to trade at 90c.

Oats—Sales, 120 sks inferior at \$1 32½ @1 45, and 700 fair to prime at \$1 40@1 42½.

Hay—\$15@14 50 per ton.

### SHIPPING.

Cleared—Bark Florence, Port Angelos; ship Orpheus, Hong Kong.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

#### CARIBOO.

We have the *Sentinel* of October 14th, from which we extract the following:

GOLD YIELD OF CARIBOO FOR THE SEASON.

The following statement shows the amount of gold produced from the Cariboo mines during the past season:—

Amount exported by the Banks from 1st June to 7th October,	\$889,000
Amount purchased by the Banks from 7th to 15th October,	70,000
Amount exported by merchants, traders and packers,	100,000
Amount taken away by miners themselves,*	350,000
Lodged in the Banks on special deposit and in the hands of miners,	500,000

Total for 4½ months, \$1,900,000

\*Two companies alone had \$190,000.

Several miners have returned from Old Dominion creek, and report favorably. Mr. Hilton, of the Aurora claim, says wages may be made on it. He has left a party of men to prospect it thoroughly.

The Williams Creek Quartz Company have sunk 16 feet on their ledge, which is now 8 feet thick. They have sent a ton of rock to San Francisco for assay, and intend to work all winter.

G. Fulton's house was robbed on the 13th and \$200 with promissory notes for \$3000 to \$5000 carried off. The thieves are believed to have been Chinamen.

Judge Cox has received a letter from Governor Seymour from San Francisco, stating that he had purchased and forwarded a valuable collection of standard works for the Camerontown library.

The *Sentinel* says Mr. Munro, the contractor for the Van Winkle road has let in his workmen for \$7000 to \$10,000, and the merchants for \$4000 to \$5000; and that he gave bills of sale of all his tools to three individuals. (Munro has since been lodged in gaol at New Westminster.)

Mr. Gentile is still taking photographic views on Williams creek.

There will be only one mail and express per month to Cariboo during the coming winter. The *Sentinel* compliments Mr. Barnard and Messrs. Humphreys, Poole, and Johnson, the expressmen, on the manner in which they have carried out their contracts.

Hon. G. A. Walkem made the liberal donation of \$150 to the Cariboo Hospital before leaving Williams creek.

Mr. John Evans is out with his address to the electors of Cariboo West. He takes strong ground in favor of union and against the Gold Tax and Road Tolls; also advocates the reconstruction of the tariff.

The removal of the post-office to Barkerville from Ricfield is looked upon as a great public convenience.

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