

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

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## THE BRITISH COLONIST

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## THE WEEKLY COLONIST

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By the Proprietor, J. H. B. B. B.

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G. Street, 30 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 16 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 respected, the probability of Travelling from VICTORIA, have been compiled by well known British Columbia Stage Proprietor:

## TELEGRAPHIC

By the arrival of the California, we have files of San Francisco papers to the 7th, kindly supplied us by Furber 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 long seas the Monadnock took very little water, rising over waves easily and buoyantly.

**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.

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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 coming 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 theories of the 'Great West,' 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 of 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.'

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

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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.

**MEXICAN NEWS.**  
New York, April 4.—Arrives 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.

**CANADA.**  
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. Dora Killian, consisting of three steamers, with 5,000 men has sailed from New York for New Brunswick, and another report gives Honduras as its destination. It is believed that General Sweeney 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 Fenian movement.

**EUROPEAN NEWS SUMMARY.**  
The number of wrecks reported last week was 43, which makes the total for the present year 126.

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The cholera still prevails in Southern Russia, where the 'midness 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.

**THE LONDON SHIPPING GAZETTE.**  
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

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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 between one hundred and twenty and one hundred and thirty under arrest.

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