

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

## And Victoria Chronicle.

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**WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST**  
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**AGENTS:**  
B. B. Barnard, Victoria  
S. H. H. H., Vancouver  
G. G. G., Seattle  
H. H. H., Portland

**Concentration of Departments.**  
We have frequently been urged by our correspondents and readers, to call attention to the necessity of concentrating the departments of the Government so as to reduce the number of heads, and we have been told on the other hand that it is useless to moot the subject under such a system of Government as ours; no good will come of it, say the croakers; no notice will be taken of the wishes of the people. Be this as it may, public journalists have a duty to perform, and they must not relax in their efforts for the public weal; it is no pleasant task to find fault, but it would be criminal to be silent when good may be done by notice being taken of what is amiss. We are well aware that other influence must be brought to bear than that of newspaper writers, who are but the mouth-piece of public opinion. It is scarcely possible that daily examples of laxity, and want of energy in work, will be without their evil effect throughout the whole public service, and how is it possible that taxpayers can be satisfied when they see the time for which they are paying frittered away in idleness, but it is useless to talk of the subordinates so long as the chiefs take no interest in their work, and until we have a Governor who will set the example, we shall get very few heads of departments to work with energy. There would be some satisfaction in it if the Governor would only keep up the appearance of doing something for us, by a regular daily attendance at the Government Office. So long as we have a well paid Executive we are entitled to some work in return. Let the Governor be the actual head of all administrative departments and there ought to be some chance of the governmental business being properly performed; there can be no reason that the Governor should not do the whole of the work usually performed by a Colonial Secretary, without being overburdened, with toll; a Private Secretary he has give him a clerk who can write the ordinary letters to the full as well as a gentleman drawing \$700 a year, and he has an all-sufficient staff for the requirements of the Colony. How much more likely would the Governor be to win the esteem and confidence of the public, if he were to take an active part in working the Governmental machine? He would be brought more into contact with the people, and would, at the same time, show that the will and intention was good; and the absence of any brilliant statesmanship would be forgotten in admiration for his energy and spirit for work. In order to carry out such a change in the present system of things thoroughly, it would be necessary to abolish the office of Colonial Secretary—a subordinate who has been allowed too much control can always give considerable trouble to a principal who wishes either to see the work well done or to do it himself. The Governor would be much more free to act and much more likely to know the wants of the Colony, if he had

fewer officials under him—and those few active and energetic men. One comptroller of public expenditure charged with the duty of checking the disbursements in the different departments, as well as being bound to see that the public money was applied according to the votes, would be able to exercise a supervision over all the public offices; we would then be able to dispense with the services of these heads of departments who are really drones in the hive. Let the Comptroller have a good salary, and give him administrative rank next to the Governor; but let him be a good working man, not only a good accountant and an energetic man of business, but strictly straightforward in his dealings; not seeking popularity with soft words, whilst his deeds show his own aggrandisement and comfort are his chief objects in life. Thus, to begin with, we should have a considerable reduction, by getting a working Governor; with less pay who would be his own Colonial Secretary, and a Comptroller who would discharge the offices of Auditor and Treasurer as well. We shall follow up this subject by showing how other reductions may be made, with real advantage, so far as despatch of business is concerned, and effecting a great saving in the annual expenditure.

**DEATH OF A FORMER VICTORIA EDITOR.**—Mr. Henry C. Williston, one of the editors of *The New York Commercial*, died June 20th, in Brooklyn, N.Y., at the age of forty. He was born in Syracuse, and came to New York when a youth. His father was proprietor of the *Merchant's Hotel*, in Pearl st., and subsequently of the *York House*, in Courtland st. He was educated at Prof. Anthony's school. At an early age he turned his attention to journalism, and, for a short time, was one of the *Tribune's* contributors. He and the *Pacific Ocean*, as the title of James King's newspaper, in San Francisco, whose publication resulted in the formation of the *Vigilance Committee*, and was the editor of the *Victoria Gazette*, the first paper established in this city, in 1858. As the writer of "Timely Themes" he added materially to his literary reputation.

**EXTRAORDINARY EXCITEMENT.**—A very important discovery of gold has been made on Peterson creek by Mr. John Kennedy. The Discovery claim (of which Mr. Kennedy is sole proprietor), is situated on a bench opposite the mouth of Basford creek. The prospects are undoubtedly bona fide and of such a character that their equal in richness in all probability has not been struck in the Colony since the discovery of William creek. Claims have been staked off on the main creek for about three miles, and also on some of its tributaries. This discovery will open up a large and long neglected auriferous district and give employment to our surplus population. **Sentinel.**

**ROCK CREEK.**—There are about fifty men, whites and Chinese, at Rock Creek, engaged in mining, and doing well. A company had been busy making a bed-rock flume, and would have it finished in a few days. The miners would then have a plentiful supply of water, and it was believed that the claims under this new condition would prove very remunerative. There were a few white men working at Similkameen, making \$4 and \$5 a day. There are plenty of diggings which will pay to that extent. Several Chinamen are also mining there. One company was making \$7 a day to the head.

**WARREN.**—A party of persons lighted a fire the other night at Rose Bank, opposite Esquimalt. It was quite late when the fire was seen from Esquimalt, and a boatman thinking the party had been on a pleasure trip and come to grief, went over very generously to their assistance. On reaching the shore the parties shouted at him and ran into the woods to avoid being recognised. The boatman says he does not think he shall turn out again at midnight to relieve anyone, and thus the really needy may some day suffer. Such jokes are puerile. **Sentinel.**

**CARIBOO.**—New Strike.—The *Sentinel* publishes reports of three rich strikes in Cariboo. The first was on Willow river at the foot of Red Gulch, the Madocoo at the depth of 102 feet found as high as \$150 to the pan on the bed rock. The second strike was on Stout Gulch on the flat above the Muebo Oro, by the Jim & Joe ed. The last strike is on Peters Creek, by a company of men working on a bench. It is said that they got 9 ozs in a space of ground not two yards square, on bedrock. Jack Fogarty, one of the party, was in Barkerville exhibiting the dust, one piece alone weighing 2 ozs.

**FIRES.**—About 10 o'clock last night the alarm of fire was given, but after running round the streets, the firemen concluded the alarm was false. There was however a narrow escape of a very serious fire. In burning some rubbish on Mr. Tiedeman's ground during the earlier part of the day, important care was not taken to extinguish the fire, and shortly before the alarm was given, it burst out anew with great violence and spread rapidly towards the house, but by the aid of neighbors was subdued without any material damage.

**OPPOSITION.**—Rumor gives it that an opposition boat is to be put on the Sound against the *Eliza Anderson*. Parties from Portland, it is said, contemplate running the steamer *Hunt*. If the opposition is received upon, she will make her appearance of course, in a short time.

**SHIP BRANDER.**—This vessel hauled up to Sproot & Co's wharf yesterday morning for repairs. She will be hove down to ascertain the repairs required; the extent of which at present no opinion can be formed.

**Bankruptcy Court.**  
(Before Chief Justice Neoham.)  
Wednesday, 12th Aug, 1868.  
In the matter of *George Hall*—Dr Tuzo appeared in obedience to a summons issued by Mr Bishop, acting for one of the creditors, under this bankruptcy, and produced deeds of section XX, Lake District, which had been mortgaged by Mason & Balls to Dr. Tuzo, and had been sold by that gentleman in June 1867, for \$1245, the amount owing on the mortgage being \$600. Dr Tuzo held of said property to secure \$1000, this security had been given shortly before the bankruptcy. Mr Sebright Green, on behalf of the assignees, supported Mr Bishop in claiming any balance of the purchase money that might remain after payment of the first mortgage. Dr Tuzo consented to leave the question of the validity of the second mortgage to the Chief Justice. It was stated that if the brick buildings on Rao street belonging to this estate could be sold for \$750, there might be a dividend of fifty cents on the dollar for the creditors, if Dr Tuzo gave up his claim on the second mortgage and came in as a creditor. Dr Tuzo having proposed to make an offer for the brick buildings, the case was postponed for a fortnight in order if possible to effect some arrangement.

**Municipal Council.**  
Tuesday, 11th Aug, 1868.  
Present—Councillors Allatt, Crump, Gibbs Jeffrey, and McKay.  
The minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.  
Communication from L Lowenberg explanatory of a previous communication was read. On motion ordered to be laid on the table.  
Communication from the Colonial Secretary in relation to the Municipal POUND By-law, with enclosure, read. On motion, the Mayor was requested to reply to said communication.  
Communication from the committee of the Victoria Turn Verein, applying for permission to remove their gymnasium to the vacant lot belonging to Mrs Blinckhorn at the corner of Yates and Broad streets. On motion permission granted.  
On motion a further sum of \$250 was voted to Mr George Stelly on the balance of his account of \$500 was ordered to be paid.  
On motion the Council adjourned till Tuesday next, unless previously convened by the Mayor.

**Row among Nevada Miners—Smoking Out the Enemy—One Life Lost.**  
AUSTIN, Nev., July 13, 1868.  
For several days past the Buel North Star and Plymouth mines have been drifting towards each other. They broke through day before yesterday, when, as near as can be ascertained from the rumors, the Buel North Star men drove the Plymouth men from the drift, threatening violence, and barricaded it. The Plymouth men then put in a heavy blast and blew the barricade out. Yesterday morning Plymouth built a fire. It is removed, but contradicted by them, that they used coal oil, brimstone, coal tar, pepper, etc., to keep the other party out. The Plymouth men commenced raising water, and when they got it to the surface let it fall back a distance of 200 feet, thus forcing smoke up through the Buel North Star mine. The Buel North Star men then went down their incline through the dense smoke for the purpose of rigging a fan to force the smoke back into Plymouth. The density of the smoke soon drove them out, with the exception of George Cook, foreman. It is supposed he lost his way. As soon as the fact was known that Cook was lost, the Plymouth men commenced pulling out the fire, but Cook was not found until late yesterday afternoon, when life was quite extinct. Three other men are dangerously ill from the effects of the smoke.  
A Coroner's inquest is now being held on the body of Cook. It will not be concluded until to-morrow.

ing Intelligence.  
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.  
ENTERED  
Five, Floyd, Portland  
for San Francisco  
by Perkins, Portland  
CLEARED.  
Five, Ford, Nansimo  
for San Francisco  
by Perkins, Portland  
Five, West Coast V  
Anderson, Finch Port Townsend  
son, Port Townsend  
PORT TOWNSEND, W. T.  
vessels have entered since last  
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at Gambie for Tahiti; steamer  
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tus, to be used in getting of the  
Revere, cleared for San Fran-  
PASSENGERS.  
RIGHT from Portland—M O P Ferry,  
A P Denison, Mrs A P Denison and  
Mrs J Kamm and boy, Rev O G Bar-  
O Pedergast, Mr Veheyden, Lieut  
P C Richts, Denis Harman, O P Gar-  
COSEY, from Portland—J Millarworth,  
on San Francisco—B Brodrick, O G  
Graham, F F Hastings, O Homan  
son, Charles Waters, Dr J B Yrge,  
McQuade, Miss Reymont, Miss Jay  
Graham, Geo Round, Mrs Har-  
M Dyer, J Greenbaum, Jas Sher-  
Solomon, Samuel Montgomery, Miss  
L P Fisher, Mrs J B Yrge, Mrs  
Hudson & Menet, Mrs J B Yrge, Mrs  
G. Algar, Mrs J B Yrge, Mrs J B Yrge,  
G. Street.

ika, per steamship Pacific, from  
Major-Gen. Hallock and wife,  
Alexander, Col R Sott, Col  
Col Sprague and Clerk, E  
Mrs J H Kinkaid, Mrs Le-  
CONSIGNEES.  
RIGHT from Portland—S N, J, D, W,  
H, P, J, R.  
SBY—W & L, H A W, Calhoun,  
PACIFIC, from San Francisco  
H B Co, Kwong, Lee & Co,  
L & B Wertheimer, J G  
Soon & Co, J G Muir, J Blum  
is, Mrs McQuade, Greily & Fit-  
Bros, J Greenbaum & Co, S M  
R, T Well, Noltmer Bros, R  
T Shocholt, J Welcker, W F  
Anderson, Order.  
NDERSON, from Puget Sound  
B B Co J Murray, T James;  
IMPORTS  
RIGHT from Portland—270 sos flour, 5  
net, 47 do oats, 23 sos hard, 138 do  
1 horse and buggy.  
SBY, from Portland—55 aks wheat,  
Anderson, from Puget Sound—  
2 h'd cattle 51 sheep 20 rams,  
furs, 60 sheep, 25 bols flour  
WARRIED.  
on the 5th day of August, at the Cath-  
by the Lord Bishop of Columbia,  
Johnston, Esq, son of the late Adam  
Millinow, Servicshire, N. B., to  
his daughter of the late George Leg-  
ford, Surrey.

rd's Express.  
Agency and irregularity of Steam Com-  
munication between  
AND SAN FRANCISCO  
made arrangements with  
FARGO & CO's  
of our Letters and Express  
Package to Port  
to Portland, Weekly  
two to three weeks will thus be  
Denoncy of Letters to  
EASTERN STATES, EUROPE  
AND CANADA.  
WELLS, FARGO & CO.  
Territory per 1/2 oz. 25 Cents  
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ANCE AGENCY.  
Insurance Company, San Francisco.  
Insurance Company, London.  
agow Assurance Company, Glasgow  
of Premium, apply to  
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