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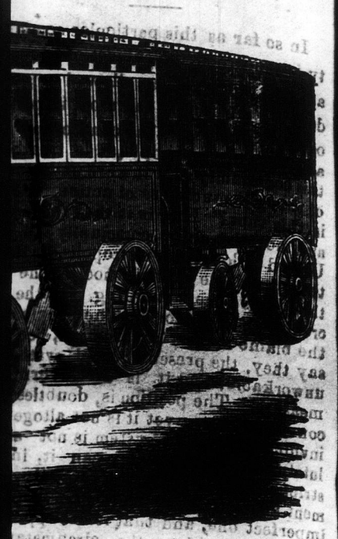

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EDY, Managers.

PASSENGERS
amer Olympia—Mrs Lampin and daughter, Miss
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n, Mr Patton, Mrs Beatty, R McDonald, Wm
y Cotter and wife, C Wood, L Wood, Blinn, Morris,
, W Webster, Baron Rathschild and 45 others
amer ISABEL, from Puget Sound. Miss Cole, Mrs
Miss Chisholm, Mrs Richardson, Messrs Burton,
, Jones, McCobbs, Jackson, Ames, Seblett, Bird,
O'Rich, Kelley, Clark, Owen, Holmes, Johnson,
and 20 others.

BIRTH
this city, on the 28th inst, the wife of Mr Thos J
erg of a son.

DIED
the 1st inst, John Gordon McKay, aged 50 years.
this city, on the 30th inst, Sister Mary Ann, of St.
Convent.

Thomas Shotbolt.
hemist & Druggist,
JOHNSON STREET.
Thomas Shotbolt.
MANUFACTURER OF
da Water, Lemonade, Gin-
ger Beer & Syrup,
ERATED WATER WORKS,
w Cor Cook and Yates street, Victoria.

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of Stages,
ARIBOO!
this Line are now
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F. J. BARNARD.
Fargo & Co.'s. mh31

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BIA EXPRESS,
Wells, Fargo & Co.)
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COLLECTIONS,
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F. J. BARNARD.
Wells, Fargo & Co.'s. mh3

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

VOL 12. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1871. NO 18

THE BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED DAILY BY
DAVID W. HIGGINS
TERMS:
One Year, (in advance) $10 00
Six Months, do 5 00
Three Months do 2 50
One Week 0 25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY MORNING,
TERMS:
One Year $5 00
Six Months 3 00
Three Months 2 00
One Week 12½
PAYABLE INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.
OFFICE—Colonist Building, Government Street, Victoria.

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NEWS! NEWS

The "British Colonist" is the only Newspaper published at Victoria that receives the Latest Telegraphic Dispatches. Having, consequently, the largest circulation, its value as an Advertising Medium is apparent.

Naturalization Made Easy.

It will be seen by reference to our Dominion Mail Summary that Mr Cameron, member of the Canadian House of Commons for Huron, has introduced a Bill which proposes to confer the right of citizenship on all persons residing in the country previous to Confederation, or who shall take the oath of allegiance. This is a measure of considerable importance to British Columbia, regarded as a Province of the Dominion. The entire population of this colony, exclusive of Indians, is probably about one thousand persons. Of that number probably one-third are aliens. If the measure introduced into the Dominion Parliament should pass into law, it is presumable that it would have the effect of conferring the right of citizenship upon all who might be resident in the colony at the time of the proclamation of its admission into the Union; and it would further enable all to become British subjects by simply taking the oath of allegiance. So far as the former principle is concerned, we find it recognized by our powerful neighbor. Whenever a Territory of the Union is received as a State all residents become entitled to the right of citizenship. We will say at once that, in so far as British Columbia is concerned, we think such a provision would not only be proper but eminently desirable. As has been said, no inconsiderable proportion of the present population is composed of foreigners. Many of these are amongst our most enterprising and substantial merchants, traders, miners, farmers, mechanics, and it would be an act of gross injustice and a wise act to offer to such the rights of citizenship, upon the colony becoming a Province of the Dominion. Of course it would be altogether optional with such whether or not they would avail themselves of the offer; but to make it would be a nice recognition of the important part they have acted in opening up and developing the country. If the subject were one which could be dealt with by the local legislature, we would recommend the enactment of such a law; but, inasmuch as this is one of a class of subjects falling within the scope of Federal functions, we should be glad to see that part of Mr Cameron's Bill become law, so far as the other provinces are concerned, we are disposed to regard its introduction into this colony with doubt and distrust. We have said that the Dominion cannot afford to be less liberal in this matter than her neighbor. Neither, perhaps, can she afford to be more liberal. It is very probable that no danger need be apprehended in the older and more thickly settled Provinces from a provision enabling foreigners to be suddenly transformed into British subjects without any condition as to residence; but it is highly questionable whether such an arrangement might not be fraught with danger to this colony, and very probably to Manitoba and the Provinces yet to be formed out of the Northwest Territory. The proximity of British Columbia to the United States, the paucity of its population and its liability at any moment to be overrun by a foreign element would seem rather to point out the imprudence of such a measure. With an electoral franchise requiring little beyond mere citizenship it would scarcely appear to be desirable that a floating population, here to-day and away to-morrow, should be enabled to vote at and, in some districts, possibly carry our elections. In this respect, we do not see why we should be any more liberal than our neighbor. There are not wanting reasons why we should *not* be more liberal just yet.

Tuesday, April 11.

The French Situation.

God help France! for, in her madness, she would really seem determined to place herself beyond the help of man. Paris has suffered more from her own citizens than she did at the hands of a foreign enemy. Those who made but a poor attempt to protect her against an invading army appear bent upon destroying what the Germans left. Led on by a fanatical foreigner, they are perpetrating the foulest and most cowardly outrages in the name of patriotism. The news conveyed in our Exclusive Dispatch last night bears a slightly more encouraging complexion. The Government forces appear to have gained some advantages yesterday, and it may yet be hoped that the more energetic efforts now being put forth by the only legitimate authorities will soon result in the re-establishment of peace and order. If it be so that the supplies in Paris are giving out, that circumstance will greatly aid the army outside, as famine will tend to cool the ardor of the insurgents.

A Word of Advice—If the *Standard* bearer would pay more attention to the columns of his rapidly sinking paper and less to those of his flourishing neighbor, we doubt not he would afford his few remaining readers greater satisfaction. Here is an instance or two in point: In February last we announced on the authority of a San Francisco paper brought by the direct steamer, that the ship Ben Aymar from Burrard Inlet, had put into the port of Acapulco, Mexico and had been condemned. On the 7th instant the *Standard* published the same paragraph.....On the 11th of last month we published the freight and shippers' list of the brig Robert Jones. On the 8th of the present month the *Standard* furnished the same information. More than two weeks ago our Exclusive Dispatch announced the particulars of the executions at Paris of Gens Clement Thomas and Lecompte, and the attack on Lord Lyons by Sir Robert Peel in the British House of Commons. On the following day the *Standard* copied the same dispatch without credit. Last week a Puget Sound paper copied the dispatch and yesterday the *Standard* reproduced it, word for word, *as a local item!*.....Yesterday again, he steals our Exclusive Telegram from Ottawa and coolly declares that the part relating to Mr Tilley is untrue. In a month or two he will ascertain that the dispatch is true and will then publish it as special to himself.....These are a few out of many blunders and thefts our cotemporary has been guilty of within the past few weeks. We have grown tired of correcting and exposing him, and finding that allusion to him in one issue of the Colonist advertises his journal more extensively than fifty issues of the *Standard* would do, we shall henceforth leave him 'severely alone.' As the Southern poet remarked to the blue-bottle that buzzed inconveniently near his head, so we remark to our cotemporary,

"Shoo Fly! don't bodder us!"

Theatre Royal.—That sensational drama entitled Lost in London, or the Elopement, will be played at the Theatre Royal to-morrow evening. Mrs Beatty takes the part of Nellie Armroyd, in which she appears to great advantage, and Mr Beatty makes a glorious Jeb. The leading incidents in the piece are the miner's home, the abduction of Nellie, the fire damp, the choke damp, the injured husband's mission, splendid misery, remorse and reproach, meeting of the foster sisters, the recognition, betrayed and betrayer, heartbroken husband, the signal, the duel, death of Nellie. This truly sensational piece will be followed by the side-splitting farce entitled 'Object of Interest.'

Benefit.—There will be a matinee performance at the Theatre Royal at 2 p. m. on Saturday, when the touching, highly moral and salutary piece, 'The Drunkard's Child,' will be produced, in which May Wells, as the child, wrings tears from every eye, and in which Mr Beatty plays the *role* of the Drunkard with such powerful effect, Mrs Beatty, as the Drunkard's Wife, making the audience fairly sob. This will present a fine opportunity for the young folks to witness a play which ought to make them beter.

Items in Brief.—The harbor dues previously charged the steamer Isabel have been remitted—Right.....The *Standard* continues its low work of stealing our late telegrams—Wrong!.....Three Indians are in custody on a charge of killing a Greek fisherman near San Juan Island two years ago.....The steamer G S Wright for Sitka passed up on Sunday.....The Enterprise resumes semi-weekly trips to-day.....The bark Prince of Wales has gone to sea from Portland.....The propeller California arrived on Sunday from Portland and Sound Ports and will go to Orcas Island to load with lime for a return cargo.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States—This body will meet at Chicago on the 18th of May. Some 500 delegates will be present. Rev G W Sloan of Steilacoom has been appointed delegate of the Presbytery of Oregon and is now in this city *en route* to Chicago.

The French Relief Fund.

GRAND AMATEUR CONCERT AT THE THEATRE.

Never before was an audience so large, so brilliant and so appreciative gathered within the four walls of the Theatre Royal as that which last night listened to the French Musical Soiree; and upon no previous occasion when the finer feelings of human nature have been appealed to, has the assistance rendered been more generous or valuable. The response of Victoria to the appeal of the suffering French people was as noble and hearty as, we feel confident, would have been the case in France were England herself prostrate at the feet of a foe. Other and larger communities may give larger sums of money, but none will respond to the call more spontaneously or generously than Victoria.

The interest taken in the soiree was not confined to the children of France; — all classes and all nationalities volunteered to assist, and all will experience the pleasurable feeling that they have contributed towards relieving 'hearts oppressed with woe untold!' Among the audience were His Excellency the Governor and Mrs Musgrave and *suite*, and most of our prominent citizens

The interior of the building was handsomely decorated with evergreens and branches. The stage, proscenium and private boxes were hung with the flags of France, Great Britain and the United States, while overhead was suspended the beautiful banner of the French Benevolent Society. Across the top of the stage appeared the inscription—'*Victoria les Francaise Reconnissants*' Viewed from the stage the appearance was very fine and the general effect was heightened by the brilliant dresses of the fair sex, who appeared in full opera costume.

The vocal and instrumental pieces were all well rendered. The choruses were especially good, while some of the instrumental and vocal solos evinced much taste in selection and talent in execution. The amateur performance—after an overture by the orchestra which was executed with excellent taste—commenced with the chorus of Exil et Retour. The solos were well sustained by Messrs Felix and Lombard, and the piece elicited applause; but not so much as we think it merited. A song by M. Felix—Vive l'Orage—was poured forth in a full, rich baritone and gave the liveliest satisfaction. Mrs Beckingham next sang Minuit Chretiens in a delightfully clear soprano, and retired amid much applause. [illegible] was sung in English by [illegible] with excellent taste. It is a piece well suited to that gentleman's fine tenor voice. Mr White followed with The Bloom is on the Rye, which he sang in splendid style. Next came a gem—When Swallows Build—by Mrs Charles Kent, who never, in our opinion, sang with better effect or judgment. Mrs Kent was accompanied by Miss Harris on the pianoforte. A charming piece and charmingly played was the piano duet,—Overture to the Poet and Peasant—by Mrs Sutro and Mrs Blum. Both ladies appear to have a thorough knowledge of the instrument and their performance was so good that they met with great applause. My Heart's Delight, a sweet, pretty ballad, was sung by Miss Denny [accompanied by Mr Digby Palmer] in a vivacious and good-natured manner that pleased the audience immensely and won for the fair vocalist a hearty round of applause. Mr Felix next gave the audience a taste of the *opera bouffe* in Le Beau Nicolas. He was dressed and acted in true comedy style and sang the song amid the laughter and cheers of the house. The song was rapturously encored. Miss Rhodes [accompanied by Mrs Blum] sang in a sweet soprano and with excellent judgment, My Mother Bids Me Bind my Hair, and was very much applauded. A duett—Holy Mother Guide his Footsteps—was sung by Mrs Higgins and Miss Pidwell. M. L Luca followed with Les Lilas en Fleurs, which he sang remarkably well. The grand chorus—Marche Republicaine—than which no more soul-stirring song is extant, concluded the first part. It was enthusiastically cheered and an *encore* demanded and given.

The second part opened with the chorus of Marie a sa Toilette, the solos of which were sustained by M. Felix. Miss S Redfern [who was accompanied by Miss Harris] then gave in a charming manner The Merry Blackbird's Song, with fine effect which called forth hearty plaudits. The duett Ah! Campo [Donizetti], by Mrs Rhodes and Chief Justice Begbie, accompanied on the piano by Mrs Blum, was exquisitely sung and proved a musical treat—one of the best efforts of the evening. It met with high favor and just escaped an *encore*. Robesto, toi que l'aime, by Mrs Garesche, accompanied by Mrs Blum, was loudly applauded. Mrs Garesche possesses a powerful and clear soprano voice, which she has under complete control and uses with judgment. A comic act in Chinese by two French gentlemen created merriment, though somewhat out of place, when we consider the intellectual and refined character of the entertainment. The duett on the violin and pianoforte, by Messrs Palmer and Ragazzoni, was a beautiful selection from Lucia de Lammermoor. It was listened to with marked attention, and being admirably played, a repetition was demanded. Mrs Beckingham sang Jeanne D'Arc, and is entitled to high praise for the faultless manner in which the song was delivered. Jeanne Pourquoi N'es tu Pasla was given by Mr Leon Curta with great feeling and taste, the audience manifesting their entire approval. The vocal (male) 'gem of the evening' was a duet by Messrs Felix and Lombard—Les Deux Freres d'Armes. It was sung in the most admirable and artistic manner. Both gentlemen were enabled to exert their fine, ringing tenor voices to great advantage and when the song had ended the applause was deafening. Mr Palmer played the accompaniment. Mrs Rhodes (accompanied by Mrs Blum) sang Si tu Savais with much spirit and animation. This solo was generally pronounced one of the best executed of the evening. Then You'll Remember Me, (Bohemian Girl) by Mr. Charles E. Redfern was most delightfully sung, and after the chorus of Le Chalet, the audience rose to their feet and joined in singing the National Anthem, after which the vast assemblage filed out of the building; and so ended the most successful amateur concert, from every point of view, ever held in this city.

The concert was under the able direction of Mr J J Austin, of the Lands and Works Department, whose valuable and efficient services cannot be too highly complimented. Mr Digby Palmer, who accompanied the choruses and many solos and duetts, and several of the vocalists, are entitled to high praise for the excellence of their efforts.

Charles Mathews.—Our Sydney exchanges notice in very flattering terms the farewell performance given at the Prince of Wales Opera House in that city by Mr and Mrs Mathews. At the close of the performance a complimentary address was presented to Mr Mathews. The presentation of the address was followed by deafening applause, at the close of which Mr Mathews replied, in the course of which the following amusing scene occured: Mr Mathews said:—"The flattering compliments paid to me are the more gratifying as I am perfectly at a loss to conceive who the eminent gentleman can be by whom the address was written." Mrs Mathews here stepped forward, and exclaimed—"Fie, Charlie, how can you say so, when you know it was Mr Dalley." (Roars of laughter.) Mr Mathews, "There now that's the way with women: they never can keep a secret. Well then.—Ten thousand thanks to Mr Dalley."

Puget Sound Items.—A bazar will be held at Seattle to-morrow under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church... The Alaska military prisoners were discharged, there being no evidence against them. ....A man named Ohse has been sent to the Penitentiary for three years for burning a house belonging to Mr Smith, near South Bay, in October last ....A drunken sailor brutally assaulted an Indian at Port Townsend a few days ago. He belonged to the revenue cutter Lincoln.... The Seattle *Intelligencer* doubts if there has been a single day during which it has not rained since last October, with the exception of the last two weeks.... A Methodist Church, 24x44 is about to be built at Tumwater.... The ship James B Keeler arrived at Port Townsend on the 5th in seven days from San Francisco. The Keeler is 1412 tons burthen and is under charter by Pope & Talbot.... The bark Jenny Pitts arrived at Seattle from San Francisco on Wednesday, bringing several passengers.

Nova Scotia.—Provincial Secretary Vail made his financial statement on the 8th. The estimated receipts for 1871 are $650,501; the estimated expenditure $610,901. The principal items of expenditure are education $174,000; roads and bridges $200,000. The Assembly were engaged in passing the estimates on the 9th. The House was tinkering the election law. The Chamber of Commerce was in session and had passed a resolution opposing the proposed change of currency, and asking that if the change does take place it may not come into operation before the 1st of January 1872. It was also resolved that the Minister of Marine be requested to introduce into the Dominion the weather reports now in use in the United States. It was further resolved that it is desirable to seek a Union between the Nova Scotia Board of Trade and that of the Dominion, and an efficient committee was formed for the purpose of promoting such union. The Block House Mining Company had contracted for the delivery in New York, during the coming season, of fifty thousand tons of coal.

For Skeenamouth—The Hudson Bay Company's steamer Otter will sail for Skeena on or about Thursday. Passengers should secure their tickets to-day or to-morrow.

There is no truth in the report published that the Nanaimo miners have agreed with their employers and that they recommenced work yesterday. It is probable, however, that an arrangement will be consummated this week.

The steamer Isabel, Capt Starr, arrived from Port Townsend last night, having connected with the Alida at that place. She brought the mails and about sixty passengers. We are indebted to the purser for late files of Sound papers.

French Relief Fund.—Large private money donations to this fund have been made by residents of this city and colony. Additional subscriptions are expected from Puget Sound.

Assault.—Ah Chone a Chinaman brought an action against Mr Horton before the Police Court yesterday for an assault. The case was a poor one and the Court dismissed it.

Wages Suit.—M Brede *vs* Jackson for $40, the Court awarded judgment for the amount and the defendant to pay ten dollars in one week, and the balance in three weeks

The Steamer Olympia, Capt Finch arrived from the Sound yesterday at 3 30 p. m. with 70 passengers and a quantity of live stock and other freight. Purser Finch has our thanks for late papers.

Another Fiasco.—The attempt to hold a public meeting at Nanaimo on Friday last proved a failure.

Common Schools.

Editor British Colonist.—The *Standard Man* must be hard up for something to fill his columns, when he inserts such communications as that from Comox signed "a "Lot of us" (and a pretty lot too, I should think!) published in the *Weekly Standard* of March 15th, 1871.

Comox and Comox matters are not sufficiently important to awaken much interest in your readers, especially when the statements of the letter referred to have not the substantiality of a fiction founded on facts.

I will only simply state what the School matters have been legally conducted and [illegible] children of the District.

Any one of very inferior mental capacity can find fault, but it requires some one differently endowed to suggest improvements.

I am Sir, yours truly,

An Antimeddler.

Comox, April 6th, 1871.

Dominion Mail Summary.

The following is a condensed summary from Canadian exchanges up to the 20th ult:—

In the House of Commons on the 17th the Hon J Howe read a telegram from Fort Garry respecting alleged disturbances at Manitoba, showing that all was quiet there up to the 1st.

On the same day Sir Francis Hincks moved the House into Committee on the Bill to establish one uniform currency for the Dominion. Several amendments were moved by members from the Maritime Provinces, but they were voted down by very large majorities.

On the same day a message was read from the Governor General, asking the favorable consideration of the House to resolutions with respect to the admission of British Columbia.

In the Senate on the 16th Senator Miller drew attention to the subject of salaries to the Lieutenant Governors of the various provinces. He said that, at the commencement of Confederation, a great mistake had been made in fixing the salaries entirely too low. He claimed that the salary paid the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia was wholly inadequate to the dignity and responsibility of the position. The Hon Mr Campbell admitted that there was much justice in the remarks of Mr Miller respecting the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, but it was not the intention of the Government to disturb the existing arrangements during the present session.

On the same day considerable discussion took place in the Senate as to whether the resolutions relative to the admission of British Columbia should be introduced simultaneously into both Houses. The Hon Mr Campbell thought best that they should be treated in the Commons before being taken up in the Senate. He said that, supposing the Senate committed itself to the resolutions, and the Commons refused to change the public revenue with the monies necessary to carry out the scheme, the Senate would be placed in a false position.

In the House of Commons, on the same day, Mr Mills moved for a statement showing the kind and quantity of articles imported into British Columbia during the last fiscal year of which there were any available returns, showing the duties collected and the amount which would have been collected had the Canadian tariff been in operation. Hon Mr Tilley said the whole of the papers would be supplied as speedily as possible.

On the same day, in reply to a question from hon Mr Dorion, Sir Geo E Cartier said the last information that Government had received from Manitoba was on the night of the 1st. It was a telegram from Governor Archibald, informing the Government that the writs and papers necessary for holding the elections had been found, and that a proclamation had been issued to hold the elections, but no information whatever had been received corroborating any of those newspaper reports [a laugh]. The telegram came from St Cloud and was dated March 14. The sensational news came from Chicago, and he noticed that further news from St Paul, while it spoke of great excitement existing in Manitoba, did not confirm the first reports.

Mr Harrison [member for Toronto West] moved the second reading of An Act to extend the right of appeal in criminal cases. Sir Geo E Cartier, hon Col. Grey and hon J H Cameron opposed and the bill was withdrawn for the present.

Mr M C Cameron [Huron] moved the second reading of a Bill to amend an Act respecting aliens and naturalization. The object of the measure was to facilitate the naturalization of aliens. It proposed to confer the right of citizenship on all persons residing in the country previous to Confederation or taking the oath of allegiance. Sir Geo E Cartier said while he approved of the bill as a whole, it contained provisions which were objectionable. He would not, however, refer to them until the Bill was referred to committee. When in London the Colonial Secretary referred to this subject and said there would be no objection to enactments by any legislation on the part of the Dominion Parliament with regard to naturalization, but that care should be taken in dealing with foreigners who were connected with seafaring pursuits. It was therefore necessary in the enactment of naturalization laws to exercise great prudence lest the Acts of this House should be disallowed. The Bill was referred to a special committee.

A most disgraceful outrage was committed at an election meeting in South Simcoe. While Mr R T Ferguson, M. P., was speaking one Ross commenced to throw rotten eggs at him. Ross was ejected by order of the Chairman. At the close of the meeting as Mr Ferguson was leaving he was brutally assaulted by Ross with a slung-shot and dangerously injured.