

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST  
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DURING the first week in last month about 7,808 souls left Liverpool by steamers for the American Continent; 3000 of whom were for Canada, a very gratifying feature, as hitherto nearly seven-eighths of the emigrants proceeded to the United States. The week in question is only a sample, and it plainly shows that a change is becoming strongly developed in the tendency of emigration, which will largely increase when the Northwest Territory is more easily reached by the completion of water and railroad facilities of travel. The great majority of these emigrants were Germans, Swedes and Norwegians, but a sufficient number were from the British Isles to show that emigration is now sought as the remedy for the evils resulting from over-population and consequent excess in competition in the labor market. Six hundred and thirty-four emigrants were among those who went to Canada, and who were dispatched under the auspices of the East London emigration fund. Thus, the old country will be gradually relieved of the unwieldy mass of pauperism that is now pressing so severely on the English tax-payer; and that up to the present time has been worse than wasted in English workhouses, when it might have been turned to valuable account in Canada. The great object will be to convey the immigrants, as they arrive in Canada, out west, so that the stream will ultimately reach the Northwest Territory where a large and important settlement will soon be formed; the readiest way of securing the formation of the transcontinental railroad is the existence of traffic and cheap home labor. Every effort should be made by the Canadian Government to encourage the settlement of land; and where the immigrants are unable to proceed at once to the clearing and cultivation of the soil, labor of some kind should be provided for them. This might be either from private individuals or on public improvements, even the railroad itself might be made in sections, and thus afford the means to the very poor of procuring a livelihood until absorbed in agricultural or other pursuits. When the population arrives at the Red River settlement we shall begin to feel the influence in this Colony, as the tendency west is a kind of fascination that exerts irresistible power over some people; and when once they begin to straggle in here, the entire settlement of British Columbia will rapidly follow. Whatever may be thought or said on the subject of a Canadian railroad, the certainty of its formation is duly heralded by the influx of population. If English capitalists never invested a cent (which of course cannot be avoided, for they are always on the lookout for profitable investments) the railroad would be made. Population stimulates production and the necessity for luxuries, both of which require means of transit which a railroad alone could afford. No one going East from this country would think of doing otherwise than going overland. The traffic from

the other side will be immense, and increasing yearly for many years to come. There is one consolation for us; if our progress is slow it is sure.

**Later from Sitka.**  
The steamer Emma, Captain Holmes, arrived from Sitka, Alaska Territory, yesterday morning, after an absence from Victoria of about three weeks. She brings two passengers—Messrs Spencer and Steen. The Emma lay nine days at the port of Sitka and called at Simpson, Bella Bella and Sa-ganah. At the latter place she took in five tons of coal. Boston is working away at the seam. The tunnel has reached a fine bed of coal. The U. S. S. Newbern arrived at Sitka five days after the Emma. Passengers and crew all well. The scientific party on board the Newbern were preparing to go north to Kiloat to take observations of the eclipse. The Fiddler will probably carry the party up. Furs are very plentiful at Sitka. The Indians are quiet. Capt. Holmes has given us a file of the Alaska Times, for which he has our thanks. About seven months ago it was reported that the schooner Louisa Downs had been lost on the coast of Alaska with all on board. In this belief the friends of the crew mourned them as among the dead; on the day before the Emma sailed from Sitka all of the supposed dead men arrived in canoes from Barham Bay. It turns out that the schooner was wrecked at the Bay and that her people escaped to the shore, where they were kindly treated by the savages among whom they wintered, and at the first opportunity were sent on to Sitka. The shipwrecked men speak very highly of the treatment they received. Nothing was known as to the fate of the crew of Malowanski's schooner, reported wrecked on the coast some weeks ago. The Times says the Russian families are in great distress at Sitka; their husbands and sons or brothers are out fishing or hunting and the helpless ones are parting bit by bit with their furniture to keep body and soul together. The Times calls on Gen. Davis to alleviate the distress of these unfortunate people. A bomb-fuse exploded in a blacksmith's shop, causing some alarm but doing no damage. The schooner Sweepstakes had arrived from the North with a valuable cargo of furs. A war-dance was given by the swashes at Sitka, aided by some "rascals" from Victoria, in the presence and by permission of the officers of the garrison. The sloop Native, seized by Capt. Forsyth at Fort Tongas for violation of the Custom laws, was released from custody when the Captain reported the circumstances under which he put into Tongas to the Collector of the port at Sitka. It appears the sloop went into Tongas for repairs, and was immediately seized by the officer. Forsyth, we are told, has been discharged from the service for similar acts.

**Friday July 16**  
**Charge of Defrauding the Revenue.**  
Yesterday morning the Police Magistrate rendered his decision in the case of Mr F J Barnard, who was charged with attempting to defraud the revenue by carrying a letter not properly stamped. His Worship referred to the English Act and read copious extracts therefrom, laying it down that where the local Act did not bear upon the case the English Act came into force. His Worship deprecated the course pursued by a portion of the press in discussing this case before it had been decided. The decision is as follows:

As this is the first case of the kind which has arisen in this Colony I have thought it right, so far, briefly to review the enactments which bear upon it. The defendant is charged with having knowingly conveyed from Yale to Victoria a certain letter liable to postage with intent to defraud the revenue. Two questions arise.

1. Is there proof that the letter was conveyed from Yale to Victoria?  
2. Is the letter in question liable to postage?

In the evidence there is nothing more than a strong presumption that the letter came from Yale; there is no direct proof of the fact. And as to the liability to postage, it seems that the defendant, who is a carrier, (that is one whose trade is to carry goods), finds that part of the goods so carried—three packages of newspapers—remain at his office, and he writes, by his servant, to the owner of the goods for instructions on the subject. This is a letter on private business between the carrier and his employer, and is, as such, exempt from postage if carried and delivered by himself or by his servant free of charge.

**THE INFLUENCE OF A NEWSPAPER IN ALASKA.**—The Indians are becoming Americanized. On last Thursday an intelligent looking Indian came into our office and wished to know the price of our paper. We told him very friendly, and felt somewhat anxious to know what he wanted with a paper. He replied in rather good English, "you never mind, I go to Victoria, hiyou white men read him, and speak me Indian, me plenty understand. How much the paper, sir?" We told him nothing, and presented him with a copy of the Alaska Times. He did not feel satisfied and promptly asked the price of ten; we told him, and he instantly paid for ten copies, but he must have abundance of sealing wax, which we gave him. He then asked, "white man pay you three months me pay same," and planked us down enough of furs to pay six months subscription. He is the first Indian subscriber we have: He gave his name as "Klitoha-ta-noo."—Alaska Times.

**Colored Americans in Russia.**  
(From the New Orleans Tribune.)  
The following dispatch from Cassius M. Clay, our Minister to Russia, to Secretary Seward, will be interesting to our readers and instructive to the whole population of the Southern States:

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
St. Petersburg, Russia,  
February 9th, 1869.

Sir:—Captain T. Morris Chester, late of the United States Volunteer Army, being in St. Petersburg coming well recommended by distinguished citizens of the United States, and being also well educated and of good address, I called upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs and told him that I would not apply in the usual way, by note, to have Captain Chester, a colored American citizen, presented to his Imperial Majesty, as there was no precedent, and I did not know how his Imperial Majesty would be disposed to act; but I desired that he would approach his Imperial Majesty in an informal way, and ascertain his wishes in this regard. The Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, De Westmann, acquiesced in the proposal, and in a few days wrote me that the Emperor had given orders to have Captain Chester's name put upon the list for the first presentation: To-day being the occasion of a grand review of the Imperial Guard, the Emperor sent an invitation to Captain Chester to assist in the review, which he did, riding around with his Imperial Majesty's staff, and taking lunch at the Winter Palace with the Staff officers and a portion of the Imperial family, who accompanied the Emperor at the lunch.

I have made these facts known to you, as I regard the affair of some importance. We have four millions of colored citizens; they are with us and for us, for good or evil. I think it is the duty of all good citizens to try and elevate the African race in America, and inspire them with all possible self-respect, and prepare them for that ultimate influence which they must sooner or later have upon the political and economical interests of the United States. They are the views which have influenced my action in this case, which, not partisan in their character, I should hope would be satisfactory to all patriotic Americans.

Having, however, discharged my duty, as I ever do, without regard to personal considerations, I submit my action frankly to the judgment of the Department. I am, my dear sir, your most obedient servant,  
C. M. CLAY.

**Too-Good Shots.**—An American paper has an account of a recent duel between two Indians at Helena:—  
A few Indians were in a cabin occupied by some of the employees of the mill, when one of them displayed his revolver, at the same time expatiating on its merits and on his own extraordinary skill in its use. This he carried to such an extent that another brave of the party denounced him as a braggart, at the same time saying that he could put him to shame at his own game. Whereupon native No. 1 proposed a test of skill, giving his opponent the advantage of a rifle his favorite weapon. This was at once acceded to, and immediate preparations were made for a duel in their own peculiar style. By this time about twenty warriors had collected, and all repaired to a place a short distance from the cabin, where they marked off about 40 feet, the distance that was to separate the combatants. During these preparations the doomed warriors looked upon each other with the most stoical indifference, and the crowd waited for the denouement in silent wonder. When all was made ready the opponents took their position with their heels on the mark, back to back—one with his revolver and the other with his rifle. One of the natives had been selected to act as second to both. He took up his position a little aside from the line of fire, waved a spear, decorated with paint and feathers, two or three times above his head, gave the terrible war-whoop, and on the instant the duellists wheeled and fired. Both fell—one shot through the brain, the other pierced to the heart.

**Movements of Mr. Peabody.**  
(From the New York Tribune, June 10th.)  
George Peabody, who recently arrived from London, is the guest of Samuel Wetmore, of Waverly place. The veteran philanthropist is in feeble health, suffering from weakness and a severe cold, and entertains but few visitors. His visit to his native land was determined on only a week before his departure, and was quite a surprise to his friends. Important business matters, the attention to which would not permit of longer delay on account of the uncertainty of life at his advanced age, hastened his departure. It is his earnest wish to remain secluded and retired until he is improved in health. To-day he will return to Boston, where he will consult the most eminent medical advice regarding his condition, after which he will visit Salem, where he will remain several weeks, when he hopes to be able to mingle with his fellow countrymen. His appearance while sitting gives little indication of his feeble condition, on account of his large physique and ruddy complexion, but while grasping your hand to bid you adieu his trembling arm indicates considerable physical prostration. In conversation he alluded to a letter which appeared in a morning contemporary of yesterday, in reference to the Peabody houses of London, which he said, contained many erroneous statements. He pronounced the houses a perfect success, far beyond his most sanguine expectations. Of the \$250,000 originally contributed by him, \$20,000 yet remain unexpended, more than enough to fetch another house. Their sanitary condition was excellent, and they were managed under the most economical system.

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C. M. CLAY.

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IDNEYS and BLADDER, these  
Successful. Such Diseases are  
OOD, which is generally pro-  
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