

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

VOL. 6. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1864. NO. 2.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

Advertisements inserted on the most reasonable terms.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

Published for the Proprietor by J. B. Spalding.

Agents: John Meakin, Nanaimo; Clark & Co., Victoria; ...

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

LATER FROM CARIBOO.

\$200,000 in Treasure.

THE KOOTENAY MINES.

The steamer Enterprise arrived on Saturday evening from New Westminster with 100 passengers and about \$150,000 in treasure.

Williams Creek.

The Ericson Co. have for about two weeks past realized the enormous sum of nearly \$30,000!

THE AURORA CO.—Messrs. Devine, Hillton and others of this claim brought down about \$50,000 in dust.

THE WATTS CO. has been realizing small dividends.

THE CALDONIA CO. are in the same position.

THE NEW YORK CO. are doing very well and getting good pay.

THE GRANZLY CO. have through Mr. Griers exertions commenced work again with a strong probability of success.

THE MOPPAT CO. are still getting out pay, and they intend to work all winter.

THE FRENCH OR WALKS CO. are at work and are averaging 60 ounces a day.

THE NEVER SWEET CO. have drifted again to their lead, and were making preparations to wash when Mr. Ruby left.

THE WATSON CO. are running a drift through the bed-rock towards the old channel.

THE BED-ROCK DRAIN was being pushed forward, and it completed before the Spring will prove of great value to the Watch, Strath-Barker, and other companies above now troubled with water.

Stout's Gulch.

This is a small tributary of Williams Creek.

THE FLOYD CO. are getting from \$25 to \$30 a day to the hand.

Lowthian Creek.

From Mr. Hennessy of the Sage Miller and Moorhead companies, a gentleman well known in both colonies, who left on the 7th, we learn that

THE CHITTENDEN CO still continued to pay a fair dividend. They were driving their drift in the channel of the creek, and when working the bed-rock would take out on an average from 40 to 70 ounces per day. They will probably work till January with fine prospects before them for the next season.

THE SAGE MILLER had just got over a

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WILLIAMS CREEK HOSPITAL.

CAMBRONTOWN, Cariboo, October 30th, 1864.

I beg to inform you that the Williams Creek Hospital will not be closed. Mr. O'Reilly seeing the great necessity for keeping the institution open consulted the President, Mr. James Wattie, and other members of our late committee and proposed to advance a sum which would furnish stores, medicines and medical comforts, leaving to those gentlemen to supply fuel and the making of some necessary improvements to the building itself for the coming winter.

This step was taken by Judge O'Reilly in conjunction with His Excellency Governor Seymour's directions on the subject, and the work of cutting logs and erecting a wood shed was commenced forthwith. I believe the opinion of all parties in Cariboo is, that with a Government appropriation some thing like adequate to the expenses of a hospital here the miners would assist in its maintenance, and the hospital would be placed on a suitable and permanent foundation. I am, sir, your obedient servant, JOHN CHIFF, Physician to the Williams Creek Hospital.

PROPOSED VISIT OF THE KEANS.

We are much gratified to be enabled to state that the hope which we sometimes expressed that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keas might be induced to visit Victoria and perform for a few nights in our theatre in a fair way of being realized. While the press had taken up the subject and were discussing the practicability of the suggestion, the enterprising Lessee of the Theatre, Mr. Thos. Ward, had taken time by the forelock and had already placed himself in communication with Mr. Coppin, Mr. and Mrs. Keas's agent. A few gentlemen who felt an interest in the project met during last week, at Mr. Ward's invitation, and received from him a detailed statement of the terms and conditions upon which the engagement might be made, and which he would be prepared to carry into practical effect, if assented to by a liberal majority on the part of the inhabitants. The gentlemen invited the attendance of a number of other gentlemen at a meeting held on Saturday in Mr. Cruickshank's office, to consider the matter and decide upon the most desirable mode of assisting Mr. Ward in concluding an arrangement with the distinguished company now delighting the San Francisco public, so that he might be enabled to return a definite answer by the coming mail steamer. The following gentlemen, many of whom attended the meeting, signified their readiness to lend their assistance to advance the end in view, viz: His Worship the Mayor, Attorney General Wood, R. Barnaby, M. P., J. J. Southgate, M. P., Dr. Dickson, M. P., W. S. Green, Hon. H. D. Lascelles, G. M. Sprout, L. Franklin, J. J. Fell, T. C. W. Wallace, J. D. Pemberton, J. G. McKay, H. Nathan, J. W. Higgins, G. Wallace and W. Harris. T. L. Wood, Esq., having been called to the chair and A. D. Bell, Esq., requested to act as Secretary, Mr. Ward was set forth and explained his position to the meeting. Terms he said had already been arranged with the Keas company for an engagement of six nights and only required his final ratification, or withdrawal under forfeiture. Those terms would entail a serious outlay on his part which he could only hope, to defray by the kind exertions of his friends and the liberal patronage and support of the community at large. The prices of admission would of course have to be raised so as to admit of the nightly receipts of the house (when full) exceeding \$900, the estimated cost per night of the undertaking. Having heard Mr. Ward's views the meeting was upon motion resolved into a general committee, and the following resolution adopted, moved by Mr. L. Franklin, seconded by Mr. G. M. Sprout: "That this committee having taken into consideration the circumstances under which the enterprising Lessee of the theatre will be prepared to conclude an engagement of six nights with the Keas Company, and having viewed the extreme gratification which the presence of those highly gifted persons will afford to the people at large, pledges itself to afford Mr. Ward its hearty support and assistance in carrying out the undertaking."

EDITORIAL.

Moved by Mr. W. A. Harries, seconded by Mr. Geo. Cruickshank, "That a sub-committee of seven gentlemen, of which the chairman and secretary shall be ex officio members, be appointed to wait upon the inhabitants and ascertain how many persons will take tickets for the period of the engagement, which will take place during the evening month (say between the 10th and 20th), at the following prices fixed by Mr. Ward: For private boxes (to contain not more than five persons) lower tier, \$25 each; upper tier, \$20; for secured seats in the dress circle, (front row) and orchestra chairs \$3 each; remainder of dress circle and parquette, \$2.50 each, for secured seats; pit, \$1.25—seats not secured. That such sub-committee be further empowered to take such steps as they may deem most advisable for bringing the matter prominently before the public, and obtaining the co-operation of residents in Nanaimo, British Columbia and Washington Territory, and that they report progress at the next meeting of the general committee. Amendments having been moved by Mr. G. Wallace and Mr. G. M. Sprout, and the original motion was carried, and the Chairman having been requested upon motion of Dr. Dickson to appoint the committee, named the following gentlemen:—Messrs. W. S. Green, G. Cruickshank, J. J. Southgate, L. Franklin, W. A. Harries, G. M. Sprout and D. Dickson. T. L. Wood (Chairman), A. D. Bell (Hon. Secretary). The meeting then adjourned to Saturday next at 2 p. m. at Messrs. Franklin's office.

QUARTZ LEAD.

A miner who arrived in town last evening reported having struck a quartz lead at Leech River, for which he had returned \$10,000. It is needless to add that the report lacks confirmation.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MAILS.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—In the published report of the Richfield Grand Jury which appears in your issue of the 4th inst. I find the following: "But they would respectfully suggest that on Mr. Barnard's contract expiring, which it does in the early part of next summer, that great care should be taken so as to ensure the public the advantage of having the mails brought to the Creek at the same time and as often as the express. They have reasons to believe that there is unnecessary delay somewhere, they are not prepared to say where, more particularly in Colonial letters under the present arrangements, which induces the public to patronise the express in preference to the mail, with letters from Williams Creek to Victoria and intervening points. The only inference that can be drawn from the paragraph is, that I, as an expressman, have delayed the delivery of mails for the purpose of inducing the public to patronise the express. In this the Grand Jury have but given utterance in a public manner to a report which has, to my prejudice, been very extensively circulated. The misapprehension, for such I take it to be, has arisen in this way:—The mail contract called for a service three times per month to Williams Creek, to leave New Westminster on the arrival of the mail by the California steamer. The Victoria and New Westminster steamers, the up river steamer to Douglas and Yale, and the steamer from Soda Creek, made two trips per week; the stages over the passages to Clifton, and from Yale via Clifton to Soda Creek, also made two trips per week, so that a regular semi-weekly communication was kept up between Victoria and Quesselle Mouth. Now, it appeared to me preposterous that so regular and frequent a communication should exist to within fifty miles of the principal business place in the colony, and no further. I, therefore, determined to complete the line by running a semi-weekly newspaper and package express from Quesselle Mouth to Williams Creek. To have refused to carry letters would have been an act of injustice to the business community, who are my chief supporters, and indeed it needed the letter business to render it at all remunerative. Thus, then, the express arrived semi-weekly, whilst the mail only arrived tri-monthly. The assumption on the part of a few individuals was, that the mail was held over to serve the purpose of the express. This was not the case as I am prepared to prove. Trusting that you will consider this of sufficient importance to give it an insertion in your next issue, I remain Yours faithfully, F. J. BARNARD.

NAVAL THEATRICALS.

The amateur performance given by the junior officers of the flag-ship took place last evening at Equimalt, in the presence of a number of invited friends, who were much gratified at the genius displayed by the young volunteers of the cock and buskin.

R.

Office, New Westminster, 22nd October, 1864.

DESIRE IT TO be introduced to bring down a Bill...

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