The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, May 7, 1867.

Great Britain, Spain and the Alabama Claims.

The London *Globe* says that the reply of the Spanish Government to the demands of Great Britain in the Tornado case means that Spain refuses English demands for satisfaction. The Tornado was a steamship that cleared from London in November last for Chili. She was unarmed, and while on the high seas was intercepted by a Spanish frigate, seized and carried into Cadiz, where she was confiscated on the charge of being a Chilian privateer, with which nation Spain was then, and is now, at war. Shortly after the seizure of the Tornado, two other English steamers, bound for Chili, were intercepted, seized and taken into Cadiz, where they were condemned. The telegraph, a few days ago, informed us that a fleet of war vessels had sailed from England to demand satisfaction for the insult. A subsequent dispatch stated that Spain had agreed to release the condemned steamers; but the despatch that came to hand last evening conveys the intelligence that satisfaction or indemnity in the case of the Tornado is refused. Except it be shown that Spain is right in this refusal the next thing we shall hear be a declaration of war by our Government against Spain. On the heels of this announcement of the imminence of war with Spain, we have the intelligence that the United States declines to submit the Alabama claims to arbitration. Mr Seward merely says to Lord Stanley: "You owe us $32,000,000, the value of vessels destroyed by your cruisers under the Confederate flag; refuse to pay us the money, and you establish a precedent for our guidance when you go to war with another power; armed privateers will dart out of our ports, and, under Spanish colors, sweep your merchant ships from the ocean." The alternative presented by this remarkable instance of international etiquette is that, in the event of a war with Spain, Great Britain will suffer more from the ravages of American Alabamas than from the whole Spanish navy and army combined; and if she remonstrates, Mr Seward will refer to the Alabama case as a precedent for his course. We hope that there will be no war; but the despatches received last night wear an ominous and threatening appearance.

Tuesday, April 30th.

AN EXTRAORDINARY PETITION AGAINST AN ENGLISH JUDGE—In the House of Lords, February 12, Earl Russell presented a petition from Mr Rigby Wason against Sir F. Kelly, Lord Chief Baron, praying that a Committee be appointed to investigate the charges made in the petition, and if the Committee should find these charges proved, that Sir F. Kelly be removed from his post. The allegation in the petition is that in the year 1835, Mr Kelly, being then in practice at the bar, pledged his honor as a gentleman to the truth of a statement for the purpose of deceiving a committee of the House of Commons. The petition alleges that the committee was thereby deceived, and being an Election Committee, reported that Mr Kelly, who had been a candidate for the representation of the borough of Ipswich, had not been guilty of bribery, and had not committed any illegal practices. Mr R. Wason, however, alleges that on further inquiry the committee came to a different opinion, and were convinced that the statement made by Mr Kelly was unfounded and thereupon unseated Mr Kelly on the ground that he had committed bribery by his friends and agents. The petitioner goes on to state that in 1845 Mr Kelly was appointed Solicitor General by the Government of Sir R. Peel; that Sir R. Peel was in some measure deceived as to the facts relating to this inquiry before the Election Committee, but that he (Mr Rigby Wason), having no personal enmity to Mr Kelly, did not think it right to go into the case against him. The Lord Chancellor denounced the petition as untrue, and made a long statement of the facts of the case, defending the Lord Chief Baron in eloquent terms against the allegations of the petitioner, who he accused of "falsehood and malignity." Lord St. Leonards also espoused the cause of Sir F. Kelly, and the petition was unanimously thrown out.

THE FLEET has been ordered to *rendezvous* at New Westminster on the 24th of May.

FUNNY SCENE—Yesterday, in the Summary Court, appeared Mr. Baransky, a Polander, with a complaint that Billy Barlow, an Esquimalt cabman, who had neglected to pay him an instalment of $1 per week as ordered by the court some weeks ago, in liquidation of a debt incurred by said Barlow.

The Chief Justice—What is your complaint?

Baransky (striking an attitude)—Ladies and shentlemens, excuse me. I puts no more confidensh into Mishter Parlow. He deceivsh me. Five veeks he don't gif me notten.

Barlow—Didn't I bay you doo tollars?

Baransky—Ov coorse, mine dear,—you bays me doo tollars. Put five veeks you don't bay me notten—not so much as dat (snapping his thumb and fore-finger.) Vareas you goes into te fine shalloon and you vill bay two pits for un trink and you comes out and shakes your bockets und you say 'I vill make more monish in doo veeks tan Baransky vill make in four.

The Chief Justice—How many drinks have you had to-day, Barlow?

Barlow—None wats'ever, s'help me! If your lordship vill gif me dill next Monday I vill bay him $5.

Baransky—I don't put no more confidensh in Mr Parlow—he *bays doo bits for un trink!*

The Chief Justice—That is a strange test of a man's honesty—the price he pays for a drink. Well, I'll give you a chance, Barlow.

WELL PUNISHED.—A limeburner, named McLaughlin, fell out with some American soldiers, on San Juan, a few days ago, and drew a pistol upon them. He was arrested and taken before Capt. Gray, when he announced that he was a British subject, and claimed the protection of the British garrison; whereupon he was sent away to Capt. Bazelgette, who convicted him of the offence and sent him to adorn the garrison chaingang for a period of three months.

GROUSE CREEK FLUME CO—In a card published in our advertising columns this morning, D. Lenevue, Esq., Chairman of the Grouse Creek Bed Rock Flume Company, explains in a highly satisfactory manner the terms of the new arrangement of the Company with the Governor.

FROM PUGET SOUND.—The New World reached her wharf at 5½ o'clock last evening from Olympia and way ports, having made the quickest time yet. She brought a large number of passengers and a great many head of live stock.

ENTERPRISE.—We learn with satisfaction that Messrs. Williams & Arthur, of Esquimalt, have commenced to lay down ways, for the repair and caulking of sea going craft. Such energy is commendable. Perhaps it will be a hint to the Admiralty to be 'up and doing' in the matter of a dry dock.

COLONIAL POSTAGE—Wells, Fargo & Co. now collect five cents on letters brought into the colony that do not bear the Colonial stamp—the Postal Law lately passed requiring that every letter, whether brought into or sent out of the colony, shall be subject to a colonial rate of five cents.

ANOTHER LINK.—A degraded looking specimen of humanity, with an unpronounceable name, was sent to form another link in the chaingang, for selling a bottle of whisky to an Indian.

A NEW EXCITEMENT—Portland, Oregon, is in a flutter of excitement at the prospect of a Morman Bishop, with from ten to forty wives, arriving there shortly to hold revival meetings.

FALL OF A LANDMARK.—No. 3 wharf, at Nanaimo, fell with a crash on Tuesday last. It was erected in olden times by the Hudson Bay Company. No damage was done.

ACCIDENT.—Mr James R. Kennedy, of Port Townsend, sustained a compound fracture of his left leg, by the overturning of a stage, on Saturday night, near Olympia.

THE GLARAMARA.—This bark, laden with 606 tons of Nanaimo coal, arrived down yesterday morning, *en route* to San Francisco. She will sail this morning for her destination.

GUBERNATORIAL VISIT TO RACE ROCKS.—Governor Seymour, accompanied by Mr. Birch, yesterday visited Race Rocks in the gunboat Forward, returning in the evening.

EDITORIAL.—R. H. Hewitt, editor of the *Pacific Tribune*, arrived in town by the New World.

☞ A canoe load of Indian whisky left Nanaimo one day last week to trade with the coast Indians.

ACCIDENT—Mr E. Eastman, of Tumwater was so badly jammed by a log the other day that his life is despaired of.

ENGLISH SHIPPING—The ship Byzantium is loading at London for Victoria.

POSTMASTER—Mr T. Cunningham has been appointed Postmaster for Nanaimo.

THE steamer Eliza Anderson reached her wharf at 7¼ o'clock last evening.

THE Governor will depart for New Westminster on Wednesday, in the Sparrowhawk or Shearwater.

Europe.

NEW YORK, April 17—Advices from Europe dated April 7th state that the Spanish Government sent John Macpherson, one of the officers of the Tornado, into the interior as a Chilian privateer. He was one of the persons whose release was demanded by Lord Stanley.

Lord Stanley stated in the House of Commons, on the 6th April, that he had received an official despatch of the purchase of Russia America, and he believed the Aleutian Islands were included.

The *Daily News* says the inhabitants of British Columbia will find it easy to become American citizens.

The London *Times* says of the Spanish evasion of English demand: If the United States had been so treated by Spain, Cuba would have been occupied by American troops ere this time.

The London papers say the daily receipts of the Atlantic Cable Company are £155.

A London correspondent says the report of the purchase of Russian America fell like a bombshell in Downing Street.

NEW YORK, April 18—The *Tribune's* correspondent at Constantinople, under date of March 22d, says France is in full sympathy with Russia in favor of the annexation of Crete to Greece and the independence of Egypt. The withdrawal of the Egyptian forces is threatened. The Turks are in despair. Leading Greeks declare that a revolution in Thessaly is sure, and that Garibaldi will aid it.

The *Herald's* correspondent at Queenstown, Ireland, under date of April 7th, says emigration to America will be extensive this year. 1200 farmers are waiting for passage. A more extensive Fenian rising is expected. The British are forced to keep fully prepared.

Negotiations between France and Prussia are suspended.

LONDON, April 19—Berlin despatches state that a speech has been made by the King, proclaiming Parliamentary districts throughout Germany.

The Paris Bourse is dull and heavy. Rentes have declined one franc.

BERLIN, April 18—Evening—It is reported that the French frontier is to be put on a war footing and ambulances purchased, and that the French reserves will be called in on the 1st of May. Prussia is making preparations for war.

A Paris correspondent says, were it not for the Exposition, Napoleon would open war against Prussia. A European war is sure to come yet.

The official North German *Gazette*, of 2d April, says Luxemburg would by no means compensate for the sacrifices entailed by war. Even if victorious France would only evoke the former, now happily extinguished, emnity of Germany. France should well consider all sides of the question before attacking a people defending their national integrity. W r would also place in question the domestic relations of Italy in which the French Government is concerned.

The *Moniteur du Soir* regards Beringsen's questions as leaving on the whole a favorable impression, and also regards Bismarck's reply as evidence of a strong desire to maintain pacific relations with France.

BRUSSELS, April 10—It is reported that a proposition is now under consideration to make the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg a neutral territory, in order to avert a war between France and Germany.

VIENNA, April 15—Dispatches say that Omar Pacha has left Turkey with ships of war and a large force of troops for the purpose of joining in the movement for the suppression of the insurrection in Crete.

LISBON, April 15—The Brazilian mail steamer brings intelligence that the Emperor of Brazil, in order to reinforce the army on the river Paraguay, has called the National Guard of the Empire into actual service. This has caused much discontent among the people and provoked some opposition to the continuance of the war against Paraguay.

FLORENCE, April 16—Admiral Persano, Commander of the Italian fleet at the battle of Lissa, was sentenced by court martial to be cashiered for incompetency and disobedience.

CORFU, April 12—Intelligence has been received of two fresh encounters in Crete, resulting in favor of the Christians.

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NEW YORK, April 16—The *Herald's* Havana correspondent says: A report is current that the Mexican Liberals have occupied Lisola. The Liberals have purchased two schooners to run the steamer blockade at Vera Cruz. Diaz said the Imperialists met with disasters at Puebla, and were forced to fall back to Orizaba.

Ortega recently made an unsuccessful attempt to escape from prison and was placed in close confinement.

A letter dated Havana, April 10th, says: A rumor prevails that the steamer R. N. Cayler, under the Chilian flag, has captured the Spanish steamer Montezuma.

Peru.

Letters from Admiral Dahlgren and Minister Hover show that the difficulty with Peru originated from the insulting conduct of ex-rebel Tucker, the Peruvian Admiral, towards some Federal officers, who thereupon refused to give the customary salutes, though they invariably saluted the Peruvian flag. Our Government expressed a hope that Tucker's conduct will be disapproved by Peru, and that he will be required to apologise. The Peruvian Government declined. This was the ground of refusal to salute the Peruvian flag.

NEW YORK, April 15—Advices from Peru say the new Constitution is still debated in Congress, and also the question of granting toleration to all religious denominations. The latter question gave rise to an exciting scene in the legislative hall.

Hayti.

A letter dated Aux-Cayes, Hayti, March 20th, says that when the revolution broke out the country people attacked the town, but were repulsed by Geffrard's brother. There are great fears of another attack. An impression prevails that a conflagration may result.

Eastern States.

NEW YORK, April 20—Gen. Lefevre of Ohio, was yesterday nominated for Governor of Washington Territory.

The Savannah *Republican* says that the horrors of San Domingo have been repeated in Southern Georgia. In one county two negroes were sentenced to be hanged for murder, and three others to the penitentiary. The colored men stormed the jail and allowed the prisoners to escape. In another county men were found hanging to a tree a short distance from the road.

MOBILE, April 19—The freedmen's meeting resolved to demand seats in juries, the privilege of holding office, and to support the Republican party.

RICHMOND, April 18—The Republican State Convention adopted resolutions endorsing Congress, and declaring in favor of the equal political rights and establishment of public schools. The colored speakers earnestly urged confiscation.

A Washington paper says that Wm. Cullen Bryant and Horace Greeley have been invited to stump the Southern States.

NEW YORK, April 18—The *Times* says the holders of the bonds of the Republic of Mexico, the interest of which was to be paid on April 1st, yesterday again demanded payment and were refused. Protest was entered. The bonds are worth from 10 to 60 cents in currency.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 18—It is estimated that 10,000 persons have been without meat in this State for thirty days. Several cases of starvation are reported.

A *Times'* special says: Gen. Sheridan has selected, among the Registers of Election, a colored man named Thomas, of the second district, which includes some of the most prominent business houses in New Orleans. Thomas has been a member of the Merchant's Exchange.

Master carpenters refuse to pay the new rates of four dollars a day after May 1st.

The Great Eastern's tonnage expenses on entering port are $700.

A Baltimore dispatch says a Republican Convention is called to meet on May 4th. The call invites all Republicans, without respect to past diference, race or color.

CHICAGO, April 18—The mad dog excitement in this city has resulted in a general crusade against dogs found at large. Several cases of hydrophobia transpired yesterday.

An exciting scene occurred in a German church at Muscatine, Iowa. The minister severely criticised some recent amateur theatrical performances. His remarks were highly offensive, and many persons present made an attempt to take the preacher from the pulpit by force, but were prevented by his friends. Great confusion ensued. The women screamed and bloodshed seemed inevitable. Finally another minister succeeded in restoring order.

NEW YORK, April 17—The *Independent* says the Episcopal denominations in America are first to recognise Christian responsibilities towards thousands of Russians who have so recently become our countrymen, and refers to a movement looking to communication and co-operation with the Greek Church, which has a Bishop at Sitka.

Canada.

A despatch dated Toronto, Canada, says that mining operations are not yet commenced. The roads are in a bad condition.

Nova Scotia.

The Nova Scotia Assembly have passed a bill to incorporate a company to construct a canal across the Isthmus, connecting with New Brunswick.

California.

Henry Vanness, who was lost on the Daniel Curtis lately, had his life insured with the Brooklyn Life Insurance Company, in this city, for $10,000. The same has been ordered paid to his heirs forthwith.

John Parrott is about to commence suit against Wells, Fargo & Co. to recover $100,000 damage alleged to have been sustained by the destruction of his property at the time of the nitro-glycerine explosion on Wells, Fargo & Co.'s premises. Mr Parrott is the owner of the building occupied by that company.

The Paris Exhibition—A Gigantic Failure Anticipated.

(From the "London Daily News," February 22)

The Paris *Presse* attributes the omission of any mention of the Exhibition in the Emperor's speech to his Majesty's dissatisfaction with the whole arrangements, and his expectation that it will turn out a gigantic failure. According to the *Presse*, the general public take little interest in the affair, and the prices fixed are altogether too high for most pockets. The writer goes on to say: The external appearance of the Exhibition Palace is from from satisfying to the eye. It is vast, but without grandeur; low and heavy; of a sombre tone, which tho lively colors of flags or hangings will not neutralize. This erection which, from the entirely modern character of its destination, afforded full scope for the genius of an architect, does not present the great and pure lines which that art so willingly reproduces in France, nor has it the powerful originality which was so striking in the Crystal Palace.

Those who have had the privilege of penetrating into the interior, speak in still less favorable terms. The oval form adopted in the construction does not permit any extent of view, and the eye falls upon column after column, which succeed each other perpetually like a moving walk. In this building, which covers 150,000 square metres, (about 182,000 squars yards, or 27½ acres,) space is wanting. There is not enough for the manufacturers, departments, so rich in products of all kinds, tissues of silk, cotton, wool, embroidered or printed; perhaps there is not sufficient for Parisian industry itself. And then, with exorbitant tariffs, what becomes of the hospitality which France is supposed to offer to manufactures and arts? How are those two great principles which ought to preside over every really universal exhibition, preserving its double character, national and public, to be realized and guaranteed, namely, that every facility should be offered to whoever can show a work of merit, and should also be provided for its examination by those who are interested in the review of efforts tending to the amelioration of material life and the results acquired by their perseverance? The writer declares that he does not intend discussing the question of price, but that the public is of opinion that the general good has been too much disregarded in favor of individual interests. The article then says: "To these observations, which we have reproduced without enlarging on them, are added some fears which will probably be dissipated by a note in the *Moniteur*. Those who are unacquainted with the interior state of the works ask if in fact, the place can be open to the public on the first of April, and in case the opening does not take place then, if the incomplete arrangements will not be of such importance that the exhibition will run the risk of being lessened in the estimation of foreigners constituting the first guests We hope these apprehensions are exaggerated. The commerce of Paris awaits with legitimate impatience the movement which that accumulation of elegance and riches ought to produce. These exceptional and unforeseen augmentation in consumption form part of the benefits calculated on in a city like Paris; they re-establish the equilibrium in business which, in traversing such a period of activity, finds a compensation for the past and a stimulus for the future."

From Cariboo.

The following is from the Cariboo *Sentinel* of the 15th inst.:

WILLIAM CREEK.

The warm days in the beginning of last week were followed by a rain on Wednesday night, which begun the spring freshet. On Thursday morning the usual roar of the creek and the noise of many waters running down the hill side were encouraging, and in a few days there will be more than enough of water, which for a week or two will be as obstructive to some claims as the scarcity of water was Many claims, especially the hill-side ones, will be able to work immediately, and they are all prepared to work. The United company, Conklins Gulch, has been preparing for the last two weeks. The wheel of the Davis company has been exercising itself for the last few days, and its position is so conspicuous that its revolutions are a general indicator of the working season. The companies along the line of the drain seem to be alive to their interests, and have begun to cut out the channel of the creek which has been obstructed by tailings deposited during the winter months; the work was begun at the lower end of the Raby company's flume and continued on upwards. There is not much danger of the drain below that point.

The freshet has began one month earlier this year than it did last season, and however unexpected its arrival, it is very acceptable, Prairie Flower company have struck a good prospect. The other companies are working and paying about as they were at the time of last report.

GROUSE CREEK.

There was great excitement on this creek about a week ago, caused by a simultaneous effort made to discover the 'lead' both above and below the Heron claim. The Black Hawk and Canadian companies, situated on the upper line of the Heron company's ground, opened up old shafts that they had sunk last fall and began work. Black Hawk company are running an incline from their shaft, and the Canadian company are drifting in an unknown direction, and although both companies have been working in the immediate vicinity of the channel, neither of them has yet reported a 'prospect' below the Heron company's ground, and about opposite to the Hard-up company's tunnel. The Water Witch company sunk a shaft near the centre of the creek, and in drifting towards the left-hand side found deep ground, which created no little excitement for a few days; but the supposed channel proved to be one of those undulations which created the excitement in the Hard-up ompany's tunnel several weeks ago. The Jewellers shop company are now sinking an intermediate shaft between their old one and the shaft of the Water Witch company, in search of the same 'lead.' It is beginning to appear more likely than ever that the Heron company shall have worked out the whole of the 'lead,' through ground a distance of nearly 1000 feet before it shall have been found either above or below their side lines. Such is mining!

KEITHLEY CREEK.

The Anglo-American Hydraulic company leave the beginning of this week, with hose and provisions. The shareholders are very sanguine of success.

CANYON CREEK.

The contract of the Washburne company for sawing the lumber required to construct their arastras was let to Baker & Williams at 14½ cents per foot. Mr James Cristle has been appointed foreman of the company in place of Mr G. B. Wright, resigned, and leaves in a few days to take charge of the work.

ITEMS.

Griffith Lewis, a native of South Wales, died at the William Creek Hospital, on Friday last, of inflammation of the bowels. The deceased was about 31 years of age, and was worth several thousand dollars, which he made in Cariboo.

A Fire Company has been organized in Barkerville. They intend to build a large water tank on the hill behind the town; they intend also to have a number of sheet iron buckets made for the use of the company.