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THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 8. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1867. NO. 30

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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G. Street	30 Cornhill, London

The Fenians.

The gracious act of Her Majesty in commuting the sentences of the Irish Fenians recently condemned to death will, it is hoped, be productive of good results. It is said that the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church; and there can be no doubt that the leaders of the Fenians have suffered a terrible disappointment by the refusal of the British Government to martyrise at least one of their number. They want a fresh crop of martyrs to keep the Order alive. The strange letter of "President" Roberts of New York to Colonel Lynch—who was captured during the Fenian raid in Canada a year ago, and sentenced to death—in which the valiant "President" expressed a fear that the "Colonel's" neck was not to be stretched, was one of the most ludicrous and impudent letters ever penned. The President plainly said that the cause required a martyr to ensure its success; and he did not see what objection the Colonel could have to ascending the scaffold, when he must be aware that his death would add millions in men and money to the cause. The poor "Colonel," however, failing to see the thing in the same light as his leader, indignantly sent the epistle to the Canadian papers for publication, and gladly accepted a commutation of his sentence to twenty years' imprisonment. Latterly we have heard little or nothing of the movements of the American Fenians; but by Saturday's despatches we observe that the New York *Herald* (doubtful authority) credits them with an army of 50,000 men, ready at short notice to invade Canada. While we do not believe that the order is actually defunct, it is certainly moribund, and all the sensation despatches of the *Herald* will not galvanize it into active existence again. It is too far gone to be resuscitated. The Fenian excitement was at its height when Stephens was "firing the Irish heart" in the States by eloquent appeals in behalf of an invasion of Ireland. His treachery was the turning-point to the whole affair. Thousands, utterly disgusted with the faithlessness and dishonesty of their leader, abandoned the movement in despair, and the failure of the Fenians in the United States to furnish assistance to their brethren during the late revolt in Ireland shows to what a depth of insignificance their frequent failures have reduced them. The order of Her Majesty commuting the sentences, has given the Fenians another blow from which they can never wholly recover, although they may attempt to prolong their existence by another movement "in August next."

Confederation.

It is not often that one comes across anything in the *British Columbian* worthy of reproduction. We should as soon expect to discover a piece of precious metal among a heap of dross as to find an article in our Westminster cotemporary that possessed intrinsic value or merit. Yet Saturday's impression contains a good article on the subject of Confederation, from which we make the following extract. It is like a nugget found in very unpromising diggings—all the more valuable because unexpected:

"If, instead of incurring the contempt of our neighbors and losing our own self-respect, we would go to work like men and encourage others to join with us in developing the undoubted resources of the country, it would be better for all. Meanwhile, of course, let nothing be left undone, no stone unturned, that will tend to hasten the admission of British Columbia into the Confederation upon fair terms. We cannot understand the nervous unrest to which some of our people appear to be subject lest British Columbia should, through seeming supineness, be left out in the cold. No one at all familiar with the geographical position of this Colony, and possessing anything like a fair apprehension of its absolute indispensability to the completeness of the new Dominion, leaving altogether out of the calculation its intrinsic value, can for a moment contemplate the possibility of such a contingency. The fact is, as we have said over and over again, this Colony must be to the Dominion of Canada what the key-stone is to the arch. It may be the last, the finishing touch; but without it the structure is incomplete—cannot stand! Although having a common interest with our fellow-colonists on the other side, we shall be in a position, and it will be our duty, to gain admission upon terms which shall fully recognize the value and importance of this territory to the Dominion, and which shall secure to us every fair and legitimate advantage. We must not 'throw ourselves away' while smarting under the effects of a temporary depression."

British Rights in the Russian Territory.

The treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia defined the line of demarcation between the American territories of the two powers, and conferred certain rights upon British subjects in respect to the Russian territory. We quote these provisions at the [illegible]. It will be observed, by the concluding section, that British subjects are *forever guaranteed* the free navigation of the streams that flow into the ocean through the thirty-mile strip from 54:40 to 60. This right, therefore, the Russian Government could not have abrogated by the treaty it has recently made with the United States ceding the territory:

Art. 3—Commencing with the southernmost point of the island called Prince of Wales' Island, which point lies in the parallel of 54° 40 north latitude, and between the 131st and the 133d degrees of west longitude (meridian of Greenwich) the said line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland channel, as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude. From this last mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast as far as the point of interjection of the 141st degree of west longitude (of the same meridian); and finally, from the said point of interjection, the said meridian of 141 degrees, in its prolongation as far as the Frozen ocean, shall form the limit between the Russian and British possessions on the continent of America to the northwest.

"Art. 4—With reference to the line of demarcation laid down in the preceding article it is understood—'1st. That the Island called Prince of Wales' Island shall belong wholly to Russia. 2nd. That wherever the summit of the mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitute to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude shall prove to be at the distance of more than 10 marine leagues from the coast, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast which is to belong to Russia, as before mentioned, shall be formed by a line parallel to the windings of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of 10 marine leagues therefrom.

"Art. 6—It is understood that the *subjects of his Britannic Majesty, from whatever quarter they may arrive*, whether from the ocean or the interior of the continent, *shall for ever enjoy the right of navigating freely* and without any hindrance whatever, *all the rivers and streams* which, in their course towards the Pacific ocean, may cross the line of coast described in Art. 3 of the present convention."

*In describing his course down the Mackenzie and along the shores of the Arctic sea, not far from Russian America, Sir John Richardson says, "the boggy places were only seen on the sea coast."

THE NEGROES IN CHARLESTON—The colored people of Charleston are in the midst of a religious revival. On Sunday, the 17th ult., some 60, male and female, were publicly immersed. The newspaper account of the scene states that the men wore white shirts and drawers, the women white gowns; and 200 or 300 of the assembly, as if seized with a sudden inspiration, indulged in what is described as 'a series of striking gymnastics.'

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Monday, June 3th.

TRADE WITH RUSSIAN AMERICA — In the telegraphic advices regarding the admission of goods into Russian America, it is stated that no foreign goods will be admitted except those on which the American scale of customs duties have been paid "until Congress legislates on the subject." This order closes the Sitka door to trade from this port for some months, at least. By a wise regulation, no ardent spirits, firearms or ammunition will be permitted to be landed. This provision will preserve peace between the whites and natives until the American Government shall have taken formal possession of their new territory. The goods shipped on the Fideliter the other day from this port will probably be admitted by the Russian officials, notwithstanding no official intimation of the cession of the territory has as yet been received by them; their policy heretofore has been to exclude all merchandise except their own; we understand that Mr Kohl was the bearer of despatches from the customs authorities of San Francisco to the Russian authorities at New Archangel instructing them to admit the cargo.

A FALSEHOOD.—The editor of the *Columbian*, following in the wake of the still more unprincipled *News* of this city, accuses the COLONIST of having "become jubilant over the prospect of this Colony becoming a territory of the United States." This is a deliberate falsehood of the *honorable* editor of the *Columbian*, one which, if he has no self-respect left, he should have had more regard for his position as councillor than to have perpetrated. So far from "swallowing the bait," we distinctly stated that Annexation was not possible—that the English ministry would not sell a foot of British territory, and that even if it were disposed to attempt the sale, that the influence of Canada would prevent the sale being consummated. Our position, from first to last, has been that Annexation is impossible, while Confederation is within our reach. [illegible] we have never swerved.

CLIMATE OF RED RIVER AND SASKATCHEWAN.—The climate of the Red River and Saskatchewan district is materially modified by the great chain of lakes that surround it, softening and moistening the prevailing winds. In consequence, although in about 49 to 51 degrees north latitude, the belt of the country bordering on the lakes for some miles back from the water, is becoming celebrated for the perfection of its fruits and the certainty of the crop. The district owes to the same cause the most extensive and valuable forests of timber now anywhere to be found east of the Rocky Mountains.

THE NANAIMO INDIAN RESERVE—A fruitful theme of complaint by settlers has been the possession by the natives of a large tract of most valuable farming land at Cowichan, which they would neither improve themselves nor allow others to do so. Assistant Surveyor General Pearse has lately been engaged in surveying the reserve, and finds that the Indians have held for a long time several hundred acres of land more than they were entitled to. This land will now be thrown into the market and improved instead of lying, as it has done for many years, unimproved.

ITEMS IN BRIEF—The ship Corderilla, to take in 2000 tons of coal, has arrived at Nanaimo....Equipments for the Seymour artillery corps have reached Westminster..... There are six patients in the Cariboo hospital....Rev Mr Cave has been appointed Chaplain to the Governor....The H. B. Company's ship Princess Royal sailed on Saturday night for Burrard Inlet to take in 40,000 feet of lumber for Valparaiso....The H. B. Company's steamer Otter departed on Saturday night for the Northwest coast and Sitka on a trading voyage.

FROM THE EAST COAST SETTLEMENTS—The steamer Sir James Douglas arrived Saturday evening from Comox, Nanaimo and Cowichan settlements, bringing down farm produce and about twenty-five passengers. There were on board Messrs Pearse, Dr Davie, Mohun, Loat, Hart, Talbot, Rev Seghers and three Sisters of Charity. Reports from the several settlements speak well of the crops. At Cowichan the survey of the Indian reserve has been completed, and several hundred acres of fine land lopped off the portion formerly held by the natives.

GOVERNOR SEYMOUR will proceed to the Metlakatlah Mission from New Westminster before returning to Victoria. In the meantime Government House will be placed in order for His Excellency's reception in about ten days from date.

Messrs Andean, Nimguay and James McEwen have been appointed Road Commissioners in Chemainus district.

Comox—The Douglas came down from the settlement yesterday with a few tons of produce for this place and several passengers—amongst the latter we noticed Messrs Robb, Hart, Alexander, Masters, Blessing, Dunsmuir and McTernan. The settlers were busily engaged in farming pursuits, and an unusual breadth of land was sown with cereals this year. The Annexation excitement had reached Comox, and the settlers, according to our informant, seemed inclined to take a very practical view of the matter, and had no disinclination to a change of base, provided a corresponding amount of substantial benefit attended the transfer—*i. e.*, an increased demand for farm produce.—*Nanaimo Tribune, June* 1.

The above item, which was copied into the Annexation organ of this city, is utterly devoid of truth. Mr Robb, of Comox, one of the gentlemen alluded to above, informs us that there is no feeling in the district in favor of Annexation, and that he so told the editor of the Nanaimo *Gazette* when asked by him the state of popular sentiment there. The people of Comox, Mr Robb assures us, are loyal to the "Old Flag" and opposed to Annexation. This is only another instance of the vile means that are being employed to manufacture public opinion in this colony in favor of a separation. The feeling in Victoria, even, which at one time was largely in favor of Annexation, has completely changed, and a more healthy state of public sentiment is everywhere observable.

THE Nanaimo *Gazette* (Annexationist), speaking of the agitation of the Annexation question at Victoria, frankly admits it is diminishing the chances of Victoria to secure the capital; and accuses us (the *Colonist*) of opposing the senseless agitation simply because we are afraid, if it be continued, that the capital will never be removed hither.

HEAVY TAXES.—The Marysville *Appeal* says that the city and county tax of Sacramento alone of that place reaches $80 per annum for each taxpayer. This is saying nothing of the State and General Government taxes, which have to be added to the above.

GUBERNATORIAL FURNITURE. — The Sir James Douglas started for Westminster at 5 o'clock yesterday morning, to bring down the Governor's furniture, with which it is designed to furnish *our* Government House.

THE GREAT BULLION ROBBERY—The perpetrators of the great robbery of bullion belonging to Messrs. Rothschild, from the Waterloo steamer, in the Thames, have not been discovered.

THE steamer California will take the place of the Oriflamme on the route to Sitka—the attempt to induce a large number of persons to visit the newly-acquired territory having failed.

AN Indian whisky vender, while in the act of selling a bottle to a native, on Sunday morning, was seized by the police and corked up until to-day.

WE are glad to learn that the proposition to extend the telegraph line to Cariboo is meeting with substantial support from business men at both ends of the line.

THE schooner Gazelle, seized by the Customs authorities for alleged smuggled, is anchored off the dredger.

WILD STRAWBERRIES are being gathered in large quantities in this vicinity, and are served at the restaurants.

THE U. S. Revenue Cutter Lincoln came over from Port Townsend on Saturday and will return to-day.

IT IT said that the Governor will remain three months on the Island.

THE Active left, as advertised, at four o'clock on Saturday afternoon for Victoria.

Cariboo.

(From the Cariboo Sentinel, May 20.)

The weather continues extremely favorable for the prosecution of mining operations, the water being abundant and the snow having almost disappeared from the creek. It is anticipated that after to-day, which ends the close season, a greater degree of activity will manifest itself among the miners generally than has been seen for some time past, and if their efforts are only crowned with average success we will not long have to complain of the scarcity of the circulating medium.

WILLIAMS CREEK.

Above Richfield claimholders are busy making preparations for working their claims this season. The Bed Rock Flume Company are also laying a lead flume to carry off the water so as to enable the main flume to be laid.

Davis Company washed up for the week about 300 ozs. Nevada Company washed up on Saturday 100 ozs. out of a little dirt taken from the edge of a channel they are now trying to bottom.

The United Company in Conklin's gulch washed up on Thursday 200 ozs.

GROUSE CREEK.

At the upper end of this creek, several companies are prospecting with good prospects of success. Discovery company washed up for the three days prior to Thursday last, 100 oz. They have been steadily at work all winter, and the dividends declared for three months subsequent to 1st November, have averaged $40 to $500 to the share, weekly. Black Hawk company worked two days last week, and washed up about 80 oz. Heron company are now getting on good pay; we did not learn what they washed up last week. The only claim that appears to have got any trace of a channel is the Blind Channel company.

LOWHEE CREEK.

At the upper end of the creek the Jenny Lind company, who have run a tunnel about 800 feet, find the air so bad that they are obliged to put in a water blast. Vaughan-Sweeney company are preparing to wash. Now or Never company are now in 75 feet with their bed rock tunnel; it is calculated they will have 75 feet more to run before the channel is reached. Plumbago company will start washing to-day at the lower end of their claim. East Bank company are doing well. First Chance company are making wages. Calaveras company have commenced sinking a new shaft.

CANYON CREEK.

Mr Christie, the new foreman of the Washburn company, is pushing on the work with the utmost expedition. The ditch has just been completed, and the wheels for pumping the shaft and driving the arastras are also ready for the iron work, which is on its way in. An old Mexican, who understands the working of arastras, is employed in constructing them, and it is expected the company will be prepared to commence crushing in the course of three weeks. There are at present seven men working, but the number will be increased as soon as the state of the work will admit of it. We were shown a number of rich specimens picked up indiscriminately from a heap of quartz taken from the Stewart ledge at a depth of 60 feet. If anything we are inclined to believe the rock looks better than it did on the surface croppings. It is said that as much as 25 cents to the pan can be got in the decomposed rock.

CEDAR CREEK.

There are about 40 men on the creek at present, but none of the claims have yet begun to take out pay, although all are getting ready to wash soon. Provisions are very scarce on the creek, and beef of a very inferior quality is being sold by Chinamen at 50 cents per lb.

ITEMS.

There are, it is said, about 200 Chinamen occupied in mining on the bars and benches of the North Fork of Quesnelle, above the bridge, and are making money.

Messrs Hardy and Cline, two of the party who went out on a prospecting expedition about six weeks ago, have returned. Owing to the frozen state of the ground they could not prospect satisfactorily. They are satisfied the country has every indication of a gold bearing character. The line of their travel was in a northerly direction for a distance of nearly 100 miles. Several streams were crossed, on the bars of which they found a little gold.

Mr Boone's sawmill on Grouse Creek, is expected to be in running order in eight days.

Mr. Waddington on "Anti-Claptrap."

MESSRS EDITORS—If cant terms, vulgar language, vulgar epithets and vulgar abuse form arguments, then my strictures on the Medical Bill have been well answered by the anonymous writer in yesterday's issue of the *Morning News*. His article contains nothing else—unless it be strong internal evidence that it was written by some doctor or surgeon, (I should rather say the latter)—and, what is worse, by one who is in a position. Whether I am right or wrong in this conjecture, one thing is certain: no man of sense, no gentleman who had received a liberal education in a university, or who had studied the ancient languages, would set grammar, logic, language, decency and good taste at defiance in the way "Anti-Claptrap" has done.

"Let the galled jade wince
Our withers are unwrung."

ALFRED WADDINGTON.

Wherefore all this Gas, then?

MESSRS EDITORS:—Yesterday's leader in your cotemporary winds up with, "*We don't believe this Colony is for sale?*" May I ask the fellow, then, why he does not cease his twaddle about annexation and advance some scheme for relieving us from our financial troubles? If he does not think the Colony is for sale, he cannot, surely, believe it is to be *given away*.

INDEX.

A New and Grand Epoch in Medicine.—Dr. MAGGIEL is the founder of a new Medical System. The quantitarians, whose vast internal doses enfeeble the stomach and paralyze the bowels, must give precedence to the man who restores health and appetite, with from one to two of his extraordinary Pills, and cures the most virulent sores with a box or so his wonderful and all healing Salve. These two great specifics of the Doctor are fast superseding all the stereotyped nostrum of the day. Extraordinary cures by Maggiel's Pills and Salve have opened the eyes of the public to the inefficiency of the (so-called) remedies of others, and upon which people have so long blindly depended. Maggiel's Pills are not of the class that are swallowed by the dozen, and of which every box full taken creates an absolute necessity for another. One or two of Maggiel's Pills suffices to place the bowels in perfect order, tone the stomach, create an appetite, and render the spirits light and buoyant. There is no griping, and no reaction in the form of constipation. If the liver is affected, its functions are restored and if the nervous system is feeble, it is invigorated. This last quality makes the medicines very desirable for the wants of delicate females. Ulcerous and eruptive diseases are literally extinguished by the disenfectant power of Maggiel's Salve. In fact, it is here announced that **Maggiel's Bilious, Dyspeptic and Diarrhea Pills** cure where all others fail. While for Burns Scalds, Chilblains, Cuts, and all abrasions of the skin, **Maggiel's Salve** is infallible. Sold by J. MAGGIEL, 1 Pine street, New York, and all Druggists, at 25 cents po