

# THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 7.

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NO. 7.

## THE BRITISH COLONIST

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### GERMANY.

To-day brings with it the grave news that we are approaching the termination of another year. Building strong, and on other day the morning of the year, and glorious holiday comes to us with such and as well as joyous occasions, bringing up to our minds more vividly than any other day in the calendar the scenes of the childhood, when the world, with all its beauties and its wretchedness, was still a sealed book before us. More than any other occasion, we count the flight of time; for every Christmas like the notches in the stick of Sterne's prisoner, marks the steady onward march, and makes us feel that another year has fled, bringing us nearer and nearer to the final close. Let us, however, not receive the advent of this 25th of December in a gloomy mood. Let us rather rejoice that we have lived to see it; and let us celebrate it in a manner fitting the occasion. As we said last Christmas to no man, so we say now. As the first day of the week is intended, besides its usual duties, to be a day for us to rest us away from our mundane pursuits, and to teach us that there is a higher and nobler destiny for man than accumulating a few gold or silver coins, so the holiday steps in to make another gap in our business vocations by turning our attention to recreation and to the cultivation of the best feelings of humanity—the love of our fellows. We cannot, of course, object to human industry, ingenuity, or the desire to be rich; for it is to these qualities we are indebted in a high degree for the advancement of mankind. It is to Lord Bacon, with all his material views, that we are indebted for most of those great discoveries which have made man in one generation a creature more powerful than our forefathers ever dreamt of. What Watt did for steam, Bacon did for thought—he showed how it could be turned to the best advantage; and the world has profited, in a worldly sense at least, by the teaching. But man has other and higher qualities than those brought out in the turmoil of every day life. To make a piece of lifeless metal do the work of a hundred or a thousand horses is no doubt a grand achievement—to live amidst the splendours of wealth and luxury is a state of being coveted by most of us; yet we know that neither condition is in itself at all promotive of happiness, of peace of mind, or even of bodily health. These are the qualities, however, above all others that should be prized—the pearls above price. Without them life is at the best but a sham, and not worth a tithing of the labor devoted to its sustenance. Let us be industrious, but let us not forget that we are robbing ourselves of what money cannot buy when we ignore the softer and more genial feelings of our nature—when we look upon the day of rest and the holiday, not as regenerators of our life, spiritual as well as physical, but as blanks in our ant-like existence. The Christmas holiday is commemorative of an event that can never be sufficiently valued by mankind. It brings before our eyes the most perfect Being that ever trod the earth; it shows us the embodiment of human goodness in Him who was the greatest of all, yet humble; who suffered the most excruciating torments and degradations, yet was meek and submissive; who in all His trials and tribulations forgot not the poor, the sick, and the afflicted; and whose charity was so unbounded that He pleaded for those who were putting Him to the most shameful of deaths. Let us borrow a little of that kindness, that gentleness, that overflowing love and that all pervading charity which were the characteristics of Him who walked the earth eighteen hundred and sixty-five years ago, and the 25th of December will not have come in vain.

best remedy known in the world for the following diseases:  
Jaundice, Secondary, Liver Complaint, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Stomachic, Stone and Gravel, etc., etc.

Dr. J. C. B. & Co., 10 Bond Street, London.  
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## Arrival of H M S Sparrowhawk.

This steamer arrived in Esquimalt Sunday night at half past 8 o'clock, without a mail! She left San Francisco on the 18th at 2:30 p. m., having arrived there the day before at 4:30 p. m., and made the run down in 3 days and 22 hours. Through the courtesy of Commander Porcher we are in receipt of San Francisco papers to the 18th.

### EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

New York, December 12.—Foreign files by the Asia give details of the cattle plague in England. The number of cases reported for the week ending November 18th was 2,669, the grand total since the outbreak of the disease being 27,432, of which 8,998 proved fatal. 1,200 cattle have been killed in hopes of staying the progress of the disease.

Mr. Charles Wheeler has closed the Metropolitan Theatre for a short time. Noah's new play, "Love's Disguise," was produced on the last night with success. Mrs. Julia Gould had appeared as "Marguerite de Valois" in that drama.

Mr. Havens, a talented author, attempted to commit suicide and to murder his three children at Oakland on the 14th instant by the administration of poison. They were likely to recover.

D. B. Vinson, from Colorado Territory, shot a waitress known as French Mary, in the Thunderbolt saloon, Kearny street, and then blew his own brains out. The girl is seriously wounded.

The captain of the bark Mival reports having passed a vessel bottom up 65 miles S. W. of Cape Flattery, and from appearances now pronounced her to be the bark Decatur, from Port Ludlow, to San Francisco.

Shipping on the berth at San Francisco—the brig Tanter, for Victoria, Nanaimo, and New Westminster. The bark Adelaide Cooper, for Victoria.

Steamer Pacific left for Portland on the 15th inst. at 10 a. m.

### SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.

From the Alta, Dec. 15.]  
Bread—Bakers' rate rather quiet, and at the close wheat was less firm, and extra flour in quarter sacks 25¢ per cwt. and 10¢ per bushel.

Flour—Sales of Golden Age, City Mills, National, Golden Gate, Commercial, and Pacific, extra in quarter sacks, at \$6 75 per cwt.; superfine, same brands, at \$6 50 in qrs and \$6 25 in hf sacks. Country brands, such as Napa, Suism, and San Jose, at same: Alviso at \$7; do family, at \$6 75 in qrs sacks.

Wheat—Sales aggregate 2700 sacks coast, \$2; 3300 do good, \$2 02½; and 4000 do choice at \$2 05; at the close, 1600 sacks choice milling at \$1 97½; and 900 do do at \$2 per 100 lbs. Quotable at \$1 92½ @ \$2 100 lbs.

Bread—Pilot is quotable at 5c, and Navy at 4¢ 10¢. The only sale of note reported was 10,000 lbs Pilot to the Government @ 4½¢ per lb.

### CANADA.

The Canadians claim to have evidence of a meditated Fenian uprising, having for its object nothing less than the subversion of the Government and the inauguration of an Irish regime. In view of the alarming threats the military are being called out and sent to the front. The Montreal Transcript of November 25th says:

"At 3½ o'clock yesterday afternoon, a company of the Chasseurs Canadiens, destined for service on the frontier, were inspected in the City Concert Hall. The inspection was conducted by Col. Macdougall Adjutant-General; Colonel Dyde, Commandant; Lieutenant-Colonel George Smith, Deputy Adjutant-General, and Brigade-Major Macpherson. The company numbers 65 men, under the command of Major Cinq Mars, Lieutenant Labranche, and Lieutenant D'Orsonnois, who is acting as ensign. The men made a very creditable appearance. No manoeuvres were executed as the inspection lasted only a few minutes. The company will be inspected at noon to-day in the armory, Victoria square, when the men will appear in complete uniform and in marching order. They will also be mustered into service and be placed under pay from this day. Their destination is Niagara."

Toronto and its environs are picketed with regulars and volunteers, and everything kept in readiness for a conflict.

The Light Ship—Captain Cooper put out to the Sandheads with the Light-ship, on Wednesday, hoping to succeed in mooring her without the aid of steam, but finding the weather unfavorable he made for Burrard Inlet. She reached English Bay, and was towed into the harbor yesterday, where she awaits a steamer to tow her to the Sandheads. The vessel behaved exceedingly well at sea. The lamps were placed in position on Saturday, and were found to work admirably.—Columbian.

The Lake Traffic.—Captain Moore is about to construct a barge, and others will have small boats and canoes ready for the early Spring traffic on Kamloops and Shuswap Lakes. Competent judges are of opinion that there will be an influx to the Big Bend mines next season of five thousand persons.

### FROM MEXICO.

New York, December 14.—The Herald's Vera Cruz correspondent says over two thou-

sand French troops landed there last month. Three thousand more troops are en route from France; also, large munitions of war.

### CALIFORNIA.

There has been a disgraceful riot among the firemen in San Francisco. An alarm of fire was given, and some of the companies coming into collision a rough and tumble fight ensued. Pistol shots were exchanged and several men were injured. Four of the rioters have been arrested and three companies have been suspended by Chief Engineer Scannell.

The much respected Judge Sheppard of the Police Court, San Francisco, died on the 15th inst. He would be buried under the auspices of the Masonic Fraternity.

A meeting of working men has been called to reduce the standard of a day's labor to three hours.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The steamer Enterprise arrived on Saturday from Burrard's Inlet with 33 passengers and an express. Among the passengers were Messrs. Gus. Wright and W. Ladner, who it will be seen by a notice elsewhere, were interested in the contracts for putting down the wagon road and steam communication to the Columbia River, and the general feeling on the subject is that the upstartings would not have fallen into better hands. Capt. Irving who together with Messrs. Smith and Ladner will furnish the steamer, obtains no monopoly for his boat from the Government, but simply a subsidy of \$400 a month for three months.

### FROM BIG BEND.

A party consisting of Mr. Grant, of Soda Creek, and a number of others arrived at New Westminster from Yale in a canoe on Monday. They met with no success in reaching Harrisonmouth. Mr. R. Smith, of the firm of Smith & Ladner, had arrived at Lytton from the Big Bend country. Mr. Smith spoke in the most enthusiastic terms respecting these new mines. He reported the discovery of a new creek, which prospected well. The injury to the roads above Yale had been so far repaired as to render traffic easy, and teams were passing over the road between Yale and Lytton. The bridge at Boston Bar had been re-built.

FIRE IN NEW WESTMINSTER.—About 2 o'clock on Tuesday morning a fire broke out on the second floor of Millard's stone building on Columbia street. The fire was soon extinguished, and the damage was not serious. The building was re-built.

Custom Receipts at New Westminster for week ending Saturday, Dec. 16th:—Duties, (import) £253 14s. 11d.; (export) £340 14s. 3d.; Harbor Dues, £15 3s 10d.; Head Money, £9 16s. 0d.; Tonnage Dues, £49 12s. 0d. Total, £669 1s. 0d.

THE CONTRACTS FOR THE BIG BEND ROAD.—The Columbian states that the contract for constructing a wagon road to Savana's Ferry, was awarded to Mr. G. B. Wright yesterday, and the proposal of Capt. Irving to place a steamer upon Kamloops and Shuswap lakes was accepted on the same day. In the absence of official information, we believe we are substantially correct in stating that the wagon road will leave the present highway at Cache Creek, and is to be completed by the 15th of April. The steamer will be about the size of the Onward, and will be ready for sea on or about the 15th of May. The Government gives no monopoly, but simply pays Capt. Irving \$400 a month, as a subsidy for carrying the mails. It is to be deeply regretted that the steamer could not have been got ready a month or six weeks earlier; but that cannot be helped now. We congratulate the government upon three things, viz: getting both these important enterprises into good hands, starting the wagon road from the right point, and avoiding a monopoly in the navigation of these inland waters. Mr. Wright is just the man to push the road through in the shortest possible time, while Capt. Irving will do all that enterprise and energy can accomplish in bringing out a good steamer at the earliest possible day; and when afloat it could not be in better hands. Capt. Irving goes down to Victoria this morning to make arrangements for the machinery.

SAILING OF THE PACIFIC SQUADRON.—A Fortress Monroe correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing under date of November 2, says:—"The Pacific squadron, under the command of Commodore John Rogers, sailed this morning at eleven o'clock for its long, perilous voyage to the western shores of our continent. The squadron is composed of the following named vessels all commanded by tried and experienced officers: Flagship Vanderbilt, Commander Sanford; side-wheel frigate Powhatan, Comdr. Ridgely; sloop of war Tuscarora, Commander Starkey; double-turreted Monitor Monadnock, Commander Bruce. These four powerful vessels, comprising the squadron, are officered and manned by the best material in the navy, and have been selected with an especial care to deal with any important events or emergencies that may arise in coming years. No pains have been spared to make each vessel perfectly seaworthy, and their condition of a first-rate order. The iron-clad Monadnock has very recently been thoroughly overhauled and refitted and strengthened in an efficient manner. Among the officers of the squadron little or no doubt is entertained of her ability to successfully weather the stormy portion of the latitudes they will traverse, and of the entire squadron successfully reaching San Francisco. The squadron will necessarily be subject to various delays on the trip, which will lengthen their voyage to many weeks. At ten o'clock this morning the side-wheel frigate arrived here from Norfolk, and without anchoring, signalled to the flagship Vanderbilt, and everything being in readiness, the whole fleet got under way at eleven o'clock, and proceeded to sea, firing a parting salute. All day long it has been exceedingly stormy and foggy, and from present appearances, looks like continuing so some time.

ECOLEASTICAL.—We understand that the Rev. Mr. Jamieson, of the Presbyterian Church has succeeded in drawing together a large congregation at Nanaimo, and purposes taking his family there to reside.

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### LATER.

Passengers who arrived by the Enterprise on Saturday give additional highly satisfactory news from Big Bend, confirming all previously received. The Discovery company took out over thirty ounces the last day they worked.

### FROM KOOTENAY

the news also continues to be satisfactory.