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And Victoria Chronicle.

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Robert Harris	Comox, do
Sarah Harris	Cowichan do
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British Columbian Estimates.

A glance through the complicated official accounts of the revenue and expenditure of British Columbia during the last year is certainly not calculated either to awaken a sense of the administrative ability of the Government or a feeling of satisfaction at the prospect of this Island being drawn into the maelstrom of departmental extravagance which has characterized the Government of British Columbia since she became a separate Colony. The net Revenue of the Colony during the year 1865, exclusive of arrears of former years (amounting to less than £5000) was £117,714. The estimated Colonial Revenue was £153,615, showing a deficit of nearly £36,000. On the debit side of the account, the actual Colonial expenditure fell short of the Estimates as voted by nearly £50,000, but arrears of previous years remaining unliquidated swallowed up nearly £40,000 of that sum. The total Colonial expenditure, as voted, was £205,728; the actual expenditure £146,978, or, adding arrears, £186,016, showing, in spite of the necessary attempt to economize, an excess of expenditure over revenue of nearly £20,000. The total amount voted for the service of the year, including sinking fund, loans, etc., and for which the revenue was chargeable, was £258,896; the total expenditure £275,586. The deficiency in the estimated revenue arose chiefly from the falling off in the noxious gold export duty, which did not yield one half of the estimate of £25,000. Road tolls fell short by £8,877; miners' certificates and mining receipts by more than £10,000, and tonnage dues, assay fees, licenses, &c., were more or less below the estimate. With the exception of a small surplus under the heads of Customs dues, head-money, postage, land sales and revenue, reimbursements, interest, and miscellaneous receipts, all the estimated items of revenue exceed the actual receipts. The principal saving was effected in that convenient department, the Lands and Works; the two items of roads, streets and bridges, and works and buildings, alone exhibiting a saving of over £42,000; while immigration, interest, and a few other items, are made to assist to a small extent in the retrenchment. With these facts before us, what are the prospects for a solvent balance sheet when the accounts of the present year are closed? The country is already saddled with heavy liabilities, for which the people of this Colony have received no equivalent, and with a large deficit from the preceding year to liquidate from a decreasing revenue, the unconditional Union resolutions confer upon us the inestimable boon of surrendering the right of self-government, and of assuming a co-liability in the concerns of our reckless and insolvent neighbors. Rigid economy is the only means open for the salvation of the two Colonies, and we rejoice to see that Governor Seymour is evincing a determination to apply the pruning knife and to effect retrenchment where it is most needed. When the cumbrous and improvident system of Government which has hitherto preyed like the canker worm on the life springs of these Colonies shall have been pared down to a compass more commensurate with our means, and not until then, can we expect to take fresh strides in the path of progress. The main source of revenue in future will be derived from the customs duties collected at this port. Last year, the importations into Victoria reached $2,883,000; this year, taking the average of the past ten months, they will probably not exceed $1,500,000; and the first few months of 1867 will no doubt show a still further decline. Computing the aggregate of next year's importations, however, at only $1,000,000, this, with the aid of contributions from other source, should yield sufficient for the moderate requirements of the Government; but unless we desire to stifle our commercial prospects the tariff upon dry goods, clothing and other articles of trade must be modified, and this again will necessitate still greater frugality in our public expenditure before we can hope to tide over our financial embarassments and restore confidence in this much abused jewel of the British diadem.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE

Monday, Nov. 26.

INTERIOR TELEGRAMS.—We condense from the *Columbian* some interesting telegraphic items from the interior of the colony. Cariboo dates are to 22nd Nov.: Adair & Brown, of the William Creek Bed-Rock Drain, have sold out to Anderson & McLaren.... Heron, of the Heron Claim, Grouse Creek, has been presented by his partners with a gold watch and buckle, as a mark of esteem....Jack of Clubs and Canadian Creeks are to be thoroughly prospected during the winter..... The Raby, Forest Rose, Cameron and Last Chance Claims, on William Creek, are paying well....The Watson and Welsh Companies are running through bed-rock, and building a flume.....On Grouse Creek, for the two last weeks, the Heron Company had paid dividends amounting to $1300 to the share. The Discovery, Full-Rig and Shy Robin, on the same creek, are paying largely....On Conklin Gulch, the United Company paid 435 ounces in two weeks.....On Cedar Creek, the Aurora have taken out over $7000; they expect to work until the 1st December. The Discovery is taking out an ounce a-day to the hand. J. Sellers & Co. have just sunk a shaft on a bar that has been formed on the side of the lake at the mouth of the creek, and found a stratum of pay dirt six feet in thickness at a depth of 17 feet; the dirt prospects from 5 to 25 cents to the pan. The company are preparing to drift. There are 30 to 35 men on this creek; 8 or 10 will winter there to saw lumber. The Aurora will require 30,000 feet, as they intend to tail into the lake....P. C. Dunleavy, of Soda Creek ranch, was shot through the calf of the leg, on the 22nd, by the discharge of a loaded rifle, which had been left standing in a room, and which was accidentally knocked down....The steamer Enterprise has made her last trip for the season.

QUARTZ MILL PROSPECTUS—We have been shown the prospectus of a company to be formed by Mr J. B. Chancellier, an old quartz miner, for the erection of an eight-stamp mill on Hixon Creek. The mill will be driven by water. The company is to consist of five members, each member to hold four shares, each share to be two hundred and fifty dollars, the whole capital to be five thousand dollars. The machinery is to be purchased in San Francisco by Mr Chancellier, who is to be general manager. Application has been made to the Gold Commissioner for three hundred inches of the water of Hixon Creek to drive the mill.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.—The *Columbian*, as usual, is full of sensational rumors concerning the official changes. It establishes Mr Begbie in the position of Chief Justice, and having disposed of Mr Needham as going home, elevates Mr Crease to the Bench, and appoints Mr Walkem Attorney General. Mr Franks is summarily dismissed as Treasurer, and his office amalgamated with that of the Collector of Customs. These statements are apparently all made at haphazard, and are more likely to be untrue than correct. Our cotemporary, seemingly, knows nothing about the "changes," and is only *pumping* for information.

FROM THE EAST COAST—The steamer Sir James Douglas arrived on Saturday afternoon from Comox, Nanaimo and the settlements, bringing twelve passengers and freight, including twenty splendid hogs, the property of Messrs. Thompson & McKelvy, farmers, of Comox. Messrs. Samuel Harris and Davis, from the Comox Coal mine, were on board. The steamer experienced rough weather during the trip. The Nicholas Biddle was loaded, and the Isabel had arrived from Burrard Inlet to tow her down.

FESTIVAL—On Saturday the eldest son of Mr H. M. Cohen, having reached the age of thirteen—at which age the spiritual responsibility of a father for his son's acts, according to the Jewish creed, ceases—a number of friends enjoyed the hospitality of Mr Cohen at his residence. Amid the ceremonies the printer was not forgotten, and the good health and long life of the young scion of the house of Cohen were heartily drank by our staff.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The Elocution Class will meet this evening, at eight o'clock, when the following readings and recitations will be given:—"Marion," a romance of the French school, a recitation by Mr W. K. Bull; a recitation from Julius Cæsar, by Mr Young; a reading, by Mr Orr; a paper on the early history of Vancouver Island, by Mr C. B. Young; a recitation, by Mr Rennie.

A MISTAKE.—The *Columbian* says: "The COLONIST states that the appointment of Judge Begbie as Chief Justice would be regarded on the Island in the light of a public calamity." Our neighbor misrepresents us. What we said was that the retirement of Chief Justice Needham would be regarded as a "public calamity."

WESLEYAN TEA MEETING.—The seventh annual tea meeting of the Wesleyan Church will take place on the 19th proximo in the basement of the church. These annual gatherings have always been of a very agreeable nature, and as the object is a worthy one we hope to see the forthcoming entertainment largely attended.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise arrived on Saturday evening with sixty passengers. The steamer Reliance had arrived at New Westminster from Yale with 50 passengers. While passing the "Sisters," below Yale, she got caught in the "riffle," and lost the whole of her guards along one side.

GOVERNOR SEYMOUR announces that he will receive all those who may wish to see him on every Wednesday and Saturday morning, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Persons who may desire to bring matters of public importance before him will be received any week day within the hours mentioned.

A PETITION from twenty electors residing on the Douglas Portage, whose votes were not recorded by the returning officer in the late contest between Robson and Black for the Legislative Council, has been handed to Governor Seymour. The petitioners pray that a poll may be taken on the portage.

ST ANDREW'S SOCIETY.—The St Andrew's Society will hold their annual dinner at the Colonial Hotel, on Friday evening, 30th inst. The installation of officers will take place at the Colonial Hotel, at six o'clock, on the same evening.

REFUNDING.—Not only the collection of the double port charges but the head-money has been discontinued, and parties who paid the illegal exactions may now receive their money back upon application at the custom-house.

H. B. W. AIKMAN gives notice in the *Government Gazette* that he intends to apply at the next Hilary Term of the Supreme Court to be admitted and enrolled as Attorney and Solicitor of the said Court.

THE FIDELITER, from this port for Portland, was lying in Neah Bay, near Cape Flattery, as late as Wednesday last. She was detained by severe weather outside the Straits.

"THE WIRES."—The line continued down during yesterday; the weather has been most severe throughout Washington Territory, and the wires have been broken in several places by falling trees.

SALE OF A SLOOP.—On Wednesday, by order of themortgagee, Mr Mc Crea will sell the sloop Leonede, 14 22-96 tons register, and well found in sails, rigging, anchor, chains, &c.

"MONITOR" announces that he did not sign the Needham petition. Perhaps that is the reason the name of every respectable man is attached to the document.

TENDERS for the conveyance of a monthly mail from Ashcroft to French Creek, etc., are requested until the 29th inst. by the Acting Postmaster General.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—Messrs Franklin will sell the Bank of British Columbia building, the Bee-Hive Hotel and other property, at noon today.

☞ A re-union ball is to come off at Nanaimo next week in honor of the union of the colonies.

BASE BALL—A match played on Saturday by the Olympic and City Base Ball Clubs resulted in an easy victory for the first named.

☞THE ISABEL, having the coal-laden ship Nicholas Biddle in tow, arrived from Nanaimo last evening.

THE ACTIVE doubtless left San Francisco for this port at noon on Saturday, and may be looked for on Wednesday.

THERE WERE NO SIGNS of the Sparrowhawk, with Governor Seymour, at Esquimalt, up to a late hour last evening.

☞The Constantine has gone on the ways at Laings'.

☞The Otter has commenced to take in cargo for the North.

☞The Gunboat Forward returned to Esquimalt from San Juan yesterday morning.

Union Proclaimed at Nanaimo.

After waiting in anxious suspense, nearly twelve months, for something definite to be done in the way of uniting the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, the Union Act is at length proclaimed to the people of Nanaimo. Justice Franklyn read the Proclamation on Wednesday last, at noon, in front of the Court House. There were but few persons present to listen to the reading, and the ceremony was of a very tame and uninteresting character. The people are, of course, aware of the importance attached to the Union, but they had become weary in waiting for the Act to be put in force. Their patience has been exhausted, the matter was well-nigh forgotten.

The immediate effect of the Proclamation has been an advance on every description of goods in the market, excepting only, general farm produce, so that the people have to pay tariff on goods which the merchant has received duty free. The merchant, however, has invested considerable in obtaining an early stock, in the hope, doubtless, of profiting by the increased price brought about by the new order of things, which it is only fair he should do. Tobacco has gone up two bits a-pound, and other goods in a ratio corresponding with the charges imposed by the new tariff. It is needless to state that this new imposition will add very considerably to the cost of living, and in no place more than Nanaimo will the consequence of its provisions be felt. An import on mere luxuries—if the expenses of Government are reduced to a figure proportioned to the capabilities of the people and country to pay—ought to be sufficient for all the demands of Governor Seymour. A reduction of the duty on some of the most indispensable necessaries of life is imperatively required. The Real Estate Tax will be repealed. Next in order comes the repeal of the Salaries Tax. This obnoxious measure presses with undue severity on our coal miners, some of whom are positively not able to pay it.

Governor Seymour's reply to the New Westminster Council has provoked a bitter comment at Nanaimo. Recognising the "painful nature" of the "important duties" before him, His Excellency asks, of all the Colonists from Victoria to Cariboo, a lenient and indulgent consideration of his earlier acts. You seem to misconstrue the meaning and intent of this clause. It obviously has reference to what is to be done, not to what has been done. Although not directly asking forgiveness of former errors, the Governor admits that he committed some mistake when he states that "the somewhat over-sanguine expectations of some of his correspondents have not been fully realized." To secure the "lenient and indulgent consideration" which he asks, His Excellency has only to acknowledge the claims and interest of other "cities" as well as those of New Westminster, whose inhabitants, through the Town Council, modestly request that they be not overlooked. The Council seems to accept the return of His Excellency as the "surest guarantee" that he will watch their interests with more than ordinary care. So ought he to guard the interests of all the "cities" from "Victoria to Cariboo." Nanaimo, with a population as large, or larger, than New Westminster, giving employment to more men, with resources almost boundless—has claims, too, which it is hoped will not be "overlooked," nor be "indifferent" to Governor Seymour. That His Excellency will endeavor to carry out "the desire to promote harmony and goodwill" we do not doubt, and we indulge pleasurable anticipations that his administration, despite the opposite feeling which some in your city entertain, will be fraught with much public benefit to the welfare of the people and to the prosperity of the Colony.

ANGLO.

Progress of the Americans in Russia.

(Correspondent of the New York Tribune.)

ABOVE KOSTROMA, Sept. 3d.

ARRIVAL AT KOSTROMA.

It was Sunday morning rather early when we arrived at Kostroma, and the first man at the landing was the Governor of the three provinces and a vast extent of the country—Lieutenant General Rudsewitch. He came down afoot, in brilliant uniform and smiling face, inviting us at once to his official residence, and then accompanied us all the day till midnight, when we steamed away up the river. After the Governor, we followed Fox to another functionary, known as the President or Marshall of the Nobility—Kartseff—a man evidently of great importance in the place, whose office denotes the continuance of marked distinctions in society here, and especially of the ruling power of the Nobles. Thence to the Mayor's, a man elected from the merchant class, and treated as of no consequence; thence to the cathedral of the Assumption, dating 1239, and very little altered since, containing gold, silver and jewels, like all the principal Greek churches, of immense value; thence to the old residence of the Romanoffs before they became Czars, remarkable for its very small doors, thick walls and narrow rooms; and thence to iron and other factories.

At breakfast on our steamer we were attended by about five thousand men, women and children, who lined the shores, climbing on freight boats, or sailed around us, and did up the cheering in a very loyal fashion. When the crowd applauds in Russia, there is always a bearded old fellow with a powerful bass voice who begins with the syllable 'Hoo,' at which the entire mass take the cue and sing out with powerful effect a long-drawn 'Ro-a-w,' like the rising and then gradually falling curve of a projectile. Old 'Hoo' has become an old acquaintence and a household word to the party.

THE DINNER TO THE EMBASSY.

The dinner was at 5 o'clock, in the great Club House or Society Hall of the nobility of the district. It is a splendid building with marble halls; in the dining room there was a gallery for ladies, and behind it a row of some circular, owlish windows, like those sometimes seen in ancient churches, made to peep through for courtlings and dames who do not wish it to be known whether they are there or elsewhere. Music superb—indeed everything about Kostroma charmed us: perhaps because the common people seemed superior to the majority we had been accustomed to see, or because in their midst we found the only pretty women we had met outside the French fashion classes.

THE SPEECH OF WELCOME.

Kartsoff, the Marshall of the nobility, in offering the first toast, said the appearance of Fox, the Ambassador of the United States, among them, was certainly a proof of the sympathy of the American people with the Russians, but was likewise a bond of friendship between two nations as strong and lasting as possible between countries of such similarity of national greatness. Russia and America travelled by different paths, but were obtaining the same results. They insured to the people freedom of labor founded on the rights of man. The beneficent reform of giving liberty to 21,000,000 of people had been endorsed and carried into effect by the nobility; voluntary service was now the foundation of the new civil structure which their noble monarch had inaugurated in every department of civil life in Russia. And all this has been carried out without any disturbance of order. With all their hearts they thanked Fox and his companions, as representatives of the United States and the whole American nation, which has been so friendly to us, [Applause.]

FOX'S RESPONSE.

Fox responded as follows: "Kostroma has surrounded us with welcome. Outside a great crowd singing the exciting national songs of Russia. Within are mingled the melodies of the two nations, and those glorious flags sacred to history. In the galleries, too, far separated from us are the angels who bless our meeting by their presence. Pilgrims from the New World we have come hither desiring to associate with your eventful history the name of the United States, to plant on this sacred soil the sympathies which the people of that great country commissioned me to express at the danger which menaced your beloved Emperor. And we pray that the seed thus sown may bear a perennial harvest of fraternal feeling between the two nations forever and forever. (Great applause.) Let us drink to his Excellency the Governor, the Marshall of the Nobilty, to the Mayor and to the people of Kostroma."

SPEECH OF CURTIN.

Curtin, in the course of the evening, got off the following, for which he had to suffer another tossing. "There are places which by their sacred and glorious memories have such a significance that at sight of them our hearts are involuntarily filled with emotion. In one of those places, sacred to the glorious past, we find ourselves to-day. At a time of suffering and trial, when Russia, without a Czar, was harassed by enemies who hoped to ruin and destroy her, in Kostroma lived a young Boyor worthy to be chosen the Emperor and deliverer of Russia at the universal call of the people of Russia. When the life of the newly elected chief was in danger, in Kostroma was found a peasant who gladly laid down his life for his native land. Centuries later, when the guilty hand of an assassin was raised against the descendant of Michael Romanoff, the Kostroma Boyor, God's providence, watching over the destinies of Russia, did not permit such a crime to be accomplished, and the hand of a Kostroma peasant a second time saved the land from unspeakable misery. Such is the significance of Kostroma. She gave a line of Emperors to Russia, and twice saved to the country its sovereign's life. Therefore it is that Kostroma is honored in Russia; therefore it is that we Americans are standing here to-day at the cradle of the house of Romanoff, having come from our distant fatherland to give you our greetings and congratulations upon the preservations of your Emperor's life, and upon the heroism and virtue of your illustrious townsman, Susanin and Komissaroff, the saviors of Michael Romanoff and Alexander II. Therefore I ask the honor of proposing a toast to the prosperity of beautiful Kostroma." [Cheers and applause.]

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