

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 8.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1867.

NO. 24

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY
HIGGINS, LONG & CO.

TERMS:—
Per Annum, in advance.....\$6 00
For Six Months.....4 00
For Three Months.....2 00
Per Week.....2 25

PAYABLE INvariably IN ADVANCE.

OFFICE—Colonist Building, Government and Langley streets, adjoining Bank of British Columbia.

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English and Continental Echoes.

Our files of English papers by the Sparrowhawk are only to the 3rd of March. The essence of the most important news that they contain has been already reported by telegraph, and the only duty devolving upon the writer of this article is merely to supply the details, and to express his opinions upon topics of most interest to the Colonial reader. The Fenian Revolt, the Reform Bill and the Confederation Scheme occupy the attention of the English mind to the exclusion of almost every other subject. With regard to the Fenian affair, we know, by cable, what a wretched, ill-advised and "one-horse" outbreak it was. Sir John Falstaff's ragged crew must have been gentlemen in appearance and action compared with those of some of the conspirators. The track was torn up on the Great Southern and Western Railway, and the guards carried off, and but for the loyalty of the country people, who signalled the advancing trains in time to stop them, great loss of life would have ensued. The Ballynackin police barracks was attacked and fired. The police guard were smoked out, and allowed to make an egress by means of a ladder from one of the top windows. The buildings were destroyed. A detachment of the 71st Infantry overtook the rebels at Bottle Hill, where they dispersed them and captured four of their number. Particulars of the subsequent revolt will, perhaps, reach us by the next mail. The details of the Reform Bill, to which allusion has been so often made in these columns, are contained in the Times, of February 26th. It contains four "fancy franchises," qualifying the man possessing them to vote for the borough or county in which he may be resident. There are an educational franchise, somewhat more extended than that proposed in 1859, and franchises dependent on the deposit of £80 in a savings bank for twelve months, or on the possession of £50 in the funds, or on the payment of twenty shillings yearly in direct taxes. In addition to these new franchises it is proposed that the existing occupation qualifications should be lowered to a £20 rating qualification in counties, and a £6 rating qualification in boroughs. Mr Diersel estimated that the fancy franchises would add 124,000, and the reduction in the occupation qualifications would add 82,500 to the county voters, and that the numbers added to the borough voters by the same means would be 82,000 and 130,000 respectively. The dream of plurality of voting, which was explained to mean the giving a voter an additional vote where he possessed one of the fancy qualifications besides an occupation qualification, was abandoned. With relation to the distribution of seats, it is proposed to disfranchise absolutely, for corruption, Yarmouth, Lancaster, Reigate, and Totnes, so gaining seven seats, and to take a single seat from every double-mem-

bered borough with a population of less than 8000, by which twenty-three seats more will be gained—fourteen of which will be given to large unrepresented towns, chiefly in the North, one to Torquay and fifteen seats to new County divisions. The demonstration of the London Reformers on the 11th is everywhere pronounced an utter and complete failure. There is going to be a mess made of the Paris Exhibition. Napoleon, finding that owing to some heavy jobbing, has ordered that each nation shall pay part of its own expenses. So the House of Commons, which expected to pay about £40,000, finds itself let in for £40,000 more. Naturally the House is savage, and but for Mr Gladstone's help, poor Mr Hunt, who has to ask for the money, and who naturally does not want to scold the Emperor, would hardly have got his vote. He obtained it, however, and now there is a new trouble on hand. The "gasometer," as the Emperor himself calls it, is constructed as if on purpose to burn the wonderful mass of treasure it will contain, the insurance offices fight shy of it, and some great exhibitors are frightened. The danger seems to be of the gravest kind, so grave as to afford a hope that its very imminence will make the authorities as careful as they are in a powder magazine. Lights, cigars, and hobbled shoes ought all to be equally and absolutely forbidden. The King of Prussia opened the North German Parliament on the 24th of February, in a speech the drift of which is that he intends to unite Germany. He declares that Providence had led the German people towards unity by ways they neither expected nor desired; that the Princes have been ready to meet the requirements of the Fatherland; that he would have been equally ready, if "Providence had not called him to the leadership of the Commonwealth." He warned the Parliament of the danger of altering the draught of the Federal Pact, the negotiations having shown him the difficulty of obtaining the assent of so many different Princes. As soon as the Constitution was settled he would open his hands to the South German States, offering them a combined guarantee for the security of all Germany, a customs' league, and a common law for trade, as the bases of alliance. He trusted "that the yearning and striving of the latest generations would be realized in their common work." The draught to which the King alludes will be fiercely discussed, the Liberals intending to substitute the more Democratic draught of 1848. The King, however, with the consent of the Federal Council, can dissolve the Parliament, and the comparative strength of parties is uncertain. It is believed that the balance of power depends on the votes of the members from the minor States, but the Parliament is as yet very raw and uncertain of its own purposes. Debating in the French Chamber is getting sharper. During a very useless debate on the legal right of the Emperor to abolish the discussion on the Address, which ended in a vote of 241 to 25 in favor of the Emperor, M. Jules Favre told the Minister of State, "We hold everything at the will of one man. You are no longer of your epoch. In the midst of Europe emancipated you believe yourself, or rather you wish to believe yourself, the Minister of a Marcus Aurelius or a Trajan"—pretty plain speaking. One member shrieked about civil war, and M. Walewski had difficulty in restoring order. His management of the House displeases the Emperor, who has every day new cause to regret the Duc de Morny.

Much fault is publicly found with the metal lions for Nelson's monument just finished by Landseer, and set up in London. Baron Marochetti supplied the metal and made the

castings, for which he is to receive £11,000. The weight of each lion is seven tons. Sir Edwin Landseer is to receive £6000. It is stated that a firm offered to perform Marochetti's part of the work for £6000. Whether this be so or not, a partner of one of the most extensive establishments in this country, where complicated castings of very large dimensions are constantly made, not only of cast iron, but of the alloy of which the lions are composed, states that the rate of 1s 2d would be remunerative. Thus £23,650 would have sufficed to procure what has cost £11,000. The Paris papers of the 24th of February publish the following telegram from Corfu, dated the 24th of the same month, as emanating from a Greek source: On the 13th and 14th instants an engagement took place in the western portion of Crete. Eight thousand Turkish troops from Heraclea were defeated by the Cretans near Gerakari, and fell back, leaving behind them two guns, five flags, 100 mules, and many prisoners. The Imperialists received reinforcements from Canea, but they attempted in vain to occupy the provinces of Selmo. In another part of the island a body of Ottoman troops were beaten by the insurgents on the 11th and 12th instants. Since then the combatants retain their positions. Fresh massacres are announced to have been perpetrated by the Turks. The Cretan Assembly generally persists in its demand for the annexation of Candia to Greece. A paragraph in the Paris *Moniteur* says that Mr Archibald Alison will send to the Universal Exhibition in Paris the model and plans of a tunnel to unite the coast of England and France. Several projects have from time to time been presented to the Emperor Napoleon of submarine railways between Folkestone and Boulogne, and Dover and Calais. The stock of bullion in the Bank of England is now £19,390,312, and in the Bank of France, £28,807,024. Yesterday about £100,000 was withdrawn from the Bank for export; but the West Indian steamer brought a large supply of specie, viz., £672,860. The British Board of Trade returns for the past year have been issued. They show the total value of exportations to have been £186,327,785, which is over fourteen per cent over the total of the preceding year, and eighteen per cent over that of 1864. The amount of shipments of cotton manufactures was £80,865,022, being an increase of thirty per cent in value and twenty eight per cent in quantity on those of the preceding year. Haberdashery shows an increase of seven per cent, linen manufactures an increase of five per cent, woollen manufactures five and a half per cent, and iron manufactures ten per cent. The imports of cotton during the year were 12,295,803 cwt against 8,731,949 in 1865. Of this total, 4,643,370 cwt were from the United States, against 1,212,799 in 1865 and 126,322 in 1864. Garibaldi, on his way to Venice, paid a visit to Bologna, where he was received, with the utmost enthusiasm. At the railway station he was met by the Working Men's Society, the Roman emigrants with their respective banners, the Democratic Society and a vast crowd of people, who completely filled the building, and among whom were many ladies. At the sight of the familiar red shirt enthusiasm was immediately aroused, and the friends of the General had some difficulty in opening a passage for him from the carriage to the waiting room. Many people kissed his hand, others his clothes. Seeing upon one of the banners the wolf with the twins, and on another the Roman Eagle, the General made some remarks respecting Rome. Professor Filopanti, in reply, said that the duty of liberating Rome belonged in the first place to those who remained there, and in the second to the Roman exiles. If, unfortunately, neither succeeded, the duty devolved upon all Italians, and in such a case, the Government remaining neutral, the nation would count upon the valor and abnegation of Garibaldi. The General replied that it was to be hoped this great object would be accomplished by purely legal means; that revolutionary means ought to be reserved as a last resource should the others fail.

ACROSS THE PORTAGE.—A party of four gentlemen yesterday rowed the whitehall boat "Dart" up the head of the arm of Victoria harbor, where they raised the boat on their shoulders and carried it across the portage to Esquimaux harbor. Here the boat was launched and rowed to the ship Egmont, when Capt Inglis received and entertained the party in a handsome manner. The party returned by the same route that they went. The portage is a fourth of a mile long, and the feat was performed for a wager of \$75.

EXPRESS.—A small Express for Wells, Fargo & Co. was brought by the Sparrowhawk.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Monday, April 23d

THE "BRUTAL NEWS" ON MR SPARROW AND "COLONISTS" GENERALLY.—The *News* professes to discover an analogy between Mr Sparrow being allowed to hold two positions at the same time and the late Treasurer of the Island being recommended for promotion at the hands of the Home Government. The intelligent reader does not require to be told that had the late Treasurer applied for and obtained the superintendency of a Flame Company, or had he accepted a position in the same, he would not have considered himself entitled to a Government office in addition, "as a matter of compensation." The natural delicacy, not the common sense of most men, would deter them from laying claim to any such preference over other and more needy fellow-colonists. A strong argument advanced by the *News* in Mr Sparrow's favor is, that he is a "poor man with a family to support." Is he, then, the only "poor man" in the Colony with a "family to support?" Are "poor men with families" so seldom met with that Government is forced to shower its favors upon Mr Sparrow? or, is the requisite amount of intellect to enable a man to test and stamp weights and measures at twenty cents a-piece, only located within the martyred Mr Sparrow's head? Has the ex High Sheriff of the mainland (a "Colonist" as well as Mr Sparrow), no claims on the Government for "compensation?" Yet he holds neither a public nor a private situation, while the gentleman that the *News* has taken under its wing holds one of each! We are accused by the *News* of objecting to the establishment of this pernicious precedent because Mr Sparrow is a "Colonist." This we deny. We have every desire to see citizens from the Colonies occupying high and lucrative positions in the Government of every Colony; but we cannot bring ourselves to follow the example of the *News* and sustain the Government in the perpetration of a wrong act because the only person benefitted is not an Englishman. The principle (?) that actuates our cotemporary in its frequent onslaughts upon citizens who happen to have been born on the other side of the water, is fully set forth in this extract, which we take from its blasphemous leading article of Sunday, the 14th: "The time cannot be far distant when Colonies will be governed as they ought to be, by Colonists, for patience has its limits." Had Mr Sparrow been born somewhere in the United Kingdom instead of in Canada, the *News* would have seen good reason to "brutally" abuse the Governor for the appointment; but as the appointee happens to be a "Colonist," after the idea of the editor of that paper, he is entitled to the tenderest consideration and the most complete "compensation" at the hands of the Government. We feel that we must denounce the narrow-minded, prejudiced policy of the *News* in attempting to array one class of subjects against another by boldly asserting that an Englishman, an Irishman or a Scotchman is not as good and as true a man, and as capable of holding office, as one who was born—through no choice of his own, be it remembered—on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. We are all Colonists here. We are neither Canadians, Englishmen, Irishmen nor Scotchmen. We are British Columbians. All are entitled to the same privileges, under the law—and for the *News* and its satraps to contend that because one Colonist was born in a different part of the world to another, he is therefore a better man, is to exhibit an amount of ignorant presumption and prejudice that we were not prepared to find even in the columns of the *News*.

THE "SUPPRESSED TELEGRAM."—The *News* has made a very low and uncalled for attack upon the gentleman who so ably guards the interests of the State Telegraph Company in this city, in connection with the telegram which it alleges was suppressed at this office. It is, perhaps, unnecessary for us to say that this last accusation is as untrue and foundationless as the one which the same sheet preferred against us. The "suppressed telegram" had no foundation in fact. It never had an existence save in the diseased imagination of the *News*man. The best course for the gentleman assailed to adopt is to take not the slightest notice of the slanderous effusion: An explanation would be quite superfluous, as the paragraph will do no harm to any living soul outside of the *News* office.

TERRIBLE STORMS have swept the coast of California. The pilot boat Caleb Curtis (with all on board), the bark Nahumkeag, and the schooners Mendocino, Willcutt and Johnson—the last named with captain and crew—were lost on San Francisco bar. Men who had followed the sea for years represent the gales to have been the most terrible they ever experienced.

ITEMS IN BRIEF.—The New World is expected back to-night....The inquest on the body of the Grappler shipkeeper resulted in a verdict of accidental death....Fine large trout are now caught daily in Prospect Lake....Jack Beld, the ferryman, had his house burned on Saturday night. It stood near Craigflower road and was insured....The boat race between the "Glance" and "Dart" was won by the former....Frank Clark has been nominated for Congress in Washington Territory....The ship Parisian is on the berth, and will have quick despatch for New Zealand.

ANOTHER NEW LINE OF STEAMSHIPS.—Captain Ross of the Parisian, informs us that two British steamships are now on their way to Panama to enter into competition with the American steamships for the carrying trade between that port and San Francisco. The names of the steamers are the Prince Alfred and Tarakui—both screw propellers. With the new American opposition line just announced, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company are likely to have a vigorous opposition for the future.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DROWNING AND NOBLE CONDUCT.—On Saturday, when H M S Malacca was shifting berth, a petty officer employed on the anchor fell overboard, striking his head against the same in his fall. Mr Richard Keast, the boatswain, being on the top-gallant forecastle at the time, and seeing the man sinking, courageously jumped overboard and kept him up until assistance arrived. This officer has already had the Humane Society's honorary silver medal presented to him for saving the lives of his fellow creatures.

SOIREE IN AID OF THE ORPHANS OF ST. ANN.—The soiree in aid of the Orphans of St Ann's will come off this evening. We are sincerely desirous of seeing a full house. No nobler charity than an institution for the support and education of orphans is in existence, and the praiseworthy spirit of self-denial with which the Sisters have thus far performed their duties, recommends them to the assistance of every class and creed in the Colony. Every arrangement has been made by the committee to insure a pleasant reunion.

THE "BLACK CROOK."—Miss Sallie Hinckley has arrived back at San Francisco, and made her appearance in the "Black Crook"—a spectacular drama—the chief attraction of which consists in showing as much of a fine female figure as the law will allow. The "Black Crook" is a humpbacked screecher, who deals with Satan, thwarts true lovers, is folled by fairy influence, and goes where he belongs with great eclat. The fairy scenes, waterfalls and tableaux are quite beautiful.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.—Hon. George M. Robertson, Assistant Justice of the Supreme Court, died suddenly, March 12th. He was a native of Scotland, and had been a resident of the Island since 1844. He was greatly respected, and his loss will be severely felt. The missionary brig Morning Star arrived at Honolulu, March 15th, 120 days from Boston. The *Advertiser* goes into raptures over her. She is to be employed as a missionary packet, to run between Honolulu and the Marquesas and Micronesia Islands.

THE MAILS.—English letters to the 7th March came by the Sparrowhawk yesterday. The bags were obtained from the British Consulate at San Francisco. No Canadian or American bags were sent aboard from the Post office, and we are therefore without letters from either of those sections.

SHELVED.—It is a settled fact that Mr Franklyn, of Nanaimo, has been shelved. Spalding, of Cariboo, will take his place. Mr Franklyn retires with a so-called six months' "leave of absence," but he is really on probation. Whether he will return to the public service rests with himself.

THE U. S. FRIGATE Vanderbilt, now at San Francisco, will be sent north to take possession of the Russian Territory in the name of United States.

THE Toronto *Globe* publishes the Confederation Bill as introduced into the House of Commons. It does not differ materially from the draft previously published here.

THE SHIP PARISIAN will sail for Burrard's Inlet this morning to load with lumber for New Zealand.

Labels on the Flowers.—The incense breathing parties who attach the names of these exquisite products of nature to preparations manufactured from pungent essential oils. Murray and Lunn's Florida Water, for thirty years the standard perfume of Spanish America, is frequently simulated by impostors whose preparations are not only worthless, but deleterious to health, producing a pernicious effect upon the brain and nerves, besides becoming rancid and disagreeable to the sense of smell soon after contact with the air. Beware of such. Avoid them. Murray and Lunn's Florida Water is the purest and most lasting of all perfumes. See Purchasers are requested to see that the words "Florida Water, Murray and Lunn, No. 69 Water street, New York," are stamped in the glass on each bottle. Without this note is genuine. All.