THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL 11. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26 1870. NO. 44

THE BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED DAILY BY
DAVID W. HIGGINS

TERMS:

One Year, (in advance)	$10 00
Six Months, do	5 00
Three Mon'hs do	2 50
One Week	0 25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TERMS:

One Year	$5 00
Six Months	3 00
Three Months	2 00
One Week	1½

PAYABLE INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

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The Two Campaign.

France is at this moment the scene of one of the most remarkable campaigns of modern times,—remarkable alike on account of the circumstances to which it may be said ostensibly to owe its immediate origin, the gigantic scale upon which its operations are conducted, the tremendous results of these operations, and the profoundly important events of which it must be regarded as the proximate cause. Tracing the present war to the candidature of Prince Leopold for the throne of Spain, one cannot but be impressed with the singular disproportion which sometimes exists between cause and effect, and is led involuntarily to exclaim, 'Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth.' Scarcely fewer than two millions of the picked men of Europe, well disciplined and armed to the teeth with the most deadly weapons which human ingenuity and modern science can invent, have been brought into the field; the earth reels and trembles under the tramp of those martial hosts and drinks in the blood of myriads slain; and while all this is going on the obscure Captain of Cavalry, the mention of whose name kindled all this terrific flame, has been almost forgotten. Napoleon, who a few months ago claimed, and not without some show of reason, to be the arbiter of peace or war in Europe, is now a prisoner in a German castle. Napoleon, to whose every utterance the civilized world listened with attention almost amounting to awe, at whose nod the *rentes* rose or fell, has laid his unused sword at the feet of the King of Prussia. The grand army which was to have marched through Germany to Berlin in six weeks has been cut in pieces, and the half of France is in the hands of the invading army, while Paris, the heart of France, is surrounded by a forest of Prussian steel. But the results of this wonderful struggle have by no means been confined to the immediate parties thereto. The oldest and most remarkable dynasty in the world has been brought to a sudden termination. Pio Nono, as well as Napoleon, has been dethroned. A united Italy, a united Germany, shall we say, a dismembered France? But the end may not be yet. There is a proverb that 'A bad beginning makes a good ending.' A bad beginning France assuredly made It remains to be seen whether she will make a good ending. Turning away for a moment from the bloody military campaign in France to the bloodless political campaign of British Columbia, or, as some might possibly prefer to think, from the sublime to the ridiculous, let us glance for a little at what more nearly concerns ourselves. And it is, indeed, a striking feature of the universal fitness of things that to the people of British Columbia the result of the impending election is really of greater importance than the issue of the Franco-Prussian war. It is doubtless of no little importance to Europe to decide whether France shall be permitted to maintain her territory intact, whether she shall be compelled to surrender a part of it to the Prussians, or whether—as was suggested in these columns shortly after the war began, and referred to by the Great Powers as a not undesirable compromise—Alsace and Lorraine, together with the Duchy of Luxembourg, shall be added to Belgium, and the whole guaranteed by all the Great Powers as a neutral and independent Kingdom to separate two ancient enemies and ensure the peace of Europe. But whatever may be the share of interest which British Columbia, in common with every other civilized community, has in the reestablishment and maintenance of peace in Europe, it greatly more concerns her people that she shall as speedily as possible become a part of the great British Empire now being consolidated in North America, and that she shall become the immediate recipient of those substantial benefits certain to flow from the new relationship. Such being the case, it becomes the people to be watchful in order that they may not be led away by cunningly devised fables. The issue at the Polls is a simple one. It is, Confederation or no Confederation upon the Terms negotiated at Ottawa and now before the country. It is asserted in a certain quarter that the Terms are still open to amendment, and the people are urged to introduce new conditions. Such, however, is not the case. The Terms have already been negotiated between the two Governments, and any change would necessitate fresh negotiations which would doubtless involve a year's delay. The Terms are not open. There are two open questions to be submitted to the country along with the Terms, viz: a choice of Customs Tariffs and a choice of Constitutions; but it will have been observed that both of these questions have been judiciously and artfully arranged in such a way as not to make the main question of Confederation hinge upon them. The aye or no upon the main question will in no way or degree interfere with the aye or no upon the two ancillary questions. If, therefore, the people really destre union upon the Terms now before them, they must be prepared to accept these Terms *as they are*. It will readily be admitted that the new issue proposed to be thrust upon the Canadian Government is one of no little importance. It is of great moment to the people of the Colony that the Canadian Pacific Railway shall terminate here. It is of equal importance to the people on the Mainland, from the mouth of the Fraser to, we may say, Soda Creek, that the railway shall pass down the valley of the Fraser; and it must be tolerably clear that if the railway passes down the valley of the Fraser it is not likely to come here. To raise that point now, and to thrust it forward as a condition of Confederation would be to inaugurate a war of localities scarcely less bitter, perhaps not much less disastrous, than the war of races now being waged in Europe. But it must occur to the reader's reflection that in our case the biggest battalions would not necessarily win. Neither could win. If to raise the issue now would be to settle the dispute we confess that we might be induced to think that one year's delay of Confederation might possibly not be too great a price to pay for such a settlement, great as undoubtedly would be the sacrifice to the country. But surely no words are needed to show that such a result could not be hoped for. The question of route and terminus can alone be definitely set at rest by a thorough survey by the most efficient engineers. That survey the Canadian Goverement cannot and will not undertake *before* this colony becomes a part of the Dominion. In the Terms sent to Ottawa we gave Canada three years in which to make the necessary surveys and commence the work of actual construction. In the Terms brought back from Ottawa the Canadian Government agrees that the surveys shall be completed and the work of constructing the railway commenced within two years after union. Shall we now ask the Canadian Government to decide both route and terminus *before* union, and, consequently, before a survey has been made?

SAD OCCURRENCES. The Hudson Bay Company, on Saturday, received intelligence of the death of Chief Trader Peter Ogden, in charge at Stuart Lake, and of the death of his son, Peter Skeena Ogden, in charge at Fraser Lake, within a few days of each other. Mr Moffit communicates the sad intelligence. He writes that on the 1st October, Mr Ogden, sen'r, received a letter from his son stating that he was suffering from a slight attack of influenza and asking for medicines. Mr Chas Ogden was sent across and returned on the 4th with the news that Peter had died on the 3d. Mr Ogden, sen'r, who had been also suffering from a slight attack of influenza, immediately took to his bed and died on the 9th inst. The elder Mr Ogden had been in the employ of the Company since early childhood. His father before him was a Chief Factor and extensively known in Oregon, and it is related of him that while in a remote part of the country now known as British Columbia, he received and honored with a salute the news of the defeat of the French at Waterloo four years after the battle occurred. Mr Peter Ogden was aged about 56 years and his son, 25 years. The latter was educated at the old Colonial School, head of Fort street, of which Mr Burr was principal.

NORTHERN LIGHT. — There was another brilliant display of *aurora boeralis* last evening. The light was deep red and was so intensely bright at times as to nearly cause an alarm of fire. The streaks of green and gold, which were prominent features of the display about five weeks ago, were not visible last evening.

Stirring News from Omineca!

A reliable gentleman has just arrived from Germansen Creek at Quesnellemouth and reports that the day before he left the creek the Discovery Company took out a yeast-powder box full and one and a-half ounces over of gold for one day's work. The company comprise three men. All the other claims on the creek were paying well. Mr Elmore, trader, had returned to Ogden Landing with forty pounds of gold dust. People in the upper country are much excited over this intelligence, and Dunlevy, Colbraith and many others were preparing to leave immediately for the spot.

THE NEGLECTED TOWN.—There are, indeed, few communities in the United Colony so largely productive as that of Nanaimo. There are none, we venture to assert, that have been made the subbjects of such palpable and persistent neglect on the part of the Government. Nanaimo has an ample and truly magnificent harbor, in which the British fleet might with ease and safety ride at anchor; but it remains almost if not altogether unbuoyed, while thousands have (not improperly) been expended in marking the entrance to the Fraser. Nanaimo has been left without streets and for the most part without bridges, while New Westminster has had many thousands of the public revenue (not improp rly) expended upon streets and bridges. Nanaimo has had all her convict labor taken away to Victoria, while New Westminster has (very properly) had its convict labor to a great extent applied to local improvements. New Westminster has a number of public buildings, erected at the public expense, amongst which may be mentioned a spacious and highly creditable public schoolhouse, a large and well-endowed pubic library and a splendid hall for the Fire Department. Nanaimo is left without any! We have drawn a comparison between these two communities because they are not very dissimilar in point of size; and we ask, Why has there been such a marked distinction in the treatment meted out to them by the Government? Truly it may be said of Nanaimo that Nature has done everything for it—the Government nothing. It will be well for the people of Nanaimo to see that they entrust the interests of the place to some one both *able* and willing to advocate these interests effectively in the Legislative Council. They have surely long enough been the victims of incapables, and it is high time for them to entrust their affairs to some one of *ascertained* ability and approved veracity.

THE RIFLE MATCH.—In our last edition was published the score made by the Victoria Rifle Corps on Saturday, in competing with the New Westminster Corps for the challenge cups. For the Seymour Cup, private Butler, of the Victoria Corps, scored 57 points, and as the highest score made for it at New Westminster was 47, Mr Butler takes the cup. For the Birch Cup, corporal Allsop and private Butler, of the Victoria Corps were the highest, each making a score of 25 points, but it will be seen by our telegraphic dispatches that private George Odin of the New Westminster Corps, made a score of 29 consequently he takes the Birch Cup. It will be observed that, of the New Westminster Volunteers, Odin made the highest score for both cups.

RECKLESS JOURNALISM.—The readers of a certain local print are invited to believe that 'Bunster will get forty of a majority in Comox precinct, and the utmost that was expected to vote for Robson is five to ten' The public will readily comprehend the recklessness of the above assertion when it is stated upon the most undoubted authority that the entire white population of Comox is only seventy. Of these there are but thirty-three qualified to vote, twenty-two of whom are already pledged to Mr Robson, and of the remaining eleven it is expected that more than one half will be secured to him as the result of his canvass and the enunciation of his political views last week. So much for the facts and figures of of our contemporary. And this case is just a fair specimen of the recklessness constantly being exhibited in the same quarter.

PUGET SOUND ITEMS condensed from the Seattle *Intelligencer* of yesterday.—Edward Jones, charged with the murder of George Boyce, has been discharged.....Thirty of the German emigrants recently arrived from Chicago under the auspices of Governor Salomon, have settled on the Muckleshute, in Pierce county, where they propose building up a small town.....There is now little doubt that the terminus of the North Pacific railway will be at Seattle, certain instructions having been received from the Land Office looking unmistakably in that direction .....Emigrants in considerable numbers continue to arrive on Puget Sound from the Eastern States, California and Oregon, and Washington Territory appears to be rapidly filling up.....Hon Marshal Blinn and family had arrived from the East.

SEATTLE THE TERMINUS.—Our contemporary of the Seattle *Intelligencer* appears to feel pretty certain about the North Pacific Railway terminating at that town. Nor does his confidence seem to be ill founded. Under instructions from the Land Commissioner there has been a withdrawal of all lands from pre-emption for a distance of 20 miles on each side of a route, designated by the company, from Vancouver to a point six miles north of Seattle, and there being no other suitable point north it is not unreasonably concluded that Seattle must be the terminus. We observe that Olympia papers entertain the opinion that such will be the case. Should these opinions prove to be correct there must indeed be a great future in store for the thriving town of Seattle.

ESQUIMALT SCHOOL DISTRICT.—The following are the boundaries of the Esquimalt School District, as defined in Saturday's *Gazette*: 'All that piece of land included within the following limits, viz, Commencing at the Western extremity of the South boundary line of the Craigflower School District, then Southerly and Easterly along the shore line of Esquimalt Harbor and Fuca Straits, and Northerly along the water line of Victoria Harbor to the Southeastern extremity of the said Craigflower School District, then along the Southern boundary line of said District to the point of commencement.

MR. J. J. JACOBS, for a long time proprietor of the St George Hotel, will take his departure for Puget Sound to-day. As a first-rate fellow, and one who 'knows how to keep an hotel,' we can cordially recommend Mr Jacobs to our friends on the other side. The St George, under his management, has been noted as one of the most orderly, cleanly and comfortable family hotels on the Pacific. Wherever Mr Jacobs may locate traveling British Columbians will always be found among his best patrons.

AN AWKWARD MISTAKE.—In alluding to the political meetings held at Nanaimo and Comox last week our local contemporary takes occasion to say that while Mr Robson's addresses elicited no applause, those of his opponent were applauded over and over again. Now the truth is that Mr Robson's remarks were frequently applauded, while those of Mr Bunster—well, some people's perceptive faculties are so dull as to render it impossible for them to distinguish between derision and applause.

ALHAMBRA HALL.—Last evening the performance was better than ever before. Messrs Campbell, Foster and Rhoades excelled even themselves, and kept the audience in roars of laughter from first to last Miss Lee, Miss Bensen and Mr Arnold were very successful in song and dance. The troupe will cross the Sound on Friday morning, so that those who may wish to see them should avail themselves of the opportunity now offered.

FROM PUGET SOUND.—The steamer Isabel, Capt Starr, arrived from Port Townsend last evening with some freight, thirty-six passengers and the mails. The Isabel will sail at 10 o'clock this morning....The steamer Anderson arrived from the same place about half an hour later, bringing 34 passengers, 23 head of cattle, 47 sheep, 9 horses and a quantity of produce. She will sail at noon to-day. We have to thank the officers of both steamers for the usual favors.

WINDOW SMASHING. — Tommy, a Fort Rupert Indian, was yesterday arraigned before the Police Court on a charge of breaking eight panes of glass in a house on Cormorant street, and fined $10, or in default seven days' imprisonment.

DISCHARGED.—The Indian Sam, who for several days has been under arrest on a charge of stealing two shovels from Mr Spede, was yesterday discharged from durance vile.

HOMEWARD BOUND.—A private telegram announces the arrival at Portland, Oregon, yesterday morning, of Rt Rev Bishop DeMers and Rev Father Seghers. The reverend gentlemen attended the late Ecumenical Council at Rome.

LAID OVER.—It is notified in the Government *Gazette* that all the mining claims in the District of Cariboo are to be laid over from the 1st November until the 20th May.

DID NOT ARRIVE.—Governor Salomon, of Washington Territory, was to have arrived by the Isabel last night, but was prevented by indisposition.

THE ALASKA TIMES.—This paper has been removed to Seattle, W.T. The first number was published by Mr T. G. Murphy, editor and proprietor, on Sunday last. It presents a fine typhographical appearance and will, it is believed, do well.

THE 'CAMBRIA.'—This steamship, mentioned in our telegrams to-day as having been lost on the coast of Ireland, was a new propellor and belongs to the Anchor Line of steamers. It is to be feared that the loss of life and property has been very great.

SALE OF A CRACKER BAKERY, &c.—Mr Wm Moncks has instructed Mr Lumley Franklin to sell his valuable machinery for cracker baking, ovens and stamps, together with the stock on hand, tools, furniture, &c. The sale will take place on Friday next.

LILLOOET SCHOOL DISTRICT. — Saturday's *Gazette* defines the Lillooet School District as follows: 'All that piece of land included within a circle having a radius of three miles from the Court House.'

A DRAYMAN, heretofore occupying a respectable position, was yesterday arrested on a charge of larceny. The case will be heard to-day.

SCHOOL AND ROAD TAX.—Six cases of delinquent ratepayers were disposed of at the Police Court yesterday.

PURSE STEALING. — Charles Thompson charged with stealing a purse from Mr Foot was again remanded for one day.

REQUISITION.—A requisition asking A R Robertson, Esq, to stand for the city representation, was in circulaijon yesterday.

THE ENTERPRISE will make but one trip to Fraser River this week. She will sail tomorrow morning at 9, and return on Friday or Saturday.

THE Spence Company on Lightning creek have struck a prospect of $4 to the shovel of dirt.

POSTPONED.—The farmers have postponed the ploughing match at Simpson's from the 5th to the 11th inst.

TOWED OUT.—The brig Robert Cowan was towed to Sooke by the Grappler yesterday.

THE U.S.S. Newbern, it is reported, will be sold.

SUNDAY'S DISPATCHES.

Europe.

TOURS, Oct 20—Assurances are given that the government will not leave until an attack is certain to be made.

Dispatches from various parts of France report a number of small engagements.

Dubost, delegate for the government to Tours who landed in a balloon at Viceroy yesterday, brings news of another engagement near Paris. It began in the morning at Haute Brun and lasted three hours; it was resumed in the afternoon and terminated after three hours more fighting. The Prussians were attacked in both directions and repulsed with heavy loss.

Dispatches from Rocroy containing the above intelligence do not give the date.

According to latest advices from Paris Trochu is giving way to the increasing demands of the National Garde and has given his consent to three organizations in the Mobile regiments for active force for sortie service behind the walls. He also announced that he has a plan for general attack which when matured will be carried out on a formidable scale, meantime he will accept volunteers for sorties and night surprises.

Paris journals of the 15th positively declares that General Burnside had no mission from the Prussian authorities when he visited Paris, he was merely an agent.

LONDON, Oct 22—On Tuesday the 22nd division of the Crown Prince's army assaulted the French at Chatteau, a town 40.000 strong. The French were defeated and the town carried by storm. Fifty prisoners were taken by the Germans whose loss was small.

The *Herald's* special says rumors prevail here that a treaty negotiating with Bazaine for peace is about to be concluded, after which Bazaine's army with the prisoners made at Sedan will march on Paris to enforce terms of treaty.

The Prussian Ambassador here was insulted by a great concourse of people with whom the police did not interfere.

A balloon from Paris on the 17th reports preparations being made by Trochu for an offensive movement on a great scale.

Good calculators give the city an abundant supply of fresh meat for two months to come and of bread and hard provisions for five months.

FLORENCE, Oct 20 — The Electoral Law proposed for Rome gives her fourteen Deputies in the Chamber of Deputies. There has been no communications between Italy and other powers on the subject of the Spanish Candidature.

LONDON, Oct 20—The *World's* special says despite the efforts of the Government to discourage such demonstrations 20 000 people marched to the palace yard last night and organized a large meeting to express sympathy with the Republic of France. The speakers violently denounced King William and an allusion to the apathy of John Bright was received with cries of shame. Gladstone and the Government were reproached for their policy of obstruction. An alliance with France was advocated and resolutions adopted calling on Parliament to abolish the pensions of German Princes, including the Crown Prince of Prussia and the Prince Louis of Hesse, and declared that the sooner all the Kings and Queens were dethroned the better. The feeling manifested in some quarters of the city during the night was revolutionary and threatening. The Government had two regiments of infantry under arms all night in their barracks and extra police on duty. Precautions were taken to repress any disturbance or disorder that might arise, but no call was made for interference of the military.

MUNICH, Oct 20—Count Bray, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Herr Lutz, Minister of Justice, and General Prancel, Minister of War, have set out for Versailles to confer with the King of Prussia.

LONDON, Oct 22—The armistice at Mesiers ended yesterday at 3 p m. The bridge over the Meuse will be blown up to-day, but bombardment will not be commenced till more troops and munitions of war are up. The French force within the walls of Mesiers is computed at about 50.000.

BERLIN, Oct 22—The *Staats Auzierger* of yesterday in its accounts of affairs before Metz says sickness in the army is due to the quality of food. Dysentry is decreasing and typhus fever will go with the present cool weather. Desertions are increasing—the fugitives all giving the same reason, hunger. Investing forces of Germans generally receive abundant supplies of all sorts.

NEW YORK, Oct 22—Telegram has London advices from Tours. Bazaine has made a successful sortie from Metz and was in rapid march with his whole army to Paris. The *Democrat* has advices from Metz that a Republic had been proclaimed and Bazaine while endeavoring to check the Republican manifestations had been shot.

TOURS, Oct 22—The following official dispatch has just been received from Chateau Neuf. On the 13th Bazaine made a sortie with 80.000 men, crushing the enemy which consisted of sixteen battalions of infantry and two of cavalry. He also captured 193 wagons laden with stores and munitions of war.