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THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
And Victoria Chronicle.

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F. Algar	30 Cornhill, London
G. Street	San Francisco
L. P. Fisher	

THERE is not throughout the whole colonial empire of Great Britain a country better calculated than this for the reception of industrious immigrants from the British Isles. The climate, soil, scenery and surroundings so nearly resemble those they leave behind them, that excepting its freedom from fogs and incessant rain which make suicide a sort of epidemic in portions of England, they could imagine themselves still inhabiting some of the rural districts at home. That this Colony is so completely overlooked by the industrious classes in the old country when seeking a new field for their labor, is at first sight very extraordinary; but when it is remembered that very little is known of British Columbia, except through accounts of unlucky gold seekers, who came to this country under the impression that they only required to work two or three months in some Utopian gold field where they could find nuggets by the bushel; and whose minds were occupied on the way out with delightful visions of a life of ease and luxury when they returned to their old haunts with enormous sums of money, after a pleasant voyage out and home, the reason must be self-evident. We have read quite a number of startling adventures by flood and field indited by adventurous gents of this description, who went up to Stickeen in 1862, contributed to English provincial papers. These aspiring successors to the immortal Munchausen assume the power of describing the whole of British Columbia from their delightful trip to that charming part of the Colony. The result is very natural: a poor industrious man who has realized from the sale of his effects a small sum, added, possibly, to a few pounds of savings, declines to risk all he possesses in the world, and the future happiness of his family, in emigrating to a Colony where there is nothing but icebergs, lofty snow-covered mountains and no land fit for the plough. Where the aborigines, unable to find soil to cultivate, live on salmon and clams, and where the inhabitants of the chief city have no other means of enriching themselves than in cheating one another with bogus copper mines. Our readers will laugh at such an absurd view of our resources, but there is very little if any exaggeration of the distorted notions disseminated by these valued correspondents of many respectable English newspapers. How can we be surprised, then, at the evident disinclination of English people to come out here? and when they do come, that it requires a considerable time to remove their prejudices? To attract an English immigration, will require a systematic course of instruction persevered in for a time to neutralise the effects of former calumnies; having once induced a number of intelligent persons to come here, and make this country their home, we should have no further difficulty with Immigration Agents or Committees; the Colony would take precedence of all others. To accomplish this, there is only one way, and that is, to employ a lecturer in England who will go from town to town describing this country and its resources, and who should be well furnished with carefully compiled pamphlets, describing the country truthfully; setting forth its resources, its great future, and the actual present remuneration for employment. For instance, who in England is aware that a common agricultural laborer can obtain £10 a month and board, with the privilege of buying cows which are allowed to run with his employer's, so that with the increase he may in a few years be enabled to stock a farm himself, and commence with what would make a farmer wealthy in his native country? As for female servants, we need not say anything about them; their wages, exclusive of board, would be sufficient to maintain a beneficed clergyman and his family in England. And this must not be confounded with a country like Australia; there, it is true, land is to be had in large quantities, but look at the climate! Cattle and sheep can be had at a nominal price and increased indefinitely; but what are they worth? In this Colony not only have we millions of acres that are well calculated for stock-raising, but we have also a ready market for the stock, which may be sold at good prices, and this state of things is likely to continue for many years to come. Our Colony is not only well calculated for a rural population, but also for artizans of all kinds, in fact, any man may do well here, but those creatures called "gents;" they are always useless drones in any community, but in a country like this, they are entirely out of their element; and one can hardly blame them in giving a good hearty vent to their spleen when they got back into the little circles where they could once more "spread themselves." They thought they were entitled to revenge for the hardships and discomforts they experienced when here. Had they travelled over the whole Colony, they could not have chosen a locality worse adapted to their effeminate proclivities than the Stickeen River. We forgive them, but must now set about repairing the mischief done by their ill considered reports.

Friday, May 14

THE LOAN AND INVESTMENS SOCIETY'S ORDINANCE, 1869.—A deputation of gentlemen waited on his Excellency the Governor yesterday at the Government Buildings, bearing with them a memorial signed by the principal citizens, praying that "the Loan and Investment Society's Ordinance, 1869," passed by the Council last session may become law. The memorialists refer to a clause of the prorogaton speech which states that his was Excellency unable to find a "precedent" for the bill, and beg to refer his Excellency for a precedent to the English and Canadian statutes, and to the report of a special Committee of the House of Commons (July, 1850) in which the benefits conferred by Savings and Loan Societies are fully set forth. The memorial concludes with a request that should his Excellency decide to withhold his consent to the Ordinance, he will forward it, "accompanied by this memorial" to Her Majesty. The petition was read by Robert E. Jackson, Esq. His Excellency, in reply, stated that he had only just received the Attorney General's opinion upon the bill; that his (the Governor's) feelings were favorable to the measure, and that in complying with the prayer of the petitioners and laying the measure before Her Majesty's Government, he should certainly say nothing in opposition to it. After a few further remarks the deputation withdrew. It is really lamentable that a simple measure like this Savings and Loan Bill cannot be passed without being "referred home!" Would "Imperial interests" be jeopardised by its passage; or are not the "interests" of the Savings and Loan Society, of which it is publicly stated on every street corner, he Attorney General of this Colony is resident agent, the only ones that would be affected by the formation of a similar Society here?

THE remains of the late hon Dr Davie will be removed to Cowichan to-day in the Sir James Douglas.

FROM THE EAST COAST.—The steamer Sir James Douglas arrived at 4½ o'clock yesterday afternoon from Nanaimo and way ports. Mr. Frank Tarbell and a few other passengers came by her. As freight, she brought a large quantity of country produce. The Geo. S. Wright was coaling at Nanaimo and will leave for Victoria to-day. The ship Shooting Star was loading with coal for San Francisco. The ship Cowper, laden for the same destination, was towed out of the harbor by the Douglas yesterday morning. At Saanich, the ship General Cobb was found laden with lumber and ready for sea; but Capt. Clarke was prevented by the high wind from towing her into the Straits.

ARRIVAL OF THE GUSSIE TELFAIR.—The steamship Gussie Telfair arrived yesterday afternoon at 4½ o'clock from Portland *via* Astoria, where she connected with the steamship Continental, from San Francisco, receiving on board 14 bags of mail matter and a number of passengers. In the list we are glad to observe the names of Messrs. Thomas Lowe, of this city, F. A. Wilson, Collector of Customs for Puget Sound district, and a number of returning Cariboo miners, who have visited White Pine and pronounce it a great swindle. The interesting memoranda of the steamer—kindly furnished by Purser Goodhue—will be found under the appropriate heading.

A FRUITFUL SOURCE of colds at this season, is the wearing of cotton clothing in the morning and evening. The sudden changes of weather in this climate render the utmost care necessary. Woolen clothing should always be worn out of doors in the evening and generally early in the morning. In the middle of the day a light suit may be substituted; but upon no account should the use of flannels be discontinued, be the heat ever so oppressive.

ARRIVAL.—The schooner Fanny, Capt. Sherman, arrived in this harbor yesterday morning. She left San Francisco 19 days ago for Sitka; met with severe northerly gales, carrying away a part of her rigging, and has put in here for repairs. She is lying at Janion, Rhodes & Co's wharf.

P. M. BACKUS.—This gentleman is an auctioneer at Treasure City. On the 4th of May he sold the entire town, which had been cut up into convenient-sized lots—by auction. A letter from Mr. Backus to a gentleman of this city, expresses his satisfaction with his prospects.

COUNTY COURT.—Before A. F. Pemberton Esq—J. Sehl vs. Reece Reece—This was an action brought by J. Sehl against Reece Reece, for the sum of $80, for goods sold and delivered to the defendant's partner, McHardy. The defendant said he was not liable, as McHardy was to furnish half the furniture and stock in trade. Judgment for the plaintiff, $75 50, with costs.

WHITE PINE is a complete fizzle, so far as general benefits resulting from its mines go. It is said that out of several hundred recorded claims in which stock has been sold, only sixty have any existence in fact, and not half-a-dozen out of that small number prospect richly. Another bubble burst

CHIEF JUSTICE BEGBIE, Registrar Pooley and hons. O'Reilly and Walkem, left Yale on Thursday morning for Lytton and Clinton. At the latter place a murder trial will be instituted. Mr. Walkem has been appointed to conduct the various cases for the Crown in the spring circuit of the Mainland courts.

DEFECTIVE SIDEWALKS.—Many of our sidewalks are in a dangerous state. Frequently large holes occur, and loose planks are too common to be noticed except when one is is thrown off his or her balance by the tilting of a board. *Won't* the City Council see that the by-law is put in force?

REAL ESTATE SALE.—The beautiful residence of Mr. A. C. Campbell, James Bay, was sold yesterday by Mr. Lumley Franklin, at auction, for $1,730. Mr. Young was the purchaser. Two years ago Mr. Campbell bought the property for $1,500 cash down. The bidding on the furniture was lively and the prices obtained good.

BYRNES, the Colonial Hotel thief, was arrested at Portland last week; all the money was found upon him. He was liberated the following day upon a writ of *habeas corpus*, which cost him one-half the $850 he had stolen. He made tracks for Boise with the remainder.

WOLF SHOT.—A huge wolf was killed near Upland Farm yesterday by an Indian. The first shot wounded the brute in the foreleg, when he sprang towards his assailant; but another discharge brought him down. He had destroyed a number of sheep recently.

SPAR CONTRACT.—The *Evening News* understands that a contract has been entered into between Mr. Jeremiah Rogers and a gent man now in this Colony from London, for the shipment of a large quantity of British Columbia spars to England.

THE SAVINGS' BANK.—We understand the Savings' Bank is to be attached to the Treasury department, under the superintendence of the officer in charge of the Treasury (Mr. Graham.) It could not have been placed in abler hands.

THE steamer Sir James Douglas will probably go to Saanich to-day to tow down the ship General Cobb, lumber-laden at Sayward's mill, for San Francisco.

THE ship Amoor, bound for Moody's Mills, passed up to Burrard Inlet yesterday.

GAS and smoke still continue to obstruct operations in the Gold Hill mines.

QUICK TIME.—We received yesterday letters from London to the 15th ult.

Letter from England.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

MANCHESTER, 8th April, 1869.

I see by the papers that the British Columbian parliament have resolved not to be incorporated with the North American Confederation. I do not pretend to know how it might affect the interests of the Colony, but I should have thought it would have been an advantage to have been incorporated. I suppose the cost of the alliance was the chief obstacle. I notice, however, that although they are not disposed to expend money in forming a connection with Canada they have passed a vote to encourage female immigration. They think, I suppose, that an investment in ladies will pay better; well, there are plenty at home willing to go out. If the Government would appoint an agent he could make a fine selection in these northern countries. I was asked lately at Stockport by a very interesting young damsel to try to get her a passage to Brazil. Many persons in Manchester and the neighborhood are turning their attention towards that country; I expect a Brazilian Emigration Society will shortly be established here. Why don't some of your public men make a resolute and systematic effort to bring the colony into greater notice. Surely, with its magnificent forests of valuable timber, its copper, coal, iron, its farming capabilites, its fisheries, its grand position for commerce with so many parts of the world, its glorious harbour of Esquimalt, and the thousand other advantages it possesses, to say nothing at all about the gold, it ought to possess sufficient attraction to men of means as a field for the investment of their capital as well as for their brains and muscles. What is wanted to bring the colony into notice is a well qualified agent to lecture throughout England and Scotland on British Columbia and Vancouver Island as a field for emigration; not to raise delusive expectations about gold but to represent efficiently and forcibly the other resources and advantages of the Colony. So eagerly are men at home seeking information as to where they may go to better their condition, that any decent lecturer would be sure of a good audience wherever he went. A living man, to speak with a living voice, to a living and sympathetic audience, would do far more in promoting the object than all the newspaper articles you could get written on the subject. To meet a letter or an article in a newspaper some caviller is sure to start up and write a letter to snuff out the article; but objections started in an audience could be met and answered at once by the lecturer and the damage be immediately removed.

I cannot understand the apathy of the Government with respect to the interests of the colony—it is more neglected than any other. It has never had the fostering care bestowed upon it that other colonies have received. As soon as it was born a colony it was left to shift for itself, poor babe! In the matter of emigration I believe this Government will never assist it until they see the colony making an effort to assist itself. If the merchants and monyed men (if there are any) in the Colony would club together to sustain an agent for one year, I am sure it would tell mightily upon its interests; after that the Colonial Government would probably be willing to support an emigration agent, as all the other Colonial Governments do, for the purpose of turning a portion of the stream of emigration towards it. In the case of New Zealand, every province has its agent in England. I sometimes allude to British Columbia and Vancouver Island in my lectures, and I always find the allusion wakens up my audience immediately and any information about there is greedily received.

So great is the distress in the east end of London now that several parishes, aided by the Government and by public subscriptions, are sending out weekly, both men, women and families together, instead of supporting them in the workhouses. They are chiefly, I believe, being sent to Canada. The Queen has recently sent a donation of £150 to the fund. In the north of England there is also great distress, and many men of capital are afraid to invest it in any home speculation on account of the fierce competition and the small return their capital is likely to realize.

From the many exposures lately of commercial failure and rascality in England men are losing faith in home enterprises and are looking abroad for safer and more profitable fields for investment. This general distrust of course increases the amount of distress in the country; for if capital be idle, men's hands will be idle also. My fixed opinion has long been that the only efficient remedy for the distress prevailing is an extensive and a *continual emigration*. The real fact has long been apparent that there are hundreds of thousands of men and women who are willing and anxious to work, but who cannot get it to do, hence, what are called the "dangerous classes," are constantly receiving accessions of strength, and the Government now seem to be at their wits' ends to know what measures to adopt to repress crime. I am convinced that three-fourths of the crime committed in this country might be traced to want of employment and consequent distress, for its origin. Of course you need men with capital and intelligence as well as those who have bone and muscle; but I feel sure that if your Colony were properly and energetically represented you would soon have an accession of capital as well as of labor. The Colony would then rapidly advance. As one resource after another was developed, the attraction to its shores would soon be augmented, and in a very short time you would have a regular and steady influx of population. There is not a Colony under the British Crown better situated for commerce, and when the railroads across the continent are completed they will of course open a much nearer access to the mother country.

You will wonder why I have written all this tirade about emigration; but my mind sometimes feels quite excited and indignant at the neglect shown towards poor little Vancouver, while so much is being done to aid such stalwart brains as Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Cape of Good Hope. Some of our members [illegible] between Canada and the Rocky mountains and the companies for constructing the Intercolonial Railways are, it is said, about to offer some very strong inducements to men to settle at once in the country all along the line of the proposed railways, but not a word about British Columbia or Vancouver. If a member ventures to say anything about them, he is at once snubbed out by some snarl about the gold failures, gold mania, diggings humbug, and so on, so that the country seems almost proscribed. However, I hope a "good time is coming," only while men are crying out to Jupiter for help, they ought to put their shoulders to the wheel and use all their own power to get it out of the rut.

A

SCOTLAND AND THE LEGISLATION OF THE SESSION.—If the Scotch were not by nature a very modest and retiring race we should probably hear them crowing rather loudly over the legislation of the present session. Two of the chief measures of the session are substantially an assimilation of English law to that of Scotland. While the Lord Chancellor has taken the Scotch bankruptcy system as the basis of his bill, the Home Secretary's Professional Criminals Bill, now in the hands of Lord Kimberley, adopts the Scotch principle of 'habit and repute' as a serious element of crime. There is also some prospect of the Scotch members settling the game laws among themselves in a way which we Southerns will no doubt follow in the course of after years; and in the education bill which the Duke of Argyle introduced last night, he proposes to apply to Scotland, with apparently the cheerful consent of the people, those principles of compulsory rating and a stringent conscience clause which our most sanguine statesmen can only hope the next generation of Englishmen, or the next again, or at any rate the one after that, will be wise enough to understand. And as to the other question of the Irish Church, it is the Scotch Liberal majority which not only put Mr Gladstone in office, but is likely, besides steadying him there to keep him up to his work.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

THE good people of Linlithgow, Scotland, were recently in high revolution because the Department of Woods and Forests threatened to reduce the number of swans on the lake. An ancient tradition states that those swans all disappeared on Cromwell's coming to the throne, but returned immediately after the restoration.

A farmer in Griswold, Conn., has published an account of his turkey ventures, with expences and profits, from June, 1868, to January, 1869, as follows: Credit—98 turkeys killed, 1426 lbs., at 27 cents per lb., $385 02; 3 turkeys not killed, estimated at $9; total $394 02. Debtor—110 bushels of corn at $1 50, $165; cost of butchering, etc., $10; total, $175. Net profit, $219 02.