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And Victoria Chronicle.

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AGENTS.

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Awful Calamities.

The telegraph brings intelligence of the occurrence of another frightful tornado in the West India Islands. On the 27th of last month, it will be remembered, a storm of terrible violence burst over the British West India island of St. Thomas, destroying the town and the shipping, devastating the agricultural districts and causing the death of hundreds of human beings. Scarcely had the public mind recovered from the shock occasioned by the fearful tidings of that calamity, when news of a catastrophe far exceeding in awful violence and disastrous effects any that has preceded it, is received. A despatch from Havana, dated the 15th inst., states that Cuba was swept by a hurricane. Two thousand lives were lost, four thousand families made destitute, and the crops destroyed. The steamship company's loss is set down at $12,000,000—probably in steamers, wharves, &c. In addition to this sad [illegible]logue of losses, a despatch of the [illegible] felt in all [illegible] Many other s[illegible] unfortunate. The loss of life is not stated, but it was, no doubt, fearful. The crowning horror, however, was enacted at the island of Tortuga. This island must not be confounded with the English island of Tortuga, in the Carribean Sea, nor with the island of Tortugas, off the coast of Florida, owned by the Americans and used by them as a penal colony for persons convicted of political offences—the assassination conspirators being among the prisoners confined there. The island referred to is situated on the northwesterly coast of Hayti, from which it is distant five miles. It belongs to Spain and is a dependency of Cuba, separated from that island by the Windward Channel, through which steamers bound to or from New York with California passengers invariably sail. The island is about twenty miles long by eight in width. Its products are coffee, tobacco and sugar. To one acquainted with the density of the population of the West Indies, the large number of human beings (10,000) said to have been on this small island at the time of the calamity will not appear an exaggeration. The wind and tide acting together seems to have overwhelmed the fertile little spot, and when the waters subsided—which they probably did with the change of tide—*not a living thing was left to tell the tale*. Rich and poor, high and low, man and brute—all had found a common grave in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Ten thousand people—a number as large as the white population of Puget Sound and British Columbia combined—engulphed! History furnishes parallel cases. The sunken cities of the Mediterranean, which before Christ settled down in the sea with every living creature; the destruction by an earthquake of Lisbon, and the swallowing up of 30,000 of its inhabitants, who had fled to the wharves to escape being crushed beneath the falling walls; the catastrophe in the Indian Sea, last year, where an island was split in two by an earthquake and sunk, with many others, furnish instances in point. But the mind is never guarded against horrors. The examples furnished by history do not lessen the misery inflicted, nor render less severe the shock occasioned by a knowledge of the fact that only a few days ago an entire community were at a single blow sent to their dread account by a catastrophe that no human agency could not have averted or human sagacity foretold.

THE MONTANA will be the next steamer to arrive here from San Francisco *via* Portland.

Monday, Nov 18th.

Alaska Items.

A gentleman who visited Alaska in the J. L. Stephens has furnished us with the following items connected with the trip and country:

We arrived at New Archangel, on Wednesday, Oct. 9th, at about 2 o'clock p. m., all safe and sound, and everything lovely. We were somewhat disappointed that the Ossipee had not arrived. Found this a little the worst looking place I ever had the pleasure (?) of visiting. The town is built in a perfect marsh, lying right under high hills and mountains. The buildings are formed of square hewn timber or logs, and excepting that they must be warm, are the most uncomfortable houses I have seen. The inhabitants are very kind, and I believe were inclined to be hospitable and to like Americans; but things have somewhat changed, and I think they look upon us now as interlopers. There is, however, some very good society of well-educated Russians. The Governor, Prince Maksoutoff, and lady, are very kind; both speak very good English and are disposed to be sociable. I may also mention, Captain Cavrischeff and lady, and their daughter, Miss Lelia, formerly at school in Victoria; also Mr and Mrs Ivanhoff, who are very kind and fond of company. The Ossipee arrived here on Friday, the 18th inst., with the American and Russian Commissioners, and the transfer was completed on the same day. The Russian flag got caught as it was being lowered (as though it did not like the change), but it was soon removed, and the stars and stripes went up with a full round of cheers from the assemblage.

There is considerable misunderstanding in regard to the right of property here, Gen. Davis claiming all the Company's houses, and intending immediately to use them for quarters. Some of the employes of the Company claim the houses in which they reside as their own, and I think the General will respect their claim. There are very few Americans here, independent of the army and navy officers. Among the Victorians I notice Mr Wm. Kotil, Mr L. Boscowitz Mr J. A. McCrea, Mr O'Dwyer, Mr Shirpser, and Malowanski. The latter arrived in schooner Langley. The schooner was seized by Capt. Howard, of the Lincoln, but has been released by Mr Dodge, the Collector of the Port. Mr Baker is here from San Francisco; he came up to make a transfer of all the Russian Company's property, goods, &c.; but owing to some misunderstanding in San [illegible] the transfer will [illegible] made at Che[illegible] the first Sunday after arrival (our Saturday.) Their religion is somewhat like the Roman Catholic, differing in this that they deny the supremacy of the Pope and Priests; are allowed to marry once, but not a second time. The ceremonies are conducted in the Sclavonic language, which appears to be perfectly understood by the congregation. There are no seats in the Church—the congregation all standing. There were, I should think, at least eight bishops, priests or assistants, who conducted the ceremonies. The music was delightful. I was much surprised when I learned that the singers were all boys. I never saw a religious ceremony where I was so much impressed by the devout manner and apparent fervor of the members. Their contributions to the charitable fund are large. On entering the church, there is a desk on the right hand side, at which stands a clerk who receives the donations. The only persons I noticed who did not contribute were the strangers. There is also an Indian Greek Church and a Chapel in the Bishop's house. Then there is the Lutheran Church. In consequence of the absence of any priest of that denomination the use of it was obtained for Rev. Mr Rayner, Chaplain of the Army. So we have had a little of our own style of worship and on our own Sunday, and listened to a very excellent sermon on both occasions.

DESERTERS—The Commander-in-Chief of the Squadron is determined to put an end, if possible, to the practice of a few disreputable characters in our midst who make a living by assisting Her Majesty's sailors to desert, and to that end offers a reward of $100 to any person giving information to the Naval or Police authorities which may lead to the conviction of any party or parties who may have connived or in future may connive at the desertion of seamen or others from Her Majesty's ships employed on the coast of British Columbia. We hope that the reward will be the means of bringing the vagabonds who contribute to destroy the efficiency of the Squadron, and at the same time inflict an irreparable injury upon the honest and confiding tars, to well-deserved punishment.

THE PAPER HUNT.—The interesting hunt on Saturday was very numerously attended. The hares were given a start of twenty minutes, and the scent conducted the hunters over high rail fences and through swamps. In leaping his horse over one of the fences Lord Cecil, R.N., was thrown and dislocated his shoulder. At another fence, two of the hunters came into collision, when one was thrown and sustained a severe shaking. Another hunter, with his horse, was engulphed in a swamp, and escaped with difficulty from a grave of liquid mud. The hares, owing to the fog, got clear away, and were not seen after the start.

EAST COAST.—The Sir James Douglas, from Nanaimo, on Friday morning, reached here Saturday afternoon at 4½ o'clock, notwithstanding the dense fog that prevailed. Among the passengers were Mark Bate, Esq. and family, of Nanaimo. The quantity of produce brought down was large. A ton and a-half of large salmon, caught in Cowichan Bay, was among the freight.

THE San Francisco *Alta* has received the tusk of a mastodon, twelve feet long, brought from the shores of Behring sea by the Russian Overland Telegraph party, having been purchased from the Indians for a trifle. The party found an immense one standing upright in the frozen ground on Anadyr river, but could not dig it out, and reported such remains common in that Territory.

CAUGHT IN THE FOG.—The Enterprise, from New Westminster, had not arrived up to the hour of our going to press. A telegram from New Westminster on Saturday evening, at 6, stated that the steamer had not then reached there, notwithstanding that she left here on Friday morning. She is doubtless caught in the dense fog, and will probably return here to-day.

IT seems that McAdams, the under gaoler who lately absconded, held in his hands $80 belonging to Mrs Maurice Carey, for which he failed to account before taking French leave of the colony. The friends of the woman are now getting up a raffle, the proceeds of which will be devoted to assisting her out of the country.

THE J. L. Stephens sailed at 9½ o'clock on Saturday morning, she having been detained all Friday night by one of the densest fogs we remember to have seen in this locality. The fog enveloped the city most of Saturday and yesterday.

THE MATCH RACE.—"Governor" and "Royal Charlie" have gone into training for the match race for $250 a-side, which has been set for to-day two weeks. The betting will be heavy.

GRIST MILL.—The machinery of Bunster's new grist mill was started on Saturday and worked satisfactorily. Bunster says he is determined to make the best brand of flour on the Island.

THE "Society of the Sisters of St. Ann," an association of religious ladies of this colony, whose object is the education of children, will apply for an act of incorporation at the next session of the Legislature.

THE DIANA, from Steilacoom, W. T., with American officers for Portland, is detained by the fog at Seattle. The Fideliter, for Portland, is detained in port by the same cause.

ACCIDENT.—A man named Buckley was crushed beneath a coal car at Nanaimo on Thursday and dreadfully injured. Hopes are entertained of his recovery.

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

Europe.

LONDON, Nov. 8—It is reported that Savalette will soon resign the French Ministry of State, and that Rouher will probably succeed him.

The friends of Garibaldi state that he had only 4000 men in the recent battle.

The sons of Garibaldi are still at large, but concealed.

The telegram states that a second typhoon occurred at Lacoa; the damage to property was immense.

The new tariff of charges on the Atlantic cable is settled by the following modifications to go into effect on the 1st of December. Messages between New York and England: first ten words, $25, and $2 50 for each additional word. Date and signatures, to the extent of five words, free. The charge on messages containing figures the same as on plain words. Cypher messages to be charged additional rates.

FLORENCE, Nov. 8—Garibaldi will be tried in this city.

PARIS, Nov. 8—La Marmora had an audience with the Emperor and asked that the French troops be withdrawn from Rome.

The annual yellow book is ready for publication. It shows that Rattazzi long ago was warned of the plans of the insurgents under Garibaldi and the action that France would be certain to take in the premises.

LONDON, Nov. 10.—A great change is made in the Italian situation. No adjustment is effected. Great mistrust is felt in regard to the relation of France.

Italian advices, regarded as reliable, indicate that a rupture may occur at any moment. An assembly or general conference of the great powers is uncertain. England, France and Austria, will come to an understanding upon the policy to be pursued relative to the Eastern question.

Dickens sailed for America on the 9th.

Bread riots had occurred in Devonshire, but were suppressed. The country is now quiet.

A terrible explosion occurred at Forindalle Colliery, near Glamorgan; 300 miners were at work and 200 lives were lost.

Great efforts were being made to obtain the pardon of the Manchester convicts on the ground that their offence was political.

LATER.—The bread riots at Barnstable on the 5th exceeded in ferocity and destructiveness the riots at Exeter. The mob plundered butcher and baker shops, and then set them on fire. The police and military were obliged to fire on the mob.

The Archbishop of Canterbury appointed J. Butler to succeed Bishop Colenzo of Natal, but Butler declined, which offer he has declined.

The *Globe* contradicts the report that all the Danish West Indies will be sold to the United States; only St. Thomas will be purchased, price $8,000,000 in gold.

Advices from Canton say the tea market is quiet. The total exports for the season were 77,000,000 pounds.

PARIS, Nov. 10.—Victor Emmanuel has extended aid to the families of the Garibaldians killed and wounded in the late engagement.

PARIS, Nov. 11.—The French Government has issued a second note in regard to the proposed conference on the Roman question; even the third-rate powers called upon to participate it is thought will decline.

FLORENCE, Nov. 12.—The Italian Government has addressed a note to the European powers to enable them to decide against the necessity of any conference whatever. This note discusses the Roman question from the Italian standpoint.

PARIS, Nov. 12.—The *Moniteur* officially announces the withdrawal of the French troops from the Roman Territory to Civita Vecchia, Napoleon seeing Italy resolved to fulfill the obligations of the September Treaty.

LONDON, Nov. 12.—A serious riot occurred at Oxford. The military were ordered out to suppress it. The town is quiet. It is understood that Farragut's fleet will remain some time.

A loan of £1,000,000 sterling for the Honduras railroad has been introduced in the markets. Its proposed to construct a railroad from Porto Cabello on the Atlantic, to the Gulf of Fauzea on the Pacific. Its to be 250 miles long, and the cost of construction will be $6000 per mile.

DUBLIN, Nov. 13.—The jury in trial of Halpin brought in a verdict of guilty of treason and felony. The prisoner throughout his trial maintained the claim of being an American citizen. The Court has not given judgment.

FLORENCE, Nov. 12.—The *Gazette* publishes a note from the Premier Lanza declaring that the suppression of the Pope's temporal power is indispensable to [illegible] between [illegible] making rioters have been tried and found guilty, and sentenced to five years imprisonment. The special commission for the trial of the rioters is dissolved.

LONDON, Nov. 11th.—In Disraeli's speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet he said better feeling had arisen in America since last year, and he had every reason to hope for the maintenance of the friendly relations demanded by their interests, and by every moral feeling.

LONDON, Nov 13.—Late despatches from Florence say the note of Nimebra (?) the Premier, had been very quietly submitted to the Italian Government. The press, however, is almost unanimous in the opinion that it will be impossible to reconcile the difference between the Italian Government and the Pope.

PARIS, Nov 12—The Emperor has appointed Primard as Minister of State for the Interior, to succeed Lavalette.

BY ATLANTC CABLE.

MADRID, Nov 13.—A Madrid royal decree places Porto Rico under the government of the Captain General of Cuba.

LONDON, Nov 13—Private advices from Paris represent many political arrests by the police. There is a rumored existence of a secret society of a political character, and it is reported that government made these arrests in consequence.

PARIS, Nov 13—The Emperor's last note for a proposed general conference to settle the Roman question, does not suggest any definite plan.

LONDON, Nov 14.—The London *Times* editorially comments on the last note of Menabra and declares the abolition of the Pope's temporal power is essential to the preservation of peace, and calls it Italy's ultimatum to France.

PARIS, Nov 14.—Previous to the departure of the French troops from Rome the Pope received the staff officers at the Vatican and addressed them in a feeling manner, expressing his gratitude to France and the Emperor for the deliverance of the Holy See. He was grieved that Italy harbors anarchists against Rome. Their banners were inscribed with "rapine" and "devastation," while the valor of the Pontifical troops, which so successfully defended the soil of the church. The French army are crowned with splendid honors. The Pope concluded by saying he had the consolation of receiving the sincere expressions of Catholic sympathy from all parts of the world. He then gave the apostolic blessing to the armies, people and Emperor of France.

LONDON, Nov 14.—Maguire, one of the five prisoners convicted of the murder of Manchester policemen, has been pardoned. Maguire stoutly maintained his innocence throughout.

The bullion in the Bank of England has decreased £940,000 since the 7th.

Dense fog and no meteors were seen.

LONDON, Nov 14.—Late despatches from Italy state that the feeling against the French has reached a perfect *furore*. The authorities have taken precautions to prevent an outbreak, which is imminent. French troops have been sent to Civita Vecchia. Victor Emmanuel and Minister Lanabra are very unpopular. Ratazzi, the former Premier, has openly joined the radical party. The King has called out the reserve army and ordered the formation of three large camps. Garibaldi is still closely confined.

NEW YORK, Nov. 15—The Herald's special says Mount Vesuvius is in volcanic action, sending forth a pillar of fire, and red hot stones are ejected in large quantities. Lava is pouring down the sides of the mountain. The general upheaving gives warning of a grand eruption.

LONDON, Nov. 15—The Government has resolved to place all telegraph lines in Great Britain under the control of the Post-office Department.

Eastern States.

NEW YORK, Nov 11—The New York Assembly stands 73 Democrats and 55 Republicans. The Senate, 15 Democrats and 16 Republicans. One independent.

CHICAGO, Nov. 10—The *Tribune's* special says Seward has instructed Minister Marsh to offer an asylum to Garibaldi in the United States.

NEW YORK, Nov 13.—It is rumored that Vanderbilt will be President of the New York Central Railroad.

The steamers Arago and Fulton have been chartered by the Nicaragua Co to run hence to Aspinwall.

RICHMOND, Nov 13.—Chief Justice Chase arrived and presides in the Court to-day. Jeff Davis is expected on the 23d.

DETROIT, Mich., Nov 14.—Professor Watson, of the Michigan observatory, reports a fine display of meteors this morning. Notwithstanding the light of the full moon he counted 1500 hourly. The number actually visible was much greater.

NEW YORK, Nov 14—There has been a good display of meteors; the greater portion between three and five o'clock this morning.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 12—The Nicaragua Steamship Company, will dispatch the steamship Oregonian for Panama on Monday the 25th inst., to connect by way of the Panama railroad with the steamer Nebraska for New York.

The Panama steamer Montana arrived about three p. m. to-day.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 13.—Private telegrams quote gold in New York to day noon at 138⅞. Sterling dull at 109@109¼.

Th[illegible] co[illegible] absence of any export demand. Quotations unchanged. Wheat dominant at $2 50@2 55 good to choice.

Barley $1 50@1 80 for old and new feed and brewing.

San Francisco Markets.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15—Gold in New York to day, 140⅞. Sterling, 109@109¼. Legal Tenders quiet; 71 buying, 71¾ selling.

Flour, superfine, $6 75; extra. $7 75.

Wheat, range for good to choice, $2 45@2 55.

Barley, brewing, $1 75@1 80.

Oats, good coast, $1 70.

The Pacific Railroad.

CHEYENNE, Nov. 15—The Union Pacific Railroad is completed to this city. Upon arrival of the construction train an impromptu demonstration was made by the citizens in honor of auspicious event.

South America.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10—The *Times* has letters to October 22nd, from Peru, which say revolutions have broken out in two provinces in the South and five in the North. The City of Truxullo has also revolted and the Governor has been killed. Bolta has been asked to take charge of the revolutionists. Prado arrived at Islay and was about to march on Araquipa.

A Chile letter of the 10th says the Chileans propose sending aid to Prado.

Terrible Hurricane.

HAVANA, Nov. 15—A terrible hurricane visited the southern portion of the Island and destroyed all crops. Two thousand lives were lost. Four thousand families were made destitute.

Tortuga was completely submerged by the flood on the day succeeding the late gale. Ten thousand lives reported lost.

Steamship company losses at Havana will reach twelve millions.

Five hundred more bodies have been buried.

NEW YORK, Nov. 16—The Herald Havana special says of the late tempest at Porto Rico it was more severe than any of the terrible gales which visited the island previously. Thirty-nine thousand houses were laid in ruins; 3000 were severely damaged, and the entire streets demolished. There is no news from the interior. Every living creature—man and brute—on the Island of Tortuga perished.

Abyssinian Expedition.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—Bombay advices are to October 14th. The advance brigade of the Abyssinian field force left on the 7th. Twenty-five vessels were chartered as transports for the service by the Bombay Government. The second brigade of the Abyssinian force will leave about the 26th.

The cholera has been severe in many of the up country stations. It has broken out in a violent form.