

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 6. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1865. NO. 14.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

EVERY MORNING
(Sundays Excepted.)
PUBLISHED BY
W. B. FISHER,
No. 101, WATER STREET,
VICTORIA, B. C.

Subscription Rates:
Annual, in advance \$10.00
For Six Months, 5.00
For Three Months, 2.50
Per Week, payable to the Carrier, 35
Single Copies, 10

Advertisements inserted on the most reasonable terms.
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Published to Subscribers for \$5 a year; \$4 for six months; \$2 50 for three months; payable in advance.

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THE ELECTION

The contest is over; the great political fight has been brought to a close; and the field is in possession of the union and tariff forces. It has turned out, as we expected, the free port and separation party have been badly beaten—so badly that their cause is hopelessly lost. From the commencement it was evident their progress was all up-hill work—public sentiment was against them, and their fight became one unintermitted combat with principle. Money was used on the one hand and intimidation on the other. Poverty was esteemed the most reckless guardian of honor, and indebtedness the means by which conscience could be silenced. The election is over and we do not wish to rake up things that are past but we cannot close our eyes to the successful as well as unsuccessful attempts that were made to corrupt the electors of Victoria. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that poor and industrious men were turned out of work because they did not vote as the candidates desired. We do not altogether oblivious to the circumstance that money was paid for the votes of free and independent electors. With all these illegitimate means, however, of carrying on an election, failure was the result. The public heart or conscience was too sound, and bribery and coercion were unobtainable agents in the contest; and here we take the opportunity of recording the gratifying fact, that with all the influences brought to work, the supporters of Union and Tariff stood firm and gave their votes, like men, according to their principles. Never did election in any country absorb more thoroughly the attention of the public mind, and never did men act more nobly than those who voted the Union and Tariff ticket. Non-electors as well as electors threw themselves heart and soul into the cause, and made the streets resound again with the party shout. That the election committee of the free port champions was badly managed, and that the union and tariff committee was a model of exactness and general perfection we are quite ready to admit; but without the enthusiasm which pervaded the masses, no committee could ever have achieved the success which crowned the efforts of the union party. The election is now over, and we neither wish to crow over our victory nor recur to any disagreeable incidents of the contest. Let both parties bury the hatchet, and unite amicably in carrying out those great principles which have met with so much success through an endorsement at the polls. The question of union is now, so far as Vancouver Island is concerned, definitely settled. The stronghold of the free port has given in its adhesion to the resolutions of the House, and all that is wanting is the decision of the Home Government. This, we feel assured, will be received within the next three months. So far as any opposition from British Columbia is concerned, we have nothing to fear. Some show of antagonism will be met with doubtless in New Westminster, but from Hope and Yale, and the mines of Cariboo, the union sentiment will be as powerful as it is in Vancouver Island. Altogether, the result of yesterday's election will give renewed life and vigor to the colony. Men who had given up all hope of a change in our policy, and who were making preparations to leave the Island, will feel reassured, and enter on their duties with a fresh feeling of buoyancy and hopefulness. Every class, from the mechanic to the merchant, will feel the beneficial results of the coming change; and the very parties who have been, and we think, ill-advisedly, opposing the

union and tariff party, will find, before many months are over, that to this class they have been indebted for preserving them from serious, if not, indeed, ruinous consequences.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE

Friday, February 10.

A STRONG ARGUMENT FOR UNIONS.—The *Chronicle* publishes the following paragraph, which shows the urgent necessity to both colonies of freeing our coasting trade from the absurd restrictions under which it labors, by a union of the colonies, and also condemns the suicidal course pursued by that unprincipled sheet in opposing so desirable a consummation:—"The British schooner *Coward*, Capt. McKay, left here about ten days since to bring down the workmen and tools belonging to the Queen Charlotte Island Mining Company. The schooner had on board \$164 worth of supplies for the men, the duties on which she proceeded to New Westminster to pay. Finding the Fraser full of floating ice, she sailed to Burrard's Inlet, whence the captain walked to New Westminster and offered to pay the duties. The money was refused by the Collector, who held that the vessel must be brought to New Westminster. The captain remained some days and observing no signs of the ice breaking up, with considerable difficulty obtained a clearance for this port, arriving here on Friday night." What better argument for union than this could be advanced?

ARRESTED.—Poor Jenny Jones or his vessel are always getting into trouble. Yesterday the steamer when ready to sail for Olympia, with the U. S. mails on board, was libelled at the suit of Mr. P. McQuade. The mails were thereupon transferred to the *Eliza Anderson*, then about to leave for the Sound. Matters were, however, arranged, and the mails returned to the *Jenny Jones*. Meanwhile the *Anderson* left, and a second writ was served at the instance, we believe, of Messrs. Spratt & Keimier, and the captain placed in duress vice. The U. S. Consul has reported the detention of the mails to his Government.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEA MEETING.—The annual festival of the St. John's Sunday School was held in the Gymnasium Hall, Broughton street, last night. A large number of the parents of the scholars, and other visitors, were present, and speeches were made by His Excellency the Governor, Capt. Lang, and several clergymen of the Church. The united choirs of Christ and St. John's Churches performed several pieces in the most creditable manner. The hall was tastefully decorated, and the evening's festivities passed off in the most agreeable and successful manner.

A BANKRUPT FREE PORT.—The city of Singapore, one of the free ports which have been held up as a model for our guidance in our own case, is bankrupt, according to the *London Times*. Its expenditure exceeding its revenue very considerably. The city is anxious to become a Crown colony, but the *Times* objects on account of its insolvency. Should the commission merchants and foreigners of Wharf street succeed in forcing a continuance of the free port on this country, the *Times* will soon have a similar leader on our own colony.

TWO AMAZONS.—Yesterday considerable amusement was occasioned by two females, armed with horsewhips, being observed to enter a certain saloon on Government street. Enquiries were made for a certain individual, supposed to be there, but the proprietor not liking the belligerent appearance of his visitors, indignantly rejected an invitation "to take a drink," and ordered the fair ones to leave in post haste. The disappointed females left, evidently much chagrined at not having an opportunity of indulging in the anticipated manual exercise.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—Timothy Roberts, the drayman charged by Mr. Carmichael with mistreating his horse, was yesterday fined \$10 by the Police Magistrate, that being the full penalty allowed by law for the offence. This cruel fellow deserves to be deprived of his license. It is not long since he was shown up for causing the death of a horse by similar brutal treatment.

THE NEWS FROM LEECH RIVER.—A report reached town yesterday morning that rich diggings had been struck on Wolf Creek, a tributary of Leech River, and that a nugget of \$49 had been taken out, with others of smaller size. The statement is believed to be quite reliable. It was also rumored that rich gold-bearing quartz had been found on the same stream. A number of miners on the creek were said to be doing very well.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—The following gentlemen were yesterday elected as office-bearers in the Victoria Chamber of Commerce for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Jules David; Vice-President, Mr. James Lowe; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. F. Main; Arbitrators, Messrs. W. Pickett, R. Burnaby, H. Nathan, Jr., John Wilkie, F. Weissenburger, Henry Rhodes.

SUPREME COURT.—*Culverwell v. Holbrook*—This case was concluded yesterday, and after hearing counsel and the address from the Bench the jury retired for about an hour, and failing to agree were discharged. We understand that there were six for a verdict for defendant and two for the plaintiff.

ORF AND A WAT.—At 2 o'clock yesterday morning the *Jenny Jones*, with extra hands engaged for the purpose, slipped away from the wharf and was towed out of the harbor by boats, when she set sail for the other side. The Sheriff's Officer and his men who were in charge and had possession of the pistol-rod were put ashore, and we believe alleged that pistols were presented at them. Captain Jones is himself imprisoned for debt and not responsible for the act.

THE JENNY JONES OUT OF THE FREE PORT INTO THE FREE.—This unfortunate craft after being forcibly carried out of this port by some—to say the least—very ill-advised friends of her owners, reached Port Angeles next morning. She was there loaded by the Custom House officers, and it was found that she had no register, neither had she a manifest, although she had a quantity of goods on board. She was, therefore, liable to seizure for infraction of the U. S. revenue laws. The Collector of Customs wrote over to the U. S. Consul at this port to ascertain why she had not the necessary papers, and to obtain them; but the register is not to be had. As in case of forfeiture one half of any confiscated craft goes to the officer making the seizure, the probabilities are that the unlucky "*Jenny*" will be seized and, if the U. S. Court order forfeiture, be sold to the highest bidder, in which case all her previous obligations will be cancelled. We understand that several of the parties implicated in carrying her out of this port have been apprehended here, and some rather startling disclosures in connection with the affair may be looked for.

SOLD OUT.—The *Evening Express*, which has been in existence since April, 1863, under the management of Messrs. Wallace and Allen, was sold on Saturday, with the plant conducted with the establishment, to Mr. A. D. Bell, of the *Vancouver Times*. The two papers will be incorporated, and issued every evening, as before, (Sundays excepted). The *Times*, since the commencement of the present election campaign, has manifested considerable vigor, and gives promise as the organ of the free port party, of establishing itself on a substantial and lasting basis. We wish our contemporary every success.

NANAIMO.—The steamer *Fideler* arrived on Saturday evening from Nanaimo, and the settlements will about 20 passengers, having in tow the *Yankee*. Company's barge with 110 tons coal. The miners were returning to work again, and it was believed that all differences would be satisfactorily adjusted on the return of Mr. Nicol from San Francisco. From 30 to 40 tons of coal a day were being taken out.

HEAVY BLOW.—On Saturday night about 12 o'clock, it suddenly commenced to blow very violently from the southward and westward, and lasted for about two hours. The dredger, which had been moved into position, dragged her moorings, and one of the barges nearly went ashore.

PRINCESS ROYAL.—This vessel was brought round to the H. B. C. wharf on Saturday, where she is now discharging.

THE BRIBERY OATH.—Considerable contempt and disgust was manifested on all sides yesterday at the conduct of a certain coffee dealer (who shall be nameless) stationed by the free port men in the polling booth, for the purpose of endeavoring to hinder their opponents from recording legitimate votes by challenging almost every name on the list, and in several cases causing the bribery oath to be put to well-known and respectable men. The challenging artifices is as stale as it is reprehensible. It is the last and most unworthy recourse of a hopeless cause. But to put the bribery oath to any man sensitive of his honor is a direct insult, doubly enhanced by the fact beyond dispute or denial that the free port party themselves were guilty of bribery to an extent quite unprecedented in the election annals of this colony. Independent men may submit to have their qualifications tested without a murmur when occasion may render it fit and proper to do so, but it is widely different in the case of a man (not himself above suspicion) having the audacity to force respectable men to swear that they have not polluted their consciences with gold.

THE GALE.—At one o'clock yesterday morning the wind began to blow from the south-east, and in an hour had increased to a heavy gale which continued all night, accompanied by torrents of rain. In the morning the gale slightly abated, but continued to blow with more or less violence throughout the day, with occasional showers of rain, snow and sleet. The crowd round the polls however bore the pelting of the storm with great good humor, the magnitude of the issue involved in the election contest evidently making them quite indifferent to the state of the weather. The dredger and mud-punts, which are anchored on the bar at the mouth of the harbor, dragged some distance from their moorings and one of the latter got on the rocks off the Songish Reserve, but was rescued by the tug. Some foggy weather pressed that the morning tackle of the dredger was too light, but it proved sufficient to hold her till she was moved into a more sheltered position.

HONORABLE.—While we have fired several shots at certain parties belonging to the free port party for cases of oppression that have come prominently to our notice; it is but just that we should record instances of high-minded and honorable conduct that have also reached our ears. A drayman, who had got the sack from a certain vindictive Mr. N. in consequence of a Union and Tariff proclivities, was engaged at a Tobacco Store on Yates street. After serving his new master for two or three days, the drayman was called inside and the following conversation ensued:—Mr. N.—By the way, you have a vote, who are you going to give it to?—Ans.—Well, I was turned away by Mr. N.—because I was going to vote for Union and Tariff.—Quas.—But I want you to vote for Free Port?—Ans.—I can't change my principles.—Quas.—Then you mean to vote for DeCosmos and McClure do you?—Ans.—Certainly.

AN INCIDENT AT THE POLL.—The following was among other amusing incidents at the poll yesterday:—Colored voter, of strong and uncompromising principles, hustled in by a free port agent in a white mackintosh, and said to the Sheriff—Who do you vote for?—Sheriff—Free port.—Voter—There is no such candidate. Mackintosh—Here, vote this ticket!—Voter—If any man dares to speak to me, I'll have him taken up.—Mackintosh—The candidates are Mr. DeCosmos and Mr. Spratt.—Voter—Well, I guess I vote for Spratt.—Excited free port merchant, seated in window—Yes, that's it; and the other!—The other! You know who the other is you will vote for.—Voter, (scratching his head).—Well—Merchant—Yes, yes! that's it!—Voter—DeCosmos!—Merchant collapses, sheriff and polling clerks titter; cries of "bully for you," &c.

THE JENNY JONES.—Captain Jones informs us that he was in no way privy to the flight of his steamer, his last orders to his men were to obey the directions of the Sheriff. A strong feeling was manifested on board against a gang of men being sent by certain parties who had a claim against the steamer, to take illegal possession of her, and Captain Jones applied to Dr. Tozo, of the H. B. C., to know if he could assist him in the matter, but that gentleman could do nothing for him. In the meantime the Captain was himself arrested, and next morning heard that his steamer had left the harbor.

ALBERTA.—A canoe arrived yesterday from Alberta, having been specially despatched by the Chief Justice to have an interview with the King George *Tyees*, and ascertain the cause of the departure of all the settlers from the mills. The natives do not understand the move, and have an impression that it is in consequence of an anticipated attack from them. Mr. Harkin, superintendent of police, will return with the canoe, so soon as the weather moderates, and endeavor to pacify all parties.

GOOD MANAGEMENT.—Much praise is awarded by the free port party to the business like manner in which Messrs. DeCosmos and McClure's committees conducted the canvass and election. We can also bear testimony to the energy and zeal with which every member of the general and sub-committees, from the highly respected chairman, to the humblest individual, lent his aid. Their hearts were evidently in the cause, and minor differences of every kind were cast aside for the common object in view.

TERRIBLE DISASTER.—Amongst the marine accidents occasioned by the gale of yesterday, we have to record the stranding and explosion of our "monitor" on the bar of the free port. The old craft went down stern foremost and sunk in deep water. Nobody was hurt. An effort will be made at some future time to raise her, but the general opinion is that she is too much shaken and strained to be of further public service.

POSTPONED.—On account of a severe attack of sore throat, Miss Divine's Concert and Ball, which was to have taken place last evening, has been postponed.

PACIFIC COAST POSTAL STATISTICS.—In his recent report, Postmaster Denison says that the Overland Mail service, from Ashcroft to St. Joseph to Folsom, Cal., costs \$750,000 per annum; and that the trips during eight months of the year are to be made in sixteen days, and in twenty days the remaining four months. The Pacific Coast service, via New York and Panama costs \$910,000 per annum. The California and Oregon route is an expense of \$250,000, the contract extending, however, only to July next.—*S. F. New Age*.

COUNTERFEIT GOLD COIN.—A ten dollar gold piece, almost perfect in its imitation of the genuine, was taken by Officer Chappel from a Chinese lad. It can be detected by the ring of the metal and weight, the latter falling short of the genuine coin. It is said to be a better imitation than the pieces which were being put into circulation by Farrell. It would be well for persons handling money to scrutinize each piece carefully, as a guard against imposition.—*S. F. New Age*.

The Grande of Bordeaux states that business continues very brisk in the wines of this year's vintage. The whole produce of the Chateau-Lafitte has just been purchased by two merchants of Bordeaux at \$5,000 per tonneau of four casks.

MORMON TEMPLE AND TABERNACLE.—A correspondent of the *St. Louis Republican*, writing from Great Salt Lake City, gives the following description of the projected Mormon temple and tabernacle. "That which strikes every observer of the temple is the very remarkable solidity of the stone work. It appears to be laid there to remain a thousand years, furnishing an unyielding support to the building that is to rest upon it. I saw an outside view of the upper portion. The style of architecture is somewhat novel. The front view shows three towers, the centre more elevated than those at the side. The rear end presents a view of three towers also, the side walls being strengthened with powerful abutments covered with pinnacles. The walls are lofty, and the entire air of the building, as represented in the view I saw, is imposing. There is no excess of ornament. All is substantial, dignified and impressive. The building is not for the use of

brilliant ornaments of the church. The people in their assemblages will meet in another building in the rear—the tabernacle. This is projected on a large scale, and on a very peculiar design. It is to be an oval building. I was told that the interior would correspond to the shape of an egg. At present 52 massive abutments of solid masonry, 10 ft. by 4 ft., show the exterior line of the structure. From the top of these abutments the oval roof will spring. The floor will be oval downwards, seated with rising seats as an amphitheatre. There will be no close-built walls. As the building is intended for vast congregations, ventilation and light are looked to, and the building will be nearly all windows and doors. It covers a space of 325 ft. deep by 175 ft. wide, and is calculated to hold 10,000 people. Here the teachers and elders will enlighten the people, and their united souls will go up. The cost of these buildings must be immense; but all is contributed by the members of the Mormon church in labor and money. Their system of sifting is adequate to the work. When I asked, 'What is the estimated cost of the temple and tabernacle?' I was informed with a smile, 'We do not calculate things in that way. When it is decided to do anything (among us), it is done without a calculation of cost, each doing his part.' I am informed that President Young himself is the superintendent and actual architect of the buildings. Every stone in them he has inspected and measured with a tape line and assigned to its place.

THE MONT GENE TUNNEL.—In a highly interesting article by Emile Levat, in the fortnight's *Revue Contemporaine*, we find some curious details about the piercing of the tunnel between Modane and Bardonecchia. It is well known that the whole length of the tunnel, when completed, will be 12,220 metres. The machine used for the purpose is a Combes' perforator, set in motion by a horizontal cylinder, and carrying a chisel fixed upon it like a bayonet, which at each stroke dashes with violence against the rock to be pierced. Each time the chisel recoils, it turns round in the hole, and the latter is sunk deeper and deeper; the frame or shield, which carries, not one, but nine perforators, advances in proportion. While the chisel is doing its work with extraordinary rapidity, a copper tube of small diameter keeps squirting water into the hole, by which means all the rubbish is washed out. Behind the shield there is a tender, which, by the aid of a pump set in motion by compressed air, leads all these tubes with water. The noise caused by the simultaneous striking of all the chisels against the rock is absolutely deafening, enhanced, as it is, by the sole of the tunnel. All at once the noise ceases, the shields recede behind it, and the surface of the rock is perceived riddled with 80 holes, varying in depth between 80 and 90 centimetres. These holes are now charged with cartridges, slow matches burning at the rate of 60 centimetres per minute are inserted, and the workmen retire in haste. The explosion seems to shake the mountains to its roots; when all is over the ground is found covered with fragments of the rock, and an advance equal to the depth of the holes has been obtained. On the Bardonecchia side this year the average advance per month has been 50 metres; on the Modane side it has not exceeded 39 metres per month, owing to the greater hardness of the rock on that side; there still remains a length of about 3250 metres to be got through. When completed the tunnel will have required the piercing of 1,220,000 holes, 550,000 kilogrammes of gunpowder, 1,500,000 metres of slow match; the number of bayonets rendered unserviceable will amount to 2,450,000.—*Galignani's Messenger*.

A FRENCH HERMIT.—The *Messenger* de Provence gives an account of a hermit who has been living in solitude for three years past in the forest of Maures, near Pisteron (Var). His garments consist of coarse wrapper confined round his waist by a girdle, and his only food consists of wild berries, roots, and herbs. Who he is, or whence he came, no one knows, but from his language he is generally supposed to belong to a good family, and all believe that he has adopted this austere mode of life for the purpose of meditation, prayer, and penitence. The *Messenger* takes the not unnecessary precaution of adding that from his conversation he does not appear to be insane.

GREAT STORM IN INDIA.—Mesulipatam in the Madras Presidency, has been nearly swept away by a storm. On the 1st November a furious gale drove the sea up the river some three miles, flooded the native town, and swept away the eppoy lines, killing, it is believed, altogether about 5,000 persons. Vast quantities of property have been destroyed, and the stench from the unburied bodies of men and animals is expected to breed a fever. All the wells but one were turned salt, and it was necessary to bury the bodies by pressed labor.

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