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Look for the name of Murray &
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GAINST FRAUD.
most delicious and unrivalled
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THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.
And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 8. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1867. NO. 25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY
HIGGINS, LONG & CO.

TERMS:

Per Annum, in advance	$6 00
For Six Months	4 00
For Three Months	2 50
Per Week	0 25

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Is Annexation the only Panacea?

It has been truly said that "liberty will not descend to a people—a people must raise themselves to liberty; it is a blessing that must be earned before it can be enjoyed." On all sides it is agreed that Great Britain has treated her Pacific Colony with shameful, inexcusable neglect—a neglect that early blighted every effort of the people to keep pace with the progress of their American neighbors, and has resulted finally in the utter prostration and almost irretrievable ruin of every interest within its borders. Instead of the young and feeble community being tenderly nurtured and encouraged by a helping hand from the mother country, it has been treated with a chilling indifference that has steeled the hearts of the colonists against England and her institutions. Our citizens have seen their representative institutions—the birthright of every Briton—snatched from their hands; they have submitted uncomplainingly to have a heavy load of debt they never incurred strapped to their backs; they have been made liable for the payment of a Civil List out of all proportion to the requirements of the country; they are compelled to pay heavier taxes than any Colony has before been called on to bear; they have, in short, been subjected to every species of insult and extortion that it is possible to inflict upon a free people, until at last they are prepared for any species of change that would hold out even a remote prospect of bettering their condition. Many o them sigh for another form of Government, so impressed are they with the belief of the failure of the attempt to establish British institutions on the Pacific Coast; and since no change could be for the worse, they would welcome Annexation to the United States in preference to continuing in a state of poverty and wretchedness. In writing thus, we know that we speak the mind of nine out of every ten men in the Colony—men who after struggling for years to awaken the Home Government to a sense of the wrongs under the weight of which we are staggering, have at last sat down in despair at the gloomy prospects before them. The same line of policy that drew together the Boston Tea Party and cost England her thirteen American Colonies, is being pursued towards us. The same policy that estranged Canadians from the Mother Country and brought on the Rebellion of '37, is being continued here. The people—disgusted, disheartened and all but ruined—are loud in their expression of a preference for the stars and stripes. The sentiment is heard at every street corner—at social gatherings—in business circles—at the theatre—in the saloons—in all places "where two or three are gathered together"; and the feeling is growing and spreading daily. The loyalty, even, of men who have fought to preserve the honor of Old England is seriously shaken; the young men are growing up impressed with the idea that England would be only too glad to get rid of us, and that to become a part of the "Universal Yankee Nation" is our inevitable destiny—our irresistible fate! This state of feeling is the natural result of the manner in which we have been and are being treated by the Mother Country. Our prayers are unheeded; our remonstrances trampled under foot; our commerce ruined; and a horde of officials, with a civil list beyond our capacity to bear, hang like a millstone around our necks. Added to this accumulation of miseries, through the criminal neglect and shortsightedness of British statesmen, we are placed, by the cession of the Russian Possessions, in a position that will be utterly indefensible in case of a war between Great Britain and the United States. We are not of the class who believe that the negotiations now going on for the sale of this Colony to the Americans will amount to anything. The British Government—especially a Tory Government—will not sell a foot of the territory it now holds. Were John Bright Premier, with a Radical Ministry, there might be a sale; but there is none to be looked for from a Ministry of which Earl Derby is at the head. We believe, however, that were such a bargain effected it would result most advantageously to the material and political interests of this colony. It would make Victoria the half-way house of Sitka on the North and San Francisco on the South; it would make our harbor the rendezvous for the whaling fleet; the cheapness of coal would induce manufacturers to establish their factories in our midst and ship their goods in place of, as we are doing, fuel to Oregon or California. Our numerous creeks and rivers with their picturesque falls would be utilized; our mineral resources opened up, and an era of prosperity and contentment take the place of the present state of distress and discontent that prevails on every side. But, is annexation the only panacea for our ills?—is it only by allying ourselves to a foreign nation that we can enjoy the blessings which we have briefly sketched? We should be sorry to think so. We believe that Confederation with the Eastern Provinces is the only course that will preserve the loyalty of this people or save the country from falling into a condition of hopelessness from which it may not emerge during the time of men now living. The *immediate* Confederation of this colony and the assumption of our debt by the united Provinces; the dismissal of the present expensive staff of officials and the substitution of a cheap form of local government; guarantee of a loan by the Imperial Government for the construction of a railway through British territory to connect with the Grand Trunk of Canada. These are the three principal wants. Once let it be known that the colony has been joined to its Eastern sisters; that an economical government has been obtained; and that the Imperial Government feels sufficient confidence in our future to endorse our paper, and public confidence will everywhere revive, money will pour in from all quarters, we shall hear no more of our bonds flying around 'Change like pieces of waste paper, nor see advertisements in the *Daily Telegraph* cautioning people against having anything to do with the Pacific colony "because it is *gone in!*" If the Home Government desires to retain our affections it has got to manifest an interest in our welfare. It must not teach us to forget our duty as British subjects by first forgetting its duty towards us. It must foster, encourage and assist us in maintaining a connection that will add as much to the glory and strength of the Mother Country as it will result in our own prosperity. But if, on the other hand, Great Britain wishes to cast us off, she has only to continue her present policy for a few months longer and her Pacific Colonies may be found some fine morning in the present year knocking at the door of the White House for admission.

Monday, April 28th.

Going up and Down.—The *chignons* or waterfalls worn by the ladies are going into direpute under the malignant influence of the European story circulated about the *gregarines*. Our readers are aware that the *gregarines* are the filthy little worms which are said to propagate in the dirty hair of which the *chignons* are composed. As the *chignon*, or waterfall, which used to be suspended on the nape of the neck (*chignon* is a French word signifying the nape of the neck) has recently become ambitious and crept up, little by little, almost to the top of the head, perhaps its next movement will be to drop off altogether. If so, it will do the ladies a service, for it is an awkward, ungraceful appendage, to a prettily shaped head, and looks much like a huge deformity.

Severe Accident—Mr. Robert Byrn, while riding a spirited horse past the corner of Wharf and Fort streets, yesterday afternoon, was thrown from the saddle by the shying of the animal and fell among a heap of broken bottles. He was severely cut on the hands and bruised about the body and was compelled to seek medical advice.

The Capital Petitions—The last Government *Gazette* contains three petitions in favor of the removal of the capital to Victoria—viz.: one from Vancouver Island, with 1467 signatures; one from property holders at New Westminster, with 50 signatures; one from merchants, farmers, traders, packers, miners and others residing in the interior of British Columbia, signed by 318 persons. The receipt is acknowledged in the *Gazette* of similar petitions from Cariboo with 245 signatures; from Kamloops and Columbia District, with 147 signatures; from Yale, Harrison River and New Westminster, with 53 signatures; from Lillooet, with 43 signatures; and from Lytton to Soda Creek, with 36 signatures. From this statement it would appear that the signers in favor of the removal of the seat of Government to Victoria number *two thousand three hundred and fifty-two!* When it is remembered that the petitions were circulated in the dead of winter, at a time when communication with the interior was only obtained with the greatest difficulty, and when two-thirds of the mining population were temporarily absent from the colony, the fact that so many names were obtained to the document shows a gratifying unanimity of sentiment on the part of the inhabitants of every section in favor of Victoria as the capital. Will Governor Seymour resist this righteous demand of a majority? He has stated his intention to govern according to the "well understood wishes of the people," as expressed in these petitions and by the vote of the Legislative Councillors. How long will he leave the question an open one to the manifest injury of both Victoria and New Westminster?

Washington Territory Politics—Whatever will add to the prosperity and growth of Washington Territory, will increase the commercial importance and trade of Victoria. It is an incontrovertible fact that the Rip Van Winkles who have heretofore represented the territory at Washington City have done little or nothing for their constituents. They appear to have been too busily engaged in figuring up their pay and mileage—said to amount to upwards of $18,000 per annum—to devote any time to the interests of the section they were selected to represent. The territory has languished because of this neglect, and while public works of importance have been erected at the instance of the representatives of Oregon, Washington Territory has not advanced a step in five years. On the 3d of June next an election will be held in the Territory for Delegate to Congress. Two candidates are before the electors—Mr. Flanders of Wallula, and Frank Clark of Steilacoom. The first named gentleman is unknown to fame as a politician; but Frank Clark is known throughout the length and breadth of the North Pacific Coast as an energetic, able conservative man—a lawyer by profession, and for years a faithful representative of his county in the local Legislature. A man of Mr. Clark's ability would command the respect of Congress, and the just demands of his Territory, when urged by him, receive early attention at the hands of that body. Mr. Clark would make a "real live" representative, and we feel certain that his election to Congress would be the means of giving every interest in the adjoining Territory a start in the right direction.

Knock Down.—John Costello complains that at 12 o'clock on Friday night, while passing the Royal Exchange Buildings, on Government street, two men sprang from the doorway of one of the buildings, and whacked him on the head with a picket. He fell to the ground, where his pockets were rifled of a pair of keys. Fortunately he had left all his money at home, and the robbers obtained only a bunch of keys in return for their villainy. After the men had fled, Costello raised himself and broke for home. In the morning he found his keys lying near the buildings, where they must have been dropped by the scamps as useless. Costello says another man was knocked down by two men in the same vicinity, about the same time he was felled, but who he was or the amount of booty the fellows obtained we are unable to state.

Lower River Items—The *Examiner* says that the Governor will return to New Westminster on Saturday next....A deer was captured alive at Westminster on Thursday. Think of that! Deer-stalking within a stone's throw of the streets of the capital! ....The Hyack Fire Company have got $95 25 in their treasury.....A seal was caught in the river opposite Westminster on Wednesday. It weighed 226 pounds.... The Hyack Band went to Yale last week. As the steamer neared the town, the band struck up a tune, and the people on shore supposing the Governor to be on board, fired a salute. When the mistake was discovered, the town "stood treat."

Defective Sidewalks.—Many of the sidewalks are in a very dangerous state, owing to some of the planks having been carried away. Upon dark nights unsuspecting pedestrians run great risks of breaking their legs, if not their necks, by tumbling into these traps. The Corporation claim that they possess the power to insure the public safety in this respect; and we would suggest that the screws be at once applied to all property holders who neglect to comply with the mandate of the Mayor and Council.

The Califorgnia sailed for Port Townsend at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, to land a few passengers and discharge a quantity of freight she had on board for that port. She is advertised to sail for San Francisco at noon to-morrow.

Contemplated Office Changes—The Post office, it is said, will shortly be removed to Southgate's building on Bastion street, and the Custom house to the Treasury building, James Bay.

Governor Seymour, on Saturday, paid a visit to the Government Buildings and thoroughly inspected the rooms and offices, probably with a view to immediate occupation.

The Enterprise returned from New Westminster on Saturday with 30 passengers among whom we noticed the Hons. Collector of Customs, Hons. G. A. Walkem and Mr. Wilde.

Leech River—A miner from this river, on Saturday, reports high water. The mill is not yet complete. All the snow is off the side hills.

Opposition—The Isabel is on the berth for New Westminster, to leave on Tuesday morning, carrying freight and passengers at reduced rates.

The Fideliter got off for Portland yesterday morning with a few passengers and a small freight.

Soiree Dansante—Mrs. Digby Palmer announces another of her agreeable *soiree dansantes* for Wednesday.

Lines Down—The lines were down all day yesterday between this place and Seattle.

Victoria Rifle Corps.—Position Drill Tuesday, at 8 p.m., James Bay. By order, J. Gordon Vinter, Lieut. and Adjt.

Due—The H. B. Co's bark Princess Royal is now out 128 days from London.

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

Europe.

London, April 18—Berlin despatches say the speech of the King at the closing of Parliament caused distrust throughout Germany.

London, April 20—A plan for the solution f the Luxembourg question has been submitted by the other Powers. France is willing to accept. Prussia has not replied. It is believed the peace of Europe will be kept.

London, April 21st—Gladstone has written a letter in which he virtually resigns the leadership of the Liberals.

Berlin, April 18—It is reported that the French forces on the frontier will be put on a war footing.

Berlin, April 19—Prussia has sent a strong note to Napoleon, asking the reason for the military preparations of France.

An agent has been sent to Vienna to secure the alliance of Austria.

Vienna, April 21—The Vienna *Post*, the official organ, has an editorial on the relations between Prussia and France, counselling its readers not to put too much faith in the preservation of the peace of Europe.

Eastern States.

New Orleans, April 23—It is estimated that the loss to the United States of internal revenue on account of the destruction of this year's crops of cotton, sugar and molasses by the flood will be between eight and ten millions of dollars.

Chicago, April 21—The freshets in the western rivers continue; the Missouri is higher than it has been since 1844, and still rising. Two miles of the Pacific railroad, near Wyandotte, have been inundated.

Washington, April 21—The Senate yesterday had diminished to less than a quorum, and adjourned without filling all vacancies.

Leavenworth, April 20—General Hancock's expedition is at Fort Laramie, and is unable to move owing to the exhaustion of forage. 11,000 warriors are encamped on Tongue River, between Forts Phil. Kearney and C. F. Smith, waiting for grass before commencing hostilities.

Mexico.

New York, April 23—The steamer Tehama, from Tampico April 17th, brings positive information of the capture of Puebla. Letters from the Liberal camp say General Diaz shot six Generals and 61 lesser officers who were captured in Puebla, in retaliation for the October decree.

Canada.

New York, April 20—Canadian correspondence of April 17th says the elections under the new Confederation will not occur until August.

Toronto is alive with political excitement. Office-seekers and gold-seekers are arriving.

Europe.

London, April 22—Spain promises indemnity to England for seizure of the Victoria.

Eastern States.

Washington, April 24.—The correspondent of the Boston *Post* is authoritively informed that negotiations have been pending since the accession of the Derby administration between the State Department and the Colonial Secretary, for the purchase of a large portion of British America. Seward's design was to acquire all the territory west of the Mississippi. One prominent difficulty was the transfer of Vancouver Island. England desired to retain that as a naval station. Recently the proposition to purchase has been renewed. Seward put forth the Alabama claims as a partial offset, the whole price to be determined hereafter. The strictest secrecy has been maintained respecting the negotiations. Seward relied upon the success of the scheme for buying Russian America to help the other bargain.

Chicago, April 22.—There is great suffering among the homestead settlers in north-western Iowa from the long contined and severe winter. Numbers of cattle, hogs and sheep have perished in Northern Iowa and Southern Minnesota from a scarcity of food, the intense cold weather and snow in some places 15 or 20 feet deep.

Europe.

Paris, April 22.—It is reported on good authority that Napoleon is pushing his preparations for war and is endeavoring to purchase improved arms in the United States. It is said the neutral great powers have prepared a compromise, but Prussia disapproves of it.

California.

San Francisco, April 24.—A close examination of the Cosmopolitan Hotel to-day shows the damage to be somewhat less than was supposed yesterday. The fire was confined almost entirely to the fifth story or French roof. The floor is not destroyed but the timbers are considerably charred and burnt. The fourth story immediately beneath is considerably damaged. Below this point the only damage is by water and breakage. Five powerful steam engines were kept constantly at work and proved the superiority of steam over muscular power. The damage done to the building alone and the cost of placing it in the same condition that it was in before will not exceed $15,000. Loss on furniture $50,000. Insured for $70,000.

Arrived, April 23—Bark Gold Hunter, 15 days from Port Madison. Glympse, 15 days from Port Discovery.

Holloway's Pills.—Enfeebled Existence.—This medicine is the very remedy required in a general and domestic remedy; it overturns the foundations of disease laid by defective food and impure air. In obstructions or congestions of the liver, lungs, bowels, or any other organ, these Pills are especially serviceable and eminently successful. They should be kept in readiness in every family, as they are a medicine without a fault for young persons, and those of feeble constitutions. They never cause pain, or irritate the most sensitive nerves or most tender bowels. Holloway's Pills are the best known purifiers of the blood, and the best promoter of absorption and secretion, which remove all poisonous and obnoxious particles from both solids and fluids.

Inflammatory Eruptions.—Few diseases of the skin that are not marked by constitutional symptoms, are so dangerous as Erysipelas. Its seat is in the derma of true skin, and during its continuance the superficial vessels are surcharged with an infectious virus. Yet it yields with a readiness almost incredible to the depurative counter-irritating properties of **Bristol's Sarsaparilla.** All the external eruptions, such as Salt Rheum, Nettle Rash, Rose Rash, Inflammatory Scale, Rupia, etc., etc., are eradicated with great rapidity by this peerless vegetable specific. The bowels should be kept laxative for which purpose **Bristol's Vegetable Pills** are the best and safest medicine. 518

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral surpasses all other remedies in the rapid and radical cure of Coughs, Colds and Consumption.