

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST And Victoria Chronicle.

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NO. 1

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AGENTS:

S. D. L. ... Nanaimo, V. I.
H. ... Comox, do
S. ... Cowichan, do
C. ... New Westminster
B. ... Quesselle, B. C.
do ... Barkerville
do ... Vancouver
do ... Richmond
do ... Barkerville
do ... Camerton
do ... Clifton
do ... San Francisco
L. P. Fisher ... do
Hudson & McCarty ... do
E. ... 11, Queen St. E., London
G. ... 20, Cornhill, London

The Municipal Election.

In returning Dr Trimble in the place of Mr Macdonald as Mayor, we do not believe the electors have acted wisely. The present incumbent has performed his duties faithfully and intelligently, and his friends naturally looked for a renewal of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens. The electors, however, have decided otherwise. They have chosen a more popular but less efficient gentleman to represent them in the civic chair, and in that choice the minority have only to acquiesce with good grace. The main objection to the return of Mr Macdonald, was in consequence of an impression having gone abroad that he was a Government man. This impression was altogether an erroneous one, but the people had imbibed the idea that in electing Dr Trimble they were setting the seal of condemnation on the acts of the Government, and voted accordingly. No one regrets—for the sake of the city—the result more than ourselves. We do not believe that in accepting the position Dr Trimble has done either himself or the city justice. Personally, we have no objection to the doctor; but when we come down to the practical working man, we prefer Mr Macdonald a thousand times. But the battle having been fought, the minority can only smother its regrets and tender the Mayor elect as cordial a support in the future as it has extended to Mr Macdonald in the past. So far as we are concerned, our earnest wish is that Dr Trimble may disappoint the expectations we have formed of his official career.

Mr Alston and the Absentee Attorney General.

We give place to another letter from Mr Alston, in which that gentleman claims to have "effectually disposed of the charge that through the negligence of the Attorney General three murderers and a swindler have been turned loose on the country." Our correspondent also corrects us in one particular: the Nanaimo miner was tried for robbery, not murder. In the first place, we have to say to Mr Alston that we did not charge that "three murderers and one swindler" escaped justice. The four cases were cited by Mr Alston himself, who, in attempting to prove that three criminals (the number we charged) had not been turned loose on the country, actually showed that there had been a failure of justice in four distinct cases. We accept the correction with regard to the Nanaimo prisoner. We do so quite cheerfully from the fact that Mr Alston, in his eagerness to defend his chief, has made the case even blacker against him than it was at first. Not another word is required from us—Mr Alston, in attempting the defence of his chief, having established the charge against him and a little more besides.

ARRIVAL OF THE AVA.—The bark Ava, Capt. Burr, 11 days from San Francisco, arrived yesterday morning. The Captain reports severe gales during the passage. The bark is consigned to Millard & Beady, and has on board 300 tons of general merchandise for Victoria.

Monday Nov. 11
Mechanics' Institute.

The rooms of the Institute were crowded on Thursday evening, the occasion of the opening for the season of the debating and elocution classes. Amongst those assembled we noticed a great number of ladies. From the very satisfactory manner in which the affair passed off we regret that the entertainments are so few and far between, and that instead of annual we have not monthly demonstrations. Ample amusement and enjoyment was afforded by the quartettes, glees, trios, solos, recitations, addresses and readings rendered. The chair was taken by Mr Hutcherson, Vice-President of the debating class, who introduced the Secretary of the institution, Mr W. K. Bull, to give the opening address. Mr Bull said the educational value and advantages of the debating and elocution classes had been so often admitted and so generally assented to that he felt it unnecessary to dilate upon them; they all knew they had a tendency to give ease and fluency in the expression of sentiment, and when they reflected on how much in the present was done, as the result of what had been said, it would be difficult to over-estimate the advantages of the teachings of these important classes. But it was not only in the expression of sentiment that the classes were valuable, but in the formation and character of those sentiments. For both classes encouraged a spirit of enquiry—a love of learning and the acquisition of knowledge. The debating class during the past season had been indifferently sustained, from the want of suitable subjects for debate, and from the paucity of disputants. But the interest in the elocution class had been well kept up, arising, he supposed, from its being so entertaining as well as instructive. As it was quite possible there were some present unacquainted with the operations of the elocution class, he would mention that it consisted of a party coming forward and standing upon that platform, and then giving, as a "Reading," or "Recitation," some literary production which they considered to be of special value. A preliminary critic was duly appointed, whose duty it was to watch and subsequently comment upon the way and manner in which the party acquitted himself, and who had to exercise a general surveillance over the action, expression, gesture, pronunciation and position of the said reader or reciter; and independent of this duly appointed critic, all the members of the class were allowed the same privilege of praising or condemning. It might be easily imagined any one going through this ordeal—this running as it were the gauntlet—was entitled to all the benefits receivable. But there were benefits, and many of considerable importance, to be gained from this arena; for the legitimate object of the elocution class was as it were "to hold the mirror up to nature" to show awkwardness its own image; unsmooth action, bad pronunciation and faulty expression their deformities. And though it may sometimes be anything but pleasant to see one's self reflected in this mirror, it might nevertheless be accompanied with very salutary results. Amongst the faults chargeable upon the English people had been the undue aspiration of the letter H, of which on one occasion he remembered a very ludicrous instance on the part of one who from humble origin had risen to importance, who in addressing a large assembly, said—"Don't tell me what I was, tell me what I *ham*." It often occurred to him, on seeing the exhibitions of some of those who figured as public speakers amongst us, that they might materially improve themselves by a few hints from the Elocution Class. When he heard the voice being pitched to an unnatural height, and saw the arms swinging round with the velocity of the sails of a wind-mill, it seemed to him they would be none the worse but all the better for the instruction, and, moreover, that it would be an admirable school for some of our aspirants for Legislative or Municipal honors, whose early education might have been neglected. The glees, quartettes and trios were admirably given and elicited warm approbation. The songs kindly volunteered were the gems of the evening: Mr Elliott's song of the "Death of Nelson," Mr White's "Beautiful Leaves," and Mr Lumley Franklin's "Widow Macbride" were all greatly enjoyed. Mr Clarke gave a reading from "Martin Chuzzlewit" in which Mrs Sairey Gamp and Pringle were introduced in his usual quaint, effective and happy manner. Mr Lumley Franklin's reading of "The Boxes," and the droll and true to life manner in which he represented the perplexities of a Frenchman, as to the varied and contradictory way in which Englishmen use the word box, was irresistible and sent laughing smiles of approbation in every face. "Queen Mab," a recitation from Shakespeare, was very effectively given by Mr Fox. A striking episode in the evening's entertainment was the recitation, in character, by Mr W. K. Bull, of a "London Mother in search of her Lost Child," causing much merriment by the oddity of the representation and the manner in which it was given. At the termination of the programme, the National Anthem was sung, and the company separated apparently highly delighted at the evening's entertainment.

THE CALIFORNIA.—We are requested to state that this steamship did not sustain injury while off Columbia River Bar, and that her detention is not on account of repairs required, but because it has been found necessary to land and reship the Portland freight.

The Municipal Election.

The election on Saturday resulted in the return of Dr Trimble for Mayor over Mr Macdonald by a majority of 99; and that of Messrs Jefferies and Crump over Mr Hubbard, as Councillors for Johnson street Ward. The voting was *vice versa*. The number of votes polled for Mayor was 315. Had the contest been sharp, perhaps 100 votes more would have been recorded. The number of voters exceeds 800. The Chinese vote numbered 23. The white-foreign vote, as near as can be ascertained, was 145, leaving 142 votes deposited by British subjects. The foreign vote was, undoubtedly, illegally cast; but the seat will not, we hope, be contested on that account. The election, so far as the Chinese vote was concerned, proved a great farce. The John's were generally led up by a stalwart white elector. The polling clerk would ask, "Who do you vote for, John?" Some answered "Fimble," others "The Doc," and some merely voted for "The Doc." Some fellows would mutter a name utterly incomprehensible to the white men standing about. The supporters of each candidate bawled out the name of their favorite, and the Chinamen would manage to stammer out something that sounded like one or the other name, when down would go a "square" Trimble or Macdonald vote. In one instance, Mr Chinaman could not tell the life of him who he wanted to vote for, so he vainly named the names of both candidates, which thundered into his ear; he stood like an idiot, shaking his head and grinning horribly at the scene before him. At last the doctah hit upon an experiment. Placing himself in full view before the free and independent elector, he put the usual question, "Who do you vote for, John?" A sudden gleam of intelligence lighted up the previously opaque countenance of the intelligent Celestial, and pointing his long, skinny index finger at the burly figure before him, he spluttered out, "he, he," "him, him," and down went the Celestial's vote through an interpreter, but the majority preferred to do their own talking and made a "mess" of it in consequence. In Johnson street Ward, we saw very amusing scenes occurred. We have only space for one. A Chinaman was conducted to the table and asked by the polling clerk, who had evidently been taking lessons in Chinese, "Who you votes for, John?" "One dollar hap one dozen," replied John, with his mouth agape and both eyes open for business: "What!" exclaimed the astonished clerk. "Washee!" bawled John, "one dollar hap, one dozen!" The roar of laughter that followed shook the building, and it was some time before order could be restored and John brought to understand the difference between exercising the right of franchise and washing foul linen, when he voted for "Clump (Crump) and Jeppy" (Jefferies). The greatest good humor was observed throughout the day by all parties. At the close of the poll the late contestants were called out, and after a few appropriate remarks, were favored with rounds of cheers. The result of the election was as follows:

FOR MAYOR.	
Trimble.....	207
Macdonald.....	108
Trimble's Majority.....	99

JOHNSON STREET WARD.	
Crump.....	108
Jefferies.....	100
Hubbard.....	26

The Sitka Expedition.—The J. L. Stephens at Nanaimo.

From a Victorian just from Sitka we learn that the J. L. Stephens arrived at New Archangel on the 9th October, and the U.S. war steamer Ossipee, with the Russian and American Commissioners, on the 18th. On the afternoon of the 18th the transfer of the territory took place. There was no ceremony beyond lowering the Russian flag and hoisting the American flag over the fort. A large number of people witnessed the lowering and raising of the flag, among them a few Russian and American ladies. Salutes were fired from the Russian fort and the U.S. war steamers. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon all was over, and the new Government was in operation. A battalion of U.S. soldiers and detachments of soldiers of the Imperial army were in attendance, and saluted the respective flag by presenting arms. Gen. Lovell H. Rousseau acted on behalf of the United States, and Captain Alexis Pestchouff on behalf of the Russian Government. The territory was named Alaska. The weather had been mild and almost constant rains fell—skies heavy and dull—the sun appearing occasionally. Deep snows had fallen in the mountains north of Sitka; but only one light snow-shower in the city. On the 26th ult., the Ossipee started for Victoria, and when about 50 miles off Sitka, on the

night of the 27th, a gale of terrible violence struck her, carrying away all her boats, extinguishing all the fires but four, and otherwise disabling her. Having lost her chronometers, and being in a bad condition generally, she put back to New Archangel, and was repaired. The Stephens sailed on the 30 inst., arriving at Nanaimo on Saturday, where she is now coaling. General Jeff. C. Davis is in command of the new territory, and has thus far given general satisfaction. General Rousseau was to sail on the Ossipee about the 5th. All the people of this city, Mr McCrea and Mr. are on board the

THEATRE ROYAL.—A GREAT ATTRACTION.—Mr. ... has arranged for the appearance to-morrow evening of two young ladies of this city, who have been under his tuition for a short time, both of whom give good promise of long and successful careers in the profession they have chosen. The names of the debutantes are Miss Lizzy Yeomans and Miss Sarah J. Von Altman. The latter of the "Eton Boy" will be produced, Miss Yeomans taking the role of Fanny Curry, in which she will assume the character of the Eton Boy. Miss Von Altman will appear as Sally in the same piece. The performances will commence with the beautiful two-act drama of "The Porter's Knot," in which Miss Yeomans will take the part of Alice Burr. The novel and surprising circumstances of the first appearance of these two young ladies insures Mr. March a bumper house.

THE RACES will come off to-morrow. For the Naval Race we learn that eight horses have been entered. The Match Race, between Volreese, Boston Colt, Greyhound and Priores will take place first, to be followed by the Navy Race; the Prince of Wales' Race will end the sport. The hour is not stated in the advertisement, but we presume it will be 1 o'clock. We hope that punctuality will be observed. Horses for the public have been kept suffering for hours in the cold because some intending participant has appeared late on the ground. The time for each race should be set and the horses present should be started and those not there should be ruled out.

ENTERPRISE.—Dr Adonis, special correspondent of the New York Herald to Sitka, reached town yesterday by canoe from Nanaimo, in advance of the J. L. Stephens, having been at sea all Saturday night until 10 o'clock yesterday, in the midst of a severe gale. The doctor was bent on giving the enterprising journal with which he is connected the news of the transfer of the Russian territory in time for its issue of this morning; but, unfortunately, the wires were down, and nothing could be done. We are sorry to know that the enterprise and energy of our cotemporary should have proved futile.

FROM FRASER RIVER.—The steamer Enterprise came down from the river on Saturday afternoon with about fifty passengers, the mails and a Cariboo ex. She brought down considerable treasure; fifty-five thousand dollars for the banks in charge of Mr Ormandy, as follows: Bank of British Columbia, \$80,000, Bank of British North America, \$25,000.

PAPER HUNT.—There will be a paper hunt on Saturday next, starting from Beacon Hill at 2 p. m., got up under the auspices of Victorians and open to all-comers. There will, we hope, be a large crowd in attendance.

FOR NANAIMO.—The Sir James Douglas will proceed to Nanaimo at an early hour this morning to bring down the passengers of the J. L. Stephens, from Sitka, now lying at that port coaling.

SLUNGSHOTTED.—Edward Reed, a banjolist, was on Saturday sent for trial to the higher Court by Mr Pemberton, on a charge of slungshooting the first clerk to the chief cook of a sailor's restaurant on Johnson street.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The theatre was fairly attended on Saturday evening, and the pecuniary result will prove highly acceptable to the Hospital. The acting was good.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO VIA PORTLAND.—The steamship California will sail for San Francisco via Portland to-morrow, at 11 o'clock a. m.

FRENCH CREEK.—News from Big Bend states that on French Creek diggings have been discovered that pay as high as \$150 to a rocker per day.

THE N. W. Examiner says that despatches relative to the seat of Government arrived by the last mail.

LINES DOWN.—The lines continued down all day yesterday.

From Cariboo.

MINING INTELLIGENCE.

We take the following from files of the Sentinel of 28th and 31st Oct:—

WILLIAM CREEK.
The want of an adequate supply of water still paralyzes mining operations. The Bed Rock Flame co. had cleared up about three-fourths of their claims, yielding somewhat over \$5000. The same water was much against their operations. The California co. washed for the week 72 oz. the result of four men's work. Morning Star 25 oz. in three days. Aurora 60 oz. for the week. Davis co. 242 oz. for the week.

STOUT GULCH.
The Altaras co. took out for the week 59 oz. Jenkins co. 30 oz. Mucho Oro co. 19 oz. for three days' work.

CONKLIN GULCH.
Just-Struck-it co. making \$8 a day to the bank. Reid co. 18 oz. for one day's work.

MOSQUO GULCH.
Water scarce. The Minnehaha co. took out 100 oz. for the week. Rising Sun co. 18 oz. for 4 men's work.

RED GULCH.
Discovery co. 30 oz. for the week. Catch-it-if-you-can co. 23 oz. for the week, and 25 oz. on the following Monday.

LOWHEE CREEK.
Calaveras company 120 oz. for the week.

GROUSE CREEK.
Times dull. Heron co. taking out good pay. Ne'er do weed co. averaging 26 oz a week.

WHITE-SAW GULCH.
A company bottomed a shaft on 28th obtaining 3 ounces. A company, under James Orr, have located claims on a creek 8 miles below this gulch, where they intend prospecting during the winter.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.
The report of the Auditor General, based on all sources was \$36,768 40 for the first three quarters of the present year, against \$27,004 99 for 1866, and \$27,041 18 for 1865, during the corresponding periods, thus exhibiting an increase of \$9,764 41 in favor of this year.

Dr. Bell's report shows that he has treated 43 cases within the Hospital, from January 1st to October 24th of the present year.

A Chinaman employed in a Barkerville restaurant made an attack upon Mike Lynn, the steward, with an axe. Lynn, in defending himself with a hatchet, cut "John" considerably.

A miners' meeting was held at Barkerville on the 26th, for the purpose of taking steps to protect themselves against the consequences of the "four monopoly." Capt. Robinson was elected to the Chair, and Mr. A. Allan appointed Secretary. The Chairman stated that there was every probability of flour being raised to 50 cents per lb. He suggested that funds should be raised by subscription, placed in the Bank, and a supply of flour ordered from below. These views being entertained by the meeting a subscription list was at once opened and a petition to the Governor was drawn up and adopted, praying His Excellency, in consideration of all the circumstances, to remit temporarily the Customs Duties and Road Tolls upon the flour about to be imported to meet the emergency. The stock of colonial flour in the Cariboo market is estimated at 6000 lb. It was selling at 26 to 28 cts.

The Absentee Attorney General Again.

VICTORIA, Nov. 9, 1867.
EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—I beg to thank you for your promptness in inserting my letter. In your article, however, of this morning, you say 'the third case however quite establishes our position. Here was an Indian, who weeks ago killed another, at Nanaimo, awaiting his trial.' I am sorry that you should have been so grievously misinformed as to the facts. The prisoner from Nanaimo was accused of robbery, not killing. With respect to the missing cheque, it turned out in the evidence that it was forged, and never presented for payment; and, therefore, could not be produced in Court. Before the trial, I inquired for the cheque, and was told that it was in Court. You will be inclined, I think, to admit that I have effectually disposed of the charge, that through the negligence of the Attorney General three murderers and a swindler have been turned loose on the community. I am content there to leave the matter, and I am sure that the Attorney General is well able to take care of himself.

E. GRAHAM ALSTON.

Card from "Monsieur" Chadwick.

EDITOR COLONIST.—Will you allow me through (I must not say "valuable" journal or I shall again excite the ire of the editor of the Sunday Varieties (yelp Morning News) to say that I discontinued taking his paper weeks ago. If I had not been so "small" a bit a week might have saved me being black-mailed, at any rate for the present.
"MONSIEUR" CHADWICK.