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And Victoria Chronicle.

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WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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A Brief Memoir.

The *Evening Telegraph* is no more. The valedictory address of the editor appeared yesterday, and the organ through which a small and anything but select knot of politicians were inspired will inspire them no longer. Far be it from us to say one word in disparagement of the young men who embarked their all in the enterprise and who have failed in the undertaking. They launched their frail bark on the troubled waters of Public Opinion, and the vessel has foundered at sea with all on board. The trouble with our defunct cotemporary has been that it aimed to become the mouthpiece of a faction or caucus instead of the organ of the people as it should have been. The *Telegraph* fell into bad hands when it first appeared, and it remained under the baneful influence of those habits down to the very day of its death. When the *Telegraph* was first issued it was under happy auspices. The Island was then about to pass into the hands of British Columbia; a new order of things was about to be inaugurated, with a new Governor and a new set of officials; old party lines were obliterated, and old wounds were being healed. Friends came forward on every side with advertisements and job-printing, and, if we mistake not, it even enjoyed a portion of that "official patronage" which it unjustly accuses us of having monopolized. Affairs went on swimmingly for a time, and everything betokened a long and prosperous career. Perhaps no paper has ever appeared in the Colony with a more promising future; and certainly none has met with a more disastrous end. Its editor, a man of much talent as a writer, yet lacking sadly in judgment, has pursued a course that can only be attributed to the influence of bad advice upon a mind that possesses no fixed political principles. Never has a newspaper so persistently outraged the loyal feelings of a people in whose midst it has been allowed to appear; and never has a journal so persistently worked against the best interests of the Colony, as our dead neighbor. Instead of taking warning at the popular storm which it must have seen was rising on every side, it has floundered on in its iniquity, until it has at length met with a well deserved fate. "Honesty is the best policy" for newspapers as well as individuals; and the journal or person that loses sight of this truism and plunges into a course of dishonesty and double-dealing, will surely come to the ground. In his valedictory, the editor of the *Telegraph* hints at the "official patronage" and the "mercantile support" which, he says, the COLONIST has enjoyed; but consoles himself with the reflection that the "People" have been with him. With respect to the "official patronage," we can truthfully say that the large sum of $450 for printing and advertising has been received by us from the Government during the past six months, and that a large portion of this was contract work, in competition for which the *Telegraph* had an equal opportunity with ourselves So much for the enormous "official patronage" by means of which this journal has been kept alive. To the second charge, of having enjoyed the support of the "mercantile classes," we plead guilty, and so long as we pursue a straightforward course on every public question, we shall look for a continuance of that support, a share of which our deceased cotemporary might easily have commanded had it been more under the control of men having the interests of the Colony at heart, than under that of a designing cabal. All are familiar with the fable of the donkey that arrayed himself in a lion's skin and went about personating the king of beasts until his bray betrayed his true character. So the false teachers of political economy who had the *Telegraph* under their thumbs, with an assurance only equalled by that of their assinine predecessor—while striving for place and power and claiming to represent the *dear* "People," whom they caressed with one hand and robbed of their rights with the other—were betrayed by their own stupidity. It is an insult to the intelligence of the People of Victoria to say that the *Telegraph* represented them. Had it done so, it would not to-day be numbered with the long list of newspapers that have "gone the way of all flesh" in this Colony in the last eight years. It is equally an insult to the People of the Colony to assert that they will longer submit to the dictation of a disreputable clique—one half of whom are actuated by a feeling of disappointed ambition, and the other half by a feeling of hostility to British Institutions. Our cotemporary bewails the loss of population, but fails to acknowledge the part it has taken in driving people out of the Colony with roorbacks about our "despotic Government" and the beauties of the American system of Government as compared with our own—statements that have driven many from our shores. But perhaps we are saying too much of a fallen adversary. It is a good old English rule "never to strike a man after he is down," and we have endeavored to deal with the *Telegraph* as tenderly as circumstances would admit, while pointing out the causes which led to its downfall. If its miserable end will but "point a moral and adorn a tale" for the guidance of papers that in more prosperous times than the present may rise upon the ashes of our deceased cotemporary, it can safely be said that it has not lived in vain. We wish it well understood that we bear the late conductors of the *Telegraph* no ill-will; and that in alluding to their misfortune we are simply actuated by a desire to refute a false impression which the valedictory article sought to convey to the public, and to hold its late up as a solemn warning to any newspaper that may be disposed to follow in its footsteps.

LOCAL INTELIGENCE.

Monday, Dec 24.

ENTERTAINMENT TO SUNDAY-SCHOOL CHILDREN—The children of the Sunday School connected with the Cathedral Church were entertained at the Collegiate School building on Friday evening last by the clergy and teachers. The children sat down at four o'clock to tea, cake and confectionery, after which they, with other members of the church, adjourned to the school room and witnessed exhibitions of a sacred and instructive character from a magic lantern, lent, we believe, by the Bishop of Columbia, who was present with his lady, together with a number of visitors, the school room being crowded. The children were addressed and exhorted kindly and affectionately by his Lordship the Bishop, the Dean, and Rev. Mr Garrett. Appropriate music accompanied the exhibition of the magic lantern, and the proceedings closed with a Christmas carol by the young ones.

FROM THE EAST COAST—The steamer Emily Harris arrived on Saturday night from Comox and the settlements, bringing the Nanaimo *Gazette* of Saturday, from which we glean the following items:—The nomination of a member to serve in the Legislative Council for District No. 3 took place on Tuesday at noon: Mr Hood proposed Mr Southgate amid vociferous cheers, and there being no other candidate, a show of hands, showing that gentleman's universal popularity, was taken, and Mr Southgate was declared duly elected. Mr R. Dunsmuir returned thanks on behalf of the absent member "select". The Nanaimo [illegible] with an address to be presented to the Governor during his brief stay last week at Nanaimo receiving, as they consider, the cold shoulder. The Excellency excused himself on the score of ill health and its being wet and late at night, asking Mr Dunsmuir, one of the deputation, to apologise to the people for him, and to forward the address through the Council he had appointed—Mr Franklyn or Mr Southgate. The trouble was, according to Mr Franklyn, that the address was not sent in the proper way "through the official channel." A public meeting was held at which some rather severe strictures were passed, some gentlemen pronouncing the Governor's conduct "inexcusable and a direct insult to the people"; another urging that the address be put into the fire. It was finally decided, on motion of the Rev. Mr Jamieson, while expressing disappointment at the reception of the deputation, to forward the address by mail with a copy of the resolution. The half yearly examination of the Nanaimo School took place on Friday. Rev Mr Jamieson congratulated Mr Bryant, the teacher, on the progress made by the scholars. Mr Macmorran had his left hand severely injured on Friday by being caught in a block connected with the pit machinery. The forefinger was torn off and the remaining fingers badly lacerated. All was quiet at Comox.

EDUCATIONAL.—The half-yearly examination of the Lake District and South Saanich Schools came off on Friday last. At the former, there were 21 children present, the examination being conducted by the Rev. Mr Gribbell, in the absence of the Superintendent, who was engaged at the Central School. The examination was most satisfactory, more particularly in arithmetic, and reflected the greatest credit on the teacher, Mr C. C. McKenzie. At South Saanich, where the children are younger, the progress compared with the Midsummer Examination was equally satisfactory, showing that the teacher, Mr C. N. Young, has been assiduous in his duties. This examination was also conducted by the Minister of the district, the Rev. Mr Gribbell, to whom the Superintendent desires us to convey his warmest thanks.

THE pusillaminous drivelings of our late cotemporary, when speaking of the probabilities of a war with the United States, are thus answered by the Portland *Oregonian*: "The Victoria *Telegraph* says it has no objection to having the Vancouver Colony given over peaceably to the United States, but, 'to be taken ingloriously at a mouthful in time of war, is too humiliating a spectacle to contemplate.' In behalf of the United States, we tender to this fearful editor the information that our Government, as a Government, is not a cannibal, and that he may go on oiling his hair every day, without the least apprehension that he is preparing for his own funeral. We have not the slightest inclination, Mr *Telegraph*, to get a fit of indigestion by swallowing a colony of Johnnies. You are safe."

POLICE COURT.—SATURDAY.—A man named Raby was committed for safe keeping and medical treatment for three days. Jack, a Tongas Indian, was fined $25 or two months' imprisonment for cutting and wounding a squaw. Ah Gee, a Chinaman, appeared in court with his physiognomy besprinkled with gore and charged Jim, a Fort Rupert Indian, with battering his head with a piece of wood. John was sent into the prison yard to wash his face, and on reappearing, his scars were considerably diminished. Jim was fined $20 or two months' imprisonment. Charley, a Hydah, was fined $10 or one month's imprisonment for smashing windows on the premises of Chas. McCormick,

CHRISTMAS CHEER.—The town was never so well supplied with Christmas cheer as it is this season, and the nice things displayed at the grocery establishment of Messrs Wilson & Murray, on Fort street, Hicks & Russell, on Government street, and the confectionery of Mr Piper, are enough to tempt any one to be extravagant. As customary at this period of the year the stores and saloons are being decorated with evergreens, &c., inside and out, and all seem disposed to make the season as cheerful as they can.

THE necessity for a Dry Dock at this port was never more apparent than at this time. There are no less than three vessels in port awaiting repairs that will necessitate their going into dock. As we have no accommodation of the kind here, the vessels can only be hove down temporarily and patched up, after which they must sail to San Francisco to complete the job. The Nicholas Biddle, alone, will require an expenditure of $10,000 to place her in complete trim, and several vessels are reported at the mills across the Sound undergoing the process of "patching," all of which would come here had we a dry dock in which to place them.

[illegible] friends are interesting themselves in behalf of the unfortunate woman Mrs [illegible] Carey, who with her young family of three children is represented to be in a state of starvation. The charitable public are invited either to contribute in money or to take tickets in raffles of musical instruments given by sympathising friends at reduced prices to assist the cause.

CHURCH SERVICES.—The usual Christmas Mass will be performed at midnight at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Humboldt street, at which some of the best amateur voices in the city will assist. Mr Digby Palmer will preside at the organ. Services will be performed to-morrow morning at the Cathedral and St. John's churches, both of which have been tastefully decorated by ladies of the congregation.

ESQUIMALT CHURCH SERVICES.—The fair ladies of Esquimalt are busily engaged decorating their very picturesque little church for Christmas day. In itself, the building is a perfect specimen of architecture, and when ornamented, as it will be, in commemoration of the Lord's Advent, will add to the attraction of the Rector's eloquence, and well repay a visit at to-morrow morning's service.

THE EMPRESS reached her wharf at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, having left Portland on Wednesday last, bringing papers to the 21st *via* Astoria, for copies of which we are indebted to Capt. Erskine and Mr Valentine. The Active was [illegible] harbor, at 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. The papers contain no telegrams.

OREGON PRODUCE BY AUCTION.—At 11 o'clock this morning Mr McCrea will hold a sale of flour, lard, apples, eggs, butter, bacon, hams, shoulders; part of the cargo of the Fideliter, which arrived yesterday from Portland. The goods are among the best in the market, and the sale should attract the attention of all buyers.

CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL.—Poultry never was so cheap as now in this colony. Fat geese and turkeys are sold at $3 and $4 each; live hens at $5 50 and $6 per doz.; plucked do, $1 25 and $1 50 per pair. Everybody and his wife ought to enjoy a good Christmas dinner at these rates.

THE Oregon Steam Navigation Company has sold out to the California Steam Navigation Company, and it is mooted that an effort will be made to build a new town at St. Helens, lower down the river than Portland, and draw all the trade from and ruin that city.

HEAVY GALES AND HIGH TIDES ON THE COAST.—Capt. Erskine informs us that the S. E. gales of Wednesday and Thursday last were the most violent that have ever been experienced on the coast; Astoria was flooded in consequence, and damage done to the extent of several thousand dollars.

SUPPOSED TO BE LOST.—The steamer Transport, which was towed out to sea by the Isabel on the 27th Nov., and left for San Francisco under canvas, with a fair wind, has not been heard of since, and fears are entertained for her safety.

THE lumber ship Vortigern, Capt. Hedstrom, put in at Esquimalt on Saturday, water-logged, having lost her deck load, sails, bulwarks, etc., in a gale off Cape Flattery. The vessel sailed from Port Ludlow 48 days ago. She will be repaired here.

WHAT IT COSTS TO PULL A MAN'S NOSE IN OREGON.—A gambler, named Fletcher, pulled the nose of a packer named Romaine, at Umatilla, Oregon, the other day. The latter went off, returned with a revolver and shot Fletcher down in his tracks.

BENEATH the weight of 400 tons of flour, Couch & Flanders' warehouse, at Portland, came down on the 17th inst. The building was supported on piles.

THE TELEGRAPH wires are still down owing to the late floods, and we have consequently no news despatches to lay before our readers.

THE BAR at Cleal's restaurant will be opened this evening at 5 o'clock.

Mail Summary.

The Emperor Napoleon has received a present—the head of Cardinal Richelieu. When his tomb was violated during the orgies of the revolution, the body was found embalmed, in a perfect state of preservation. The violators jumped into the coffin, tore the body limb from limb, and scattered the remains about. The head rolled towards a mercer who was in the crowd, attracted by curiosity, not by the sacreligious madness which urged the others. He picked it up, hid it under his cloak, and carried it home. Here, fearing that he might be discovered, he sawed it in two across the ears, preserving the mask, which still resembles the historic portrait by Philippe de Champagne, with its [illegible]

[illegible] a magnificent lamp bearing [illegible] and which is to burn perpetually before the high altar. It is a present from Her Majesty, to which is said to be attached a vow relative to her family.

Recently the steeple of a Roman Catholic Cathedral in Stockholm fell in while the men were at work upon it, dreadfully injuring some twenty of the laborers. Much sympathy has been shown for the unfortunate men. The Lutheran pastor placed his church at the disposal of the Roman Catholics, and on the following Sunday the Roman Catholic Bishop officiated within the walls of the Protestant church.

A correspondent of the London *Morning Post* says that from certain rumors which are at present current in London he is forced to conclude that the vice of gambling is once more trying to make its way, and that first in what might be called professional circles, but indeed not conducted by those whose high social position appears to suggest, to them no shame for their proceedings.

The betrothal of Prince Albert of Prussia, a nephew of the King, with Princess Mary of the Netherlands, his cousin, is to take place shortly. The prince is the last unmarried member among the adults of the royal family, which, exclusive of children under age, consists of eight males and eleven females. The Austrian royal family is more than twice as strong.

Two male albino twins have just been born at the Maternite Hospital in Paris. One of the principal characteristics of Albinism is the whiteness of the hair, in addition to which is remarked the dull white color of the skin and an affection of the eyes, which cannot support the full light of day.

Nearly 2000 Germans leave Europe every week for the United States, in the Bremen and Hamburg mail steamers. A company is established at Copenhagen to encourage the emigration of Danes, Norwegians and Swedes to the United States.

The railway between Calcutta and Bombay is about 1000 miles long, and is traversed by trains in about four days. The only through traffic at present consists of mail and cargo. European travelers cannot travel the whole distance on account of the heat.

Among the subscribers to the Italian National Loan is the Emperor of the French. His Majesty possesses in the Commune of Brodrio an estate which is assessed at the sum of 27,000 francs.

The opening of the railway from Madrid to Andalusia has just taken place. By the completion of the different branches of this line, the Spanish capital is in direct communication with the Atlantic by Cordova and Seville.

A new daily journal has appeared in Vienna, price one-fifth of a penny. This paper is a government organ, intended for distribution among the people. It is printed on good paper and contains eight pages 4to.

A monumental brass statue, by Mr Butterfield, says the Saulsbury *Journal*, is about to be placed in the chancel of Hursley Church, to perpetuate the memory of the author of the "Christian Year."

Venice letters state that the health of the Emperor of Austria has been injured by his recent anxieties, and that his physicians recommend him for a time to abstain from business.

The *Chroniquer Suisse* states that a Protestant Minister named Mathys, who died recently at Stanz (Underwalden) has left an autobiography written in twenty-seven languages.

The brothers Davenport are in Holland, but they appear to meet with very little success. A street juggler has come forward as a rival and threatens to reveal their secret.

A Wiesbaden journal expresses the hope that Russia will maintain the abolition of death punishments In Nassau, in which duchy no punishment of that kind has taken place since 1840.

The health of the Count de Bismarck continues in the same state, the disease not either getting worse or presenting any signs of amelioration.

A fund is now being raised for the restoration of the church at Hucknall Torkard, where Byron is buried; about £500 has been received.

All branches of trade in Paris are very much depressed. There are fewer strangers than usual at this season of the year.

The incorporation of Venetia into the kingdom of Italy adds to the national debt about 250,000,000 of francs.

Prince Napoleon is about to make a sea trip round England, similar to the voyage he took in 1860.

HOLIDAY SALE.—J. P. Davies & Co., will hold a sale of handsome ornaments, jewelry pianos, platedware, &c., suitable for holiday presents, at their Salesroom, Wharf street, to-day, commencing at 11 o'clock.