

THE BRITISH COLONIST

PUBLISHED DAILY BY DAVID W. HIGGINS.

TERMS: One Year, (in advance) \$12 00; Six Months, do 6 00; Three Months, do 3 00; One Week, do 0 25.

SEMI-WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.

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AGENTS: S. D. McLean, San Francisco; J. G. ...

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The figures opposite the address on each wrapper indicate the date of expiration of the subscription.

Self-Government.

Is this British Columbia of ours prepared for representative institutions... worthy to enjoy the functions of self-government?

A system pronounced by the British Cabinet to be a complete failure... ought it not to be altogether surprising that the official classes in this colony should deem the fitness of the people to manage their own affairs.

The return match between the Charybdis and the Victoria... was repeatedly pronounced a contrary verdict; and we have no hesitation in asserting that the contrary is true.

To a set of the people of British Columbia are not fit to manage their own affairs, even in the ordinary colonial sense, would be unjustifiable.

Such an opinion can only be the offspring of ignorance or of prejudice. Some persons regard that form of political institutions, commonly called "Responsible Government," as an elaborate, complex and expensive machinery, far beyond the ability of a small community to sustain or work out.

Peace River and Findlay Branch

We take the following from the Montreal of October the 23rd

The country about Findlay river is apparently a continuation of the Cariboo range of the country recently discovered by Black and Penton in the east of Cariboo. Bald mountains and plate rocks present themselves just as in Cariboo. The altitude however, is much lower, probably a 1000 feet, more or less.

The Peace River Diggings.

Below we give the report of the Peace River Prospecting Party. The report is anything but favorable; but in the face of it the party purchased a new outfit and started immediately back for the diggings, laying out several thousand dollars.

Friday November 5th

The return match between the Charybdis and the Victoria... was repeatedly pronounced a contrary verdict; and we have no hesitation in asserting that the contrary is true.

The Fog-Bell of the Lower Fraser.

Editor British Colonist: You were good enough to a few days ago to permit me to point out through your columns the stupid attempt made by a paper published at New Westminster to mislead the good folk of this region in regard to the all-important subject of Confederation.

A HANDSOME GIFT.

On the 16th of October, the Rev. Theo. Derrick, Wesleyan Missionary in Cariboo, was waited upon by a deputation, representing the people of Barkerville, and presented with the title-deeds of a comfortable parsonage and ground.

Old Houses and their Charm.

I love old houses for the sake of the odd closets and cupboards, and good thick walls that don't let the wind blow in, and little out-of-the-way polygonal rooms with great beams, running across the ceiling—old heart of oak, that has outlasted half a score of generations.

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The Story of Cinderella.

The story of Cinderella is familiar to every one, and yet there are few that treasure it up to be in any respect true. But it has its foundation and a reality that really need no fairy godmother, with her pumpkin and her rats to make an "instantaneous" transformation.

Fall Fashions for 1869.

FALL FASHIONS FOR 1869.—JOS. ROBERTSON, 100 VICTORIA HOUSE, BY EXPRESS. The latest styles of Fur Sets, Seal Skin, and Velvet Mantles, Hats and Bonnets, Flowers and Feathered, Ladies Ribbons, Trimmings, Satins, Silks, Pongees, Linseys, Serges, Camlets, French Merinos, Empress Cloths, Plaids, Waterproof Tweeds, Danish Crapes, Barattas, Laces, and Damask Outfits, Brocades, and Woolen Shawls, Corsets, and a large assortment of Haberdashery, Hosiery and Underclothing.

Joseph Walker's

Joseph Walker's... Great Blood Purifier... Scurvy and Chronic Rheumatism... Sprue or Indigestion... Biliousness... Intermittent Fevers... Diseases of the Liver, Kidneys and Bladder...

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Semi-Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, November 3 1869

As possible, took the... very possible he... and without even... We understand... refusal of the Em... Prince Alfred, he... as a private indi... proceed to China... Highness up the... has commended the... waters for several... He was tendered... the British residents... publishes the follo... fortant intelligence... in Hakodate is wor... the least room for... where it was de... be denied; the... edo have long been... present move being... inevitable dis... of Japan by... and even boast...

Now or Never. British Columbia is rapidly drifting into Confederation willy nilly; and the colonists are for the most part asleep in the bottom of the boat. Lord Granville wants to get it off his hands as quietly and quickly as is conformable with decorum, in order that he may be free to repeat the experiment elsewhere. Sir John A. McDonald wants to acquire this indispensable key to the Dominion as speedily and upon as favorable terms as may be at all compatible with common decency. As things look now he bids fair to have it at his own price—to put the key quietly in his breeches pocket without having any unpleasant questions to answer. No blame to Lord Granville. No blame to Sir John. But all blame to the colonists who sleep at the time when, of all others, they should be up and doing. Are the people going to make terms? or are they willing to leave the whole matter in official hands? This is a question that demands an immediate reply. Are the people willing to go into Confederation without terms? Are they prepared to accept union if it comes to us sans an overland railway, sans a free port, sans an immigration scheme, sans a line of ocean steamers, sans a representative form of government, sans everything? If so, their conduct is in strict harmony with their creed. For our part, we are disposed to make no such uncalculated sacrifice. Uncalled for, because we firmly believe that if the colonists would only unite in time, and firmly ask for terms they would get everything in reason. There can be no doubt on this point. Of course the Home Government would much prefer to hand us over without being called upon to "go bail" for a Canadian Pacific Railway loan; but she is prepared to do that, if necessary, in order to get us quietly and decently off her hands. Of course the Canadian Government would prefer to take us in first, and then do for us after. It would be so much more convenient. But if we go the right way about it, in the right time, we can get most favorable terms. We know there are weak-kneed, croaking souls amongst us who say we cannot have this and we cannot have that; but will the colonists, as a whole, be content to leave their destiny in such hands? We are now going into a union, not as a mere expedient, but for life—for better, for worse, in sickness and in health, till death us do part. No divorce court will open its door to us; there will be no way of escape, once in, always in. Such being the case, should not every colonist be alive to the importance of re-considering the time, and employing every means to render the union a happy and mutually beneficial one? To fail to do this is to exhibit a degree of stupidity for a parallel to which we look in vain. We do not indulge in what some may regard as gloomy forebodings, because we look upon Confederation with doubt. Properly entered it should be an immediate and enduring good. Wrongly and bunglingly entered it may prove the reverse. But we point out these possible rocks and quicksands in order that they may be avoided. It may be said, in reply to all this, "Have you not told us that the Governor has been instructed to ascertain the views and wishes of the people? Why not wait till invited to speak? The subject is one regarding which there should be no pseudo-delicacy. The long withheld dispatch is now before us, and we scan its various paragraphs in vain for a single reassuring word on this point. There is in it nothing to indicate what course is intended to be pursued. Suppose, for the sake of argument, the Legislature should shortly be convened, and invited to vote upon this subject. The official members would join the elected ones in a vote for negotiating terms. Then, suppose the work of conducting the negotiations should be placed entirely in the hands of the Executive,—as is rather more than intimated in the dispatch,—and that they should be carried through to completion without an opportunity being afforded to the public of being heard in their own behalf. We do not mean to say that all this will really take place; but we do mean to assert that it lies quite within the range of possibility; nay, for our own part, we deem it highly probable. Would the Colonists be satisfied to blindly accept the situation? This match-making by proxy—are they content with it? If they are, let them sleep on, and take their rest. It will be time enough to be awakened by results! Time enough for the people to arouse themselves to action when they see that such a course has been adopted! Time enough to shut the stable door after the horse has been stolen!

Summary. The British Colonist... account in another... or less cleared up... the name of the son... (Madame Knack)... really one Trump... worked for Knack... the idea of en... that not succeeding... he design seems to... himself of the title... property,—to sail for... had blown over, and... to some French... and producing the... to apply for it... It was a... was foiled before they... through his being... closely under the ide... his engagement... man's answer struck... some connection... the papers were... directly with it... aped into the dock... difficulty extricated... eldest son has since... in the same field at... of the family; and... other's body has been... strange thing is that... in actually sent 100... has had found on... at Roxbury, who was... he, then, is not... are to be made bar... M. P. for Derby... Earl of Allerton... Patton, Lord Justice... been found in the... The case is ap... the unfortunate... much affected by the... and excited by the... ore the Election Com... for which please... while Prison died from... 10 or 11 months... to evade detection... A. W. Widdowes... London to seven years... retaining £1,000 by... of England were... under sentence, accom... rain, which caused... places... been brought into... with England, a sub... been laid from the... by special commission... to murder Cap... in the discharge... The defense... and an alibi. They... forcibly evinced their... by attacking a... mashing the window... Meetings upon the... being held, at which... put forth... loyalty of London in... Lord Mayor (Al... E.) is inviting re... in the ordinary... by, resist... am from Lady Frank... New York that Dr... from the Arctic... any papers or tele... tion. To build up... in the Cape of Good... spoveries of diamonds... drive gold deposits in... ig, la's Governor of... been sentenced to... meet for misappropri...

That Dispatch. How do you like it? Had Lord Granville's pen stopped with the completion of the ninth paragraph we would have experienced less unrest. It is scarcely necessary to say that nothing in it takes us in the least by surprise, as constant readers of this journal will readily understand. The policy of the Imperial Government and the destiny of British Columbia have been so sealed book, save to such persons as refused to see. The sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth clauses are deserving of careful study, embodying, as they do, the pith of all that could be said in a whole volume in favour of the great principle of consolidation now going on. But the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth sections we read with feelings somewhat mixed. Anxious to take the most favorable view, and see nothing in the dispatch inconsistent with an honest desire to do the best for this the youngest and weakest member of the British American family, we cannot but discover germs of possible trouble carefully concealed in diplomatic phraseology. This is, as we are all painfully conscious, a Crown Colony. The colonists will, in a measure, be dealt with as miners, so to speak. The Governor will really stand in the position of agent or representative of the Imperial Government, as he is; and there is danger, as we have elsewhere hinted, that negotiations so conducted may be carried on more in the light of Imperial than Colonial interests. We must be allowed to speak plainly. Governor Musgrave we take to be an able and honorable man; and nothing could be further from our intention than to suspect him of betraying the interests of British Columbia. But it cannot be concealed that His Excellency will conceive his first duty to be to the Imperial Government. Since, then, we are apt to think, for the specific purposes of this colony in the Dominion, he will have best fulfilled his mission when he has conserved Home interests. But the chief object of alarm is to be found in the latter part of the concluding paragraph. "I think it necessary," writes his lordship, "however, to observe that the constitution of British Columbia will oblige the Governor to enter personally upon many questions, as the condition of Indian tribes, and the future position of Government servants, with which, in the case of a negotiated treaty, two Responsible Governments would not be bound to concern himself." Without any doubt necessarily to agitate the public mind, we fancy we discover the positioning of public officials cropping up above. It may not be so. The suspicion may, after all, only be the result of over-sensitiveness; yet it will be better to err on the safe side. We are bound to state most distinctly, that any proposition to divert any considerable portion of our revenue to such a purpose would meet with general and decided opposition from one end of the Colony to the other. What! Point upon the Colony for life a segment of officials who have been deeming the title of the body politic over since its inception? NEVER. As we have said, such may not be the intention; but forwarded, for immediate mention in the dispatch, the following paragraph from the New York World:—A leading American journal, in compliment paid the Napoleon Cabinet Champagne is deserved, as all who have imbibed the wine can testify. "It will no doubt, gratifying intelligence to lovers of good wine that the grape crop of this year in the Champagne district of France is of good quality, though small. It is much more pleasant to have 'Reims' stare you in the face than panic. At Delmonico's the Napoleon Cabinet brand has now the lead in it. The name of the old and well-known house of Messrs. Bonome, Fils & Co., at Mareuil-sur-Ay, as manufacturers of this wine, is a guarantee of its purity and quality; and it is not necessary to add that it is a favorite brand with the Emperor Napoleon and now a leading wine at the principal Courts of Europe." Messrs. Grelley & Bierre are the only agents in British Columbia for the wine of Messrs. Bonome, Fils & Co.

From Queen Charlotte Island and the N.W. Coast. The H B Co's steamer Otter, Capt Lewis, arrived at 8 o'clock yesterday morning from Queen Charlotte Island and the N.W. Coast of the Colony. She brought down seven passengers and a quantity of furs. The news from the coast since the effect that 800 tons of coal are on awaiting the completion of the tramway to be shipped. The tramway had been delayed by wet weather. Three explosions had taken place in the mine before the tram was put in working with naked lights instead of safety lamps. Three of the men were buried—two badly—about the face. The mine was subsequently struck work and went aboard the Otter in a body, demanding to be taken to Victoria; the demand was refused and the miners secured a canoe and started for Victoria. Following is the memorandum of the Otter, kindly furnished by Mr Smith, master of the vessel. Sir Otter left Victoria Oct 5 and arrived at Queen Charlotte Island on the 14th, calling as at the intermediate ports. Found on arrival that three successive explosions had occurred in the Queen Charlotte Coal Co's mine, three men being burnt about the face, and that the miners had struck in consequence. They all came on board and demanded passage to Victoria, which was refused them. Mr Robinson's report of the occurrence is that it was entirely through negligence of the part of the men. The roadway from the mine is progressing slowly, the weather having been very wet. Arrived at Fort Simpson on 17th and despatched a canoe to Fort Tongass with the U.S. steamer Newbern daily, but have not heard of her whereabouts. The U.S. S. S. Lincoln had recently left Tongass, she having come expressly for the Shika to examine some goods landed for the Newbern. Received U.S. mail and left Fort Simpson Oct 21st; called at Metlakatlah on the same day. M. Duncan coming off in a canoe with his letters. Arrived at Bella Bella and there heard that all the miners, except two, from Queen Charlotte coal mine had left in a canoe for Victoria, passing Bella Bella on the 20th; called at Bella Bella and on the night of Oct 25th picked up in Fitzhugh Sound two men named Newell and Fisher, who had been wrecked off Sable Island, Q.O. Sound. Called at Fort Rupert; passed the steamer Constantine on the night of the 26th off Salmon river; called at Comox and arrived at Nanaimo on the 28th, and left for Victoria on the 29th. On the way up called at Cortes Island, Dawson's whaling station, and landed a quantity of oil casks.

REWARDS FOR MURDERERS.—No reward has yet made its appearance for the apprehension of the murderer of Baker. The Government seems strangely apathetic where human life is involved. About two years ago a well-to-do miner, named Smith, was decoyed from his house in this city to Esquimaux, and murdered in the bush. He left a certificate of deposit for \$1000 in his room, which passed into the hands of the Government. No reward was ever offered for the perpetrators of this deed. Other instances where the same apathy has been observed might be cited; but these two will suffice to show how cheaply human life has come to be held in a British Colony.

THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—We publish on another page a statement of the securities wherein the funds of this great company are invested. It will be observed that the statement is of the most flattering character and the securities of the most unexceptional kind. It is only a few days ago that the Royal— which is managed on the mutual principle—divided a large profit among its policy-holders, many of whom are residents of this Colony. We invite the careful attention of the provident among us to the statement.

A DISTINGUISHED CONVERT TO CONFEDERATION PRINCIPLES.—The Bishop of Columbia has delivered an address at Yarmouth on the position and prospects of British America. The Bishop is very sanguine as to the results of Confederation: He believes that there is no desire on the part of the North American citizens to separate from Great Britain.

BURNED IN LAY.—A man named Chapman died suddenly on Thursday night last at the logging camp of Mr J. Rogers. A post-mortem examination took place yesterday, by Dr Black, the Coroner, when it was found that the main artery had burst; there was no blood in the heart. A verdict was returned of "Died by the visitation of God."

THE MAYORALTY.—It has been reported that Mayor Trimble will not be a candidate at the forthcoming election. His Worship desires us to state that he has no intention of withdrawing from the canvass. A requisition to Mr. Macdonald is in circulation.

RICH CORRAL.—A splendid lot of peacock ore, which will average from 70 to 80 per cent, was brought down on the Otter for Mr. Leveau. The lode is situated on Knight's Canal.

GOLD QUANTITIES.—Mr. Moss yesterday brought from Bella Bella a lot of gold-bearing quartz. Specimens from the same lode were assayed in this city last spring and yielded handsomely.

METROPOLITAN MISSION.—The handsome new church at Sumas will be dedicated by Rev. Mr. Ross. Rev. Mr. Brown arrived from New Westminster yesterday to officiate here in Mr. Ross' absence.

THE BARK 'ALPACA' WOULD SAIL ABOUT THE 5th October for London for Victoria. A great deal of merchandise has been shut out by Government stores for Equatorial station; but another vessel will go off once on the berth.

THE BARK 'RIVAL' ARRIVED FROM SAN FRANCISCO yesterday in 26 days. She is consigned to Millard & Beady.

THE SLOOP 'MINNIE' WAS BOARDED BY INDIANS in Queen Charlotte Island and many articles stolen.

ANOTHER rotten Life Insurance Company has 'caved' in London with heavy liabilities.

OIL.—Dawson & Co's whaling party have got two more whales.

A GLANCE AT BRITISH COLUMBIA. I must at the outset disclaim all idea of performing my self-imposed task either with credit to myself, or with satisfaction to my readers. My pen invariably halts, when its speed is most needed, and a constant struggle between thought and expression greatly adds to my difficulties. On the present occasion I envy Mr. Hopworth Dixou and Sir Charles Dicks the possession of those descriptive powers and talents which their respective works—'America' and 'Greater Britain'—undoubtedly display. The flight of genius exhibited in the latter work must be admitted for the past, present and future of British Columbia are there boldly sketched, though the writer never saw the Colony, save, perhaps, on his alleles.

Tired of leading the inactive life which circumstances had for a short time forced upon me, I resolved to leave London and seek my fortune in one of the Colonies: Canada, Australia and New Zealand presented themselves and severally claimed the questionable privilege of providing me with a home. In one or other of these Colonies I successively resided as many aerial structures as any castle-builder that ever lived. My building materials were at length in danger of exhaustion, when a gentleman, to whom I had shortly before been introduced, came to my assistance.

"Why don't you go to British Columbia?" said he. "Yes, why don't you?" was echoed and re-echoed in my mind. The suggestion was new, and pleasing too, as it released my thoughts from the irksome groove in which they had latterly been confined. We had a long conversation upon the subject, and suffice it say, that my decision was formed in accordance with his advice. He drew a favorable picture of the Colony from the fact, so to speak, that his brother had been fortunate in the Cariboo mines. In the summer of '63, the fortunate gentleman had been obliged to consent myself with what a cautious eye I had of mine, armed secondarily evidence.

In pursuance of my resolution I at once proceeded to inform myself fully upon the present condition and future prospects of the Colony and, as the sequel will show, the mass of heterogeneous matter, collected as it was, from every available quarter, can hardly be dignified with the title of 'Information.' The Colonial Office, newspaper articles, thinly attended, discussions in the House of Commons, a few dignified sentences in the House of Lords, the pages of the blue-books and a chapter from 'Greater Britain,' all well flanked by private correspondence and interviews too numerous to defile, formed the sources from which I drew my supply of facts; but alas! upon unravelling them I found each irreconcilably arrayed against the other in the most hostile and provoking manner. In one quarter, a railway from ocean to ocean was pronounced as practicable as it was necessary to British interests; while in another the scheme was denounced as unfit for consideration, for, independent of its madness in a commercial point of view, Nature had, in the form of the Rocky Mountains, interposed an impassable barrier to the undertaking. Again, a noble Lord speaking on the 'San Juan Island difficulty' in the House of Peers, inveighed in strong terms against the possible cession of the Island; because, from its (in part) the Americans could successfully bombard Victoria, my Atlas on the contrary silently informed me that a shell fired from the largest 'Rodney' or most improved 'Armstrong' placed in position, would fall miles short of the doomed city and bury itself in the waters of the Straits. The blue-books presented few features of interest, yet the brilliant style and happy periods of the dispatches from the Governor of the Colony rendered its pages attractive. My information gathered from private sources was, if possible, more suggestive. A nameless ex-Director of English factories, who had visited Cariboo in 1862, advised me not to tempt misfortune by a visit to British Columbia, where black hills, sterile plains and an inhospitable climate, with their attendant hardships, would immediately beat my path. "Invent" said he, "in Washio stocks, I thought 'Gould & Curry' and 'doubled' my money in two months."

"If it is unnecessary to say that such a work is impossible, they are too sure to get into a distinct opinion on that head; but they are very well contented with the applicability of the proverb, 'jeu ne va pas la chandelle.' It is proposed, as caution is always desirable in engineering matters, that a drift-way should first be run under the channel, in the first instance, to prepare the way for the tunnel. The suggestion is at once economical, prudent, and practical. Let us suppose a drift-way to be run some five or six feet high and wide. Is it to be timbered, or arched, or lined with iron? As the meeting from the two ends would be a thing forbidden by the calculus of probability, it will have to be worked from one extremity to the other end of the tunnel. As we get on—say beyond the twentieth mile—how will the miners be sent in to their daily work? how supplied with air, or with materials? how will the excavated chalk be sent back to land? Galleries of chalk are infested, as miners are well aware, with choke-damp. What would be the quantity of choke-damp that would extend from 200,000 superficial yards of chalk surface [when the drift-way had advanced only twenty miles] and how would it be withdrawn? Water infiltrates through chalk. A very small head of water will cause infiltration for a considerable distance. Where bands of flint occur, they act like layers of sponges.

All the wells in Stroud, within a considerable distance of the Thames and Medway Canals, were rendered salt by infiltration through the chalk when the brackish water of the Medway was admitted into the canal, and the company had to pay, and did pay, heavy damages in consequence. What would be the infiltration through the grey chalk due to the pressure of the water of the Channel? What would be the difference between the exudation from the 200,000 yards of surface at high tide and at low tide? How would the water on the most modest estimate of its rate of infiltration—which, by the way, would increase as the level of the sea rose? A few of these practical questions must be answered before we can undertake to speak with any idea of serious investigation as to the prospects of the Channel Tunnel.

CHURCH TO LUNATICS.—The Mainland Guardian publishes a statement that the lunatics at the New Westminster goal have been harshly treated. The report is to be believed.

