

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday, Feb. 23. THE PRIZE FIGHT—The interest manifested in the pugilistic combat which comes off to-day has not diminished. The whole of yesterday groups of eager disputants on the sidewalks were canvassing the respective merits of the men, and the opinions we heard expressed indicated a pretty general confidence in the pluck and condition of both the combatants. A notice has been issued by the committee of management containing admirable regulations for the observance of the excursionists. No arms nor weapons of any kind will be permitted to be taken on board the steamer, and the rules of the P. R. will be rigidly enforced by special constables throughout the proceedings. As far as we can learn everything is fair and above board, and every precaution has been taken to ensure a "square" contest. It will rest entirely with the good sense of the lookers on to preserve order, so that the capabilities of both men may be thoroughly tested. One of the principal causes of the decline of prize fighting as a national sport has been the ragged brigade of blackguardism which usually follows in its wake. There is nothing especially demoralising in a settlement of disputes by a resort to fistfights; indeed such a mode is preferable to a polite invitation to a cock-tail and pistols, as being a fairer method of adjustment to both parties. It is the ill-conditioned squabbings of the black-legs, and the reckless orgies of the mauvais sujets of society that have brought the Ring into such bad odor. We hope, however, that it will not be our duty to chronicle any such exhibition on this occasion. The betting is about even, although it has been whispered that Baker is slightly the favorite; but strong partisanship is evinced on both sides. Eden is well made and six feet in height, weighing some 175 pounds, whereas Baker only reaches 154 pounds, but is reported to be nimbler on his pins than his opponent. There is barely a year's difference in their age. Baker is 5 feet 10 inches in height, and will be handled by his trainer, Tracy, assisted by Dougherty. Eden will be waited on by Maraden and Fogarty. The umpires and referees have not been decided upon, but will be selected upon the ground. The steamer Emily Harris was to leave Brodick's wharf at 6 o'clock this morning, and a goodly muster of the fancy and sporting fraternity was expected to assemble at the starting point at that hour.

THE QUEEN SALOON CASE.—Wm. Goldsworthy was up again in the Police Court yesterday. Mr. Bishop again made an appeal to the bench to liberate the accused, as there was no evidence against him of his having stabbed Trestrail. The Magistrate, however, again remanded Goldsworthy for one day, remarking that there was no excuse for Trestrail, who was said to be alive and well, concealing himself as he had done, when he, Mr. Pemberton, had already intimated that he would not be prosecuted for the assault committed, and his willful absence might be the means of keeping Goldsworthy in goal for three months. The witness Edward Gilbert was liberated on giving bonds for his appearance, himself in \$500 and two sureties in \$250 each.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Capt. Clarke, arrived yesterday from Nanaimo and way ports with 8 passengers, 30 tons of coal for ship's use, a quantity of skins, venison, game, and two horses, one of which is the Hon. Lieut. Lascelles's well known roan stallion. There was no news stirrings at Nanaimo, beyond the report that the efforts of the Vancouver Company to discover a fresh seam of coal had been rewarded by striking a seam four feet thick, at a depth of sixty feet, of excellent quality.

HOLIDAY.—Yesterday being the 134th natal day of the immortal George Washington, the first President of the United States and the "father of his country" was generally but quietly observed as a holiday. Flags were displayed of all nationalities and the citizens generally united with Americans in doing honor to the memory of a great man. The magnificence of the weather took a large number of persons into the country.

THEFT.—George Phillips and W. Burrell were charged on remand, at the Police Court yesterday, with stealing a clock from Dr. Walker. A person who had been attending on the doctor, said he saw the prisoners in the doctor's house shortly before the clock was missed, but the person who could swear to the clock, as the owner was too ill to attend, was absent; he had gone on the boat excursion. Mr. Pemberton: what boat excursion? Inspector Welch told the Court there was a prize fight coming off, and the combatants had left by the Emily Harris. Mr. Pemberton enquired if the police had taken any steps towards its suppression. Inspector Welch said they had, but he did not know whether they would be successful. The Bench remanded the accused for one day.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Dr. Walker, who has for some years resided and practised in this city, was discovered yesterday dead on his sofa in Oriental Alley.

Monday, Feb. 26. FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Emily Harris, Capt. Frain, arrived yesterday morning at four o'clock from Nanaimo. She brought six passengers, two Indian prisoners, and about 70 tons coal. One of the Indians brought down was concerned in the Thordyke murders, and captured by Sergt. Blake at Nanaimo after considerable resistance in which Blake was struck with a rock.

A QUICK TRIP.—The steamer Emily Harris, Capt. Frain, left Victoria on Friday evening at eight o'clock with 12 tons of freight for Nanaimo, and returned here yesterday morning at four a.m. with a cargo of coal.

FROM SALT SPRING ISLAND.—The schooner Discovery arrived yesterday with 60 tons sand stone to be used in the construction of Capt. Stamp's building on Government street.

FROM DUNGENESS.—The schooner Spray arrived yesterday from Dungeness with 300 bushels wheat, 400 do. potatoes, 12 live hogs, six tons hay and three passengers.

FROM SAANICH.—The schooner Eliza arrived yesterday from Saanich with 45 M. feet lumber to W. P. Sayward.

THE DEBATE IN THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST.—SIR,—I take the liberty of offering a few brief comments upon the report given by the Chronicle of Friday, upon the debate in the Mechanics' Institute on the right of the Crown to initiate money bills. The version given by that journal is as follows: "The affirmative was taken by Mr. W. Lorrimer, who quoted from history and from May to show that the right to initiate money bills belonged to the Crown, and proved beyond question that the right, originated, meant the branch of the Legislature in which the measure was introduced. John Stuart Mill was also quoted from to establish the fact that the House of Commons had only the power to refuse a money vote. If the Commons had the right irrespective of the Crown, there would be no check upon the Commons. The Lords had neither the power to alter nor amend the money bills of the Lower House, and as the House of Commons of England had succeeded in representing the people for so many years successfully, he thought it spoke very badly of our Legislators if they couldn't govern without demanding such extraordinary powers." I am not aware, Mr. Editor, that any person will attempt to deny that the right of initiating money bills in England and in every one of her colonies, where the principles of responsible government have been accorded belongs to the Crown or Ministry; but do any of the authorities quoted show that the Crown exercised that right previous to the enactment of the Bill of Rights by the Parliament of England, or the adoption of the civil list and responsible government by the colonies? Nothing of the kind, but expressly to the contrary; and, until Vancouver Island by express enactment surrenders that inherent right, her legislature holds the power as did her sister colonies. Mr. Lorrimer says the Chronicle "proved beyond question that the power to originate, when applied to a parliamentary measure, meant the branch of the legislature in which the measure was introduced." What this sage and momentous remark means is more than I can divine. I will, therefore, leave it for some deep mind to ponder upon. If Mr. Lorrimer, by the remark "if the Commons had the right, irrespective of the Crown, there would be no check to the Commons"—would imply that those who advocate the right of the House to initiate money bills do so regardless of any "check" whatever; I can only say he has taken very little pains or trouble to inform himself of the principles for which they contend. The Chronicle makes Mr. Lorrimer say in conclusion, "until the colony had responsible government he wanted to see no non-members initiate money bills." Truly this is a sublime flight in the science of logic! So far in advance of the present age, that few, I fear, can be found sufficiently intelligent to comprehend it. The proposition of this new theory stands thus: In England, and in all her colonies that have adopted the principles of responsible government, the right to initiate money bills is vested in the Crown or Ministry, and in Vancouver Island, where they have not responsible government, the right is also in the Crown, or Governor. Therefore, when Vancouver Island has obtained responsible government the right shall be vested in the House of Assembly. Our present legislators are charged with "demanding extraordinary powers"; but should Vancouver Island ever be so unfortunate as to possess legislators who would demand such extraordinary powers, as is proposed by this new theory of government, which help the country. If the single power which the present legislature demand is considered too strong a check upon the Governor, I fear, when this double power is applied, he would find himself not only checked, but check-mated. The only conclusion that one can come to when they see such arguments put forth is, that the promulgators of such nonsense know very little about the science of government, or of the subject which they are discussing. The great prominence given to Mr. Lorrimer's speech over the remarks of Mr. Seelye and Dr. Evans will not appear strange when we consider the views of the Chronicle upon the subject. It might have been expected, however, that the denial of Mr. Lorrimer that any of the North American Colonies had ever exercised the right of initiating money bills would have been given, but this strong point in the argument of the defenders of Crown rights was so completely answered by Dr. Evans and Mr. Seelye, that in all probability it will be abandoned, and all future efforts to the promulgation of the new theory. A word more and I will close this perhaps too long review. I must say with all candor that the arguments of Mr. Lorrimer have not been given by the Chronicle in their best light. He would have been much better represented had some of his really good points been substituted for the invectives against the majority of the House of Assembly, which were paraded with so much "applause." It does seem in very bad taste for a paper in giving a report of such a debate to select portions which are entirely irrelevant to the question, for the mere purpose of gratifying an ill-feeling; and it is also to be regretted that any member of the Institute should so far abuse the confidence of his associates in the class as to indulge in such offensive personalities as marred the speech of the orator of the evening. S.MECH.

COMMERCIAL.

VICTORIA MARKETS. SATURDAY EVENING, Feb. 24.

Jobbing rates: FLOUR—Extra, \$9@9.50 per barrel; Superfine, \$8.50; Common, \$7.50. RYE FLOUR—\$15.00. CORNMEAL—\$7.00 per 100 lbs. OATMEAL—\$6.00. BEANS—White, 6c per do; Bayos and Pink, 5c per do. SUGAR—Raw, 8c per 100 lb; Refined, 14c per 100 lb. COFFEE—24c per 100 lb sack. BUTTER—Best, 17c per lb; Ordinary, 15c per lb. BACON AND HAMS—Prime, 25c per 30 lb do; Ordinary, 22c per 30 lb do. LARD—26c per 30 lb do. CHEESE—25c per 27 lb do. CANDLES—\$6.00 per box. SOAP—2c per 25 lb do. SYRUP—Best, 25c per keg. WHEAT—2 1/2c per bushel. OATS—1 1/2c per bushel. BARLEY—1 1/2c per bushel. MIDDINGS—2 1/2c per bushel. POTATOES—1c per bushel. ONIONS—4c per bushel. HAY—1c per 100 lbs. Do.

IMPORTS. Per steamer ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound.—105 bxs apples, 1 pkg furs, 20 bbls flour, 3 bxs eggs, 155 head sheep, 33 head cattle. Value \$2,687. Per sch NOR'WESTER from New Westminster.—8 bbls alcohol. Value \$250. Consigned to J. P. Couch. Per sch A. J. WESTER from Whidby Island.—2 tons oats, 8 tons barley. Value \$200. Consigned to Leneuve & Co.

PASSENGERS. Per steamer ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound.—T. Haines, McLaren, H. Lichtenstein, Dr. Cohen, H. C. Postler, Seivel, C. Chism, Dr. Ash, Bishop, Hart, Chinaman, Bark, M. Day, S. Hazard, Kloutch. MARINE INTELLIGENCE. ENTERED. Feb. 19.—Slp Native, Nenovich, Stekin Sch Langley, Cocaine, N. W. of B. C. Sch T. K. Thorndike, Thornton, San Juan Feb. 20.—Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles. Sch No' Wester, Whitford, New Westminster. Sch Lord Raglan, Collins, North West Coast British Columbia. Feb. 21.—Sch Surprise, Francis, North West Coast of Vancouver Island. Slp Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan Sch Black Diamond, McCulloch, Nanaimo Feb. 22.—Sch A. J. Wester, Mills, Port Angeles. Feb. 23.—Sch Industry, Carleton, Nanaimo Sch Annie, Elvin, San Juan Feb. 24.—Sch Eliza, Middleton, Saanich CLEARED. Feb. 19.—Sch Winged Racer, Peterson, Port Angeles. Slp Hamley, Vaughan, Saanich Sch J. K. Thorndike, Thornton, San Juan Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles Feb. 21.—Str Otter, Lewis, Burrard Inlet Sch Matilda, Meltrum, Sooke Bk Princess Royal, Marshall, Burrard Inlet Feb. 22.—Slp Lady Franklin, Pritchard, Orcas Island. Str Emily Harris, Frain, San Juan. Feb. 23.—Sch Black Diamond, McCulloch, Nanaimo Feb. 24.—Sch A. J. Wester, Mills, Port Angeles. Sch Surprise, Francis, North West Coast Sch Annie, Elvin, San Juan Sch Alberni, Brown, Alberni

BIRTH. In this city, on the 23d instant, the wife of Mr. George Richardson, of a son. DIED. In Seattle, February 13th, 1866, of typhoid fever, William T. F. Bodillon, aged twenty-three years. LIST OF UNCLAIMED LETTERS REMAINING IN THE POST OFFICE FROM 17th TO THE 24th FEBRUARY, 1866. Anderson, Mr, A. Adler, S. Allau, A. Arnold, W. St Aubyn, L. 2 B. Brooks, G. Brian, W. Black, P. J. Brown, Miss L. C. Coulter, H. Clay, Miss Coupland, J. Cameron, D. Carvell, T. Copeland, S. Cowsell, C. Coffin, L. A. Carey, M. Clark, W. C. Copland, S. A. D. Dolan, J. Drever, W. Druif, P. Dempster, A. Dennes, G. E. 4. Derham, B. Dixon, R. L. Dunoon, D. Davies, W. R. Duck, Mr. E. Earnshaw, B. Eumanis, A. Ennis, Miss M. Evers, H. Estus, W. Ellis, G. F. Freeborn, R. D. Fabiano, M. Freeman, R. H. Flood, J. W. Fraser, D. Frankel, A. Ford, J. Farron, J. Fowlar, N. Fenn, J. Falshaw, R. Finney, A. G. Golden, T. Gartrell, Mr. 2 Galbraith, W. Greenwood, J. R. Grig, J. Green, H. P. George, S. Gardia, Miss J. Guy, W. 2 Garrett, Rev. H. Hopkins, H. A. Headen, H. Herkimer, Mrs. Huson, A. W. 2

Haggard, M. Holden, Mr. Hathaway, O. P. Hoffman, A. Higginson, T. Henley, H. Hunt, L. Hain, W. H. Hetherington, J. 2 I. Innes, J. Inwood, F. J. Johnson, J. Jeffrey, A. Jenkins, J. Jeffrey, E. K. Kiefer, V. J. L. Lamont, H. Lloyd, E. H. Lembley, J. W. M. Mackie, J. McLean, Archibald. Morison, W. McDonald, J. McDonald, A. G. Meyer & Triest. McBride, R. McEwan, A. 2 Messereau, R. McKinnon, Mrs. A. Mitchell, Jas. N. Nolan, J. Nixon, W. O. O'Brien, J. Orr, R. Oliver, R. P. Payne, C. Parcker, W. Pratt, O. C. Parker, J. Palmer, J. Perry, J. R. Phelps, A. R. Pearce, J. Robinson, T. Reveley, F. Reid, G. Ross, J. Reveley, T. S. Reed, J. L. Redifer, A. 2 Ragazzoni, T. Rash, W. S. Stephenson, J. R. Soiger, J. Smith, Mr. M. Saunders, Oatley & Co. Stafford, J. Smith, O. Shultz, O. T. Titus, Mr. Tracey, J. Thomas, W. Trahey, J. W. 2 Thompson, H. W. White, T. Wollaston, F. H. Wilson, Jas. Wake, G. Williams, C. 2 Wright, G. Wray, J. Webb, Jas. Watts, Mrs. E. Yeomans, A. 2 Young, A.

Ivey, T. 2 Inner, D. Inguet, C. Jack, Jas. Jeffrey, Capt. W. Jones, T. E. Jerome, Miss Kennedy, J. Keffer, A. Lawson, J. H. Ledirecteur, Mr. Laidlaw, J. Ilewelynd, D. Montillo, F. Mellon, Jessy. Murray, Jas. 2 Montgomery, J. 2 Mennier, A. Mills, D. Murdoch, Mr. Morgan, Rd. McFarland, A. Monro, Mrs. H. D. Morrow, J. Neilson, A. Norn, C. Nellis, W. 2 Ousterhout, P. Orwin, W. Oliver, W. H. Pearce, R. Pullen, A. W. 2 Phillips, E. 2 Phillips, M. 2 Phillips, Mr. Prior, M. Pitman, R. A. Robertson, Mr. Richardson, J. Richey, A. Reid, B. Ritchie, R. Mrs. Ross, J. L. Roberts, H. Reynolds, M. Ross, L. C. Simpson, J. Sayyee, J. Sales, W. E. Scott, J. Sayward, W. P. Sere, J. Standish, W. G. Smith, R. T. Smith, W. Thayer, D. A. Thomson, W. F. 2 Tripp, Mrs. Trefidde, J. Thompson, A. Williamson, Mrs. Walker, W. Welch, G. Wells, S. Walker, R. Williams, Miss Ward, B. W. Walker, C. Wagner, R. Wolter, R. H. Young, H. Yan Wo Sang, 2. Yaula, Mr.

These, or other first-class steamers, will run on this route regularly, and will connect at Victoria with swift River steamers carrying passengers to Yale, a distance of 176 miles. From Yale to Savana Ferry, a distance of 133 miles, there is a splendid Government Wagon Road and Comfortable way-side Houses every few miles; over this road travellers can easily walk, or they can ride in Barnard's Fast Four-horse Stages. From Savana Ferry the Hudson Bay Co.'s new and swift Steamer Marten will run to Ogden City, upper end of Shuswap Lake, a distance of 111 miles. From Ogden City to the Columbia River, a distance of 34 miles, there is an excellent Government Pack Trail.

Miners Going to the Rich Mines of BRIDGE RIVER OR CARIBOO can do so by the Government Wagon Road from Yale, over which it is easy to walk, or travellers can ride in fast Stages. The Steamers running from San Francisco for the conveyance of passengers, by way of Victoria and the Fraser River, being under contract to the British Colonial Governments, the Rates of Fare charged are very low, and passengers are expeditionly, comfortably and cheaply conveyed from Victoria to the mines.

Miners going from San Francisco to the British Columbia Gold Mines will derive another great advantage by visiting the FREE PORT OF VICTORIA. In Victoria, Miners can supply themselves with every article they require, free of duty, and 25 to 50 per cent cheaper than they can buy similar goods in California or Oregon.

Distance from Victoria, Vancouver Island, to Big Bend, 473 Miles. Distance from Astoria via Portland to Big Bend, 752 Miles.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF DISTANCES, COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AUTHORITIES. From Victoria, Vancouver Island. To New Westminster, by steamer... 80 Miles. Thence to Yale, by steamer... 95 Miles. Thence to Savana's Ferry, by stages... 133 Miles. Thence to head of Shuswap Lake, by steamer... 111 Miles. Thence to Columbia River, at a point 30 miles above the supposed head of navigation, by Government Trail... 34 Miles. Thence to Gold Creek, by boats... 473 Miles.

From Astoria, via Portland. To Portland... 96 Miles. Thence to the Dalles... 110 Miles. Thence to Walla Walla... 100 Miles. Thence to Colville... 210 Miles. Thence to a point where the Trail from Shuswap Lake strikes the Columbia River... 216 Miles. Thence to Gold Creek... 20 Miles. 762 Miles.

Showing that the distance to the Big Bend Mines is 279 MILES LESS BY WAY OF VICTORIA than by way of Portland.

The following Statistics, respecting the probable Time and Expense of Travelling from VICTORIA TO BIG BEND, have been compiled by Mr. F. J. Barnard, the well known British Columbia Express Agent and Stage Proprietor:

CLASS 1—By Stage over the Wagon Road, and including Meals and Beds through. Dist. Time. Rate. Meals. Victoria to Yale... 175... 24 hrs... \$4... \$6. Yale to Kamloops... 133... 24 hrs... 40... 5. Over the Lakes... 120... 15 hrs... 10... 4. Head of Lake to Columbia River... 35... 18 hrs... 9... 0. Total number of hours travelling, 81. Total cost, \$78.

CLASS 2—On Foot from Yale to Lake Kamloops, taking Meals and Beds at Wayside Houses. Dist. Time. Rate. Meals. Victoria to Yale... 175... 24 hrs... \$4... \$6. Yale to Kamloops... 133... 5 days... 20... 0. Over Lake... 120... 1 day... 10... 4. Head of Lake to Columbia River... 35... 2 days... 9... 0. Total time, 9 days. Total cost, \$53.

CLASS 3—Men furnishing own Food on Steamers, Travelling on Foot from Yale to Lake Kamloops, and buying their own Provisions on the way or packing it with them. Victoria to Yale... 175... 24 hrs... \$4... \$6. Yale to Kamloops... 133... 5 days... 20... 0. Over Lake... 120... 1 day... 10... 1.50. Head of Lake to Columbia River... 35... 2 days... 9... 0. Total time, 9 days. Total cost, \$26.50. Victoria, Vancouver Island, 1866. fe15. Published by authority of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce.

BIG BEND GOLD MINES, British Columbia.

The Safest, the Shortest and the Cheapest Route to these rich Pincer Mines is by way of Victoria, Vancouver Island. Passengers going this way have not to cross the dangerous Columbia River Bar, and the distance is over One-Third—or 279 Miles—Shorter by way of Victoria than by way of Portland. The Governments of Vancouver Island and British Columbia have subsidised the following powerful steamers to carry miners from San Francisco to Victoria and New Westminster direct:— The Hudson Bay Co.'s Stmr. Labouchere, Capt. Mouat. The Cal. S. N. Co.'s Stmr. Active, Capt. Thorn.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST. Published every Tuesday morning. A COLONIAL COMPANY. There is an immense consolation... and the guardians of public safety... appear to be very effective in the... their functions. So far, then, V... Island is not alone in its misfortunes... a fellow-sufferer in British Honduras... are other points of comparison between... countries. Belize is on the eve of a gen... tion and Vancouver Island will befor... piration of many months be in the s... tion. In the political turmoil in Hon... voice of the Belize Colonist, in a r... phraseology, declares that "the vita... portant question to be decided in... frame a scheme for raising the reve... will neither be oppressive to the... favor the rich—it is a crisis in the le... of British Honduras, which calls and... grave and serious consideration."... the new legislators will succeed in... forward a scheme of taxation that... oppress the poor nor favor the rich... be difficult to say. Just now the... which bears a close comparison to... Vancouver Island the present year... \$180,000, and is collected by an ad... duty on some articles of 1 per cen... others of 3%. Wines, spirits, &c., co... a specific duty of about on the av... cents per gallon. On neat cattle t... dollar a head imposed, and on horse... and asses \$3. There is a tax impos... on every horse kept in the colony... every wheel of a vehicle, and \$1... dog. Lumber, although one of the... exports of the country, is taxed... thousand. Liquor licenses in the... \$200 a year. Belize, like Victoria, has a volun... and a very effective one too, numb... men. By recent papers we find t... soldiers were arrested and taken to... disorderly conduct—a circumstan... caused quite a commotion among... tary stationed in the place. Rumor... rapidly in warm countries, and th... of the volunteers was soon placed in... sion of the alarming fact that the... were going to attack the prison and... the culprits. Quick as lightning th... tears were in readiness and march... rendezvous to be placed under the... the Lieutenant-Governor. The mat... however was not required; for t... soldiers who had sanded for a... garrison, and who had caused the... were driven to the barracks by t... ets. The volunteers felt relieve... news, and doubly so when they fo... were entirely destitute of powder... not only shows some little resemb... this colony in its extent of territ...