THE PIRE DEPARTMENT. In another column will be found the semiannual report of the Chief Engineer of the Victoria Fire Department. It will be there seen that much as we have reason to congratulate the inhabitants on possessing so admirable an institution for the protection of the city as the department in question, there are still a number of urgent wants obtruding themselves on our notice that require the earnest attention of those in authority. The first is a large increase in xthe number of hydrants or cisterns. It is no give a lengthened or detailed account, in town are totally inadequate to meet emergencies, or, in other words, that the property in certain neighborhoods cannot be properly protected. This is a matter for the serious consideration of every householder; for fire, like an epidemic, may arise in a very insignificant locality, but unless the most energetic means can be used for its early suppression, it may spread beyond the greatest efforts of man. The recommendations, therefore, of attention. It is suggested that some arranges public property) ment should be made with the Water Company in their prospective negotiations with the Government to have a constant water supply in the places which are now neglected, and we think the suggestion a timely one. An application, we believe, will shortly be made by the Water Company to the Legislature for certain privileges, and we have no doubt that the Company will gladly accede to stipulations that will, by affording a proper supply of water, remove the present perils to property. The next question is that of getting rid of one of the engines and supplying its place by a steam fire engine. The ultimate saving in time and money, and the additional security which such a transformation would guarantee, are therefore earnestly recommend that more advantages which would quickly repay the expense of the change, and we hope when money is a little more plentiful in our midst than it is at present, to see the scheme ef- existing or about to exist between the Govfected. It would be almost impossible to ernment and the Spring Ridge Water Comtake up all the points in the report, but we cannot help alluding to the financial condition of the department and the absolute hose butts, at such positions of the city as necessity there is that the remaining thous- are mentioned in annexed statement No. and dollars of last year's vote should be paid. It will be seen by our report of the business transacted yesterday in the Assembly, that a resolution covering this ground was passed by the House and forwarded to His Excellency. The department will, therefore, in all probability be paid without further delay, tion. The recommendation that the Government payments should be regular, in order that the department by being able to calculate with therefore no reserve fund is at the disposal of certainty the time when it would have the executive officer for such repairs named. funds in hand, may regulate its expenditure, only shows the necessity of having a nearer of the Department, it becomes doubly necesthe general Government. The application on order and repair. I would particularly call this score may have the effect of making the your attention to this that you may be pleased Treasury more punctual in its payments, but we hope before the next month shall have as he may deem proper under existing cirtranspired the town will be in possession of cumstances. an Incorporation bill that will enable the civic authorities to make ample and regular provision for our fire companies. We cannot allow the efficiency of so important an institution as our fire department to be imperilled. When we consider how insignificant a per centage on the personal and house property of the place the inhabitants are required to pay for its maintenance, the wonder is how such an organization has been really kept together. On looking over recent proceedings of the Metropolitan Board is more fully explained in statement with of Works in London we find that a paid fire general remarks. The public certainly have h brigade, comprising 130 men, cost the Board in one year the nice little sum of \$72,800. Our department numbers 113 as effective firemen, we will be bound to say, as the 130 of the London brigade, and yet all the pub- vice. Monuments of their promptness and lic are called upon to pay for its maintenance is \$3,000 a year. When we look upon such been signally blessed in receiving gratuitously the services of so many citizens in an occupation that demands all the promptness, energy a contrast as this we think the community has. tion that demands all the promptness, energy and courage of our nature. Let the Government of the country as well as the inhabitants of demned Hose put in as good condition as Victoria, keep the London brigade with its possible, which Engine and Hose is housed

NARROW ESCAPE. - From Captain Irving your attention to the fact that this we learn the following particulars of the loss of the mail bag from Portland and narrow escape of himself and companions. Captain Trying left Portland in company with Mr. most efficient body a more prominent and Powell and the mail carrier; they found the road in very bad condition owing to the quan tity of snow and the heavy rain that had been falling during the previous three or four days the creeks had become swollen, and in some places the bridges were carried away and found the bridge gone. The mail carrier took the lead, and instantly horse and rider disappeared. When the horse was next seen to the mail bag was gone and the rider had

puts forward its claims to public attention.

VICTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT Chief Engineer's Report.

Victoria, V. I., January, 1866.

To the Hon. W. A. G. Young, Colonial Serre

In compliance with the constitution and regulations governing the Victoria Fire Department, adopted by the Board of Delegates, November 6th, 1861, and approved by His Excellency Sir James Douglas, Governor, February 7th, 1862, I herewith transmit the necessary information required of me, and hope that any suggestions I may herein make will meet with your favorable considera-

Of the location of cisterns and fire apparatus, as also the situation of the houses wherein the apparatus is housed, I deem unnecessary proved that the present water supplies in case asmuch as no changes have taken place of fire in several localities throughout the since the last semi-annual report made by my predecessor in office.

The condition of the public property now n the hands of the Fire Department, I am pleased to state is in tolerable working order, due entirely to the great care and attention given to said property by the officers of the Companies; the Deluge engine, however, requires so much attention to keep it in order for any emergency, that much dependence cannot be placed on its durable efficency should it be placed in action, from the fact that recently repairs are required to be made on the Chief Engineer should receive practical to statement two annexed as to condition of it every time it has been put in use. (Refer

My immediate predecessor in his semiannual report has fully set forth the necessity of providing a new engine for this well or-ganized and efficient company—Deluge No 1. In this connection I would here recom-

mend, for the better security of life and property, that Deluge Engine be disposed of. and a steam fire engine be placed at the disposal of said company. My reasons for so advising are apparent from the aforesaid state of Deluge Engine, and the coming summer months, attendant with southerly high winds, making the material composition of our city more inflamable than at any other season of the year. I sincerely trust that the above suggestions may be acted upon at as early a day as the financial condition of the country will admit,
The public reservoirs now in use are in

adequate for the wants of the city; I would cisterns be placed at such points of the city as designated in the appended statement of locations.

I would also suggest that any negotiations pany, that steps be taken in such negotiation to secure hydrants for the use of the Department, with proper coupling to connect with 3. The great necessity for such is a well

established fact which has not escaped the attention of all intelligent observers for the preservation of the city from fire. The Company have generously supplied the cisterns on demand when required, and I hope in the extension of their works the above suggestion may be favorably taken into considera-

Repairs are required to some of the cisterna now in use, but I find from the amount voted for 1866 a mere existence is allowed us Without any knowledge of an extension of and less complicated source of supply than sary that the present reservoirs be kept in to lay the same before his Excellency, so that he may make such provision in the premises

> In my predecessor's report of 1865 he calls your attention to repairs necessary to Engine houses, and in his estimates for the Fire Department asks an appropriation for such purposes. However, the same was not granted, although necessary. I should have been pleased had the improvements he suggested been made, but under the united retrenching reform of our legislators I hesitate to ask for an appropriation for said purposes although very desirable for the better effi-ciency of the Department.

> Since I came into office few fires have ocenjoyed a wonderful immunity from fire, but this is, in every case to my knowledge, attributable to the promptness and energy with which the Department has on every and all occasions been brought into active serefficiency stand to-day as records of these valuable services.

The 3d class Engine first used by that in case of an emergency. I have also in connection with said repairs had the con-\$70,000 in mind when our fire department in the Union Hook and Ladder building. (Refer to statement 2.)

In reference to the last mentioned Company's house I would beg to draw is a most valuable auxiliary to the Department, and is badly situated for convenience. I consider it one of the first duties of the authorities to provide for this central location; it is a most desirable arm of the Department, and should be placed where their rather unwieldly apparatus would be more attainable.

The factive force of the Department you ill partment in annexed statement 5. some places the bridges were carried away or were floating. They reached a creek three manner proposed for the distribution of miles on the other side of Brew's at night,

(See statement 6) I would however call your attention to the non-payment of one thousand dollars voted for our service in last year, and which was managed to scramble to the opposite shore. promised by Acting Colonial Secretary Mr. Captain Irving and Mr. Powell swam their horses across in safety. All suffered severely year, in quarterly instalments of \$750, and apon the strength of which the Board of

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST Delegates pledged the credit of this Department and also made promises they were unable to fulfil. Much dissatisfaction has therefore been expressed by our creditors, and much annoyance experienced by the officers of the Department in being pressed for the payment of bills they had no funds to meet. I sincerely hope that the one thousand dollars due from last year's appropriation (every dollar of which is needed to meet our outstanding liabilities,) will be paid to us at an early day. And also that the sum voted for the present year (3,000) will be paid to the Department regularly in whatever sums his Excellency may command, so that we may know to a certainty when we may have funds Blanchard streets. It eat a in hand and so regulate our payments accor-I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant, J. S. DRUMMOND, Chief Engineer Victoria Fire Department.

LOCATION OF APPARATUS-Deluge Engine No. 1 and Hose, &c., &c., situated on Yates near Douglas street, a very central position. Tiger engine No 2, and hose, &c., &c. situated on Johnson between Government and Broad streets, also quite a desirable po-

Union Hook and Ladder No. 1, situated on Bastion between Langley and Wharf, which is, allow me to intimate, a most undesirable and inconvenient position, and one that the authorities should remedy by procuring for this Company some site more central. I would here suggest that on Government street between Yates and Bastion, in the neighborhood of Mayor Franklin's office, is a proper

Third class engine, formerly used by Tiger Company No. 1, and hose, housed in the Hook and Ladder House on Bastion between Langley and Wharf streets. CONDITION OF PUBLIC FIRE APPARATUS in

the hands of the Volunteer Department :-Deluge Engine No. 1. This engine, I am sorry to say, is not in first-rate order. It is a second-class machine, and when purchased by this Colony was second hand, and in service now over sixteen years. Much more good service cannot therefore be expected from it. Its capacity is of very moderate calibre, and even if new is not now sufficient for the wants of the city, therefore my recommendation for a steam engine becomes more apparent from the said condition of this

Two Hose Carts, Deluge,- One of these carts is in good condition, the other is almost useless for heavy service.

Hose, Deluge.—500 feet double riveted

hose in good order, and 250 only tolerable, making 750 feet in all.

House, Deluge.-The house occupied by this Company is their own property, and cost the Company \$1787, the greater portion of which was raised by subscription, the balance has been paid by the Company. It is expected that the authorities will some day refund this amount, which no doubt will again be expended in improvements to ma-

chinery and Company.

Tiger Engine No. 2 — This Company are in possession of a second class Button & Blake engine, in first-rate order and almost new. It is in fact the only engine upon which dependence can be placed in case of a conflagration, being of good capacity, and it besides quite an ornament to the city. Hose Carts, 2 .- One of these hose carts is in good condition, the other unfit for

Hose,-This Company have for their use 500 feet of double riveted hose in good order, and 250 feet in middling order, making in all 750 feet.

House. - This Company occupy rented premises which are very inconvenient. The house is entirely too small for their purposes they frequently having to resort to other places for oiling of hose, &c., &c., causing much expense to the Company, and, taking into consideration the heavy rent the Company are under, I would recommend that they be provided at as early a day as possible with a suitable house in some central location, as this is a most efficient Company whose services on various occasions have been gratefully acknowledged by our citizens.

Gas and water have been introduced into this and the Deluge house, making their premises much more convenient than they were formerly. I would also state that the Spring Ridge Water Company kindly furnish water gratis.

Tiger Engine No. 3 .- This engine is of the third-class and was second-hand when purchased by the Colony; in bad order when taken possession of by Tiger Company No. 2. and was discarded by them as useless when they took possession of the splendid engine they have now in use. Since being discarded it has been partially put in order at considerable expense to the Department, so as to be ready in case of an emergency. Since undergoing repair it has been tested and found to be of some slight assistance in time

Hose.-The old hose formerly in use by Deluge and Tiger Companies has been in-spected and 450 feet culled therefrom, oiled, and put in order for the use of the reserve engine. However, no great dependance can

be placed upon it. Union Hook and Ladder .-- This Company are in possession of a first-class truck with all the apparatus necessary in the shape of hooks and ladders for its efficiency.

The Company have at different periods incurred considerable expense in perfecting their apparatus, which apparatus belongs to them, having been purchased by subscription. House.-The house occupied by this Company is also their own property, having been built by subscription. They also stand

in the same position as Deluge Company and expect at some future day to be repaid for the outlay, when the authorities see fit to take the same in charge. The cost has been \$2776. The situation of the house and apparatus, as I have before stated, is not a desirable one, therefore my recommendation

for a change.

Water has been introduced into this house by the Spring Ridge Water Company and

NEW CISTERNS OR HYDRANTS,

And where they should be located : Two hydrants corner Government and Yates streets.

One hydrant or cistern corner of Government and Broughton streets. Two hydrants or cistern corner Fort and Douglas streets.

ne hydrant or cistern corner Fort and Two hydrants or cisterns corner Cormorant and Store streets. Two hydrants or cisterns corner Pandors

nd Government streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Pandors and Douglas streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and

Brown streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Douglas streets.
One hydrant or eistern corner Yates and Blanchard streets.

One hydrant or cistern corner View and One hydrant or cistern corner Broad and Johnson streets. Total number hydrants, 16.

Upon reference to the localities it will be een at a glance that the most thickly populated portion of our city would thus be provided with the necessary element to partially give confidence to property holders.

FIRES AND THEIR CAUSES. On October, 18th, 1865. at 7 a.m., a fire occurred in the lumber office, James Bay; owner, Wm. H. Austin; damage nomina \$10; cause, carelessness. Whole department promptly on the ground; services not required, the fire being extinguished with

October 28th, 1865, 8 p.m., alarm given by Deluge bell and taken up by Hook and Ladder. Department out and on the alert, but alarm as proved to be false; cause unknown.

December 4th, 1865, 2 o'clock p.m., a fire occurred in house adjoining Railroad Restaurant, situated on Johnston between Store and Government streets; damage, \$10; cause defective range of restaurant. EFFECTIVE FORCE AT DATE.

Deluge Engine Co., No. 1, active mem-Tiger Engine Co, No. 2, active members

Union Hook and Ladder Co., No. 1, active members, 38. Total, 113;

DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION.

DELUGE ENGINE CO., NO. 1. Ground rent, per month, \$15; material necessary for keeping engine in order, \$20 Steward's salary, \$30; total, \$65 per month. Per annum \$780,

TIGER ENGINE CO., NO. 2. House rent, per month, \$35; incidentals, \$20; Steward's salary, \$30; total, \$85 per month. Per annum, \$1020.

UNION HOOK AND LADDER CO. Ground rent, per annum, \$1; incidentals,

per month, \$12; Steward's salary, per month \$20; \$32 per month. Per annum, \$384. Total. \$2,185.

For incidentals not enumerated in the above expenses, based upon the average expendi-ture of former years:—For light, repairs to machines, hose, houses, cisterns, advertising, stationery, \$815, an amount quite inadequate to meet the requirements fully as enu-

Holloway's Pills and Cintment—Billousnes.—Dyspepsis.—There is no organ in the human body so liable to derangement as the liver. Food, fatigue, climate, and anxiety, all disorder its action, and renders its secretion—the bile—more or less deprayed, superabundant, or scanty. The first symptoms should receive attention. A pain in the side, or the top of the shoulder, a harsh cough, and difficulty of breathing, are signs of liver disease, which are removed without delay, by friction with Holloway's Cintment. The Pills, should also be taken early. For all diseases of his vital organ, the action of these conjoined remedies is a specific, by checking the over supply of bile, regulating its secretion and giving nervous tone. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT-Bilious-

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THIS COMPANY OFFERS TO the Public the combined advantages of Perfect Security, Moderate Premiums, Liberal participation in Profits, and great freedom in respect of foreign residence and travel, and has powers under special act of Parliament which simplify discharge of claims in event of assured dying abroad.

Prospectuses and every information can be obtained on application to the undersigned, who has power to accept risks. J. ROBERTSON STEWART,

WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, V. I Agent for British Columbia and Vancouver Island do6naw

## Persons with Violins

Who wish a good collection of "Music, will find it in "Winner's Excelsior Collection." Price, 75 cts. Excellent Duets for Piano & Violin will be found in the "Union Collection." Price, 75 cents.) both of the above are published by OLIVER DITSON & CO. 277 Washington street, Boston.
For sale at Hibben & Carswell's and Waitt & Co's 5de20 2353



PILLS

Nervous Disorders.

Whatis more fearful than a breaking down of the nervous system? To be excitable or nervous in a small degree is meet distressing, for where can a remedy be found? Here is one:—Drink but little wine, beer, or spirite, or far better, abstain from them altogether; do not take coffee—weak tea is preferable; get all the fresh air you can; take three or four of the Pills every night; eat plenty of solids, and avoid the use of slops. If these golden rules are followed, you will be happy in mind, strong in body, and forget you have any nervee.

Mothers and Danghters If there is one thing more than another forwhich hese Pills are so tamons, it is their purifying properties, especially their power of cleansing the blood from all impurities, and removing dangerous, and enewing suspended secretions. Universally adopted as the one grand remedy for female complaints these Pills never fail, never weaken the system, and always bring about what is required.

Disorders of the Kidneys. In all diseases affecting these organs, whether hey secrete too much or too little water; or whether they be afflicted with stone or gravel, or with aches and pains settled in the loins over the region of the kidneys, these Fills should be taken according to the printed directions, and the Ointment should be well rubbed into the small of the back at bed time. This treatment will give almost immediate relief after all other means have failed.

Stomach out of Order. No medicine will so effectually improve the tone of the stomach as these Pills; they remove all acidity, coessiened either by intemperance or improper diet. They reach the liver, and reduce it to a healthy action; they are wonderfully efficacious in cases of spasm—in fact they never fall in curing all disorders of the liver and stomach.

Bronchitis, Diptheria, Coughs and Colds No diseases are more frequent, few more dangerous, than affections of the respiratory organs. The first symptoms of disordered action may always be removed by Holloway's renowned Pills. They quickly remedy any temporary stagnation of the blood, relieve the overgorged veins, moderate the hurried breathing, and enable the windpipe and lungs to perform their functions with ease and regularity. These Pills, by their purifying powers, cleanse the blood from all impurities and thus fortify the system against consumption, asthma, and other pulmonary complaints.

Debilitated Constitutions viewer In cases of debility, languor, and nervousness generated by excess of any kind, whether mental or physical, the effect of these Pills is in the highest degree bracing, renovating and restorative. They drive from the system the morbid cause of diseases be-establish the digestion, regulate all the secretions, grace the nervous system, raise the patient's spirits, and bring back the frame to its pristine health and vror.

Biliousness, Loss of Appetite, Headache, and Lowness of Spirits. These Pills effect a truly wonderful change in de-bilitated constitutions, as they create a healthy ap-petite, correct indigestion, remove excess of bile, and overcome giddiness, headache and palpitation of the heart.

Holloway's Pills are the vest remedy known in the world for the following diseases: Dropsy
Dysentery
Erystpelas
Female Irregularities
Fevers of all
kinds
Gout
Head-ache
Indigestion
Infiammation
Graval plaints
Colics
Constipation
of Bowels
Consump fections
Worms o
allkinds
Weakness,
from what of Howels Indigestion Stone Throat Weakness, Consumption Barbon Gravel ever caused to Mark 244 Strand (near Temple Bar), London; also by all respectable Draggists and Dealers in Medicines throughout the civilized world, at the follow-

ing prices:—is. 1/d, 2s. 9d., 4s 6d., 1ls. 22s. and 33s each Box.

There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N.B.—Directions for the guidance of every disorder are affixed to each Box

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PRONOUNCED BY CONNOTSSRITES TO BE THE Only Good Sauce and applicable to

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"Insthat their Sauc
18 highly esteemed i
India, and is, in my
opinion, the most palatable, as well as the
most who also me most wholesome Saucethat is made.

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Beg to caution the public against spuriou imitions of their celebrated WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE L. a P. having discovered that several of the Fo eign Markets have been supplied with Srunaugiar rations, the labels closely resemble those of the genuine Sauce, and in one or more instances the names of L. S. P. FORGED.

L. S. P. will proceed against any one who may manufacture or yend such imitations and have intructed their correspondents in the various part of the world to advise them of any intringement of their rights.

Ask for Lea and Perrins' Sauce. \*\* Sold Wholesale and for Export by the Proprietors, Worcester; Mesers. Crosse and Blackwell, Mesers Barelay and Sons, London; etc., etc.; and by Grocers and Oilmen universally niolawly Janion, Green & Rhodes.

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Che Weekly British

Tuesday, February 6, CONSTITUTIONAL QUE

As a matter of general infor publish the following extract from of Mr. Labouchere, while Secret for the Colonies, to Governor Dou after the latter gentleman had reins of power in Vancouver Isl document possesses at the present thing more than a mere historic lays down carefully but decid portions of the constitutional law which have recently come under eration of the Legislative Assemb people of Vancouver Island, and to the rights that the settlers British Colony possess. We hav

By the commission and instructions predecessor, Governor Blanchard, re the Colony of Vancouver Island was f he was directed to summon general a freeholders, qualified by the ownershi of land, and with their advice and Council make laws and ordinances f government of the Island. I am aware that the same commiss

issues alluded to the despatch and

of its contents, but we think we

better than give it almost in its er

is dated February 28, 1856, and

temporary or a special purpose, to any not elected wholly or in part by the se selves. If this be the case, the clar commission on which you relied wou be unwarranted and invalid.

De unwarranted and invalid.

It appears to Her Majesty's Governm fore, that steps should be taken at o establishment of the only Legislature by the present constitution of the Islan accordingly to instruct you to call the Assembly in the terms of your comminstructions. instructions.

For this purpose it will be within y as provided by the ninth clause of yo tions, to fix the number of representa you should consider it essential to div

you should consider it essential to diviously into districts, and to establish separ places, although with so small a numbe you will find this inexpedient.

I leave it to your local knowledge tion, with the advice of your Council, to the Assembly, when thus summon such measures as you may yourself required, and in particular, such as masary, in order to leave no doubt of the proceedings already taken without the of an Assembly.

of an Assembly.

But it appears to me, that in a comm But it appears to me, that in a command taining so very limited a number of in the maintenance of a constitution on the those considerable colonies, with a Hoppresentatives and a Council, may be ineand that a smaller and more select bod the present, and probably for some year perform in a satisfactory manner the really required in the present stage of it the island.

Such a body, however, can be cons Such a body, however, can be const
by enactment of the Legislature, aut
the Commission, that is to say of the
and Council, together with yourself,
be no unusual circumstance for a legis
constituted to surrender its powers into
of a single chamber. It has been a
done in some of the smaller West Ind
I leave it to yourself to consider, with
of the local authorities, the numbers
of such of the local authorities, the numbers of suclideation of the members of suclicouncil; but in the event of your deteintroduce the elective principle into it, proportion, not less than one-third, nominated by the Crown. The power of to, or negativing, or suspending, for the Crown, the measures passed by sucil, should be distinctly reserved to your it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the initiation of all money votes to the ernment.

There is nothing very new in the the despatch alluding to or imp powers of a representative Asser money votes. To every person wh any experience in representative col fore they possessed responsible go and our population is well repres this class, it is an old principle of tional law, but there are some an probably who never considered the or looked for authority upon it uni cent action of the House brou matter forcibly before, them, an authority like Mr. Labouc be unassailable, and the action Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based o foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and r issued by the Colonial office, we sho limited were the powers of the Cros important questions connected political privileges of the settlers celony. Mr. Labouchere explai more fully. He shows that the C no option in framing a constitution colony that the settlers must pe presentative Government in any emanating directly from the Cro ministers. The injunction laid upo

nor Douglas to take the first oppo have the acts which were passed and Council made valid by the Ass soon as it should have been called in show clearly the illegality of any by the Executive that has not met usual sanction of the representative people. On the other point Mr. La is equally imperative. Speaking of wisability, on account of the sparsi population, of uniting the two bra Legislature, he says: "It is very that a constitutional law of this de should contain a proviso, reserving t tion of all money votes to the local ment." If the Lower House had not i

to initiate money votes there would l

no necessity for a provise in the new

ment that the initiation of su