## Che Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

hau Tuesday .. February 25 18682 We do not think it necessary to apologise for again directing public attention to our mining interests, for they, certainly, directly and remotely, govern every other interest in the land! None, it is presumed, will question the fact, that an unnatural prosperity in the mines, gave in early years, as in California, an cannot the same unanimity of of unnatural life to the whole Colony, and feeling prevail amongst ourselves? led to the creation of a huge fabric we had wisdom of life is to guide the future by no other means of sustaining, and which, the follies of the past. Especially free as therefore, gradually fell to pieces, as the product of gold decreased. We take it, which ruin and crush other peoplethen, that return to a natural pros. floods, fires, droughts, hurricanes, earthperity in the mines—such we mean as quakes, pestilences, and famines—with a they are really capable of regaining, with climate unequaled in the world, a soil the exercise of common prudence in teeming with undying richness, a land and better still, a rational life (for we are lesson of our misfortunes) to commerce. trade, agriculture, real estate, manufacthres, etc., and infuse a permanent decadence have been identical with the prosperity throughout the body politic. existing condition of the mines. Let us We hold it a great error to suppose it is direct our energies to improve them again, no advantage to a country to produce and again the change will be magical. gold in large quantities. It may cause From the capital and population they certain evils for a period in the moral social and commercial lives of its people, but at the same time, it gives expansion to will improve, as in California, after her their best energies, and finally leads to great mining depression in 1858, and a fixed and lasting success. Australia peace and plenty be the lot of every one a fixed and lasting success. Australia. and especially California, can be quoted ia support of our position. In the latter, commerce, trade, agriculture, real estate, manufactures etc., fluctuated for years according to the yield of gold, but each year absorbing a large proportion of the yield, have fortunately become now so far self-sustaining, that it would not necessarily be a death blow to the country if her mines were to die out to morrow. The history of the world cannot be ignored by any people who wish to be successful. Sound political economy about 40 persons. So if we take into conis as important to that success as good political government non The people oftentimes are as much at fault as their rulers. It is so with ourselves in some measure. We have suffered the ills springing from folly, which every other people suffer-we can, if we desire, enjoy the blessings springing from wisdom, which every other people enjoy. Influenced solely by a desire to do "spoke his piece" with usual eloquence. good, and for the reasons given above; fervor, amiability and prolixity, coccluding good, and for the reasons given above, hesitation, to say a few words to the miners on William Creek, and we sincerely trust they will not deem us impertinent or presumptuous in doing so. None better than ourselves know how intimately our interests are bound together, that their success or failure the strongest terms its feelings of surprise and regret that an officer occupying so distinguished a position as bydrographer to the Admiralty should have been induced to make attements respecting the character and accessibility of our port in direct conflict with opinions officially expressed by him, and published of forming a correct judgment, we have been encouraged to expect a brilliant result this year. There can brilliant result this year. There can the resolution was carried manimously. The next speaker—Mr J. T. Scott—said be or ill which that result will have ion the future of the Colony. Our destinies hang, as it were, upon it. If our expectations are realised we at once commence a new life-if not, we cannot avoid another languishing, unhealthy period, and in that period many who now hope will sicken, despair, perish. How important, then. is it that every class, whose labors bear on the accomplishment of that success, should omit nothing that can contribute to it. After a vigorous working of the new territory to be brought into operation, successful drainage should be the first care, and secured beyond wall contingencies. Last year our hopes were disappointed by the filling up of the Bed Rock Drain Flume, by which nearly onethird of the best claims on William Creek were lost for the season. The gold, it is true, is still there; but the welfare and reputation of the Colony require it taken out. It becomes, then, a question of public policy that the drain should be secured against all possibility of damage by the spring freshet, and we are glad to hear the

want time or means to make their drain secure, it is the self-interest of every man in the community to give either money or labor to assist them. To obtain a season's safe and success ful labor is no trifling matter to the miners or to the community at large and the people in California. whose interests were affected, in any by such a contingency, would not lose an hour in making themselves safe against es it Why well are from all physical evils their management-will give a new life everywhere full of laxuriant growth, and mines unlimited in extent, it is a shame not likely to forget very soon the bitter we should be depressed and depopulated as at present. It is obvious that our brilliant commencement and our gradual will naturally attract, commerce, trade, agriculture, real estate, and manufactures, in the land if he chooses to be industri-

> POPULAR INDIGNATION-Just as we said! The "peorle" of New Westminster have uncorked the viale of their wrath and poured the contents upon the head of Captain Richards for his letter on the Capital question. Oh Monday evening a public meeting was held at Hyack Hall. The Columbian says the gathering was "very large";" the Examiner, more reckless, says " the hall was crowded." Hyack Hall, when "crowded," will admit to standing room sideration the extraordinary discrepancy in the statements of the New Westminster papers, and were to set the number present at 30, we should probably exceed the mark. The state of indignation that even thirty persons can work themselves into in a "crowded" room after dinner is astonishing, although by no means alarming. The first speaker was the Mayor, but he only served as a sort of stalking-borse for the great "Wobson," who with the following feeling resolution : Resolved-That whereas a letter address

to Mr Donald Fraser, and purporting to have been written by Capt. Richards, R. N., containing statements highly prejudicial to the interests of this place has recently been pub-lished, and whereas said letter contains a most gratuitous, offensive and unjustifiable allusion to this city. Be it therefore Resolved—That this meeting hereby expresses in the strongest terms its feelings of surprise had always of counted Captein Richards amongst his friends"; but intimated that if that officer really had written the offensive letter, he should no longer be " counted" as one of his friends.' - Mr Scott concluded with the following heart-stirring resolution :

Resolved-That a committee be appointed for the purpose of preparing a memorial to His Grace the Doke of Buckingham, drawing attention to the official description of this attention to the official description of this place given by Capt. Richards in the 'Van-couver Island Pilot,' and comparing it with certain plauses contained in his recent letter to Mr Fraser, and generally to bring under the notice of His Grace the unscrupulous means resorted to in order if possible to prejudice the question of the Seat of Government, to the great injury of the general interests of this Colony; and that the memorial be immediately transmitted to the Grace through His Excellency the Governor, and that copies be also transmitted to the First Lord of the Admiralty and to Gep. Moody, R. E.

Before the resolution was put the irrepressible nember for the district again rose and alluded in terms that drew salt water from the eyes of all present to the time in 1861 when the Hecate, commanded by Captain Richards. managed with considerable difficulty to sail into the harbor of New Westminster in He

Tax Examiner eautious the British Colsimbian against the use of scurrility in replyhe good name of New Westminster preserved.' Our cotemporary might as well ask a Billingsgate fishwoman to hold her tongue, or a sweep to crawl up a chimney five and appear at the top with clean clothes, as to look for decency in the Columbian. It is the fellow's stock-in-trade-his meat and drink vide his columns yesterday when referring to Capt Richards and Donald Fraser, in which appears the choice terms arch-trickster, political wire pullers, falsehood, " greasy old dredger,' ratskins, eto, etc., ad libitum ad nauseum. No, no, Mr Examiner, what's bred in the bone will come out in the flesh. Our cotemporary is too deeply sunk in the mire of blackguardism to ever emerge from it. We wish, for the sake of the Colony and the profession he so much diagraces, it were otherwise. We did our best to reform him years ago, but gave it up in despair. Try your luck, Examiner, but we fear you have a hopeless tack in hand—one for attempting which you will get more kicks than ha pence. We wish you success, however, and hope you will not sufferent wind the sufferent winds.

DEATH OF MR HP WAKEFORD-A letter eceived by Mr. H. C Courteney states that H P Wakeford, formerly Private Secretary to Governor Kennedy, and Acting Colonial Secretary during the absence of Mr Young om the colony, has been killed in West Australia by convicts, who chopped him pieces with their spades. Mr Wakeford, will be remembered, left here shortly after the Union to accept the position of Superintendent of Convicts in West Australia. One of his predecessors was killed in a similar manner by the convicts under him. Mr. Wakeford leaves a wife and a large family

FIRE -About half-past 2 o'clock vesterday morning, flames were discovered issuing from neat cottage house on View street near the Swamp. The alarm was speedily given but the flames had attained such headway that the dwelling was soon completely enveloped and destroyed. The premises were unoccupied. The owner is a co ored man named Thompson, who is at present in San Francisco. An insurance of \$1000 was effected upon the building some months since. The Deluge Engine drew water from the Swamp, and sent a stream apon the blazing ruin, and the Hook and Ladder Company tore down the ding. They immediately the intemplif

CHEERING.—A private letter to a friend in this place, dated January 2d, brings good news from the mines in Cariboo. On Mosquito Gulch the claims are yielding large dividends, and a strike has been made on Canadian Creek which promises to make that a paying creek. The prospects throughout the whole district are said to be better than they have been for five years past. Olympia Standard! . resurs flim to

A La RARRY .- Mr Bartholomew has o Saanich for two horses of noted vicious -animals that will not permit a biped to ook them straight in the face without raising decided objections with their heels. These brutes he proposes to tame on Monday, upon the Rarey system; at Buckley's Hall. The interesting exhibition will commence at two

ONLY TEN DAYS MORE-Parties competing for the Prizes offered by the Mechanics' Institute, with reference to Beacon Hill scen ery and original conundrums, are desired to send in their productions as early as possible as the box for their reception will be closed on the last day of this month, Saturday, Feb. 29the daten need eved vite side be

GERMANIA SOIREE The Germania Sing erein will give a grand soiree this evening, at their new hall, in honor of the anniversary motion of the rapids at the point indi-of the birthday of George Washington. A cated, and it is also reported that indicalimited number of tickets have been disposed tions are discovered of the pouring of a of and intending participants expect a pleas-

An Error-in our paper, several days ago, we stated that the "captain of the schooner Alaska, lately from Victoria, had been stabbed at San Francisco." This is an error. The unfortunate man was captain of a scow of the same name and not of the schooner Alaska.

THE MARMORA.—This ship will be brought around on Monday next, when she will com-

he was about to sell them to the United States, reminds us of Mr Pecksniff's remarks to Mr Jonas Chozzlewit, when he wanted that estimable young man to marry his daughter Charity :- 'My dear Cherry; my staff, my scrip, my treasure.
Mr. Jonas. A hard struggle, but it is in
the nature of things! I must one day
part with her. I know it, my dear friend. company, if possible, have determined to make it secure. A common benefit is a common interest. Miners in all countries are proverbially generous and liberal, and if the company

The imports into the Colony of British Columbia for the quarter ending December 25, 1867, are published in the Gazette. The value of the importations amount to \$608,— Columbia for the querier ending December 25, 1867, are published in the Gazette. The value of the importations amount to \$608,—
645 88. The total value of importations for the year amounts to \$1,607,676 72. In the first quarter there were imported goods, produce and stock, valued at \$227,297 56; in the second, \$379,791 68; in the three present late of the Falls. the second, \$379,791,09; in the thurd, \$391. 936 29, and in the last, as above stated. The amount of revenue derived from customs last year may be estimated at about \$800,000. as we have taken 20 per cent, as the average of the tariff. \* \* It is surprising to hear it said, as it is, and so often, too, that there is no market for farm produce, when we received from California, Oregon About 40 per cent. of the entire imports for are all of a class that can be produced in the Colony. Thus, for bacon and hams we sent abroad \$30,574; for barley, \$13,063; for beans, \$2,162; for salt beef, \$1,695; for bread, \$1266; for butter, \$50,106! for cheese, \$6,866; for eggs, \$1,847. Flour called abroad \$92,767 of our money, and lard the sum of \$18,164; while hay demanded \$4670. Then we come to live stock. For horses we sent money to our neighbors to the amount of \$83,955! for oxen, \$670; for cows, \$39. 207; for calves, \$1441; for beef cattle, \$147,-868; for sheep, \$64,560; for meat, \$3,504; for bogs, \$7,748. Oats required \$3,823; potatoes, \$1980; saft pork, \$1,601; poultry \$769. Besides all these there were about \$10,000 exported for wheat, vegetables and cows, implies an increasing extension of the dairy and stock-raising departments of the Colony's agriculture. Each quarter of the year's imports shows an increased investment in that stock.—B. C. Examiner.

## Niagara in Peril—A Great Change Imminent.

[From the Buffalo Express, January 13.]
The interesting question of geological and commercial importance, as to what period of time is likely to be consumed by the Falls of Niagara in wearing their way up the bed of the Niagara river past Tonawanda and Black Rock, until they pecome at Buffalo the Falls of Lake Erie. has been raised anew of late by some remarkable signs observed in the rapids upon Horse-Shoe Fall, which are thought to forebode an early downfall of the rocks orming that magnificent cataract. For more than a year past, some watchful residents of the vicinity, have marked a peculiar motion about the rapids at a point something less than half a mile above the apex of the horse shoe, in the channel in which the greatest body of water descends, and this motion has been of a character to give rise to the supposition that a breach had been made by the current through the soft shale strata underlying the limestone that forms the present ledge of the falls. Recently the appearance of the rapids, at the point indicated, exactly in confirmation of the theory stated, that those watching it do not doubt the speedy doom of the famous Horse-Shoe Gataract If the limestone ledge, over which the river now falls, is, as supposed, in course of being undermined by a subterranean stream, breaking mined by a subterranean stream, breaking through as far back as nearly half a mile, of course the consequence, inevitable and liable to ensue at any moment, must be an immense breaking away of the face of the cataract, changing its whole form and appearance—perhaps converting the per-pendicular fall into a shooting rapid, down a steep decline.

Some observers at the Falls anticipate this grand catastrophe at an early day. In confirmation of these opinions we find it stated in the Hamilton (Ontario) Times, that, within a few weeks past, Dr. J. N. Osborne, at Chippewa, has noticed a marked and constant change in the subterranean stream into the guif below the Falls, which the absence of the mist, it is thought, would reveal beyond a doubt. The same paper remarks that a gentleman from the Falls with whom it has conversed, fully believes that the days of the Great Horse Shoe are num-If it be the fact that this grand cata-

clysm is soon to occur, geologists will only be able to account for it by the supposition of a great fracture or fissure in mence discharging freight for Victoria consigness. Every package is in prime order.

The atcamer Enterprise returned from Frazer river last evening with a few passengers. The news is unimportant.

Pecksniff.—The New York Tribune says.—The touching farewell address which the King of Denmark addressed to his beloved West, India Islanders, when the southward dipping bed of limestone feet of the fall are the scaly layers of the same formation: All these strata slepe downwards against the current sof othe river, at the rate of about twenty-five feet to the mile, and in the rapids above the tall the uppermost layers of the Niagara limestone succeed, one stratum above another, till about fifty feet more is added to the thickness of the formation, when all disappear beneath the outer-offing edges of the next series above, which is that of the shales and marks of the Onondaga saft group.
We see, therefore, that both above and beow the hard limestone there are soft shale

From the present site of the Falls, the strata above described gradually rise toward Lake Ontario to higher levels, till, along the great terrace, the orpping is of the lower twenty feet of the Niagara limestone, below The amount expected from customs for the past year, according to the estimates of the Government, was \$400,000. There is then a deficit of \$100,000, and probably much more, stones belonging successively to the Clinton and Medina formations. Through these piles of strata the river has worked its way back, receding probably most rapidly where as in the present position, the lower portion of the cutting was composed of soft beds, which being hollowed out, let down the harder strata above, and less rapidly where the strata near the base were hard sand

It was the opinion of Prof Hall in his report that the effect of continued recession must be to gradually diminish the height of the Falls, both by the rising of the bed of the river at their base and by the slope of the massive limestone to a lower level. The the succeeding shales and marls of the dago group must immediately follow, and the Falls, he thought, may become almost stassionary, when their base is at the base of the massive sandstone and their upper line is as now over its upper edge. This Prof Hall thought likely to be the case after a further recession of about two miles, and the height of the Falls must then be reduced to about

eighty feet. In 1818 and in 1828, great fragments of fresh fruit. Altogether, over \$600,000 sent out of the country for farm produce! \* \* which shook the whole country around as by an earthquake. If our citizens are presently as a shock which shook the whole country around as by an earthquake. awakened some morning by a shock which starts them from their beds, they may know, if they have read the Express, that Horse Sho Fall has become a memory of the past.

## Canadian House of Commons.

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—The Speaker took the chair at half-past ten o'clock. No business being before the House.

At eleven o'clock the Governor-General proceeded in State to the Chamber of the Senate in the Parliament, building. The members of the Senate being assemoled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present. the following Bills were assented to, in Her Majesty's name, by His Excellency.

the Governor General:—
Act relating to the Indemnity to members and the salaries of the Speakers of both Houses of Parliament.

Act respecting the office of speaker, of the House of Commons of the Deminio of Canada. Act respecting the Statutes of Canada,

Act to authorise the apprehension and detention of such persons as shall be suspected of committing acts of hostility, or conspiring against Her Majesty's person and Government.

Act to amend the Act of Incorporation

of the Commercial Bank of Canada, to authorise its amalgamation with any other Bank or Banks, or for its winding

Act to amend the Grand Trunk Arrangements' Act of 1862, and for other purposes. Jese betan quant ad nan drow of

several Acts incorporating and relating to the Canadian Inland Steam Navigation Company, and change its corporate name to that of the Canadian Navigation Company, and for other purposes.

Act to incorporate the St Lawrence

Ottawa Railway Company.

Bank of Upper Canada. Act respecting the Customs. A dian't Act respecting the Inland Revenue. Act respecting the Public Works of

Canada. Act respecting the collection and management of the revenue, the auditors of public accounts, and the liability of

public accountants. 847 lasa Act to protect the inhabitants of Canada against lawless aggression from subjects of foreign countries at peace with her Majesty.

Act to prevent the unlawful training of

ersons to the use of arms and the practi of military evolutions, and to authorise justices of the peace to seize and detain arms collected or kept for the purposes daugerous to the public peace,

Act to impose duties on promissory notes and bills of exchange,
Act for granting to Her Majesty a certain sum of money required for defraying the expenses of the public service not otherwise provided for, for the period therein mentioned, for certain purposes respecting the public debt, and for raising money on the credit of the Consolidated revenue Fund.

the California Lashied golfoest to A Act respecting duties of customs, with the tariff of duties payable under it. Act for the regulation of the Postal.

Parliament then adjourned till the 12th an opinion that the Colony sheraM to

the property of the United States. mand upon a charge of keeping a furious dog, was yesterday dismissed, the complaint ant failing to make appearance.

Tur British schooner Goldstream, from Victoria; was sold at auction at Honolulu on the 11th January, by C. S. Bartow, for \$2,4

The Weeklh AND CHR Tuesday, Februs

In the Arabian Ni

traveller who sadd

fearful responsibilit

his date-stones one

another, whereby he

of a malignant genie

other side of a wall.

curred the wrath of

Capt. Richards, R.

date stone at the hea

significant hamlet, o

Fraser River in this

forthwith saddled

weight of virulence the unfortunate trato satiate the geni offending date-stone, case, is the letter of upon the Capital que bluntly and truthfully "Capital" is a colle hovels, fifteen miles w of the intricate rive malt is the key to the of British Columbia tion of New Westmir tal was a crotchet and that the loss of would be a dire Great Britain.] Wi people' of New We the tutelage of a well scrupulous political s brand-have in 'pu sembled' joined issue their position quote fr Directions' of Capt. that he has fallen flict between self-int We propose to show dent charge is base ards has no 'self-int him to disregard the ply to Mr. Fraser is novarnished statem better than any ing, knows to be who have met know that no amoun would prompt him t contrary to the p honest heart. Capta acter stands too tacks from a source his notice to harm tions offered to prove of Captain Richards fair and garbled. the text that pre them, they appear in lumbian in a vastly di that in which the Sailing Directions! of the villanous chi sault upon the grapher's integrity, of the extracts as it the Columbian on Sa "New Westminster, Columbia, stands on the of the Fraser river, just the North Fork, and 15 north-easterly direction proper. It occupies well chosen position, be distance of entrance, facilities for wharfage tage, a good depth of anchorage. aken place in the vicit aiready assumes a pro aspect, and, when the fi the river and its ca known, will no doubt r The reader will, no de peruse the sentence \* \* \* \* is substituted it is tereb It is not, however stranger to enter withou tainly not, under any the buoys are in their p france shoals."

And on page 105 of the

" Vessels of 18 feet d

Fraser, near high water as Langley with ease, I are assisted by STEAM

Is there anything inconsiderates' statement in Fraser, and his statement in Directions?" The los parent after the book by the Columbian." Was made in 1861, and what favorably of New Young to its location as

ferred to its location s

of British Columbia

fore union the location ernment at New West

but after union it

seat of commerce ocean navigation

possible place that lected for the conc

Richards saye :