Weekly British Colonist.

TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1885. VOLUME XXVII NO 51.

Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1885

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING IN TIME FOR THE MAIL

BY D. W. HIGGINS.

THE COLONIST BUILDING, GOVERNMENT ST.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

THE DAILY COLONIST—Per Year, (Postage Free to any part of Canada).....$10
Parts of a year at the same rate
Per Week (if delivered).....25 Cents.

TRANSIENT ADVERTISING—Per line solid nonpareil—First insertion 10 cents, each subsequent consecutive insertion 5 cents. Advertisements not inserted every day 10 cents per line each insertion. No advertisement inserted for less than $1.50.

THEATRICAL ADVERTISEMENTS, 10 cents per line each insertion.

SPECIAL NOTICES among the local items or reading matter, 20 cents per line each insertion or $1 50 per line per month. If inserted in column "What Some People Say," 30 cents per line each insertion or $1 per line per month. No Special Notice inserted for less than $5.

REGULAR COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING, as distinguished from everything of a transient character—that is to say, advertising referring to regular Mercantile and Manufacturing Business, Government and Land Notices—published at the following rates per line solid Nonpareil, the duration of publication to be specified at the time of ordering advertisement:—

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No advertisement under this classification inserted for less than $2.50, and accepted only for every day insertion.
—1 more than one week—30 cents.
More than one week and not more than one fortnight—40 cents.
Liberal Allowance on yearly contracts
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Advertisements unaccompanied by specific instructions inserted till ordered out.
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THE WEEKLY COLONIST — Postage free to any part of the Dominion.....$2 50
Six Months.....$1 50
Three Months.....75
WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS—Ten cents a line, solid nonpareil, each insertion. No advertisement inserted for less than $2.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND INTENDING SUBSCRIBERS.

IN ORDERING THE WEEKLY COLONIST, TO INSURE DELIVERY, YOU SHOULD ENCLOSE THE AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTION IN POSTAGE STAMPS, MONEY ORDERS, GOLD OR BANK BILLS. NO PAPERS LEAVE THIS OFFICE UNLESS THE SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN FIRST PAID, AND NO NOTICE IS TAKEN OF ANY ORDER THAT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY THE MONEY.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Persons residing at a distance from Victoria, who may desire to insert a notice of Birth, Marriage or Death in *The Colonist*, must enclose with each notice Two Dollars and Fifty Cents in P. O. Stamps, money order, bills or coin, to ensure insertion.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL EDITION FOR SOUTH SAANICH, LAKE, METCHOSIN, SOOKE, COMOX AND OTHER DISTRICTS NOT REACHED BY FRIDAY'S MAIL IS PRINTED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AND DISPATCHED THROUGH THE POSTOFFICE.

Local and Provincial News.

From the Daily Colonist, December 19.

THE DOMINION LIQUOR ACT

Declared Ultra Vires!

A telegram to the government from Mr. M. W. T. Drake, who is now in London, states that the Dominion liquor act has been declared by the English privy council—the highest court in the realm—to be unconstitutional. This is a good piece of news for those among us who have resented the invasion of provincial rights by the Dominion government. The government of this province—which joined the other provinces in opposing the enforcement of the act—are especially to be felicitated upon the stand which they took. Had the central government been allowed to get away with this attempt, there is no telling where their encroachments would have ended.

Flour Imports.

British Columbia is not as yet a wheat growing country from the amount of flour regularly imported by the Sound steamers. During the month of November 18,000 bags, or 900,000 pounds, of flour were brought here by the O. R. & Co.'s line. There is the probability that this trade will in future come over the Canadian Pacific from the interior and there is also the certainty, if the areas of agricultural land known to exist in this province are cultivated as they should be, that there is no necessity for the sending of so large an amount annually for flour alone out of the province.

The Mainland.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 18.—At the adjourned coroner's inquest held here yesterday on the body of a Chinaman who died some weeks ago from a blow from a stone, the prisoners, Robert and Fred Kelley, were acquitted, there being no evidence to connect them with the stone throwing.

Citizens' Ball.

A ball committee meeting was held yesterday at Messrs. Lowenberg, Harris & Co.'s offices. Amongst those present were: His Worship Mayor Ritbet, Hon. Mr. Smithe, Hon. Mr. Robson, Mr. R. Finlayson, United States Consul Stevens, Mr. D. R. Harris, Mr. T. R. Smith, Mr. R. Nathan and others. His Worship the Mayor was elected to the chair and Mr. J. R. Anderson was appointed secretary. The following committee was appointed with power to act: Messrs. T. R. Smith, C. E. Pooley, A. W. Jones, E. G. Prior, C. A. Bennett, D. R. Harris, P. Leiss, I. Oppenheimer, C. Burns, Hon. R. Smithe, C. E. Redfern, R. Nathan, Mayor Ritbet, A. McLean, H. Prior, Mr. McFarlane, Dr. Mathews, H. E. Crossmile and Mr. Boyd. After much discussion it was resolved to give the ball to the Fleet in The Victoria, and the tender from Smith & Clark to lay a floor for $370 was accepted. It was further resolved not to have a fancy dress ball, but simply a plain dress affair.

STRANGE IMPORT.—A consignment of six hundred pounds of shavings arrived yesterday from New Jersey. This seems rather a strange thing to do in a sawmill country, where there is any quantity of such refuse. However, the shavings are for a specific object, being used in the manufacture of vinegar, the liquid percolating through a bed of shavings, which are of red birch wood.

DEPUTATION.—A deputation from the British Columbia agricultural association waited on the premier yesterday to request the appropriation of a sufficient sum in the estimates to enable the association to clear off the indebtedness on the agricultural hall. Mr. Smithe promised to do all in his power to meet the views of the deputation.

What Some People Say.

That China was recently compelled to borrow money from foreigners for the first time in its history.

That the Earl of Selkirk, who died very rich lately, left a year's salary to all employed on his estate.

That a soldier in one of the hospitals during the late war wishing to thank one of the ladies for her attention, said: "Shure and ye are a good angel, and when ye die, moy ye go to heaven three weeks before the devil knows ye're dead."

That a thoughtless boy with a shining pail went singing gaily down the dale, to where a sad eyed cow with a brindled tail, on clover sweet did herself regale. A bumble bee did gaily sail over the soft and shadowed vale, to where the boy with shining pail was milking the cow with the brindle tail. The bee lit down on the cow's right ear, her heels flew up through the atmosphere—and through the leaves of a big oak tree the boy sailed into eternity.

That "Don't be a fool, my dear," remonstrated a husband to his wife, who was letting her jaw swing loose in the breeze. "I won't, Mr. Jenkins, I won't," she answered; "people wouldn't know us apart if I did." He went right down town.

That an enterprising Frenchman has invented a revolver which, though so small as to be conveniently carried in the vest pocket, can be fired ten times without reloading, and with greater ease and certainty than those of the old pattern. The whole length of the weapon is four inches, which can be reduced to two and five-eighths by unscrewing the barrel.

That for Wedding, Christmas and Assorted Cakes, Pastry and Bread, go to the New England Bakery and Restaurant. Im First-class meals. YOUNG BROS.

That a majority of the London school board have refused permission to the managers of a Jewish school in the East End to open their play ground on Sundays. There was no question of any Sunday labor, for the managers had expressly promised that the secular work of opening and shutting the gates should be performed by some one of the Jewish persuasion.

That the ladies of the Victoria musical society excluded all intoxicating liquors from the supper room at the late concert, substituting coffee, tea and soup.

That the Atlantic steamers will advance freight rates 50 per cent.

That the Bank of England to-day advanced its rate of discount from 3 to 4 per cent.

That the St. John's school entertainment will be a grand affair. This is not the ordinary school festival, but something entirely new. Oyster soup will be served during the evening.

That the Oregonian publishes a *fac simile* of Senator Mitchell's amorous letters to his sister-in-law. They establish a "true bill" against the senator.

That the work of regenerating Trounce alley has commenced.

That a human life is lost for every 50,000 tons of coal mined in the anthracite regions.

That Boston physicians, after careful investigation, express the opinion that in a majority of cases typhoid fever is caused by the use of impure water.

That Philadelphia is to have a school ship, to give the boys of that city practical experience in the art of navigation.

That the total value of the trade of India exceeds $350,000,000 annually.

That some spiders have as many as thirteen eyes, but the majority only have two.

That there are 150,000,000 tons of coal waste piled up in the anthracite regions.

That the tin deposits of New South Wales cover an area of 5,440,000 acres.

That an Omaha woman showed her good nature by having her picture taken in a group with her three divorced husbands.

That a North Carolina man sent an application for a postoffice to "His Majesty Grover Cleveland, president elect," but hasn't seen the office yet.

That a boy in New York got $500 for a crushed finger. We have known a man to get much less for a full hand.

That the Nebraska maiden who has been asleep for three consecutive weeks is supposed to be a saleslady in a store which doesn't advertise.

That a Worcester, Mass., preacher thus succinctly defines atheism, infidelity and Christianity: The atheist says: "No God." The theist says: "A God." The Christian says: "My God."

That young housewife (consulting with cook about the dinner for a party)—As a second course we will have eel. Cook—How much ought I to get ma'am? Young wife—I fancy ten yards will be about sufficient.

Souvenir of British Columbia.

J. B. Ferguson & Co. yesterday received their British Columbia souvenirs, expected for some time past. However, the delay is repaid by the excellence of the production which is far the finest that has been produced in this country. The book comprises 16 pages, 7½x6 inches, and contains over 60 pictures of British Columbia and Alaskan scenery, life and customs, elegantly finished, and representing the different attractions and industries of the country in a more attractive way than many costlier works. It makes a valuable and interesting Christmas gift to send to friends who are strangers to the country, or who have been former residents. Many of Victoria's public buildings, its suburban scenery and the scenery along the Fraser are worthily pictured.

The Souvenir is bound to have a large sale. It is a production flattering to the energy of its publisher, who no doubt will reap the benefit of his enterprise.

Personal.

Mr. McMullen, representative of the Sperry Electric company left this morning for Chicago.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. W. J. McDowell, proprietor Evening Post, is seriously ill.

FOOTBALL.—A match game of football between the Victoria football club and a picked fifteen from H. M. S. Swiftsure, will be played this afternoon at 3 o'clock, on Beacon hill. The Victoria contestants will be: Tytler, Brealey, Wall, Crease, Jones (captain), Tiedemann, Ella, Williams, Smallfield, R. Harvey, E. Harvey, Hayward, Martin, Drake, McKay.

CIVIC WORK.—The steam drill and Jumbo are now stationed near the junction of Yates and Fort streets, and will convert the rock on the latter street into macadam for the road. It will be a desirable improvement, as the rock now juts out into the street. A gang of men are at work reducing the stone blasted out on Pandora street.

DESERTED.—The cornetist of the Triumph's band deserted the other day, and officers are now searching for him. He had become dead broke, and his mates presented him with a suit of clothes to help him along a few days before he took his departure.

PLOT TO KILL THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Arrest of a Man and Wife

Who were Selected to Do the Deed.

(Exclusive to The Colonist.)

LONDON, Dec. 18.—London had a genuine sensation to-day. Early this morning a young man and his wife, named John and Sarah Magee, were arrested at Kensington on a charge of having attempted to procure money from the Prince of Wales by writing threatening letters. They were taken into court and formal charges preferred against them and they were remanded to await examination. It appears the prisoners had written two letters, but as they were not read in court it is impossible to give their exact language or state, except in general terms, what they contained. It is known, however, that the letters made a demand for £50 and intimated in unmistakable terms that unless the amount was forthcoming the prince's life would be in jeopardy. The prince, it is said, paid only passing attention to the first letter which the Magees sent, but when the second came reiterating the demands and threats, his royal highness turned the letters over to the police and left them to do whatever they thought best. The police at once quickly set about planning the capture of the blackmailers. They sent a message as though coming from the prince to the address given in the letters, directing the authors of the letter to appear at the specified time and place. Assurance was given that somebody would meet them at the appointed hour, prepared to hand over a package containing the money they demanded. The Magees at once fell into the trap which had been set for them. They appeared at the spot designated this morning, and were presented with a package of farthings. As they started to leave with their supposed treasure the police threw off their disguise and arrested them. The woman thereupon made a voluntary confession of the whole plot. At any rate the police say the confession was voluntary. The woman, however, has since declared she was forced by the police against her will to confess something. She then thought the confession made by her in the first moments of consternation after her arrest might be bad for her in the trial, and she is therefore trying to weaken its effect by asserting it was forced from her. A representative of the press called upon the equerry of the Prince of Wales this afternoon to learn all the facts about the affair. The equerry said something of the contents of the letters which, he declared, represented that Magee was an emissary of a secret society, and had been ordered to kill the Prince of Wales, but the letters further intimated that Magee did not wish to obey the mandate. There was no help for it, however, unless he could get money enough to go to America. He wanted £750; therefore, if this amount reached him he would at once bid good-bye to secret societies and conspiracies and start across the Atlantic. Nothing further can be learned to-night. It is believed that disclosures of an important nature may be made when the case comes before the court for a thorough investigation.

Esquimalt Public School.

The Christmas examinations were concluded yesterday in the presence of Messrs. Cartmel and Doran, trustees, Mr. J. H. Innes and several ladies. The pupils were examined by their teacher, Miss N. Wolfenden, in mental arithmetic, reading, geography, etc., and in English history, by Mr. Cartmel, trustee, the programme being interspersed by recitations and songs. The examinations showed that the pupils had advanced in a marked degree during the half year, and the recitations were pleasingly given.

Opera prize only was presented, and this to the pupil who had gained the greatest number of marks in all subjects, including deportment and attendance.

Master Hugh Logan was declared the winner with an aggregate number of 3152 marks out of a possible 3780, while Charles Bunting followed close behind with 3930. Mr. Cartmel presented the prize with a few appropriate remarks amidst the applause of the school.

The following promotions were then announced:

Third-class to Fourth—Louisa Carter, Laura Cameron, Dan Cartmel.

Second-class to Third—Jesse Morrison, John Cartmel, Charles Phillips.

Second Primer to Second-class—Georgina Keeler, Emily Williams and Edward Williams.

First Primer to Second—Alice Doran.

The children were then addressed by Mr. Cartmel, and also by Mr. J. H. Innes, who earnestly impressed on the children the necessity of acquiring all the learning possible while young.

The children then sang "God Save the Queen," gave three cheers for their teacher, and wished her a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and then dispersed for the holidays.

The Chinese Question.

Last evening at the Theatre Royal Capt. McCallum addressed a large audience, composed mostly of workingmen, the subject chosen being the Chinese question. Mr. John Duval occupied the chair, and a number of gentlemen prominently connected with the anti-Chinese association occupied seats on the platform. The address, which was of considerable length, was read by the lecturer from manuscript. The subject matter of the paper covered the old out still sound arguments against Chinese immigration and the evil results to the whites in their forced competition with coolie labor. The style of diction employed was decidedly superior to the usual run of platform delivery, being redundant with metaphor and neatly turned sentences. The audience frequently applauded—too frequently for the contiguity of the address, though this was in some measure the fault of the speaker, who emphasized his words with such energy that the audience applauded at every pause and at every point, sometimes mistaking pauses for points and points for pauses. The address did not confine itself strictly to the Chinese question (as it referred at some length to land monopoly), but was sound of argument, based upon facts and logically expounded. At the close of the lecture Capt. McCallum was long and loudly applauded and received a vote of thanks from his hearers, as also did the chairman. The meeting then ended.

A Remarkable Escape.

MRS. MARY A. Dailey, of Tunkhannock, Pa., was afflicted for six years with asthma and bronchitis, during which time the best physicians could give no relief. Her life was despaired of, until in last October she procured a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, when immediate relief was felt, and by continuing its use for a short time she was completely cured, gaining in flesh 50 pounds in a few months. Free trial bottles of this certain cure of all throat and lung diseases at Langley & Co.'s drug store. Large bottles $1. 4dw.

The Ward Schools.

JAMES BAY SCHOOL.

The semi-annual examination of this school, of which Miss M. V. Storey is teacher, took place at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and attracted many visitors, among whom were the following:

Hon. Mr. Smithe and Mrs. Smithe, Mr. Shakespeare, M. P., Archdeacon and Mrs. Scriven, Trustee Harris, Major Wolfenden, Mr. McDowell, Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Franklyn, Mrs. Storey, Mrs. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. D. Spencer, Superintendent of Education Mr. Pope, Mr. Offerhaus, Mrs. and Miss Stannard, Mrs. and Misses Bailey, Mrs. and Miss Fawcett, Mr. Mallandaine, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Pittock, Misses. Carrington.

The children were very neat in appearance and orderly in conduct, and sang and recited admirably. The programme of exercises was rendered in a very creditable manner, and all present complimented the teacher for the admirable manner in which she has brought the pupils on.

PROGRAMME.

Marcus Bailey, "The Little Shaver."
Jane Stachan, "The Blind Boy's Been at Play."
James Birney, "The Kind Little Sister."
Parker Northcote, "The Reason Why."
Mary and Josie Spencer, song, "Medley."
Marcus Bailey, "The Ginger-bread Dream."
Bella Wilson, "One Month at School."
Eight girls, "What I'd Like to Be."
M. and J. Spencer, (song) "Froggy Went a Courting."
L. Carrington, "The Wintry Day."
C. Dobbs, (song) "The Lord Sent His Angels to the Earth Again."
K. Walker, "Watching for Fred."
J. Spencer, "A Mistake."
M. Pittock, "When I'm Grown Up."

Miss Storey read the list of promotions:

First-class to Central School—Marks obtainable, 500. Marks obtained: Mary Spencer, 343; William Spencer, 333; William Smithe, 314; Annie McDowell, 312; Parker Northcote, 310; Katie Walker, 307; Charles Mallandaine, 304; Robert Lorimer, 302.

Second to First-class—Marks obtainable, 250. Marks obtained, S Spring, 240; F Ross, 233; H Jesse, 225; B Wilson, 220; D Kennedy, 201; F Patton, 200; C Dobbs, 185; W Stephen, 170.

Third to Second-class—Marks obtainable, 240. Marks obtained: Lewis Scott, 196; L'Roscamp, 186; R Finlaison, 150.

Fourth to Third-class—Geo. Robinson, Walter Lorimer.

Remarks having been made by Archdeacon Scriven, Mr D Spencer, Trustee Harris, Superintendent Pope and Mr J N Muir, Archdeacon Scriven presented the prizes, accompanying each gift with a few happy words.

PRIZES.

Head of School—Mary L Spencer.
First boy—William Spencer.
Prize for Spelling, First-class—Parker Northcote.
Prize for Spelling, Second-class—Flora Ross.

The school then broke up for the holidays after cheering teacher, trustees and visitors.

JOHNSON STREET SCHOOL.

The examination of this school began at 1 o'clock yesterday, the principal being Miss Jackson and the assistant Mr. Wright. The attendance was very large and the visitors were numerous. Among those present were Trustees Harris, Higgins, McMicking and Heisterman, S. D. Pope, J. N. Muir, W. Pollard, Mrs. Hugh, Miss Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. Milne, Mrs. Housiu, Mrs. Pettick, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Lugrin, Miss Wallace, Mrs. Turpel, Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Jennings, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Pridham, Mrs. Ellsworth, Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. McConnell, Miss Jackson, Mrs. O. Warner, Miss Jennings, Mrs. Beck, Miss Renouf, Miss Turpel, Mrs. Marrion, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Haynes, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Davis; Miss Collier, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Walsh, S. D. Pope, Mrs. Hayward, Miss Gibbs, Miss Pardoe, Misses Stephens, J. W. Muir, A. Muir, Miss Cameron, Miss Gowen, Misses Russell.

During the afternoon the following exercises were delightfully performed:

PROGRAMME.

"Cheer, Boys, Cheer," (song); school.
"The Little Maiden," (song); M. Gilchrist.
"The Happy Little Bird," (song); M. McKinnon.
"Mother's Fool," (song); W. Grant.
"The Whitest Lambkins," (song); school.
"My New Slate," (song); F. Whitby.
"Here We Are," (song); S. Beck.
"My Doggie," (song); J. Milne.
"The Pilot," (song); school.
"Cardinal Wolsley," (song); Len Cousins.
"The Child's Dream," (song); M. Gilchrist.
"The Quarrel of the Rooks," (song); N. Shepherd.
"Thumpkin's Says I'll Dance," (song); school.
"Little Jack Tar," (song); A. Collis.
"Little Lizzie," (song); B. Wraight.
"The Children Are Weary," (song); school.
"Thumbs and Fingers Say Good Evening," (song), school.
National Anthem; school.

Mr. Pope, superintendent of education, read the

PROMOTION LIST.

From 1st to Central School, in order of merit—Harry Savage, William Turpel, Francis Marrion, Charles Ed. Janes, Herbert Collier, Albert Collis, James Cook.

From 2nd to 1st—Len Cousins, Peter Cook, Harry Griffiths, Frances Devereux, Fred McConnell, Albert Shek, Robert Buckler, Jennie Davis.

From 3rd to 2nd—Annie Anderson, Hannah Clarke, Robert Irvine, Minnie Stevens, Albert Anderson.

From 4th to 3rd—Eleida Anderson, May Collier, Charles Stephens, Ralph Stephens, Shirley Smith, Wm. Beek, H. Pridham, Theo. Page.

From 5th to 4th—T. Kermode, A. Buckler, C. Horth, E. Kermode.

Mr. Pope remarked that he was greatly pleased with the appearance and proficiency of the school. There were 133 scholars on the roll, and Mr. Wright, the able assistant, who had been appointed temporarily, would probably be continued permanently. (Applause.)

A number of handsome Christmas cards were distributed at the request of a "Friend of the School."

Short addresses were made by Trustees Harris, Higgins, Heisterman and McMicking, and the school broke up by singing the National Anthem.

A QUEER TEST.—A confectioner was on trial in New York lately, charged with selling candy made of decayed fruit, and there was testimony to the effect that some of it fed to a horse made him sick. It occurred to the judge to ask the defendant whether he was willing to eat some of his own candy (a lot of which had been bought and placed in evidence) and the confectioner ate a generous amount of it. Then the jury began tasting it, and, after a large lot of the samples had been consumed, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

THE public schools will reopen on Monday, 4th January.

The Piracy Case.

William Moore was arraigned before the chief justice, Sir Matthew B. Begbie, yesterday morning on a charge of being accessory to the act of piracy in connection with the steamer Teaser, and also with having been guilty of larceny in taking eight tons of coal belonging to Turner Beeton & Co.

After the indictments were read over the defendant's counsel moved that the charge of larceny be laid over until the next assizes on the ground that the presentment of the grand jury was the first intimation the accused had of the charge, being taken by surprise. After some discussion the request was granted. Then it was contended that the accused was not bound to plead to the indictment as being an accessory to the piracy, there being nothing to show that a principal act of piracy had been committed. A person could not be tried as accessory except in conjunction with the principal felon. He could only be proceeded against as a principal in a substantive charge and this had not been done. After hearing argument his lordship said that if the defendant's counsel insisted on the objection taken, the indictment must be traversed this assize, and it was accordingly postponed.

Application was made to reduce the bail and allow the defendant to go out of custody.

His lordship declined to entertain the application in court, saying he would hear the matter in chambers.

LATER.—His lordship reduced the bail $4000, and the defendant is at liberty again.

The attorney-general and Mr. Theodore Davie appeared for the prosecution, and the defendant was defended by Mr. Richards, Q. C., and Messrs. McColl & Taylor.

Municipal Police Court.

[Before Mr. Edwin Johnson, P. M.]

Harry Norman, charged with robbery and violence. Mr. Fell appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Mills for the defence.

Ah Quong, the aggrieved Chinaman, and Sydney Robson, carter, swore that the deceased struck the prosecutor, the Chinaman swearing that he was robbed of the sum of $20.

Thos. Shaw, boiler-maker, Capt. Bentley, Capt. Munro, Messrs. James Ramsay and A. Ofner, gave evidence that Ah Quong followed up Norman and struck him several times before the latter returned the assault. This also corroborated the defendant's statement.

The magistrate imposed a fine of $5 and $5 costs or 14 days.

Mr. Mills objected to the decision, claiming the evidence was in defendant's favor, and gave notice of appeal. He also entered a counter charge against the Chinaman, and asked that it be tried before two justices of the peace.

His honor declined to do this.

Frank Keefer, charged with neglecting to provide for his family, was remanded for one day.

Cadboro Bay School.

The Christmas examination and exercises of the Cadboro Bay school, Miss Helen L. Bailey, teacher, took place yesterday. Among those present were Mrs. Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Thistle, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Jobson, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Deans, Miss Evans, Messrs. Sinclair and Elliott.

The school has an average attendance of 16, and under the guidance of the present teacher the pupils have made rapid progress, as evidenced by their ready and correct answers.

Messrs. Sinclair and Deans complimented the teacher and pupils on the excellence of their work.

During the afternoon the following programme was carried out, the dialogue being prettily and pleasingly given: Song by the school, "Come, Cheerful Companions;" recitation, "The Convict," Mary Thompson; recitation, "The Little Kittens," Walter Haynes; duet, "The Boy and the Cuckoo," Amelia Jobson and Maggie E. Merriman; recitation, "Pussy and Her Elephant," George Thompson; song, in motion, "Here We Stand," by eight little boys and girls; recitation, "Somebody's Mother," Susan Hillyer; dialogue, "Playing Doctor," George Chapman, Edward Harvey and Maggie Sinclair; recitation, "Pat and the Pig," Ellen Thompson; recitation, "Mother's Fool," George Chapman; recitation, "The Ship on Fire," Maggie Sinclair; "Spelling Match," Maggie Sinclair; "God Save the Queen."

STANDING.

Fourth class—Maggie Sinclair (head of school), Edward Harvey, George Chapman.

Third class—Mary Thompson, Annie Sinclair, Susan Hillyer.

Second class—Ellen Thompson, Alexander Harvey, Walter Haynes.

Second primer—T. Thompson, George Thompson, Willie Sinclair, Amelia Jobson.

First primer—Annie Thompson, M. E. Merriman.

Marine.

Ship Kennebec, for Nanaimo, arrived at San Francisco on the 16th.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Arrived—steamer Mexico, from Victoria.

Cleared—Steamer Columbia, from Astoria.

Sailed—British steamer Wellington, for Nanaimo; steamer Willamette, for Nanaimo.

The tug Tacoma towed the bark James Martin from the Royal roads to Tacoma to load lumber for Callao.

The steamer Barnard Castle passed down yesterday for San Francisco.

The Weather.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—8 p.m.—Indications for succeeding thirty-two hours: North Pacific—Rain, except in southern portion fair, followed by rain.

The Gorge Road Methodist Church.

This new place of worship will be opened to-morrow morning at 11 a.m. and dedicated. Rev. Mr. Watson will preach in the morning, Rev. Mr. Fraser in the afternoon at 3, and Rev. Mr. Watson in the evening. An efficient choir will be in attendance. A statement of the condition of the finances will be read. Services will be held as usual in the Pandora-street church.

CHINESE THEFT.—Three Chinamen were arrested on the Saanich road, each carrying a sack of meal, while one had also a clock. In the police court they stated that they had stolen these from a pig ranch in the country, taking it because they were hungry. They were each given one month's board in the provincial jail. An owner is wanted at the police barracks for the stolen articles.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—The contract between this city and the Sperry Electric Light company, of Chicago, for the proposed addition to the electric lighting plant, was signed yesterday. It is expected that the plant will be here in three or four weeks, and the additional lights running in three months' time.

The British Elections.

[Letter from a Former Victorian.]

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 23, 1885.

Seldom have I seen more excitement on the eve of a general election than is the streets of our city to-day. Long before this reaches you the result will be published; but it may be interesting to hear how the betting is going. It is even on eight conservatives being returned, the exception being for Scotland district, where the return of Mr. S. P. O'Connor is considered certain. A more crowded meeting was never held in Liverpool than that which met yesterday (Sunday afternoon), to hear Parnell, T. P. O'Connor and other representative Irishmen. A great many are puzzled now at the rumored withdrawal of Parnell from his candidature for Exchange district. The conservatives say that it is with a view to secure the return of their candidate, and they are full of praises to Mr. Parnell for his conduct. In sober truth the withdrawal was a mistake. Mr. Parnell had not complied with the necessary formality of

PAYING A DEPOSIT

or giving a guarantee for election expenses so that his default in this respect amounts to a withdrawal. There have never been so many polling stations at any election in Liverpool. The arrangements are very complete, and probably on Wednesday, owing to the absence of hired vehicles, the town will present a much quieter aspect than at former general elections.

BIRMINGHAM AND LIVERPOOL

have pushed their polling days as forward as possible in order to give an impetus to the respective parties in whose favor these two leading cities wish to see the elections go. It is expected that Birmingham will send an almost unbroken band of liberals; Liverpool, on the other hand, is expected to return at least six conservatives—some say eight. A vast change has passed over the country within the last two weeks. The questions of disestablishment and free schools have caused many liberals to go over to the conservative side, and many think that the conservatives will have a bare majority over the liberals, so that the Irish party will hold the balance of power. Whether this be the case or not, it is supposed by those who know, that if they do, they will the parliament which is now being elected will be of very short duration, and that 1886 will see the dissolution of

THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

When the elections are over people will settle down to business, which has for the last two months been put aside. The depression of trade commission will proceed with their work. If the conservatives come in again sub-commissioners will be appointed in all large towns to take the evidence of workingmen and small traders, their voice in this neighborhood will be for fair trade; they complain bitterly in this city of the evils of free trade as now existing. State-aided emigration will also be pressed forward, and the naval volunteer home defence association will commence active work in lecturing and organizing, no matter what party may be in power. Imperial federation will also push to the front. Political meetings have lately engrossed the attention of everybody who could either speak or listen; but in Liverpool the colonies will now be heard of during the winter months at every meeting, whether of debating society, social club, or discussion class, and lectures are already announced for Liverpool in the neighborhood.

The shippers exhibition, to be held in Liverpool next year, will also occupy the time of our local leaders. The preparation of the grounds has given employment to over 200 men for two months past, and it will continue to do so throughout the winter months. Our very popular mayor, Alderman David Radcliffe, has been paid the very great compliment of being reappointed mayor, an incident which has never occurred before since Liverpool had a mayor. Nobody could be found to carry out the exhibition which Mr. Radcliffe had so energetically inaugurated. SIOMA.

Lewis Morrison's Company.

The management of the Lewis Morrison company, which commences at The Victoria next Monday evening, promises to be a successful one. They will present all their successes here, with the same accessories that have characterized all of their productions in the east. Mr. Morrison's company has been received by the theatre patrons of the east as an exceptionally strong and efficient organization, in which is enlisted some of the best talent now engaged in dramatic companies. Besides Mr. Morrison (who, by the way, was offered the highest salary for one season by Mr. Henry Irving, of the Lyceum, London, that he ever paid an actor), we are to see Miss Rose Wood, one of the best leading ladies on the American stage. Her performance of "May Blossom" has won the highest praise from both press and public wherever she has appeared. The other members of the company have excellent reputations in the east for their dramatic abilities. Watt & Co. have the box-sheet for the sale of seats.

GEO. SNOW'S BENEFIT.—To-night Mr. Snow will take a benefit at the Theatre Comique, when will be presented a very strong bill. "The Hidden Hand" and some minstrel selections. A crowded house will of course be present to do honor to Mr. Snow, who is a gifted and popular actor, and is supported with a new company.

SAFE.—A well-known fruit firm, whose store has been frequently robbed, now have one of their clerks sleep against the safe. If a burglar happened along he would receive a hot reception.

THE GREEK CASE.—Samuel Greer was arraigned on another charge of forgery. The crown entered a *nolle prosequi*, and on motion of Mr. Taylor the prisoner was discharged.

OBITUARY.—At an early hour yesterday morning, William Tinson, for many years a drayman in this city, expired after a fortnight's sickness. Deceased was about 53 years of age, and came to Victoria from Pennsylvania (of which state he was a native) about fifteen years ago. The funeral will leave the Odd Fellows' hall at 1:30 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, and will be conducted by the Odd Fellows' society, to which the deceased belonged.

No other medicine has won for itself such universal approbation in its own city, state and country, and among all people, as Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It is the best combination of vegetable blood purifiers, with the Iodide of Potassium and Iron ever offered to the public. dw.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by A. J. LANGLEY & Co. ddw

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

EXCLUSIVE DISPATCHES TO THE COLONIST.

BIG THINGS IN TELEGRAPHY.

(Exclusive to the Colonist.)

MONTREAL, Dec. 18.—The Canadian Pacific railway officials are making great endeavors to have their telegraph system complete early in the new year, and to open their commercial department to the public before next spring. The company now has an unbroken line of telegraph extending from Montreal to the Pacific ocean, a distance of 2895 miles. There are now being strung for commercial purposes, in addition to the wires operated for railway business, two heavy No. 6 wires from Montreal to Winnepeg, a distance of 1450 miles. From Winnipeg to British Columbia additional facilities are also being provided. At present the leading cities of Canada are connected, and in a few weeks Detroit and Buffalo will be tapped. When the line is completed to Halifax, N. S., it will have an inter-oceanic system connecting at the Atlantic with the protected Imperial Cable to Great Britain, and then, as proposed, from British Columbia by cable to the British possessions in the east. Soundings have already been taken by the company between British Columbia and Japan. The estimated cost of the Pacific cable is $3,300,000.

CABLE NEWS.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The excitement throughout Great Britain on the subject of home rule for Ireland continues without abatement. Newspapers of all shades of opinion and politics are urging Gladstone to speak definitely in regard to his plans. The late premier in response to a telegram sent to-day asking him for information with reference to the Irish home rule scheme which it is reported Mr. Parnell under consideration for some time, replied as follows: "From my public declarations at Edinburgh respecting the government of Ireland you will easily see I have no further communication to make." It will be remembered that in the speech referred to which he delivered on November 17th, he said in effect in reply to Parnell's suggestion to give local self-government to Ireland, that when he learns through constitutional channels what the wishes of Ireland are, he will give them attentive consideration, but that he cannot gain this knowledge until the new parliament meets.

George J. Goschen, a prominent member of the whig branch of the liberal party, having been asked to-day for an opinion on the reported scheme of home rule for Ireland, replied by telegraph that he maintains his hitherto expressed conviction against home rule, and could not comment on any scheme of that nature until such scheme had been fully declared.

The Marquis of Hartington, who was secretary for war in Gladstone's cabinet, declares he has not approved of the scheme as had been intimated in certain quarters.

THE BALKANS.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The government of Montenegro, in view of general military activity on the borders of that country, has taken the precaution to arm and equip 45,000 men who will be held in readiness for immediate action in the event of an invasion of the country by a foreign army, or in case the government decides upon more agressive movements.

The boundary commission appointed to demarcate the line between Servian and Bulgarian armies has received instructions from their respective governments to endeavor to arrange an armistice between the contending states.

Typhus fever and smallpox are raging among the Servian troops encamped at Nisch. The troops at Pirot are suffering intensely from severe cold, and thirty soldiers on the average are frozen daily.

IRELAND.

DUBLIN, Dec. 18.—The city of Armagh, in the province of Ulster, was to-day the point of an immense loyalist demonstration. The meeting adopted a resolution expressing the belief that a resort to home rule principles would be certain, sooner or later, to eventuate in civil war, and exhorting the loyalist party to go almost any length in resisting the efforts of home rule advocates. The resolution commended the loyalists in Ireland to the sympathy of the protestants throughout the British kingdom. More than one of the speakers boasted with a degree of earnestness that aroused repeated cheers from the listeners, that the loyalist party in Ireland was ready to meet whatever issue might be presented. The Ulster Orangemen are ready to come to the front. One of the speakers amid great applause said, "and when their services are wanted sixty thousand men can readily be put into the field for active service in the defence of loyalty to the government.

AMERICAN NEWS.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—The Evening Post this afternoon will say that two packages were received by Coroner O'Donnell yesterday. Each box was about six inches square. They were loaded with powder and balls and some sticks rose through the powder bearing caps. The contrivances had sliding lids