Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27TH, 1888.

UNSTABLE AS WATER.

Inconstant and fickle the *Times* never carries on an argument that it does not display a lack of those common principles of logic which are familiar to the ordinary High School pupil. It has repeatedly been dunning into its readers' ears the fact that Mr. Duck supported a Government which was responsible for the Coal Harbor grant. When we pointed out the fact that Mr. John Grant, M. P. P., one of the proprietors of the *Times*, registered his vote on the same side, when we reproduced his speech favoring the grant of the 6,000 acres, our extraordinary contemporary shifts his ground, crawls completely out of the issue he presented, and, as usual, makes one of his violent attacks upon THE COLONIST, imputing to us motives which are, to say the least, very uncharitable. But the Opposition organ in doing so contradicts itself so completely as to render it really an object of pity. It begins by praising the action of the Government in this instance, and informs us "that Vancouver will yet attain to importance none will gainsay. For its age the progress made is truly marvelous." With such gush, certainly very pleasant reading for its Victoria patrons, the *Times* regales its readers, and in the very next breath bewails the fact that Vancouver stands as a menace to Victoria's prosperity, and lays the whole blame, of course, on the Government's shoulders. We are gravely told that "Mr. Duck was Finance Minister when the closing of the agreement was reached," and that he "never opened his mouth" against this terrible crime committed against Victoria. "Government pap and the emoluments of office were more to be considered than any imminent danger to Victoria's supremacy." Yes, and who was responsible for it, very largely, from interested motives? John Grant, who voted for the grant because he had property at Vancouver, unlike Simeon Duck, who had no ties of any kind there, but as he said in his speech on the question when it came before the House, "It was in the interest of this Island that this scheme should succeed." He voted for what he *believed* to be the welfare of the Island, while Mr. Grant voted for his own selfish ends. That is the position of affairs, and no invective of the *Times* can make it otherwise. With a bravado and lack of ordinary discretion truly astounding, our misguided contemporary, whose Vancouver propensities are well displayed at the beginning of the article, forgets them all as he proceeds, becomes a rabid Victorian as he nears the end, and winds up his remarkable effusion by asking such of the electors as read his paper that if "property in Victoria becomes so depreciated that it will be unsaleable, who is to be held responsible for the cause of such a calamity but Mr. Simeon Duck," THE COLONIST and the government. "They," we are informed, "are the enemies of this fair city, and the traitors whose hands are at her throat." Well, may Mr. Williams pray to be saved from his friends. In the event of the awful calamity which the *Times* predicts as falling upon this fair city on account of the passage of the grant, the name of its principal proprietor, JOHN GRANT, will stand out in bold letters as one of those who was responsible for it. If Mr. Duck and THE COLONIST and the Government did wrong, Mr. John Grant was a partner to it and aided the work by his voice and his vote. His name immediately follows that of Mr. Duck in the division list with the difference that the latter was actuated by motives of patriotism, while the former looked only to personal aggrandizement. Mr. John Grant is one of Mr. Williams' principal spouters, and the Opposition candidate must be held to be in accord with his past political career. So far as THE COLONIST is concerned, we only smile at the puny efforts of our inconsistent contemporary. We gladly place our record beside his as a friend of Victoria. While we were fighting her battles the *Times* was looking longily to the flesh pots of "the terminal city." When corner lots filled the soul of Mr. Grant with ecstacy, it did not dare raise its voice in Victoria's defence, because its master said nay. THE COLONIST, unlike the *Times*, has been steady in its allegiance to Victoria, which it believes will show that it is alive to the city's grave necessities, by electing Mr. Duck on Wednesday next.

KINDNESS TO ANIMALS.

Victoria has regrettedly no society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. The press has repeatedly enjoined the necessity of its establishment. The too frequent instances of such cruelty that come under the notice of observing persons establish the necessity for such an organization, and of the law which punishes such cruelties. The underlying principle is that all cruelty is akin, just as all kindness is related. The man who is cruel to any dumb creature has in his nature the elements of cruelty to those of his own race. In like manner the man who is uniformly kind to all the race of animals with which he has to do, is seldom found wanting in like goodness toward his fellow man. This principle finds recognition in the sacred writings where we are told that the merciful man is merciful to his beast. In ancient times when the doctrine of transmigration of souls was believed in most eastern countries, the belief that the souls of men passed after death into creatures of a lower order, more or less noble or vile according as the life of the departed had been worthy or unworthy, there to pass a probationary punishment before again resuming the human form, led to a sentimental regard for dumb animals. That belief has no existence among us, but there are not wanting the best of reasons for treating the race of inferior creatures with kindness. The same Creator has placed them with man upon the earth. For them, as well as for man, the sun shines, the rains and dews descend, and the earth yields its increase. They are necessary to man's comfort, almost to his existence upon the earth. They are capable of suffering from cold, hunger, overwork, wounds and disease as we are. Who then that is not wholly wanting in kindliness of nature can willingly and needlessly cause a dumb animal to suffer? Montaigne has written with grace and forcefulness on the subject. He tells us "there is a certain natural commerce between the lower animals and us; neither shall I be afraid to discover the tenderness of my nature, so childish that I cannot well refuse to play with my dog when he, the most unseasonably, importunes me to do so." He enforces the duty of kindness to animals among Christian people by what the heathen nations in their better moments have done. Thus the Turks have alms and hospitals for beasts. The Romans had a public regard to the nourishment of geese, by whose vigilance their capital had been preserved. The Athenians made a decree that the mules which had served in the building of a temple should be afterwards free, and suffered to pasture at their own choice without hindrance. Many other instances are cited by the same writer. In sacred story we find birds employed in such distinguished service as to preclude their being thought unworthy of man's kindly regard and notice. A raven was commissioned to feed Elijah in his retirement, and when the third Person of the Trinity on a memorable occasion appeared to mortal eyes it was in the form of a dove. Of the sparrow we are told that not one falls to the ground without His notice, and of all the feathered tribe that our Heavenly Father feedeth them. Kindness to animals is thus enjoined upon us by the highest authority, and by all that is best in our natures. The society which has for its object the prevention of cruelty to them has, therefore, a noble and necessary mission which should receive support and recognition at the hands of all. Let one be established here at once! Humane men and women, there is a field here for noble action.

THE GOVERNMENT MEETING.

From pit to dome The Victoria was crowded last night when Mr. Simeon Duck, the Hon. Robert Dunsmuir, and the Hon. Theodore Davie addressed the electors of Victoria. Never in the history of political gatherings was a vaster, more enthusiastic, and more orderly audience known in this city. It is true that some of the Opposition roughs endeavored at first to disturb, and if necessary break up, the meeting, but when they heard their hisses fairly *drowned* by the Government cheers they desisted. Boxes, parquet, dress circle, gallery, every seat was occupied, while there was hardly a spare inch of standing room in the lobbies. It was a grand, massive demonstration of the faith of the people of Victoria in the Local Government, indicative of their interest in Wednesday's contest, which means so much for them, and may well be taken as a criterion of the fact that Mr. Duck will be the victor on that day.

Mr. Duck made from the first a fine impression. His facts were well brought out, his points well taken, and his proof forthcoming in every instance. Charged by Mr. Beaven with being an enemy to the ballot, he turned the tables on him very nicely by showing that it was he (Mr. Duck) who had introduced the ballot act, and that Mr. Beaven and Mr. Williams were being supported by ex-Mayor Fell, who was its arch-enemy, who has publicly favored open voting, and who endeavored unsuccessfully to induce him to move an amendment to the school act, doing away with the ballot. When directly challenged by Mr. Duck to deny that he had done so Mr. Fell maintained a silence that under the circumstances was most discreet. Never was a clearer exposition made of Mr. Duck's political career than by that gentleman last night. Reading from his reply to the requisition presented him when he first came before the electors, he showed that he had then come out as an Independent candidate, that his course in the Legislature was Independent, and that in joining the Smithe Government he could not be charged even with the pretence of "flopping." That he explained his course to the satisfaction of the audience was evidenced by the hearty cheers that greeted him. Equally felicitous was his handling of the provincial finances, exposing, as he did, the false and unpatriotic statements of the Opposition speakers and press. We do not propose to dwell upon these to-night; Mr. Duck's speech appears very fully reported in another column, and we ask our readers, and especially those who have already made up their minds to vote against Mr. Duck to read it carefully, to compare it with the Jeremiads which they have been hearing from the Opposition, and to draw the necessary comparison between the two. It was one of Mr. Duck's best efforts, and one could not help contrasting his manly, intelligent utterances with the puerile, halting remarks of his opponent, Mr. Williams, on Wednesday night. He made an excellent impression, and we would fain believe that his honest repudiation of the only charge made against him, that he was a "flopper," has carried conviction to many conscientious hearts which were previously prejudiced against him. His friends have greater reason than ever to respect their standard-bearer, and to feel assured, as they should, that in him they have a man who will safely guard Victoria's interests. Loud cheers told of the audience's warm feelings.

The Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir was introduced amid such applause that it was a long time before he obtained an opportunity to speak. And then such a speech! It was one of the most eloquent in its simplicity and truth, we believe we make no exaggeration in saying, that has ever been delivered in Victoria. Beginning with his own accustomed modesty by assuring his hearers that he laid no claim to oratory he told them that, being a business man above all, he was simply going to have a business talk with them. Clearly outlining the Island railway negotiations from their inception he showed his complete reluctance to undertake the construction of that work, until induced to do so by His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne and the Dominion Government; gave a minute and succinct account of the Settlement Bill from the beginning, and in his conclusion stated that he never believed that the road would pay, that he had only consented to build it from purely patriotic motives, and that every day he is losing a large sum of money upon it. But his *expose* of the Hon. T. B. Humphreys was the crowning feat of the night. His conduct with reference to the Island railway, the remarkable contents of "the first official letter" which that worthy wrote with reference to that work, his evident lack of faith in his colleagues, as evidenced by his communication to Mr. Dunsmuir, all evoked loud laughter and hearty applause from the audience. Our grand old man, for he is a grand old man—would that Victoria had many such as he—grew fairly tragic when he addressed himself to what he said was the most painful duty he ever had to perform. He would not have been present at the meeting, he would never have disclosed what he intended disclosing now, had not Mr. Humphreys accused him of following him with his venom for five years in an endeavor to drive him, his wife and family out of the country. Had he said *himself*, said Mr Dunsmuir, had he not made the accusation with reference to his wife and family what he was now going to say would never have been said. He then went on to show that only two years ago Mr. Humphreys went to his office and told him he was in trouble, that unless he could raise $400 at once he would have to go to jail, and asked Mr. Dunsmuir for the loan. Without a second's thought Mr. Dunsmuir, kind-hearted gentleman that he is, gave him a cheque for the amount and took his note, knowing, however, that it would never be *repaid*. A more dramatic spectacle has seldom been witnessed on the public platform in this city than when Mr. Dunsmuir, holding the note in one hand and the cheque, with the endorsement of Thomas Basil Humphreys on its back, in the other, exclaimed, "and here, gentlemen, is the cheque, and here the note!" It is a wonder that he had kept the latter, he said, because it was like so much waste paper to him, but here it was, and it told eloquently of the base ingratude of the man whom he had befriended in his hour of need. A pin could have been heard drop in every portion of the building as the recital went on, and when the climax was reached the cheers of the audience fairly shook the building, and spoke of the indignation of an outraged public. The man who would be guilty of such a gross attack on the Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir as was Mr. Humphreys on Wednesday night, in view of the great service which had been rendered him when he was in danger of being imprisoned, should never dare to lift his head again among his fellowmen, much less instruct them in political morality and private virtue from the boards of Philharmonic Hall. His reference to his intention of extending the Island railway to a connection with the American system, was received with cheer upon cheer. But Mr. Dunsmuir's speech appears *verbatim* in another column; it speaks for itself, and we commend it to the careful attention of our readers. Electors, on every line and say if you will cast your ballot for a candidate who comes out under the wing of Thomas Basil Humphreys and who is only a cat's-paw in his hands.

The Hon. Theodore Davie made an able speech, bristling with statistics, and placing clearly before the electors the financial position of the Province, which every man can prove for himself to be true by consulting the public records. His explanation of his presence in the cabinet was feelingly and impressively put, and touched many hearts; while his comparison of the treatment accorded Mr. Beaven in his illness by the Government and the unkind remarks made with reference to the Premier was telling in its effect. At so late an hour did the meeting adjourn that neither time nor space allow us following it further. Suffice it to say it was a magnificent demonstration, which still further enthused the friends of the Government in their work, assuring them, as it did, of ultimate success. In our news columns a very lengthy and truthful report of the meeting will be found. We would again impress upon the public the necessity of their reading it carefully, of discussing the facts brought out with their friends, and casting their votes from the conclusions adduced. They cannot fail to deposit their ballots in favor of Simeon Duck, the government candidate!

THE LICENTIOUS JOURNAL.

The evening organ of discord has resorted to its usual discreditable tactics towards Mr. Duck. It has got hold of a file of THE COLONIST, when Mr. Duck ran for the house nine or ten years ago and seeks, by tearing sentences from the context of long articles, and repeatedly publishing them, to show that THE COLONIST at that period considered Mr. Duck a very improper person to represent this constituency. In most of the instances quoted, if the whole article was printed, it would be seen that the remarks are capable of a widely different meaning to that attributed by our contemporary. To print part of a sentence and omit another that might qualify or explain the first, is discreditable, but the *Times* goes further. It invents headings for each paragraph. Some of these headings are libelous. One of them reads, "Duck a Boodler." Now, the slang term "boodler," which is another name for "thief," was not in existence nine or ten years ago. It is of recent origin; and having been adopted into the *Times'* vocabulary, along with the pet phrases of "liars," "thieves," "lecherous parasites," etc., etc., is made to do duty as a COLONIST expletive of the long ago. We do not know what may be Mr. Duck's intention with respect to this and other disgraceful epithets that are daily levelled at him: but there must surely be a limit to the latitude accorded to depraved and licentious journals, of which the *Times* is a leading type.

THE SWIFTSURE AND THE TRIUMPH

The Admiralty have decided that the Swiftsure shall relieve the Triumph, says the *Army and Navy Gazette*. Only last week we drew attention to the extreme impolicy and injustice of despatching such a weak-kneed ship as the Boadicea to carry the flag on the East Indian station. Probably the Indian government, whose contribution of £70,000 per annum gives them a right to be heard that cannot be set aside, will protest so vigorously against this attempt to "do them in the eye," *nautice* speaking, that a more suitable ship will have to be selected for the duty. It is a very good thing that India and Australia are powerful enough to make their voice be heard at Whitehall with some effect. But who is there to cry aloud, with any chance of being attended to, on behalf of the Pacific station? And who is there that will maintain that, in the event of a war with Russia, its defence is not of the very first and gravest importance? There, if anywhere, it is essential that we should have a strong squadron—a squadron, at any rate, stronger than any that Russia keeps up in those waters. When war is declared, there will be no time to send reinforcements to Esquimalt or Coquimbo; the fleet will have to fight as it happens to be at the moment; and if the moment were to-morrow, what a pretty plight the fleet would be in!

DESERVING OF PITY.

There is little reason why we should feel pity for the *Times*. It spares no pains to say the unkindest things possible it can of us, and invariably falls back upon virulent abuse of THE COLONIST when we corner it in argument. But we really cannot help expressing our sympathy for Mr. John Grant, M. P. P., upon the sad plight into which his paper has brought him with reference to the Coal Harbor grant. Mr. Grant, it is presumed, has made his voice heard in the editorial rooms of his organ, it is a very raucous one at the best, and it is understood has given orders that the subject is not one for further discussion. The longer it goes on the deeper does he get into the mire. But something had to be said—a kind of farewell shot—and so THE COLONIST is treated to some of the *Times'* choicest Billingsgate. We are always pleased when our contemporary shows signs of madness—it is always an evidence of the fact that he is worsted in argument and has been run to ground. He has always been a consistent admirer of Vancouver—we must give him credit for that—and where his property and heart is there must his pen be also, but it is just a little too much, don't you think, for him to foist his prejudices against Victoria upon the people of Victoria.

THE SNAKE IN THE GRASS.

The assault on Mr. Dunsmuir by Mr. Humphreys on Wednesday night has brought its own punishment. A great deal of harm has been inflicted on the Opposition candidate by his champion's indiscretion on that occasion, and the still graver indiscretion of the *Times* in publishing the speech in full. It is well known that the *Times* people secretly hate Mr. Dunsmuir, and that if they dared they would attack him openly instead of by proxy, as on Wednesday night. Fear of the consequences deters them from coming out in a manly way. They have had one tussle with Mr. Dunsmuir, and are not desirous of another. So they fawn on him, while secretly they are scheming to injure him through the medium of others. A wild New Zealander, firing from ambush, is a nobler foe than the *Times*, which, while groveling in the dust at Mr. Dunsmuir's feet, treacherously conspires to have him stabbed in the back.

PARLIAMENTARY AMENITIES IN AUSTRALIA.

The Melbourne *Argus* contains a report of proceedings in the Colonial House of Assembly which affords abundant evidence that "honorable gentlemen" are not excessively polite to each other in the discussion of public affairs. The trouble arose connected with the discussion of a bill having for its object the regulation of the liquor traffic. In their efforts to please both the Prohibitionists and their opponents the government met with the usual success in such cases, and pleased nobody. The leading provisions of the bill were lost. In the course of the attack upon the government Mr. Shields unmercifully assailed the Premier (Mr. Gillies), and he was followed in the same strain by Mr. Tulhill. Upon the latter resuming his seat the following lively scene took place:

Mr. Gaunson said that nothing more disreputable had ever occurred in the history of Victoria than the way in which the present Government took office. The scheme the Premier—for he was nothing but a schemer—(Opposition cheers)—

Mr. Staughton—That is not parliamentary.

Mr. Gaunson—It is parliamentary. He is a schemer, and a great schemer.

Mr. L. L. Smith—Of course it is parliamentary.

The Chairman—I do not think it is parliamentary. ("Hear, hear," and laughter).

Mr. L. L. Smith (to Mr. Gaunson)—In a political sense. You are speaking in a political sense, aren't you? (Loud laughter).

Mr. Gaunson—If the Premier was not a schemer, then nobody was. His appreciation of his old colleagues in the Government was shown by his kicking them out. And there was that flight to England—that miserable old counterfeit, that white-haired political rogue——

Mr. Gillies—Shame.

Mr. Gaunson—Who cries "Shame?" He put you where you are. I say that pure old counterfeit, that bandy-legged old schemer——

Mr. Hall rose to a point of order.

Mr. Gaunson—Well, isn't he bandy-legged?

Mr. Hall—It is time these personalities were stopped, especially in regard to a gentleman who was in this House for many years. (Hear, hear.) These offensive expressions are not gentlemanly, and they are not parliamentary. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman deprecated the use of objectionable expressions towards any public officer.

Mr. Gaunson—As to the point of order, when it came from an hon. member who, on the word of a barmaid, tried to diddle her out of threepence—(laughter)—there is only word for word, and I believe that of the barmaid—(laughter.)——

Mr. Hall—I rise to a point of order. The hon. member has charged me with diddling a barmaid out of threepence. (Loud laughter.) I think he is bringing this House into contempt. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. L. L. Smith—This is not a point of order.

This scene continued at length, and finally came to a close, the Assembly being disgraced by the unseemly exhibition. Mr. Gaunson would almost seem to be a match in Billingsgate for even Tom Humphreys.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

TORONTO *Mail*: There will be trouble with British Columbia over the decision of the Government to discontinue the mail service between that province and San Francisco. It may be true enough that the service is not now a necessity, seeing that the Canadian Pacific railway is open; but it is provided for in black and white in the terms of union, and the British Columbians may not be disposed to give up whatever advantages they may enjoy from the continuance of the service.

THE *Standard* facetiously dubs Tom Humphreys "the hero of Comox." This is just a little too unkind of a paper which refused on the eve of the bye-election when Humphreys ran against, the Hon. Mr. Turner, to insert a six-bit advertisement for him *unless it was accompanied by the cash*. Tom Humphreys does not forget, he never will forget, that on that occasion our fossilized contemporary is reported to have said "he would not trust that rascal Humphreys for a short bit." Verily, politics make strange bedfellows!

THE re-election of Mr. George F. Baird for Queen's Co., N. B., is an ample endorsement of the Government's action in his case. The electors have sent him back to Parliament with a large majority. All the bosh that the *Times* has been flooding its pages with for the last nine months about "the member for Dunn" seems, strangely, to have had no influence on the people of Queen's. Mr. George King, the Grit candidate, is a most popular man in the constituency and justly so, and for that reason Mr. Baird, who has long been the target for the venomous abuse of the Grit press, can crow the more loudly over his victory. Gritism seems to be at a discount in Canada.

THE *Times*, in an endeavor to get in a slap at Sir John Macdonald, published recently under sensational headings a story which Mr. Henry Norman, the well-known journalist, in his report of an interview with Sir John, relates concerning the remarks of the Premier to a reporter who reported one of his speeches. *Grip* illustrates the story, which is a good one, the only difficulty about it being that the incident never took place so far as Sir John Macdonald is concerned. It was told about half a century ago, the hero of it at the time being the late Henry Clay. It is evident that some wag, presuming upon Mr. Norman's ignorance of American humor, has been metaphorically pulling that gentleman's boots.

The protested election cases before the courts in the east have brought to light the fact that bribery and corruption of the most barefaced nature was practiced to an alarming extent at the last general election. Happily for the purity of our election laws there is a determination to stamp out every semblance of bribery or undue influence in connection with a free expression of the views of the electorate at the polls. Until all are treated alike—the tempter and the tempted being punished with the utmost rigor—purity at the ballot boxes need not be looked for.—*Times.*

Yes, and in nine cases out of ten, the "bribery and corruption" has been brought home to the members of the Grit party. Purcell, of Glengarry, who has been personally disqualified, is a sweet instance of the political morality which characterizes the "pairty of purity." Only yesterday our Ottawa correspondent wired us "Cook, *Reformer*, unseated for bribery." It's almost as funny to hear the *Times* preaching purity as to witness the spectacle of the friend of Lim Sam and Look Den—T. B. Humphreys—talking honesty.

THIS IS YOUR HALO, LADIES.

"One London dealer in birds received, while the fashion was at its height, a single consignment of 32,000 dead humming birds and another received at one time 30,000 aquatic birds and 3,000 pairs of wings."

Think what a price to pay,
Faces so bright and gay,
Just for a hat!
Flowers unvisited, mornings unsung,
Sea ranges bare of the wings that o'er swung,
Bared just for that!

Think of the others, too,
Others and mothers, too,
Bright eyes in hate!
Hear you no mother groans floating in air,
Hear you no little moan—birdling's despair
Somewhere—for that?

Oh, but the shame of it!
Oh, but the blame of it.—
Price of a hat!
Just for a jauntiness, brightening the street,
This is your halo, Oh, face so sweet—
Death, and for that!

—*Faith and Works.*

HOW TO KILL MURDERERS.

The Latest Scientific Method of Putting Criminals Out of the Way.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The report of the commission appointed by the legislature to report the most humane and practical method known to modern science of carrying into effect the sentence of death in capital cases, was transmitted to the legislature yesterday. It recommends the death of the culprits by electricity. In regard to the advantages of electricity the commission says: The application may be made without injury to the officials. The place for its use may be strictly private. The electric shock can not produce a sensation which can be preceptible to the criminal. The velocity of the current is so great that the brain is paralyzed.

The commission recommends that a chair with a head and foot rest could be used in which the condemned man could be seated in a half reclining position. One wire could be connected with the head rest and the other with the foot rest, which would be a metal plate. The electric current could be supplied by the electric light wire. The commission recommends that the date of the execution be made uncertain, so that the criminal may not know what day he is to die, and that the corpse go to the doctors or to a nameless grave without religious rites, and the newspapers be forbidden to describe the execution.

THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY CASE.

(Before Judge Harrison.)

The case against Lam Hip and Lam Lap Fong was further heard in the police court yesternay.

Ma Kam, sworn: I have been engaged in the cigar manufacturing business in this city for about one year; before that I was Chinese agent on the "Rithet"; I can read and write Chinese; have read a good deal of Chinese writing; same difference in Chinese handwriting as in English; the paper exhibit "B" is signed "Chee Kung Tong"; is written in running hand; signature is in the same handwriting as the body of the document; "Kung" in signature is in the same hand as "Kung" in the body of the document, although made a little different; I have read the document and translated the same; there is nothing in the paper which means that Lam Hip shall kill any person whom the society may order and the reward should be $500, as stated in Mr. Vrooman's translation, but it means if he gets killed the compensation is $500; it does not say $500 to be paid to his family; it is understood that the Chee Kung Tong society is a good society; Chinese first governed China; the Mongolians conquered; the present emperor is a Mongolian; the society was first organized to keep Chinese together to get the Chinese king back on the throne; the society has been in existence many years; I think over 100 years; the paper "B" is a form which has been used in the society a very long time; they are used in China and all over the world; I am a member of the society; they never murder any one; I cannot say whether they ever did anything bad; the Hip Sing Tong society is different; white men call all Chinese societies highbinders; I cannot say if it's a bad or good society; I don't know whether Mr. Vrooman belongs to any Chinese society or not; the Chee Kung Tong advance money to send poor old men home to China, and another object is to prevent quarrels among the Chinese. Lam Hip's duty was to go to the ships arriving to receive any prostitute girls, and bring them to the Society, so the master may ask them if they come by force, or of their free will; if they come of their free will, they are allowed to do as they wish; if brought by force, the Society advance money to send them back to China.

To Mr. Fell—I don't know who holds the lease of the Society building; it was paid for by the society; Lim Sam disbursed the money for the building.

Witness here gave the names of officers of the society. Lim Sam is a member, but not the chief man. Lam Hip is a salaried soldier.

His Honor said that there was a provision in the Chinese restriction act making it an offence to contravene the act, and there was evidence that defendants belonged to a society which combined to land Chinese prostitutes, which was forbidden by the act, and he thought there was a *prima facie* case of conspiracy.

Mr. Gannaway suggested that the information should be amended by laying the charge under the Restriction Act.

His Honor thought there might be a more serious view if the document had been correctly translated by Mr. Vrooman, and he had concluded to commit the defendants for trial.

The case was then adjourned until today.

SOMENOS CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR:—We have just got over the excitement of a municipal election in our district, and, I think, we may congratulate ourselves upon the unusual amount of interest which has been taken in the matter by the people. Though the weather was very unpropitious on the day of the poll, most of the recorded voters turned out to support the men of their choice.

With respect to the candidates, though fortune refused to smile upon Quamichan and turned her back on the City of Duncan, it is to be hoped on their part, there will be nothing but a friendly acquiescence with the will of the majority.

Not the least amusing incident of the day was the opening of the ballot box for Cowichan ward, when the returning officer announced that one ballot had been deposited by the public spirited electors of that dead and alive corner of our municipality, and the hilarity was increased when the solitary ballot was proclaimed to be a spoiled one. The joke had all the better point as it was well known who the individual was that had come so far to vote for himself and didn't manage it after all. However, the returning officer with commendable sympathy, by the exercise of his casting vote, did that for the poor fellow which he was not able to do for himself.

With regard to the increasing interest which is being taken in our municipal matters, it is particularly noticeable that, whereas in other days it was a hard business to get men to stand for the council, this time there has been no difficulty about it. They have been coming forward by the twos and threes and some people do not scruple to insinuate that the passing of a bylaw last session, indemnifying the councillors for their attendance has had this desirable effect, for now they come jogging along from the furthest corner of the municipality to the tune of

Two dollars a day
In an easy way,
Rumple de dump,
It's pretty good pay.

Be all that as it may, certain it is, that if, as under existing circumstances, we have a choice of the best men in our settlement, in all likelihood some of those delectable lights who have so long graced our council board will be induced to rest upon their honors and retire with their laurels into oblivion, leaving to other men the management of our affairs.

SOMENOS, 14th Jan. 1888.

BOB INGERSOLL'S BRINGING UP.

His Education Watched by an Earnest and Deeply Religious Father.

Col. Robert Ingersoll's father, Dr. John Ingersoll, was a large hearted, generous man, and one of the few ministers of his time who dared to raise his voice in defense of the negro slave. Like many men who possess the magic power to move men's minds, he was restless—ever seeking fresh fields and pastures new, so with his five young motherless children, of whom Col. Bob was the baby, he lived the precarious life of a zealot, "counting all things but loss and dross if that he might win souls." He never lost sight, however, of the importance of education for his children, and wherever their lot was cast, whether on the top wave or in the depths, this alert minded young family missed no opportunity of acquiring a keen knowledge of men and things. When Robert was about 16 years old his father settled in Peoria, Ill., and there began controversies on religious subjects between father and son. The old minister was heard to say: "It grieves me to hear my Robbie talk so, but I declare he is too much for me. I am not able to answer him."

Robert, after dabbling a little in poetry and journalism, studied law and was admitted to the bar at the age of 19. Strikingly unsuccessful for several years, he to-day proves the truth of the old saw that "bad beginnings made good endings," for his law practice is one of the best in New York, and his income from it is very large—so large, in fact, that he has given up lecturing, for which he never had any liking, and to which he never would resort, except when he unexpectedly found himself in want of a few thousand dollars. Family affection is a predominant characteristic of the Ingersolls, and between Robert and his brother Clark there was the tenderest fraternal love. They never outlived their boyish devotion to each other. The intense love and adoration which Col. Ingersoll lavishes upon his wife and daughters, and which they return in kind, is such as one dreams of, they have literally four souls with but a single thought, four hearts that beat as one.—*New York Mail and Express.*

SEIZED SEALERS ARRIVE.

The Sylvia Handy and W. P. Sayward Reach Port Townsend—Other Marine News.

(Special Correspondence of THE COLONIST.)

The schooner Sylvia Handy, Capt. J. E. Lennen, arrived this morning, seven days from Sitka, Alaska, in charge of Special Deputy Marshal John Hamlen. The Sylvia was seized last summer by the revenue cutter Richard Rush, while taking seals in Behring's sea. Marshal Hamlin has instructions to sell her at public auction at Seattle sometime during the month. She is 76 80-100 tons measurement. The Sylvia Handy was followed by the schooner W. P. Sayward, in charge of Captain Johnson. She will also be sold at auction.

The repairs to the ship Guardian, at Port Hadlock, will be completed during the week. The injury received by this vessel were not as great as reported; $300 will put the vessel in good condition.

Ship George Curtis, Capt. Sproul, arrived this morning from Seattle with a cargo of coal, bound to San Francisco. This is the first vessel subject to the survey of Captain F. J. Burns, surveyor of coal vessels. Captain Sproul says that his ship is 1746 tons, and has now on board 2,773 tons on a draft of 24 feet.

The bark Canada, Captain Warner, had a narrow escape from going ashore at Rocky Point, between Port Discovery Bay and Point Wilson. When within a few yards of the beach the anchor was dropped and the second mate dispatched overland to this place for assistance. The tug Big, Captain White, was procured, and after reaching the bark the Big soon succeeded in rescuing the vessel from her perilous position. The Canada is 17 days from San Francisco and loads piles at Gig Harbor as a return cargo.

Ship Richard III, Captain McIntyre, arrived from San Diego, making the passage in 26 days. This vessel has not yet been chartered. It is probable that she may take a cargo of coal from Departure Bay.

Bark D. O. Murray, Captain Mantandank, which put back some time ago in a leaky condition, and afterwards discharged her deck cargo, arrived at San Pedro on the 14th inst.

Port Townsend, Jan. 20.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

Rev. John Linwood, of London, has been traced to Los Angelos, Cal.

Robert Annet, London, charged with kicking Robert Blackwell to death, was acquitted by the jury.

The petition against the return of Col. O'Brien, M. P., Muskoka, has been dismissed by consent.

George Donnelly has taken out an action for $10,000 against the Montreal *Star* for alleged libel.

Jas. McKay, a wealthy farmer of West Flamboro, suicided by jumping over Borors' Falls to the precipice.

John Rutledge, the Toronto Central Prison guard, who was stabbed by convict Robert Nell died of his injuries.

Christina McCullum, Toronto, a domestic, was knocked down by a runaway horse and probably fatally injured.

It is rumored that a regiment of British regulars is to be stationed in the town of Niagara, in the coming spring.

Judge McDonald has sentenced the Irish freak fire bugs McDonald to Kingston penitentiary for 20 years and Lee for seven years.

Joseph Richardson, of Boyle & Richardson, moulders, Toronto, was arrested for criminally assaulting Lizzie Dunning, a girl under twelve years of age.

Examinations for admission to the Royal Millitary college will be held at headquarters of the various military districts on June 12th.

Annie Patterson, given to running away from the St. Catherines Industrial Home to indulge in alcoholic spirits, was found frozen to death on the Canal road.

The writs issued against the Grand Trunk by the St. Thomas city firemen injured in the wreck and collision of July the 15th last aggregate $11,000.

Donald McMaster, who will contest Glengarry, is likely to be opposed by Mr. Rayside, M. P. P., who is Glengarry's Liberal representative in the Ontario Legislature.

Principal Grant, of Queen's, believes when all the canvassers report next week it will be found the quarter of a million required for the jubilee endowment fund has been subscribed.

The engineers who have been locating the proposed extension of the G.T.R. to the Soo have decided that the line start from Bracebridge and run parallel to the C. P. R.

The friends of A. F. McIntyre, barrister, of Ottawa, who was defeated in February, are likely to persuade him to become Patrick Purcell's candidate in Glengarry.

Henry C. Green, coal, wood and lumber dealer, and Alderman Joseph Hook, builder, London, have failed. Ald. Hook just completed the new military school building for the Dominion government.

Judge Fullerton has granted an application for an injunction to prevent the Imperial bank paying absconder Hutch or his friends any part of the $3,500 to his account, as it is claimed it was part of the stolen property.

The first ice shove at Cornwall took place on Saturday morning but without doing any damage to the town. The ice rose mountains high and the roaring of waters and jamming of ice could be heard miles away.

The inquest into the death of C. J. Cook the North Pelham postmaster, was concluded, the jury returning a verdict of poisoning by persons unknown. The evidence proved that strychnine was the cause of death. No arrests have been made yet.

The libel suit of Findley *v.* Kelly, at Hamilton, arising out of the latter sending to a local paper a bogus account of the former's wedding, was tried at the assize court, and a verdict returned for the defendant, the court holding that little damage was done the plaintiff.

Æneas McDonald, whose death by drowning was reported eight weeks ago, is not drowned at all, but is at present in a hospital in Portland, Oregon. He has written to Rev. Father Murray, of Cornwall, and states that he does not know how he got to Oregon, but believes that he was drugged and robbed of his money.

Henry Taylor, ex-manager of the Ontario Investment association and president of the bank of London was sent up for trial on the first five charges of embezzlement. The grand jury at the winter assizes found a true bill in his case. He will ask to have the trial postponed till the spring assizes and will in the meantime remain in jail.

William Selby, late co-partner in the firm of Selby & Co., paper makers and stationers of Toronto, was arraigned before the police magistrate on Thursday, charged with forging the signature of Taylor Brothers to a promissory note for $3,000. Two fresh charges of forgery were also laid against him, one on a note for $1,500. Counsel for the prosecution stated that the total amount involved in the forgeries against Selby was $15,688. The prisoner was remanded.

Dispatches to the leading papers of the Dominion from Washington state that the fisheries negotiations are now conceded by all, excepting Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Sir Charles Tupper and their assistants, to be a complete failure. It is believed the British commissioners, in order to cover their failure in negotiating a treaty, will offer some recommendation having the effect of indefinitely postponing a settlement of the questions raised. Such dispatches must, however, be taken with a very large grain of salt.

QUEBEC.

The Provincial Government will build a new wing to the court-house at a cost of $170,000.

Labelle, wholesale confectioner, St. Paul street, Montreal has skipped; an official abandonment of the estate has been made.

It is reported that Mr. W. H. Bonskill of the Montreal *Gazette*, has been appointed to the clerkship in the Secretary of State Department rendered vacant by the death of the late Thomas Robertson.

A letter from Cairo states that Duncan McIntyre is still travelling in Egypt, and is enjoying excellent health. After thoroughly doing the Nile, and visiting Tel El Kebir and other battle fields of the late Egyptian campaign, he expects to leave for Algeria in February.

Borgehus & Heroncliff's mill premises, Montreal, occupied by the Dominion Furniture Company and Minard Hat and Cap Company, were burned yesterday morning. The firemen were severely hampered by the hose freezing. Loss, $200,000.

In the private chapel of the Archbishop's palace, Montreal, the Viscount de Bouthellier was married to Miss Juliette Lamothe, daughter of the postmaster of Montreal. The benediction was given by his Grace the Archbishop, after which the bridal party left for New York.

Two new religious orders will shortly be established in Montreal, Franciscans and Dominicans. The former have given instructions for the purchase of a suitable site on which to establish a nunnery, and the Dominicans, who already reside at St. Hyacinthe, are expected some time next summer.

Premier Mercier left Thursday afternoon for New York, *en route* for Thomsonville, Ga., for the benefit of his health. Mr. Mercier was accompanied to New York by Hon. James McShane and other prominent supporters. At the cabinet meeting Mr. Mercier informed his colleagues that after a short stay in Georgia he would proceed to Paris to confer with the authorities of the Credit Lyonnais in connection with that part of the loan not yet negotiated.

MANITOBA.

In view of the announcement that it was decided in the Conservative caucus to oppose the election of Greenway and his ministers, the Government has practically decided to dissolve the house and appeal forthwith to the country. It is understood that nearly all of Greenway's followers are in favor of a general election.

Norquay has asked the house for the appointment of a commission to investigate the charges preferred against himself and his government in regard to his acting in collusion with the Hudson's Bay Railway contractors, and defrauding the province in the matter of the Red River railway.

Rev. Mr. Fleck, of Montreal, has been selected as Gordon's successor in Knox church, Winnipeg. Rev. Mr. Pitblado has determined to leave but his successor is not known.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Albion coal mines at St. Ellerton have again been wrecked by explosions, and are now on fire. No lives were sacrificed, but four men were badly injured and others had narrow escapes. There were two explosions, which shook the surrounding country like