Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY DECEMBER 16, 1887.

A SALVATION ARMY WANTED AT VANCOUVER.

"From a gentleman who arrived yesterday from Vancouver, we learn that the citizens of that place are greatly excited over the great railway project which, according to them, is to change Victoria into a great commercial *entrepot*, the virtual if not the actual terminus of one or more of the American transcontinental railroads." Our informant adds that the announcement has created almost a panic in the "terminal city" and that real estate men are going about with a point of interrogation in each eye and asking one another "what shall we do to be saved?" The situation is a serious one indeed for the erstwhile somewhat promising inland town on Burrard Inlet. The extension of the Island Railway to Fuca Strait and the establishment of a steam ferry to connect at or near Port Angeles with the American railway system would in itself be a great thing for the commercial and industrial interests of the Island and the northwest coast of the mainland. A stimulus would be imparted to every interest and city and country would grow with a rapidity that would take the breath away from the old fogies who are hived on the shores of Burrard Inlet, waiting like Wilkins Micawber for "something to turn up." There is a charm, an ecstasy, in the contemplation of the great destiny that awaits this lovely, enterprising and thriving town of Victoria through connection with the American roads. The Canadian Pacific road is a wonderful engineering accomplishment. It darts through the deepest gorges, scales the highest mountains, leaps the swiftest torrents, pierces the greatest glaciers and traverses the most extensive belt of fertile land on the continent. It has done a grand work in bringing Victoria within five or six days of the tidewaters of the Atlantic, in peopling waste lands and consolidating the British Empire in America; but the selection of a terminus at a point difficult of access from the ocean must always prove a serious drawback to its efficiency as a carrier. It would be useless now to suggest a change of route, but it is not too late for the C. P. R. to transfer its terminus to the Island and so place itself in a position to actively compete for business with the American roads that are sagaciously reaching out for island and coast trade. The proposition of Mr. Dunsmuir and his associates is so comprehensive and so certain of success that one is not surprised to find the Vancouver *News* endeavoring to belittle the enterprise, which is to bring Victoria in "touch" with $8,000,000 of people and supply another link in the overland railway that is destined within a very few years to span the continent *via* Bute Inlet and Yellowhead Pass. The *News*' boast that Vancouver enjoys direct railway communication with 5,000,000 people appears like an empty, insignificant piece of bounce when confronted with the certainty that Victoria is shortly to be directly connected with the greatest, grandest and most extensive railway system and the most enterprising population on the face of the earth. With a connection so far-reaching what will Vancouver—what will any other Pacific town have that Victoria should need to envy her the possession? The ambitious town on the Inlet may well begin to shake in its shoes and town lots to fall flat on the market with a terrible crash. Brokers do well to stand from under while the seismic disturbance is in progress and the ex-mayor should mount the piles, again and try with his eloquence to breast back the tide of immigration which flows in an unceasing stream towards Victoria. The *News*, in its alarm and distress, bewails the cost of the Island road and warns Mr. Dunsmuir that, although he may be a good judge of coal, he knows nothing of building railways. Is our contemporary aware that in 1881 the Canadian Pacific Company sent one of their most experienced and able engineers over the line of the Island railway? He reported that it would cost an enormous figure to construct the railway. Two years later Mr. Dunsmuir took the work in hand and built and stocked the line for $500,000 less than the figure handed in by the experienced engineer who knew nothing about coal, but was perfectly at home when building a railway!

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

For a party which is always howling about purity at elections the so-called Liberals present the sorriest appearance when their dirty linen is washed in public. Some of the election protests tried out to a conclusion during the year disclosed the wholesale buying of votes and a persistent attempt to debauch the electorate. The revelations in the Kingston protest, however, cap the climax. It will be remembered that Sir John Macdonald and Mr. Alex. Gunn, the former M. P., were the candidates and that the former was the victor by some 17 votes. The Premier, however, also ran in Carleton against Mr. J. K. Stewart, winning by some 1,085 votes. He sat during the last session for both constituencies, a protest having been filed against his election in Kingston. That protest has been tried. The Grit newspapers have been telling us for weeks that Sir John was sure to be unseated. We were glowingly informed that many score of cases would be brought home to the Chieftain, that he would be personally disqualified, and that "Old Kingston" would once more return to the Liberal fold. The courts have changed all that. The Judge has declared Sir John safe in his seat and has added that from the evidence adduced it would appear to have been an exceptionally pure election. Triumph enough for Sir John one would think! But if further proof were needed of the desperate character of the men who have, like sleuth-hounds, been pursuing Sir John for so many months, it is found in the fact that in the course of the trial two witnesses testified that they were *offered one hundred dollars each by leading Grits* if their testimony caused the unseating of Sir John. Unable to fight fairly because they knew the Premier would come out of the courts stainless, they resorted to such criminal tactics as bribing witnesses in order to effect Sir John's downfall in his old home. What faith can the country place in this "pairty of purity," whose members are guilty of such conduct as would be creditable to the ordinary jailbird! Sir John will now resign his seat in Carleton and sit for Kingston.

UNABLE TO DECIDE.

Coun. Grant has reached the height of absurdity in the water discussion. He proposes that the whole question shall be argued "*de novo*." To that proposition we think the public would object. We do, decidedly. A more sensible method would be, if Coun. Grant has doubts (we have none: neither had Coun. Grant when the opinion was first read,) as to the meaning of Messrs. Drake and Davie's opinion to ask those gentlemen to explain it for his particular benefit. The councillor concludes a letter to the *Times* with the remarkable statement that in questioning the power of the council he is "neither advocating one scheme or the other." Now we think that Coun. Grant ought to take a decided stand on the momentous question. Either he favors the Hendry or the Summerfield scheme. He cannot advocate both. On the 20th July last he signed a report to the council recommending "that work be pushed on, upon the plans of Mr. Hendry." Some weeks later he signed another report to the council (which he afterwards claimed to have dictated) recommending that the rival plans be referred to an outside engineer to report. Subsequently that was done. Mr. Keefer was selected, and he condemned the Hendry and approved the Summerfield scheme. Now, what is there to prevent Coun. Grant, in place of dealing in vague generalities, declaring himself in favor of "one scheme or the other?" Are the friends of the Hendry plan likely to be well affected toward a councillor who on July 20th approved of the Hendry scheme; and now declines to advocate either "one scheme or the other?" We think not. We believe in old Governor Kennedy's motto, "I'd rather be decidedly wrong, than undecidedly right."

MURDEROUS REVOLUTIONISTS.

The attempt on the life of M. Jules Ferry, late President of the French Republic, in the lobby of the Chamber of Deputies yesterday was heard with startling interest. It was just a week ago that he gave place to his successor, M. Sadi Carnot, and retired from the Elysée. After having been obliged to resign the seals of office and to regretfully deliver up the keys of office, one would have thought his enemies had been amply revenged. Feeling that in his downfall he was perfectly safe from the daggers of his opponents, he had doubtless allowed himself more liberty in meeting his fellow citizens than is now considered safe by the heads of the European powers. Apparently free from danger, he unwittingly rushed into it, and an unarmed man was cowardly shot at by one of a party of twenty revolutionists who had drawn the fatal lot. Happily none of the three shots fired by Berckein resulted fatally, and the ex-president was able to assure his friends that he was in no danger of his life. The presence of such a band as this, the off-scourings of Socialism and Anarchism, is a cancerous growth upon the body politic of Europe. It cannot be denied that their numbers are fast increasing and that their foothold in Russia, Germany and France especially, is becoming a powerful one. We do things better on this side of the Atlantic—we hang them. If Europe had taken as decisive a step in the beginning as the United States has done, we should not hear to-day of such attempts at assassination as our despatches record. Ferry has made an admirable president but was unfortunate in having for a son-in-law M. Daniel Wilson, for whose villainy he is made the victim. The whole world will delight to know that the plot to kill him failed, and will follow the fate of his victim anxiously. The law is as mighty in the European republic as it is in the American and until it is put in operation with a firm hand the life of its citizens is in daily peril.

THE NEW RAILWAY.

Those who, like the Vancouver *News*, ridicule the projected extension of the Island railway and its connection with the American railway system by means of huge ferries, and pronounce as impossible the running of the latter across the Straits, are the kind of people who, a few years ago, would have laughed to scorn the possibility of the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway and would have regarded as insane anyone who expressed his belief in its practicability. A country editor, in his little den, who knows nothing whatever about railroading, treats Mr. Dunsmuir and his *confreres* to a few lessons about a subject of which he is deplorably ignorant. Mr. Dunsmuir and his associates have not dropped upon their idea in a moment, they have long been carefully considering its cost and feasibility and only when they had the scheme matured did they, like sensible business men, announce their decision. The statement of the *News* with reference to the Esquimalt and Nanaimo railway—that that road, through lack of management and skill, cost twice as much as it should have, we can only brand as a deliberate untruth, and challenge our contemporary to the proof. Why such a designedly wicked assertion should be published in the editorial columns of what purports to be a respectable paper we do not know. That the scheme which we outlined some time ago, the details of which were received from official sources, will be an accomplished fact no one at all conversant with all the circumstances of the matter can doubt. In denouncing it and insulting its projector the Vancouver *News* only exposes its ignorance and its annoyance. Victorians believe that the future of their fair city was never so hopeful as it is to-day.

NO LONGER A PARTY.

Though it has long lived under the guise of an "Independent" no more thorough-paced Liberal organ has existed in Canada than the Montreal *Witness*. During the last campaign it did yeoman service for the party and fought a brave fight which led, however, only to a disastrous defeat. Under such circumstances the following editorial in its last issue to hand shows very clearly and pointedly the position of the two political parties to-day in Canada:

So far as Dominion politics are concerned, the Liberal party appears to be thoroughly demoralized. In order to win at the last general elections they threw overboard the principles of free trade and opposition to monopolies so that when they were defeated and their leader, Mr. Blake, was forced by ill-health to retire, they had little to bind them together. The choice of Mr. Laurier, who is a fair representative of this negative attitude, as party leader, showed that the Liberals had no fight left in them, and that they were merely trying to keep the party together. Immediately after the elections they enter protests against the return of a good many Conservatives, but even in contested elections they have been less successful than their opponents. It is not improbable that, on the whole, they had a much better case than the Conservatives, but they had lost heart and thrown up the sponge. Take the case of West Huron for an example. On the return of Mr. Porter by a small majority, the Liberals protested on the grounds of corruption, claiming to be able to prove fully one hundred cases of bribery. One thousand dollars was raised to prosecute the case, the petition was entered, and there was to be a great exposure of the immorality of the campaign as conducted by the Conservatives. Within a few days of the date fixed for the trial the protest was withdrawn. It was explained to the Huron *Signal*, the Goderich organ of the Liberals, that this course was taken owing to the determination of Mr. M. C. Cameron, the defeated Liberal candidate and former member, to retire from political life altogether. It would appear, therefore, that having lost all hopes of electing a Liberal candidate, the Liberal party had lost that great solicitude in the interests of morality, which they claimed as their motive in proposing to contest the election. The fact of the matter is, that when the Liberals dropped their free trade and anti-monopolistic principles, they did a thing which ashamed themselves, and which, when defeat followed, left them without anything to fall back upon, without even the sense of honor which made them so cheerful under the smashing defeat of 1878. They made a fight in Haldimand, but as there were no principles and no policy at stake they lost. The result of this defeat seems to be that the party, as a party, is no longer in the field. In East Northumberland the Liberal candidate has come out as a Commercial Unionist, pure and simple. The Liberal organs hold that he will lose the votes of Liberal non-commercial unionists, without gaining those of the Conservative commercial unionists, and that is not unlikely. The time seems ripe for the organization of a party which will not be afraid to face living issues. If Mr. Laurier will not write prohibition and commercial union on his standard, the country is waiting for the man who will come before them with a positive policy. There are constant defections of manufacturing Liberals to the Protectionist party and without some positive rallying cries all opposition to that party will become futile.

The *Witness* is right. Without a defined policy, without a real leader, without any of those fixed principles which make a party great, the Liberal party was never in its history in such a state of utter collapse as it presents to-day. Defeated at the polls by a large majority at the last general elections, the voters have in almost every case endorsed the Liberal-Conservative candidates who have gone before the people at the bye-elections. As the *Witness* says, the Liberal party, as a party, no longer exists.

THE WATER WORKS EXTENSION.

In a communication to an evening paper, Coun. Grant contends that our assertion that Messrs. Drake and Davie had given an opinion that the council could employ the $75,000 loan on any scheme for water extension is incorrect. There is no accounting for the position that the erratic councillor may assume on any question; but we have a vivid recollection that when the opinion was read in open council Mr. Grant arose and over and over again pledged *his* opinion that the legal gentlemen were wrong and that the loan could only be applied in promoting a reservoir scheme. In his letter to our estimable contemporary he approves and endorses the opinion—showing that his is the changed mind and not THE COLONIST. Here is the opinion:

VICTORIA, B.C., 25th Oct., 1887.

To the Mayor and Corporation of Victoria:

GENTLEMEN:—The by-law merely authorizes the raising of $75,000 for the purpose of extending the water works, consisting of reservoir, &c., and for carrying on the said water works upon such a scale as may be necessary to furnish an adequate supply of fresh water for the city. The Corporation can employ the money for the above objects, under any scheme they think most advisable.

(Signed) M. W. T. DRAKE,
THEODORE DAVIE.

The object of the by-law is stated to be to extend the waterworks, consisting of reservoirs, &c., * * to furnish an adequate supply of fresh water for the city. The opinion concludes "that the corporation can employ the money for the above objects, *under any scheme they think most advisable.*" Can anything be plainer than these words? And if Coun. Grant has had new light shed on the opinion since he attacked it in the council, will he kindly allow its rays to illuminate the columns of the *Times*?

THE season of long evenings is now, so to speak, at its noon. We are in the very middle of the days when the position of our planet makes the sun spend the largest portion of each twenty-four hours below the horizon, and the long evenings come about because the people, as a rule, will not go to bed any earlier in winter than in summer. To many this daily space of lamp light is a source of unqualified blessing, and to many it is a source of unqualified misery. Many men who are uneducated as the term is generally understood, employ the long winter evenings in a systematical reading of the most substantial books, with the result that gradually their heads become packed with practical knowledge, which can be made useful in every department of life labor. And this is not all. The actual association with great minds, which is brought about by carefully reading the works into which they put the very essence of their strong and usually highly cultured lives, gives us a benefit almost like that of personal contact. The painstaking and methodical reader will thus acquire by degrees a refinement and polish of deportment which gives him all the outward possessions of a thorough college training. It is certainly incorrect to neglect the social joys which during winter can be indulged in with the greatest convenience. But very few people need encouragement along these lines. While, on the other hand, a very great many, especially of the rising generation, need to receive frequent reminders that there is something in human life besides what is ordinarily embraced under the heads of work and play. The highest enjoyment will not come without intellectual culture, and intellectual culture is only gained by hard and patient study.

GREECE is again the subject of general attention; but this time it is not on account of a desire which that ambitious country may have to cut another slice off the Turkish empire, and the general attention comes from the artistic rather than the political world. It is now coming to light that this little country of 21,000 square miles and 1,500,000 inhabitants has a few artists whose originality and thoroughness is well in advance of modern painters. These artists of modern Greece seem to inherit the genius of the painters who immortalized the fame of the ancient Greek pictures. It is noticed that the best Grecian painters have a great liking for nude figures. But instead of depending on models according to the general European custom, all their pictures are purely ideal conceptions, and in design and execution are said to reach the highest degree of excellence.

MR. E. Birmingham, of the business staff of the *Empire*, the new Conservative paper to be started at Toronto, says the first number of that journal will appear as announced on the 15th inst. Commodious quarters have been secured, and a complete outfit purchased. The staff so far as known is as follows:—Mr. John Livingstone, editor-in-chief; Mr. Tooker, late of the Peterboro *Review*, editorial writer; Mr. L. P. Kribs, news editor; Dr. Krauss, night editor; Mr. Joseph McLean, financial editor; Mr. Goodie, sporting editor; Mr. Fred. Cook, the representative of THE COLONIST at the federal capital, Ottawa correspondent. The name of the London, Montreal and Hamilton special correspondents have not yet transpired.

THE BULLDOZING MAYOR.

TO THE EDITOR:—I observe that Mayor Fell begs the question in this night's *Times* as to whether he will be a candidate or not for re-election. The vanity of the man is such that I entertain no doubt that if he thought he had a glimmer of a chance of success he would stand willingly, but I repeat, he will not and dare not submit himself to a popular verdict. He has often taunted the councillors to resign and stand the test of an election. Now let *him* stand the test. Let *him* give the electors an opportunity to express their opinion of his disgraceful conduct in and out of the chair. I defy him to do it. He dare not stand, hence he is found going from door to door begging certain prominent citizens to stand with the pledge, "If you'll stand, I'll retire."

Mr. Editor, I see that our discredited and disgraced mayor attributes to a councillor whom he names, my letter in today's COLONIST. All I have to say is, that if Mr. Fell wants my name he is welcome to it on application at the office, but not for publication. If you think you can trust to his honor (?) not to publish it, you may give it to him.

I dare him to stand for re-election.

PROGRESS.

THE MAYOR'S EVASION.

TO THE EDITOR:—The mayor is more than amusing—he's funny. He says he called at THE COLONIST office and got my real name. After that he sends a little letter to the evening paper saying that he don't believe I wrote it; but that Coun. Higgins did. I can tell the old gentleman that I am flattered by having my letter put on Coun. H.'s shoulders. They are a pretty broad pair and I don't think the Councillor will mind the load.

All this talk about who wrote the letters is wandering from the subject. The old gentleman has always expressed a feverish anxiety to go before the people. And now that he has the chance offered he wants to back down.

I tell him again that he dare not stand for re-election and he is trying to get some silly fellow to take the field in his place. I shall have more to say on this subject in a day or two.

PROGRESS.

ART AND ARTISTS.

Prince Oscar, the second son of the King of Sweden, is studying painting at the Paris Academy under the name of Oscarson.

A picture of Jenny Lind, by the famous painter Magnus, is in the Berlin National Gallery, where it has remained despite earnest efforts to procure it for England.

Verestchagen, the Russian artist, will paint some realistic scenes of poverty and eviction among the Irish peasants. He has also made some sketches of the tramps' rendezvous in Trafalgar Square, London, which he will reproduce with accumulated horrors on canvas.

The new Egyptian Director of Ecclesiastical Domains, Osman Pasha Ghaleb, has, in conjunction with the Chief Engineer, Franz Pasha, and Grant Bey, addressed a memorandum to the Khedive providing for the preservation and protection of the monuments of Arabian art in Egypt, which have hitherto been sadly neglected.

Mr. Blaine has been having his portrait painted in Paris by the famous artist Healy, who has placed on canvas the faces of a great many modern European celebrities. Some weeks ago Mr. Healy called on Mr. Blaine and asked the Maine statesman to grant him a few sittings. Mr. Blaine consented, and the portrait will soon be finished.

Haydon's painting of "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem," which was bought for St. Peter's Cathedral in Cincinnati, was removed thence last spring and advantageously hung in the new art museum in Eden Park of that city. Inquiry has lately been made about it in England, on account of the fact that Haydon introduced in it portraits of many distinguished persons, such as Newton, Voltaire, Hazlitt, Coleridge, Keats and Wordsworth—the last four his own friends. Attempts have been made to obtain photographs of some of the heads but the lack of light in the Cathedral defeated them; one of Keats, however, was made which is to be engraved.

OUR PIONEERS

Have a Grand Spread and Enjoy Themselves.

What They Eat, What They Said, and What They Sang—A Delightful Evening.

The Pioneers dinner, held last evening at the Clarence, went off as we predicted, with great *eclat*. Gathered around the board were the men to whom British Columbia owes the beginnings of her life, a select company of nature's noblemen of whom any country might be proud. Seated at a luxurious banquet, with all the accessories of this day of great things around them, the minds of all must have reverted to the old time when life was hardly as rose-colored as it is now. The men who have built up this beautiful city and prosperous province deserve all the recognition which new comers so freely bestow upon them, seeing in them, as they do, the fathers to their country, the men who did yeoman service in settling up this vast province. Nearly all have acquired wealth, hard earned and generously bestowed, and no city in the Dominion, of comparative size, can boast as many "solid men" as our own Victoria by the sea. The surroundings were in keeping with the occasion. The Clarence is always noted for its *cuisine* and the attractiveness of its large dining room. Last evening "mine host" Richards excelled himself. The tables were arranged in the form of a parallelogram, and the arrangements were unexcelled. All day long the *attaches* of the Clarence were busily employed decorating the dining room and the result of their efforts would do credit to any artist. The gasaliers were trimmed with evergreen and ivy, the green shades of which blended harmoniously with the colored globes. Immediately back of the seat of honor were appropriately placed a shovel, axe and spade, surmounted by a bear's head, all emblems of the life of a pioneer. All around the walls light trimmings of fir brought back to them recollections of those days of long ago when they toiled and worked together and elevated their settlement to a grand city, aye "The Queen City of the West."

The following is a list of the guests present:

His Honor Lt.-Gov. Nelson, Col. Stevens, U. S. Consul, Mayor Fell, W. McNiff, N. Shakespeare, M.P., Hon. Jno. Robson, Coun. Grant, M.P.P., Coun. Higgins, M.P.P., Major Prior, M.P.P., Major Peters, "O" Battery, Captain Fletcher, Coun. Harris, H. Stanton, ex-Mayor Carey, A. J. Smith, J. J. Austin, J. Fairbairn, J. J. May, L. J. Lewis, G. Kenny, C. Bossi, Major Downie, G. Stelly, A. Bossi, W. Whyte, R. Cunningham, J. B. Lovell, John Ross, S. E. King, T. Shotbolt, C. Lombard, E. C. Johnson, E. C. Neufelder, W. Harrison, J. A. Lewis, W. Harrison, J. Halliday, W. Beaumont, I. Bravermann, T. Storey, J. Robson, Robert Mitchell, Thos. Russell, C. Morley, D.R. Munro, S. Perry Mills, F. Sehl, J. Loewen, Thos. Flewen, Louis Erb, H. F. Heustermann, F. E. De Veuille, J. Kurtz, Chas. Redfern, M.W.T. Drake, Capt. McIntosh and J. Frewin.

When the guests had assembled they were ushered into the spacious banqueting hall to the strains of the National Anthem.

President McNiff occupied the chair with all his customary grace, and was supported on his right by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, His Worship the Mayor, and Mr. A. J. Smith, President of the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society, and on his left by United States Consul Stevens, Hon. John Robson, Provincial Secretary, and M. W. T. Drake, President of the St. George's Society. The vice-chair was occupied by Mr. W. Humphrey.

They did ample justice to the spread, which needs no further mention than the reproduction of the bill of fare.

The following was

THE MENU.

SOUPS.
Mockturtle. Portage a la Reine.
HORS D'OEUVRES.
Pelites Pates a la Princesse, Oyster Volan Vents
Salad d'Ecrevisse, Cunapes d'Anchois,
Olives, Celery.
FISH.
Salmon Cardinal, Fresh Cod Colbert.
RELIEVES.
Filet de Bouef Pique Aux Champignons.
ENTREES.
Turban des Jennes, Poulets au Supreme, Ris de Veau Glace aux petits pois Francaises.
Cotelettes d'Agnous en Papillotts, Timbal de Maccaronis a la Neapolitaine.
ROTS.
Turkey Stuffed, Cranberry Sauce, Sucking Pig, Apple Sauce. Prime Ribs Beef, Horse Raddish. Saddle of Mutton Latine
aux Oeufs dur.
LEGUMES.
Asparagus, Green Peas, Brussel Sprouts, Jerus, Artichokes, Mashed Potatoes.
GAME.
Stuffed Grouse, Haunch Venison Currant Jelly.
COLD DISHES.
Boar's Head a la forest Noire, Boned Turkey Truffe Bellevue, Chicago Ham, Smoked
Beef Tongue, Magnonaise de Volaille.
ENTREMENTS.
English Plum Pudding, Toufice a la creme au Marsequin, Hot Mince Pie, Cranberry Pie,
Apple Pie, Champagne Jelly, Blanc
Mange d'Amand, Charlotte Russe,
Vanilla Ice Cream.
DESSERT.
Crognaut au Migat, Fountain (Caramel et glace Royal), Fruit Cake, Pound Cake, Patisseue,
Ladies' Fingers.
FRUIT ASSORTS.
Cafe, Cafenoire, Kirschwasser.

With the preliminary and mechanical portion of the programme having been gone through, President McNiff proposed the first toast of the evening. He said that no one was going to dictate how long or how short the speeches ought to be, but he thought if everything was done in a quiet easy manner there would be no fear but that everyone would "get there all the same." He was always proud to propose the health of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The Queen's health was then drunk, the band playing the National Anthem.

The President called upon Mr. Flewin for a song, to which that gentleman ably responded.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. W. Humphrey, vice-president, the president called upon the company to drink the health of the President of the United States. To the melody of the "Star Spangled Banner" President Cleveland's health was heartily toasted.

Col. Stevens, U. S. Consul, in a few words, said he felt grateful for the kind manner in which his Chief's health had been drunk, and he hoped his countrymen would never forget the noble race from which they were descended.

The president then proposed the health of the Governor-General.

Mr. D. R. Munro here was asked to sing, and favored the company with a Bacchanalian song in his usual good voice.

Mr. J. Kurtz said a long time ago, not a stone's throw from the Clarence hotel, our present lieutenant-governor had shared the toils with the pioneers and now he was sharing the honors. He felt great pleasure in proposing the very good health of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Amidst the most enthusiastic cheers of the guests, which completely drowned "The Minstrel Boy," played by the band, His Honor's health was drunk with all the honors.

Governor Nelson, in rising to respond, was greeted with loud cheers. He said the time his friends and himself had encamped on the corner of Johnson and Broad streets, so many years ago, was always in his memory a cherished spot. Interesting anecdotes of pioneer life he also related in a happy manner. He finished by thanking his friends for the enthusiasm showed by them in drinking his health.

Mr. Beaumont sang "The Black Flag," and Mr. Flewen proposed "The Army, Navy and Volunteers," coupling with the toast the name of Major Peters.

Major Peters, as usual, was most successful in riveting the attention of his listeners to his very neat and humorous speech. The gallant Major said he too was a pioneer, as he was among the first regular soldiers who had trusted themselves in British Columbia. He also belonged to a corps of pioneers in St. John, N. B., so that, no doubt, everybody would be convinced that he, too, was a pioneer.

Major Prior sang a song in fine style and was loudly applauded.

Ex-Mayor Redfern proposed the Senate and Commons.

Mr. N. Shakespeare, M. P., responded and said that he could not speak for the Senate, as he was only a member of the House of Commons. He hoped that under the leadership of Sir John Macdonald the whole Dominion would continue progressing as it had hitherto done.

Mr. Whyte amused the company vastly by the recitation he gave.

Mr. Shakespeare proposed the 'Local Government and Legislature,' and dwelt upon the honesty and integrity to be found among our representatives; this has been seen on the floors of the Legislature and in the liberal and progressive measures brought forward by them.

Major Prior, M. P. P., who was called upon to respond, said he could only thank the company for thinking of their representatives on this festive occasion.

Coun. Grant, M.P.P., also spoke in response to the toast and thought that the debating qualities of the members of our provincial assembly were most creditable to them.

Coun. Higgins, M.P.P., was called upon to speak, and in answer to the call, related an appropriate anecdote of the good old pioneer days, which was received with great laughter.

Mr. Fairbairn's song was well received.

His Honor here left the room and shook hands with his pioneer friends as he passed out.

Mr. W. Humphreys proposed the 'Mayor and Council.'

The Mayor, in responding, said that if the history of Victoria were ever written the Mayor of 1887 would be stamped as a perpetual disgrace to the city.

Coun. Grant spoke a few words expressing his thanks. Coun. Harris did not speak of council matters, referring only to the pleasure he always experienced when hearing tales of the doings of the pioneers.

Coun. Higgins, in a happy manner, touched slightly upon council affairs and hoped that the representatives of the ratepayers would always do their very best in forwarding the interests of the city.

"The Old Black Mule" was rendered by Mr. C. E. Redfern, the company joining heartily in the chorus.

Mr. C. Lombard proposed the toast of The Press, and said that the newspapers were the means of letting the whole world know what was going on. He agreed with the late General Grant's opinion of newspaper men, that with their assistance he could always conquer. Representatives of THE COLONIST, *Standard* and *Times* answered to the toast.

Ex-Mayor Redfern proposed the "Sister Societies," to which toast responses were made by Mayor Fell, Mr. T. Russell and Mr. Smith.

Major Downie, a California pioneer, also made a few remarks.

Ex-Mayor Carey's song "Where the grass grows green," was sung amidst the applause of the company.

Mr. D. R. Munro in a short, gallant speech proposed The Ladies, a toast which was heartily pledged.

Mr. Grant replied on their behalf and said that although it was the last toast it was by no means the least.

Before breaking up several songs and recitations were rendered: A French song by Mr. C. Lombard (*encored*); "Muldoon, the Solid Man," by Mr. McNiffe; "My Wife's Cousin," a recitation, by Major Peters; "The Midshipmite," by Major Prior, (*encored*); "The Stolen Child," by Mr. Beaumont; "Because They Could not Sing," by Mr. Cunningham; "The Minstrel Boy," by Coun. Harris; "The Piper of Dundee," by Mr. Jno Ross, and Messrs. Harrison, Fairbairn, Flewen, Chalmers and Deasy, also each gave a song.

"God Save the Queen" was then sung by the whole company and thus loyally the evening was brought to a happy close.

LITERARY GLEANINGS.

Cardinal Manning is understood to be the author of a volume entitled "Religio Viatoris," just issued anonymously in London.

Robert Bonner published "Hunted Down," the only story Charles Dickens ever wrote for an American publisher, and he paid him $5,000 for it.

The London booksellers intend giving a dinner to G. Routledge, the veteran publisher, who has retired form the active business affairs of his house.

Frenchmen were the first to discover that Hebrew novels were worth translating. The first translation into English of a Hebrew novel will shortly appear.

Parsons, one of the executed Anarchists, is said to have left to his wife manuscript for a 300 page volume. The book will be a history of anarchic and social movements.

By the death of Franz Trautmann, remarks the London *Times*, Germany looses her leading historical novelist, and a prolific and always charming contributor to other departments of literature.

In a book about Eton just published in London, it is stated that Mr. Gladstone, in 1827, edited the *Eton Miscellany* under the *nom de guerre* of Bartholomew Bouverie, while editor of that little paper.

W. S. Gilbert, the famous English librettist, has a curious habit when he is writing his comic operas. While at his desk he turns from his writing to sketch caricatures. The quaint pictures he produces invigorates his imaginative powers and often suggest new and striking trains of thought which have important effects on his libretto.

A German author saying that women in some departments of literature have entirely supplanted men, gives as a reason that women are carried away with the current of the day. "In art, as in life, they always follow the latest fashion, are realists to-day, idealists to-morrow, and, therefore, are always sure to appeal to the taste of the moment."

Letters of Gladstone, says the *Collector*, the New York periodical devoted to autograph collecting, "are lithographed so cleverly in England that the closest inspection is necessary to detect the cheat. One of these lithographs was recently sold as genuine at a large auction at Boston, and the fraud was only detected after the letter had passed through four hands."

To an admiring correspondent at New London, John Greenleaf Whittier recently wrote that "Maud Muller" was not composed as a story of his own life, as has sometimes been intimated. But "Maud" had a real prototype in a country girl of whom he had a drink while riding by, and who modestly raked the hay up about her bare ankles while he was drinking the water.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

The settlement of Priest's valley in the Okanagan district, has been named Vernon, in honor of the chief commissioner, who represents Yale district.

FIRE INQUIRY.

The Late Fire at Mrs. Morris' Store Thoroughly Investigated—The Jury's Verdict.

At 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the police court room an investigation into the origin of the fire at Mrs. Morris' store was held before Mr. E. Johnson, S. M. The following gentlemen acted as jurymen: Geo. Crossman, Wm. Fullerton and Jessie Brown, and Mr. C. F. Moore acted as clerk.

His honor briefly stated to the jury why they were called upon and at whose instance, after which the following testimony was taken, Mr. S. Perry Mills appearing on behalf of Mr. T. Nuttall, agent for the Phœnix Fire Insurance Company.

Thomas Deasy, sworn—In October last was assistant engineer of the fire department; was present at the fire on Mrs. Morris' premises on Oct. 14; it was in the night; saw fire in the partition, about fifteen feet from the room; was a small one-story wooden building on Johnson street; was occupied as a boot and shoe store and residence in the rear; when I got there the door was shut; a police officer was at the door; I went around to the side and saw smoke issuing from a number of places; saw flames through a window; went into the building through the front door; went near the fire and had a hard time getting out. The door was not locked when I went in. From appearance it seemed to be working towards Johnson street; I did not notice a stove or fireplace near the petition; did not notice any inflammable material near where the fire originated. Found a lighted lamp in the kitchen and a lamp burning on the table.

To Mr. Mills—The fire appeared to be confined in the petition between the store and the bedroom; there was a broken lamp on the floor where the fire was; the stream through the window would knock a lamp over; cannot say how large a stock there was in the building; saw some of the stock next day at Isaac's store; I think the fire started near the head of the bed.

To Mr. Morris Moss—The time might have been as late as 9 o'clock.

Mr. John Braden, sworn—I have been a fireman and went to the fire on Oct. 16th; saw the doors open in the store; handed down boxes containing shoes; about six or eight men were handing down boxes; saw flames above the chimney and called Mr. Deasy's attention to the fire; the hose was turned on the flames and the fire put out; the force of water washed the lids off the boxes.

To Mr. Morris Moss—The fire occurred about 9 o'clock.

Mr. J. D. Graham—I was at the fire on Johnson street at 9:20 p. m.; endeavored to get into the building but could not on account of dense smoke; noticed no shoes burnt, but saw the people carrying them out.

Officer Walker, sworn—I was at the fire on Johnson street, which occurred at 9:25; saw smoke from my beat on Wharf street; when I arrived Officer Hawton opened the door and went inside; he came out immediately and shut the door to prevent the draught; shortly after saw men carrying out shoes; examined the premises and I am of opinion that the fire started in the partition at the head of the bed; most of the goods went to Messrs. Isaacs & Hart's store.

To Mr. Mills—I saw a number of shoes damaged by water, and saw a broken lamp on the floor near the bed.

To Mr. Moss—Saw a large quantity of goods damaged by water.

To the Court—Did not see anyone in the house.

Officer Hawton, sworn, said: Heard the fire bells and went to the store, where I saw a lot of men and boys; put them out and shut the door until the proper parties came.

To Mr. Mills—Saw nearly all the shoes taken out; they were not burnt, but a large number were damaged by water.

To His Honor—Could not name any one who was in the store when I arrived; no lamp was alight in the store that I could see; could not see into the back portion of the building.

Mrs. Morris was then sworn and deposed as follows: Kept a boot and shoe store on Johnson street; closed the store at 6:30 on the night of the fire; went to the Synagogue and after that to Mrs. Phillips': did not hear the bells and was told while going home that my place had been burned; left the lamps burning, one in the store, one in the kitchen and one in the bedroom; these lights were burning according to a religious custom; the lamp in the bedroom stood on a little table near the partition; did not tell Mr. Nuttall that I suspected some one had set fire to the building; told him that I lost my jewelry; my husband died some time ago; the stock consisted of boots and shoes; Mr. Moss was appointed executor and he has had entire charge of my claims for damages; there was no stove or grate in my bedroom; I have not been using the chimney; I did not go to the building after it was burned; did not know that the store was burned until I went down the street.

To Mr. Moss—The head of the bed was towards the partition; I could not reach the lamp on the table from the bed; my husband appointed you the executor of the estate; you asked me how much stock I had, and I told you $3,000; I attended the Synagogue every Friday night since my husband died.

To His Honor—The stock is mine; my husband insured the stock and furniture; I don't know the amount of insurance; saw Mr. Nuttall in his office, but he did not call on me; my brother took stock six weeks before the fire; I had $3,000 worth of stock and since then I have had more than $400 worth.

To Mr. Mills—Mr. Nuttall did come down at 11 o'clock the next morning after the fire; I owe Mr. Heathorn $4,00; I do not own the house and lot.

To Mr. Moss—When my husband died I had about $250; if the goods on hand were sold I would have had about $3,000; when he died I might have owed about $2,000; the piano was paid for seven years ago; the stock was insured for $1,800, and the piano for $125; left jewelry worth $1,000 in the house when I went out.

To His Honor—Cannot tell how the fire originated, but I think the lamp caused the fire; am a native of Germany and have resided here twelve years.

Abner Morris, sworn—Was at the Synagogue and Mrs. Phillips' on the night of the fire; heard the fire-bells and went outside; my uncle went down to see where the fire was; Mr. Frank Campbell told me that it was our place; I went down with my mother and Miss Phillips; left the store for the Synagogue at 6:30 o'clock; saw the lamps burning; one was in the store, one in the bedroom and one in the kitchen; we went to the store about fifteen minutes after the fire-bells rang; have no idea how the fire started, cannot remember Mr. Nutall coming down on the morning of the fire; cannot remember if my mother told me to go for Mr. Nuttall; think I went to Mr. Nuttall's office, cannot remember if he was there; my mother said to me that she did not know how the fire caught; she left the house first; my mother was excited when she heard that the place was on fire and cried very much.

To Mr. Moss—There was a cat around the premises, but cannot say if it was in the house.

Dr. Hartman—Am a dentist; went down to the fire on the night in question and taking off my overcoat helped to get the boots and shoes out; they were all wet; there must have been eighteen feet of water in the store; the fire was between the store and bedroom; did not lend money to my sister before the fire; have paid one note of $200 for her since; all the boots that were saved were taken over to Mr. Isaacs; there were some boots burnt on the shelves; could not say how many; am certain that nothing was saved on the back shelves.

To Mr. Moss—There are shelves on the partition; have seen burnt boots and shoes on them.

Morris Moss—On the night of the fire was attending the synagogue; left there about 8 o'clock and walked with Mrs. Morris as far as Johnson street; had some business with Mr. Salmon and went to his store; left the store about 8:45; have made claims upon Mr. Nuttall and he told me he intended holding an inquiry.

To Mr.