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AGENTS—
S. D. Levi,

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.
All arrears of subscriptions to the
Weekly Colonist must be remitted on or
before the 1st of January, 1870, or the
paper will be stopped.

Imperial Injustice.
The extraordinary of British Colum-
bia we are disposed to regard as one
unbroken series of arbitrary meannesses,
if not absolute injustices, for which the
administration of the Colonial Office
has become chiefly remarkable. While
the modern doctrine that the colonies
must be self-supporting has been rigidly
enforced in our case, from the very in-
ception of our existence as a colony,
that political right upon which alone
the doctrine can stand—the right to
manage our own affairs—has been per-
sistently denied to us. Our affairs
have been virtually administered by the
British Government, and yet they are
made to endure all the consequences of
Downing Street folly. The differ-
ence, it will readily be perceived,
is a very important one, and gives us
an infinitely stronger cause of complaint
than is possessed by the people of New
Zealand. The following extract from
a leading article which appeared in
the *Times*, a little more than two years
ago, will serve to point out how much
stronger is our cause of grievance, and
to put in a clear and forcible light
the doctrine of Imperial responsibility:
—The original Constitution of New
Zealand enacted by Parliament in 1852
devised a policy with regard to the
native tribes peculiarly calculated to
injure alike the mother country and
the colony. While the fullest power
over their own local affairs was given
to the colonists, the whole management
of native affairs, the foreign policy
of the colony, was intrusted to the
Governor alone. So long as this Consti-
tution was in force we clearly had no
right to call on the colony for any con-
tribution towards its military expenses.
It did not allow New Zealand a
voice in determining her relations to the
natives, if we, separated from her by
the diameter of the earth, insisted that
we could do better for her in those
delicate local matters than she could
for herself, we had no right to complain
of having to pay for our folly. But
such a state of things did not and could
not last. The Governor soon found
that it was quite impossible to separate
native from domestic policy. He
acquired the habit of consulting with
and deferring to the Colonial Ministers
on native affairs, and the conduct of
them had virtually passed from the
Home to the Colonial Government before
the Duke of Newcastle formally
renounced it. From that time our duty
to pay for the native wars of New Zea-
land absolutely ceased. Here, then, we
have a distinct recognition of the doc-
trine that so long as the affairs of the
natives were managed by the Crown
it, and not the colony, was responsible
for the consequences, and on the Im-
perial, not the Colonial, Exchequer should
fall the expense. Now, suppose we
give wider scope to this principle, and
hold the Imperial Government respon-
sible for the entire Civil List of this
colony, seeing the Crown still virtually
denies the colonists the right of man-
aging their own affairs. It is when the
question is viewed in the light of this
doctrine, itself Imperial, that one sees

the full measure of injustice meted out
to British Columbia from the very
first.

The Masonic Ball.

A brilliant assemblage of ladies and gen-
tlemen participated in the grand ball of the
Masonic Fraternity at the Albamba last
evening. The main entrance to the hall
was from Government street up the broad
passage of the Colonial Hotel to the second
floor, where the dressing rooms were situ-
ated. From the dressing-rooms the company
passed through the large bay window of the
hotel to a covered passageway erected
over the sidewalk and lighted with gas-jets
shaded by globes of vari-colored, which pro-
duced a pleasing effect. At the termina-
tion of this passageway the dancing hall
was a large and commodious room, and
the various nationalities represented

to the Burglar in Henry's Hotel, we heard
that the Christmas dinner of the Sisters of
St. Ann and their interesting little charges
was stolen sometime during the night
preceding Christmas Day. Four young orphans
whom the Burglar would deprive his mother (if he ever had
one) of her last trust. On the same night
a party of girls was picked out of a window at
the Land Office and the premises entered,
but with what object it is difficult to dis-
tinguish as nothing appears to have been taken
away or disturbed. The mark of a chisel
was plainly seen on the window-frame, and a
drop of blood on a piece of paper that lay upon
a table beneath the window would seem to
indicate that the robber cut his finger on the
glass. A lady residing on Yates street,
on Monday night, was aroused from slumber
by hearing a woman's footsteps in the hall. A
woman from the land and master, carried the
theft to the police. They had got in through a
back window.

P. S. A. Co's Claims.—Joseph S Wilson
writes to Mr Garfield, under date of Nov
8th, 1869, that "as soon as official informa-
tion is received of the settlement of the Pa-
cific Sound Agricultural Co's claims, the
necessary instructions will be promptly given
for the extension of the survey over the
premises released from the claims in ques-
tion." An item, this, of interest to Pierce
county.—*Pacific Tribune.*

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