The Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday March 15th 1871

Publish it to the World.

Time and again have we alluded to the frequent receipt of letters of enquiry respecting this colony from persons, for the most part British subjects, residing in the United States and elsewhere. These letters increase in number with the approach of Confederation, British Columbia becoming more attractive viewed in the light of those liberal institutions and the accelerated progress which will come with that change. From one of those letters, now before us, it would appear that not only does the greatest ignorance prevail respecting British Columbia, but that the most unmitigated slanders are being industriously circulated in the American Pacific, in order to discourage any movement in this direction. The climate is represented as bad, the soil sterrile and labor ill remunerated, and it is even asserted that what little the scant soil is capable of producing meets with no demand at remunerative prices. After mentioning these and other objections, and asking many questions the writer of the letter before us remarks 'I do not like to move my family without knowing something about the country' And there are thousands who occupy precisely the same position, who would come to this colony and make it their home provided they could obtain reliable information respecting it. Now it occurs to us to remark that our six-by-nine Parliament would be better employed in devising means for desiminating information respecting the colony than it is in meeting day after day to wrangle about who amongst the handful of people now in the country shall be permitted to vote and to legislate, or in discussing the sheaves of nonsensical resolutions with which the notice paper is too often crowded, and which, in nine cases out of ten, have no higher object than that of affording the flatulent demagogue an opportunity of indulging his propensity. A glance at the Orders of the Day for the past three weeks would induce one to believe the Legislature has nothing to do, and is only engaged in 'killing time' by blowing bubbles. And yet work of the very greatest importance remains to be done, work essential to the progress of the country. What is wanted is good, earnest, industrious legislation, —not mere make-believe legislation.

The Election Regulation Act.

The Bill to regulate elections of members of the Legislature of British Columbia came down from the Executive yesterday. It contains one hundred and fifteen clauses, most of which, however, are merely directive and do not possess any special interest to the general reader. A hasty glance would lead us to think that the measure is a stringent and complete one. There are only a few of its provisions to which we propose referring at present. Where there are more polling places than one in an electoral district each elector shall only be allowed to vote at one, and that the one within the limits of which the property shall lie in respect of which he shall have registered. Any candidate, or an elector acting on his behalf, may object to a voter and may require him to swear or affirm that he is the person represented on the Register of Voters, that he has not voted before during the election within the same district, and that he has not received anything, or been promised anything either directly or indirectly, in order to induce him to vote. Where the Returning Officer has reason to believe that fraud or violence are being practised, or that any voter is not qualified or has already voted, or is tendering his vote under any false name, such Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer shall administer the oath, whether he be requested to do so or not by any party. If any lands or tenements are transferred or conveyed to any person by any title or instrument whatsoever, fraudulently and for the purpose of giving him the qualification requisite to enable him to be registered as an elector, and if such person votes at any election upon such land or tenements he shall incur a penalty of one hundred dollars; and nevertheless such transfer or conveyance, notwithstanding any agreement to annul or revoke the same, shall be valid, and shall transfer such lands or tenements on or and from the person who has so transferred or conveyed the same to all intents and purposes whatsoever. This provision will render accommodation transfers of property for election purposes a dangerous game. Provision is made for adjourning the poll from day to day in the event of any riot or open violence. The Returning Officer shall cause rooms to be hired (if necessary) at every polling place within his District. Such rooms may be divided into compartments and if so divided there shall be affixed over the entrance of each compartment certain letters (the entire letters of the alphabet being divided according to the number of compartments of the polling place) and no elector shall be permitted to poll in any compartment unless his surname shall commence with one of the letters which shall be so fixed over the entrance of such compartment. Power is given to the Returning Officer to swear in special constables and summarily commit disorderly persons, and any battery committed during an election within a distance of two miles of any polling place will be deemed aggravated assault and punished accordingly. Every hotel, tavern and shop in which spirituous or fermented liquors or drinks are ordinarily sold shall be closed in the places in which polls are held or within five miles thereof during the time of polling, and no spirituous or fermented liquors or drinks shall be sold or given during the said period, under a penalty of one hundred dollars against the keeper thereof if he neglects to close it and under a like penalty if he sells or gives any spirituous or fermented liquors or drinks as aforesaid.

Wednesday, March 8th.

County Court.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE PEMBERTON.

March 7th, 1871.

BOWMAN VS. BELLAMY.—This was an action brought to recover $40 for damage done to a buggy, caused by a horse running away, which was hired out by the plaintiff to defendant.

The Court deferred judgment for one week.

TO CORRECT AN ERROR.—The following bill was yesterday sent down by his Excellency the Governor. Its passage is doubtful: 'Whereas by 'The Courts Merger Ordinance, 1870 the annual salary of the Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court appears to have been fixed at one thousand nine hundred and forty dollars: And, whereas the amount so inserted in the said Ordinance was the result of a clerical error, and instead of the sum of one thousand nine hundred and forty dollars so fixed as aforesaid, the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars should have been inserted in the said Ordinance; Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, as follows:— The annual salary of the Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court shall be one thousand five hundred dollars instead of one thousand nine hundred and forty dollars; and 'The Courts Merger Ordinance, 1870,' shall be read and construed as if the annual salary of the Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court had been therein fixed at the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars instead of the sum of one thousand nine hundred and forty dollars.

LOOK OUT FOR THEM.—A baker's dozen of hard cases who were expatriated from the American side of the Straits for evil practices, arrived on the Olympia, hungry and penniless. As they are doubtless in search of the wherewithal to keep body and soul together, and as it is a foregone conclusion that to obtain such wherewithal, they will not work, the belief is irresistible that honest men must keep an eye upon their goods and chattels to preserve them from depredation. "A word to the wise," etc.

LOSS OF A BRITISH STEAMSHIP.—The steamship Crusader, Capt Beith, of the Liverpool, West India and Pacific Steamship Company, bound from Liverpool to Aspinwall, has been lost. The Crusader had touched at Santa Martha and was *en route* to Aspinwall, when on the morning of the 6th inst she struck on Zamba Reef, near Carthagena. The Venezuelan reports the vessel as going to pieces and a total loss, together with all the cargo. All on board were saved.

ARRIVAL OF THE SHIP CLARENDON.—The British ship Clarendon, 656 tons, Captain Davis, arrived off the harbor yesterday afternoon, having been only 8 days in making the passage from San Francisco. Captain Davis reports fine weather with variable winds until the last two days, when he had strong southerly breezes with a very low glass. She entered the Straits on Monday night, and saw the bark Shooting Star, for Nanaimo, and schooner Lovet Peacock, for Victoria, in the Straits. The Clarendon brings one passenger—Capt E S Perkins. She is consigned to Moody, Dietz & Nelson, at whose mills she will load with lumber for Iquiqui, Peru.

A GOOD PICTURE SPOILED.—Eleven members of the Legislative Council were yesterday grouped and photographed by Messrs Green. Unfortunately the two ugly mem- of the Council posted themselves in the foreground with their hands in their trousers-pockets and spoiled the picture—the plate cracked.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE GOOD TEMPLARS.—The Spring Ridge Water Company have had their dam raised four feet and the water now covers an area of fifteen acres. They placed in position yesterday a new pump which it is calculated will lift over 15,000 gallons per hour; alterations having been made in the engine fittings, cog-wheel gearing being substituted in the place of the belting which formerly transmitted the power of the engine to the pump-rod, and the whole of the arrangements put into thorough repair.

ARRIVAL OF THE LOVET PEACOCK.—The fine American schooner Lovet Peacock, from San Francisco, with a cargo of general merchandise, consigned to R F Pickett & Co, arrived in the outer harbor last evening after a remarkable quick passage. She will come in with the tide this morning and commence discharging cargo at the Hudons Bay Company's wharf at 8 a.m.

MERITED HONOUR.—We understand that the Queen has conferred upon His Excellency Governor Musgrave the distinguished Order of St Michael and St George.

SALUTE.—His Excellency the Governor visited H M S Scylla at Esquimalt yesterday and received the customary salute.

PASSED UP.—The bark Shooting Star, for Nanaimo, passed up yesterday.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—This ship will tomorrow. She will load wheat at Portland.

Legislative Council.

TUESDAY, March 7, 1871.

Council met at 1:30 p.m. Present—The hon Speaker, hon Attorney-General, hon Dr Helmcken, hon Dr Carrall, Mr Humphreys, Mr Nelson, Mr Cornwall, Mr DeCosmos, hon Collector of Customs, Mr O'Reilly, Mr Skinner, Mr Nathan, Mr Bunster.

MESSAGES.

The Speaker read a message from His Excellency the Governor enclosing a bill to correct an error in the Courts Merger Ordinance, was read.

The bill was read a first time.

Also a message to regulate the election of members of the Legislative Council.

Read a first time; second reading set for Thursday.

NOTICES.

Mr Humphreys gave notice of a motion for a bill to prevent bulls and stallions running at large during certain months in the year.

On Thursday, Mr Humphreys gave notice that he would move that the petitions of the inhabitants of Lillooet and of W H Kay be taken into consideration.

Mr Cornwall, in the absence of the Registrar General, gave notice of a bill to amend the Electric Telegraph Ordinance.

Mr Nathan—That on Tuesday he would move that His Excellency the Governor be requested to send down copies of correspondence between James Lowe and J D Pemberton, the late Surveyor General of the the Colony of Vancouver Island, and with the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works of British Columbia, as well as the public notice referred to in Mr Pemberton's letter. Also, the after correspondence between Messrs Drake, Jackson & Aikman and the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works and the hon the Colonial Secretary, in connection with a claim for a land warrant.

FIRE HOSE.

On motion of Mr Nathan the Standing Orders were suspended and the consideration of the Governor's message respecting the admission of the hose for the Victoria Fire Department, free of duty, was taken up.

Mr Nathan then moved for a bill providing that the duty on the hose be remitted. Carried.

ROAD STEAMERS.

Mr Bunster gave notice of an address asking His Excellency the Governor to send down a bill to allow road steamers manufactured in the colony to run on all roads in British Columbia without giving bonds or paying Messrs Beedy & Barnard any sum for strengthening bridges, &c.

SHERIFFS.

Mr Humphreys moved an address praying that His Excellency may be pleased to enquire into the necessity of Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs giving indemnity bonds and sureties.

The hon mover cited several cases of alleged hardship wherein goods and chattels were levied upon and sold illegally and the sufferers had no redress.

Seconded by Mr Skinner.

The Attorney General, who had no objection to the enquiry, said it was usual for the Sheriff to give bonds and for the Deputy Sheriff to give bonds to the Sheriff.

The motion was carried.

COMPENSATION.

Mr Humphreys' motion to ask leave to introduce a Bill to provide compensation to the common carriers, farmers and hotel keepers on the Yale Clinton-Cariboo waggon road, the value of whose property will be partially or wholly destroyed in consequence of the present Government having granted to Messrs Beedy and Barnard the monopoly and exclusive right to use Thomson's Road Steamers on the Yale Clinton Cariboo waggon road was called up and the hon member, after stating that he had been very ill and was, consequently, unable to prepare a bill, asked leave to postpone the motion—Granted.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS' BILL.

House in Committee.

Hon Dr Carrall asked leave to withdraw the amendment prescribing the property qualification for members of the Council.

Chorus of 'hear! hear!' from Messrs DeCosmos, Bunster and Humphreys.

On motion of hon Dr Carrall, the Committee rose and reported the bill complete, and it was read a third time and passed.

Council adjourned till Thursday next at 1 o'clock, p.m.

Our French Letter.

FROM OUR SPECIAL WAR CORRESPONDENT.

ABBEVILLE, Jan 17.

Have events marched too quickly to force into forgetfulness the New Year's days at the Tuilleries, when the great 'Medicine Man' of Europe delivered his annual allocution to the diplomatic body, and the world expected with a palpitating anxiety the Imperial utterances? Since he gave the Austrian ambassador that famous political box in the face, people looked toward to the meet on the 1st of January as an occasion where something surprising might turn up. Napoleon's smile—seldom he did so, and in sort, as if he mocked himself—enchanted the world; his knit ed brows consternated it. To-day he is sombre and solitary in a luxurious prison, reflecting perhaps, on the ruin he has left as a legacy to France. This New Year's day our thoughts are still fixed on Paris, but the season's discourse comes from Bordeaux, where Gambetta announces to 50,000 patriots that the empire fell because it was an imposition, and lacked for base, truth and virtue. He expressed in thoughts that breathe and words that burn, a belief that France will yet shake off her invader, and become greater from the miseries and disasters she has passed through and must yet perhaps undergo.

The ominous rumors are again coming thickly, that the position of the capital is sadder than an optimist could wish. It is not so much as how long will Paris hold out as when she will surrender. The confidence is not so firm in the extent of her food resources. It is felt the sorties can only swell the list of dead, and the besiegers' fire is considered *trop*. Two sorties have failed but have not cowed the inhabitants. The loss of Mont Avron grieved, but has not dispirited them, and they still hope against hope for armies of relief from the provinces. But what is more painful than all is the news that Trochu is about becoming one more unfortunate in the history of the unsuccessful. He has never been held to be a brilliant man, but no one questioned his being an honest one. He was rash enough to announce long ago he had a 'plan' for raising the siege, but he miscalculated the force of German tenacity and dogged resistance. Opinion in Paris is rapidly changing against him, and the *Temps*, one of the few serious journals in the city, leads the attacks. Pamphlets are hawked about the streets denouncing him. He cannot conquer impossibilities—he deserves but cannot command success. He is Governor of Paris, and President of the Provisional Government. He stands well with the National Guard, but Gen. Vinoy, who appears to be the rising sun, is the darling of the Mobiles and the regulars. Vinoy differs from Trochu in not being a politician. He is a brave old soldier, and would be severe where his rival is mild, bold where he is prudent.

We always depend on the foreign journals for the information of Abbeville being taken. Up to the present residents in the town know nothing of the capitulation. A few Uhlans occasionally pass by to demand 'stands Scotland where it did?' For a month the invader will have to face some serious encounters, the day for easy victories have disappeared. Thousands upon thousands of men are being rapidly manufactured into soldiers. They are young and have the drawbacks of all raw troops till practice makes them veterans. The Germans are being largely reinforced also. The Landwehr men are occupying the conquered districts and setting free the men of battle. Everywhere else there is a pushing forward of contingents. The Moscow winter, which has settled down on France is equally trying to both camps but most severely to the French. They are not accustomed to it as the Northmen, nor like them ever so well prepared for the rigors of the season.

At Lyons the ladies of rank and wealth give their jewels for lotteries; the poor workmen their little trinkets. At Boulogne sur-mer the fishermans wives and daughters, whose long bright golden earings are as much an institution as the snow-white caps that set off their pretty faces, ungrudgingly give the *bouche d'Oreille*.

The Parisians hold bravely out. They may find fault with the Government for not making more vigorous onslaughts on the enemy but they do not complain of the cold, the growing want, the increasing sickness. Warm clothing fairly exists, but fuel is not forthcoming. The clubs, some hold their proceedings openly others secretly, demand the trees in the gardens of the Tuilleries and the Champs Elysees to be felled and given to the citizens; better trees perish than human lives. The Committee of Defence are cutting down the trees in the Bois de Boulogne, Vincennes, &c, and the axe will soon be heard among the ornamental trees of the Boulevards. Wooden pathways, garden seats, door paces and window sashes are being used up for fire wood. The poor crowd closer together. They are welcome to deserted mansions, once halls of dazzling light, now cold as they are cheerless. No wonder fever is showing. Pulmonary affections also attest cold and insufficient food. The troops obliged to camp out cannot have fires, and the stoves act only as a mockery of heat. Their bread and wine they find to be frozen when sought for.

The Government at its late census of the number of domestic animals in each house found an unexpected supply of asses and mules. The latter are retained for work the former sent to be slaughtered. A new article of food has appeared during the last ten days—nothing less than rat—which is sold under the name of Bismark chicken. The only remaining camel has been killed and by this eaten, its flesh is as savoury as shoe leather. A few English eccentricities had a dinner on Christmas day at the Cafe Veisin. Among the delicacies of the season figured wolf cutlets, roast cat garnished with roast rat, roast camel and plum pudding. It is not necessity that forces these extras to be patronized by the well-to-do strangers. There was a food lottery lately held in Paris—and where poor Rochefort distinguished himself by his munificence in buying up several articles and putting them up again for the benefit of the charity. A turkey fetched 200 francs, and was sent to the hospital and divided equally between a selection of the most severely wounded French and Prussians. A box of cigars produced 100 francs. A large potato was knocked down to a well-known banker for 10 francs. A pet lamb brought 500 francs and was presented to the sick ward of the Asylum for deaf and dumb children.

One of the favorite pastimes with Parisians who are too old or too lazy to work is fishing in the Seine for gudgeon. I have often lounged a long time to study the philosophy of patient resignation displayed by the Walitonites in catching nothing. But the sewers of Paris have been taken by the "gamins," who with a morsel of appetising greasy bait and a small hook turn some sous by this *modus operandi* of rat-catching in flowing water.

There are persons who would botanize upon a mother's grave, and there are people in Paris who are doing a brisk business in selling the family letters rifled of German dead. If it be an epistle from some "Fraulein" so much the more valuable. As Paris has never failed to be equal to demands for everything, the number of letters already sold as picked up on the battle-field would represent the investing army three times over. Another—I may call it amusement—is the visiting of the apartments occupied by the Empress at the Tuilleries, especially her dressing rooms. These communicate with each other by an *ascenseur*—and the sovereign people go up and down in the lift—the merry-go-rounds go round no longer in the Champs Elysees, be it remembered. Then in the rooms are a series of Cabinet Railways, the carriages of which are occupied by manikins, on which are placed the wardrobe glories of her ex-majesty, and "shunted off," when not required, into what may be called a wardrobe. The visitors decorate the lay figures with their coats, and mantles, and push the little waggons "home," and out again go.

The forts now being bombarded are chiefly defended by lawyers, editors and solicitors—all volunteers. I hope they will all "cover themselves with glory."

A CARD.

DR MILLS BOWDEN.—THROUGH THE MEdium of the Colonist I want to state the very great good that has been done me by you. One year ago I was unfortunate enough to lose my palate. I tried many persons without beneficial effect, until I went to you, when I was supplied with an artificial palate which has given entire satisfaction. I recommend any person similarly afflicted, or requiring anything in the Dental line, to call upon you.

Respectfully,

C. HERBER.

mh8 1m

The Artificial Palate.—Card from Dr. Barnard.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST—To a young and hardly initiated Dentist or Surgeon, it have no doubt the insertion of an artificial palate to cover the bony fissure in a case like Mr. C Herber's, may seem like the achievement of some great feat or event, but really it is a very simple thing in itself, requiring little skill on the part of the manufacturer, unless in the adaption of a "palatal palate" and uvula, he so restores the power of the vocal organs and mouth that what before was sure to escape in an incoherent mass, now assumes some tangible form and can convey to those about him the expression of his wants or the meaning of the sentences he may try to articulate.

I happen to be well posted in the case of Mr. Herber and was the first Dentist he consulted thereon. Mr. H. appeared to me about a year ago, but as his mouth was not then in a state for taking an impression, he called on me a couple of weeks or months subsequently, at which time I not only took an impression of his mouth but got up a FAC-SIMILE of the same in plaster, built him a gutta-percha palate with velum palati and uvula attached, which he wore about the city for an hour or two and then returned to tell me that he was so satisfied that his speech and swallowing were improved thereby, that as soon as his brother should arrive from San Francisco he would give me the manufacture of an artificial palate for him. His case is not the worst I ever saw or of which I have hitherto taken an impression. As long ago as 1842, before Mills Bowden was thought of or saw the light, I took an impression of a similar but worse case, inasmuch as the bones of the upper jaw had no continuity in front of the upper lip under the nostrils, but a space of an inch or more there, like an inverted V.

Dentists are not as thick as blackberries in this country and I therefore must doubt if "many persons were tried" and only "Dr. Mills Bowden" was found to give entire satisfaction.

I do not believe from my conversation with Mr. Herber that he ever had 5 impressions of his mouth taken by Dentists, unless Dr Mills Bowden took them, and if he did, I will venture to say that if Mr. H were put upon his oath as to who got the best and most thorough impression of his mouth he will say it was Dr. Barnard, and that he also was the first man to convince him of the benefit of an artificial palate.

Had Mr H., as he promised, employed me to put him in an artificial palate, neither this Card nor that of Dr Mills Bowden would ever have found an insertion in the columns of the Victoria Colonist.

C. FRANCIS BARNARD, M. D.

March 6th, 1871. mh7 1m d&w

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT any person or persons found destroying or damaging the Telegraph Poles or Wires will be prosecuted with the utmost rigor of the law.

By Command,

B. W. PEARSE.

Lands and Works Department,

Feb 9th, 1871. fe24 d&w

C. OTTO,

ALBION SHAVING SALOON,

South side of JOHNSON STREET, adjoining the Victoria Market.

HAIR CUTTING ..... 25 CENTS
SHAVING ..... 12½ "
SHAMPOOING ..... 25 "

Razors Honed and Sharpened ... mh7 1m d&w

C. Strouss,

Importer of

Dry Goods and General Merchandise

ma8 d&w WHARF STREET, Victoria.

FRAUD

On the 27th June, 1866, MOTEWALLAH, a Printer, was convicted at the Supreme Court, Calcutta, of counterfeiting the

LABELS

of Messrs CROSSE & BLACKWELL, London, and was sentenced by Mr Justice Phear to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT

And on the 20th of the same month, for

SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES

a ring Labels in imitation of Messrs CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S, SHAIK BACHOO was sentenced, by the Subordinate Magistrate at Sealdah, to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT

CAUTION.—Anyone SELLING SPURIOUS OILMEN'S STORES, under Crosse & Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will be vigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine all goods carefully before taking delivery of them. The GENUINE manufactures of Messrs Crosse & Blackwell may be had from EVERY RESPECTABLE DEALER on Vancouver Island. mr19 1w

NORTON'S

CAMOMILE PILLS

ARE CONFIDENTLY RECOMMENDED AS A simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation; safe under any circumstances; and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits derived from their use.

Sold in bottles at 1s 1½d, 2s 9d and 11s each, by Chemists, Druggists and Storekeepers in all parts of the world.

Orders to be made payable by London House.

a16 1aw 1y

CAUTION

Betts's Capsule Patents

Are being infringed by Importation of Capsules made in contravention of his rights, which necessarily are numerous, BETTS being the original Inventor and Sole Maker in the United Kingdom.