Crawford M W Corbiniere M Childs L H Coles M Cochrane J Curran Miss Cool Mr, 2

Davis Capt A Dodge E T Dodge A H Dingwab D Downie R Davison W, 2 Dumblin R Deans Miss H

Evans J N Evans J J Edwards D Fernie P C Franklyn J H Faucette Mr Falshaw R, 2 Fitsserrald R Golledge Richd George R Gyves M Green H P

Hounslow Mrs Hamlin A G Harland H Hardinge Mrs Hemming J Hutchisson Mr Howkins E W Henderson G H Hunt W

Irwin S M Jarvis W T Johnston J, 2 Jones B

Kane J S Keathley J King D W

Livesley S Lindsey G Lange G Lotan J Lewis W Luckey G

Morris W McMillan R McColl Miss Miles H MacDonald J Martin Mrs McDougall W Morancy

O'Brian Miss

Prindle J W
Pressley J H
Penberthy J W
Phillips E
Porter D H Parker H Porter A Perkins H Palmere J

Roe R C Reid D B Robinson G Robbins M N Richot J Rowland M Rislow G S Smith WWE.

Short H Sheppard J Smith J G Scarr R Simson A Sutherland A Smith R Styles G Smeeton S Spencer D Sylvester F J Sulay C

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WERE TO THE SHORT BRITISH COLON

VOL. 6.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1865.

NO. 19

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EVERY MORNING. Sundays Excepted, AT VICTOBIA, V. .

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THE WEEKLY COLONIST urnished to Subscribers for \$6 a year; \$4 tor six paths; \$2 56 for three months; payablein advance,

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THE LAST DAYS OF SLAVERY In the exciting events of local elections

and the warring of local political principles, we are apt to overlook the revolutionary changes which have happened or are hap-pening in other parts of the world While the inhabitants of Vancouver Island have been striving with might and main, and striving successfully, to change their com-mercial policy, the people of the American republic have been fighting and overthrowing the most infamous idol that was ever set up for worship by idolatrous man. On the ast day of January in the present year the abolition of slavery was decreed by the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States—the last great triumph of humanity and freedom was achieved in that bedy which has been foremost in aiding and betting in times of yere the institution rapidly in the destruction of that evil which

war the number of human beings in bondage had increased to 40,000 in the Northern and 657,000 in the Southern States. As time rolled on, however, and the white population increased, slave-holding became unprofitable in the less fertile lands and more inclement climate of the more Northern latitudes, and one by one the Legislatures of this portion of the continent decreed its abolition. With the South it was widely different :- the character of the people -whether we take the leaven of English convictism or the aristocratic feeling of the better class of immigrants-made slavery a desirable institution, and the "sun and soil" were powerful adjuncts' to the cause. Accordingly we find the twig that bad been planted in Virginia, growing rapidly to maturity, and, like the banyan tree, which spreads its branches to the earth, cre-States. The wealth and numbers of the planter class increased, until their power really overshadowed the republic. Slavery its own stronghold, but guarded in every free State of the Union. It asserted its claims wherever it went, and dictated the policy of the country. Fortunately there was another banyan tree, that grew a different kind of fruit. Almost alongside the poisonous production of the Southern States nature band of determined men in the Puritan atmosphere of the North sprang that party which to-day rules and shapes the destiny of the country. Up to the present war, however, this party, although growing tain law and order, is urgent in the extreme. rapidly in power, was still a small minority of the whole population. It required the terrible and flery test of civil strife to melt down the strength of its opponents -- and that year the Abolition party in Congress was not strong enough to carry the constitutional amendment. In April of last year the

the House-94 to 65-on the same amend. ment in June following was not up to the necessary two-thirds majority-the amount required for any change in the Constitution. Since the recent elections, however, additional strength has been added to abolition, and when the subject of slavery came up in January of the present year, public interest became intensified on the action of the House of Representatives. On the 31st of that month, the House was crowded with eager spectators-members of the Senate, foreign ambassadors, judges, and officials of every class, ladies in every hue of the rain bow, and citizens of every vocation. As the te came on the excitemen

fitful intervals, it was found by the calling of the votes, that many of the democrate, who had opposed the amendment in the previous session, had changed their opinions, and hope lit up the eye of every lover of humanity. At length the proceedings were brought to a close, and it was announced that 119 representatives had recorded their votes in favour of the amendment and 56 against it -giving the desired two-thirds majority and three votes over. Never in any legislative hall rang out more earnest cheers,-never did a political party merit so great a triumph-never in any deliberative assembly has a more important vote been cast. The decision has now only to be ratified by the State Legislatures, and their verdict will be almost unanimous. Slavery is abolished by the American Congress-the disgrace and wrong and infamy of two centuries are now wiped out, and the flag of the United States is no longer stained with the blood of the lashed victim of oppression.

OUR MINING INTERESTS.

Whatever impetus Victoria trade may receive from the successes which are anticipated the present year in Cariboo, and from the immense rush to the Kootenay mines, of one thing we may be certain-neither Cariboo nor Kootenay will avail us much till which has been well called by the great Westery the "sam of all the villables." It is instructive to go a little back and watch the progress of events which have culminated so Kootenay country will not be of any more autumn; and even then, unless the British Columbian Government is able to push a practicable and attractive road through to statements of individuals who have the latter place during the summer, the a short period at the place, in presents in ducements inducements that would have ducements—inducements that would have heavy, we hope something may yet be left out of the proceeds for the orphans of St. has, from the earliest days of the American position in this light, and we believe it can Republic, influenced the morals of the nation, be seen in no other, the only dependence peison of social as well as political corruption. in her own golden resources. With an aurif-On the 22d of December, 1620, there erous country, which promises to afford in a landed at Jamestown, in Virginia, the first few months employment to a thousand people. eargo of slaves. Twenty human beings and which is little more than half a day's were sent ashore from a Dutch vessel, as travel from Victoria, we have no reason to goods and chattels forever. From that day, despond. The Sooke mines, if properly rethe evil, like all other evils; multiplied; and gulated, will afford more substantial aid to we find that at the time of the revolutionary the retail traders of Victoria than any other interest that has yet been developed; but these diggings must not be neglected. The men who are willing to become the pioneers in this new gold region must not be left isolated from civilization nor forced to Judge Lynch's code for the settlement of matters of dispute, or the maintenance of law and order. At present, however, this would unfortunately seem to be the prospect in store for them.

The recent action of the House in throwing out the salary of the magistrate at Sooke, has caused his Excellency to abolish what we have maintained from the first, was a needless office; but in withdrawing the magistrate, the office of gold commissioneressentially a Crown lands' appointment-has also been brought to a termination, as since the removal of Mr. Golledge, Major Foster has been filling the double position. This, ating fresh roots and forming new stocks, it is needless to say is, or rather will be, a extending itself over the face of the Southern serious matter, unless speedily attended to. At present there is no representative of the Government at Leech river, and miners having to record claims or take out licenses became a thing not only protected by law in are obliged to call upon the Colonial Secretary in Victoria. Under ordinary circumstances, such an arrangement, or rather want of arrangement, would be productive of very injurious consequences; but at the present time, when hundreds of Chinese are about to commence mining operations without, it is said, taking out licenses, and when had planted her antidote, and from a small a strong feeling is, in consequence, being engendered against them by the other residents of the gold fields, the necessity of having some person to represent the intes rests of the Government, as well as to main-

As if one drawback was not enough, we have the House of Assembly virtually crushing in the bud the attempt of Governor Kennedy to establish mail communication betest was afforded. Yet up to the present tween Victoria and these mines. The very moderate sum of \$1,000 was placed in the Estimates for this purpose; but the House reduced the item to the pitiful amount of Senate, it is true, gave the overwhelming \$300, which will really pay for nothing. We vote of 38 to 6 in its favour; but the vote in pointed out at the time the impropriety of the

reduction, and endeavored to show that it commodating the public on all festive or would have been much better either to have public occasions, and we hope the matter voted the full amount or none at all. As it is, it appears the miners feel that they are The Hall which had been decorated under completely neglected-that there is no pros- the supervision of the committee, presented pect of anything like regular postal commus an imposing rappearance. Festoons of evernication or express accommodation being greens were suspended from the ceiling; the established—and they apply to the Governor established—and they apply to the Governor upper end of the room, behing the orchestra for assistance. His Excellency can only platform, was a large, handsome, national refer them to the Assembly, and to this body the grievance is to be brought. As the vote the grievance is to be brought. As the vote which has caused so much dissatisfaction was only passed by the casting vote of the chairman, we have no doubt the House will not be slow to rectify the error which has been sommitted.

Shortly after 9 bilder his Excensively under whose patronage the ball was given, arrived with Mrs. and the Misses Kennedy, H. Wakeford, Esq., Colonial Secretary, and Mrs. Wakeford. The room

the Legislature. Nothing, indeed, we feel convinced, will do more to restore confidence in Victoria and give increased value to town property than the operations at Leech river the present year. Every protection, therefore, and every encouragement tection, therefore, and every encouragement the recreation, but unintentional bumps and tive. At present there are numbers of ushered into supper. We must here award miners in Victoria whose financial condition | due praise to the proprietors of the Hotel and forbids a trip to Cariboo. These men would this repast was provided. The viands, which be willing to risk their time and labor in were of the very best, were most tastefully prospecting the colony, if some little en- laid out and the wines and attendance were couragement were held out to them by Go- equally good. Before rising His Excellency almost of infidelity to doubt its existence in Sooke. What is wanted, therefore, especially at the present time, is a resuscitation of that spirit of exploration which was called into the energy and liberality of Governor Kennedy. At Nootka Sound considerable quantities of gold, and in large pieces, have at different times been found. At San Juan, Jordan, and a host of other rivers, good pros-

of the Indian tribes in the vicinity. Now, however, when everything wears a peaceful

this popular Saint did not conclude their festivities until the Colonist was already in the hands of many of its readers on Saturday morning, it was not to be supposed that we could furnish more than a general idea of the inaugural ball given in the Lyceum Hall on St. Patrick's Day. The great success of the entertainment, however, entitles it to further and more extended notice at our hands. The room selected by the managing committee was perhaps in most respects, the best which could have been chosen for the purpose; but the inconvenience arising from overcrowding on Friday night must have convinced all present of the necessity of meeting a desider atum which has for a long time reflected upon movement, for some reason or other, like many others, seems to have been abandoned. A city of this size should certainly possess a duty of 25 per cent—a free port victory public hall or assembly-room capable of ac- certainly.

will again be taken in hand and vigorously carried out. But to return to our subject. being laid out in the Hotel de France. Shortly after 9 o'clock His Excellency Gov-

which is in the power of the Government to bestow should be extended to our mining population. This is not all, however, which devolves upon the Legislature and Execusive the recreation, but unintentional bumps and thumps were received and apologised for with good grace, and everything went merrily and smoothly until shortly after 12 o'clock when the company headed by the distinguished patron and his family were vernment. Gold has been found on so the memory of St. Patrick. He congratumany places on the island that it partakes lated his countrymen upon having set the sensible example of inviting the ladies to paying quantities in other localities besides join in their celebration and spoke feelingly an open prairie, requiring little work to of the additional charm lent by the enable wagons to run to Mission Valley; folof the additional charm lent by the presence of the fair sex to all festive occasions as compared with the senseless custom of sitting down for several hours to being in the latter part of last spring by a dinner, talking "nothing," eating too much, and perhaps drinking more. His Excellency's remarks and toast were warmly received. After supper was concluded, Go vernor Kennedy and family left; dancing was then resumed, and the spirit of the dancers never flagged until the programme was concluded, and the merry air of Sir Roger de pects have also been obtained; but there has been heretofore nothing like organization in any of the expeditions which have visited these places. The first locality, Nootka Sound, holds out, if we can judge by the statements of individuals and the merry air of Sir Roger de Coverley sent them home with light and joy-some hearts. The gentlemen who initiated the idea of celebrating the occasion by a ball, and those who were entrusted with carrying it out have reason to feel gratified at having provided the largest and

THE PRECOCIOUS YOUTH .- The boy of the aspect, we think the experiment might be Chronicle will persist in wearing garments tried. Very little of an outlay would furnish too large for him, and will consequently con- seasons of the year. The divide between the provisions to thirty or forty men for testing tinue to stumble. We thought after picking Okanagan and the Columbia being so much the various auriferous localities on the Island the unfortusate youth up once or twice we know of that is, avoiding going too far south, during the next two or three months, and we should have been relieved of any further would occasion no difficulty on account of are certain that were the offer made to-mor- trouble, but we find him getting more and snow and of snews row of free transit and free provisions, the more hopelessly entangled in Mr. McCuls A trail from opposite the Mission comes Government would not be long weiting for a loch's unmentionables. Having arrived at complement of explorers. The gunboats that advanced stage in the science of Govably that way parties would often take it as might be put in requisition for the purpose of ernment which leaches that all imported are a cut-off and be ferried across Lake Okanagan protection as well as assistance. Explorations fitted out in this manner would, we feel can be exported, this student in political certain, be more successful than those paid economy concludes he has mastered the supcertain, be more successful than those paid economy concludes he has mastered the suborganizations whose mission is too scientific ject. With renewed confidence he rushes to with no interest at stake, and knowing the or too general. With gold prospecting a spethe field of politics, but unluckily makes country will concede that the road I have indicated is above all others the best, and I. cialty, we should have the party or paries fresh stumbles and meets fresh falls. He think the only one that will admit of prepared, at least, with proper mining appliances, and not, as in the recent exploration, confined to the delving powers of a jack-knife and the washing capacity of a frying-pan. Indicated and the washing capacity of a frying-pan. We think the subject is one demanding the that the farmers across the Sound to tell strongly in the selection of this rouse earnest as well as immediate consideration of should be induced to bring their produce. It is more or less settled along the way at the Government. Twenty-five hundred dol- to the Victoria market. Forgetting that At the Mission they raise at present more than the distribution of the produce of the distribution of the produce of th lars would, if properly expended, provide his idol Dr. Helmoken had stated that

lars would, if properly expended, provide for the property expended for t favour of Dr. Trimble's amendment of \$10 a permit. Now for the information of the M'Clure. To make the matter, however, more ludicrous our friend of the Chronicle refers his readers to his report of the debate in order to show that the general feeling in the House was not to afford protection or encouragement to farmers. In that report—if a mass of senseless and disjointed sentences can aspire to the term—the readers will find Dr. Trimble opposing taxing produce, when in reality he was one of the foremost supporters of the proposition. The same liberty is taken with the speeches of the others. Out of a House of twelve members eight spoke or voted for fostering the agricultural interest. So much for the veracity of the political economist our want of public spirit, and of providing a respectable assembly-room adequate to our requirements. An effort was made a few would recommend him to apply to his sudrequirements. An effort was made a few months since to supply this want, but the denly acquired friend Dr. Tolmie, and he will learn from this gentleman that the vege table impost passed by the House is only

THE ROUTE TO KOOTENAY

The following interesting and valuable communication on a very important topic has been handed to us by an old Fraser river miner, who has had much personal experi-ence in the country of which he speaks:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIET. -Sir.-Communications suggesting the best route to Kootenay have been very numerous of late, and prove the extraordinary interest felt in that region. Courting no controversy, I beg to indicate the best route, so far as my own knowledge is concerned. The road by all means, I should say, ought to start from the Lytton and Alexandria wagon road at Cache Creek; from there to the lower end of Kamloops lake, at Savannah Ferry.
This whole distance, being extensive flate and beaches—in fact a natural wager and

miles above, is a piece of navigation which is not equalled by any other part of British Columbia. From there follows the present trail, with little variation, to the end of Okanagan lake. How little is necessary to make this a good wagon road may be inferred from the fact that General Palmer, the wellknown packer, brought his wagons over the same route in Fraser river times. This, too. would be making a road—an important con-sideration—for all the stock coming from Oregon to Cariboo, as with hardly an exception they come all this way. The Hope route could not benefit the upper country in this respect. A little east of Okanagan lake, and running parallel with it, is a valley running from Shuswap river south to the Mission. From the head of Lake Okana. gan to this valley is an open level prairie, requiring no work except the bridging of creeks or so, to fit it for trains to travel on it. In this valley is another lake, about ten or twelve miles long, on which a boat might be used to begin with. From its lower end is lowing up which, and crossing the divide, there I propose should be the road to the Columbia. The summit of the divide here I think will be found lower than anywhere else; the ascent of the valley is also very gradual. Never having been beyond the Columbia, I can say nothing as to where or what direction the road should take after reaching that river. I know it is objected to this route that it is too roundabout, and consequently so much longer; but any one who has had much to do with packing or travelling in British Columbia will know that distance is but a slight drawback when you have a good road and feed along it. As illustrative, and as a proof of this, you have

no risk to the animals, and they kept in comparative good condition; on the other hand, when the packers entered the mines they jeopardized the losing of their stock, and the risk

This route would be good travelling in all

adduced in favor of this route, but I do not unfortunate youth we may mention that Dr. Wish to intrude too much on your space. I Trimble never proposed \$10 permit, but \$10 a ton—the same rate as that proposed by Mr. than the wish to help to solve this question to the best interest of the country at large, and, so far, serve it, which is the sole aim AN OLD FRASER RIVERITE.

BEARDING THE NEW WESTMINSTER LION -We have the authority of our evening contemporary for the following : "On Tuesday last a meeting of Cariboo miners and others residing in the upper country, was held in the Colonial Hotel, New Westminster. The Hon. G. A. Walkem presided. The result was a resolution in favor of union and responsible government, carried by a ma-jority of nine in an assembly of fifty persons." Before many weeks have passed the New Westminster papers that opened their mouths so wide at the miners' meeting in the Vicpacked meeting of Victorians "may possibly have to record similar meetings attended with similar results at various other points between New Westminster and the Rocky Mountains.