The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, December 7, 1870

"The Tax Sale Repeal Ordinance. 1867."

The few persons who see the *Government Gazette* may have noticed therein exhibited a long list of town and country lands, advertised for taxes alleged to have become due thereon under the Real Estate Tax Acts for the years 1860 and 1862 of the lately separate colony of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies. The list is dated 18th December 1869, and is introduced with the following polite intimation:—Notice is hereby given, that the following is a list of the lands in respect of which charges have been registered in the Land Registry Office, under the provisions of 'The Tax Sale Repeal Ordinance 1867;' and, unless the said charges are satisfied within three months from the date thereof, the said lands will be entered upon by the Crown, and become liable to be sold, pursuant to the above Ordinance. Now, the provisions of the above Ordinance referred to are such that 'It shall be lawful for the Governor at any time and from time to time hereafter, to cause a list to be made out of Taxes and sums due and chargeable on Real Estate in respect of the said Real Estate Taxes Acts or this Ordinance, and cause the same to be published in the *Government Gazette* of the colony, once a month, in three successive months, and after the lapse of three months from the first publication thereof the Governor may, unless the sum and taxes due in respect of lands shall be duly paid and satisfied, order the lands in respect of which such sums and taxes are due and payable as aforesaid, to be entered upon by the Crown, and thereupon the same may be respectively entered on for and on behalf of the Crown, and such right of entry shall be thereupon registered with the said Registrar of Titles, by notice.' [Vide. Section V.] Under any circumstances, it must be admitted that there is here provided a very summary and somewhat arbitrary mode of dealing with real estate; but to those acquainted with the very peculiar circumstance under which these alleged, but for the most part fictitious, arearages have accrued, the process can hardly appear in any milder form than that of a *swindle*. In this real estate tax question is involved a history—a dark chapter of official dereliction and defalcation, as well as Legislative trickery, treachery and nepotism. It is not our present intention to trouble the reader with a recital of these, but merely to invite attention to a few salient facts in order to justify the conclusion that the Government woulp not be warranted, either in law equity, in enforcing indiscriminately the provisions already cited. Captain Gordon was Treasurer of the then separate Colony of Vancouver Island during the first years of the operation of these Real Estate Tax Acts, and when the Government attempted the collection of taxes accruing thereunder, they were met with so many receipts for taxes paid but never accounted for that it was decided to write off the whole thing in respect of 1860 and 1861. Of this decision the Sheriff was duly instructed and he acted accordingly. The Act under which these taxes were levied expressly provides that in case the money is not paid within sixty days of the date of publication of the assessment roll, the Sheriff shall levy against the goods and chattels, and in case the owner cannot be found, against the land or a sufficient quantity thereof to satisfy the demand. But, in no single case was a levy made in respect of those earlier years. In 1865 sales were held without any levy having first been made in accordance with the Act. And this brings us to one of the most extraordinary eccentricities ever enacted in a British Colony. With a view of relieving certain tax-payers from the gross injustice accruing under these late Tax Acts, a measure was introduced and passed through the Legislative Assembly, extending for one year the period during which the owners might redeem their lands. In the Legislative Council the measure was so amended as to permit of redemption by the Government. On being returned to the Legislative Assembly this measure of relief met with strong opposition by a party headed by the late Mr McClure and Mr DeCosmos. To delay the measure till noon of Tuesday the 24th April 1866—the time at which the tax-payers' year of grace expired—was virtually to defeat its object; and to this patriotic work these two doughty champions of the speculators' interests applied themselves with a zeal worthy of a better cause. In order to accomplish their object they resorted to the expediment of "talking against time." Mr McClure took the floor on Monday evening, and kept it all night. To quote from the leading newspaper of the time, "Mr McClure weakened shortly after six o'clock yesterday (Tuesday) morning, having spoken sixteen hours, and Mr DeCosmos took up the burden of his song and continued to speak for the remainder of the morning. At 11:20 in the forenoon, when our reporter entered the chamber, the unfortunate man was upon his feet apparently in a very weak state of body and mind; his voice, never the most musical, had degenerated into a mere squeak, like that emitted by a half-drowned rat, and he appeared at times scarcely able to stand, but he persisted with a perseverance worthy of a better cause. On the table before him sat a tumbler of egg nogg, from which he occasionally imbibed a mouthful of the exhilerating fluid." Thus was defeated a measure which might have averted the wretched muddle with all its attendant injustice, involving, as it now does, serious questions affecting the ownership of the major portion of the lands in and around Victoria. Immediately after Union the Government was petitioned for relief; and a Commissioner was thereupon appointed to enquire into the whole matter. That Commission sat and reported, and the report was published in the *Government Gazette*. According to that report the whole proceedings which had taken place under these Tax Acts were irregular and illegal. During the session of 1868 an Act was passed, repealing former ones and setting aside proceedings taken thereunder. An Act was also passed enabling the Government to collect outstanding taxes, the principal provisions of which have already been cited. Thus it will be seen that, while admitting the illegality of the proceedings, having waived the taxes for 1860 and 1861, having repealed the Acts under which these taxes were liable, the whole thing has been, in reality, re-enacted by what we may be permitted to characterise as a sort of side-wind, and all this to enable the Crown, in the most summary and arbitrary way that it is possible to conceive of, to effect a quiet resumption of the major portion of the town and country lands in this part of the colony. The tax roll as now exhibited in the *Government Gazette* is full of errors; property not described, misdescribed, assessed twice over; property appears on which taxes have been paid; wrong names and wrong lots given, town lots are assessed in the country and country lots in town; lots appear on which the taxes have been twice paid, and others upon which the taxes have been tendered and refused by the Treasurer; and, altogether, there is presented a jumbled mass of blunders which no Commission may hope wholly to put right.

LOWER FRASER ITEMS.—James Davis, or resident of New Westminster, died in the public hospital of that town, on Saturday. Having been a member of the Seymour Artillery Corps, his remains were interred with military honors. The Municipal Council of New Westminster had received a commendation from the Colonial Secretary, relative to the prevalance of small-pox in Oregon and Washington Territory, and suggesting that the customary precautions should be adopted in the Municipality.....A meeting was held at Langley on the 23d upon the subject of the railway terminus agitation. Mr Jas A Clarke was appointed to the Chair and James W Mackay acted as Secretary. A number of resolutions were passed, for the most part strongly denunciatory of 'Victoria cupidity,' etc. One of these resolutions pronounces against Responsible Government, 'as it would at present only enable the unscrupulous politicians of Victoria to plunder more effectually the interests of the Mainland and impede the progress of the country generally.' The same resolution says, 'We hereby declare that we are in favor of immediate Confederation of British Columbia with the Dominion of Canada irrespective of the present form of our local Government, believing that the Government at Ottawa will grant us a change whenever it will be safe for us.'

OMINECA.—Passengers by the steamer yesterday bring more detailed news from our new goldfields in the North. Articles of food are, as might be supposed, dear. For instance, flour was selling at $1 a pound-bacon $1 50, sugar $1 25, beans $1 25, tobacon $3, pickles $5 a bottle, salt $1 per oz, beans 50 cents per pound. Wages were $10 a day. The principal gold-bearing creek, Germansen, is understood be about 15 miles long. It is about 70 miles from Vitalle creek, the principal creek of last season, in a northeasterly direction. Germansen creek has been prospected for a distance of 11 miles, and good prospects found all the way. It is thought that the claims which have been worked on this creek during the past summer will last two seasons more, and it is now believed that Vitalle creek will prove as rich as Germansen next year. Silver and copper leads, lead and petroleum wells are said to abound in the Bear Lake country. Capt Moore is going to place a steamer on Tatlah Lake next season.

THE RAILWAY SURVEY.—The unconstitutional attempt of certain unprincipled parties to divert a portion of the Municipal funds from their legitimate purpose to the survey of Johnson's Straits and Bute Inlet for railway purposes, having been checkmated by the Mayor, we are glad to hear that the matter is about to assume a practical and legal shape; i.e., a number of gentlemen representing large interests will be solicited to subscribe towards a fund to be expended in making a private survey of the country indicated. We also understand that a considerable sum has been already subscribed for the purpose, which is eminently proper, and ought to be carried out. It has been said the entire cost of the survey will be about $750. In our opinion the cost will not exceed $1500, and the information obtained would be cheap at that figure.

MISS MINNIE PIXLEY has been tendered a complimentary benefit, to come of at the Theatre at an early date.

THE MECHANICS' LITERARY INSTITUTE.—The second entertainment will take place on Tuesday next, at 8 P. m. Several lady and gentlemen amateurs will appear.

St. Andrew's Anniversary.

The anniversary dinner of the St Andrew's and Caledonian Society took place at the Oriental Hotel last night. The number who sat down to the sumptuous repast prepared by Messrs White & Pagden. was very large.

The Chair was filled by Mr R Wallace and the Vice Chair by Mr J Orr, President of the Society.

After full justice had been done to the dinner the cloth was removed and the Chairman read a letter from Sir James Douglas, expressing regret at his inability to be present, but stating that his son would be there to represent him, also enclosing $10 as a donation towards the funds of the Society. A number of toasts were then given and responded to. We regret that the lateness of the hour precludes the possibility of our giving a fuller notice of these interesting proceedings; but must content ourselves with saying, generally, that it has scarcely ever been our lot to listen to better speeches, songs, music and sentiments than those which went to make up one of the most agreeable and sociable evenings ever spent in British Columbia. We are happy to be able to state that this Society is in a highly flourishing condition.

NANAIMO.—A large public meeting was held at the Institute rooms on Tuesday evening and resolutions were passed condemning the course adopted by the Crown at the late Assize Court, in accepting Quin-am as Queen's evidence against Jim, convicted of the murder of Hamilton. Speeches were made, and the belief was generally expressed that Quin-am is the guiltier of the two. A petition for the reconsideration of the case was in circulation on Tuesday, and popular feeling runs high on the subject.....The barkentine C L Tayler sailed for San Francisco with stone, and the schooner Ocean Pearl was loading at the quarry.

CHINOOK DICTIONARY.—Messrs Hibben & Co, of Stationers Hall, have just issued a very useful work from the COLONIST PRESS, viz., a Chinook Dictionary. It will be found of great service in this locality on Puget Sound, and the Mainland. The words are arranged in alphabetical order, and a stranger to the Colony would have no difficulty in making his wants known to the native tribes.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise arrived from New Westminster at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon bringing 30 passengers amongst whom were the following: John Peebles, John Macken, E Treliss, B Douglas, Messrs Hamiltons R H Young, G A Walkem, Mr Miller, Robt Ker, Judge Crease, Miss Maynard, Miss Wylde, Mrs J W McKay, Mr Barker, Mr Ashwell, Loo Chee.

DISSOLVED.—The well-known mercantile firm of Millard & Beedy have dissolved. Mr Beedy withdraws from the concern and will direct his attention to the development of his extensive Mainland interests, and Mr Millard will continue the business in his own name.

BURRARD INLET.—The ship Pocahontas, the brig Admiral and the bark Nancy were loading at the Hastings Mills; and the ship B Aymar, and bark Delaware were at Moody's & Co.'s Mills.

THE steamer Grappler, Capt Frain, with a full cargo of Nanaimo coal arrived yesterday morning.

SEVEN CAUGHT.—An arrival from Howe Sound report that the whaling company have caught another whale—making seven in all.

ACCIDENT.—Last night, during the St Andrew's dinner, a b who was looking in at one of the windows of the Oriental Hotel, was rudely, we may say brutally, pushed forward by a passer-by. The poor little fellow went completely through the glass with his head, and was severely cut about the face.

DOMESTIC INFELICITY.—A case of domestic infelicity has been before the Police Magistrate two consecutive days and was yesterday adjourned until to-day, to allow time for Mr Robertson for the accused, and Mr Johnson for the complainant, to see if the difficulty cannot be amicably settled.

CONFIRMED.—The appointment of Messrs Gaston and Long as liquidators of the Queen Charlotte Coal Mining Company, was confirmed yesterday at a meeting of creditors and shareholders.

THE DEBATING CLASS of the Mechanics' Literary Institute will meet this evening at 8 o'clock to resume the discussion upon 'Responsible Government.'

THE direct steamer Pelican will sail for this port on the 5th inst.

PROF. Huxley, the President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, smokes tobacco. At the recent meeting of the Association a paper on the uses and abuses of the weed being read he made a clean breast of it acknowledging that for many years he had abstained from smoking because every time he tried it made him sick. But he said some few years ago he was making a tour in Brittany, when he stayed at an old inn; it was awfully wet and cold without and a friend of his took to smoking and tempted him to have a cigar. His friend looked so happy the fire was so warm within the inn and it was so wet and cold without that he thought he would try to smoke and he found himself a changed man He found that he was in the position of a lamentable pervert and his case would illustrate to them the evil of bad associates although the person who led him astray was most distinguished and a late President of this Association. From that day he dated his ruin for from that day whenever smoking was going on they might be pretty sure that he joined in it. There was a certain kind of substantial satisfaction about smoking if kept in moderation; and he must say this for tobacco that it was a sweetener and equalizer of the temper.

Gibbon in Love.

Mr Gibbon was at that really dramatic passage of his life, in the middle of the year 1787, completing his history, and on a certain night in June he had written the last page of the great work. Great as it is, it seems now to be regarded more with respect and awe than affection; a feeling that Mr Dickens has very happily expressed when he made Mr Boffin choose it for the work with which he was to make his first accquaintance with literature. Very familiar is the description of the almost solemn act preformed in a pavilion at the end of his garden. Laying down his pen, he took several turns in the acacia alley, with a feeling of joy at getting his liberty a long and ardous servitude; but dazed with a certain melhancholy as he thought, however lasting might be the reputation of the book, the days of the writer might be numbered. Lady Elizabeth Foster, who afterwards became Duchess of Devonshire, arrived shortly after, and struck him, as she struck all, with the elegance of the form and above all the nice *apropos* of her compliments. She took a great interest in that dramatic completion of the great history, and was one morning asked to breakfast to inspect the very scene. In the meantime Mr Gibbon had interpreted her sweetness and elegance, and all the compliments, as so many proofs of the impression he was making on her heart. And it seemed this occasion would do excellently to bring on a *denouement*. After breakfast was over he brought her out to look at the famous acacia walk, and the view of lakes and mountain which it commanded. She was euthusiastic in her delight and expressed herself in all the raptures becoming admiration for scenery when the historian affected to become suddenly jealous of the praise bestowed on such subjects, and electrified her by an eloquent and passionate declaration, at the same time falling on his knees. The astonished lady could hardly understand at first, then burst into a fit of laughter. The situation must have been ludricrous indeed; the unwieldy lover still pouring out his vows, and she remaining a few paces off and trying so soothe him. At last he understood his mistake, and then she bade him get up. But this was impossible; gout, enormus fat, and rheumatism utterly incapaciated him. The brilliant lady, cruelly ignoring the romance of the situation, came to his aid and tried to raise him; but it was in vain and it was determined that she should go for assistance, and give out that Gibbon had fallen. She went, and two stout peasants of the place came up, raised him between them, and landed him in his familiar easy chair.

Women at the Polls.

THE ELECTION IN WYOMING—LADIES VOTING SCENES AND INCIDENTS.

There is great rejoicing here to-day, mingled with wailing and gnashing of teeth. Judge W T Jones, the Republican candidate for delegate to Congress, is elected by a majority of 150 votes. The Democrats carried the last election by a majority of 1,400 votes. The ladies very generally availed themselves of their newly-acquired right of franchise. Even the fancy-women here were out to a man. I believe I wrote you in my last that two ladies had been put upon the Republican ticket, one for county clerk and the other for school superintendent. Alas for the degeneracy of the times! they shared the common fate of their associates. There were found men ungallant enough to run in opposition to them, and unchivalrous enough to accept of the victory over them. It was some consolation, however, to wounded sensitiveness to know that one of the ladies ran a whole length ahead of the other candidates on her own ticket, and came within ten votes of flooring her Democratic competitor, That was Mrs Pickett candidate for county clerk. I suppose that as the Republicans moved upon the enemy, they thought they must keep the Pickett in advance. The ladies with few exceptions, were brought to the polls in carriages and omnibusses, deposited their ballots and immediately stepped in again and were driven to their homes. One incident was worth relating. The oldest woman—perhaps the oldest person—in Cheyenne, 80 years of age went to the polls and voted her first ballot. When she alighted from the buggy the whole crowd surrounding the polls, Republicans and Democrats, took off their hats while she marched through and deposited her vote. When she turned to go away three cheers were called for and given so rousingly that they were heard for several squares. She'll be likely to remember her first ballot while she lives. The ladies didn't all vote one way by any means. Undoubtedly the majority voted the Republican ticket, but quite a sprinkling of them voted with the Democrats. It would seem a little ungrateful not to have done so. But both parties had runners out with buggies from morning till sundown, gathering up all the ladies and *females* that could be found Of course we did not expect any improprieties on the part of the ladies. And it was at least a fine illustration of that respect and reverence which the men of America have for females, that not a drunken rough was heard to offer an insult. This may have been partly owing to the fact that both parties were *courting* them. I might make some comments upon the manifest tendency of the thing; however, in its incipiency, that does not seem promising, but I forbear.

A new description of parachute shell by means of which a very considerable extent of country can be effectively lighted up to enable the operations of troops at night to become discernible, was tried at Chatham recently under very satisfactory conditions on a dark night, Three of the shells were fired to a great height from one of the siege guns planted within Prince Henry's bastion; when at an altitude of 600 feet they exploded, and a parachute descended, from which was suspended a vessel containing a magnesium light of great brilliancy, which lighted up the whole extent of Chatham lines, the bodies of troops scattered about which were plainly discernible from all parts of the garrison.

THE receipts of the Canada Central and Brockville and Ottawa Railways last month were $23 103. The receipts of the St Lawrence and Ottawa Railway for September show a gratifying increase over the corresponding period of 1869. Last year they amounted to $9.560—this year to $13.589.

Assisted Immigration.

OFFICE OF IMMIGRATION BOARD,
Victoria, British Columbia,
12th August, 1870.

NOTICE is hereby given that a scheme of Assisted Immigration, on an extended scale, being completed by the Government, applications will be received by the Secretary of the Board, from persons BONA FIDE settled in the Colony who may be desirous of participating in the scheme, upon the following terms and conditions:—

1. The applicant will be required to give security, or actually deposit the sum of Seventy-five Dollars ($75) towards the Passage Money of each Adult, and the sum of ($37) towards the Passage Money of each Child, not exceeding Twelve Years of age, and not being a Child in arms, and a further sum of Twenty-five Dollars ($25 towards the Outfit of each Adult, or one-half that amount for each Child not exceeding Twelve Years of age, no being a child in arms.

2. The Government will contribute the sum of Fifty Dollars ($50) towards the Passage Money of each Adult, and the sum of Twenty-Five Dollars towards the Passage Money of each Child under Twelve Years of age, excepting only children in arms.

3. Applicants desirous of setting out whole Families, will deposit or find security for a sum proportionate to the above amounts for each Adult or Child in such Family.

4. The Outfit of each person will be subject to the approval, as to quantity and quality, of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Emigration or other the Agent or Agent appointed by the Governor of British Columbia.

5. In cases where the abovementioned Outfit is not required, the amount deposited on account of the same will be returned to the applicant so making the deposit

6. The intending Emigrant will be required to report himself or herself at some Port of Embarkation in England to be hereafter notified.

7. Settlers desirous of obtaining Farm or Domestic Servants under this scheme, will be required to produce written characters of such Servants, which characters will be subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Emigration, or other the Agent or Agents appointed by the Governor in this behalf.

8. Such Farm or Domestic Servants will be required to sign an agreement, binding them to serve their Employers in the Colony for a term of years, at a stated yearly Salary.

9. Upon the arrival of the Emigrants in this Colony the Employer or Friends of the Emigrants will be require to take charge of them immediately, and notice beforehand will be given of the time the vessel is due.

10. Any Emigrant not so immediately taken away will be lodged and boarded at the expense of his or her Employer or Friend.

11. Applications will be required to fill up Forms, copies of which may be obtained from the Magistrate of the District, or from the Secretary of the Board in Victoria from whom respectively any further information may obtained. By Order of the Board,

B. W. PEARSE, Deputy Chairman.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Columbia, Chairman.
B. W. Pearse, Assistant Surveyor General, Deputy Chairman.
Hon. John Robson,
William John Macdonald, Esq,
Henry S. Mason Esq, Secretary. oct4 2md&w

LEA & PERRINS'
CELEBRATED
Worcestershire Sauce.
DECLARED BY CONNOISSEURS
TO BE
THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE.

CAUTION AGAINST FRAUD.

The success of this most delicious and unrivalled Condiment having caused certain dealers to apply the name of "Worcestershire Sauce" to their own inferior compounds, the Public is hereby informed that the only way to secure the genuine is to

ASK FOR LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

and to see that their names are upon the wrapper, labels stopper, and bottle.

Some of the orcign markets having been supplied with a spurious Worcestershire Sauce, upon the wrapper and labels of which the names of Lea & Perrins have been forged, L. and P. give notice that they have furnished their correspondents with power of attorney to take instant proceedings against Manufacturers and Vendors such, or any other imitations by which their right may be infringed.

Ask for LEA & PERRINS' Sauce, and see Name Wrapper, Label, Bottle and Stopper.

Wholesale and for Export by the Proprietors, Worcester; Crosse & Blackwell, London, &c. &c.; and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

AGENTS FOR VICTORIA—Janion, Green & Rhodes. ja15 1y 1a w

FARM FOR SALE.

A FARM CONTAINING 150 ACRES—60 acres of which are under cultivation, 75 acres under fence, and 100 acres good tillable land, with the Farm Buildings, and with or without Stock and Implements. It is situated seven miles from town in a thriving district, and will be sold LOW for CASH. For particulars apply at THIS OFFICE. no24 3md&we

The Weekly British Colonist,

Wednesday, December 7 1870

The Land Demand.

Probably no surer indication of faith in impending improvement in our colonial condition could be manifested than the increasing eagerness with which agricultural lands are being sought for. Time was when advertisements of farms for sale attracted little attention. As evidence of the change which has recently taken place in this respect, it might be mentioned that, in response to an advertisement which appeared in this journal on Thursday morning, of a farm for sale, five applications were made before night. Nor is it alone for improved farms that an increasing demand is observable. The increasing applications made at the Lands Department import a still greater demand for Crown Lands; and it affords us no little pleasure to be able to say, in this connection, that increasing facilities are being extended to those in search of land, by the Department. As the most important public Department in the colony, that of the Lands and Works is still far from coming up to the just expectations of the people, or the exigencies of the country. As a public bureau, in which the intending settler may speedily obtain a panoramic view, so to speak, of the country, a knowledge of lands already taken up, and of lands still open to pre-emption or purchase, of the varying soils and advantages of the different localities, or regarded as affording means of directing and assisting in the search for and settlement upon lands, it must, we fear, still be admitted that there exists a wide margin for improvement. But, for the cause of all this one must look chiefly to the execrable system of Government under which this Colony has suffered so much—a system under which it would, indeed, be strange if any colony could possibly be either prosperous or contented. It is not our present object, however, to point out the faults visible in existing political institutions, but rather to indulge for a little in the more agreeable contemplation of impending colonial wellbeing. It would, indeed, be strange if the immediate prospect of Confederation upon the highly favorable Terms already before the country, did not beget an increased demand for agricultural lands. The most superficial thinker cannot fail to see that an enormous expansion of supply and demand, production and consumption, must be the immediate consequence of Union upon the Terms proposed. The influx of population and capital must make the Colony bound onward and upward as few colonies have done; for it will not fail to be remarked that the change will be greatly more perceptible and felt from the circumstance of the Colony having reached so low an ebb. To the larger and more prosperous colonies the sudden inflow of a few thousands of population, and the inauguration of public works involving an expenditure of several millions of dollars a year might be less perceptible. But, in the case of British Columbia, it means a complete revolution, which must make itself felt in every in erest and throughout every part. The eager search after farming lands has, therefore, taken place none too soon, and he would be a foolish man who would hesitate now about securing a homestead; for, not only will every foot of arable land within convenient reach of the great markets about to be suddenly created be in requisition for supplying the increased demand, but such lands will not fail to command high prices at the hands of those who are certain to come into the colony with capital. While, therefore, it would appear to be the duty of the Government to discountenance the locking up of public lands in the grasp of speculators, it must be regarded as one of its most urgent and important duties to facilitate and encourage, in every legitimate way, the acquisition of homesteads by those who will turn the land to a proper use, and thereby promote that condition of things which will render, in the highest degree, the large influx of population and capital subsidiary to the permament prosperity of the country. The present duty would appear to be to make the most ample provision for meeting, from our own soil, the great demand certain suddenly to spring up under the new condition of things.

THANKSGIVING DAY AT SEATTLE.—The *Intelligencer* gives an account of the services held on Thanksgivings Day, at that town. The discourse was delivered by the Rev Mr Damon and, says our contemporary, 'Near the reverend gentleman, and in full view of the audience, was very tastfully arranged upon the stand a fine display of flowers, fruits and vegetable productions gathered on that day from the gardens of the city, consisting of a variety of roses, violets, daisies, heneysuckles, chrysanthum, nasturtion, blue bell, gilliflower, snap dragon, hollyhock, marigold, princess feather, mullen pink, new oats, white and red clover, ragged robben, green beans, new potatoes, green peas, ripe tomatoes, ripe blackberries and in blossom, green corn, pear and apple blossoms, and young grapes (second crop,) to which he alluded, by way of supplement to his discourse, in a most pleasing manner, referring as he did to these extraordinary evidences of our genial climate and productive soil.' It would, indeed, appear to be fitting that the inhabitants should rejoice and give thanks for such a country and such a climate.