From THE DAILY COLONIST, January 1.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Death of Cariboo Steele.

H. N. Steele, who made a fortune in Cariboo in 1862, died recently in Washington territory of paralysis.

For the Mayoralty.

Mr. Alexander Wilson has announced himself as a candidate for the mayoralty, in opposition to Mr. Jno. Grant.

Appointed.

It is learned that Mr. Robert Anderson has received the appointment of sergeant-at-arms to the Legislative Assembly, and Master Bridgeman that of page.

Welcoming 1891.

J. A. Grahame, Esq., gave a ball, last evening, at his residence on Hillside avenue. It was a prominent social event, and, to the many attending, the New Year was ushered in under the most pleasant auspices.

From San Francisco.

The steamer City of Puebla sailed for Victoria and Sound ports from San Francisco, yesterday, with the following passengers for this city: J. Cowles, Mrs. S. B. Carleton, H. Peyser, F. M. Kirby, J. L. Penney, J. W. Lambert, H. Bechtel and A. J. Bechtel.

They Go to Vancouver.

The appearance of electric street cars, the vehicles of advanced civilization, has banished the Esquimalt stages, and Mr. King now transfers the mails to and from Esquimalt in a light wagon. The stages have been purchased by a Vancouver firm.

Marriage Licenses.

The following is the statement of marriage licenses issued during the year, 1890, by Sheriff McMillan, of Victoria: January, 21; February, 8; March, 15; April, 12; May, 20; June, 17; July, 17; August, 16; September, 25; October, 14; November, 14; December, 20. Total, 199.

Victoria Public Library.

During the month of December, the number of volumes let out from the Victoria Public Library was 2,726, of which 1,224 were obtained by ladies and 1,502 by gentlemen. The highest number circulated in one day was 164, the daily average having been 105. The number of cards issued was 42 to ladies and 88 to gentlemen, in all 130.

A New School Needed.

The Nanaimo Free Press has the following: "The residents of New Wellington (Northfield) are sadly in need of a school in that vicinity, the children at the present time being compelled to journey as far as East Wellington in order to attend school. If the residents of New Wellington would draw up a petition and get the members of the city and district to endorse it, then forward it to the Educational department, they would probably obtain the desired school."

Inland Revenue.

The collections of the Inland Revenue department for the Victoria division for the six months ending December 31st, amounted to $48,289.67, made up as follows:—licenses $1,305.00; spirits $26,436.33; malt $6,731.29; tobacco $7,356.20; cigars $5,327.25; petroleum $1,138.60. It is to be noted that up to the 30th of June last the Victoria division comprised the mainland as well as the island of Vancouver which latter alone is now comprehended in this district.

Victoria's Mortality.

Continually, the official reports comparing the mortality of the various cities of the Dominion, show that the city of Victoria ranks almost at the top of the tree as a salubrious place of residence, the ratio per thousand of population being so low that some people have even wondered whether it were at all necessary to make any special sanitary improvements. However, it is satisfactory to know that a complete system of sewerage is about to begin, which, no doubt, will be productive of the most beneficial results. The total mortality of the year 1890, according to the official returns, was 255, of which 153 were males and 102 females.

Customs Revenue.

The revenue of the Victoria custom house for the month of December was made up as follows:

Duties	$64,462 79
Fines and Seiz	1,073 00
Chinese Rev	164 00
Petroleum Ins	143 00
Mineral Ins	66 50
Copyright Duty	59 12
Sick M. Fund	38 98
Steamboat Ins	5 64
Total	$66,013 03

For December, 1889, the collections were $52,389 12

The dutiable imports received at this port during December were valued at $193,618, and the free goods at $21,429; total, $215,047. The exports, the produce of Canada, amounted to $385,278, exports not the produce of Canada, $8,513; in all $393,791.

Boring for Coal.

Free Press: Mr. Samuel M. Robins and Mr. L. Rosenfeld have gone to Texada Island for the purpose of selecting a suitable site to put down a bore in Gilles Bay. This new undertaking is not part of the New V. C. Co.'s operations, but is purely a private investment of Mr. Robins and Mr. Rosenfeld. It has long been thought that coal is to be found in this spot, so these two enterprising gentlemen have undertaken the speculation. The bore on Mrs. Frew's property has been completed, after reaching to a depth of 1,000 feet. The main seam was found to be a fine thick seam of a satisfactory quality; but it is understood no other discoveries were made. The recent heavy rains which increased the volume of water in No. 3 shaft, Chase river, has now abated, and the weather being more favorable the water is easily decreased, and the work of drawing the pillars is being progressed with.

Victoria Water Works.

The construction account of the Victoria Water Works department shows that there has been an expenditure upon them of $450,000, the entire plant being at present valued at double its original cost or about $1,000,000, the revenue derived from it being $45,000 per annum. The debenture account of this branch of the municipal service is $387,500, and deducting the sinking fund so far as appropriated, some $85,000, round figures, the real indebtedness is [illegible]00. The following table shows the [illegible] of the work of pipe-laying since the [illegible]ment of the existing system:

	Miles of main, 4 in. and up.	Miles of small pipes.
[illegible], 1888	13	14
1889	19	14½
[illegible]90	27	15
[illegible]	31½	15½

1924 service pipes con[illegible] the beginning of [illegible]10 new services have [illegible]234 at the present [illegible] more than those [illegible], which will [illegible]ve growth of the city. As regards the protection service, there are 100 hydrants distributed through the city, 73 of which have a pressure upon them ranging from 50 to 70 pounds. Among the others 23 have from 30 to 50 pounds and the remaining four say from 14 to 30 pounds.

An Unfortunate Error.

At a meeting of the printing committee yesterday in Bourchier, Croft & Malette's office, the singular fact was pointed out that Dun, Wiman & Co., in their annual issue for 1891, gave the population of Victoria as 10,000, and that of Vancouver 18,000. Mr. E. W. Matthews, their representative here, was called on, and the misleading statement brought to his attention. He was as much surprised at the figures as were his interviewers, and soon proved that it was through no fault of his that the figures were incorrect. In furnishing his statement to the New York office for the book, he had given the population of Victoria as 25,000. Mr. Matthews has taken prompt steps to rectify the error as the following letter will show:

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 31, 1890.

GENTLEMEN: I have been interviewed by Messrs. Holland and Ellis to-day in regard to figures in our Reference Book for January, 1891, giving the population of Victoria as 10,000. I hereby state that this is an error occurring through proof reading in our New York office. You will readily believe when I state that the population of the city as given in our issue of September last is 20,000, and, in anticipation of a large increase in the population, our proof for January read 25,009. This would have been all right but for the error of the printer, which I regret exceedingly, and have taken prompt action to correct the figures as above. The matter will be laid before our head office at New York immediately and a special circular issued to every subscriber of our Agency. Trusting this will be a satisfactory explanation, I remain, yours, etc.,

E. W. MATTHEWS.

Hegmann Concert.

Last night, Philharmonic Hall was filled to its utmost capacity, on the occasion of the Sir William Wallace Society's concert. Numbers were given by Mr. J. G. Brown, Miss O'Neiff, Mr. Beaton, Mackenzie Munro, Mr. Mann, the Misses Robertson and Brown, Mr. W. Whyte, Mrs. Clarke, Messrs. Brown, Kinnaird and Mann, Messrs. Beaton, Jamieson and Anderson, Mrs. Turnbull and others, who all did excellent service. In the interval, Mr. Muir presented to the Society a beautiful crayon sketch of Sir William Wallace, on behalf of the artist, Mr. George Barclay, who studied in London, under his uncle, an eminent Royal Academician. It was copied from the only original, now in the possession of Sir John Maxwell Pollock, and represents its subject in full costume with helmet and cuirass. It is an admirable production, being contained in a handsome gilt frame, upon which appear the national emblem, the Thistle, together with representations of Edinburgh Castle, Dumbarton Castle, Stirling from the ramparts of the castle, also a view of the Wallace tower at Longchamps, near Paris, said to have been erected in ten days and nights; together with a sketch of one of the old Roman bridges near Bothwell, Scotland. There are also other emblems, among them St. Andrew's Cross and a lion rampant. Below the picture is the inscription on a shield, "Presented to the Sir William Wallace society, 1890-91."

THE YEAR'S TRAFFIC.

Gratifying Increase in Both Railway and Steamship Business.

A sure sign of the growing importance of Victoria as a commercial centre is the rapid increase in both passenger and freight business reported by every railway and steamship company doing business in the city. During 1890 the Northern Pacific, having placed their own first-class steamer City of Kingston in service, have added greatly to their facilities; their new steamer City of Seattle will also be called upon very shortly to meet the requirements of travelers and shippers. The C.P.N. Co., with their usual commendable enterprise, will, next year, place a daily steamer on the Westminster and Fraser River route, and the U.P.R. will add the "Victorian" to their fleet. Arrangements are being made for the docking of the China and Japan steamers, which will, in the near future, make this city their American terminus. Regular steamers are now running to and from Portland, Alberni, Howe Sound and other coast points, and daily boats to Port Angeles and Anacortes are expected to be provided within the next few months. During the past year, the E. & N. Railway, at an approximate, may be said to have carried 20,000 passengers and 50,000,000 pounds of freight to Victoria. The steamers Isabel and Emma also handled considerable business between this city, Nanaimo and Comox. The Islander and Westminster boats, connecting with the C.P.R., have brought to the city about 35,000 passengers, and 30,000,000 pounds of freight. The Sound steamers, taken together, have brought, roughly, 75,000 passengers. The freight by the U.P.R. will total fully 8,000,000, and by the Northern 23,000,000 pounds. San Francisco steamers, regular, will estimate 2,250 passengers, and 3,000,000 pounds freight. Northern steamers to Alaska or Fort Simpson—10,000 passengers and 2,000,000 pounds freight.

ONLY EMPTY ONE HUNDRED DAYS.

The Esquimalt Graving Dock Finds Plenty of Business During the Past Year.

During the year 1890, the records of the Esquimalt graving dock show, eighteen ships have there been repaired, the dock being occupied 265 days out of the 365. Warships of Her Majesty's Navy held possession 187 days, and the revenue for the year was $16,000. The Costa Rica is now under repair, and the City of Kingston will enter as soon as she leaves, for a general overhauling and re-painting.

The growing need of a second dock has been illustrated on more than one occasion during the year, as well as the fact that no ship can receive damages of a character that cannot be successfully dealt with by Victoria workmen. In all probability, the construction of a second dock, beside the present one, for the use of mercantile vessels only, and capable of accommodating the largest ship afloat, will be entered upon at an early date.

THE CITY'S DEBT.

When All Present Debentures are Floated It Will Be $935,000.

The debt of the city of Victoria, when the debentures for sewerage and market have been floated will amount to $935,000, a small figure for a city having a population of 25,000 people, and rapidly growing in wealth and numbers. For this indebtedness the city possesses one asset which largely exceeds the figure, viz., the waterworks which is worth a million dollars, and if the city choose to part with it, could be floated for a very much larger sum. Taxation in Victoria is light, one cent in the dollar, and a discount of 25 per cent. on all taxes paid on or before the 31st of December.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, January 3.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

He Has the Piano.

Mr. George Carter, expressman, was the holder of ticket 10,004, which drew the grand piano at Maynard's on New Year's eve.

Died in Seattle.

A dispatch from Seattle last evening announces the death of Mrs. D. Hamm of that city, and only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Weiler of Victoria.

Acknowledgment.

Mr. Robson desires to take this method of acknowledging and reciprocating the numerous friendly and sympathetic greetings coming to him from all parts of the province during the present holidays.

They Leave on Sunday.

Arrangements have been made by the U. S. Consul, Levi W. Myers, for the return of Capt. Perry and the shipwrecked crew of the Dare to San Francisco. They leave on the Umatilla, sailing to-morrow morning.

Very Light.

There was a very light calendar at the police court, yesterday morning, the principal features being New Year's drunks, with whom His Honor was inclined to be very merciful. J. J. Daley was again remanded, this time until Tuesday.

At Cedar Hill.

The Cedar Hill New Year's social is pronounced a "grand success" by the large company who attended, and who say that the enjoyment of the evening was largely due to the excellence of the music furnished by Prof. Hookway's orchestra.

His Life Ended.

The Chinaman, who attempted to commit suicide a few days ago by cutting his throat, died at the Jubilee Hospital, New Year's evening. No coroner's inquest was deemed necessary, the facts of the case being fully explained by Dr. Milne. The self-murderer was insane.

First to Arrive.

Mr. A. W. Smith, M.P.P. for Lillooet, is down for the approaching session of the Legislature, being the first of the mainland members to arrive. He says that the wild horses in his district are as great a nuisance as ever, and predicts that legislative measures to deal with them, will be introduced this session.

The Fool with a Gun.

The reckless shooter and his gun are again arousing the fears of residents along the harbor front. Every day some complaint has been made of sea gulls shot, or other mischief indulged in, and, on Wednesday, Mr. and Mrs. McDougall, of Victoria West, narrowly escaped death from the bullet sent flying by some careless gunner. The missile embedded itself in the side of Mr. McDougall's house.

Pandora Avenue Church.

It has been found to be utterly impossible to have the new school-room of the Pandora Avenue Methodist Church opened to-morrow, the condition of the work upon it being considerably behind the calculations of the stewards and trustees. In consequence, arrangements have been made with Mr. De Cosmos by which the congregation will worship, to-morrow, in the old building. The opening of the new lecture-room will take place on Sunday, the 11th inst.

Married on New Year's Day.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sangster, of this city, commenced their married life on New Year's Day. The wedding took place at the residence of the bride's father, John Haldon, of South Saanich, in the presence of about fifty relatives and friends, among whom the bride, Miss Genevieve E. Haldon, was a prime favorite. Rev. Mr. Christmas performed the ceremony. Mr. Robert Porter, jr., supported his friend, the groom, and Miss A. M. Haldon attended her sister. Mr. and Mrs. Sangster will make Victoria their home.

Women's Auxiliary.

At a recent meeting of the Pandora street Women's Auxiliary of the Methodist Missionary society, which has already been referred to, a thank offering of $100 was collected, including $25 raised by the members of the class which Mrs. Elford had led for over forty years to make that lady a life member of the society. Mrs. Elford was much gratified with this mark of affectionate appreciation. Nothing, indeed, could, she said, have so much gratified her. The meeting was really a fine one, the general feeling and interest being very warm.

Concert at Metchosin.

The first of a series of concerts to be given during the winter in connection with the Presbyterian mission, was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday night. A very interesting and enjoyable evening was spent, and a well rendered programme was delivered to a full house. Songs, recitations and readings were given by the following ladies and gentlemen: Miss Gertie Ball, Miss Mable Clark, Mrs. McDermaid, Mrs. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Poole, Mr. Jas. Helgeson, Mr. J. Lawson, Mr. F. McLennan, and Mr. Field. The chair was occupied by Mr. Pillar.

Highway Robbery.

At a late hour Thursday night, Mr. B. Gordon, who lives on Birdcage Walk, heard shouts from the street, which he at first took to be the noise of midnight revellers. Suddenly the cries ceased and he determined to investigate, which he did with the result that he found a Chinaman lying insensible by the sidewalk. He was a cook in a family "over the Bay," and on recovering consciousness, he stated that he had been attacked by three white men, severely beaten, and robbed of his month's pay which he had that evening received. The Chinaman's condition betokened that he had been roughly handled, but there is no clue yet to show by whom.

DIED IN THE TRAIN.

The noon train from Nanaimo yesterday, in charge of Conductor Weldon, had as a passenger, Mr. Charles Morton, who was placed on board at Shawnigan to be taken to St. Joseph's hospital for medical treatment, but who expired only a few minutes after the train pulled out from the station.

Coroner Morrison was notified of the sad occurrence as soon as Victoria was reached, and took charge of the body, upon which an inquest will be held this afternoon.

The deceased was one of the oldest pioneers of this province, to which he came from England, his native country. He was in business for many years in this city, and also at Spence's Bridge. His book and stationery establishment on Government street was in existence until a few years ago. During the past few years he has kept a neat and well patronized summer hotel at Shawnigan Lake.

CITY COUNCIL.

Appointment of Deputy Returning Officers—A Large Amount of Routine Business Disposed of.

The ordinary meeting of Council was held Friday, His Worship the Mayor in the chair. There were present, Ald. McKillican, Harrison, Goodacre, Holland, Smith, Kelly, Vigelius and Wilson.

After the reading of minutes the City Clerk submitted the following

COMMUNICATIONS.

A. H. Bone of T. N. Hibben & Co.—asking for the flagstaff opposite the City Hall which he understood was to be removed—Hall committee with power to act.

Several applications were received for the position of returning officer or poll clerk at the voting for the extension of the city limits on Monday next—Tabled.

John Orr drawing attention to the state of what should be the sidewalk on Mears street—Street committee.

W. P. Lindley—complaining of having been injured by a fall from the sidewalk which was uncovered, and asking for indemnification. The lights, he said were not lit—Electric Light committee, and Mr. Northcott, with power to act.

Ald. McKillican complained that people were always blaming the electric light, but their statements were frequently conflicting.

Several members observed that in most cases contractors were to blame, and should be made responsible.

John Meston—asking to be allowed the price of an ordinary sidewalk toward the cost of the sidewalk which he had erected in front of his property on Broad street. Street committee.

John Teague, architect—asking, on behalf of a client, for reimbursement of the cost of a sidewalk. Committee.

Ellis & Co.—suggesting that 5,000 copies of the special number of THE COLONIST on first-class paper—be purchased for circulation abroad, at a cost of $300, or a larger number at a smaller cost.

Ald. Holland moved that the subject be referred to the Printing committee, to act in conjunction with the committee of the Board of Trade.

Ald. Harrison moved that 3,000 copies be purchased. He believed in endorsing home manufactures.

Ald. Holland said that the Printing committee should have full power to act as he suggested.

Ald. McKillican seconded the motion of Ald. Holland, which was carried.

Mrs. M. Carmichael's petition, with respect to a small drain, was referred to the Street committee with power to act.

Rev. A. Blythe—asking for a reply to his demand for remuneration for an accident on Fort street, near the Assembly rooms, and stating that two ladies had recently been injured at the same point.

Ald. Harrison said there was a ten-foot sidewalk at the spot referred to. He did not think the corporation was liable. He therefore moved that the Street committee investigate this matter, as he believed there was something behind.

Ald. McKillican thought the city should notify the owners of the property to put up the fence.

It was determined that Mr. Blythe be notified to meet the committee at 2 o'clock on Monday at the surveyor's office.

The Mayor said that the fence had been down for some time.

Peter Summerfield, water commissioner—recommending that the 25 per cent. kept back, on account of delays, from the Albion Iron Works for water pipes be paid.

Ald. Smith said there ought not to have been this delay. It now appeared that the Albion Iron Works was right and the corporation wrong.

After some discussion, during which Water Commissioner Summerfield said that the Albion Iron Works had pipes ready on time,

It was said that there was another 20 per cent. kept back to guarantee the satisfactory completion of the work.

Ald. Smith contended that there had been unnecessary delay in consummating the contract, which, though accepted in December, had not been signed until the following May.

The Mayor—The water commissioner stated that, while the Albion Iron Works was legally entitled to the account, he objected to sign it as it would vary the contract.

It was finally resolved to pay the Albion Iron Works the 25 per cent. on their guaranteeing the proper fulfilment of their contract.

Hon. A. N. Richards—asking for $500 for arbitration fees on the Carey case. Tabled.

McB. Smith—Enclosing statement showing $10,250 as the amount paid by the government for school teachers' salaries, asking the payment of one-third of that amount ($3,416) within three weeks. Finance committee.

Eberts & Taylor—forwarding bills of costs in cases virtually settled. It was observed that these bills had not been totalled.

Ald. Harrison said the time had come when Victoria should employ a regular barrister at a good salary to do its business. The city was paying five or six thousand dollars a year for legal costs. The bill ought to be totalled and then submitted to be taxed.

The Mayor said a stop should be put to the way in which the city was being dragged into court.

After discussion,

Ald. Goodacre moved that a special meeting of council be held on Monday night to go over those accounts and consider any other business which might be brought up.

The amendment was adopted, Ald. McKillican having withdrawn his motion.

Ald. Kelly thought the best plan would be to pay the account and say no more about it.

The City Clerk here said he had just received another statement making the total amount, including the $500 retainer, $2,872.

Ald. Harrison said he would be prepared to pay that account.

The matter dropped.

Frederick Carne and others calling attention to the dangerous state of the plank walk on Fernwood road.—Street Committee.

W. J. McKeon and 37 other ratepayers objecting to the tax on business and on improvements, and asking that a public meeting be called at which the candidates for election might have the opportunity of expressing their views on the subject.

Ald. McKillican believed this matter should be left to the special meeting on Monday next.

The Mayor said the Board of Trade had to-day considered this subject, and he believed would favor the repeal of the law, which he (the Mayor) had informed them was a provincial act.

The communication was tabled for the special meeting on Monday.

Residents in James' Bay ward asking for repairs to Parkington street, and the construction of a sidewalk thereon.—Referred to Street Committee.

Property holders on Edmonton street—asking for improvements. Street and Water committees.

Accounts for December were submitted, amounting to $4,563.01. Referred to Finance committee, to be paid if found correct.

The Election by-law, 1891, was read a second time and confirmed.

Mr. F. Sylester was appointed deputy returning officer for Yates street ward; Mr. Schwengers for James Bay, and Mr. Dearburg for Johnson street.

Mr. Brady was appointed deputy returning officer for the majoralty and the applications for appointment as poll clerks were referred to Mr. Bull.

REPORTS.

Street committee—recommending certain improvements.

Hall committee—advising the cleaning and renovation of the police court at a cost $300; the court to be held in the interim of the Council chamber.

Market Committee recommending the adoption of Mr. John Teague's plan for a market hall; he to be instructed to prepare plans and specifications; Messrs. Stewart and McCrosbie to be paid $100 for their trouble—adopted.

The report of the Chief of Police was submitted and referred to the Police committee, to be incorporated with its report. It was a very satisfactory document showing that the force consisted of one superintendent, one sergeant and 12 constables, two of whom were always retained in charge of the lockup. It was recommended that another sergeant be appointed, and endorsed an increase of the force in the event of the extension of the city limits.

Ald. Goodacre said Mr. Jensen had presented the Park Commissioners with a very handsome flag pole, to erect which would cost about $250, according to the lowest tender, that of Mr. Turpel.

On motion the Park Commissioners were empowered to have that work done, the city to be re-embursed out of the Park loan.

On motion of Ald. Holland, the donation of the city to the Jubilee hospital was increased to $100.

Ald. Goodacre said the flags for the park would cost $150, but it was intended to raise that amount by subscription.

The Council adjourned at 10 o'clock until Monday evening.

THE WEATHER.

TO THE EDITOR:—As I have observed for some time past the issue of meteorological reports from Esquimalt, I cannot help asking if many persons here may not be inclined to take up the study of the weather as a most interesting branch of physical science. We are placed insularly in a very favorable position for such study, because, though very close to the mainland, we get benefit by the effect of the sea in preserving an equilibrium not enjoyed on the continent. I am inclined to think that a few broad statements as to the general climate laws of this part of the world might be of service to any one who might think of taking up this branch of study. They are very sensible and very comprehensive. Permit me to summarize them:

1. The prevailing wind for the northern part of this continent is N.E. by N. being a cold current setting towards the equator to compensate for evaporation. This wind is stronger while the sun is on or north of the equator than when it is south of it.

2. The wind blowing from Greenland and Hudson's Bay becomes (if possible) drier as it approaches the Rocky Mountains, having little or no aqueous vapour either to deposit or to gather on the way.

3. A great mass of land in high latitudes tends to lower the mean annual temperature, while in low latitudes it tends to raise the annual mean temperature.

4. In this narrow strip of the Pacific slope we are not only sheltered by the mountain ranges from that prevailing wind, but at the same time have the advantage of the vast amount of aqueous vapour borne on to our shores by the S. W. Pacific winds warmed and warming the return travels of the Pacific equatorial current—the equivalent of the Gulf stream in the Atlantic—and pursuing much the same course as the Northern branch of that current. These warm S. W. winds (the anti-trade winds) deposit all their warmth and moisture on the shores of British Columbia and Alaska, thus carrying into effect another of the laws of climate, that the western coasts of continents are warmer than eastern. How great is the difference on eastern and western shores *in the same latitude* may be very well illustrated in the case of Sitka, which is 16° warmer than Main in Labrador on the Atlantic coast. Perhaps I may point out with regard to the late cyclonic storm south of Vancouver Isle, and the great cold in the north-east of the American continent at the present time, which is no doubt slowly working its way hither, and may be expected to arrive here in the course of a few weeks; firstly, that the sun having first turned northwards, the area of low pressure due to equatorial evaporation has begun to move northwards, and the area of high pressure in the extreme north-east which has been growing tenser since the sun moved south, has accordingly begun to move southwards to reinstate atmospheric equilibrium. The point of greatest impact resulted in a disturbance in our latitude, of which we have within the last few days felt the consequence in high winds and rain, and the cold winds north-east of the Rocky Mountains have brought back as much as they could of the aqueous vapour which had passed northwards to meet them in the shape of snow now lying on this island. Secondly: As the evaporation area moves north with the sun, the effect of the counter Arctic rush will be more strongly felt here and on this side of the Pacific slope, and should produce increasing snow-fall until the atmospheric equilibrium becomes gradually re-established for northern latitudes. It is scarcely necessary to point out that on the south of this island we are trebly protected from snow by the mainland mountains, the sea, and the immense amount of wood which covers the island from south to north.

J. W. GREEN.

Income and Outlet.

THE three important outlets of disease are the skin, bowels and kidneys. See that they perform their functions properly, and use Burdock Blood Bitters to insure this proper action.

Powder Mill Explosion.

A powder mill explosion affects the country for miles round, but dyspepsia, biliousness, constipation, headache, loss of appetite and debility affect humanity the world over. The editor of the Mitchell *Recorder* states that he was cured of biliousness, liver trouble and sick headache by Burdock Blood Bitters. Is it not worth trying on such evidence?

From THE DAILY COLONIST, January 4.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

For San Francisco.

Passengers by the steamer Umatilla for San Francisco sailing this morning: Sir R. Musgrave, R. W. Reford, Mrs. H. Finley, B. Packard, J. R. Hutton.

The Season Well Remembered.

Mrs. Dunsmuir has well remembered the advent of the new year by sending her cheque for $50 to Dr. McGregor, as a holiday donation to the Free Library.

Handsome Homes.

Two new and handsome homes in addition to those mentioned in the New Year's COLONIST now adorn Menzies street. They were built for Messrs. Tiarks and Elworthy, upon plans drawn by the former, at a cost of about $4,000 each, and are very graceful and comfortable residences.

And Still No Trace.

It is certain that Victoria harbor was never so thoroughly searched before, and yet the body of Charles McLaughlin has not yet been recovered. His property, principally cash, has been taken possession of by the public administrator, who is making an evident effort to discover the whereabouts of the relatives of the deceased, if he has any living.

Should be Appointed.

A petition is to be circulated in Victoria in the course of the next few days, urging the appointment of a British Consular agent at Port Angeles, in the interest of Canadian and especially British Columbian, merchants and shipping men. This petition will be presented to the British Consul at San Francisco by one of the most prominent business men of Victoria.

Police Court.

The business brought before the Police Magistrate yesterday was of an exceedingly limited character. The programme was an unimportant one, and His Honor went on his way rejoicing after having mulcted three drunks in the usual amounts and remanded Joe Silk until Monday, when further evidence will be taken, looking to an early disposal of the case.

Acknowledged With Thanks.

Donations to the Refuge Home, Cormorant street, during December from the following ladies and gentlemen are acknowledged with hearty thanks: Mrs. McMillan, Mrs. Wm. Grant, Police Officers, Mrs. Jay, Mrs. J. L. McNaughton, Mrs. La Prince, Mrs. Shakespeare, Mr. Andean, Mrs. Elford Mayor Grant, H. D. Helmcken, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Gosnell, Rock Bay Coal Co., Mrs. Eliza, Mr. M. Humber, W.C.T.U. Festival, Mrs. McGregor, Mrs. Carne, Mrs. G. Grant, and Mrs. W. Beckworth.

The Voice of the People.

The vote of residents in the suburbs upon the question of extending the municipal boundaries of the city of Victoria, will be taken to-morrow. The only polling place will be at the City Hall, and the polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The question at issue is whether or no the limits of the city of Victoria shall be extended so as to take in certain suburbs which have been, for some time past, duly advertised in THE COLONIST. It is expected, as a matter of course, that a light vote will be cast by the inhabitants of the districts affected, and that an overwhelming proportion of their votes will be in favor of annexation.

A Victim of Heart Trouble.

A coroner's inquest into the cause of the death of Charles Morton, of Shawnigan, was held at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, by Dr. Morrison, coroner, and the following jury: Morris Moss (foreman, M. Humber, J. C. Leask, W. J. Phillips, T. Harmon, and J. Pettigrew. Evidence was given by several witnesses, the principle being Dr. Ernest Hall, who with Dr. Morrison made a careful post-mortem examination. The verdict was that the deceased came to his death by reason of a clot of blood upon the heart. The funeral will take place this afternoon from the hall of the Pioneer Society, of which the deceased was an influential member. St. George's Society, of which he was for some time secretary, will also attend.

Violin and Voice.

Five talented musicians filled out an attractive programme at the Hild Park concert, in Concert Hall, before an enthusiastic audience. Herr Carl Hild plays with vigor, care, precision, having perfect mastery of the instrument. In a selection from Paganini, played on one string, he demonstrated the versatility of the violin and its master. A low, dreamy composition by Hetzel evoked tremendous applause. Mr. Frederic Gillette, baritone, and Miss Ella Jocelyn, contralto, sang very acceptably, and Miss Anna Park gave two cornet solos."—Buffalo Courier.—Oct. 10, 1890. The above eminent performers, as will be seen by advertisement, are about to appear in this city, and will, no doubt, draw big audiences.

Thanks.

The President and directors of the Jubilee hospital beg to thank the undermentioned for their acceptable contributions toward the Christmas dinner: L. Dickenson, H. L. Salmon, Master Douglas McTavish, Hudson's Bay Co., George Vienna, Alex. Wilson, Victoria Brewery, Mr. Andean, Mr. King, Mrs. Jacques, Hon. Dr. Helmcken, J. Stuart Yates, Mr. Ward, Mrs. Prior, John Weiler & Co., Mrs. D. McTavish, A. B. Erskine, Mayor Grant, Jos. Finnerty, Roderick Finlayson, Mr. Bowker, J. S. Brocklehurst, Fred. J. Claxton, Mrs. E. H. Hiscock, Rev. Geo. A. Taylor, Miss Fletcher, Messrs. Moore & Co., Capt. A. W. Jones, Mrs. Wm. Templeman, Messrs. Fell & Co.

That Public Meeting.

In many quarters the current of conversation is being directed into the channel of the special subjects that it is deemed advisable that the candidates for election to the City Council should follow. It is said that in the old days town and public meetings had a wonderful influence in shaping public concerns, the old town gatherings in New England having had an immense effect in the development of existing free institutions. There are not a few citizens who hope that the members of the council at their meeting to-morrow will, if in their power, arrange so that there may be a free and general public debate to be taken part in by the candidates and the constituents before the time comes for the latter make their selections.

His Bait Was Turkey.

A few days ago an agent named A. R. Caswell arrived in this city from Vancouver, representing Beach & Co. of Winnipeg. He succeeded in making a few sales of a few dozen turkeys to several storekeepers in the city, and in return received about $600 in cash. He then proceeded to Victoria, where he was also successful in making cash sales. Another gentleman arrived here a few days after Caswell but did not give any name, enquired if Caswell had received payment for the goods delivered. The storekeepers replied in the affirmative, and showed him the receipts signed by Casswell. The gentleman then stated that Casswell had skipped out with over $1,000 belonging to the firm of Beach & Co.—Free Press.

A Special Assize.

A special court of assize has been called for the 16th inst., when the Fee murder case, and any other business that may be on the list, will no doubt be disposed of.

Week of Prayer.

The ensuing week is generally observed as the week of prayer. A joint devotional meeting will be held each day at noon at the rooms of the Y.M.C.A., and in a number of the different churches other meetings will be held during the evenings.

Back From the Bay City.

A. J. Bechtel has returned from San Francisco, where he has been attending to various matters of business. Among other things, Mr. Bechtel has bought the 60-ton schooner "City of San Diego," which he intends to send to the northern seas on a sealing expedition. She is a clipper, and can average 12 knots per hour. She will clear at San Francisco and sail under the American flag. Mr. Bechtel expects to make a fair profit next year off his marine investment.

Might Have Been Serious.

About 8:15 last night one of the glass globes belonging to the electric light system at the corner of Government and Yates streets became cracked, and fell in showers of fragments among the pedestrians, who, upon hearing the crash, with natural curiosity looked towards the place whence the sound proceeded. On perceiving the glass falling around them a panic ensued with a general scramble to reach the shelter of the verandahs on Salmon's and Campbell's corners. Had any one been struck by ever so small a piece of the broken glass (considering the great height from which it fell) serious injuries might have resulted.

The Candidates.

There has been much interest awakened by the approach of the election of mayor and aldermen for the ensuing year. The following comprise the candidates who have so far presented themselves for the suffrage of their fellow citizens:

For Mayor—John Grant, Alexander Wilson.

For Aldermen; James Bay Ward—Capt. John Irving, Edward Maillandaine, J. C. Matthews, Ald. A. J. Smith, Joseph Hunter, H. A. Munn and Ald. William Wilson.

For Yates Street Ward—Ald. Louis Vigelius, W. Walker, Ald. W. D. McKillican, S. T. Styles, F. G. Richards, jr.

For Johnson Street Ward—John Coughlan, Ald. John Robertson, A. J. McLellan, Joshua Holland, W. H. Snider.

The Mayoralty.

Last night, a meeting was held in Temperance hall, under the chairmanship of Sheriff McMillan, the object being to promote the election to the mayoralty of Mr. Alexander Wilson. After some preliminary remarks, Mr. Wilson, who had formally accepted the candidature, defined his position as being in favor of temperance and moral reform, and of all good measures. After some remarks from a number of those present, Ward committees were formed, five gentlemen from each, who, combined, should form an executive, a ladies contingent being arranged for to meet and act with them. It having been proposed that Mr. Wilson's committees should co-operate with those of some of the aldermanic candidates, it was announced by Mr. Pillar that the present organization was that of Mr. Wilson alone. There appeared to be an inclination to have the meeting considered in a sense as being private.

The Wrecked Dare.

In connection with the wreck of the Dare Captain Perry and several of the crew yesterday waited upon U. S. Consul Myers, accompanied by Charley Chips, an Indian, who had assisted to rescue them and had brought them to Victoria. It appears that when the vessel broke up there were on board two gold and two silver watches, several revolvers, marine glasses, reports, barometers, etc.; these had been taken possession of by the Indians, who had disposed of them without in any way considering the claims of "Chips." There was also some ship gearing which had been removed. Charley Chips bitterly complained to the consul of the treatment he had received, the result being that after a considerable amount of discussion, an agreement was arrived at, by which in liquidation of all claims against them the captain relinquished all demands upon the salvage, leaving the Indians to arrive at a decision among themselves.

OBITUARY.

The sad news has been received of the death of Mrs. D. Hamm, daughter of Mr. Weiler, of this city. She was about thirty-two years of age, and was highly respected by all who knew her. She had only been married about fourteen months. Her funeral takes place to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, from her father's residence. Great sympathy is everywhere manifested with her relatives and friends.

MR. JOSEPH WILSON.

Joseph Wilson, one of the best known citizens of Nelson City, was, on the 15th ult., drowned in Kootenay Lake, while endeavoring to bring over a large load of cattle. Owing to the crowding of the animals the barge was overturned, throwing Mr. Wilson into the water, the darkness rendering it impossible to render him any assistance. The body was recovered, on the Wednesday following, and interred, on the succeeding Saturday.

Joseph Wilson was born in Wellington County, Ontario, in February, 1862. His first venture away from home was in Winnipeg, during the boom. He from there went to Minnesota. From Minnesota to the Cœur d'Alence country: thence to British Columbia, arriving in this province in 1881. In 1885 he was on the Canadian Pacific. He finally got an interest in a pack train, and when the Granite Creek excitement broke out moved the train there. That camp's boom was short, and 1887 found him at Illecillewaet. In 1889, he came into the Kootenay Lake country, making Nelson his headquarters. That year he brought in beef cattle from Kettle river, and laid the foundation for the business that he carried on this year. This spring, he and his brother secured the contract for furnishing the construction force on the Nelson & Sproat railway with beef, also the contract for packing supplies along the right of way. He was always busy, and no man in the lake country had more rustling enterprise. No man better deserved success. He was liberal and honorable in his dealings; was both kind-hearted and good-natured, seldom uttering a complaint, even when disappointed or worried by bad luck.

John Whiteford left for London, Eng., by the C.P.R. this morning.