

The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE

Tuesday, October 2, 1866.

Representation under Union.

The near approach of an important change in our political situation, renders it necessary that early and earnest attention should be paid to the subject of the position Vancouver Island will occupy in the united Legislature. There are many rumors afloat as to the probable complexion of the delegation from the Island; but we have reason to believe that it will consist of four magisterial and four non-official members. This belief is forced upon us after a perusal of Mr Seymour's Paris letter, of January last, in which he says:

"Probably in British Columbia the section of the legislature which possesses most the confidence of the people is that of the magistrates. It is the right of the Governor to change the stations of the paid justices of the peace whenever he shall see occasion for doing so, therefore, the best men are always selected for the most important trusts. As the winter closes most of the miners' operations, several of the magistrates can be spared to attend the meetings of the Legislative Council in New Westminster."

The partiality that Mr Seymour evinces for magisterial representatives, will not be shared by the people at large; and, so far as any practical result in British Columbia is concerned, the system has not proved advantageous. Admitting that the Council will be composed as we have stated, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the popular members will be distributed as follows:

Victoria City, Sanich, and Lake districts.....	1
Esquimalt, Port, and Esquimalt, Metchoin and Sooke districts.....	1
Nanaimo, Comox, and Salt Spring Island.....	1
Total.....	3

This distribution of popular seats will be a palpable injustice to Victoria City, which outnumbers in population all the other districts put together. In order to equalize this glaring inequality, it will be necessary to so distribute the magisterial representatives as to give to Victoria the number of members that her preponderance of population clearly entitles her to. Victoria is entitled to at least two out of the four Magisterial members, and the country districts to two. The Island representation will therefore stand as follows:

Popular Members.....	3
Magisterial members—Victoria City.....	2
Esquimalt town, etc.....	1
Nanaimo, etc.....	1
Total.....	7

The present Council of British Columbia numbers 15 members, arranged as follows: 5 official; 5 magisterial; and 5 popular members. It is fair to presume that four of the five popular members will not assume a position of antagonism to Victoria in any scheme that may be brought before them, and their votes, combined with the eight votes of the Island delegation, will give us a majority of one on any question vitally affecting the prosperity of this place. We have, therefore, but little to fear from hostile legislation, if our people are but true to themselves, and send proper men to New Westminster to represent them. Surely four men of worth, character and intelligence—men who, while they will work for the best interests of the whole country, will not commence their legislative career by offering a factious opposition to the Government, or strive by force and insult to gain what argument and facts will not obtain can be drawn from a population of 5000 or 6000. On the character of the representatives chosen at the next election will depend the future prosperity of Victoria if not of the whole Island. Our present position is clearly traceable to the improper nature of the legislation during the last session; and the country can not survive another infliction of a like character.

THE RIFLE MATCH.—The rifle match between ten men of the Fleet and ten of the Rifle Volunteers, which commences to-day at 10 a. m., at Belmont, will be competed for by the following members representing the volunteers: Vinter, Newbury, John Wilson, Jos. Wilson, Homfray, Long, Ailsop, Peele, Soar and Woolacott.

THE AMATEURS will meet this evening at half-past seven, at the Boomerang, to make arrangements for performing at the forthcoming benefit for the Mechanics Institute. A full attendance is requested.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday, Sept. 29.

Presentations to Captain Lang.

Yesterday at 4 o'clock, the theatre was filled by a large concourse of ladies and gentlemen, who assembled to witness the presentations of testimonials to Capt D. M. Lang. His Excellency the Governor and nearly all the official staff, with several officers of the Royal navy, were present, and on the platform were seated all the prominent commercial men of the city, the members of the Volunteer Corps being drawn up round the stage in the form of a semicircle. Capt. Lang on entering with Mayor Franklin, was loudly cheered, the applause lasting for some time.

The Mayor having in a few neat and well timed remarks, expressed the object of the meeting, called upon Capt Wood, Co. No. 2, V V R C, to present an address to Capt. Lang.

Capt Wood thereupon stepped forward and in a speech full of kindly sentiment, expressed the great regret of the Corps at the departure of their esteemed captain commander. He then presented the following address together with a sword:

VOLUNTEERS' ADDRESS
To David Marshall Lang, Esq., Captain
Commandant of the Victoria Rifle Volunteer Corps.

The members of your Corps, tender to you on your retirement from command, their sincere regret.

As their commanding officer, they feel that you have won their regard by a happy union of those qualities which adorn equally the soldier, the gentleman and the Christian. They feel that you have sustained to the utmost the discipline of the Corps, at the same time that its maintenance has been tempered by a consideration for the feeling of all; that you have set an example of manly bearing, honorable feeling and patient submission to military duty; and that in you they have found not only the leader to command and instruct, but the fellow soldier and friend on whose genial and elevated character they could firmly rely.

In further testimony of your sterling qualities as a soldier, your Corps have presented you with a sword as the most fitting mark of their lasting regard and esteem.

THOMAS LETH BRIDGES,
Capt. 2nd Company,
on behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the Victoria Rifle Volunteer Corps.

VICTORIA, V. I., Sept. 28, 1866.

The address was much applauded.

Captain Lang said he placed much value on this kind proof of the regard of his brother volunteers. It was something to have won their esteem, and to have had such an address presented to him. It was more than he deserved, although he had striven all he could to advance the interests of the corps, and to make it the mild reflection of a true military organization. He would leave them with the hope and request that the Volunteers would never shrink from doing their duty in their place. The Volunteers perhaps had had better opportunities of knowing him than any others, and the kind sentiments expressed in the address that he was told to carry away with him were especially gratifying. Mr Lang concluded by expressing the deep regret that he felt in leaving the corps and in severing the connection. The handsome presentation would serve to bring back to him in other places the most pleasing reminiscences and recollections of brothers in arms (loud applause).

The Mayor then called upon Mr Robt. Wallace to present an address on behalf of the Mechanics Institute.

Mr Wallace in a feeling speech, in which he showed the worth and value of Mr Lang, the President of that deserving, though poorly supported institution, presented the following address:

MECHANICS INSTITUTE ADDRESS
To David Marshall Lang, Esq., President of
the Mechanics Institute of Victoria, V. I.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1866.

DEAR SIR—The Committee of Arrangement of the Mechanics Institute, having learned with much concern that you are on the point of taking your departure from Victoria avail themselves of the earliest opportunity of meeting together to express their feelings of deep regret at the circumstance.

Your loss as President of our excellent institution will be long and severely felt, and we desire on this occasion to witness to the zeal, liberality and lively interest ever manifested by you for its prosperity. We are well aware that kindred sentiments from other institutions and associations of our city, to whose existence and prosperity you have so largely contributed, will be addressed to you with like feelings of sincerity and approbation, and that also amongst the citizens of Victoria generally it is greatly lamented that one who has ever taken so prominent a part in promoting all measures of public good should now be leaving us. Be assured, dear sir, that in taking your departure from this city, you will carry with you our warmest wishes for your future welfare and happiness.

R. WALLACE,
Vice-President.

Hon. Secretary.

Signed by the members of the Committee. Mr Lang responded in happy terms enjoining a livelier interest and more zealous support of an Institution which of all others merited public sympathy and support, tending as it did to elevate the thoughts and minds of the young men, and to keep them from evil.

The Mayor then presented to Capt. Lang the address of the citizens, remarking that it so fully expressed the sentiments, and good wishes of Capt. Lang's numerous friends, that it needed no further comment.

Accompanying the address was a handsome silver flagon, and two goblets bearing suitable inscriptions.

CITIZENS' ADDRESS.

VICTORIA, V. I., Sept. 28th, 1866.

To David M. Lang, Esq.,
DEAR SIR:—After the honorable and prominent position you have for the past three years occupied amongst them, the citizens of Victoria, Vancouver Island, wish publicly to express their esteem of your high character and their regret at your departure.

As a business man they recognise your courtesy and your desire to advance the interests of the community at large so far as it was consistent with duty.

The energy and zeal you have displayed in the advancement of public institutions of a patriotic, intellectual and religious character are best evinced by the success that has attended your exertions.

In bidding you farewell and God speed, they beg your acceptance of the accompanying silver flagon and goblets as a slight evidence of the esteem in which you are now held by them and of their good wishes, which will always accompany you and yours.

LUMLEY FRANKLIN, Mayor,
On behalf of the citizens of Victoria.

Capt Lang in acknowledging this handsome testimonial, was almost overcome. He referred in feeling terms to the many valuable friendships he had formed during his sojourn of three years in the Colony, and which it pained him to lose. Of the charms and attractions of the place, and of the ordeals through which it had passed. He regretted sincerely, now that a brighter day was beginning to dawn, that he should have to leave, but he should in after years, continue as he always had done, to feel the liveliest interest in the progress of the country and the prosperity and happiness of the people.

He enjoined upon business men the necessity of exerting themselves and upon the ladies the advantages of striving to elevate and raise the society in which their lot was cast. He believed that a great future was before us and that a large population would in after years be attracted to these shores. Mr Lang bid farewell to his friends in words of strong affection.

His Worship the Mayor then presented Capt. Lang on behalf of Mrs Lang, with a case containing two silver egg-cups with spoons, and two silver napkin-rings. Capt Lang having responded for Mrs Lang, a vote of thanks was tendered the Mayor by acclamation, and after three cheers "and one cheer more" for Capt Lang, the large and fashionable audience separated, after the National Anthem had been performed by the band.

The Dinner.

At half-past six, Captain Lang was invited to meet a large party of gentlemen at dinner in the Club Rooms, attached to the Colonial Hotel. Mr Ring occupied the chair, and Mayor Franklin, and T L Wood, Esq., the vice-chairs. Among the company we observed the Rev T Somerville, J G Sheppard, Esq., R. Barnaby, Esq., E G Alston, Esq., J F McCreight, Esq., J Trutch, Esq., Dr Powell, J R Stewart, Esq., C O Pendergast, Esq., M W T Drake, Esq., R E Jackson, Esq., Jules David, Esq., D Leneven, Esq., P M Backus, Esq., J A McCrea, Esq., E Suto, Esq., J Loewi, Esq., J P Couch, Esq., W C Ward, Esq., J G Finlay, Esq., M T Johnston, Esq., F Weissenburg, Esq., J Russell, Esq., and many others.

An excellent dinner was served by Mons. Driard, and when the cloth was removed, toasts and speeches were given, after which, mirth and social enjoyment reigned until a late hour. The whole affair was most agreeable and successful.

The following were the toasts proposed: Her Majesty the Queen, proposed by the Chair; President of the United States, by the Chair; His Excellency the Governor, by Lumley Franklin; our Guest, by the Chair; the Navy, Army, and Volunteers of Great Britain, by Jules David, responded to by Capt. Wood, V. V. R. C.; the Mayor and City Council, by T L Wood, responded to by the Mayor; the Bench, the Bar, and the side Bar, by Robt. Barnaby, responded to by the Attorney General, Mr Ring, Mr McCreight and Mr Drake; the Press, by J G Sheppard, responded to by W A Harries; the ladies, by J A McCrea, responded to by F Toller; the Medical profession, by Jules David, responded to by Dr Powell; the Chairman, by Mr Lang, responded to by Mr Ring; Rev Mr Somerville, by Mr Backus, responded to by Mr Somerville; the American nation, by T L Wood, responded to by Mr Pendergast, Mr McCrea, and Mr Backus.

HORSES IN INDIA.—A lady writes of a costly stud in India: "The first show of the day, was Runjeet's private stud. I suppose fifty horses were led past us. The first had on its emerald trappings, necklace arranged on its neck and between its ears, and in front of the saddle two enormous emeralds, nearly two inches square, carved all over and set in gold frames, like looking glasses. The surpacer was all emeralds and there were stud ropes of gold put on something like a martingale. Heera Singh said the whole was valued at thirty-seven lacs, \$1,850,000.

POOR MAN.—M. L. Sullivan, of Champaign county, Illinois, thinks he has the largest cultivated farm in the world. There are 70,000 acres in it. 23,000 acres of it are fenced, and all of it is serviceable and productive. He has nearly 200 hired men, besides tons of labor-saving machinery.

THE SAANICH CASE.—Yesterday the depositions of Sergt. Ferrall, and Philip Pitt were taken in reference to the assault and rape committed by the man Henry Williams on the persons of Elizabeth and Josephine Fredison. From the evidence of the officer, it appeared that the prisoner denied all knowledge of the charge against him, but while walking to town, exclaimed, "well, I suppose I'm gone in this time." The prisoner also gave a version of the affair, making it appear that the outrage was committed by two other men whom he saw run into the house, and immediately afterwards he heard shouts for help. These men he said were named Cornelius and Pitt. This statement was disproved by Pitt, who swore positively that he had not been near the house from 8 o'clock in the morning until the following day when he was sent for by Fredison. Prisoner here interrupted and said "Judge, that man and Johnny Cornelius came back half an hour after they left, while I was outside the fence going to my work, that's honest."

When witness left the house, the mother and daughter were there, and the prisoner was outside behind the garden. The prisoner was remanded until Monday. Mrs Fredison still lies in a very critical state.

A VALIANT SENTINEL.—A story is told of a Prussian sentinel stationed on the steeple at Troppau, and left behind there when his company retreated. The citizens assembled to take him prisoner, but the Prussian easily defended with his bayonet, the narrow winding stair by which alone access could be gained to the steeple. They then decided on reducing him by famine; but the Prussian, having with him a good supply of cartridges, announced that unless he was regularly and well fed, he would shoot every one who passed in the streets around the church. The good soldier thus contrived to maintain his position for two days, when Troppau was reoccupied by the Prussians and he was relieved.

RIFLE MARKSMEN.—The season about to close has altered the list of marksmen somewhat from that of last year. The following members merit the markman's badge: Pearce, Neustadt, Roscoe, Long, Soar, Peele, Newbury, and John Wilson. Private Newbury has made the highest number of points (eighty-five) in the first and second classes—ranges from four to eight hundred yards—and becomes the winner of the gold medal. It is probable the handsome Whitworth rifle promised by Chief Justice Needham last season will shortly be shot for. A match is talked of between the New Westminster Volunteers and our own.

SENT ON BOARD.—Owen Thomas, Edward Newman, and Albert Aeffcke, were yesterday ordered on the application of the master, to be sent on board the ship Royal Tar. The Magistrate advised the men to obey the lawful commands of the Captain and Officers, and cautioned Captain Marks against suffering any violence to be used in enforcing orders.

JUDGE LYNCH.—We learn that parties were in search of the man Williams, who committed the outrage at Saanich, determined to lynch him when caught. Sergt. Ferrall however, was the first to track the culprit to his lair, and had him in custody before the vigilantes could find any traces of him. The wretch was thus saved from a violent death.

ANNEXATION MEETING.—In the evening paper appears a call for a meeting at the Theatre to "consider the condition of the Colony." Two gentlemen inform us that the real object of the meeting is to sound the public mind on the question of annexation. We shall take pains to note the proceedings.

FOR PORTLAND.—The steamer Fideliter will sail for Portland on Tuesday morning, at 8 o'clock.

Explosion of Crude Petroleum at Jersey City.

The Overland Mail brings us full particulars of the explosion of crude petroleum in Jersey City, August 19th, and the fire that ensued, resulting in the burning to death of 10 or more persons; the destruction by fire of the oil and cotton docks; about 15,000 barrels of petroleum oil, some 30 cars; a large quantity of cotton; two ships; one schooner, a sloop and canal boat, and nine lighters, involving a loss, estimated by those competent and in positions to judge, of over \$2,000,000.

From the New York Times of the 20th we get the following:

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

The fire occurred about 15 minutes past 7 A. M., and was caused by an explosion on board of the schooner Alfred Barrett, Capt. Kelly, of Barnstable, Mass, with a cargo of 1,039 barrels of crude oil, the gas arising from it became ignited by the lighting of a match in the fore hole of the vessel. There were on board four persons—the captain, mate, and two of the crew, three of whom were burned to death—one of the crew escaping with probably fatal injuries.

THE FIRE.

The fire spread to all parts of the vessel in a moment, and the flames shot up into the air to a great distance. The deck load consisted of about 300 barrels of oil, a portion of which was blown on the pier, and the balance into the ship on the south side of the oil dock. In a very short space of time the ignited oil spread over a large surface of water, burning most furiously, surrounding lighters and other craft within the slip and rendering escape almost impos-

sible. At this time the ebb tide had just turned, and the burning oil was carried along under the pier to the cotton and tobacco dock next northward, which was also soon in flames, together with a number of lighters loaded with oil. The fire next broke out among some cars on the pier of the New York and Erie Railway, some of which contained large tanks filled with crude oil, and from thence it spread to some 8,000 or 10,000 barrels of oil piled up between the tracks. The flames shot up into the air from 200 to 300 feet, and the smoke rolled up in dense black clouds.

A general alarm having been sounded, the entire Fire Department of Jersey City were promptly on the ground, and were subsequently followed by the Fire Department of Hoboken, Hudson City, Bergen and Union Hill. The heat was intense, and the efforts of the firemen to combat the flames were of little or no avail, except to save some of the burning cars, a portion of the railway pier, and the large freight depot, about 300 feet distant, southward.

There were about 250 freight cars on the pier, mostly empty, with the exception of a few loaded with oats and a couple with tanks filled with oil. With a couple of locomotives the employees succeeded in hauling away over 200 cars, some of them enveloped in flames, and only about 30 cars were destroyed. One of the locomotives was backed down through a sheet of flames for the purpose of hauling out a train of cars, but the first car being on fire, they were obliged to abandon the attempt. A strong force of men, however, succeeded in rolling the cars out of the way of danger, and the fire upon them was extinguished. Meantime several tow-boats were employed hauling out such vessels as were on fire. An attempt was made to haul out two ships lying at the end of the cotton and tobacco dock, but it was unsuccessful in consequence of the low tide.

Among the craft burned was an Erie canal-boat, which was lying in the slip, about midway on the south side of the oil dock. Persons employed about the piers and on the vessels state that there were on board the captain, his wife, four or five children, and a servant girl, all of whom undoubtedly perished in the flames, as no one was seen to leave the boat, which was enveloped in flames and smoke almost immediately after the fire broke out. The name of the boat or the persons who perished upon it was unknown to all. The oil and cotton docks, each 800 feet in length, and the latter covered with a frame building, were totally destroyed.

During yesterday at least 30,000 people visited the scene of the disaster, from Jersey City and vicinity, New York, Brooklyn, and elsewhere. Many rumors and exaggerated stories were afloat, but the writer, who was on the ground nearly all day, and as late as 8 o'clock in the evening, believes the above statement to be very nearly correct.

FIGHT BETWEEN AN ELEPHANT AND ITS TRAINER.—THE LATTER KILLED.—Alfred Moffat, of equestrian notoriety in England, who for the past five years has been performing Richard Bell's two elephants, was killed at Morat, Switzerland, on June 28th, while performing with Bell & Meyers's Circus Company. The elephant had some trouble with the groom a short time previous. Mr Moffat tried to subdue the beast by laying about him with his spear and tomahawk, and compelled him to kneel down to him to fasten the chain round his neck. Mr Moffat kept the spear in the animal's ear while he was doing this, but had to turn his back to the brute while he took a chain from off his leg. Just at that moment the elephant rose to his feet, and Mr Moffat, who had hold of the handle of the spear, which was still fastened to the animal's ear, was raised from the ground; the elephant then commenced turning his head backwards and forward until he got Mr Moffat in front of him, then seized him with his trunk and threw him about 20 feet in the air, and, as he was coming down, caught him in his tusks and gored him to the ground. Mr Moffat still had presence of mind to call the animal by name, and while on the ground said, "Go back, Palm!" but at that moment the infuriated animal put his foot on Mr Moffat's breast and killed him almost instantaneously! The female elephant, seeing her keeper and trainer being mangled, ran at the male elephant and gored him with her head; then with the assistance of the members of the equestrian company, Mr Moffat was got away from his enemy, but he was no more—life had flown at the time mentioned above. The female then went back into the stables, and seemed to try to get the male elephant to do the same, but in spite of all he would not go in, he appeared quite wild, and he commenced (as if through revenge) to tear Mr Moffat's coat, which lay on the ground, pulling it into a thousand pieces and then eating it. The company tried above three hours to get him in the stables, but they could not do it, either by force or kindness. At last the female came to the stable door, and commenced crying, which drew him to her. She then closed the door after him and seemed quite sensible of what had happened, placed herself at the door so that he could not get out again. During this time Messrs Bell and Myers had sent for a cannon to shoot the monster. For eight long hours the female elephant stood sentry at the stable door, guarding it with her own body, by the word of command from the groom, George Mason, who has always fed and cleaned the animals, and drove them on the road from town to town, and whose life a time or two had been saved by Mr Moffat. At last the cannon arrived, and was at once placed in a position near the stable door. George Mason then called the female elephant away from the door, and the male then came out, and the word "fire!" being given, a six-pound ball from the cannon made a hole right through his body, and he fell dead on the very spot where he killed his trainer.

The once famous Ellsworth Zouaves, of Chicago are no longer popular as a military organization.

"Do you consider lager beer intoxicating?" "Well, ash for dat, I gant say. I trink feefly to seefty classes a day, and it tosh not hurt me; but I don't know how it would pe if a man vash to make a hog of himself."

A man who is advertising lodgings "to let for early risers" at Banbury, adds: "Cochin China fowls, of unusual vocal powers are kept on the adjoining premises."