

There is no better test of the morality and civilization of a country than its Educational institutions, especially its provision for the education of the masses. It would, perhaps, be scarcely fair to apply such a test to British Columbia, and yet it must, to some extent, be applied. In legislating upon this subject, it was found to be most difficult to enact a system applicable to all sections of a country presenting such a diversity of feature and condition, and the idea of framing anything like a perfect system of education was, therefore, abandoned. The law which was adopted at the last session of the Legislature, and under which School Districts are being very generally organized, was designed to be both temporary and tentative; and, this being the case, it was earnestly hoped that it would be met in a spirit of fairness by all concerned; more especially was this expected in view of the fact that it was preceded by a chaotic condition. We would not be quite justified in stating that the new school law has been well received. That was scarcely to have been expected, even if the law had been a more liberal and perfect one than it is. To those on Vancouver Island who had been accustomed to have the entire cost of the maintenance of their schools defrayed from the Colonial Exchequer, and that, too, upon a scale which might be considered open to the charge of prodigality, it was not to be supposed that the new law would very readily commend itself, providing, as it does, for only one moiety of the expense to be met by the Government, the other moiety being raised by local effort. So far as we are aware, however, there is only one community in the United Colony which has proved recalcitrant, and that is the community from which, of all others, we least expected such conduct. We allude to the town of Nanaimo. Brief allusion was made yesterday to the meeting held at Nanaimo, and its results. We would wish to point out in a few words one or two of the errors into which the people of Nanaimo appear to have been led. Those who were present at the meeting on Monday night evinced a decided antagonism to local taxation, or even voluntary subscription in aid of the common school. The only source of local aid that appeared to meet with any favour was a fee to be charged upon the children in attendance; and that was fixed at 50 cents a head per month. Now, we invite the attention of the people of Nanaimo to the following facts and figures: The law provides for \$500, to be given out of the grant, provided the people raise an equal amount by local effort, the mode of raising it being very much left to themselves. The people of Nanaimo, or at all events such of them as attended the meeting, have decided to raise the local moiety solely by means of a tuition fee of 50 cents a month. We are assured that with such a fee an average attendance of more than 30 scholars could not be counted upon; but for the sake of argument we will say forty. Forty scholars would produce twenty dollars a month, which, in a school year of, say, ten months, would amount to \$200, or \$300 short of the sum necessary to enable the school district to obtain the Government grant! Even the fee of 50 cents a month will, we are assured, bear heavily upon miners with large families. To increase the fee would simply be out of the question. How is the balance of \$300 to be raised? A word to those patriotic souls who take the position that childless persons should not be called upon to contribute towards the support of popular education. In most civilized countries the principle receives practical recognition that as education constitutes the best safeguard against crime, indolence, poverty, intemperance, in short against any and all of the evils which affect alike small communities and large ones, therefore it is the duty, as it is the interest, of every man, whether he has children of his own to educate or not, to aid in placing within the reach of every child in the community a liberal and wholesome education. This principle is so well supported by history, experience and, we may add, common sense, that we may well leave it without any additional remark. Indeed, a gentleman of extensive experience told the Nanaimo people very plainly that if they would not aid in educating the children they might be compelled to contribute towards their support in a less

profitable and reputable form. We cannot help expressing our opinion that there should be found at this day persons of education and position willing to enunciate the doctrines promulgated at the Nanaimo meeting. The bachelor, *caeteris paribus*, is not the best member of society; but when he refuses to bear his due share of the expenses of Education, he becomes one of the worst!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14
NEW ZEALAND.—Through the courtesy of Capt. Dunlop, of the bark Maria, and Capt. Irving, of this city, we have New Zealand papers to the 31st of May. The Rev. Mr. Backland and Mrs. Backland were drowned, while fording a river in a wagon.... The war continues unabated. The whites gain but little on their formidable foes. The report that the Imperial Government had refused to send troops to the colony or render any pecuniary assistance to the Colonial Government, had caused indignation and dependency. The natives are prosecuting the war with vigor and inhumanity.... A clergyman entered a convict's cell to pray, and while appealing to the Throne of Grace, on behalf of the convict, was murdered by the wretched man.... The Duke of Edinburgh reached Auckland on May 5th, and was quietly but cordially received by the citizens.... The gold export for 1869 was \$3,100,000.... Gold-bearing quartz, rich, has been discovered at Canterbury.

A WOMAN'S WAR.—The English ladies are divided in their views of being admitted to better views of the House of Commons. The proposition to remove the grating from the ladies' gallery has brought out a memorial from 200 of the softer sex, addressed to Mr. Layard, against such removal; and to which Grantley Berkeley replies that 200 ladies have united in a substantial testimonial of silver plate to reward his efforts at having the barrier taken down. The war of the rival parties grows warm. The comic papers will suggest that the grating has occasioned a good deal of railing. It is maliciously whispered that the ladies who oppose the removal are old and ugly, while those who favor it are young and fair. If this be so, there can be little doubt about the final triumph of the reformers.

USEFUL TO OUR WHALERS.—A London firm has just obtained a patent for a method, startling to old salts in its originality, for catching whales by means of electricity. By their plan every whale boat is provided with a galvanic battery. Wires from opposite poles run down to the points of each set of harpoons. When the whale is sufficiently near, two harpoons are thrown as nearly simultaneously as possible, and when embedded the flesh of the monster completes the circuit. The charge is expected to be sufficiently powerful to paralyze the animal, so that the small boat may advance and dispatch him at leisure.

HOW HE CAME.—Pullman's Palatial Railway Car, Wasatch, was advertised to leave New York for San Francisco direct on the 25th ultimo. Governor Musgrave was known to have been in New York on the 22nd, and it is also known that his baggage went forward on the 23rd. It is, we think, highly probable that His Excellency was a passenger by the Wasatch. In this view, he would, of course, have reached San Francisco on or about the 1st inst, and may be expected here by the next steamer.

GREAT EASTERN AND EUROPEAN CIRCUIS.—The celebrated Lee Troupe, now in Oregon, propose visiting Victoria on the next trip of the G. S. Wright from Portland. The performers are 27 in number, and comprise the most talented sawdust artists on the Pacific Coast. The papers speak very highly of the troupe and their trained animals, and their coming this way will be gladly welcomed by our amusement-deserted town.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.—Mr. John Nicholson yesterday completed two fine bridges on the Craigflower road and that thoroughfare is now in good travelable condition. On to-day or Monday the repairs of the Burnside road will be commenced by Mr. Nicholson. One new bridge will be built. The Lands and Works Department is pushing matters ahead with commendable rapidity.

The steamer Leviathan arrived at Esquimaux at 10 o'clock last night from New Westminster, bringing as passengers Messrs. McCrea, Innman, and Bowden, and some men-of-war's men who have been engaged in placing the buoys at the mouth of the Fraser. She brings a Cariboo mail and express. She reports bad weather on the passage.

It was announced yesterday that the steamer Enterprise would sail at 7 o'clock this morning for New Westminster. The injuries sustained at the mouth of the Fraser were not of a serious character; but they were in an awkward part of the ship, and could only be repaired at a certain stage of the tide.

The Seward party are due here from the North. They were to be absent three weeks and sailed hence on the 21st ult. What arrangements, if any, are in progress to accord the great Statesman a demonstration (befitting his valuable services in the case of human freedom?)

SHIP BUILDING BY A NEW METHOD.—Puget Sound must look to its laurels. There is now in course of construction in a new yard in East Bo ton, a ship of one thousand tons, all the timbers of which she is composed are bent by machinery to exactly fit the moulds. The timbers are all beveled before being bent, and these frame timbers, together with the beams and knees, are framed and fastened in combination before being raised, and the details of clamps, waterways, keelsons, etc., progress towards completion as the frames are put up. When these are all in place, the vessel will be nearly ready for launching. This working of frame lines inside at the same time, is original, and is considered much stronger and more compact than any other mode of wooden ship-building.

A SON OF ST CRISPIN, who appears to have fallen from his high estate, was yesterday brought before the Police Magistrate upon a charge of selling whisky to Indians, under the operation of the absurd law which, while professing to protect the red-man from the demoralizing effects of good liquor, holds out a premium to rascals to supply him with Mission-side whisky at an enormous profit. The son pleaded guilty, but said he wanted to go to Saanich to see his children. "Ah!" said Mr. Pemberton, "you should have thought of your children before you committed the offence against society; and from what I know of you, your children are better off without you." Fined \$50 or the chain-gang for 90 days.

A MUNICIPAL INVESTIGATION.—Mr. F. W. Green, Civil Engineer, has appealed to the Municipal Court for an investigation into certain of his acts while acting in an official capacity for the Corporation in the survey of certain streets under contract for improvement. The work, it is charged, was not performed in accordance with the specifications, and Councilor Russell so asserted at a Council Meeting; he moreover, added that the work had been examined by another engineer and found to be deficient. Upon this assertion Mr. Green founds his demand for a hearing, and the Council has acceded to the demand. The case will be heard in full Council on Tuesday evening.

BRIGHT YOUNG said to a Congressman, who had an interview with him a few days ago: "When we left Missouri, it was supposed we were going to Vancouver Island, we had no such intention. We sent a colony in a vessel round to California, with a view to locate there also. But we came here to Mexican territory, planted the American flag, and conquered us a home, and here we mean to stay."

FROM NEW ZEALAND.—The bark Maria, Capt. Dunlop, 74 days from Otago, New Zealand, arrived yesterday morning, at 6 o'clock. She has come for a cargo of Burrard Inlet lumber, at Moody's, for New Zealand. The ship Hydra is on the way up from the same port, bound for Burrard Inlet.

The Gussie relief got off at 5 o'clock yesterday morning for Portland. She carried a few passengers and a large mail express. The Telfair, it is thought, will connect to-day at Astoria with the steamship Oriflamme for San Francisco.

A LARGE quantity of the machinery of the wrecked U. S. steamer Sawanee was brought yesterday by the schooner Discovery from Shadwell Passage. The Sawanee, it will be remembered, was lost about one year ago, while running North on her way to Sitka.

PIC-NIC.—That highly popular institution, the Mechanics' Institute, are arranging the preliminaries for a grand pic-nic, to come off in about ten days.

A GREAT forest fire is reported in the Goldstream range of mountains. The smoke of our torments may be seen for many miles.

The steamship J. L. Stephens leaves San Francisco to-day for Victoria direct.

The Lady Lampton was towed to Sooke yesterday by the steamer Otter.

A traveling menagerie situated at one end of a fair held in the neighborhood of Orleans, France, suddenly disappeared in the night time, leaving no trace behind. The case was afterwards ascertained to be as follows: The wife of the proprietor, who was nursing a little girl of five months, was summoned into the menagerie by one of the attendants, at about the preceding afternoon, to give directions about the service. In passing along outside the cages where the animals were confined, her dress swept the bars of one which contained a lion, the ferocious instincts of which has been excited by the smell of raw meat, just brought in for feeding time, and lying at hand. The animal caught hold of the gown with the one paw, and as the woman turned suddenly round snatched with the other the child out of her arms and dragged it within the cage. The poor mother filled the air with her cries, and even struggled to disengage the infant from the jaws of the beast, but all in vain; and when assistance arrived the child had been already half devoured. The horror of the husband, who came in soon after, was mingled with rage, and seizing a gun he shot the lion dead upon the spot. Immediately after, orders for instant departure were issued.

London papers mention incidentally a case of retributive justice. The Bishop of Oxford was going to speak against the Irish Church bill in the House of Lords, "but lost his chance through dining with the new American Minister."

Letter from White Pine.
(From our own correspondent.)
HAMILTON, White Pine,
26th July, 1869.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—I must preface my letter with an apology for not writing earlier according to promise. The richness of the silver deposits in this district is now an established fact, the billion sent from this city averaging \$10,000 per diem; considering the small number of stamps at work and that many mills are crushing low grades of ore, these figures speak volumes for the future prosperity of White Pine. Much capital has been invested by speculators from California and the East, but much more is needed and will assuredly be forthcoming. At present New York and San Francisco divide the billion shipments. The country is being energetically prospected and rich discoveries have been made in Ophir, Ton Pinta, Kern, Sacramento and other districts which only await the erection of mill to contribute their quota of silver bricks. Of course there is a reverse side to the picture; trade is overdone, rents are exorbitant, money is tight, the services of the Sheriff are constantly being called into requisition, the departures fully equal the arrivals, &c., &c., but these are no new features in mining excitements. Most men here have an infatuation of locations and no means to develop; merely do sufficient work to enable them to hold their claims, and then devote their energies (in most cases vainly) to making a sale. "If I could only sell some of my blanked locations and get out of this blanked country," is a very common lament with the honest White Pine miner. The laws allow one person to hold any number of claims by purchase and location. The supply of labor is at present more than equal to the demand, the rate of wages being in some cases five dollars a day to miners, but some of the leading mine owners on Treasure Hill have announced their determination to pay but four dollars for the future. This was the signal for a display of imbecility on the part of the Miners' Union, who paraded the streets and amused themselves by visiting the various shafts and hoisting those men who preferred work at four dollars to loafing. The Eberhardt proprietors took the lead in this reduction of wages and it is now stated they have been losing money for the past two months. Capitalists seem disposed to introduce Chinese labor into White Pine by which they could work their mines with large profit. Hamilton is the business centre of White Pine and its streets usually present a lively appearance. Huge prairie schooners and freight wagons laden with merchandise from Elko, hay, vegetables and farm produce from Utah Territory or lumber from the sawmills, file through the streets all day long. Next summer these will probably be superseded by a railroad from Elko or Carlin which would not cost much to construct, little or no grading being required on the intermediate valleys.

Taxation here is very burdensome, and punctual payment strictly enforced by the officials. In addition to the regular Government taxes which embrace everything, there are State, county and city collectors to be satisfied. However, the White Pines folk out cheerfully enough and do not grumble and growl over the inevitable, as is the custom in British Columbia.

The Chicago commercial party are expected on a visit; introductions will be much sought after by those who have mines to sell (and their name is legion). Much good is anticipated from this visit. Many of the merchants here intend opening direct relations with Chicago. There will be a great contest between San Francisco and Chicago for this inland trade.

This district is unusually quiet for a mining camp. When knives and pistols have been used with disastrous or fatal effect, it has generally proved to be a case of "Greek being Greek," respectable people minding their own business are not likely to be molested, although they may get winged by an accidental shot. Four silver bricks, value about seven thousand dollars, were stolen from the assay office of the Eberhardt Company, at Shermanstown, a short time back. Two have since been recovered, being found concealed under the flooring of an empty house.

We are poorly off for amusements. The Martineau troupe have been giving some very attractive performances, but prior to their arrival there was nothing to be seen at the theatres but melodrama entertainments of a very inferior kind. A railroad circus paid us a visit, but disbanded after playing a few nights. Mr. and Mrs. Amy Stone are said to be coming this way.

It may interest you to hear of some old Victorians who have pitched their tents here. Mr. John Henderson, of the W. U. Tel. Co., is now agent at Hamilton. Mr. Burrage, formerly of the same service, has a fine store on the main street, and owns some valuable mining interests in this district. Peter Carroll, formerly with Anderson & Co., is officiating as salesman in a dry goods store. Obolovich and his nephew Radovich have opened a large saloon with fire billiard tables, and George—vich, whom I remember last at Piper's on Government street, is in attendance at the bar. Peter Cargovich, that most accomplished of oystermen, has the controlling interest in a very promising mine on Babylon Hill, and expects to sell the same shortly to a capitalist from Chicago. This is a country of great expectations. J. M. Robertson has built an assay office and dwelling house on the Plaza and is, I understand, doing well. Captain Kirk is installed as assistant melter! Baokus did not, I am sorry to say, make a fortune here. He has left for Elko, where he is now engaged in auction business. Culverwell has obliterated on the brain, and usually carries a perfect museum of specimens about with him; he has been doing considerable prospecting in this region. One of the Picketts is deputy mining recorder at Hamilton. Capt. Winsor has been up this way engaged in mining speculations. Mattheissen Bros. are thinking of starting a restaurant. The young man who used to play the side drum for the Victoria Volunteers I was astonished to observe last Sunday officiating for the Hamilton Fire Company on the same dulcet instrument. I would not recommend any more Victo-

Canadian Mail Summary.
Our Canadian files are to the 28th ult. The Globe is not surprised to learn that the colonists in the North West Territory are dissatisfied with the form of government vouchsafed to them by the Dominion. It was considered certain that Mr. McDougall had accepted the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of the Territory. Various rumours are afloat regarding Cabinet changes. It was rumored that Mr. Rose had resigned and that Sir George E. Cartier would take his place, Sir A. T. Galt, succeeding Sir George as Minister of Militia. It was also rumored that Mr. Rose would take an appointment in one of the largest banking institutions in England. The Dominion Arbitration met at Ottawa, on the 27th. All the Ministers were absent at Montreal. Bishop Orendan, Metropolitan Elect of the Dominion, was to be consecrated on the 8th, and would sail for Canada on the 19th of August. The excursion party of the Canadian Associated Press were enjoying themselves in the United States, where they were being fairly lionized. Coal of an excellent quality has recently been discovered at Oak Bay Road, near St. Andrews New Brunswick. A deputation from the Baptist body of Ontario had left for the North West Territory, where they go to report. The Rev. Dr. Davidson was on the deputation. The annexationists interpret the speech delivered at Quebec by the Governor-General, as an invitation to the Dominion to become independent or seek rest and strength in the bosom of the American Republic; Mr. Joseph Daly, Emigrant Agent at Montreal, had another paralytic stroke, and was not expected to recover. Col. Gibbon, C. B., is now in command of the Royal Artillery in Canada. Arrangements are in progress for an international rifle match, if the term "International" can properly be applied to a match between the subjects of the United Kingdom and the Dominion. Colonel Gilmore, commanding the Queen's Own, had offered a handsome silver cup for competition between ten Canadian marksmen and an equal number of Englishmen, Scotchmen, and Irishmen. The cup is to be awarded to the man making the highest number of marks in the winning team. Major Brown has also offered a second prize, to be disposed of similarly, a handsome silver mug. The contest will take place shortly in Canada. It is rumored that a young Canadian lady belonging to one of the first and oldest families in Quebec, is about to be married to Count de Gasteaux, one of the attaches of the Belgian Embassy in Paris, the city in which the wedding will shortly take place. Pullman's Palace Car the "Wasatch" passed Hamilton on the Great Western railway on the 23rd July, with about 30 passengers, who chartered the car in California, and would make a through trip to New York in six days and a half. Among the party were two gentlemen connected with the French Government going to New York to catch the Saturday's steamer for Havre. From the Pacific Coast to Paris the journey will be made in seventeen days. It is stated by the Canadian papers that quick dispatch, coupled with the real pleasure of Pullman's improved system, is having a great effect upon travel, and that by far the largest portion will pass over the Great Western of Canada. The Wasatch was advertised to leave New York for San Francisco on the 25th July.

A Chinaman Taking Notes.
The Mandarin in Burlingame's troupe, who writes up the manners and customs of the various countries for the Chinese archives, has given the Paris correspondent of the London Post a translation of his last letter. In it he speaks of the table habits of the Paris barbarians. "We have dined," he says, "at their tables, where the stomach is expected to receive with pleasure some thirty different objects of food, and, perhaps, ten different liquors. The French and other foreigners eat until they feel very uncomfortable, and require much medicine, as may be seen by the many chemist's shops in this city. They have the same capacity as our pigs. Had you been here the other night and observed how these people rudely scrambled for the food at the supper table when we gave our fete! They put their hands violently on the dishes and disputed with each other most roughly." In telling about Burlingame's ball he writes: "Oh! if you had seen the women at our ball! They came half undressed; that is to say the upper part of the body was wholly exposed, but they are jealous of showing their feet, and seem to desire to hide the floor also, as each woman drags about with her a long robe, on which it is not etiquette to place your shoe. Their eyes are painted round [not all of them,] and they use coloring for the lips and a pearl powder for various exposed sections of the face. They purchase the hair of the dead, and artists work it into the various designs; then the women put it on their heads with flowers; and yet they are not a dirty people. The high-caste women are allowed every license. At our fete they were clasped round the waist by men they knew not, and danced with painful vigor, for it was hot."

Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills
Are prepared expressly for the cure of those diseases that have their origin in impure food and vitiated humors, and for 35 years they have proved that in all eruptions, skin diseases, in all miasmatic and scrofulous or cancerous diseases, and in every form of ulcers and scabious disease, these two great remedies never fail in effecting a cure.
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MRS. BURLINGAME.—It must be a source of gratification and pride to the inventor, after years of study and toil, to have success crown his efforts, and know his labors are appreciated. This is peculiarly the case with Dr. Walker's Vegetable Vinegar Bitters which is composed of purely vegetable preparations, making the most effectual alternative that is possible for the medical intelligence and skill of our times to produce.
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There is an... which says, "A boiling." The... which the col... waited for the... error may no... the experience... watching for th... the case of th... pared to that... upon the tard... It is only thre... announcing th... Musgrave rec... seems almost... condition impr... the conviction... —sick? Du... three months v... lation has been... what will be d... and how it will... Excellency sh... his new appo... pressed with... great work for... is very little... in. He will... at least, the... almost ran... night dried up... pulsation all... spark hovering... figurative, he... community at... He will find... anxiously aw... next ship in... them another... at yonder fie... their nest. T... only await t... provider. A... go their eage... wide open, t... "grub." The... officials; and... represents yo... not, as is too... lay all the bl... point of hon... bility, they v... thoe of any... tainly bear... to the helpe... we have ju... after all, t... fault than th... respect wou... differ from... circumstance... agree men... the affairs... more dispo... for their e... the averag... similar cond... would we b... Take them... and fare wor... duty which... ed upon to... the inappo... lical syste... portion of th... and circumst... It would be... deal differ... as a class, w... for the most... principles, a... individuals, and, in the... public duty... considerations... ter to interf... cacy nor he... that the pr... come to a... must be rel... clogging its... ing out its... must be cu... mensurate... ability of th... must be co... will approb... beyond the... salary... how to get... minimum... return to... to the re... fidence... shall have... ment of th... (and c... representat... long, and... be that Mr... in at once... minip... possibly th... all. Shou