And Victoria Chronicle.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND.

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST HIGGINS, LONG &

Ten months have elapsed since the Legislative Council passed a resolution requesting Governor Seymour to take steps, " without delay," to secure the admission of this Colony into the British North American Confederacy; and up to the present time we are in entire ignorance of the action of His Excellency in the matter, nor is there the slightest indication that any steps have been taken at all with a view of accomplishing this so much desired object, as expressed through the representatives of the people, as well also as in a more popular manner. We do not overlook the fact of the necessity of a reasonable time being required to mature a measure of such vital importance to the future wellbeing of the country; and besides, at the time of the passing of the resolution referred to the precise action necessary to be taken by the Government of this Colony in order to effect Union with Canada was not clearly understood; but, since the Imperial act has been published and proclaimed, the mode of action on our part ecomes clear and simple, and therefore, Governor Seymour, in acting pon the authority of the expressed wishes of the Legislative Council-if he had felt so disposed—would have found no difficulty in having the preiminaries so arranged that at the first session of the Canadian Parliament the terms of our admission would have been one of the first measures considered. Instead, however, of having done so, we have every reason to be. lieve that he has wilfully delayed and retarded the measure which he in good faith pledged himself to perform. If there were any obstacles in the way, such as the opposition of a considera. ble portion of the people of this Colony, or any reluctance on the part of those with whom we seek to join in Confederation, or any other cause whatever, beyond his own desire, and that of some of his interested friends. to defer it, he should have, months since, communicated the fact to his Council and the people, and much inquietude and dissatisfaction would have been allayed. But we are quite well convinced that no good cause whatever exists for the delay which has been occasioned. We know too well the mind of the people of the Provinces, as expressed through the press, and by their leading public men, to believe that any cause for delay is to be found in the Government or Parliament of Canada as at present constituted; but on the contrary, they would be glad to embrace us under the ægis of the Dominion flag, and are even now anxiously waiting the proposition of British Columbia as required by the terms of the Imperial Act of Union. As regards the wishes of the people of this Colony-outside of that small circle of officialdom at New Westminster-we will not insult the intelligence of our readers by at_ tempting an argument to show not only their willingness but their great impatience to be among the first of that band of Colonies which is to stretch from sea to sea and form an emp re which is destined to become the pride of the world in presenting

and purest form of government yet known to man. We, therefore, do not secure to say that further delay in the matter on the part of Mr Seymour would be an outrage upon the liberties. Myriads of brown moths have been of a people who have ever regarded shmost everywhere in the colony for the the privileges of a free Government as will prove to be the hardware of some beir biribright too gross to justify destructive grub. ed, and even passed, when he should from Sourabaya August 12th, arrived in harelessembled his Council; it behoves port October 2d. She has been employed for the last three years on a surveying truise, and, needing repairs, has come on in order that legal steps may be en during the present session of the

a measure not only greatly desired by the people of this Colony, but one which is anxiously looked for by the Governments of England and Canada, and opposed only by those who have an interest in the welfare of the country merely so far as it may provide for them a position and a salary which they perhaps can not easily obtain under any other condition, or at least in any free Colony, whose laws and Government are made responsible to the will of the people. The loss of time which has occurred, and the neglect in not having sent a suitable delegation to Canada, can only now be compensated by substituting telegraphic communication, which perhaps may prove less expensive than a delegation. and upon the whole more satisfactory, particularly if resorted to whilst the Legislative bodies of Canada and British Colum bia are in session. In view, therefore, of the shortness of time in which legislative action can be made available in effecting union during the present year, and the seeming indifference of Governor Seymour in the matter, we think it behoves the leading men in the Colony to adopt such measures as will convince his Excellency of the necessity of yielding at once to the pressing and serious demands of those over whom he has been appointed to ad minister Government by a sovereign who has long since learned to regard the will of the people as the highest power in the

Monday, Jan 13.

MUNICIPAL RATES DEFAULTERS. - The Town Clerk gives notice that the Fourth Quarter's Municipal Rates, together will all outstanding amounts due, must be paid on or before the first day of February, proximo, or lative Council. proceedings will be instituted for the recovery thereof, together with the expenses of collection. Attention to the requirements of Australian papers of October 31st : this notice may save citizens expense.

GRATIFYING. - The shipments of coal for the year 1867 amounted to 31,174 tons 5 cwt

WE remind our readers that Mr Harnett's lecture will be given to-night, in the Albam- giving effect to their opinions upon it. bra, at half past 7. His Worship the Mayor will preside. There vill be no difference in Williamstown, Victoria, are progressing the price of admission, and tickets can be satisfactorily. had at the book stores, hotels, and at the hall on the evening of the lecture.

THE Pastoral address of the bishops of the Anglican Church, lately assembled in Conference at Lambeth Palace, was read yesterday at the Cathedral, St. John's, and St Paul's (Esquimalt) churches. The address will appear to-morrow.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO. - The schooner Alaska, Capt. Calhoun, having taken in the freight that offered at this port has sailed for Puget Sound to complete her cargo for Sao giving aid to the Agricultural and Horti-Francisco, for which port she will sail in a cultural Societies of that colony.

COLD AGAIN- Last night the bitter cold weather returned and the frost made itself felt severely. The thermometer at 11 o'clock stood at 19º above zero.

end of this week, calling at Queen Charlotte near Rosewood. Island on her way up, should sufficient in-

week for London. She will have a few pas- which have been the produce of Victoria sengers and a good freight.

HAY-The steamer Fly, with a cargo of Saanich hay, grown Lear the Inlet, arrived to the nations of the earth the freest yesterday morning.

Sydney dates are to October 11th. will prove to be the harbinger of some

earance; the time has fully arriv- The French war steamer Primaguet, to this port for that purpo

> there is a great flood at Hay nearly as high as in 1852, and the river is still rising. A great many families are flooded out. At other places in the same direction the waters are said to be unusually

> The Government were defeated in the Assembly on the motion for the second reading of their new land bill on October 2d. There was a majority of 32 to 30 against the bill. Several members abstained from voting.

It is stated that the order of Masonry is very popular amongst the Chinese, and that there are many Mongolian members of the craft in the Braidwood district.

The General Assembly of the Presbyerian Church of New South Wales was n session.

Sir John and Lady Young have been so much pressed by all classes of the community to stay and receive the Duke of Edinburgh, that they have determined to postpone their departure until the 24th of

A letter dated Sydney, October 25th, says: On Monday, the 25th inst., a deputation of gentlemen waited upon the Ministers for the purpose of urging upon the Government, through Mr. Byrnes, the necessity of filling in the Blackwattle

The works of the Australia Paper Company at Liverpool are completed and are found to work satisfactorily. The directors hope to be able to manufacture paper in about a fortnight.

An effort is being made to give a treat to the poor at Sydney in commemoration of the arrival of the Duke of Edinburgh. The news of the arrival of the Galatea

at Adelaide on the 30th instant. has been received in Sydney with very great satis-

The Chinese Immigration Bill has been read a third time and passed in the Legis-

GENERAL INTER-COLONIAL NEWS. The following is collated from the

The difficulty between the two houses of the Victorian Legislature with reference to the passing of the Appropriation Bill still continues. The Legislative against 25,212 tons 5 cwt., in 1866. Showing Council have a second time rejected the an increase in favor of 1866 of 5961 tons 10 bill, on account of its containing a grant cwt.; and there is every reason to believe of £20,000 to Lady Darling, wife of Sir that the total shipment of the present C. Darling, late Governor of the colony. will be greatly in excess of that of last year. The Council have, however, intimated Every productive interest in this Colony is their willingness to give earnest and serious consideration to the grant, whenever the Assembly choose to send it up in such a manner as not to preclude their

The works at the Graving Dock at

In the early part of the month there were some very heavy floods in the lower districts of Gippsland, Victoria; three men were drowned and much property destroved.

It is intended to temporarily finish the ront of the Parliament Houses at Melbourne in wood, and to illuminate it on to be stationed at Auckland. the visit of Prince Alfred.

The members of the Queensland Legis lative Assembly have passed a series of resolutions declaring the advisability of

A terrific hurricane passed over Doylesford, Victoria, on the 4th ultimo; trees were uprooted and several buildings blown down.

A telegram appears in the Courier from Rockhampton, dated September 27th, to the effect that a new rush had THE Otter will proceed to Sinka about the taken place to the Sugarloaf Mountains,

Within 16 years the two colonies of Victoria and New South Wales have produced a supply of gold amounting in THE Prince of Wales will sail about to-day value to £150,000 sterling, four-sixths of

> Gold has been found on the sources of the Mary River, 60 miles from Maryborough, Queensland. Two hundred ounces per day. of gold have been brought in. One man

covered in the Burnett district, Queensland. The discovery was made by a working man.

The Nelson papers report that a large ush has occurred to a place called Mount Richmond, about 20 miles north of West port. It was stated to be turning out well. Near Collingwood, very rich diggings have been discovered btween Bedstead Gully and Slate River.

A new seam of coal three feet thick has been struck at Cape Patterson.

A gentleman in Ipswich received by the last mail a letter from Mr Eckersley M. P., from Wigan, and proprietor of an ex'ensive cotton mill in Manchester, which states that the staple of Queensland as to render it too short to suit the machinery at present in general use, and collodion has prevented any traces of the that therefore very few mill owners feel smallpox, with which he has been sick. disposed to purchase it.

It has been ascertained that the height New Zealand, is 12,262 feet.

An experiment is being made to introduce trout into the New Zealand waters.

town for the purpose of securing the abolect. ition of State aid to religion, has decided circulate 19,000 copies throughout the sult. Colony.

marks: The more thoroughly the South courses of potatoes. Sea Island labor question is ventilated, the more clearly does it appear that it is farm which the advertiser wants to sell, nothing more nor less than a system of silvery very similar to that which existed country is most beautiful allowing: "The surrounding in America a century ago, except that up wagous and a yoke of steers. to the present time men only have been brought away from the Islands and they are under promise to be returned after into this colony," laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly last week, are singularly confirmatory of this fact, and therefor worthy of notice.

A vote of want of confidence in the Ministry (Victoria,) moved by Mr Robertson, had, after three days debate in the Legislative Assembly, been negatived by 31 to 21.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church was in session in Sydney.

The contest for the championship of New South Wales between William a statement recently made by him, spoke Hickey of New castle and Richard Green of President Johnson as a drunkard. of Sydney-the former staking £120 to een handed over. A new match is ar- quired that I should visit the President's ranged between the men.

The 18th Royal Irish is the only regi-

Favorable intelligence continues to be received from the Cape Diggings, Northern Queensland. Gold is now being obtained in good paying quantities, There has lately been plenty of rain and provi- and then, when in company with many sions are said to be abundant.

The loss of shorn sheep in the western districts of Victoria, in consequence of spoonful, and drank in company with the severe storms, has been very great of rest.

The approaching departure of Sir George Grey from New Zealand seems to intoxicating liquor was abundant; but be viewed with very general regret he followed strictly the injunction, throughout the Islands. Addresses have been presented to him from both Houses as my observation extended. of Parliament of a character very far from being merely formal.

It is stated in the New Zealand newspapers that platinum has been discovered in the beach diggings at Juckson's Bay. Two ounces of the metal had been sold to a dealer in Hokitika. The digger stated have been put to me when visiting New that he could wash out from 6 to 8 czs. Eugland friends.

Attention has lately been directed to

Silence is one of the negative virtues. The best capital to begin with-A capital wife.

When is a flea like a locomotive? When it goes over the sleepers. When will the laundresses strike?

When the iron's hot. It is the lot of humanity to err at times, as the drunken man said when he mis-

took the pigsty for his bed room. Lord Lytton has written two new plays

and is looking for a manager. \$100,000 is to be expended in furnishing a new hotel in Portland, Maine.

In Spain, out of a population of 15 .-673.000, according to the last census, cotton is so worn and broken in ginning 12,000,000 could neither read nor write. Painting Prince Arthur's face with

The Presse says that in the battle of Mentana the French troops began shootof Mount Cook, on the West Coast of ing when 1,000 metres distant from the

A Russian officer has invented an inexpensive apparatus for throwing light on The association established at Hobar- objects under water, for the use of divers,

Arrests have been made of the man to publish a small monthly newspaper ex- who was intoxicated with success and the pressing its views on the subject, and to individual who was staggered by the re-

A traveler was induced to go into a Speaking of the introduction of South cook shop by this inscription : ' Roast Sea Islanders into Queensland as laborers, and boiled at two pence a head." He the Brisbane Courier of October 22d re- was not a little disappointed by two

A Wisconsin paper, describing a large

When Orator Hunt (who was a blacking manufacturer) was in Parliament, the serving a certain number of years to their late Sir Robert Peel so far forgot himself Queensland masters. "The despatches as to taunt him with this fact, whereand correspondence in connection with upon Hunt sarcastically replied: "The the introduction of South Sea Islanders truth is, the honorable member is the first gentleman in his family, and I am the first tradesman in mine."

Temperate Habits of President Johnson-Letter from B. B. French.

The following letter from B. B. French is published in the Washington Intelligencer, to the editor of which it was ad-

Washington, Nov. 23, 1867. I have just read, with exceeding regret,

I feel it to be a duty that I owe not the latter's £100-took place on the 26th only to the President, but to the commuult., and resulted in Hickey finishing nity, to say, that probably no person has about five boats' lengths ahead of his op had a better opportunity, from April, ponent, The fairness of the race is dis- 1865, to this time, to judge of the habits puted, but no imputation is thrown on of the President than I have. As Com-Hichky. The stakes have, however, missioner of Public Buildings, duty re-House almost daily, and no week passed when I did not have personal interviews ment to be left in New Zealand, and it is with President Johnson. I have seen him at all hours of the day-in his office. in his sleeping room, in his reception room -and never have I seen him in the least under the influence of strong drink, nor did I ever see him taste any but once, gentlemen, at their urgent solicitation, he poured into a glass perhaps half a table-

I was with him throughout his journey to Boston, and I saw him in places where "Touch not, taste not, handle not," so far

I sincerly believe Andrew Johnson to be as temperate a man in all his habits as

any in the United States. Hon Mr Price is not the only man who has been misled by false statements, as I well know from the questions that

> Respectfully yours B. B. FRENCH.