LA MODE IN POLAND .-- One Count S-arrive1; be and hardly seated when another ounced. They seemed all to dly terms. In the evening, men played at cards with and a third, who was staying When he arrived, Countess "Is it not curious to see my er playing cards winh his

ves! " I exclaimed; "surely

she answered. "Nothing is ere. He now regrets having the first; he liked her best; o married again. They are and agreeable to one aness S --- continued : "You a person in the country who arried more than once. The ach us on our facility for diarry for life; we, for as long is better than living togeth-

very startling to me; but it is was convinced from person-One bitterly cold day, when ors was enough to make one ess S-, Fraulein Muller, king artificial flowers; Anna, low not how many degrees of on a sledging excursion with we were seated by the win-sledge drawn by six horses wenue. We were wondering eous visitor could be, when ountess Z-, a near neigh-

he said to Countess S-, "I ent to stay, and have somertant to say my husband ins for your daughter; he is an o I beg of you not to let any ment on my account be an union. I have already obce, and am on the eve of conmarriage. I leave for Varig. Adieu, dear friend." So peared as quickly as she had

a thunderbolt had fallen at not have been more sur-Muller and I who had stood room, had not time to gain e communication was made. begged of us to remain, and, riend left, observed without st amazed at what she heard - was 'oo old for Anna has a very large fortune : we have almost given our er person." She evidently cked at the strange announce-

Count A-- did come next a fo: mal demand, and was repinion coinciding with that of hambers's Journal.

ow that Dr. Livingstone is no nown to have been wounded between the Manganja and the Englishmen ta ing the ner against the Ajawas, who rs. From the effects of his want of proper medicines, ment, this great missionary, it succumbed. No more, of w be heard of the Central-The collision with the ich to be deplored and we a mistaken policy to back up he expense of another-the Mission very soon discovered they had befriended, and for ght, were no better in principle than their neighbors. - Cor.

Il to take place in the theatre birth-night gives promise of est and grandest public ball been given in the colony. wards is given in our advertis-

rks. Fire Works. E CELEBRATION OF Y 4th, 1864

THER OCCASIONS.

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THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 5.

VICTORIA. VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1864

THE BRITISH CULONIST PUBLISHED

EVERY MORNING. (Sandays Excepted. AT VICTORIA. V. I.

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THE DREDGING SCHEME.

The debate on the Governor's communication in reference to the improvement of Victoria herbor, came on in the House yesterday. So far as the discussion itself was concerned. it was one of the few interesting debates of the Session. Mr. DeCosmos' statement was clear and minute even to a fault. Major Poter was more than usually logical, and brough: out some points well worthy of attention. Mr. Franklin entered it to a slight. explanation of the fact that although the vote was only thirteen odd thousand. £18 000 had been set apart in the Loan Act for harbor improvement. Dr. Helmeken, as usual, came in at the last, and in this instance made the most sensible and consequently the most practical remarks of the four s, eakers. Mr. De Cosmos' financial statement had the misfortune of being based on purely hypothetical grounds. If the necessary improvements Victoria harbor could be accomplished in three years, his scheme of providing the ways and means would be unobjectionable. His estimate of the current expenses, allowing a proper margin for contingencies, comes up to about the figne we computed in our last-a little over mr. Pemberter shoot recent the predict of the be rather unreliable—there is no foun-

dation whatever for any statement that quanted by the Commissioners, Mr. De Cosmos says that Mr. Pemberton has had his understanding enlightened a little about the powers of dredging by his recent visit to England, and as a consequence thinks that the estimate of his colleagues on the Harbor Commiss on is totally erroneous. We have no offiction whatever to Mr. Pemberton going to England to learn the capacity of a steam dredge, provided the public money is not to be invested in this questionable tuition, but we think modesty should have kent this gentleman in the first instance out ol a commission whose duties he now acknowledges were totally beyond his comprehension. The basis, therefore, which Mr. De Cosmos takes for his calculations is by no means proved to be a sound one. The Commission "guard against the expectations that any permanent results can be looked for under a series of years" and state the improbability of the dredging work being com bleted, " under favorable circumstances, within a period of six or seven years." To what superior authority in Victoria can Mr. DeCosthus look than this Board of Commissioners? Surely Mr. Pemberton's statemen's on this question, supposing he was per ectly reliable on others, are at the best ex parte and interserved ones. It is his policy now to put the best face on matters and pretend that the ex-

pense of improving our harbor is a very trivial Taking, therefore, the most favorable in this which the Harbor Commissioners view the work, and accepting Mr. De Cosmus' estimate of the working expense, we e in round numbers an expenditure of £50 000 during the ensuing seven years. As sum is intended to be provided for by n, we have, along with the £20,00 al-

ndy almost implicated in the purchase of machinery, &c, the interest of £70 000 to pay, which at 6 per cent, would give us the comfortable addition to our taxes of £4,200 a year. Now is there a distancemented or even same man in the community who would say that Victoria or the colong generally can afford to pay this amount or what must be at the best a very imperfect improvement. Major Foster was right in mounting to the absence of encouraging data to enter extensively in the dredging work at all. He mucht, indeed, have gone further and shown that some of the bes engineering talent had pronounced against the expend ture of either much time or money on any such undertaking. He might have quoted Captain Richards' report, and pointed out the difficulies that beset the prijed, and have burther shown that the bar which seems so terrible a bugbear to Mr. Pemberton and his 'unnancical" friends generally, and against which they are eager and impatient to set their "Confederate" dredging ram, is actually the sale goard of the harbor. It is well known to the few scientific men, as well as

souswesterry winds rippled the surface of the Fuca Straits. Here, then, is one great natural shield to our little harbor which inconsiderate rashness would spend the public money in attemp ing to remove. We do not for a moment anticipate that as Major Foster hinten, any hidden quicksands, so soon as he cr st of the bottom were taken off, would rush impetuously to embrace the rather questionably pure waters of our harbor, and continue like an evil spirit in eternal restlessness : because the physical surroundings are against the hypothesis; but we do believe that there are both dangers and difficulties in the undertaking which have never for a moment entered into the addled heads of the

ambitions projectors. Mr. Franklin attempted to check the discussion of the merits of the scheme, on the ground, forsooth, that a former and certainly. as events have proved, half-witted House had consented to vote money for an of j et of the as correct an idea as the man in the

tain class of men amongst us get a little exhausted about the braiu, on no matter what topic, we may look our immediately for a Quixotic attack on some imaginary enemy to free trade. Then we had the necessity of keeping faith with our contractors, and with the purchasers of real estate. We can assure Mr. Franklin that neither the House nor the public desire the abrogation of any contracts. That we shall have to pay for our dredger and its accompaniments, we are quite ready to acknowledge; but it is one thing bu, ing an elephant and another thing keeping him. Dr. Helmcken's idea is the sound one. Let the House provide, or at least authorise the Governor to draw on the unexpended loan, for the amount for which the Colony is hable, and let that be the limit of the legislative action. The subject is too insufficiently understood by both the Assembly and the public to have the country impliperiment. The next House will likely meet towards the middle of autumn-a periol quite soon for the thorough completion of the

EXPLORATION PROCEEDINGS. An adjourned meeting of the Exploration Committee was held Friday evening, Selim

Franklin, Esq. M L. A., in the chair. Dr. Brown was by request in attendance, and stated that the duties of superintending the exploring party would not clash with the exploring party would not clash w by a unanimous vote appointed commander

of the various applicants for subordinate positions and report to the general committee. The finance committee were urged to lose no time in soliciting subscriptions, as the

There will be only one expedition despa ched. THE QUEEN AND THE PUBLIC The following article appeared in the Times of Wednesday, April 6 h. Its peculiar phraseology, and the prominence given to it by the

leading paper, stamp it with authority: An erroneous idea seems generally to prevail, and has latterly found frequent expression in the newspapers, that the Queen is about to resume the place in society which she occupied before her great affl ction; that is, that she is about again to hold levees and drawing-rooms in person, and to appear at Court ralls, concerts, etc. This idea canuot

be too expicitly contradicted. The Queen heartily appreciates the desire of her subjects to see her, and whatever she can do to gratify them in this loyal and aftectionate wish she will do. Whenever any real object is to be attained by her appearing on public occasions, any national interest to be promoted, or anything to be encouraged which is for the good of her people, Her Majesty will not shrink, as she has not shrunk, from any personal sacrifice or exer-

therefore move:

general revenue.

and on the toan of £24,000 "

tuni

tion, however paintul. But there are other and higher duties than hose of mere representation which are now thrown upon the Queen, alone and unassist" ed-duties which she cannot neglect without injury to the public service, which weigh unceasingly upon her, overwhelming her with

work and anxiety.

The Queen has labored conscientiously to discharge these duties till her nealth and strength, already shaken by the utter and ever-abiding desonation which has taken the place of her hormer happiness, have been se-

To call upon her to undergo, in addition. the farigue of the e mere state ceremonies which can be equally well performed by other members of her tamily, is to ask her to ron the risk of entirely disabling herself for the discharge of those other duties which cannot be neglected without serious injury to the pub

The Queen will however, do what she can -in the manner least trying to her health, strength, and spirits-to meet the loyal wishes of her subjects, to afford that support and countenance to society, and to give that encouragement to trade which is desired of

More the Queen cannot do; and more the kindness and good feeting of her people will surely not exact from her.

CRIME IN NEW YORK -The Sacramento be filled with sand every time the south or I January to the 9th April.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLE

FRIDAY, May 20th. House met at 3:15. Members present-Messrs, DeCosmos, Franklin, Powell, Tolmie Jackson, Trimble, F. ster, Dennes. CORPORATION AID BILL.

This bill was read a third time, and pass REAL E-TATE TAX BILL.

This bill levying one half of one per cent on real estate in Victoria for civic purposealso passed its third reiding. HAREWO D RAILWAY CO.

This bill was read a second time, and sen to committee. CONGREGATION EMANU- EL This bill was also read a second time, and

HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS.

committee less necessary. The hon, gentle-

to the difficulties to be overcome in improv

ing the harbor. He also entered into the

particulars of the visit of the Surveyor Gen

the general principle of local improvements being made by local taxes, he would call the attention of the House to the fact that Victoria had a harbor-the proper Victoria naroor-which presented every requirement and the Han, Donald Fraser. and facility for our commerce. The hon. gentlemen cularged at length some on the great ments of E-quin.ait barbor, which could contain all the commerce likely to nor of the Colony. come here for many years, while Victoria harbor was hardly large enough for the coasting-trade alone. As to didging out the atter, if the crost of thick mud on the bottom were occe broken, the harbor might be filled with a perpetually moving quicktie did not believe we had any righ to tax one portion of the city for improvements it a the second reading. benefitted the city generally. He would therefore move" that this House respectfully The House went into Committee on the diges upon the Executive the proprie y of ultimate expense of which they had about Governor's Message in respect to the hartor suspending any further operations for the

deal with perfect the special properties of the session, as there is a very large two lavish expenditure medicated, which this sum of money wanted. There was however, House teems unjustifiable." He would also a great deal of misapprehension abroad in more that the House is not prepared to bill be postponed until another meeting. regard to it, which would necess tate a rather sanction the outlay in excess of the vote un- Carried. lengthened explanation. The House would sanctioned by this flouse.

remember that he (Mr. DeC) had called for Mr. Franklin said they were not now met the appointment of a committee on the subject, to ask whether the harbor of Victoria which committee howeverowing to vari us was to be dredged or not. (hear, hear.) That causes had not met, and the information question had been argued during the last now afforded rendered the report of that lour years, and a deliberate vote had been taken on it, and we were bound in honor and man here read at length from a portion of the good faith to the people who had settled here, report prepared by the committee in regard to carry out the proposed improvements. He would admit that as a general principle, local improvements should be made by local funds; but by the act of the Legislature, in eral to England to bring the dredging ma- 1860, the harbor dues are expressly reserved chine, sh wing that the machinery had been for the im revement of Victoria and E-quisupplied by the lowest of eleven parties malt harbors. It was most unwise now, tendering. It had been said that the colo- when every effort was being made to build up mal agent had exceeded the amount voted by a rival city in the neighboring c lo y, to this flouse, but he (Mr. DeC) did not look throw an thing in the way of the growth cated any further in a probably ruinous ex- at it in that light, as the amount in 1863 was and prosperity of Vic oria. He heartily as exceeded by only \$646, which he thought greed with his hoo, colleague in his policy of was near enough. The question now arose, borrowing a sum of money for the improvetime enough to discuss the more extensive as the money voted was found insufficien, ment of the harbor. It was a public work, estate in the city of Victoria. part of the financial question and sufficiently what shall we do? shall we go on, or shall and could most properly be effected by a we stop sell the machinery, and leave the lan.

harbor as it is. He believed we should go Dr. Helmcken said he would not now on; he did not thank the americal current ex- make a speech on the question, but he penses would be more than \$23,000, and ad- thought the committee were tacher ir veling ding 50 per cent fer contingencies, the total out of the record; it was not a question of annual expenditure would not exced \$35,- the improvement of Victoria harbor, but that The Governor had put it there had not been enough money voted for Jown at \$50,000 for working expendentlying on the harbor torks for this year. ses and the Surveyor General \$25,000. Mr. DeCosmos called the hon. Speaker's He believed his estimate would be found tel- attention to the word "completion" in His

though Mr Pemberton thought it might be hathor improvement measure when it was first of the expedition.

On motion of Mr. Young a committee of would cost \$105 000 to complete the works. It now, and did not believe that it would ever be a present, not a loan.

How D. Fraser said it seemed so, he completed but that was not the question.

How D. Fraser said it seemed so, he complete the works are the question was that the did not think it would be advisable to be a present, not a loan.

How D. Fraser said it seemed so, he complete the works are the question was that the did not think it is not the present. with the chairman, was appointed to confer mually; he would propose that the givern cirry on the work now? It was said that the the city should repay it, with the commander, examine the credentials ment be authorised to borrow £24,000 for money votes had been exceeded, but the the purpose, payable in twenty years, at six | £44,000 loan had not been exceeded, and the | \$6.000 was to be paid from the half n per cent, with a sinking fund of four percent. Datance of that loan was quite sufficient to cent tax. The government might be empowered to is - complete the dredger and all the other masue debentures as the money was wan ed. - cainery. As to the luture expenses of carrier party would now be organized forthwith. Suppose the colony borrowed £8000 the first ing on the works, that was a question for the House of Assembly; the bill had been

year, the interest and sinking fund would other sessions to take up. amount to \$4000; the second year it would Mr. DeCosmos-No! no! be \$7640, and the thirlyear \$11546. At the be, inding of the fourth year there would to suspending the works, that could not be pot ry nature. It was not really of much done; the contracts must be fulfilled, and the | consequence whether the city expenses were be annual charge of \$11,546. He would propose, to me t those charges, to levy a tax on machinery can not be abandoned nor sacri | paid from general or local revenues, as the all the water front property, of one half of the fixed. He would not go into the question of city was virtually the colony; the country; whole charge. The other half he would pro- cleansing the harbor, but as so much had only paid one-ninth of the taxes. pose to make a charge on the general revenue. been said lately about contracts, why not 1 t From the assessment roll, he found that the the harbor improvements out by contract? water front property from Point Eilice to the (Hear, hear.) His own opinion as to harbot harbor mouth was valued at \$860 000, on which improvements was, that the city could not this tax might be levied. It might be said afford to improve the harbor, but we must that it was wrong to levy such a charge on now go on and complete the machinery, and the general revenue; this might be correct on leave the carrying out of the work to another general principles, but not in this case. The House. As to the storehouses and workshops city paid actually 9 10 hs of the whole revenue &c. &c., he believed that the hull of the and therefore the charge on the general reveal dredge was purposely made large enough to nue was, he thought, perfectly just. As to contain all necessary appliances for repairs, the charge on the water front property, it &c. There were plenty of means for all these was equally so. It might be said that we things now in existence, although the govern-

had a fine harbor at Esquimalt, and a railment might easily throw a thousand trifling road to this city would answer all purposes. obstacles in the way. Mr. DeCosmos expressed himself strongly He thought it our duty, however, now that the city had been built here, to use all our opposed to postponing the matter of raising efforts to improve the present site. He would funds for carrying on the harbor improvements. The machinery and engineers would "1. That a bill be brought in ausoon be here, the dredge w uld be ready in thorising the Governor to borrow £24 000 5 months, and in order to keep things moving at 6 per cent. interest, with a sinking it was absolutely necessary to provide the of 4 per cent. per amum, means. The ananimous wish of the people the debentures not to be in amount more, I Victoria was to have the harbor improved than £100, and redeemable in twenty years; at once. If it is postponed, a heavy blow is the loan to be expended in the improvement struck at the value of real estate, and the

of Victoria harbor, and to be a charge on the prosperity of the country. He believed it our duty to carry on the harbor works at 2. That a tax be levied annually on all once. real estate commonly known as water-front. Dr. Belmcken did not believe the dredge to be from the mouth of Victoria harbor on would be ready before the end of the year. both sides up to Point Enis bridge, the The Committee here rose and reported

total annual proceeds of the said lax to progress. qual nait of the annual interest and sinking PETITION FROM E-QUIMALT. Major Foster presented a petition from the Major Foster said the hon, gentleman had property holders of Esquimali, viewing with brought forward quite enough to prove that alarm the expenditure in Victoria harbor, and the Harbor improvement scheme was a very praying that further operations be suspended poor undertaking -a very had case indeed. ull turther consideration.

The hon, gentleman argued agains' the The House adjourned till Thursday next. principle of the general revenue being BREACH OF PRIMISE .- Occasionally there charged with local improvements, instancing are instances occurring in our midst that act cases in various ports in Engla d, where the as land-marks in our progress towards civilis viltures in the wake of a victorious army, and harbor expenses were raised wholly by zation. The latest indication of our advance gobble up the various resources of the country themserves. If Victoria Harbor were ment is an action of breach of promise of worth anything at all, it was worth taxing the inhabitants of Victoria for munity as our own can indulge in laxories its improvement. The hon gentleman after known only to the highest state of cultivacommender; monically the labor of the hon, tion and refinement, and we, therefore, welmember for Victoria (Mr. DeCosmos) in 'urome this new species of litigation as an acnishing so many facis and statistics in receptable innovation on the monotony of terence to the nature of the bottom of the matter-of-lact courtships. As yet we abharbor, and the comparative cheapness of ex- stam from mentioning either the lady's or cavating the proposed works, said that the the gentleman's name, simply informing our weathnest nations of Europe had shrunk from readers that both the plaintiff (who of course Thron gives a list of forty-six homicides undertaking such works as submarine blasts is the lady) and the defendant are well known the skillul sea captains among a us, that but for this protective partier our harbor would committed in New York city from the 1st Vaucouver Island to take up such difficult stand Mr. Ring is retained for the lady,

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

PRIDAY, May 20. Present :- The Hone. Chief Justice, Attorne? General, Treasurer, Surveyor General,

THE GOVERNOR'S INSTRUCTIONS.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLY BILL.

UNENCLOSED WELLS BILL.

These bills were both received from the Lower H. use, and on motion of the Hon. Da sand As to taxing he waler from property. Fraser, perconded by Hon. A. Watson standing orders were suspended, and they passed

> BANKING BILL. This bill having been engressed was

brought up, and on motion of Hon. Watson, read a third time and pussed. PIRMUMA MEMBERSON ACT.

The renoministat of this bill came up. Hon. D. Fraser moved, seconded by Hon. A. Watson, that the consideration of the

The President remarked respecting this

bill, that it made provision for things une known to the law of the land, and that if. any injury was sustained by the company it. was quite competent for them to seek protection under existing laws, without cramming up the statute book with innecessary laws. He therefore viewed this bil as superfluous. The Attorney General was of opinion that

the bill was necessary.

Consideration of the bill deferred. Council adjourned to Monday, at 2 30 p.m.

Council met at 2:30 p. m. Present the Hons. President, Treasurer and Fraser.

Hon. D. Fraser introluced a bill to levy a. tax of one-half of one per cent on all real Bill read a first time.

VICTORIA AID BILL. Hon. D. Fraser also introduced for a first eading a bill to enable the Executive to pag the Corporation \$6,000 for civic purposes.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLY. The bill granting the supplemental supplies for 1863, was read a third time.

DANGEROUS WELLS The bill providing for the closing of dangerous wells was laid over on account of

THE AID BILL AGAIN. The President said the \$5,000 seemed to

The President said be understood that the

The Hon. D. Fraser really did not know; he had not seen anything said about that in prepared at the recommendation of the G vernor, to whom the civic amborines had Dr. Helmcken maintained that it was. As applied for assistance, he presumed of a tem-

The bill was read a first time.

BARBOR IMPROVEMENTS Hon. D. Fraser said he would move at next. meeting for an address to His Excellency for copies of all papers in His Excellency's possession in relation to the su ject of the improvement of Victoria harbor.

The President proposed that the Council adjourn till Thursday or Friday. Hun D Fragor asked if there were not some legal bills before the House ?

The President said it was too late in the session to carry the bills through; he was sure the House of Assembly would not take

Council adjourned till Friday at 2-p. m.

SUMMARY COURT:

(BEFORE HIS HONOR THE CHIEF JUSTICE. MONDAY, 231 May.

Scott vs Taylor - This was a suit to recover his commission on sale of a lot belonging to detendant which plaintiff; alleged was soid by him on commission. Mr. Copland appeared or plaintiff, defendant in person Both parties were examined, also Mr. Culverwell, and His Honor considering. that the plaintiff had failed to make out a case, non-spited him.

Dickson & Smith vs. Rowland .- Suit for balance of contract for clearing land. Vers diet plaintiff for \$50.

" PRIVATE EXPLORERS."-Our morning contemporary has a sen-ational item under the above heading, about some mysterious or imaginary individuals who intend to follow the Colonial Exploring Expedition, like which may be discovered A small private expedition has, we believe, been organized. but they intend to confine their operations to a small portion of the both end of the island. principally with a view to prospect for copper or other mines, and will not interfere in the s'aghtest degree with Dr. Brown's expedition. We cannot believe that any party would have the impudence to follow the public expedition, and, while contributing none of the means, nor bearing any of the anxiety or labor, attempt to appropriate any at the hence or advantage.