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LY BRITISH COLONIST

VOL. 6. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1864.

THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. (Sundays Excepted, AT VICTORIA, V.

THRMS

THE WEEKLY COLONIST. ernished to Subscribers for \$6 a year; \$4 for six on tha; \$8 50 for three months; payable in advance

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THE CHRISTMAS HOLDAYS

The elements are not always sympathetic in their relations toward man. Many a grand feto-many a royal gathering as well-as village featival—has been cheated of its anticipated pleasure by the freaks of nature.

There is indeed no especial immunity, even in our holidays, from "blustering Boreas" with his damp-diffusing garments. One day there is, however, above all others which we have been almost accustomed to regard as an exception to the rule, and to look upon it as a day so sacred that on its appearance even the boisterous wind itself would blow more gently, and the clouds be more retentive of heir moisture. Our impressions have, however, been rudely shaken. Christmas visited us terday morning, like the ghost of Hamlet. in a shape so questionable—so different from the ordinarily accepted idea of the day—that we dare say the whilem white-haired old man met with but a sourcy reception from even his best of friends. Tradition is powerful in its influences. The mind cannot accept with any degree of antisfaction the rearing wind, the pittless rain, the plashy streets, and the mudahedizened traveller as adjuncts of the glorious 25th of December, and yet such has been the accompaniments of Christmas this year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four. The clear, frosty atmosphere, stimulating the body to healthful exertion—bringing to light again the "last rose of summer," and planting it with all its unwithered flowers and unfaded bloom, in the cheek of youth; the crispy snow, trampled under foot, giving forth its trance in a music of its own; and the joyous spirit of man, contrasting in this instance not inharmoniously with the "solemn stillness" of surrounding nature—this is the Christmas of tradition—the holiday of boyish memory and childhood association; but it is not the Christmas of yesterday. Whether, however, the holidays of the declining year come to us in their time-honored mantle of snow or in their less attractive garb of mud, let us prize them, and dearly too. Let us prize them not only for their associations, and as links that connect us with the ever receding past, but as wise provi-

sions in the every day, life of man. It requires no labored demonstration to prove that the world is getting more materialistic in its philosophy and in its life day by day. The Gradgrind school of hard facts is erushing out one by one the more ethereal parts of our nature. From the superstitions of the middle ages civilization has leaped to a hard, unimaginative uniformity. From revelling in an era of poetry it has gone to the opposite extreme and embraced an age of mathematics. Our lives are now moulded by Bacon and regulated by Euchd. If ed by Bacon and regulated by Euchd. If we speculate, it is not upon the wonders of creation, or the great unfathomed future, but on real estate and damaged flour. If we go to hear a dissertation on the Gospel, we are working out before the preacher's face, the arithmetical calculation of the prefit on the last bale of goods or the anticipated gain of the last purchase. If we go to dinner, we do not think of a bounteens Providence, but may our digestion by the thoughts that one of our creditors is about to levant, or that of our creditors is about to levant, or that some stock in which we have speculated is falling in the market. We have got into a groove in fact of the most intensified world-ly-mindedness, and, like the force of a continuous current, every day sees the channel becoming deeper and deeper, increasing our difficulties to look at things in a higher or more spiritual light. Mankind was horrified at the Yankee who saw nothing in the Falls of Niagara but a scandalous waste of water

And COUVER ISLAND. TURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1864.

MACROCALDS TARK.

A linesing of the sections of 28 years
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than the threat being into a emoly making
than the presist of the contribution of the contribut most perfect Being that ever tred the earth; it in Him who was the greatest of all, yet humble : who suffered the most excruciating torments and degradation, yet was meek and uncomplaining; who in all Mis trials and tribulations forgot not the poor, the sick, and the afflicted; and whose charity was so unbounded that He pleaded for those who were putting Him to the most shameful of deaths. Let us borrow a little of that kindness, that gentleness, that overflowing love and that all pervading charity which were the char-

the Colonial Secretary's effice, received the appointment of Superintendent of Police, and entered upon the duties of his office on Saturday morning. Mr. George Welsh, late in the employ of the Bank of British Columbia and formerly in the Police force, has been appointed Inspector of Police. Mr. Pemberton having been relieved of the duties devolving upon him as Chief Commissioner, will devote his undivided attention to his magisterial office. We see no grounds for savilling at the changes thus introduced by His Ex.

acteristics of Him who walked the earth

eighteen hundred and sixty-three years ago,

and the 25th of December will not have

WILL OF THE LATE ADMIRAL CATOR.—
The will of the late Admiral Cator has been proved in the London Probate Cours. His realty was sworn at £40,000, and personalty at £17,000. The deceased left his valuable property in Australia, besides shares and other personal property to his sem Capt.

Albemarle Bertie Cator, of this Island, who unfortunately did not survive to enjoy it. The captain, we believe, has a daughter living to whom this property will probably revert. The remainder of the testator's estate and effects in England he bequeathed to his two daughters.

Current accounts.

Miscellameous liabilities.

Bills payable from the party at will be payable (including more per notes is use on accounts.)

LESS

Redeemed at Richfield 20,000

By Mr MacGonald on way down 1,400

Public Library at New Westminster _A movement has been set on foot for establishing a public library in the capital of the sister colony. We wish the project every power; yet it looks upon much grander sights

M. W. T. Drake, Esq.

22nd Dec., 1864. GENTLEMEN,—I beg to hand you the ac-companying letter which will explain itself. I much regret the course adopted by Mr. Macdonald, and sincerely hope it will lead

to good results.

The Committee appointed by the general body of creditors will consider now what course they should adopt.

Your obedient Servant M. W. T. DRAKE. Mr. E. Thomas and others.

and the 25th of December will not have come in vain.

A long discussion ensued as to the best made of proceeding, and it transpired that the liabilities are \$80,438, and the assets in the Colonial Secretary's effice, received the appointment of Superintendent of Police, and entered upon the duties of his office on Sats and the action of Mr. Macdonald from San Francisco.

Mr. Drake replied that if Mr. Macdonald was declared a bankrupt there would be made of proceeding, and it transpired that the best made to prevent the bankruptcy being in the Colonial Secretary's effice, received the adjournment was proposed and earried, until the 12th proximo to admit of a communication of Mr. Macdonald from San Francisco.

A long discussion ensued as to the best was declared a bankrupt there would be nothing to prevent the bankruptcy being in the dollar will ultimately be realised. An adjournment was proposed and earried, until the 12th proximo to admit of a communication of Mr. Macdonald from San Francisco.

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A long discussion ensued as to the best was declared a bankrupt was declared as any time, and arrangements was proposed and earried, until the 12th proximo to admit the labilities are \$80,438, and the assets was declared as any time, and arrangements was proposed and earried until the 12th proximo to admit the labilities are \$80,438, and the assets was d

Total assets.

It is thought that out of the amount registered in this calculation as 'bad,' about \$10,000 might be collected within twelve mouths 'In bills Discounted there is one bill of \$600 reckoned 'bad,' which is a forgery, and may be re-

By Mr Macdonald on way down 1,400
Lost and destroyed say...... 8,000

LETTER FROM CARIBOO.

The following was the report submitted by the committee:

ASSETS.

MEM. FOR MERTING OF MACDOWALD a CO'S CERDITORS, 24th DACEDWALD A WILLIAMS CRHEE, Nov. 30, 1864. presented as a token of esteem by his Cariboo friends, and which he could ever have with him, would be more acceptable than anything clee; sonsequently it was determined that a gold watch, and a real good one, one such as his Canidon friends might suppose a successful Caribootte ought to weat, should be given to him is place of a dinner, the latter being as pleatiful here as blackberries in autumn.

The presentation took place on Monday evening last, at the reading room, where a large number of Mr. Wattie's friends were congregated. An appropriate address was read by Mr. Steele, who then handed to Mr. J. D. Cameron, Mr. Wattie's friend and companiou, a purse containing \$374, requesting him to purchase with the same the first gold watch that struck Mr. Wattie's fancy, between Williams Creek and Montreal, but to be sure before making the purchase, that the article before making the purchase, that the article was up to the mark, and a thorough good time keeper, and upon being so eatisfied to take it to an engraver and have inscribed on the back "To Mr. James Wattie, from his friends in Gariboo."

Mr. Drake remarked that several actions were pending in which Mr. Macdonald was concerned and the creditors should give these matters their attention.

Mr. Lee said an action had been instituted against Mr. Macdonald in British Columbia for \$3,000.

The chairman drew attention to the meets city of overlooking affairs in British Columbia.

Mr. Drake suggested that some person be appointed under the power of substitution in Mr. Waddell's power of substitution in Mr. Drake charge of the estate there.

Mr. David inquired if Bankruptcy here applied to British Columbia?

Mr. Drake said the question had never been definitely settled; he believed the creditors ander bankruptcy here could resover.

Mr. David said parties might commence suits at any time, and he saw no way but to place the estate in hankruptcy.

Mr. Drake replied that if Mr. Macdonald was declared a bankrupt there would be nothing to prevent the bankruptcy being superseded at any time, and arrangements made to wind up the estate under inspection. The creditors he thought would thus, if anything, be in a better position.

After some further discussion the meeting adjourned to the 10th proxime.

pride he should ever feel in wearing so handsome a testimonial of esteem from his friends in Cariboo, and the pleasant associations the gift would ever bring before him were more than he could find language to describe, but hoped they all felt as happy as he did.

By this time the boys were beginning to feel lively, and after toasts, songs, flowing speeches, &c., from every body in the room, Ald lang syne "wound up at 4 a. m. On Tuesday morning Messrs. Wattle and Cameron started, and were accompanied a few miles on the way by about a score of enthusiastic friends.

ra remeats wit of anibase Punta. redired

CHURCH Mysic-Notwithstanding the inelemency of the weather a number of persons were attracted to the Catholic Church out

composed of Captain Cooper, Harbor Master; Captain Irving, and Mr. Wylde, of the Revenue Department, was hald on Wednesday evening, relative to the stranding of the Kinnaird, which resulted in the pilot being acquitted of all blame.

SOTREE AT THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. The Second Subscription Soires took place last night in the House of Assembly, and