

New York, Feb. 28.—There was an immense mass meeting held to-night at the Cooper Institute, James Galleten presiding. The resolutions adopted affirm the right of the President to remove members of the Cabinet; declare the attempt to deprive him of this right a monstrous perversion of power; deprecate impeachment as the last resort of tyrants, and calculated to bring disgrace or grievous wrongs to the public; express confidence in the moderation of the Senate, and trust to the ballot-box for redress of wrongs.

CHICAGO, March 2.—Accounts from all directions represent that the snow storm prevailed over an immense extent of territory, and was the severest of the season. Owing to the prevalence of incendiary fires in this city, the Board of Underwriters has appropriated \$5,000 to be offered as rewards for the capture of incendiaries.

SYRACUSE, Feb. 18.—The municipal election has resulted in a Republican victory by an increased majority over last year.

South and Central America.

New York, Feb. 27.—The World's Buenos Ayres correspondent of January 14, says: Gen. Asboth, Minister of the United States, is lying very ill, and certainly cannot survive many days.

Some of the chief judges and lawyers, and many of the principal merchants of the city, have been victims of the cholera. The pestilence has carried off in Buenos Ayres, in forty days, five thousand persons. All work is suspended, and those who depend for food on their daily labor, suffer. Carts to convey the dead can't be had, nor men to dig graves. Churches are taken for hospitals, and many unable to be conveyed to them, die alone in their houses.

A hundred and fifty shocks of earthquake were felt at Union, Salvador, in February.

Two Peruvian iron clads, stationed at Valparaiso, have been withdrawn through fears that the war with Spain was not over.

Recent rains have damaged the wheat in the Southern provinces of Chile.

The Minister of the Interior of Peru has resigned. All export duty on native productions of Peru is abolished.

West Indies.

New York, Feb. 27.—A Havana special reports that the general mercantile house of Keopbe, Leiturg & Co., of Matanzas, are acting as the agents for strong London bankers in securing a treaty for the loan to the Spanish Government of 20 millions on account of the island of Cuba, the loan to be secured on the revenue of the island.

HAVANA, Feb. 20.—Nassau dates to the 20th say the blacks have held a mass meeting and openly criticized the Government, charging it with inability to extricate the colony from its financial difficulties, which they charge to the extravagant measures of the Colonial Government. The whites are loyal but feel uneasy at the prospect.

HAVANA, Feb. 18.—Advices from Kingston say that the American Consul, Gregg, has telegraphed to Washington, demanding the services of a man-of-war to obtain redress for the outrage on the American whaler Hannah Grant.

Advices from St. Domingo say a Commission has been sent to Curacao to receive President Belis.

The Herald's Havana special confirms the report of the proposed loan by Leiturg & Co., of Matanzas. Their offer has been accepted. The interest on the loan is 7 per cent., to be repaid within twenty years, in annual installments of one million dollars. The parties insist on the sanction of the Madrid Government, which the latter seems reluctant to give.

Mexico.

New York, Feb. 18.—The Herald's special gives details of the alleged attempt to assassinate Juarez. Several foreigners have been arrested.

HAVANA, Feb. 27.—Among the passengers per steamer Georgia from Vera Cruz are Gen. Struve and Col. Proudfoot, commanders of the American legion. Just as the Georgia left, a telegram was received stating that two Mexicans from Havana had attempted to assassinate Juarez and rob the treasury. There was no means of ascertaining the truth or falsity of the rumor.

It is reported that the Mexican treasury is buying in the English and Spanish claims, and ignoring American demands, though these proceedings are against the will of Romero, who is powerless to prevent them.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—The Bulletin makes the following statement in regard to railroad matters:

1. The Central Pacific Railroad has bought the San Jose Railroad, the contract having been made some days ago, the actual possession and change of the business to take place about two years from this time. Meantime the San Jose Railroad is to build the road to Gilroy.

2. The Central Pacific has bought the Southern Pacific Railroad, its franchise and all that pertains to it as a road, the visible transfer and possession to take place contemporaneously with the San Jose road.

3. The Central Pacific now owns or controls all the railroad routes which have been projected between San Francisco and any part of the interior, including the Western Pacific Railroad and the control of the Vallejo and Sacramento Railroad.

4. The conflicting statements about the terminus of the Pacific Railroad, are reconsidered as follows: One terminus has already been agreed upon at Oakland and the agreement reduced to writing between the Railroad Company, the city authorities, carpenters and others. This arrangement includes a transfer of land to the company for depot and other purposes. The same company has agreed substantially to make another terminus in the city of San Francisco, and negotiations have been going on for some time concerning a transfer of lands and water front for this object.

The brig Hugh Barclay, reported ashore on the north spit of Umpqua river, is a complete wreck. She was worth about \$14,000.

Peter Mower, whose eye-sight was destroyed with vitrol by E. A. Manning, appeals to the public for charity. He is utterly destitute and has a family in the Atlantic States.

Results of the Public Meeting on Confederation.

EDITOR COLONIST.—At the termination of the public meeting upon this subject, a number of gentlemen were appointed to wait upon the Governor, since which nothing further has been heard of the matter. The obstructionists have despatched their petition and received their reply—but what are our delegates doing? These representatives of manliest destiny seem rather slow coaches. If they go on at this pace in making the overland road it will take about two centuries instead of two years. Pray, Sir, can you give us any information upon this matter? Where were these delegates when last heard of? Is their general health satisfactory? Have they got as far as that interesting seaport called Esquimaux? Is it true they have arrived there in safety? and when supplied with additional provision will they be moving on? Any information, Sir, upon this subject would, I am sure, be gratefully received by the benighted public.

Yours truly,  
HON. PRESIDENT,  
Hon. Sec'y of the Go-ahead Society.

Market.

EDITOR COLONIST.—Having seen the necessity of a Public Market mooted for some time past, whereby farmers and others can have a place to sell their produce on stated days, and as no action has been taken in the matter, we propose to open the Cattle Sale Yard every Saturday (or more frequently if necessary) from 7 a. m. to 12 o'clock noon, for the sale of such produce as may be offered, such as fruit, grain, hay, straw, butter, eggs, cheese, poultry, rabbits, goats, pigs, sheep, horses, mules, cattle of every description, etc. The charges to be within the reach of every one. Parties intending to patronise the market, by giving due notice of what they intend to send, the same will be advertised without additional charge. Such produce or stock as may remain unsold at noon on market days, can be sold by auction (at the option of the owners) at the usual auction rates. We propose to open the market on Saturday, March 21st, 1868. Scale of charges will appear in a few days under our usual business card.

J. P. DAVIES & Co.  
Victoria, V. I., March 10th, 1868.

The Weekly British Colonist, AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, March 17 1868.

Mr. Disraeli, having made his maiden speech as Premier, has assumed the responsible position under circumstances not the most pleasant. He is certain to meet with opposition from the rank and file of the Liberals, though he may not be openly opposed by the leaders of the party in the Commons, who have no desire to force on and incur the expense of a general election at this time, when under the new Franchise Act a general election in the fall of the present year is imperatively required. The Disraeli Government is therefore at least safe until after the Conservatives shall have measured their strength with the Liberals before the newly-created electors. In the House of Lords Earl Russell, with a querulousness and show of ill temper that are the usual accompaniments of old age, has declared that he has "no confidence in a policy that is always saying 'one thing and meaning another,'" a remark that comes with excellent taste from the noble Earl, when we remember that the present Ministry are indebted to him alone for the valuable legacies of the Alabama claims and the Abyssinian war, and, indirectly, for that other treasure—the Fenian conspiracy. The Janus-like policy of Earl Russell while in the Foreign Office, suffered the Confederate privateers to escape to sea and perpetrate atrocities upon the commerce of the United States—a policy which the United States now assert, so long as the Alabama claims remain unsettled, justifies their conviction at Fenian conspiracies hatched on American soil. It is equally notorious that had Earl Russell exercised due caution in dealing with Theodoris, and condescended to answer his Majesty's silly letter to the Queen, the country would not now be involved in an expensive war with the African king. The aristocratic portion of the Conservative party would have preferred Lord Stanley, present Minister of Foreign Affairs, as Premier, but had such selection been made, Mr. Disraeli would have had cause for complaint and a serious rupture in the Cabinet must have resulted. By the choice of Mr. Disraeli, a Ministerial crisis has been avoided, and the changes have been only such as were rendered necessary by the retirement of Earl Derby and the advancement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Irish Reform Bill will be one of the first measures introduced by Government at the present session, and if we are to judge from the remarks of Earl Mayo and the new Premier, the political affairs of that unhappy island will receive a thorough overhauling if not effectual reform. The Irish Church establishment must give way, and the custom of tenant-right be legalized. Tenant-right consists in this: that an outgoing tenant is permitted to sell the right of occupation of his farm to the incoming one; the landlord having the right to object to any incoming tenant he does not like. Such has been the recognized custom in most parts of Ireland; and all that is needed to make it binding and to secure the tenant from the rapacity of a grasping landlord, who may decline to pay him for his improvements, is an Act of Parliament. From the tenor of the remarkable debate upon the Alabama claims in the House of Commons on the 7th inst., we gather that the country is prepared to accept any honorable settlement of the knotty point. The last proposition of Lord Stanley, to refer the claims to a mixed commission, was met by the American Premier with a proposition to refer not only the claims but the whole subject of Great Britain's right to accord States in rebellion the rights of belligerents, to the commission. This proposition was emphatically declined by Lord Stanley, who, quite properly, refuses to subject the foreign policy of the nation to the criticism of any commission. There is no denying that the situation of affairs between the two countries has been critical. At one time a spark might have fired the train; but we

glean from the moderate, sensible and statesmanlike expressions of the leading men of both parties in the Commons, and the evident desire of the Ministry to settle the difficulty, that a speedy and honorable adjustment of this disputed point of international law will meet with the cordial endorsement of the country at large.

Thursday, March 12

PROSECUTION OF THE OFFENDERS.

The Alexandria correspondent of the Levant Herald writes:—On Saturday evening Mr. F. J. Elliott, the second lieutenant and officer in command of the Tartar—the captain and first lieutenant being at the time at Cairo, was dining at the British residency with Captain Willoughby, the resident transport officer, and after dinner chartered an arabis to convey him to the Cairo railway station. Coachee—an Arab—appears to have missed his way and got outside the walls of the town, and his lamps not being lit, was there pulled up by a patrol of cavasses. After waiting patiently for some time whilst the gaitol palava went on, Mr. Elliott called out to the driver to proceed, and on this being prevented by the cavasses, prepared to get out and walk. Before he could do so, however, he was seized and hustled out by a couple of the ragged gendarmes, to whom four or five others speedily lent hand, and between them Mr. Elliott was half-garrotted in less time than I take to tell it. Finding himself in extremis, he managed to draw a life-preserver, and with this speedily felled one of his assailants. A shout from the remainder, who for a moment were cowed off, speedily brought up the whole guard, and then Mr. Elliott was again seized and pummeled and "battered" within an inch of his life. That done, he was dragged down the road to the guard-house—it was, near the Poppy's Billar gates—and there brought before a venerable but dirty old gaffer, who, speaking a little English, told him to consider himself a prisoner for the night. Mr. Elliott told who he was and how the row had happened; on hearing which the chief at once changed his tone, and generously offered to let the affair drop if the prisoner would give him a couple of francs, backhanded. To this our countryman demurred, but he had finally to pay one franc before he got back his life-preserver and was allowed to resume his drive, the whole party offering to shake hands with him as he remounted the currie. Next morning Mr. Elliott went to the Consulate, and found one of the under-officials, who gave him a note of complaint to Ali Bey, the Governor of Zaptieh. Armed with this, and accompanied by a consular carcase, he proceeded to the prison, where the gravity of the outrage was, at once acknowledged, and this morning appointed for the identification and punishment of the offenders. Accordingly this was done to-day; the old mullah being sentenced to two years' hard labor in the Arsenal, and the worst of Mr. Elliott's assailants to 120 bastinadoes. Of these the fellow got seventy, when Mr. Elliott interposed and stopped the stick.

Mechanics' Literary Institute Entertainment.

Passing by Messrs. Hibben's stationery establishment we observed in the window the Certificate Cards of the Prize awards, which are to accompany the presentation of the amounts. These cards are very nicely got up, and, very significantly, have decorations of laurel leaves upon them. The successful parties will be gratified to have this record of their success, and will value it much higher than the small amount of the prize. In yesterday's paper, Sir James Douglas has manifested the interest felt by him in this movement of the Institute, by giving his patronage and engaging a private box at the Theatre. His Honor the Chief Justice, with the other Judges of Merit, Rev. Mr. Somerville and Lumley Franklin, Esq., will be present to hand over the Prize awards. We have every reason to believe this demonstration will be a success. The object of the Mechanics' Literary Institute in introducing this novel kind of entertainment is to develop latent talent—to add to the popularity of the Institute, its funds and its usefulness—certainly very creditable motives. From the very moderate prices of admission we anticipate a bumper house.

A PARADOXICAL SCAMP.

Jim, an Indian boy, apparently about the age of 13, was brought before the police court yesterday on a charge of burglariously entering the premises of M. Driand, for the purpose of theft. The young scamp acknowledged the charge and pleaded poverty as an excuse. The magistrate, with a view of discovering whether or not there were any accomplices in the affair, remanded the prisoner for one day.

SAN JUAN GARRISON.

The gunboat Fort returned yesterday from the British Camp on San Juan Island, whither she had conveyed 53 marines to reinforce the garrison there. These marines came up in the Reindeer, and are armed with the new breech-loading rifle of the Snider pattern.

Tax Otter will start on a trading trip up the Northwest Coast in a few days.

The performance for the benefit of Mr. Charles Clarke came off last evening at the Theatre. The building was filled, and the acting, in most respects, everything that could be desired. We received extended remarks until to-morrow.

On the 20th December last, after the Council, Mr. Arthur Edward Kennedy, C.B., Governor of the West African Settlements, was introduced to Her Majesty's presence by Lord Clarendon Hamilton, and received the honor of knighthood.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.—This body will reassemble to-day. Among the first questions to come before it will be the extension of the Confederacy to this coast.

The Olympia Tribune says the steamer Amelia (a boat of the same dimensions of the Enterprise) has been purchased to run on Puget Sound as an opposition boat.

The Enterprise went to Langley yesterday to take in freight for Victoria. She will come down on Thursday.

Large Landed Properties in England.

There can be no doubt that the ownership of the soil in England is not only accumulated, but tends to still further accumulate in a few hands. "I know," said Mr. Bright in his speech to the electors of Birmingham, "I know the case of a noble personage who is supposed to have an annual income of £120,000. He spends £40,000 a year, and the £80,000 which remains he lays out in, rounding up, property by buying up every estate which is for sale." Examples of this kind abound. The eastern portion of the new county of Sussex, which contains 800 square miles, is almost entirely the property of two noblemen—the Duke of Richmond and Leconfield. The city of London, a city astonishing through its immensity, belongs to a mere handful of individuals. Such a great lord may possess a quarter as extensive as the capital of certain kingdoms. The wealth of the Grosvenor family shines with a splendour which makes even that of the throne look pale by its side; and it is yet nothing in comparison with what it will be at the expiration of the leases in Belgrave. The domains of Dunley Buehleg Brownlow assume monstrous proportions. The other day we read in the public journals that the guardians of the Marquis of Bute, a youth sixteen years of age, had expended £2,000,000 in improving the estate of the house of Orleton Mount Stuart, at Cardiff. We may form some idea of the value of a property when, in order to improve it, and only to improve it, two millions sterling are expended.

A New Propeller.

The following extract from Admiral Farquhar's report on the performance of H.B.M. Iron-clad Water Witch, 700 tons, 100 horse-power, will interest those of our readers who are interested in marine affairs. The vessel referred to is driven by what is called the Balfour hydraulic propeller, which is claimed to be far superior to anything hitherto used. A company has been organized in New York to bring out this invention. From the excellent we went on board the Water Witch. This vessel is an ironclad of about 700 tons, carries two eight-inch rifled guns and is propelled in a most novel manner. The water is taken from below into a box, whence the rotary pump, worked by steam, throws it with great violence into two square boxes placed on the outside of the vessel, one on each side, nearly amidships, about the water line. These boxes are square tubes, ten or twelve feet long, and twelve inches in diameter, open at both ends. Near the centre is a valve, under the control of the officer of the deck, and as he turns it, the water is thrown with great force, either forward or aft, thus propelling the vessel ahead or stern, at his will.

So soon as we got on board we proceeded out of the harbor, and to my amazement she went ahead at a speed of seven or eight miles per hour against a fresh breeze and quite a sea. The machinery when once put in motion had no interruption until we were alongside the wharf again, and all of it was controlled by the officer of the deck, who by manoeuvring the valves above spoken of, can go ahead, back astern, or turn the vessel upon her centre, all of which was done with great ease and whilst I was on board. On her return from Spithead to the wharf she made quite as much as nine knots per hour up to within fifty or sixty yards of the wharf, when she was suddenly checked and brought to the wharf with infinitely more ease than any steamer I ever saw, notwithstanding she is a heavy vessel, plated with four and a half inches of iron.

It will be observed that the Water Witch has neither paddle, screw nor rudder, all these offices being performed by the hydraulic motors, under the easy control of the officer of the deck.

Fejee Islands Treaty.

WASHINGTON, January 26th.—The new treaty with the Fejee Islands has reached the Department of State. It is a whale's tooth richly variegated in color, with strongly twisted grass cord at the ends. By the King mortgage, his island to the United States for three years as security for the payment of the remaining instalment of their indemnity account, his subjects having taken some American sailors many years ago. The President is to prevent the rival King from bringing war against the legitimate sovereign of the Fejees. The King's instructions are that if the President accepts, the treaty is to be considered established, otherwise it will be returned.