

EW'S DAY.

his Society met Thursthe installation of the ompleted, the members byterian Church, where erformed and an exceled by the chaplain, the I.A. At seven o'clock ual dinner took place J. G. Shepherd, Esq., Society, occupied the

on his left Sir James are not to have a cent's worth of all the land

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST The Weekly British Colonist. HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. next he should move for a return of all sums | similar to the one he brought forward last

THURSDAY, Nov. 30. House met at 3:15 p.m. Present : The Tuesday, December 5, 1865.

ONY.

Bay Company to the town site is recognised,

the Church reserve is the property of the

Church of England," and Uriah " washes

water." We have seen newspapers without

much pretence to principle do a great many

very iniquitous things, but we think yester-

whole history of journalism. To glory in

Crown Lands should be settled, and makes

subordinate things to the desire for con-

claimed by the Company, or an inch of any

they can call their own.

Speaker, Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, Dickson, McClure, Duncan, Trimble, Dennes, Carswell MR. CARDWELL AND THE COLand Ash. THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

In our yesterday's issue we gave Mr. Mr. McClure applied for leave on behalf Cardwell's despatch, with the opinion of the Attorney General and Solicitor General of England, on the question of the Crown The affect on the community has Lands. The effect on the community has

PROBATE COURT.

been as any one might have expected. From Mr. Duncan, in pursuance of notice, moved one end of the city to the other there is nofor a return of the estates recorded in the thing but the intensest indignation-if we Probate Court, together with a list of the except perhaps that exponent of Hudson's names of the testates and intestates whose Bay officialism and land aggrandizing pre- property had been administered to, and full Bay officialism and land aggrandizing pre-lacy-our morning contemporary. This de-of the same. In so doing, he said that it was lectable institution, with characteristic not necessary to dilate upon the necessity for brilliancy and principle, thinks the gigantic some definite information on the matter.outrage on the colony perpetrated by the Sums of money had been paid into the hands outrage on the colony perpetrated by the Hudson's Bay Company of the first part and Her Majesty's Government of the second, that if his flonor the Chief Justice was aprather a good joke than otherwise, and rubs plied to, the request would be complied with press of business. The Speaker ob its hands with a glee that Uriah Heep might have envied. "The title of the Hudson's PUBLIC ECONOMY.

Dr. Dickson gave notice of motion that on

a future day he should propose, "That with the view of exercising the greatest possible economy in the expenditure of the revenue his hands with invisible soap in imperceptible of the colony, a standing committee be appointed, to consist of three members, with committee to be authorised to employ the day's Chronicle eclipses anything in the services of an efficient clerk, if they deem it necessary, at a sum not exceeding three hun-dred dollars."

the most shameful transaction of which the UNION. Home Government has been guilty since Mr. DeCosmos, in pursuance of notice, moved "That His Excellency be requested to furnish copies of despatches and corresthe days of Walpole-to laugh with joy over the spoliation of our public lands-to pondence with reference to a resolution of the House passed in July last respecting the union of this colony with British Columbia. go into raptures at the idea of Bishop Hills possessing himself of a city square-is something either very near akin to idiocy or He said it was needless to enlarge again at verging on the malignant. We notice the any length upon the question of union, as its fact not because it is really worth in itself vital importance to the community at large was generally admitted. In July last Govthe attention of any person in the colony or ernor Kennedy was asked to transmit cerout of it, but because it is the only effort- tain communications from that House to the feeble and unprincipled as it may be-that Home Government, and to those documents has been made or could be made, even in as yet no answer had been received. It was this patient community, to justify and gloat a duty that the representatives of the people over an act of injustice that leaves the Vancouver Island public without an acre of land

THE FRANCHISE.

Mr. McClure gave notice of motion to in-Mr. Cardwell shows in his despatch that troduce a bill to amend the Franchise Act he is very anxious that the question of the of 1859.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

the manner and terms of settlement quite Mr. McClure, in pursuance of notice, moved that the House do meet on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at one o'clock p.m. He cluding the negotiations ; but we think, after said that his object in suggesting this alteraall, he has overshot the mark. The colony tion was not so much to extend the limit of has not yet consented to the Civil List, and the time devoted to the public business, as has not yet consented to the Own List, and there is not much probability now that it will. So long as there was anything like to reduce the number of days requisite for sincerity and integrity to be hoped for from attendance. A great deal of time was spent

sincerity and integrity to be hoped for from the Colonial Office, on the question of the Crown Lands, we were willing to assume all the burdens, with certain stipulations. The whole face of things is now, however, whole face of things is now, however, whole face of things is now, however, changed. We are told distinctly that we mencing on Monday next.

of money expended on the roads from Vica toria to North Saanich during the past year.

MARRIAGE LICENSES. Dr. Dickson gave notice that on Monday next he should ask leave to introduce a bilt to make proper provision for Marriage License Fees, and for the payment of the same into the general revenue of the colony.

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP. Mr. DeCosmos gave notice that on Mon-day next he should ask leave to introduce a bill, fentitled "An Act respecting the law of Partnership."

MATRIMONIAL FEES.

Dr. Dickson, in pursuance of notice. moved for a return; of the sums of money received as fees for Marriage Licenses. He said that a similar motion was made by him on a previous occasion, and was passed unanimously but he was under the impression that as yet no reply had been received. He believed that it was not the intention of the Executive to treat the request with disrespect, but he premised that it had been overlooked in the

The Speaker observed that upon reference to the records of the proceedings of the House, it was found that a reply had been

received, stating that the fees in question be-longed to the Orown Revenue, and were then under consideration in the proper quarter.

Dr. Diekson was of opinion that further details were required, as last year the amount power to send for persons and papers, for the purpose of auditing the public accounts, such gregate upwards of \$700; he moreover wished to include the number of marriage licenses issued. The term was extended to 1850, and the motion was then carried nem.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

Mr. McClure, the chairman of the committee appointed to draft a reply to the Governor's address, presented the following report :

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY .- We. Her Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Members of the Assembly of Vancouver Island, have received with much attention your Excellency's address on the opening of the present session of Parliament.

We beg to assure your Excellency that the Crown Lands despatches alluded to in your Excellency's address will receive our most earnest consideration.

We regret that your Excellency is unable to lay before us any definite proposition in connection with the Union of the Colonies; a question which we have already maintained is of paramount importance to the well-being of the country.

The dangers to the public health to which your Excellency alludes as being consequent upon imperfect municipal institutions, will,

we hope, be dissipated by the granting of proper powers to the municipality. We beg to assure your Excellency that we are fully alive to the importance of steam communication with San Francisco, and to

the necessity of a proper postal system. We respectfully agree with your Excel-lency that measures should be immediately devised to suppress the present nefarious Indian liquor traffic.

The law of debtor and creditor will meet with our earnest attention.

We regret with your Excellency to find that the public expenditure of the ourrent

Leave granted.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

The House resolved itself into a Commit-tee of the Whole to consider Mr. Dennes' bill respecting Imprisonment for Debt, Mr.--Cochrane in the chair.

Mr. Dennes in rising to support the bill, said that it was not of the same purport as the one negatived last year. He proposed to abolish the law of imprisonment for debt altogether, unless under very exceptional circumstances. His professional experience caused him to feel very strongly on the subject. Foreigners came to this country and cast debtors into prisen, very frequently upon false affidavits. He had himself been engaged to assist as a lawyer in liberating many during the last two years. A poor man owes a few dollars which he is unable to pay, and the creditor being unrelenting, the debtor is consigned to jail. He proposed to abolish in toto the canias ad respondendum to abolish in toto the capias ad respondendum as well as the capias ad satisfaciendum. It was worse than useless to retain a man in was worse than useress to retain a man in prison for simple debt. He admitted there was some difficulty as regarded the writ ne excat regno, more especially in the matter of partnership accounts. It would perhaps be better, as a precaution against a dishonest man going away, who is in partnership with three or four others, that this writ should remain in force, and security demanded until the settlement of the dispute. He felt very strongly upon the subject, as he had seen so much wrong inflicted under the present law.

Mr. M'Clure had great pleasure in supporting this bill from its sweeping character Our iniquitous debtor and creditor law had literally stank in the nostrils of the Pacific Coast. Two-thirds of the persons who had left this colony had been driven away by it. He was opposed to the present law because it was stupid, inasmuch as it paralyzed industry, and deprived the country of the results of that industry. There is nothing that we should guard more scrupulously than the person of the subject, and it was a disgraceful fact that about the easiest thing to do on Vancouver Island was to put a man in prison.

Mr. DeCosmos wished to know what policy it was intended to pursue, supposing a man was leaving the country to evade just debts ? He was of opinion that no man should be kept in prison for debt. It was, however, no province of the law to punish the debtor. A charge of fraud should be regarded as a criminal act. The creditors should have nothing to do with this offence, which should be lef entirely in the hands of another tribunal.

Mr. Dennes observed that fraud was a wide term, and very difficult of definition, but that as far as he was concerned, he had no objection to insert a clause to meet the case. Dr. Helmcken strenuously advocated the retention of the writ ne exeat regno. He did not see how it could be done away with. He admitted that it was difficult to define precisely when a fraud was committed. It al-most amounted to a fraud, when people lived in high style and were lavish in their extravagance, spending their money in every way except in paying their creditors. He consid ered that it was actually necessary that this writ should remain intact, as by the abolition of it there would be no resource against a debtor abruptly going away. It was true as a rule of those people who ran away that the colony perhaps was better rid of them, not-withstanding the assumed profit made out

The Council met yesterday at 3 p.m. Present, the Hons. President, Colenial Se-cretary, Attorney General, Surveyor General and H. Rhodes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

5.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

The Hon. H. Rhodes presented the follewing draft of an address framed by the Committee in reply to the Governor's speech at the opening of the Council, which upon mo-tion of the Hon. Attorney General was adopted :

To His Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy, Esq., Companien of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath; Governor in and over the Colony of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies, &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCE.

1. We, the Legislative Council of Vancouver Island, have read with much attention the speech with which Your Excellency has opened the present session of the Legisla-

2. We join in Your Excellency's regret that you are unable to announce a definite decision in respect of those important mat-ters affecting the future of this colony which have of late engaged so much attention. We would hope that such decision may soon be forthcoming for we cannot but view the pre-sent unsettled state of the public mind in connection therewith as obstructive to the advancement of the colony in chilling enterprise, lettering the transactions of commerce, and retarding the permanent settlement of the

3. We are gratified to learn Your Excellency's expressions of confidence in the fus ture of the colony, and we would render to Your Excellency the earnest assurance of our desire, so far as in us lies, to aid Your Excellency in maintaining and providing laws not alone to promote present welfare, but likewise to be a firm and substantial basis for the future.

4. We acknowledge with devout thankfulness the blessings which a kind Providence has vouchsafed to this colony in the past, and we join in Your Excellency's prayer that the same Almighty Power will guide us in the future to prosperity and peace. It was agreed on motion of the Hon. Col-

onial Secretary that the address be presented to the Governor on Monday next, at noon if that hour be found convenient, to His-Excellency, and that the Council adjourn until then.

THE EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA-The wife of Francis Joseph is one of the most beautiful. women of Europe; and famed equally for the kindness of her temper and the charms of her manner. She is tall, slender, graceful, with a very pretty skin, and, when pretty well, a good deal of color, large limpid blue eyes, and an amazing head of very light hair, which she wears in eight massive braids, wound round and round her head, forming a magnificent diadem of hair, such as very few magnificent diadem of hair, such as very few. women could match, from their own re-sources. She speaks all the principal tongnes-of Europe, and is particularly fond of the English language, which she speaks perfectly, as though it were her native dialect. She is an excellent musician, paints and draws ex-tremely well, and is one of the boldest and most skillful of horsewomen.

MORE CONVENIENT-It would be well if the House of Assembly would resolve upon ng their sittin s during the winter months earlier in the day than heretofore. From 2 to 5, p. m., would be infinitely more convenient than from three to six, and if business was urgent evening sessions might for a time be held at seven o'clock. We understand that an honorable member intends moving that the House shall sit continuously until eight o'clock. Of course this is out of the question; for we should like to see the politician sufficiently patriotic and devoted to the interests of his constituents and the country, as to prefer retaining his seat in a cold' legislative hall to tucking his feet under his mahogany, and his dinner under his waistcoat, before his own cozy fire-side. THE FINAL CONFLAGRATION-It is not at little remarkable that the predicted burning of the world, and the circumstances attende ing it, as foretold in Scripture, are both natural, and have a strict coincidence with scientific probability. It is computed by French astronomers that more than fifteen hundred fixed stars have disappeared within the last three centuries: La Place says that one of these stars, situated in the northern hemisphere, gave the most indisputable evi-dence of having been consumed. It was so, bright as to be visible to the naked eye at mid-day—" first of a dazzing white, then of a reddish yellow, and lastly of an ashy pale color The configration lasted, and was visible, sixteen months, when the star forever disappeared.

nong those present were te Chief Justice; L. r; Dr. Tolmie, M.L.A.; I.L.A., Vice-President: R.C.; J. F. McCreight, ville, M.A.; Jas. Lowe, n, Esq.; J. G. McKay, and others, about forty was decorated with flags, well provided by Mons. mer, Wilson and Fischer dings with some excelber of speeches were dehad not the pleasure of

he printed list of toasts : posed by the President ; e Queen." "The Royal by the President ; music, "His Excellency the by the President, music t Charlie"; responded to overnor Kennedy. "The plunteers ;" proposed by ponded to by senior offi-" Red, White and Blue." ouncil and House of Asy Captain Reid ; music, y a' agree." " The Mayor proposed by Mr. J. S. nded to by the Mayor; a' the steer Kimmer." osed by Mr. J. G. McKay; e Chaplain ; music, "Ye bonnie Doon." "The St. proposed by His Excels ; responded to by the Scots wha hae." "The ety;" proposed by the ed to by Sir Jas. Douglas; "The Retiring Officers;" Justice Cameron ; ress Justice Cameron; res-r. D. M. Lang; music, year that's awa." "The icers;" proposed by Sir sponded to by Vice Presi-sic, "The Campbells are mests;" proposed by Mr. "For a' that and a' that." e in ;" proposed by Mr. sic, "Oh! why left I my erican Neighbors;" pro-ie; responded to by Mr. music, "Hail Columbia." es ;" proposed by Rev. T. ," The Blue Bells of Scot-herheod of St. Andrew ;" President J. J. Cochrane bonnie woods and braes. oposed by Mr. J. Wright: enior members present; " "The Ladies;" pro-". Johnston; responded to music, "Green grow the

VIRGIN Co .-- Through ariboo news in yesterday's 00 taken out by this combe the result of two instead

of this we are to vote \$15,000 for the appointed, with power of call for persons and Governor and the other thousands of papers, to enquire into all matters relating to the Civil List. We know as a colony we have very little outside force. We know also that in coming into collision with the Home Government we may lose in many cases more than we can hope to gain ; but we know that we have at the same time certain powers which Mr. Cardwell dars not touch, and powers that can if properly applied render for all practical purposes the decision of the most learned the Attorney istration in this court, and it had been a General and the ultimatum of the Colonial office null and void. There is a way to make the "Lord Bishop" drop his ill-gotten remedy the abuses, and to assist them in acres as the Irishman did the hot potato ; and it will be done. Vancouver Island belongs to the British people who are on it; and not the pompous and scheming Sir Edmund Head ; nor the fussy Barnacles of the Colonial Office ; nor all the unctious Grace of speculative divines will block up our pathway to right and justice. What we have got we will maintain, and what we are wronged of we shall have. Our parental guardians have taken an inauspicious moment to carry out their high- ried. handed measures. They have dealt us a blow at a time when the nationality of British North America is trembling in the balancethey have tried to disgust us with British rule when the cry of annexation is heard from one side of the continent to the otherwhen everything that America can do is being done to draw the British colonies within the folds of the Republic, our patrimony is taken from us through Imperial instigation, and we are asked to stoop down meekly, as a beast of burden, and for partaking of the benefits of so benign a Government, assume the on the Pacific coast? Is it the way to make

the British name respected ? A JOKE FROM BRIGHAM YOUNG-The Salt Lake Union Vedette relates that Brigham Young, on hearing that Waldron, an actor, sought the hand of Miss Alexander, a young actress who is under the "President's'. actress who is under the interview is a guardianship, put in his veto, and said : Mr Waldron is a gentleman and a good actor ' he can play Richelieu, Richard 'three I's;' Romeo, and what not, finely ; but (by thi time Brigham brought his best sarcastic elos

structure all Couled radies are an tradeful and the she sale

estimates for a tax collector. cution into use) he ca-a-n't play Alexander!'

PUGET SOUND AGRICULTURAL CO.

Dr. Ash gave notice that on a future day of the disputed reserves; and in the face he should move that a committee of five be the right and title of the Puget Sound Agricultural Company to hold lands in this colcultural Company to hold lands in this col-ony, and also into the particulars of any claim made by or on behalf of that company on the Colonial Trust Fund.

BANKRUPTCY MATTERS.

Mr. Duncan in pursuance of notice moved for a return of all the persons who had been adjudicated bankrupts, with a detailed account of their estates, and the disposition of their assets. There had been sad maladmincrying evil in the city. It was indispensable that commercial men should be placed in possession of these facts, to enable them to placing the court upon a proper footing,

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Dr. Dickson gave notice of motion for a return to be made with as little delay as pos sible of the amount of money returned for Marriage Licenses from 1860 to 1865, with the disposition of the same.

BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEY'S BILL. Mr. Duncan moved that this bill for amal-

JURISDICTION OF INFERIOR COURTS. Mr. Dennes asked leave to introduce a bill to increase the jurisdiction of the Inferior Court of Civil Justice. A similar bill had been brought before the House last session. It was intended to extend the amount that could be recoverable to £100, and that the court should hold its meetings twice a month which would be a great advantage to the mercantile classes. Leave granted. LIEN LAW.

Mr. Duncan gave notice that on Thursday ext he would ask leave to introduce a bill upon the homestead for debts contracted next he would ask leave to introduce a bill entitled the "Lien Law." The House then adjourned until three

this the way to build up British sentiment Debt will be taken up.

Friday, December 1st, 1865.

House met at 3:15, p. m. Members pre-sent — The Speaker, Messrs. DeCosmos, Dickson, M'Clure, Trimble, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, Tolmie, Cochrane, and Ash. TAXES ON REAL ESTATE.

Mr. Cochrane gave notice that on Wednesday next, he should move for returns of all lots sold for colonial or municipal taxes, and ferred to a Committee. also that a suitable salary be placed in the

charges, dedacting robate of interest on Republics.

no doubt perceives, a policy of economy con-sistent with the exigencies of the country and with the efficiency of the public service.

We are especially gratified to find that your Excellency, in the list of bills to be prepared by the Attorney General, is in favor of measures that have previously met with our favorable consideration; and we hope that

gratulate the people of the colony on the pos-session of the inestimable blessings of health and peace, and we hope that nothing in the future will arise to disturb this satisfactory condition.

LEONARD MCCLURE, Chairman. JAMES TRIMBLE, JAMES CARSWELL.

It was referred to a committee of the whole, to be considered on Monday next.

THE HOMESTEAD LAW.

Mr. DeCosmos in moving the second reading of the Homestead Bill, said that he need ing of the Homestead Bill, said that he need not dwell at any length upon the impertance of the measure, as honorable members would doubtless let it go to a committee of the whole House. A very general opinion prevailed throughout the community of the necessity of exempting the homestead of a settler from legal distress. The only difference of opinion gamating the two professions, thus enabling a client to employ one lawyer instead of two as heretofore, be read for the first time. Gar-\$5000. In California, Oregon and Washington Territory, this sum was found to answer all purposes. In order to prevent emigrants from migrating to the American side, it was essential to protect the occupants of house-industrious, and in many cases more house-holds from having their houses ruthlessly taken from over their heads, and thus turned in perhaps a penniless condition into the streets. It would also be an inducement for people to reside here, and for single men to to marry and settle in the colony. Of course, due notice would be given to the public, when such a bill came into after such a date is determined on. There would be no further opportunity for fraud in crushing weight of a ruinous taxation? Is o'clock to-day, when the Homestead Law, the different clauses of the enactment, than under the present law in force in Vancouver

Island. Property can now be settled by the husband in the hands of trustees for the ben-efit of the wife as well as by what are called post nuptial contracts. The real object of the bill was, when a man was unsteady or unfortunate, to afford some kind of protection to the wife and children. A similar law worked very well in other countries and there was no reason why it should not be applicable here. The bill was read a second time and re-

THE FRANCHISE. Mr. McClure, in pursuance of notice, ask-ed leave to introduce a bill to amend the Franchise Act of 1859. He said that it was

irrisoffine the new most addiction

of them (laughter). The fact was the subje had been overrated, and it was absurd to suppose that under the present system of credit the writ in question could be done away with.

Dr. Tolmie thought the penalty should be heavy when a debtor kept back his assets from his creditors.

Mr. DeCosmos could not see why the abolitio should not be entire as regards personal arrest. There is a certain class of ousiness transactions adjusted in Chancery, and others in Common Law, and there was no reason why either should enjoy any advantage over the other. Partnership was a case in point. In other countries the charge of fraud was made direct against the offend

Mr. Dennes was aware that a great deal could be urged in favor of the retention of the writ ne exeat regno. He alluded to some of the facts of the dispute about the Sawmill claim. He would, however, suggest that very heavy damages should be given in the event of false imprisonment.

Dr. Helmcken here mentioned that as a bill would be sent down from the Upper House it would be expedient to wait a short

Mr. Dennes-I most decidedly object to waiting for any bill emanating from that honse

Mr. McClure urged the prosecution of the bill. If the Speaker could give them a guarantee that the bill from the Upper House would be sent down in any reasonable time he would be in favor of delay. But last session had destroyed all his confidence in the "legislative despatch" of the Council.

Dr. Dickson did not think that the bill which would be transmitted from the other house would be so liberal in its provisions. Protection should be afforded to the creditor as well as the debtor, and equal justice accorded to both parties. He strenuously ad-vocated the abolition of imprisonment for debt unless for traud.

Mr. DeCosmos considered after all that had transpired, that the members of the Assembly should act independently of the other honse

Dr. Trimble said that as regards waiting for the Legislative Council, it might be a month before that bill reached them, he however was in favor of a reasonable time being

The bill was then reported and the House adjourned until 1 p.m. on Monday next.

WESLEYAN TEA-MEETING AT NANAIMO .- The anniversary tea-meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Church came off at Nanaimo last Wednesday evening and was successful in every respect. Capt. Curtis, of the ship Portlaw, of whom by the way, the *Gazette* speaks in the highest terms, occupied the chair in a very able manner, and made a most humorous speech. He was followed, by Rev. Mr. White, pastor of the church, and by Rev. Messrs. Browning and Jamieson. The last named gentleman is very highly complimented

proviously ignored. If nave to obj by the Gazette, in important susticent oft . seaarat condition of the city will pribable Pioseshaus has they have stolen others free ant we care not from what source legis. I remain as sound and sweet as it now ist

HORRIBLE SCENE AT A BULL FIGHT-A Paris correspondent gives the particulars of a sad catastrophe which occorred lately in the suburbs of Montpelier, where a bull-fight had been organized in the presence of 6.000 spectators. The performance was given in a wooden structure erected in the form of an amphitheatre, and while it was going on the structure gave way, hurling a mass of people. into the arena, where the bull was careering in full fury. A dash was made by the beast into the thickest of the crowd, a mother and child were tossed aloft, more than a dozen were frightfully gored, and the crowd got their fill of what they sought-sensation,

Horse WISDOM-Anything that the horse can touch with his nose without being harmed he does not fear. Therefore the hand, the halter, girth, blanket, saddle, harness, umbrella. buffalo robe-whatever is brought in proximity with him-should be introduced and touched by that sensitive organ. A knowledge of this important fact is the main secret of Rarey's success in horse taming:

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4. 3.

BELLE BOYD ON THE STAGE-A report is circulating that Miss Hardinge, better known as " Belle Boyd, the Confederate heroine," is about to try her fortune on the London