Saturday, December 26, 1868

Opening of the Legislative Council.

The ceremony of opening the Legislative Conneil took place yesterday at the hour appointed. A guard of honor from the Volum teer Corps, under the command of Lieutenant Roscoe, met His Excellency at the door of the Council, the band playing God Save the Queen. At a quarter past two, having taken bia seat; the usual oaths were administered to the members present, when His Excellen hey read his address, which occupied fally half an hour in delivery. His Excellency looks much better in of late, so though his voice was iquite inaudible to omest of the people present Considerable interest was manifested by the public on the assembling of the Council for the first time at Victoria as Capital of the United Colonies. The Hon Admiral Hastings and staff, the Chief Justice, the Bishop and other distinguished personages, with a large number of ladies, filled the portion allotted to visitors in the body of the house. The gallery was crowded with the industrial classes. Upon the Governor retiring, the Acting Colonial Secretary assumed his position as President, and the business usual on the day of opening was proceeded with. The members present were The Attorney General, the Collector of Customs, the Chief Complisaioner of Lands and Works, Mesers Helmoken, Drake, Davie, Ring, Carrall, and Bushby.

The Attorney General moved, seconded by

the Collector of Customs, that the Governor's Address be taken as read, to which Dr Helmcken dissented, when the Secretary, Mr. Good, read the address to the Council again ;

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works moved, seconded by Mr Bushby, that the Governor's Address be printed for the use of the members-carried without opposi-

NOTICES OF MOTION. By the Hon Attorney General, that at the

next sitting of the Council he should ask permission to introduce

An Ordinance to provide for the Fencing Lands in British Columbia.

An Ordinance to establish Banks for Sa-An Ordinance styled the Mining Ordinance. By Dr Helmeken-To introduce a Billito nend the Constitution of the Legislative and Executive Councils, and Registration of

By Mr Drake-To introduce a Bill to allow Drawbacks upon exported goods. REPLY TO THE SPEECH.

Mr Ball moved seconded by Mr Carrell, that a select committee be appointed by the President to draft a reply to the Governor's Address: Mesers Ball; Carrall, Helmoken, Davie and Alston were named as the Committee.

Moved by Mr. Walken, seconded by Mr.

Drake, that the House adjourn until one of an amendment that the House adjourn until three on Friday, which, upon a division, was adjourned until Monday next at one o'clock

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Coun apital, it is my spleasing duty to state that discovery of gold have not returned nor do they seem likely to do so. The base on the traver which does furnished compation to ten or twelve thousand men are now abandoned to the rockers of some half-dozen Chicamen. Ket Cariboo in spite of the disastrone fire at Barkerville, which a woke all our

corportation of spars and lumber which we may be seen and lumber which we now see going on, and on the general prosperity of our principal coal mines.

Before entering formally on the business of the present Session, it will be well that I should inform you of the fate of the measures already passed. The great majority of the Ordinances have been confirmed by Her Majesty. I shall not mention them in detail, but I specify those which have not been thus favorably received.

The Act to incoporate the Sisters of Saint Ann has been thought to savor too much of the principles of Mortmain.

The Mortgage Bill is considered objectionable by the Secretary of State, who has consequently been unable to advise its allowance by Her Majesty. Further information on this subject shall be laid before you by Message.

A decision on the Land Bill of the last Session is deferred, pending the consideration of certain returns which I have by command, forwarded to the Secretary of State.

mas Presents, at London House, Government

exertion has been wanting on my part in the I telegraphed, on the 11th March, 1867, to

solution of an embarraseing question.

To turn to the work before as I shall lay before you a Bill to provide for the fending of lands in British Columbia. The subject is one of very considerable difficulty, and I

It has been found that the system of Royalties and Inspection of Accounts on behalf of
the Government now in use in the Mining
Leases of the Crown, by no mann gives
satisfaction to the people, nor profit to the
Treasury. Companies likewise object to
the usual clauses, under the present leasing
to all my further communications to the
Secretary of State on the subject, the reply
lists the Government as to the amount of capiis the Government as to the amount of capital paid up. I propose to you to abandon the principle of mining leases save as ancillary to the general system which I am about to submit. It is desirable, in my opinion, that aby person of whatever nationality, who shall duly, as will be provided, obtain and effictually work a tract of mining ground, should have every facility for acquiring a fee. The bill will be the obstacles to the scheme to be exbe provided, obtain and efficiently work a tract of mioing ground, should have every facility for acquiring a fee. The bill will be so soon before you that I shall not enter into further details. Snifice it to say that you for working the measure is largely borrowed from the Gold Mining Laws which have given general satisfaction. Silver copper, lead, cinnabar and coal are within the provisions of the bill. As I contemplate obtaining a very large renunciation of the rights of the Crown's assepting clause will be necessary in our enectment.

Some amendments in the Vancouver Is-Commissioner of Lands and Works, Messes land Road Act shall be proposed to you.

Helmoken, Drake, Davie, Ring, Carrall, A bill is in preparation, intended to confer very considerable powers upon a Board of Health to be appointed in case of need by

the Governor.

The searcity of our Securities in the Mar. ket, and the high price which they command show that confidence in the financial sta-bility of the Colony is sufficiently restored to justify me in proposing to jou the establish-ment of a Savings' Bank. A bill for the pur-pose will be laid before you. I propose that a moderate rate of interest shall be allowed on deposite, above a certain amount, and that the depositor shall have the security of the General Revenue.

A bill to legalize the unforessen Expendi-

ture of the year 1867 is ready for your consideration. Let me assure you that it contains nothing unusual. There are certain amounts paid for compensation to Public Servants for loss of office, and others to cover the necessary expenses growing out of the now almost forgotten complications on Grouse Creek.

The Estimates for the ensuing year shall be brought at once before you. It is therefore needless that I should enter into any lengthneedless that I should enter into any length-ened consideration of their details. They are not unreasonable. The expectations for 1869 are founded upon the expectations for 1868. The accounts have not yet been received from the outlying districts of this vast tertitory; but we are already in a position to state that the receipts will, within a few dollars, equal the Revenue estimated for the current year. I am not sware of any unusual expenditure I am not sware of any unusual expenditure for which to invoke your support. The Public debt has been considerably reduced, yet large sums have been expended on works of public utility, such as keeping the main debt, I reply that our debt does not exceed two lines of communication with the gold mines and the logging stations in a good condition. Certain Bridges near Victoria have been tresponded to the consider that the embers of discord tron, and the change within our harbor is have burnt out, I should feel especial satisfac-

repair again.

As the Revenue shows some clasticity you will not in the Estimates for 1869 a greater fection of our kindred and the friendship and the public toads, for the support of the policity and the public toads. It is songht likewise to oband. Hospitals, It is songht likewise to oband. As the Revenue shows some clasticity you will find in the Estimates for 1869 greater amount than usual acked for the repair of the public toads for the support of bounds and Hospitals. It is sought likewise to obtain a large grant for Public works. A moderate amount will be required of you for the establishment of a branch of the Government. Assay Office in Cariboo. No increase of Public Officers will be required or the purpose. The resent staff will be imply divided. I have not in the Estimates asked for a grant for the purpose, but, should the flustess allow of it, the Executive Government will be prepared to assume the responsibility of anticipating the wishes of the Public by removing one of the Sister Rocks which reader difficult, if not dangerous, the navigation of a portion of Flaser River.

The saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be much the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be saferies as the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be saferies as the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be fail before you the saferies will be saferies as the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be saferies you the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be saferies you the same as in 1868. A ferurn shall be saferies you the sa

rate and distributer sat by his death-best mas the

past, nor shall be in the future, to secure a solution of an embarrassing question.

To turn to the work before ne I shall lay before you a Bill to provide for the fencing confederacy. Thus anticipating, by seven of lands in British Columbia. The subjection of the legislative Connection the last of the Legislative Connection the last of the Legislative Connection the

thinks the obstacles to the scheme to be extremely formidable.

It is not improbable that the natural desire of the people to take a larger share in the conduct of public affairs, and in the Government of the Golony, has led to the wish for union with a self-governing kindred State, regardless of the natural, physical and administrative difficulties which present themselves. It is not for me to rake up the construction of the mast or encourse them. troversies of the past, or enquire why the the Colony were not considered to have been pericotly successful. The principle was right. Being of this opinion, I have taken an important step towards bringing about a greater freedom of communion between the Government and the people. I have obtained Her Majesty's gracious permission to place within the Executive Council two gentlemen; Members of your House, not necessarily connected in may way with the Government Assisted by this reconstituted Council of Advice, I shall proceed to consider whether some reconstruction might not also be desir able in the Legislative body.

One change appears to me perfectly simple and unobjectionable, and that is, under our present restricted Constitution, to allow the people to elect their own representatives without having to obtain the concurrence of

the Governor in their choice.

The more the population of the Colony increases, and the greater its prosperity, so much the easier will it be to introduce the much the easier will it be to introduce the principles of self-government.

For an increase of population and a return

of prosperity I confidently look. It is but natural that in a community which in its early days has been thrown upon its own resources there should be violent oscillations between extreme confidence and equal despondency I think that the Colony is now, however, en-

The salwines will be much the same as it 1868." A rearch shall be fill before your change the great reduction of the Civil Est to the mine to the great reduction of the Civil Est to the mine to the pass does not be unique to the pass does not be unique to the pass does not be unique and the necessary of \$57,043.

The vicinity of \$57,043.

The vicinity of \$57,043.

The vicinity of the Colonies, exhibiting a total saving since the pass to the pass

Tue first snow fell yesterday morning Straits this merging, bound for Sen Prepole

CRUZ MOUNTAINS.—A gentleman who was in the mountains near Prescadero, Wednesday morning, during the earthquake shock. describes the scene as fearfully grand. Huge redwood trees awayed like fishing rods, and immense dead limbs, detached by the violence of the motion fell to the earth. Large pieces of rock were wrested from the mass of the mountain, and in some instances rendered the road impassable. The waters

ARRIVAL OF THE SIR JAMES DOUGLAS -Very much to the relief of everybody-and to one more than her Captain and crew-The Government steamer Sir James Douglas arrived here yesterday afternoon from a trip o the East Coast which occupied ten days n making. Capt Clark reports several gales of unexampled violence between Nanaimo and Comox, during which he was frequently compelled to came to anchor in coves and bays. On one occasion his sails were split. and he narrowly escaped being swamped by heavy seas. The trip from Comox to Nanaimo occupied four days. On her way up the Douglas towed the ship Shooting Star, bound for San Francisco with coal, clear of Nanaimo. Considerable produce was brought down on the Douglas, and a number of coops of fine Christmas fowls.

LECTURES. - A series of lectures will be commenced on Tuesday week at the Theatre Royal for the purpose of raising funds to pay for the Oxyhydrogen lantern, in order to retain it amongst us as an auxillary to edunation. The first lecture is intended especially for young people, and will embrace comic scenes and tales principally; the second and third, will be on scientific subjects, for adults, accompanied with corresponding illustrations. On the third evening, the oxyhydrogen microscope will be used. exhibiting amongst other interesting objects in the animal world, the live crocodiles, serpents, &c., which inhabit Vancouver Island drinking water. If by this means a better supply of drinking water can be obtained, the public will be all gainers.

San Francisco Itens .- The Times of the 12th just contains an account of the falting of the Railroad House and adjourning buildings which were wrecked by the great earthquake. Workmen were engaged in demolishing the walls at the time. One man was killed and three injured ... The Far Compamy's steamer Alexander hence on the 5th inst, reached San Francisco on the 11th A Kanaka employed on a schooner stabbed a shipmate and then jumped doverboard and wes drowned The second mate of the British ship Heretordshire was murdered on the high seas by a seaman, who will be sent to England by Mr. Booker for trial

Mesers Ladd, Filton and Raiston. He alleges that he agreed to pay the defendants, who pretended to be owners of the steamship Oregonian, \$50,000 if they kept her off the Oregen and British Columbia routel Since signing the agreement he ascertains that defendants had no interest in the steamship and charges that the obligation was obtained by frau loand brave for to reidased tour ears

Drawnages on Exporter Goods -- Hon Mr. Drake, in the Council yesterday, gave foundation The veinpose it appears at potice of an intention to introduce an Ornance to provide a drawback upon exported goods. The Ordinance has in view the resturation to Victoria of its foreign trade. which, since the imposition of the Tariff, has been lost. The measure is a good one, and in justice to the mercantile class which has been a heavy sufferer, ought to be allowso that the power of the engine w. seed of he

that the room of this building is not suitable for the use of the large dantern. New house and views will be introduced, however, with the Bishon's slantern o dand page in teresting evening securedate these who attende to aim

A New Locomorive A new and powerful locomotive has arrived at San Francisco from Regland in the ship Kenilworth, for the Vancouver Coal Company at Nanaimo, and is to be forwarded to its destination without delay.

the series of shocking murders at Nanaimo ten days ago, was brought down on the ateamer Sir James Douglas yesterday, and committed to prison to await the Assizes.

THE U S Revenue Cutter Wyanda. Capt White, arrived at 3 o'clock yesterday after-noon having left San Francisco on the 12th inst. The news, which is unimportant, will be found in another paragraph.

MASONIC BALL, A grand Masonic Ball called to the desire of a large portion of the try Glover's Golonial Manufactured Matches. is announced for the 28th inst., at Alhambra community that this Colony should enter they are better and cheaper than the importance of the Dominion of Canada. There is no Englishman who would not rejoice to see a vast State, still under his

but melted immediately.

THE EARTHQUAKE AS SEEN IN THE SANTA' | THE steamship Continental sailed from San Francisco for Victoria direct on Wedneeday morning at 10 o'clock,

CAPT FLOYD, late of the Active, is now in command of the steamship Idaho, running between San Francisco and Honofulu.

Free Trade and Protection

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:- Your active correspondent, Free Trade says people par of Pescadero creek became muddy in a the duty upon butter, and yet the Govern moment, and the surface was covered with ment gets nothing by it. I might dispute large bubbles. These, when a match was the assertion that people do pay five cents applied to them, burst with a slight report more for their butter, because the duty hape and a small flame, showing they were filled pens to be five cents-but, let that alone, with an inflammable gas that must have The quantity of butter imported amounts to come from the bowels of the earth. - Califora 150,000 fbs per annum: (The Government gets something out of that, at all events). If the consumer does not like to pay the duty and wants butter at a cheaper rate, why does he not form a joint stock company, or some other company, for butter making and other purposes? It will take sixteen handred cows to yield the butter now imported. Surely, if butter is so dear, it will pay a handsome profit to produce it; and at the ame time those instrumental in producing it will confer a great benefit upon the country. As soon as sufficient butter is produced, the price will be diminished, which is all that Free Trade requires. Protection is one thing revenue another and the teriff may be preumed to be at least as much for the latter as the former. If it succeeds in both, and will induce the consumer or Free Trade to go into the dairy business, (I mean of cows, not bipeds), how much good would be done.

If the con umer does not like to pay for the butter, he can go without for it is not said to be a necessary of life. Home productions in the shape of Oolahans, whale oil, milk (there is no duty on milk), might be substituted, for after all it is a matter of taste. You may perhaps draw attention to the desirability of going into the dairy business, and show how prefitable it would be. and how much better butter we might have, for verily I believe a very considerable portion of the butter now used to be produced by pigs or some chemical process. Rely upon it, less politics and more industrial pursuits would be of benefit to the country; very few make or can make a living by the former, and those who do, appear to do harm to the country; many might make a living by the latter, and make themselves and the country grow fat, and not be as now of the lean and hungry kind, dyspeptic and howling for the Government to do that which they ought to do, and can do if they please for themselves

THE COUNTRY.

Small-Pox.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST. -- Your item entitled fawful' (in yesterday's issue) respecting Small-pox in San Francisco and the dreadful ravages it is still making there, notwithstanding that the most efficient sanitary measures are adopted, should be a warning to us here not to relax every human effort to keep us from this most unwelcome It may be true that this city is compara-

tively free from this disease, but unless suggestions that have appeared from time to ime in your paper are carried out, we may again be corsed by the importation of this plague. You say bow thankful we should be as a community that the horrid disease touched us so lightly? True, but some who months might now have enjoyed life had they only adopted those precautions that have so often been iniged upon them by the press. 'In the time of peace prepare for war.' look-out for the next few months and board every vessel large and small, thoroughly examine every soul on board, and search every nook and corner, and rest assured if this is done success will crown his vigilent efforts and the Colony will be out of danger from this lostbeome complaint noite or rate of the indicate of the

coulty condemned a child only five years old to be shot as the son of a rebel. The child, not understanding the situation, moved about, and by extraordinary luck was not touched. The General then coolly threw it an orange, and while stooping to pick it up a second velley stretched it dead.

A scientific discovery is reported from Purio, where Professor Casturani has found a way of killing animals by forcing air into their eyes, within the space of a few seconds, and it is thought almost without sausing them any pain. The most remarkable thing about this 'killing made easy' is the fact it leaves absolutely no outward trace; and it can as easily be applied to men as to animals. o injurious ones, as sulphur, collen

Pin Paris Charinari suggests the adoption of the volcipeds for artilery purposes, and gives an excellent sketch of a company of artillerymen maneuvering before the enemy. Although but a caricature, it is far from being

CORRESPONDENCE from Constantinople state that the quantity of gold recently discovered in the bed of the river Ingure, nea Koutaie. is equal in proportion to the yield in Califor-

THE insurgents in Madrid have stuck notices on the royal palace, advertising 'This house to let.' delettes to about votal ed.

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SPECIAL TO THE

WASHINGTON, D Sherman reported ing the paying of th it is neither public the nation to allo twenty bonds till th form a similar duty coin, or making that measures for payments should practicable. The table to be called p without amendmen duced in October. of the nation to the debt in coin. NEW YORK, Dec

states that the Sa been completed. shortly establish a n NEW YORK, D. says the Supreme decide the Legal

tional. NEW YORK, Dec special says, that on great distress in the persons left Cadiz. with their families, American, have left.

Thirty-five bundr and wounded on b fighting. No arrest none are contempla promises to act magn WASHIGTON, Dec 1 into the Senate prov of thirty acres of lane an Executive mans \$150,000 for the purch The Senate Comp

alleged corruptions co purchase.

HAVANA, Dec 16 .tively engaged search fenders, and many arr in this city ; reinforce to the interior. The with the first detach Spain, two transports to-merrow, with two t

LONDON, Dec 15-House of Commons the House of Lord speech from the Quee Since the last time w ed it right to call you sideration of matters, events have occurred have occurred in th owing to the accepts Crown by members of fore Her Majesty's p portunity be given the vacancies so occ sonsideration of such be laid before you.' the reading, the Comm

chambers. The House of Lords 11th February. The also adjourged to meet On John Bright has issu constituents. He says Office from Gladstone's must obtain'your sanctio not be withdrawn.

LONDON, Dec. 16has decided to recall tain Sir John Lawrence end of the year, at which time the Mare will be appointed to the orial to the Queen release of the Fenis various parts of count and extensively signed Churches on Sunday. The Herald's Madri

matters are now r The Government re gratulations of the prov lishment of laws and or LONDON, Dec 15-Mr G

an address to the electo which he explains the movement for the dise Irish Church. It was i to decline the task of He trusts that the new deserve the confidence promises to use every er nessures which he urged In the House of Comm been presented contesting Lib ral and 36 Conserva Borough.

Lord Clarendon, Secr Foreign Affairs, had a l tended by Johnson and Bu CADIZ, Dec 14-The in ended, the insurgents he