## Weekly British Colonist.

Wednesday January 5. 1870.9 b o

1869.—1870. With hoary head and hobbling gait old Eighteen-hundred and sixty-nine has just disappeared in the illimitable gulf of the eternal past, and Winter once more encloses the dead. Summer in its mantle of snow, as in a shroud, Standing, as we do, upon the ridge which divides the old year and the new -the past and the future-it is natural, and it should be profitable, to indulge in a little retrospective reflection. Although not marked by any very startling event, the year whose sands have just run out will probably be found hereafter to have projected its influences
as far into futurity as any of its predecessors. It was most fitting that the
year which completed the century of
steam should be distinguished by the greatest trimph of the steam engine, and there is, perhaps, no event better calculated to impart prominence to the receding year than the successful completion of that marvellous enterprise which has united the two great oceans. and brought New York and San Fran-cleso within six days' easy travel of each other. In fitting association with this great schievement stands the t of unitfrom the two continents by means of the france-American telegraphic cable. Scarcely second to these, in point of possible commercial results, may be regarded the Suez Canal, which has just been successfully opened. Passing from the triumph of mind over matter of science over time and space, the past year will be found not to have been altogether barren of politico-religious incident. True, the demon of war has for the most part slept. With the exception of the aimless and apparently endless struggle in Cuba, the sword may be said to have rested in the scabbard, American Republics. Old Spain may estill be considered in a state of political ment has so far been successful in averting absolute disorganization and revo-dution of France has passed through another crisis, and it is cause of thankfulness that she has passed through it unscathed. While the life of Napoleon bwas presumed to be trembling in the balance, the nation appeared to be balance, the nation appeared to be os-cilating on the verge of revolution; but with the recovery of the former appears to have returned the reassurance of the latter. Order, L can answer for help me. Messions, to secure liberty ! Such are now the striking words Wremarkable man-words which indicate at once the strength and the weakness of Napoleon's Empire. The other European Powers are much as the year found them. Our own great prosperity. Although Irish discontent has not been wholly eradicated, yet the root of the disorder is being effectively grappled with and if Gladstone should prove as successful in dealing with agradisorders, Ireland will soon become in reality, as she has long been nominally The new colonial policy of the Empire.
The new colonial policy of the Empire.
Thus become the occasion of much dissussion, and has evoked severe comment. Athough unable to defend the unmotherly treatment New Zealand has experienced, and although we cannot disguise from ourselves a heartlessness and a barshess permeating some of 21s, perhaps reason to hope that as the sliew Colonial policy develops itself, and becomes better understood, its will deserve the contract of the state of the s hand of what now appears so reprehand to the colonists. Certain it is that
the great principle of confederating and
consettlating the Colonial Empire will
commend itself to all; and we are not
without hepeful indications that the
home mind is being gradually brought to
realize the true value and use of the
colonies, in the light of their bearing upon the important and perplexing subject of overpopulation. The direction of the direction of the Trian Church, so freely predicted by an interested hierarchy, have not been in any measure realized. On the contrary, both parties in Ireland have evinced a disposition to accept the change evinced a disposition to accept the change and adapt themselves to the new condition of things with a ready cheerfalness and good sense scarcely hoped for
the mast arient and sanguine proby the most arient and sanguine promoters of the measure. Profound
thinkers now regard the disestablishment of the Irish Charch as the first
step towards the general disendowment
of religion, and the universal recognition of what is called the voluntary
principle, the only principle adapted to
a free people of mixed religious belief.
But it is in the Eternal City that is
theing enacted a religious pantomime (if But it is in the 'hiternal City that is being enseted a religious pantomime (if is we may wenture son to designate it) inche raligious feature of the year. The spectacle of the Pope, followed by 700 Bishops, walking in solemn procession

to the half of the great Council, amid the ringing of bells and the thundering of cannon from St Angelo and Mount Aventine, and surrounded with cere-mony and circumstance beyond anything ever witnessed during the present centory, will doubtless be, to all who wited it, the event of the year, if not of the life. The practical results (if any) of the Ecumenical Council now sitting in Rome are still in the womb of futurity, and need not form the subject of speculation here.

"And Death himself, that ceaseless dun
Who walts on all, yet wasts row none,"

has not been idle during the past year In many instances he has doubtless "Shurned the wretch who fain the blow would meet." only to claim as his victims

"The Prince, who kept the world in awe, The Judge, whose dictate fir'd the law The orator, whose all-persuading tongue Had mov'd the nation with resistics away."

France has lost her Berreyer. Our own nation has lost a Stanley, a Grosvenor, and, in all probability, a North cote, while she unites with America in mourning the loss of a Peabody. America, too, points mournfully to the blanks created by the death of a Stanton and a Raymond. Coming home to our own little colony, British Columbia has been called upon to mourn the death of a Governor, and of more than one valued citizen. To confine the view to what more nearly concerns ue, the political results of the past year qan hardly be said to have been satisfactory. Confederation has not made that decided progress either eastward or westward which many were led to expect, and the year leaves the boundaries of the Dominion just where it found them. True, Nova Scotia dis-content exists only in history, and it content exists only in history, and it but remains to perform the deremony of handing over the great Northwest Territory. True it is also that British Columbia, like a ripe apple, is ready to drop into the lap of the new empire; but it is left to the year upon which we are entering, possibly to its successors, to extend the boundaries of the Dominion to their retirement. Dominion to their ultimate limit. To Canada the year has proved one of measurable success; and not the least important and agreeable of its incidents will have been the visit of Prince Ar-thur. Coming still nearer home, the past year has not been one of marked prosperity for British Columbia; yet abundant cause do we find for gratitude. While other parts of the world have been visited by sword, pestilence, famine, earthquake, fire and flood, we have an joyed remarkable immunity from all calamity. Our population has been healthy, our harvest abandant, and if the yield of our mines has fallen somewhat below the average there is abundant consolation in the fact of in-creased individual wellbeing and the germs of permanent colonial prosperity. To 1870 it must be left to develope the practical results of those political changes which have distinguished the past year. And now, having buried the past, turn we hopefully to the future. Having scrambled up to the verge of another year, who is not wisiful to peer into the future, even beyond the possibilities of human prescience? Yet who, if he were endowed with the power of seeing to the end of 1870 as 1869. Sub-Lieuts E.P. Hocker, A.A. Taylor distinctly as he can look back to the beginning of 1869, would not tremble to interrogate so distant a future? Happily for us, we have just prevision enough to enable prudence to advance —not enough to paralyze our will. To the extent that we can see into the fu-ture, there are good practical reasons for ture, there are good practical reasons for our taking pans to see—beyond that very abort distance foreknowledge would kill our best motives. We can see an obligation from the vautage ground of le your de l'an much better than we can forsee events. What we ought to do is much clearer than what is about to happen. Yet, when we have toilingly autmounted the ridge of a long and perhaps, wearisome ascent, it is natural that we should cast an eager look over the 'oromised land' and note. look over the 'promised land' and note, as best we may the outlines of the landscape. That done, we resume our march, giving due beed to the duties of the hour. But these forecasts seldom help us much, whether as individuals or as nations, in choosing the right road; and we find that a daily adaptation of our duties to our position is the surest end safest way to prosperity and happiness. The fairest prospects, we all know, are liable to be suddenly overelouded. For aught that we can tell, the incident which will reverse all our enticipations may be occurring at this moment. How true is it that

There is a providence that shapes our ends, Rough new hom now we may? look over the 'promised land' and note,

Columbia, and enables us, with less faltering than usual, to extend to our fellow colonists the accustomed greeting

ST Paul's Chuach, E quinkly.—Rev Mr. Smythe, Chaplein of H M S Charybois, will preach at St Paul's Church, Esquimatt, to-morrow evening.

THE California is expected next from San

ne don si il , inisiere, It is not be Lower Frank Irsha.-It is reported that the Archideacon of New Westminster, has received information of the Church and buildings of Derby; built at the ex-pense of the Colonial Government, having become the property of the Episcopal Church of this Colony.....The Indian Land Tile differences on the Chilliwack are far from differences on the Chiliwack are far from being settled. Gross partiality is charged to those who have had to do with these matters. We hear of complaints to the Government remsions an answered for months of important letters being lost in transitu, and it is said that the whole affeir will be brought before the Connoil through the representative for the district. Perhaps some one on the spot will write us the particulars..... A building is being fitted up at Moody's Mills for a school-house, and an efficient school histress will take charge of the school in a few days. It is probable that equal taxation for school purposes will be the mode of raising funds for this section. be the mode of raising funds for this section.
...G Turner, of New Westminster, has purchased a farm on the Chilliwack and will move up there with his family in the Spring. Hall, of the former place, with his family, will also make Chillwack their home in a few months. Miller, of Sums, is coming back and intends bringing some others with him, so that these fine prairies will be the agricultural district of the Colony if they are not slready.... A genuine teameeting was to be held in the Wesleyan Church on the Chillwack on Christmas day, free to all comers, and a collection afterwards.

TREATRE ROYAL - Last evening Buckstone's glorious comedy of Married Life' was produced by the excellent company. The comedy ranks among the best written during the present century and offers fine scope for the exercise of versatile talent.

Carrie Carter took the leading character of
Mrs Samuel Caudle, and played it admira-bly. The lady was ably supported by Mr

Ellerton, in the role of Samuel Caudle, Mr Barry as Henry Dove, Miss Cummings, Mrs Bird, Mr Morrison, Mr Bird and others. The house was better than the one that greeted the company on their opening night, but it was not near so good as it ought to be, when we take lote consideration the attainwhen we take lose consideration the attainments of the troupe. We hope to wee a generous support extended the company during their brief stay. The pretty little farce of 'Beissy Baker,' with Carrie Carter as Betsey, and Mr J B Robinson as Mr Mouser—one of his favorite parts—was admirably done. This evening the new and beautiful sensation play of 'Little Barefoot,' with Carrie Carter as the heroine, will be played, and

LAKE DISTRICT SCHOOL-We understand that a tabulated school report from Lake District was placed in the hands of the Govern rict was placed in the hands of the Government, giving, information on the follow heads: Number of children in District between 5 and 18. Number of children below 5. Number of scholars attending. School. Total attendance. Average dito. Number of non-residents attending. Books need and studies carried. Number in each class. School furniture &c. &c. Such a reportment be a work of some labor and we think there ought to be blank form issued by the Government as a help to the Tacher. We are glad to see a certified document like this containing statistics of use to the colony. Lake School has an attendance of 14 pupils with a prospective increase when the roads with a prospective increase when the roads become passable. The school is under the efficient charge of Mr. W. Harrison, formerly of Craigflower School.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZEALOUS .- R Wil liams, paymaster, to be secretary to Rearand E Goldney to the Znalous, as super and E Goldney to the Zialous, as superfu-meraries. William J Baroard, navigating midshipman, to the Zealous, for disposal. Dr John J U Gremner, staff-surg, to the Royal Adelaide, additional for service in the Re-venge, to be appointed to the Zealous when recommissioned. George Murdock, acting assist-surg, to the Royal Adelaide, additional for service in the Revenge, to be appointed to the Zealous, when recommissioned. Just V Blake, assist-suig to the Royal Adelaids, additional for service in the Revenge to be appointed to the Zealous.

BRITISH COLUMBIA is sit appears to b luded in the Canadian Domisions which ocean to ocean. The colonies are not disinclined to the change, but are anxious
according to Governor Seymour's dispatches,
for local self-government, sharp retrenchment,
and some help, or at least sympathy from
the mother country, which, says Mr Seymous, so entirely lorgets the colony that
British immigrants have ceased to go there. The colonists want a road, however, as a condition of union with the Dominion, being at this moment, writes the Governor, "ar near to Japan as Ottawa," The tone of bitterness and despondency created by the laissezaire policy of the Colonial Office is

assezuire policy of the Colonial Office is apparent in every line of the dispatches.

London Speciator, Not 27.

SETTLED.—The suit of Stamp e. The B On a V I Sawmil Co. has been arranged by the satisfaction of the judgment obtained before the Chief Justice of Vancouver Island some months ago, and the sale of the line of the sale of the line the Chief Justice of Vancouver Island some months ago, and the sale of the property by the Sheriff will not take place, as advertised. The mall property, and steamer, however, will be sold to satisfy a mortgage, on the loth hat, by Mr Franklin.

in New York, " This company sing in the Russian dialect and possess some srtistic ability. They have not yet made a pecu-niary success, though the members of the company daily prometade the streets dressed in picturesque dostui le. par bangdmemer

DEATH OF VINCERT GEIGER .- Vincent Geiger, who once filled an important position in the early times of California and who, to avoid prosecution for murder, fled to this city in 1863, and remained here some months under the name of Page, died re-cently at Valparaiso, Chili.

No HOLIDAY,-It is comored that the New Year holiday will not be observed at the public offices. In the 'good' old time the Christmas holidays used to last about one week.

Soun sailors from one of H M Shipe at Requimalt levanted on Thursday night-at least, a boat is missing and so are the sail.

DIVINE SERVICE was held at the Metho dist and Christ Churches last evening. At the Methodist Church the usual watch services were kept up tell after midnight.

On Monday evening Mr. George Paunce fort, a celebrated comedian, will appear at the theatre in one of his favorite pieces. THE instalation of the officers of British

Columbia Lodge, F & A M, will take place on Tuesday next.

THE Gussie Telfair will be due to-day from Puget Sound and will probably sail some time on Tuesday for Portland.

European Mail Summary.

We have European files to the 27th Nov. which contain a great deal of interesting news. In England several elections have been decided. At Whitby Mr W H Gladstone was re elected after a contest, and at Hastings Nr Kay Shuttleworth, gained the seat wasted by the death of Mr North. The election for the Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities in virtually concluded and there the Conservatives have gained a seat by the the Conservatives have gained a seat by the return of MrGordon in place of Mr Moncrieff Mr Ellice, MP, for St Andrews, has declined the profiered peerage, and it is certain that Mr Taibot, MP for Glamorganshire, will also prefer to remain a Commoner. The Right Hon H G Ellict, the Ambassador at Constantinople, has been greated G O B. The Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George, vacant by the death of Lord Der-by, is to be confered upon Lord Lytton. A large meeting of colonists was held the 23d November, at which a resolution was man-imously passed condemning Lord Granville's recent dispatch to New Zealand, and also generally disapproving of the colonial policy of the Government. The famous clipper ship Spiderift, on her voyage to China, went on shore in the British Channel near Dungeness, and became a total wreck. The aargo is valued at £200,000. The Royal Standard, a large ship, bound from Liverdool to Melbourne, has been wrecked on the coast of Braxil and 20 or 30 of the passengers and new were drowned. The Rev H Hayman, of St John's College, Oxford, and Head Master of St Andrew's College, Bradheld, has been elected Head Master of Rugby School, in succession to DrTemple. There were eight other cancida es. In Hayman, we understand, is a brother to Rev Dr Hayman, late of this colony. Spidemic relapsing fever has appeared in the east of London and it is feared will spread during the coming winter. In consequence, various parishes are preparing extra accommodation for fever patients. Hinton, who surdered his paramour and her paramour, at Wood Green, London, the been convicted and sentenced to death. In the case of the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Justice Gifford has desided that a peer is liable to the bankruptcy laws, thus reversing the decision of the recent dispatch to New Zealand, and also

laws, thus reversing the decision of the Commissioner in Bankruptcy. Notice of appeal to the House of Lords was given. A correspondence has been published in the Standard between Sir George Grey, ex-Government of New Zealand and the Colonial ernor of New Zealand, and the Colonial Office, which shows how exceedingly litte that office really knows of its own business. Sir George Grey shows that the policy into which Lord Granville wishes to force the colonists, of acknowledging the administracolonists, of acknowledging he administrative anthority of the Maori King, had been already tried and rejected by the followers of that potentate, on the g ound, that they will take nothing but absolute recognition of his independent sovereignty,—and of this fact the Colonist Office appears to have been quite ignerant. But, of course, Lord Granwille will be logical, and recommend a rupture of the Empire and a less to the Crows rather than not meet the Maori King's views,—in which case, as Sir George Grey observes, he will promote a very much more formidable rebellion, on the part of other Maori tribes. The spirit of discontent in Iteland remains unappeased. The National Press still, preaches hatred to England and openly advocate a preparations for armed rabellion. A robbets of arms in reported near Cork, and a richous spirit has been exhibited in several parts of the country. At Waterford election Sir H W Barron deleated Mr Bernal Osborne by a majority of 16. The proceedings were comparatively quiet. At the Tipperary election, after much violence and intimidation, the Fenian convict G Donovan Rossa was returned by a majority exceeding 100 over Mr Heron, Q C. The latter, however, will take his seat in the House of Commons, as it is affirmed by lawyers that a convicted felon is incapable of being elected. Some differences have appeared among the new Irish Church body, and the laity in some dioceses are not agreed upon the demands of the clergy. The continuous fall in the price of corn has caused the failure of the firm of James Frim & Co, of Dublik. The Fenian sympathizers continuous fall in the price of corn has caused the failure of the firm of James Frim & Co, of Dublik. The Fenian sympathizers continuous fall in the price of corn has caused to obtain redress of grievances from the British conhexion, and denounce all attempts to optain redress of grievances from the British conhexion of being concerned in the mander of the grandsh at Cash. The British control of being denounced in the control of the grandsh at already tried and rejected by the followers of cuity in quelling, and ultimately the election had to be postponed. A man is in custody on suspicion of being concerned in the murder of Cavanagh at Cork. The Emperor of Bussis has received General Fleury, the newly appointed French Ambassador. Great activity prevails in the formation of railroads in Russis, which are chiefly designed for strategic purposes. At a meeting of the charebolders of the European Life Assurance Society the manager and several of the directors resigned. The grant throughout Burope, will be applied to man. Second, on sexual selection, Third, on expression of the emotions.

opposition to the scheme of the National Education League, and in favour of the continuance of the denominational systems.

M. Lesseps is to be orgated a dake. Visseount Canterbury is dead and is succeeded to the title by his brother. Sir Manners Sutton, Governor of the Colony of Victoria. From India we learn that great efforts is the direction of accounts are being what he the direction of economy are being made by the Government. A large reduction in the Madras army is announced, and the contemplated outlay of large sums for public works has been suspended. The Ameer of Affabalistan is reported to have become unpopular with the great chiefs, and his position is precarious. s precarious.

THE EARTH TO BE LAPPED UP BY FIRE.

in Workin British Colonist

The sun's atmosphere, say the scientific men, is in a highly excited condition. A cole umn of magnetic light is shooting out, further and further from the solar sphere, and it is now stretching out forty-five millions of miles. In other words, it has accomplished half the distance between us and the sun The interesting question, and one on which perhaps, we do not wish any more light of this character is: How long will it be be-fore it finishes the rest of the distance, and bridges the gigantic chasm between the earth and the sun? It is a measuager sent out to seatch us up as food for the seatists monster that keeps himself warm by devour ing planets, and whose fire-eating propen, sities this whole earth would eatisfy for silies this whole earth would satisfy for a few days only? It so, how long will this emissary be in reaching us, and carrying the globe away as if we were a gigantic lump of coal for a roaring furnace? The column of light at intervals indicates its approach by flashing and correcating with fresh brilliancy. So decided are its effects that brilliancy. So decided are its effects that two estronomers, one at London, the other at Oxford, and neither knowing the experience of the other, supposed that the dark glass of their belescopes had been broken or put out of range, so strong was the flash of golden light upon the vicion. It is predicted that before the end of next year this magnene light will have got near enough to us to make the immediate and actual influence ed that in consequence we may expect to see phenomena that have never been seen or known before by the human race. If any of our readers, therefore, are yet disposed to complain of the weather and the earthquakes; let them remember that, by this time next let them remember that, by this time next year, they may have an entire new line of experiences to explain and endure, in comparison with which the fitful winter and lough, rude autumn of to-day may seem like a June morning in paradise, and the earth-quake's shock and lightning's storm, a placed rocking in the cradle with a pleasant talkaby of thurder.

MILL' STEWER A BARONET AND A VALET.
On a recent untucky Fr day Mr J Fawortt and Sir Hedworth Williamson, M P of Durbam, Eng., attended a Mesonic banquet, where the good choor was pleutiful and generous. At the conclusion of the reput Mr Faweett directed his valet to secure the surplus wine, which Jeames, nothing both, proceeded to do, but during the operation secured too much of the decriful cordial by powring it down he throat, and when the time fixed for his master's return humanited he was in such a condition that he had to be fitted on to his nearly person on the carriage. A sharp drive of six miles in a pelting rain sobered him down a little, but did not MILLI BETWEEN A BARONET AND A VALET rais sobered him down a little, but did not clear his maddled brain, and his first act, on clear his maddled brain, and his first act, on descending to terra firms, on reaching his master's residence, was to deal Mr Fawcett's noble but plethoric guest a tremendous blow in the pit of the stomach, which sent Sir Hendworth reeling in a doubled-up position for a considerable distance. This was too much for the Baronet to brook, and on recovering his equilibrium Sir Hendworth, who it is said to be a proficient in the manly art,' immediately closed with his assailant. After a violent and somewhat protracted struggle with varying results. Sir Hedworth grassed "or rather "flagged"—his man in gallant style with what is known to the initiated as a wellpassage, his more accomplished and power isl opposent at once threw himself on the prostrate flunkey and held him in that position till the arrival of a policeman; who ver considerately accommodated the valet with a night's lodging in the city lock-up. The mext morning, no one entering a complain against him, he was discharged.

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Official pa union of Bri ion of Cana dispatches | ernor of Bri September, Office a res in favor of to this cold find their v ifornia, and visit us, the to a large those who the only cha a dependen which bel ubstantial gling come prosperous impression ing British is to farois some milita nication wi dicate its The Casead of our princ Rocky Mo ine of road colony that from the P agricultura The Gov Cospondent To this dis

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