AND CHRONICLE. Tuesday, March 26, 1867

American Affairs. Every measure that President Johnson has recommended calculated to change ever known, and place the reconcile the conflicting elements of white Southern rebel in the position the country and restore peace, has of "hewer of wood and drawer of been voted down by a hostile Congress, and measures of their own, of a bondage for a period of upwards of sion into the proposed confederacy of British proving of the meeting committing itself to very different tenor, substituted. The last act of the late Congress was to pass a Reconstruction Bill, by virtue of which the Southern States are converted into Military districts, with standing armies quartered and Territorial Governments established, and Governors appointed by the General Government. As the appointing of the meeting, took the chair and called the power has just been taken out of the hands of Mr Johnson and placed in that of the Senate, we may be sure that none but dyed-in-the-wool Radicals will be chosen to direct mata ters. These territories will not be entitled to a representative in Congress until they have been converted rashly consented to unconditional union into States by an Act of that Congress. An Act already in force provides that no territory shall be admitted into the Union until it has first accorded to all its citizens the right of suffrage. It will therefore be seen that the South shores. It was now sought to enlist the will only be "reconstructed" after it has extended the right of suffrage to (applause). A great many people looked upon the Rocky Mountains as a great obthe blacks. The Supreme Coart has lately decided that the passage of a East, but he would say that the most pleasant measure affecting the status of any State of the Union, while that State is unrepresented by at least one member in the national Legislature, is uncons stitutional in fact and revolutionary in tendency. Congress has, however, fallen into a way peculiar to itself of any want of resources of her own, but besettling such questions, and whenever heavy for the country to bear (prolonged apit is found that a measure it deems plause). Mr Finlayson here read the first advisable to pass will conflict with the constitution, the first step taken is to amend that instrument so as to allow the measure to take effect. And as for the Supreme Court, which is the only non-elective body in the States, the Congressmen propose to bowl its Judges off the bench, like so many pins plished by any country without union. He fully endorsed the Confederation Bill, and in a ninepin alley, by passing an Act enabling them to "reconstruct" it to suit their own ends, and admit none tion would not be better for their race and but political friends to seats in the new Court. Congress has de-peated the opinion of Lord Durham, who termined that the South shall be reconstructed on the Universal Suffrage basis, and there is not the slightest more. He believed that Confederation would hope of President Johnson being enabled successfully to resist it. Indeed, if the President escape Impeachment at the hands of Congress it will be "with the skin of his teeth," and had an area that would swamp England and because no act that will warrant the adoption of so extreme and dangerous a course can be brought home to him. It is pleasing to observe that a committee of the Thirty-ninth Congresscomposed entirely of political enemies of the President-have reported that after a diligent inquiry they have been (applause). The Provinces or States would unable to discover that Mr Johnson has been guilty of any corrupt practices, and ask to be discharged from further service. What unprejudiced person could fail to have confidence in Mr Johnson with this testimony of his political enemies recorded in his favor? The first election in the district of structing the overland railway and telegraph, Columbia (the thirty mile square plot of ground in the centre of which the city of Washington stands, and over the government of which Congress has exclusive control) under the new Act which enables negroes to vote, has been held and resulted in the Rad- [Laughter and applause.] He opposed the ical candidate for Mayor receiving a small majority of 79 votes over his competitor, who had held the office for many successive terms. The polling passed off quietly-the colored voters that the scheme he well grounded [Voicebeing protected by a military force. The opposition of the Southerners to universal suffrage avails little. Tennessee has permitted her negroes to vote, and it is only a question of time when her example will be followed by other late Slave States. The number of blacks is very large throughout the South, and as no person who bore arms against the Union, or who held eracy, will be allowed to vote, it will be readily seen how completely the

fore to the market. That proves it.

and direct the public affairs of their was in it he would the best he could for its two years. It needs only the confis- the country. cation of the property of late rebels effect the most extraordinary political as to the provisions in the Confederation Act water" for a race that he held in

CONFEDERATION MEETING.

The theatre was filled last evening by citizens who had met upon the call of the Mayor to consider the question of Confeder-

Ex-Mayor Lumley Franklin, upon motion of Mr Pidwell and with the unanimous consent meeting to order. Mr Seelye was chosen

Secretary.

Mr Franklin briefly stated the object of the assemblage, which was to consider the advisability of this colony joining with the older provinces in a Confederation, and forming an Empire having control of its own destinies. It was a question that required much consideration, and he urged upon the citizens not to repeat the mistake made when they (applause).

R. Finlayson, Esq., rose to move the first resolut on, and said that since the year 1849 the colony had been struggling along under various forms of Government without making much progress, because it was found impossible to attract a permanent population to our Eastern provinces and to unite this colony to them. He heartily approved of the scheme stacle or barrier to communication with the journey he had ever had was one that he had once taken from Canada to British Columbia across those mountains. He hoped soon to see the day when stages would be running from Yale to Pembina (applause). He thought it was a disgrace that this Colony, of seventeen years standing, was tottering on the verge of bankruptcy-not through cause the expenses of Government were too resolution, which was as follows-

"That this meeting views with great pleasure and much satisfaction the scheme which is now before the Imperial Govern ment for the Confederation of the Colonies of British North America."

Mr Pidwell came forward to move the second resolution, He fully recognised the importance of the question, and did not be. lieve that any great good could be accomcalled on citizens to throw aside personal considerations and discuss whether its adopclaimed that the extension of the area of political liberty to Canadians would only rivet their loyalty and devotion to the Crown the draw the colonies still closer to Mother England (applause). The speaker denied that the Confederation movement was anti-English. English statesmen were getting awake. and were determined that every Anglo-Saxon should enjoy the liberty of Britons. We France some day, and we could build up a greater country than either (cries of dissent With Confederation we should have all the freedom of a republic without its weakness; we should have all the strength of Great Britain without her incumbrances If the Cabinet did wrong, the people could say, you shan't stay there; they would not have to wait four years-as in the United States-before getting them out of office have the benefit of all the minerals, &c., and every revenue save one—the general impost and each Province would be independent except that the General Government would have a right to do what it pleased for the general benefit. The speaker then proceeded to expatiate upon the agricultural resources of the country, but met with some marks of disfavor from the audience. He then showed the advantages of Confederation in con-

and retired amid applause.

The resolution having been read a second time, Mr Bishop asked if the movement was not intended for the advancement of the Hudson Bay Company? [Applause and 'turu him out."] He also objected to a remark of Mr Pidwell that people who had come here from the other side of the Rocky Mountains had not shown sufficient pluck, scheme, which he considered only raised to benefit the Hudson Bay Company. [Hisses, applause and "give him a brandy cocktail." I we were nearer the other side, we might be benefitted, but it would be madness to rush blindly into Confederation. He asked the Active's aground ! before it be ac-

cepted. [Sit down, dry up, etc.] CB Young mounted the stand, and was received with applause and cries of 'cod-He asked the people not to rush blindly into Confederation.

A voice- Now, Mr Young, are you speaking as an Englishman or as an American? Mr Young-I am speaking, sir, as one in whose veins flow the pure blood of both.
[Ironical applause] The speaker then reviewed the manner in which Union had been brought about and spoke forcibly against Confederation amid much opposition. Canaoffice under the late Southern Confed. dians, he said, were great politicians, and they would be continually trying to get York Albion, foretelling that 20 years would office. Mr Watkins was at the head of this find British North America one of the scheme, and that was enough to dame the most commercially powerful nations in the Southerners have fallen into the hands | whole thing. He [the speaker] was shortly of their late slaves, who will hold office going to leave the Colony, but as long as he cation from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

and its distribution among the loyal by an immense majority.

The chairman stated that the committee selves, then by opposing what others adthe sale, for \$5. men (which means the blacks) to had telegraphed to Canada for information vanced (applause.)

Mr Bishop replied and while declaring himfor the admission of this Colony.

> second resolution, which was follows: "That the Colony of British Columbia would be greatly benefited, its progress and permanent prosperity secured by its admis-North America upon fair equitable terms,"

North American delegates to prove that the would inflict a direct injury by causing the reobject of Caofederation was to cement and moval of the fleet from Esquimalt. perpetuate the connection with the Mother reduced than to remain as we are-a petty, committee to wait on the Governor. oppressed, tax-paying colony, with our destines in the hands of a capricious stranger? The meeting dispersed in a most orderly man-Gilson.—The usual crowd which assembles Great applanse and cries of "yes"] The ner. loctor then proceeded to state the area of the provinces, their resources and climate, the statistical information furnished being listened to with profound interest. In concluding, the doctor said that Mr Young, io attempting to show what responsible government meant, exhibited his utter ignorance of the subject. Dr Powell retired amid much ap-

Mr Young, in explanation said, his knowand there was not a word about Responsible Government (oh ! and cheers.)

The Chairman here read the telegram to

considered that it was with this view the such lessons should teach scribbling editors leave the colony, were entertained at a fareconsidered that it was with this view the measure met with so much encouragement from English statesmen. In conclusion, he urged upon his hearers to identify themselves with the scheme, believing, as he did, in a maxim of Macaulay that a country was always prepared for self-government; that it would considerably reduce the burden of taxation, foster loyalty, and give the colony taxation, foster loyalty, and give the colony gentleman was loudly applauded.

acclamation.

and respectfully to request him to take furthe Colony into the Confedracy upon a just one thousand men might be at work were the Mr Waddington, who was loudly cheered.

seconded the resolution, confining himself to a subject which he has studied for some time-the Overland Route. There could be no connection without communication. He proceeded to show the feasibility of this projected enterprise. The only real barriers that had presented themselves were the Rocky Mountains and Cascade Ranges. The Vermillion Pass, which was first thought to be the most feasible one for crossing the Rocky Mountains, was 5000 feet high and was covered with from 25 to 27 feet of snow. The Yellow Head Pass, which was only 3630 feet high, was then found to be the most practicable, the ascept being almost imperceptible. He was happy to state that the company for making a line of rail from Bute Inlet to Quesnel, 222' miles was nearly completed, most of the capital having been sub-scribed and he would add that Messrs. Gal-room was well filled and the company, in. braith. Peto and Brassey were interested in spirited by the excellent music furnished by the undertaking, the latter gentleman being a Messrs. Sandrie, Palmer, Bushell, Maguire and personal triend of his. (Cheers.) There were really no difficulties in the way of the undertaking. There was a break this side of Lake Superior, which was, however, not as insur-mountable as his canyon at Bute Inlet. The real difficulties were all this side. The Cascade range, which was a sea of mountains. is divided by the Bute Inlet Valley, The speaker described the line of road with accuracy, the distance available for steam travel on with twenty passengers, amongst whom we the upper Fraser by overcoming the difficulties noticed bon. Capt. Stamp, J. Boscowitz, Mrs. presented by four canyons, three of which were but trifling obstacles, the 170 miles that would carry the line across the Yellow-head Irving. The Cariboo news by this arrival was the Ven. Archdeacon and Mrs. Gilson, U. S. pass where the chief obstacles were fallen trees anticipated by the telegraph. to the Saskatchewan, and the magnificent and fertile plains beyond that would be traversed to Lake Winnepeg, forming an almost natural highway, and the 1100 miles of splendid steam communication to Fort Garry, interrupted only by five miles of rapids. Then the fine travel to St. Paul's, which would enable the traveller to take rail and go to Halifax.

(Laughter.) Mr Seelye read an extract from the New York Albion, foretelling that 20 years would

fore Saturday next.

The speaker made a few appropriate re- SIXTEEN tons of copper from the wreck of the marks in favor of the scheme, jocosely twit- the bark Decatur, near Gray's harbour, W. old masters before the expiration of interests. The only advantage to be derived ting the obstructivess, who were as necessary T., have been taken to one of the mills on the country.

in every community as the breaks on a the Sound. The wreck was sold to the aucor other, if not by proposing anything them- tioneer, who was the only person present at

self in favor of confederation, moved an premium of \$100 offered by the Rector and Dr Powell came forward to propose the amendment to the effect that a committee he premium of \$100 offered by the Rector and appointed with a view to the consideration of Churchwardens of Holy Trinity Church. the subject and report to a public meeting From Sun Francisco, 1; New Westminster, after hearing the terms on which the Colony 1: Victoria, 4 - Examiner. may be admitted to the Confederation,

Mr Fisher seconded the amendment, disapsuch a resolution without reflection or under-Dr Powell pointed out that the terms standing its consequences. He dwelt upon uncut leaves, and ridicules the parsimony under which we would consent to join in the previous political blunders and spoke gener-Confederation must be fair and equitable and ally against the scheme, maintaining that suf. explicitly stated. He denied that this was ficient arguments had not been advanced in sake of saving a little paper. an attempt to alienate the Colonies from the support of the movement, that it would morefirst Confederation Bill prepared by the were disposed to treat us well, and that it on Monday told the Confederationists that Mother Country, and read the draft of the over cause offence to our neighbors who

The amendment was lost and the original Country: Was it not better if we could ally ourselves with 4,000,000 people, obtain responsible government, and have taxation DeCosmos and Pemberton were named the

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday March 19

deavored to injure Victoria harbor in the eyes Gilson have endeared him, not only to his of foreign shippers and insurers, by calling it congregation, but to the community at large, "miserable duck pond," incapable of admit- insomuch that we do not envy the task of ledge had been taken from the same source as ting ocean steamers and ships, and conjuring the reverend gentleman's successor. In a Dr Powell had derived his information from, up all kinds of imaginary difficulties, dangers, community like this, where ecclesiastical and risks that beset the bold navigator who power is virtually unrecognized, it is no mean and risks that beset the bold navigator who accomplishment in one fulfilling a high office ventures into this port instead of proceeding in connection with the mother church, to sethe Colonist, published elsewhere, giving up the natural highway (?) of the Fraser. It cure the cordial sympathy of those outside of the resolution unanimously passed in the is nevertheless an incontrovertible fact that the sphere of his labors; but in Archdeacon Legislative Council, which was received ever since the Labouchere commenced plying Gilson this qualification has been eminently is nevertheless an incontrovertible fact that the sphere of his labors; but in Archdeacon with a storm of applause.

Mr Robertson seconded Dr Powell's resolution in an excellent and telling speech mail steamers have been running regularly to in favor of Confederation, pointing out the this port, and have entered it at all hours of should have thought it better to depart than means it would afford us of changing our the night without an accident of any kind. We to remain. present unpopular form of Government for will say nothing of the impracticability of ene more in keeping with the spirit of the ocean steamers passing through the Fraser age—a Government by the people that would river sand-heads at night; of that we allow age—a Government by the people that would enable the people to legislate for themselves and manage their own affairs. He freshor does our telegram from New Westminster yesterday morning, after an extraordinarily and manage their own affairs. He further- state? That the Active, drawing 7 or 8 feet of short passage, with a cargo of coal. We are more showed how it would be the means of water, under a full head of steam (and we indebted to Capt. McCullough for a Nanaimo attracting population and capital; and of learn with the Government pilot on board), strengthening and perpetuating the bond that united them to England. He enlarged fully into a mud bank off the Government pilot on board); while taking a casual trip to the capital, ran into a mud bank off the Government pilot on board); paper. The ship Silas Greenman is loading united them to England. He enlarged fully upon the advantages that a trans-continental remained hard and fast up to 3 o'clock yester-route would unfold, and believed that instead day morning. We do not think any the less of of severing the bond of connection between the navigation of the Fraser on account of on Tuesday, not having accomplished half the colonies and the mother country it would this misadventure, which was probably solely the distance. The schooner Crosby, with a be the means of cementing it, and counter- attributable to the absence of proper buoys to acting the present tendency to drift imper- mark the channel, and might have occurred ceptibly but surely towards annexation. He anywhere under similar circumstances, but Messrs. Travers and Jones, being about to

LEECH RIVER .- Mr. Cosgrove, from Leech River, reports that the saw-mill will not be York Times in an editorial condemns the in-The resolution was put and carried by in working order for a month yet, owing to terference of the Government with the the absence of an overshot wheel to drive the Mormons at Salt Lake, and says that no reliin which he congratulated the meeting, by machinery, and it is feared that lumber will ance is to be placed in the statement that its endorsement of the previous resolution not be sawed in time to admit of mining being that Mormons imperil the safety of Gentile and action of the Council, in having done prosecuted during high water this year, The life, or interfere with Gentile enterprises o that of which they and their descendants miners are all well but idle. Provisions are industry. The polygamy of Mormons is not would feel proud, moved the following cheap—venison is selling at five cents per worse than the prostitution abounding in would lest plotted, moved the following resolution:

"That a delegation of gentlemen representing the views of this meeting, be appointed to wait upon His Excellency the snow lies three and four feet deep on the reckless bummers who come in contact with Governor respecting the foregoing resolutions banks and there is a good deal of ice in the them. The Times deprecates the crusade o river. The miners are loud in their complaints ther measures, either by delegation or other, at the non completion of the ditch for which the Philadelphia Press and other radical wise, to secure the immediate admission of they have long waited in patience. At least journals which call for stero legislation on the ditch completed.

THE WRECK OF THE BARK GEORGE WASH-INGTON-There have been two arrivals from and the information of Mr. Greavy was read the wreck of this bark since Sunday last. over and confirmed. From the witness' evi-The hull and standing rigging have been dence it appeared that he had missed 70 sold for \$900 to the firm of Spaulding & head of cattle from his ranch, and making Harris. The vessel having been lately cop. due allowance for those that were mired, or pered at San Francisco, will prove a valuable had died, or had been otherwise destroyed, prize to the purchasers. A quantity of the he could state that from 35 to 40 head had stores, rigging, &c., from the wreck, was been removed from the Island. The case brought over by Capt Whitford, in the schooner Wester, on Sunday.

St. PATRICK'S BALL .- The pressure of news on our columns we regret precludes more than in the St Nicholas Hall last night. The large past been on foot between Napoleon and Wilson, appeared to enjoy themselves to the says it has the best authority for believing utmost. Dancing was vigorously kept up that the Emperor is giving all his influence

Enterprise, Capt. Swanson, returned at 6:30 o'clock last evening from New Westminster

DEATH OF A FORMER RESIDENT-Dr J L Gumbinner, a former well known resident of Victoria, died suddenly of heart disease, at San Francisco, a few days ago. Deceased, Tribune's London correspondent says that who was highly respected, leaves a family Judah P. Benjamin is now a full blown dependant upon the cold charity of the English Barrister, bewigged and begowned,

Mr Sala is corresponding with the London Telegraph, from Rome. His fine world, with an unbroken chain of communi- library was lately disposed of at public auc-

DESIGNS .- Six designs compete for the

MR DICKENS has commenced a war upon publishers who send their books out with which dictates the slevenly practice for the

SOONER THAN EXPECTED .- His Excellency the Legislative Council would probably be prorogued on Saturday week .- Examiner.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Thursday, March 21.

THE DEPARTURE OF THE VEN. ARCHDEACON to witness the sailing of the mail steamer was swelled yesterday afternoon by the congregas tion of St. John's Church to bid farewell to the Archdeacon, their faithful pastor, and THE Two Ports .- Over and over again has Mrs. Gilson, who left for England. The the truth loving editor of the Columbian en- many estimable qualities of Archdeacon

NANAIMO.-The schooner Black Diamond .

A PLEA IN BEHALF OF POLYGAMY-The New polygamy question.

THE PLUMPER PASS CASE. James Stephens appeared again vesterday on remand, was further adjourned for one day for the testimony of an Indian woman.

A NEW CABLE .- The New York Herald understands negotiations have for some time sanction of the Government, to lay a cable between Brest and New York. The Herald to encourage capitalists of France to embark in the undertaking in connection with such RETURN OF THE ENTERPRISE,—The steamer New Yorkers as Stewart, Astor, Vanderbilt, Roberts and others.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO .- The steamer Active left yesterday at 4 p.m. for the Bay City W. A. G. Young, Buie Brothers, and Captain with about 50 passengers, among whom were Consul Francis, Mrs. Leighton, Mrs. Pike, Messrs. E. Marks, Wolf, H. Andrew. Edwards, Chambers, Capt. Howe, &c.

> An Ex-Confederate,-The New York and is one of the counsel engaged against the United States in the suit against the Protean.

THE NEW TARIFF will go into operation to-

Governor, or other person admission.

Che Weekly Britis AND CHRON

Tuesday, March The Confederation It is more natural th that the proposed admi

Colony into the Cont British North America posed by professed sce pared or unwilling to bec to the popular measure is healthy; it is as nec well being of the body p and drink to the body co. in fact, the true and whereby the life blood or reform is strengthened a checking abuses, prevent and pointing out the shoa sands on which the sh through over zealous and gation would be liable to wreck. The opposition a of Monday night was fee resolutions were carried one voice; yet would it be close our eyes to the argu against the extension of the the west of the Rocky Mo if they fail to carry w placed in the balance wit advantages that this Col rive from becoming the of the chain, they will at us to avoid the folly of a confiding our interests in and to hesitate before we any other than "fair an terms." It is superfluou again over the now well be and to reiterate the benefi country will derive by th change. It must be too every thinking man that th of a free and liberal form ment-the Government of by the people-for the hyl tution we now possess; the of our Colonial debt, am some \$150 per head, by the of the federal population; reduction of taxation by with an extravagant civi sure and certain completion great overland route, and t quent influx of population a are blessings that will and flow from the golden oppor within our reach. On each heads the speakers at th spoke convincingly. We fore confine ourselves to so arguments used by the opp the measure. And first for That gentleman called upor ing to weigh the pros and before giving its assent to the To this there was no disc reminded them of the disas sequences of previous hast advised legislation. In thi curred. Having delivered this specious little exhorts ratiocinative powers of the gentleman were exhausted then be thought him of the trap cry of "Hudson Bay Co Here was a bugaboo the startle the auditory. The alarm was sounded with legs sis, and "took" for a few Encouraged by cries of Bishop," " pitch it in," &c., t grew bold and warned the p the whole scheme was a Hud movement, got up by the or their especial aggrandise that by making ourselves a it we should only let oursel the trap they were laying Now to all who have watched conversant with the moveme its inception to the meeting gates and the framing of the scheme, the absurdity of this ation must be too apparer Company, it is true, might be to dispose of the Red River o advantage, but, on the oth would not the opening of the ection of country between Fort Garry to settlement be th means of effectually destroy large and profitable trade w latives which for ages has pi ource of untold wealth to this orporation? At one time

Company accused of being

eluvian fossils, obstructives

ay of all progress and civi