

The Address to the Throne.
The legislative mountains labored heavily last week, and brought forth something more than a "mouse"—an address to the Throne, occupying a column and a half of yesterday's paper. We have no desire whatever to disparage the document; far from it. We regard it not as a "ridiculous mus," but as a sensible, straightforward and truthful exposition of the state of affairs in these Colonies, showing boldly and clearly the necessity that calls for retrenchment and immediate union; perhaps the recent telegrams despatched to the Imperial Government could hardly have been explained in fewer words. The only matter of regret is that so many golden opportunities for exerting an important influence over the determinations and actions of Downing street in reference to our Colonial grievances and requirements should have been let slip, while the only potent effort is put forth at a time when its efficacy is likely to be of no avail. The probabilities are that the long-talked-of bill for the union of the Colonies will have been submitted to Parliament, and the whole question determined before even the telegram can reach its destination, and that by the time the address arrives in England the recess will have taken place. Linger on in the vain hope that each successive mail would announce the consummation "so devoutly to be wished," the Legislature has been more content to effervesce in words than to deal in actions. There is a limit, however, even to the endurance of the people of Vancouver Island, and the evil effects of our present system of government, and our unnatural severance and estrangement from the sister Colony are pressing upon us more sorely than the people can bear. If the rumor published yesterday in respect to the refusal of the Imperial sanction to the bill imposing differential duties on goods imported into British Columbia from this Colony, be a fact, which we have every reason to believe it is, one every evil has been removed, and the iniquity of our fellow colonists recoils upon themselves. But the relief sought cannot end there; the essential prayers of the petition, viz., "Immediate Legislative Union," and an economical civil list for the united colonies, are necessary to the recovery of this Colony from its present state of impecuniosity. So far we endorse the action of the Assembly, but when we come to examine the Civil List proposed for the united Colonies, we feel bound to dissent from the first item. The Assembly asks the Imperial Government, on the one hand, to appoint a Governor to rule over the vast extent of country embraced in these two Colonies who shall be "possessed of large experience," and offers him at the same time a stipend of £2000 for his valuable experience! The pay is only equal to what the Governor of St. Helena, an Island 28 miles in circumference receives for ruling over that large extent of territory, and to the salaries of the Governors of Newfoundland, Bahamas and Sierra Leone, while it is £1000 less than that paid to the Governor of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Antigua, £746 less than is paid to the Governor of Bermuda; £2000 below Barbadoes; £1500 below Trinidad; £3000 below Gibraltar, Malta and Hongkong; £1500 below New Zealand; and £5000 below Mauritius or Ceylon. Whence then, is the experienced man to be obtained? from the Gold coast, Labuan, Heligoland or the Falkland Islands? will the "experienced man" be forthcoming for the money? We think not. It would have been wiser we consider, not to attempt to fetter the hands of Mr. Cardwell by such a restriction in the selection of the future Governor of these Colonies, or we may once more experience the force of the moral in the fable of Jupiter and the frogs. The other points touched upon in the address, viz: the importance to Colonial and Imperial interests of steam communication with Panama "in promoting British sentiment in this part of the world," and "in paving the way for greater undertakings of the kind," and our inability to secure the advantage without a helping hand from the maternal government; the unprecedented efforts heretofore made by the few tax payers of both Colonies in

self support and internal improvements, in the payment of large mail subsidies to foreign steamboat companies; and the general faith in the mineral and other numerous resources of these Colonies are well introduced and cannot fail to carry weight with the Home Government.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday, June 26th.
St. John's Day.
DEDICATION OF NEW MASONIC HALL.
Yesterday dawned brightly, and from an early hour preparations were on foot by the Masonic Fraternity to celebrate the natal day of their patron saint by the dedication of the new hall erected for their accommodation by Capt Edward Stamp, M. L. A. The Victoria, No. 783 E. R., and Vancouver, F. & A. M., No. 421 R. S., Lodges, with representatives from Nanaimo, New Westminster and Washington Territory, in all, numbering about 112, assembled at the Old Lodge room at 12:45 p. m., punctually, when the Provisional Lodge was opened in the following order:
Bro R Burnaby, W Master of the Day
Bro I W Powell, P Master of the Day
Bro N J Neustadt, S W of the Day
Bro L Y Franklin, J W of the Day
Bro R Lewis, Architect
Bro Jno Wright, S D
Bro R H Adams, J D
Bro J G McKay, Standard Bearer for Victoria Lodge
Bro H F Heisterman, Standard Bearer for Victoria Lodge
Bro J J Southgate, Geo Peakes, W B Naylor, H Holbrook, Past Masters
Bro Wm Leigh, Secretary
Bro Thos Lowe, Treasurer
Bro Edward Stamp, Bible Bearer
Bro E G Holden, to carry W Master's Light
Bro H Nathan, jr, to carry S W Light
Bro J E Hunt, to carry J W Light
Bro Simeon Duck, John Banks, Masters of the Ceremonies
Bro The Rev Thos Somerville, Grand Chaplain
Bro M W Wait, Depute Master
Bro J W Keyser, Substitute Master
Bro Geo Creighton, Tyler
Bro Thos C Nuttall, to carry Tracing Board
Bro T G Morris, Sam'l Harris, to act as 1st Stewards
Bro J F McCreight, Capt Clark, to act as 2d Stewards
Bro F C J W Trahey, to carry Rough Ashler
Bro R B Powell, to carry J W's Column
Bro J Moorhead, to carry S W's Column
Bro J R Stewart, to carry Books of Constitutions
Bro E R Shain, to carry Perfect Ashler
The Lodge having been opened in three degrees, the procession was formed in the order given below, and marched to music of the Volunteer Band up Yates street to Douglas and Pandora, and thence to the Presbyterian Church on Pandora street:
Bro Geo Creighton, Tyler, with Drawn Sword
Bro T G Morris and Sam'l Harris, Stewards with Rods
Entered Apprentices, two and two
Fellow Crafts, two and two
Master Masons, two and two
Visiting Brethren, from adjacent Lodges, first and two, in order—the lowest in rank first and Master Masons last
Music—Volunteer Band
Bro Plummer, Inner Guard, with Drawn Sword
Bro Naylor, P. M. carrying Vessel with Corn
Bro Peakes, P. M. carrying Vessel with Wine
Bro Southgate, P. M. carrying Vessel with Oil
The Lodge, (Tracing Board 1st Degree), carried by Bro Thos C Nuttall
Bro Lewis, Architect, with Tools
Bro T Lowe, Treasurer of the Day
Bro J G McKay, Standard Bearer of Victoria Lodge
Bro Edward Stamp, carrying Bible, Square and Compasses
Bro Heisterman, Standard Bearer of Vancouver Lodge
Bro Somerville, Chaplain of the Day
Bro F C J W Trahey, carrying Rough Ashler
Bro E G Holden, carrying W's Column
Bro J E Hunt, carrying J W's Light
Bro L Y Franklin, Junior Warden with Plumb
Bro E R Shain, carrying Perfect Ashler
Bro Moorhead, carrying S W's Column
Bro H Nathan, carrying S W's Light
Bro Wait, Depute Master
Bro Keyser, Substitute Master
Bro J W Powell, Past M of the Day
Bro R B Powell, carrying the Constitutions of the G Lodges, England and Scotland on a Cushion
Bro E C Holden, carrying R W M's Light
Bro Rob't Burnaby, W M with Square
Bro John Wright, S D, and Bro Adams, J D, with Wands
Bro McCreight and Clark, Stewards with Rods
Bro S Duck and Bro John Banks, Directors of Ceremonies
Before the appointed hour the Church was densely crowded by well dressed citizens of all denominations, including His Excellency the Governor and family, and after the procession had marched up the aisle and taken their seats, considerable difficulty was experienced by the concourse of persons outside in finding standing room within. The service commenced by a paraphrase, sung by the choir, led by bandmaster Haynes, which included members from the several other church choirs. The Rev. Thomas Somerville, M. A., Chaplain, then delivered a short prayer, and read from the 6th chap. of the 2d Chronicles, 12th verse, after which the choir sang the 133d Psalm, "Behold how good a thing," and the sermon followed, delivered from that beautiful and comprehensive text, Romans 14th, ver 7, "No man liveth unto himself." We do not desire to indulge in flattery when we say that we have not listened to any exhortation in this country combining so much earnestness and truthfulness, or so great a flow of impassioned eloquence. The Reverend gentleman is evidently a master of rhetoric; his language was choice, figurative, and impressive, his illustrations apt and forcible, and his knowledge of the human mind profound. His chief and perhaps only failing—if we may be pardoned on such an occasion for presuming to allude to it—is a tendency, when he becomes earnest, to distort his countenance. His address was divided into two heads, the first, "man's dependence upon God," the second, "man's interdependence, one upon another," which were both skillfully illustrated and applied to the occasion, the Reverend gentleman having apostrophized the opening of his discourse by remarking "that Masonry was essentially a holy institution." The large congregation within the walls of the Church listened with the deepest interest from the commencement to the end. The 239th

hymn was then sung, and after a short prayer the service terminated by the choir singing the magnificent prayer from "Moses in Egypt," the solos being taken by Messrs Emery and Franklin, and Mrs Powell. At the conclusion of the service the procession reformed, and followed by the principal part of the congregation, marched along Blanchard street and down Fort street, to the New Hall in Government street, where the Brethren entered and the usual Masonic ceremonies were performed, the band performing appropriate music while the exercises were in progress. In the evening, a grand banquet was served at the New Hall, to which about one hundred Brethren sat down. In closing this account, a brief description of the noble block of buildings which comprise the Masonic Hall, may not be uninteresting: The erection has a frontage of 66 feet on Government street, and is 65 feet deep; the height from the sill, to the top of the pediment is 34 feet. The front is of Salt Spring Island free stone; the massive columns and lintels are of iron. The ground floor is 14 feet high, and is divided into three stores. The staircase to the second floor is six feet wide. The lodgerooms and ante-rooms are situated over the two best stores nearest Fort street, and the law chambers of Peakes & Green occupy the space over the third store. The lodge-room is 25 feet 6 inches by 62 feet, with domed ceilings, and is well ventilated. The following are the names of the parties concerned in the construction of the building: Richard Lewis, Architect; E. R. Shain, Contractor; J. Ballen, Brickwork; J. McCready, Carpenter; J. Lee, Stonework; W. McKay, Plasterer; Spratt & Kriener, Ironwork; S. L. Kelly, Plumbing and Tinwork; Wallace & Stewart, Gas fitters, sub-contractors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—This body held a long sitting yesterday and passed an address to His Excellency directing attention to the unjust manner in which duties are collected at New Westminster, and the injury that the system wrought to the commerce of this port, while it fostered trade of a foreign country. While discussing this point, Hon Mr Finlayson directed attention to the unjust law that compels all vessels leaving this port for the north-west coast of British Columbia to proceed to New Westminster and clear there. The Coroner's bill was passed through Committee of the Whole, and the bill for the Protection of Inventors was partly considered before the committee rose.

ASSAULT AND FORCIBLE ENTRY.—Two young men were charged before Mr Pemberton yesterday for forcibly entering the COLONIST AND CHRONICLE office, on Sunday morning last, assaulting two of the printers, and willfully damaging the property. The proprietors of the office and the assaulted parties declined to prosecute, and the young men, after receiving a severe lecture, were discharged on payment of the costs of Court and entering into their own recognizances to be of good behavior for six months.

THE EXCURSION TO THE FOURTH.—The Committee of the Mechanics Institute desire us to state that the Alexandra will not proceed to Cowichan Bay and Salt Spring Island, as first announced, as it is found that excursionists would be too long on the water. After leaving the Camp at San Juan, the steamer will cruise among the adjacent Islands before returning home.

BOOK-KEEPING.—Mr D. Webster Clegg has opened an office at the corner of Yates and Langley streets, for the purpose of giving instructions in the eclectic system of book-keeping. Mr Clegg is warmly recommended by gentlemen and firms who have engaged his services, and a personal knowledge of his capabilities induces us to add our testimony to that of others in his behalf.

PLEADED GUILTY.—The man Shannon, charged with stealing and selling a revolver, valued at \$15, belonging to James Morgan, pleaded guilty yesterday in the Police Court, and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment with hard labor. Inspector Welch gave the prisoner a very bad character.

CAPTAIN PREVOST.—The numerous friends of this gentleman will be glad to learn that he has had conferred upon him the Good Service Pension, as a mark of esteem for his many and distinguished services. Captain Prevost is still in command at Gibraltar, and is in the direct line of promotion.

HEIRS WANTED.—Rosina Smith, a passenger on the steamship Golden Age, bound eastward, died recently at Acapulco. She left \$130 in the hands of the Purser to be delivered to the U. S. Consul, of which her relatives and friends are notified.

COST OF TELEGRAMS.—The Telegraph Company have notified us that their rates will be \$2 per 100 for any number less than 500 words, and \$1.75 per 100 for 500 words and upwards. This will increase our expense for telegrams to \$70 per week.

SALVAGE.—A large sum is claimed by the owners of the vessels that went to the relief of the distressed schooner Alpha. The goods saved belong to Cunningham Bros., of Nanaimo.

GOVERNOR DARLING'S SUCCESSOR.—Manstra Sutton, the New Governor of Victoria, Australia, we presume was the Governor of Trinidad, a nice increase of salary from £3500 to £10,000 per annum.

THE GAS COMPANY.—The half yearly meeting of the shareholders in this Company will be held at the Company's office on Monday next.

LOSS OF THE "KENT."—The telegraph announces the loss of this fine British bark, owned and commanded by Capt Naunton. What became of the crew is not stated.

THE STEAMER JOSIE McNEAR sailed from San Francisco yesterday for Port Angeles. She will run regularly on Puget Sound.

STRABBED.—One of the crew of the U. S. war steamer Saranac was stabbed at Seattle on Sunday night.

CHARTERED.—The bark Eastern Chief has been chartered by Dickson, Campbell & Co. to carry a cargo of spars to Coquimbo, Chile.

From China.
By the ship Olive, 52 days from Hongkong, we (Bulletin) have later dates from China:

The British bark Palmerston was abandoned at sea some 250 miles from Hongkong on the 27th of February. Her captain and crew were taken on board by the ship Omar.

The Hongkong Daily Press predicts great things from the establishment of steam communication between China and San Francisco. It says:

When the San Francisco line of steamers shall have been started, a new pleasure will be offered to mankind. It will then be possible to go round the world for an autumn holiday. The Londoner, instead of taking a month at the lakes, a walk in Switzerland, or a run up the Rhine, will tell his friend who asked him where he is going in August that he is thinking of going to China and home by Panama. Very likely—considering the tendency which all Englishmen have to describe their proceedings in curt, depreciatory terms—he will soon learn to call the circumnavigation of the globe a "trip round," or "there and back."

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held at Hongkong on the 10th of March, when the new Governor presided for the first time. The new Mint was nearly ready to go into operation.

There was no political or other news of interest.

Another Wall street Sensation.

There is intense excitement to-day in monied circles over the developments of another astounding forgery case, in which a prominent Wall street operator is the culprit. He is off, probably on his way to Europe in the last sailing steamship, the *Persia*. The extent of his forgeries, thus far ascertained, is over \$300,000, but it is feared the other developments are yet to come.

The culprit is John Ross, who had occupied a room in Exchange place for only about one month, but had been previously known in the street as an extensive operator, and had borne a good reputation among business men.

The operations of Ross are detailed as follows:—
At 2½ o'clock p. m., yesterday, Albert Speyer, dealer in gold and stocks, received from the Fourth National Bank two checks for \$64,800 each, purporting to be signed by him, certified by the bank, and indorsed by John Ross. Both checks bore the same number. The bank officers state that their certification of the checks is a forgery. Mr. Speyer also states that this signature is a forgery. The checks came from the Union or Continental Bank in the regular way of exchange, and had been taken by them on Tuesday. They are lithographed, and a *fac simile* of those used by Mr. Speyer, the numbers being the same as used by him upon one of his checks a few days since.

At about the same hour Howe & Macy, bankers and brokers at No. 32 Wall street, received from the Leather Manufacturers' Bank two checks for \$54,000 each, in currency, purporting to have been drawn by them and received in the way of exchange by the above bank from the Union and Continental Banks. They were made payable to the order of John Ross, and were perfect counterparts of the style of check used by the firm. Both were forged.

A few weeks since Ross paid into the hands of Groesbeck & Co., brokers, of No. 36 Broad street, a large amount of money, to be invested in Michigan Central Railroad bonds. These bonds are very plain, and easily counterfeited. The bonds were purchased and delivered to Ross. Two weeks since, he called on Mr. Groesbeck, and stating that he wanted to borrow some money, left as security what purported to be some of the bonds purchased for him by the firm. The money was loaned him, and the bonds taken. The bonds left by him as security now prove to be forged. He has also, it is stated, borrowed other sums from the firm.

On Tuesday Ross called upon J. S. Cronie & Co., Brokers at No. 27 Wall street, where he was well known, and purchased \$50,000 in gold, in payment for which he tendered a check for \$64,000 on the Continental Bank, where he was known to be a depositor, and which bore the certification of the bank. This check was sent to the bank by the firm to know if the certification was correct. The bank returned for answer that it was. The check was by the firm subsequently deposited in the Bank of Commonwealth, and in the regular course of exchange reached the Continental Bank yesterday, where the certification was pronounced a forgery. It is a question of veracity at present if the bank officers were informed of their messenger, when sent with the check, that the certification was correct. This the bank denies.

At 2 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon Ross purchased from Black & Spalding, gold brokers, of No. 19, Broad street, \$50,000 in gold, and gave them, also, a check for \$64,000 on the Continental Bank in payment for the same. This was deposited by the firm in the Leather Manufacturers' Bank, yesterday morning. This was sent back to the firm by the bank on which it was drawn, with the announcement that, like the others, the certification was a forgery. It was also stated on the street that the Continental Bank was a heavy loser by Ross, he having deposited forged checks to his credit in the bank, and drawn against them to a large amount.

The most conflicting rumors were circulated. Scarcely a prominent firm in the

banking or brokerage business but were stated to have been victimized by Ross, to a greater or less extent. The amount of his operations were variously estimated at from \$200,000 to \$500,000; some credulous individuals even conjecturing that it might reach a million.—N. Y. Cor. Bulletin.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

(From the Bulletin)

By the last arrival from Panama we have later dates from South America. There had been no further warlike operations. The Spanish fleet after the unsuccessful bombardment of Callao, withdrew and the blockade of the port was declared raised. A letter from Callao, after detailing at length the engagement between the Spaniards and Peruvians, the particulars of which we have already given, adds:

The Peruvians fired the last gun at the retreating defeated Spaniards at about 4:45 p. m.; and as the ships steamed out of reach the rejoicing on shore took the form which an earnest soldier give it in a contest for home and freedom. At once measures were taken to repair any damage done, and the sun rose next morning not only on the batteries and guns of yesterday restored, but on additional guns erected—fresh men to man them; enthusiasm roused to the highest to again encounter the enemy.

The numerical loss in killed and wounded on shore is very trifling. A corps consisting principally of foreigners took all the wounded in charge; the ladies of Lima personally attended the unfortunate men, while a subscription list on their behalf and for the widows of the killed was no sooner set going than it produced \$53,000 on the day following the engagement.

Suicide as a Science.

Heretofore it has been assumed that all suicides are insane, and hence, that their conduct cannot be rested by the known laws of human action. So far as passion or momentary loss of self-command is considered insanity, this may be true. In France, however, a different theory is being promulgated, and Dr. Boismont, an eminent physician, has recently published a treatise on suicide, in which he subjects the whole question to a searching analysis in accordance with theoretical and physical laws governing man's nature. The Doctor maintains that "if the motives of suicides, and the laws which govern and control them, can be even approximately determined, a great step will have been gained, both by improving the pathology of the malady, and by diminishing its active and predisposing causes." This is undoubtedly true. Vast discoveries are being daily made in different sciences, and there can be no reason why investigation and pains taking analysis in the direction pointed out by Dr. Boismont may not produce the most fortunate result. The cause producing or predisposing to suicide, whatever they may be, seems to run in cycles. For a long period comparatively few suicides will occur in a particular country or locality. Then the disease, or whatever it may be, will break out, or the case follow case with fearful rapidity. Again, particular modes of self-destruction seem to prevail at particular times. At one time drowning is all the rage, at another poison—then fire-arms or the knife will be used, and at one period in France so great was the mania for jumping from high towers that all such places were closed against the public. Upon general data such as these the investigations of Dr. Boismont are founded. The tables attached to the treatise of Dr. Boismont make it appear that there is not much truth in the generally received impression that tenacity to life increases with old age. On the contrary it appears that the proportion of suicides is greater between the ages of 70 and 80 than between the ages of 30 and 40.

In France at large he finds the majority of suicides to fall between the 40th and 50th year; in Paris, however, the majority occur between the 20th and 30th. Two children under nine, and one under five, killed themselves.

It is a mistake to call November the suicide's month; as a Paddy preferred warm to cold water to drown himself in, so it seems the generality of men prefer to kill themselves in fine weather and in daylight. For November and December the figures of Dr. Boismont are 298 and 276; while for June and July they are 438 and 467. 2,094 persons committed suicide by day, only 668 by night. Eight in the morning seems to be the favorite hour; noon comes next; seven in the evening yields fewest. Fever mountaineers commit this folly than inhabitants of the lowlands, and fever women than men, in the proportion of 1 to 2.76 in single, 1 to 2.49 in married life, and 1 to 1.32 in widowhood. But between the ages of 40 and 50, at which the maximum of suicides is reached, the married outnumber the single and widowed combined, in the proportion of three to one.

FATAL AFFRAY.—An affray took place last evening at Penne's drinking-house in the suburbs of this place, which resulted in the death of a seaman belonging to the U. S. War steamer Saranac, now lying in our harbor. Some difficulty arose between the seaman and James McKay and one Jerry, steward of the steamer Gen, whose real name is Maskill; which resulted in a fight, in which the seaman was killed. Jerry and McKay were arrested and lodged in jail and were guarded during the night by a guard detailed from the Saranac.—Seattle Weekly.

The Tyrant.
Mr Chief Justice Columbia has made a new role. After the verdict of the jury in *Aurora v. the Davis Company*, the Chief Justice services as sole juror in *Aurora Company* and accepted the Company held back but finally agreed to the Chief Justice's suit has proved disastrous. The Aurora confirmed by the de right, conscientious session of a piece of not one man in ten lies they are entitled the iniquity of over dict of twelve men duty, and returning Justice Begbie has self by the extraordi has rendered, and manner in which he plain away his says he, "the stakes August, 1864; I know been driven then, been few days before this case other words, if a thin it must have existed. At any rate such is Begbie's explanation. imagine why the Chief acquainted with the case before it came himself as an arbitrator concluded. The command must have been the case came on at all He appears to have st Westminster deeply in solemn conviction the bounden duty to dec Davis Company in any has done so. But, if he has raised a storm about his ears that was side. The indignation of the miners at the la should show this judgment he is treading on da and that when he upsets of jury without proper tampering with the best country. The request will, we fear, do no administrator of the Gover the power to comply with even if he had the w suspend, but he cannot he will do neither. Things should be held in the country and me asking Mr. Cardwell official who arrogates than sovereign power; what he calls "twelve sort" to deliberate with another sort," and then cept the result of their binding. Now, if Chief may upset the verdict of sure, wherein is the securities at all? Why not government, legislative juries, and place the de country in the hands of Judge? Either this, or must agitate and not relate until they have obtained

TOWED OUT.—The bark Capt. Fraser, was towed out yesterday by the tug Diana will load at Port Gamble Coquimbo, Peru.

PROBATE COURT.—In the estate of George Roberts, deceased, Administrator, probate accounts, which were passed.

THE "ALEXANDRA."—This New Westminster yesterday thirty passengers and forty She is under the command of

PIC-NIC AT NANAIMO.—The Nanaimo will hold a grand picnic in honor of the Coronation of Her

THE PLANT of the Nanaimo brought down on the Sir James evening. It will be sold about

H. M. S. Suttley went on practice yesterday.