Weekly British Colonist. AND CHRONICLE

Tuesday, December 11, 1866

The Governor's Reply to the Municipal Address. The very cordial manner in which the Mayor and City Council were received by His Excellency yesterday, and the assurance given of his good t eeling towards our people, will, we are sure, be appreciated by the respectable portion of the population. His Excellency promises a speedy repeal of the Real Estate Tax, but says nothing of the Trades License and Salary Taxes-an oversight, probably, for with a departure from our former policy of Free Trade, it must be designed to sweep away every direct tax. The introduction of a liberal system for bonding goods will meet with general approval. Perhaps the Chilian system, which, we understand, is the most liberal in the world, would be more acceptable than any other. But whatever may be the system proposed, we trust that it will not be promulgated until a conference has been had with the Chamber of Commerce, appointed to address His Excellency on the subject of the Tariff. We are glad to number Governor Seymour among the supporters of Municipal Institutions, and to perceive that he pledges himself to do all in his power to advance the interests of the city, and to reduce the expenses of the public establishments, for until a general system of retrenchment has been perfected and combined with wise and wholesome legislation, we can hope for no improvement in our affairs. Experience has proved that the prosperity and happiness of a country depends as much upon the energy, capacity and liberality of the rulers as upon the intelligence, freedom and patriotism of the ruled. In other words, that no people who are cursed with dishonest or incapable lawgivers, can ever become great or command the respect and esteem of their fellow men. Bad legislation is a curse; let the people be ever so energetic or industrious, it will prevent improvement and progress. Perhaps no better illustration of this can be found than in this Colony, from ity at large. which thousands of settlers have been driven by oppressive taxation not been one of prosperity, yet I allow myand burdensome imposts to seek self to hope that the present despondency homes in other lands. The remark of take its place. Though the finances of both His Excellency, that much more de sections of the Colony are much embarassed pends upon the success of the prospector than the skill of the Administrator or the wisdom of the law-maker, is a mistake. Had he reversed the sentence to read that more depended upon the skill of the lawmaker than upon the success of the prospector, he would have hit the mark. But to say that the prospector must find out new fields of wealth ere we can look for liberal system of bonding will be introduced. an improvement, is, we conceive, a very grave error. The history of the Gold Export Tax and the Law real estate which presses heavily in times of of Imprisonment for Debt, proves that thousands of a ready-made population were driven by their enforcement from our shores to seek livelihoods in a land where more liberal laws are in force. The efforts of all the prospectors in British Columbia will not make the country contented or prosperous, if Mr Seymour and those under him fail in their duty. Success depends upon the "skill of the Administrator and the wisdom of the law-maker." Withou the exercise of Island, and praying that Mr Needham may those qualities we shall fail most be appointed Chief Justice of the United miserably as a Colony. Prospectors will, of course, do their share towards the development of the resources of tegrity, honor, and ability of its principal the Colony; but the weight of responsibility rests with the Governs ment. Wise legislation is the mainspring of all that is great and good in a country, and the efforts of the Government must be directed towards rendering those now in the Colony happy and contented before others from abroad will be induced to take

up their abode among us. The Judicial Question.

reply of His Excellency the overnor to the people's petition, praying for Numerous petitions would, I doubt not, were he appointment of Mr Needham as it thought necessary, testify to the public proved to be a canard.

Chief Justice of the United Colonies. While we share in the universal regret that will be manifested at his Excellency's inability to satisfy the prayer of the petitioners, we confess that we cannot, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, see how the Gov. ernor could, with justice, act otherwise than he has done. The difficulty suggested itself to his mind in England, and His Excellency came to the conclusion that the best and fairest solution of the question would be that both gentlemen should temporarily be judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, each retaining his precedence in his own Court, the respective salaries remaining intact. This proposition appears to have met with the sanction of the Colonial Office, but the refusal of one of the parties concerned to accede to it places His Excellency in rather an awkward position. With an old public servant, whose claims he could not ignore on the one side, and on the other, a monster petition in favor of another officer, whose claims for preferment are based on his ability, integrity and popularity, he must needs give offence whichever way he decides, and His Excellency, unwilling to interfere with the judiciary of either colony, is anxious that his suggestion should be carried into effect, failing this, he finds himself unable to comply with the petition to appoint Mr Needham over the head of Mr Begbie, and there the matter rests for the present.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Civic Address to the Governor.

he City Council, the Mayor and Councillors and the successful educaction of a pious Messrs Hebbard and Layzell being absent), repaired to the Government buildings and presented the address which appeared in our the subject of our constant prayer, that the columns yesterday. His Excellency, who rea great Head of the Church—the only source ceived the deputation courteously, replied to the address as follows:

Mr Mayor and Gentlemen of the Council of Victoria:

I feel much obliged for your goodness in presenting me with an address of welcome to your city and fully appreciate the sentiment of loyalty towards our Sovereign which has dictated it.

I fear that so long as gold remains the principal staple of the Colony much more will depend upon the success of the prospector, than the skill of the Administrator or the wisdom of the law maker, but I may assure you that you may depend upon my most anxious desire to carry out such measure ures as may appear beneficial to the commun-

I greatly regret to perceive abundant evidence that the year about to close has I trust that reductions in the Public Establishment, aided by the daily diminishing demand for expenditure on public works of magnitude on the mainland, may bring matters to a more satisfactory condition. You may rely upon my constant desire to

strengthen and support your municipal institutions and promote the best interests of Victoria.

Though all that remained of the once complete freedom of your port is gone, I do think that the bommerce of tona will suffer in consequence, as the most I trust that the prosperity of your city as well as of the Island generally, may soon promoted by the abolition of a tax on

commenced my reply to your address.

The Chief Justiceship.

The following is His Excellency's reply to the peoples petition respecting the Chief-Justiceship of the United Colony.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Victoria, Dec. 4th, 1866.

I have had the honor to receive your pe-

tition of the 28th ultimo., expressing your full confidence in the administration of justice in the Supreme Court of Vancouver Colony of British Columbia. It is very beneficial for a community

when such confidence is placed in the in-Judge, and I at once say that I have had no wish in any way to interfere with the administration of Justice or the local position of Mr Needham.

To appoint that gentleman, however qualifled, to the position of Chief Justice of the United Colony, would interfere with the position, and possibly invade the rights of another Judicial officer who has done good and valuable service on the neighbouring main land for several years antecedent to the arrival among us of the one you would desire to see placed in the more prominent

Mr Begbie proceeded to the more restricted British Columbia with the well grounded expectation that he was at a fu-In another column will be found the ture date to be the Chief Justice, of that

The boat is laid up for the abon from New Westminester, having left,

lat & p. m., the day before.

confidence in Mr Begbie. Under these ciry cumstances the claims of the two gentlemen appear to me to be about equal, with a slight balance, perhaps, in favor of Mr Begbie, on account of the superior length of last evening's boat informs us that they may his service.

all events, be Judges of the Supreme Court gings thus far opened are shallow, and are of British Columbia. The one retaining his precedence in the Courts of the Island. the gold is very good not troubled with much other in those of the mainland. The salaries to remain untouched. This proposal, which appeared unobjectionable in Downing street, does not. I regret to say, satisfy your wishes nor the expectations of one, at least of the Candidates.

spectably signed a petition.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant. FREDERICK SEYMOUR. J. S. Helmcken, Esq., and other signers of petition of 20th November.

Church of Scotland Address to the Government.

Managers of St. Andrew's Church : To His Excellency Frederick Seymour, Gov-

ernor of British Columbia, Commanderin-Chief, &c., &c.

presenting the St, Andrew's Church established in the City of Victoria, and in conexlency's present advent amongst us as the representative of our beloved sovereign Queen Victoria, and as Governor of the United Colonies of Vancouver Island and arrived vesterday afternoon from Olympia British Columbia.

The branch of the National Church to which ment at an early date in the history of our Protestant faith, 1560-was solemnly ratified and confirmed by act of King James VI, has been distinguished by her loyalty and moderation in the struggles she has undergone in maintaining a well defined Union of the Church and State, the illustrious names Yesterday, after a short special meeting of of those who have taken part in her ministry intelligent, and indrustrious people.

As in duty bound, and as a christian Church, it is our earnest desire, and will be of true wisdom to all rulers, both civil and ecclesiastical, may endow your Excellency with every requisite gift and grace, and abundantly bless your administration of the affairs of the now united colonies, so that, peace, prosperity, and happiness may dis-tinguish the whole course of your Excellency's rule.

That your Excellency may be long spared to fulfil the high functions with which you have been invested with satisfaction to yourself, and benefit to the people at large, is our earnest prayer. Signed by the Rev. Thomas Sommerville.

Minister, and the Managers of the Church. His Excellency replied as follows:

Gentlemen ;- I thank you very deeply for meeting of the Executive Council at the Govthe address that you, the Minister and Managers representing St. Andrew's Church of Victoria and in connexion with the Church of Scotland have just delivered to me. I am well aware of the history of the

Church of Scotlant; in whose worship I have stopped at the Treasury, often joined with devotion, and I trust with benefit, during my happy visits to the North. I am well assured of your loyalty to the Sovereign whom I have the honor temporarily to represent in this Colony, and I know that that loyalty and your christian spirit will induce you to give me credit. for good motives at least, in the performance of the duties which are before me.

I sincerely join you in the prayer that peace, prosperity and happiness may flourish within the United Colony.

Consul at Fernando Po, Mr C. Livingston, the fine old city of Quebec can be regarded was at last accounts on a visit to the Benny absorbed in their own troubles the rest may and New Calabar rivers in Her Majesty's be, the sad spectacle of twenty thousand o ship Oberon for the purpose of endeavouring their fellow countrymen robbed of everything, to reconcile the turbulent natives in that and in one short hour driven from their fire neighbourhood, whose quarrels have for sides into the rude blast of a Canadian Octosome time greatly interfered with the palm oil trade. It is, however, doubtful whether the community pause and reflect. Who that he will be successful or not. The quarrels, for a moment has thought of a population though of old standing, have recently been to the neighboring hills from before the greatly aggravated by the Creeka men have flames, while their dwellings were swiftly ing made a raid upon New Calabar, and swept from the earth, and the aged and infirm captured a large number of prisoners, up, crushed on their own hearthstones ;-who, l wards of 100 of whom were killed and eaten ask, but has felt a shudder at their horror at a cannibal feast; and the New Calabar But the terror and excitement of such a conmen have signified their determination to flagration are easily endured compared with retaliate in a similar manner.

and Carcass Act; and the landing permits his little ones snatched from before his eyes;

election of officers held on Monday evening the in the face of the hard advancing winter in following members were elected: H. F. the old city of Quebec! Heisterman, President, (re-elected); F. Stemmler, Vice-President; E. Jungermann, Treas- bare published facts know well that I am not urer; J. Gillon, Secretary, (re-elected); Robt. "piling on the agony," nor exaggerating one Lowenberg, Zeugwart; Chas. Dechant, nomeless fugitives there have been hundreds Teacher; Edward McQuade, Assistant of such cases, and the Canadian portion of Teacher. The Verein numbers 70 members them must know what a Canadian winter and is in a flourishing condition.

nice will be brought down for | IF The eviation arrived reverday after

THE NEW MINES AT KOOTENAY .- The new afar. mines on the Kootenay river are proving very good. A gentleman who arrived on be called \$10 diggings, although some Entertaining this opinion, I proposed that claims have proved very rich. The digconsequently easily and quickly worked. The base metal .- Portland Herald.

THEATRE TO-NIGHT .- Assist the sick and needy by attending the Hospital benefit tonight under the patronage of the Governor Regretting that I cannot at once comply and Mrs Seymour. The curtain will rise with the prayer of so numerously and re- promptly at 8 o'clock; doors will open at 7: box office open from 11 a. m. till 3 p. m.; to secure seats an early application is necessary as the house will be full.

THE BELLINGHAM BAY MINES .- We learn from a miner recently arrived from these not always snatch our wooden town out o mines, that work has ceased and will probably not be resumed till the spring. It is the intention of the manager to drown out the is that the Canadians organise and lead off in The following address was presented yes- fire still raging below. It is intended to terday by Rev. A. Somerville and the sink a fresh shaft about a quarter of a mile sympathy and aid can flow. Let them call further on the lead.

SUDDEN DEATH,-Capt. Wm. Honey, native of Scotland, and well known in Brit-MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY-We ish Columbia, died suddenly on Monday the undersigned, Minister and Managers re- evening, aged 54 years, of rupture of the bladder. An inquest was held yesterday, ion with the Church of Scotland, desire most and after hearing the medical evidence, the heartily to congratulate you on your Excel-jury returned a verdict of death from natural

FROM THE SOUND .- The Josie McNear and way ports with a number of passengers. we belong was established by Act of Parlia- and a large freight of live stock as per marine report.

IMPROVING .- We are glad to know that 1592, and act of King Charles 1st, 1644 since his return to this Island, Governor Sey-During the 300 years of her existence she mour's health has improved materially, and that there is every prospect of his being restored to full health in a few days.

> DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF CALCUTTA .- Late English papers having a brief telegram announcing that the Lord Bishop of Calcutta had been drowned in the Ganges.

> THE CABLE.-The Mumford will leave to-day with Mr Haines on board to repair the damaged cable between Lopez and Fid-NAVAL MILL .- A " Salt " named Shicock

was yesterday fined \$5 or 14 days imprisonment for attempting to stave in the topights of a comrade named Selmes.

FROM NANAIMO.-The steamer Isabel arived down yesterday in tow of the ship Revere, which proceeded on her voyage to San Francisco with 1100 tons of coal.

ernment Building. We understand that payment of last

Roads for England yesterday. NAVAL.-It is stated that H. M. S. Clio

will leave for the South early next week.

A Good Opportunity for Victoria. EDITORS DAILY COLONIST :- It is impossi-

ble that the brief hurried statement which has reached us concerning the sudden and CANNIBALISM .- Her Britannic Majesty's appalling calamity which has fallen upon by our people with indifference. However the misery and wretchedness which follow. What sight can be more pitiable than that of Collection Suspended.—We understand a poor hardworking man—his affectionate that His Excellency the Governor has given and happy family torn from the home that his instructions to the Harbourmaster to sus- industry had reared for them, his strong arms pend the collection of dues under the Stock paralyzed by the loss of his shop, his tools, and his occupation, the food and clothing of in connection with the Harbour Dues Act, all that made his home homelike or enabled until such time as the existing tax laws of him to provide for it, gone in a moment; his Vancouver Island can be adjusted by the tender wife dying on the cold earth from fatigue and exposure amid the cries of his next Legislature. This is another step in the shivering children,—what more heartrending right direction, and shows that Mr Seymour than to see this frenzied impersonation of is not only a man of words but also of deeds. Despair gazing around for that sympathy and succour for which, among such a vast aggre-VICTORIA TURN VEREIN-At the halfyearly gation of misery, he must look in vain. And

Those of your readers who have read the means for a poor beggar and his family. What must it be for two thousand families? Now I wish to enquire what is to hinder

a principal city in a young and rising nation -our sister city, full of suffering, the hearts of her people softened by sore affliction and keenly sensitive to acts of kindness, her pubs lic charity strained to its utmost in grappling with a terrible foe. Why cannot we send her a word of cheer, and something to show that when one British American city staggers under a blow the rest feel it and come to the rescue? Is not Quebec in ruins as dear to the heart of British America as Portland in ruins was to the United States Unless gold hunting has absorbed every generous emotion, or an annexationist "jac o' the lantern' dazed our wits and choked our patriotic impulses, we ought to answer this question by sharing even our last crust with the poor children and women of the brave old city. Why can we not, for even a couple of days, cease blubbering at an ignorant Colonial office and a couple of awkward Governors, and surprise ourselves and warm the hearts of others by a noble, generous deed? Perhaps our almost neglected firemen may the flames, and we may one of these drizzly mornings have something worse than Governor Segmour to howl over. What I propose opening a channel through which public out the girls to give a concert, the boys to give a "benefit," the clergyman to preach, and the citizens to subscribe to a "Quebec Relief Fund;" and if, after they have got His Worship to telegraph their distressed countrymen a Christmas cheer, "if the blessing o him that was ready to perish should come upon us because we delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless and him that had none to help him," at least one of your readers will feel it no dishonor to be called

"Unbecoming and Degrading."

A NORTH AMERICAN CHINAMAN.

EDITORS BRITISH COLONIST-Such was the expression of the celebrated Louis Sphor in reference to the treatment of musicians. Now if music, the most heaven-born, soul-inspiring science of all the fine arts, is worthy of any consideration at all, then I claim a word or two on behalf of the musician, for an art is a nonentity without an artist. This is unbecoming and degrading, said

Louis Sphor, as he was conducted from the orchestra to the larder, or to the servant's hall, or pushed into the kitchen amongst the cooks, pots and kettles, there to refresh himself upon the fragments and flat wine from the banquet table. Now an artist is supposed to be a being of superior mind and finer feelings than the pursuers of the more common vocations of life, and therefore would feel the degradation of such treatment more than another man. I am sorry to be obliged to say that I have not found my profession so treated only in England and where English customs prevail. Music is the life and soul of all your gatherings. You must have music on the battle field, and music o'er the tomb; music in your ball room, and music in your churches. Aye! and you dream of ethereal music in the realms of bliss where dwells the "Great I Am." I wonder if the musician will be crammed into the back kichen there? If I thought this mode of treatment extended beyond this sphere, I would quit my profession and seek a livelihood by more respectable calling, for it is better to be a brainless respected listener, than an in-telligent degraded artist. However, the GGVERNOR SEYMOUR yesterday attended a treatment of musicians is of no consideration in British Columbia, for if H. M.'s Navy continue to furnish bands for balls, &c., we shall all have to migrate shortly.

I cannot close without a word of comment months salaries has been again temporarily on the letter written by the correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, referring to the souls lost on the Evening Star, he says: The ship Prince of Wales left Royal "But how sad the thought that a single burial case should have taken down into that deep which nothing disembogues, so much of sin and wickedness as the Evening Star contained. Few single interments ever have included a hundred harlots, an operatic troupe and a circus company." So he classes the opera house with the brothel, the harlot with

the prima donna. The fool! The opera house and the theatre are institutions authorised by the Government, and patronized by the learned and best people of the nation, even up to our Lady Sovereign the Queen. Is virtue in an opera house impossible? Sin in heaven is not. I am sorry I am an artist, but as God has made me, so I must remain, and as regards degrading treatment at engagements, and scurious classifications by newspaper correspondents, why we must philosophize as the man whom the jackass kicked : "Put it down from whence it came."

For the profession.

Victoria, Nov. 1866.

The Post Office. MESSRS EDITORS :- The question is often asked, why don't we have the Post-office as near the centre of the city as possible? When we have to go to the Post-office for letters, the location should be as near the centre o the town as possible, so that all parties could have easy access to it. The Government own a splended site, admirably adapted for the purpose, situated on Government street, where Messrs Franklin and others are located, which, with a very slight alteration, would make a fine office, centrally located, and easily accessible to all. The Government are paying a considerable rent for the present building, and it would be a great saving in money and time to the public if the Post-office was on Government street. L.

A WITNESS REJECTED .- In a London Pos lice Court the other day, a witness about to be sworn said that if he kissed the book he should feel bound to speak the truth; but he did not believe in the doctrine of future reward and punishment, according to the sense in which men ordinally understood it. He did not believe he should be punished in a future state if he did not speak the truth. The Justice declined to dminister the oath to a man entertaining such opinions, and his evidence was not received.

A Boston reviewer is severe on "Griffith Gaunt." He says: 'It might have been written in the latitude of Salt Lake City by a Mormon elder of a literary turn, with a seraglio of fifty concubines to furnish him inus making the case of these people our own? seragilo of There is a great moral effect in help sent from spiration.

By Glectric Telegrap

DELAYED DESPATCHES.

Eastern States.

CHICAGO, Nov. 24.—The propellor I Friday evening: The propeller sunk mediately. Ten lives lost.

James Brownlow, son of Governor Brow ow has been appointed captain in egular army, and ordered to San Juan. Stephens, the Fenian Chief Organizer dsappeared from New York, and politice ecitement runs to an alarming high; Island, where the British Government mking a great show of strength.

CHICAGO, November 25-Washington 8 dals say the Government is yet without ices in reference to the arrest and escape Jhn Surratt, announced by the cable. T mch. however, was known, thas Surratt w treed to Richmond, and from thence he supposed to have gone to Scotland via Co where he tood refuge in a Catholic Co tent. "It is not considered probable that villever be returned to this country. NEW YORK, Nov. 24-Two more distil

ie were seized yesterday. The disclosures dililery frauds hereabouts are astonish he arrest of Ortega proves to have be Shridan's voluntary act, but has since be Approved by the Government.

VASHINGTON, Nov. 24—France asks furner time in which to withdraw her tro

ftor Mexico, which our Government will n grat, but insists upon the original agreeme beig carried out. President has completed the great pa; of his message, and for the first time ti metage and documents will be printed as reay for the members of Congress at th

QICAGO, Nov. 27.—Secretary Sawa sent a dispatch of 5,000 words over the cabl en Sunday the 25th, supposed to rela to Mexico. Te condition of the Mexican Empir

continues to be the leading topic of conve satio in Europe and America. There a freshreports that Maximilian formally abdi-cated last week and is now en route t Havaa.

Speial dispatches say that a steamer h sailed from New Grleans for Tampico ar VeraCruz with dispatches for Campbell ar Shersan. The report of important Libera succeses in Puebla and Oxaca are co

Europe.

Lonon, Nov. 25-The condition of t Mexico Empire is the leading topic. A Trieste paper says the Empress Ca lotta' health is unchanged. The Sunda Gazets of this morning says the Royal Com missio to consider the neutrality laws w soon commence its session. Lord Cranword will b President of the Commission, an amongits members will be Lord Houghton Sir Radall Palmer, Sir R. Philip Mont, D Twisa nd W. P. Gregory.

Thee are vague reports that the Govern

mont intends sending 20 regiments, of milit to Iteland.
The Daily News of this morning publish a letter stating that the Government ha

voluntarily re-opened the Alabama case for damiges two months ago. Canada.

Quebic, Nov. 24.—A large number of temportry sheds have been erected in the burnt detrict, in which many of those burne out by the late fire will find shelter for th winter. A great many are emigrating to the

Jamaica. Kingson, Jamaica, dates to the 14th Nov say the polic trade has been revived. The Imaica Legislature met on the 6th Complaits were rife about high taxes and obnoxiou laws.

California.

SHIPVRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE. RANCISCO, Nov. 27 .- The Britis

iron bat Coya, of Liverpool, laden with coal from Sydney, was approaching this port under every sail, the captain supposing himself pear the Farallones, the weather having ben thick the two previous days when shistruck at 7 o'clock, on Pigeo Point, sity miles south of this point Walter Coper, one of the three saved arrived in his city last night. He describes the sceneifter she struck as terrible in the extreme. An attempt was made to launch the long bat, but she was instantly swamped by the wves which were constantly break ing over ier. The captain and officers die all in thei power to save the passengers, bu all to no prose. No boat could live in such a see It was evident to all on boar that the only hope of being saved was i clinging o pieces of the wreck at the ship dashed to pieces on the rocks Cooper ha on only his undershirt, drawers and cravt, when he reached shore, and others wre equally as scantily clothed. They wer nearly benumbed with cold, and crawled at of reach of the waves with great difficity. In order to protect them-selves from the cold they dug a hole in the sand, and he three survivors crawled into it. covering temselves over with bushes, where they remined until morning, when they found the whereabouts a mile from the wreck. Gly one body, that of Mrs Jeffries had washe ashore when Cooper left. The hull of theyessel had entirely broken up a d

disappeard, while the beach was strewn with the frements.

The following is a list of the passengers of the bark Cya:—Dr Rawson and wife, London; Mr leffries and wife and baby, Portsmouth; Gorge Byron, Sydney; Miss Lassatta, Napi Valley; Mrs Pearson, Mrs Page and daught. Crew of the Coya—Captain R Page; homas Brastow, first mate; Wm. Carr. second mate.—Lames Skeelon, sail-Carr, seedd mate; James Skeelon, sail maker; Frok Bashby, carpenter; J Smith, steward; ames, Cook (name unknown); John Smith Tom Smith, Walter Cooper, P. Maenamara, P. Bromery, John Bones, George Owens, John Cooper, Oliver Loeb, Peter Johnson, Peer Shimmens, seamen. Saved —George Boo, passenger, Sydney; Thomas Brastow, firstmate; Walter Cooper, seaman