Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1884.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS INVOLVED.

An Oriental legend tells of a sparrow which was observed to walk carefully on the roof of a high building. Asked why his steps were so tender he replied, "Do you not see? If I were to press with all my weight on this roof I should bring the whole building down." This being overheard by a wise man, the latter said, "If the size of every one was as great as his vanity the world would be too small to hold us all." Our infantile contemporary of the Times resembles the eastern sparrow. He has strutted through his columns for a week in a vain effort to induce the government to pay tribute to his "weight" by recognizing the claims of certain "poor" squatters to lands on Burrard Inlet; threatening, in case of non-compliance, to bear down heavily on the government and crush it. Poor little sparrow! If your influence was as huge as your opinion of yourself you might scare the government; but as you are, your excessive vanity excites only ridicule and your insignificance contempt. The government have always stood ready to grant a petition of right; but until a clear title to the land claimed by the squatters has been established they will not give away a single rood. Such has been the attitude of the government from the first. They are now and always have been ready to throw wide open the door of the temple of justice, but they are not now and, we hope, never will be, prepared to buy support by the recognition of claims which they believe to be either fraudulent or advanced under a misapprehension. At present a band of conspirators are believed to be endeavoring to wring from the government, by threats of an adverse vote, a million dollars' worth of land situated on English Bay. The public should know that the land covered by these conspirators is nearly the entire frontage on English Bay in the portion to be granted to the syndicate for bringing their terminus 22 miles nearer Victoria. It is not agricultural land; it has been squatted upon, not for the purpose of homesteading or farming, but solely with a speculative object. The squatters are illegally upon it and were informed of the illegality of their contemplated action before going there. Their claims are now in the hands of speculators who are trying to lobby their million dollar grab through the legislature. The public need entertain no fear of the attempt being crowned with success. A large majority of the members are neither to be won by promises nor frightened by the threat of the "sparrow on the house top" to sit down on them, into voting for this most improper demand. The most that will be obtained is a petition of right; and that the conspirators could have had without going to the house.

THE NAME "VANCOUVER."

The Colonist has all along protested against the adoption of the title "Vancouver" for the town which it is proposed to rear at Coal Harbor; first, because there is already a town called Vancouver on this coast; and second, because the name is calculated to cause confusion in mercantile and postal circles from proximity and sameness to Vancouver Island. It is stated that a memorial or protest against the use of the name at Coal Harbor will be circulated for signature. It ought to be generally signed, for while no good reason can be advanced for the appellation to Coal Harbor—any other name would do as well—the objections urged to its use there would seem to be sufficient to induce the projectors to change it for one more appropriate and not confusing.

THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL.

The mayor and council, not being quite certain what might be the effect of adopting the minutes of the last meeting of their predecessors, wisely hesitated before confirming the same. The hurried vote on the electric light scheme certainly wears an ugly look; and it is proper that the matter should be investigated; but the mere confirmation of the minutes would not commit the city to take over the light. The minutes are a record of the proceedings. To confirm them would be to endorse their correctness. Not to confirm them would be to declare that they are incorrect. As to the vote on the electric light it may be rescinded after due notice of motion has been given. The adoption of the minutes would not legalize the purchase any more than a failure to confirm them would annul it. But the mayor and council are acting with commendable caution.

THE RATIFICATION RESOLUTION

The resolution to confirm and approve the action of the government in transferring a block of land at Coal Harbor and English Bay to the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. is on the orders although it may not come on for debate to-day. The matter has been ventilated through the press and the public are thoroughly acquainted with the project in all its details. Casting aside the great national considerations which cluster thickly about the change of terminus there remains the important fact that the establishment of the railway terminus at Coal Harbor renders feasible and practicable a railway ferry to the Island and thence by rail communication from Nanaimo to Victoria, the national terminus of two transcontinental railways—the Northern Pacific and the Canadian Pacific. Had the latter road rested at Port Moody a ferry to the Island would have been more than doubtful. With the terminus at Coal Harbor a ferry is a certainty. Readers are aware that an effort has been made to force upon the notice of the government squatters' claims to about a million dollars worth of English Bay lands. The government have already refused to recognize those claims as possessing any of the elements of genuineness; but they have expressed their willingness to grant a petition of right so that the claims may come before the courts. It has never been the desire or intention of this government to deprive any man—rich or poor—of his legal remedy: but in resisting claims which there is reason to believe are *bogus* the government have protected the public interests from possible spoliation. If at a future time, and in another arena, it can be shown that the claims are genuine, no power on earth can prevent the lands from being conveyed to the "squatters." So far as the house is concerned it will ratify the action of the government and leave the squatters to their legal remedy. That is the only possible solution. With the passage of the resolution the country will take a fresh start, and the inflow of capital, the prosecution of gigantic improvements, and the enhanced value of *land*, will speedily compensate the country for the apparent sacrifice which they are asked to make in parting with 6,000 acres which, without the railway, would scarcely be worth the wild land tax.

THE COLONIES IN AFRICA.

The communication of Lord Derby to Sir Hercules Robinson, governor of Cape Colony, in regard to the German acquisitions in West Africa gives a full history of the correspondence between the German and English governments in regard to the matter. It seems that on the first intimation of Germany's intention to acquire possession of the territory, Lord Derby communicated with the Cape government on the subject of a further extension of the British dominions northward of the Orange river, but the authorities of the Cape took no immediate notice of it and the delay gave Germany the opportunity for formally annexing the coast. Lord Derby first communicated with the Cape on February 6th, and again on May 7th. It was not till the 29th of May that the Cape government returned the leisurely answer that they would recommend the project to the provincial parliament. On the 16th of July the provincial parliament decided on the annexation of the coast from Orange river to the border of the Portuguese possessions, but before the communication announcing this intention had reached the Colonial office, a German man-of-war had raised the flag of the empire over the territory, and there was nothing to be done but for England to accept the situation. The whole history of the proceedings shows a surprising lack of activity on the part of the colonial authorities. As early as February, 1883, the German minister inquired of the foreign office, as Lord Derby relates in his dispatch, whether British protection could be extended to a factory to be established by a Bremen merchant north of the Orange river, intimating that if this could not be done Germany would do her best to extend to it the same measure of protection which she gave to her subjects in other remote places. While this gave England the refusal of the territory it seemed clearly to intimate that if she did not accept the responsibility the alternative would be for Germany to take the country under her protection. The dilatory course pursued by Lord Derby and the Cape government seemed to indicate either that they did not recognize the possibility of Germany entering into competition with England as a colonizing power in Africa, or else that it was contrary to the policy of the present English government, as it had been with their predecessors, to extend the borders of the British dominions in South Africa. If the first is the true solution we may consider that England was out-witted by Germany; if the second, then the sooner England makes up her mind just how much territory she wants the better, for Germany has entered the lists against her.

FUTURE POPULATION OF THE STATES.

According to the statisticians the population of the United States five years hence, in 1890, will be 64,000,000. When we stop to inquire of what these millions will be composed, some figures in regard to the white and black population bring to light an interesting calculation. Between the years 1860 and 1880 the United States received from abroad 5,114,978, and the excess of births over deaths in this population was 894,763, making an actual increase of emigration during twenty years of 6,009,741. Deducting this from the whole white population it is found that the increase by birth was 1,047,692, a little less than 2 per cent. annually. The black population in 1860 was 4,441,830, and in 1880 it had increased by 2,138,863. The black population receives no reinforcements by immigration so that these figures must indicate the increase resulting from the excess of births over deaths. This is shown to be 48 per cent. during the twenty years, or about 2½ per cent. a year. The increase of the black population exceeds that of the white, therefore, by about one-half per cent. annualy, and this in turn will make a vast difference in the relative numbers of the two races.

THE NEW "NORMAN" INVASION.

William of Normandy was a great man and a bold. He invaded and conquered England. He has had many imitators; but no other man ever established himself as an enemy on British soil. William of Normandy went to stay and staid. Followers in his footsteps remained long enough to ascertain that they were not wanted and then bolted for home. William's great namesake and would-be prototype in this country is William Norman of New Westminster—a lawyer, keen as a razor and cute as a pet fox, who parts his hair and his name in the middle. He is so highly esteemed and appreciated on the classic banks of the Fraser that at a late election his fellow-citizens manifested their affection by voting, by a considerable majority, to keep him at home. But like his great predecessor and namesake the Fraser river Norman cannot content himself at home. He must seek "fresh woods and pastures new" at Victoria, where he has undertaken a crusade against the government through the columns of a newspaper. Norman's chief idiosyncrasy is a belief that the provincial secretary is another "Paddy Miles' boy"—responsible for every untoward incident that may occur. Should there come a high tide it would be the provincial secretary who brought it on. A heavy rain, a great gale, a huge fire—all the work of the provincial secretary. We are not sure but that official is blamed for the December snow; and as for the freeze-up at New Westminster, it never would have occurred if the provincial secretary had not chilled the water by his cool reception of the Coal Harbor squatters, for whom, by the way, Norman holds a fat brief. Now, no one objects to the exuberant fancy which runs riot in this absurd fashion. Abuse even is not found fault with. It is a case of "if it pleases she it don't hurt o," but when he resorts to misrepresentation as well as abuse he passes the limits of forbearance. When the writer asserts that the government refused to listen to the "righteous and just request" of the squatters he states what is untrue. The government never declined to listen to any request, either just or unjust, when it was made in proper terms; but it did refuse to recognize the claims of W. Norman's clients to about one million dollars' worth of Burrard Inlet property. "Hence those tears," the invasion of Victoria, the bifaltin editorials and the abuse by the legal bully who has made the cause of the speculators in the squatters' claims his own. The government have always been ready to afford these claimants a hearing. To show that such is the fact the appointment of a committee of the house was conceded yesterday and evidence will be taken to day. The government have nothing to fear from an investigation. Can the Times writer say as much? There is reason to believe that as a result of the inquiry he will retire from the scene not as "William the Conqueror," but as William the Conquered.

AND WHY NOT?

New Westminster city was promised an extension of the C. P. Railway or a branch line by Mr. Van Horne when that gentleman visited the province last summer. For some reason the promise was not kept; at least, New Westminster is not included in the scheme which proposes to make Coal Harbor the terminus of the transcontinental line, although that line will pass within a mile and a half of the Royal City. The people of that city are naturally impressed with the belief that it is not the intention of the railway company to guard their interests in this respect; and as every town of any importance in the province is enjoying or is about to enjoy the benefits of railway connection, they have drawn the attention of the local government to the omission that has been made in their case. The government, it is gratifying to know, recognize the importance and pertinence of the demand of the New Westminsterians and have taken steps which, it is believed, will eventuate in securing for them justice. No town in the province is more entitled to consideration than our neighbor on the Fraser. It is situated in the midst of and is the market for the most extensive agricultural and lumbering industries in the country; it is the seat of several extensive manufacturing establishments and of several important public institutions. It is the distributing depot for a very large section of country and if encouraged and fostered must always be a place of considerable commercial importance. A railway is essential to the permanent prosperity of the place. In view of the thrift of the inhabitants, their enterprise and commerce, and the industries they sustain, the short line of railway asked for would doubtless prove a paying investment. The petition should meet with a ready acquiescence.

CRANBERRY CULTURE.

The Willamette Farmer in an article on the cultivation of the cranberry on this northern coast, says: "Two years ago a man who understood the culture of cranberries purchased a swamp in Western Washington and planted out the wild native cranberry with such success that in two years his cultivation produced a berry three times the size of the wild fruit. This is the second year and he has pickled 1,100 barrels of berries. He has now planted out the larger eastern cranberry, but believes the smaller native fruit will possess superior flavor and acquire sufficient size. By comparing eastern cuttings with native vines he is satisfied that they will improve very rapidly. The man alluded to purchased 7,000 acres of swamp for a song, and in two years has 1,100 barrels of fruit worth $16 per barrel ($16,500) while his total outlay was not half that. The cranberry is the most delicious fruit for sauce with meats that is known, and always commands a high price. It can be kept for a year, or at least for many months and can be actually sent around the world. They are put in barrels filled with water and thus kept." To this the California Grocer adds: No doubt the native cranberry swamps along Fraser river and many other portions of the country could be utilized for this purpose, and would yield a large profit to those who engage in the business. There will always be a good market for them, both at home and abroad. For a person with a small capital and one who understands the growing of them, we believe it to be one of the best openings in the country for a permanent paying business.

STEWART'S VICTORY.

The victory of General Stewart with a handful of men over a horde of Arabs was very complete. No doubt at one time, when the British square was broken by the stampede of the camel corps, the affair wore a serious aspect for the invaders, but the steady, open courage for which the British soldier is renowned, told in the end and the enemy was routed. The struggle was for the possession of the wells that were in the hands of the Arabs. The British went into the fight while suffering from thirst and fought like devils. Had they failed to carry the wells they would have been doomed. It was the cutting off of this water supply that enabled the Soudanese to destroy Hicks Pasha's army. The tactics which proved successful with Hicks failed when applied to Stewart. News of still greater battles may be momentarily expected and the readers of *The Colonist* will be placed in possession of the dispatches as fast as they arrive.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' PLIGHT.

Fruitless Efforts to Reach the Peril-Encompassed Ship.

LAST SEEN IN JAMES BAY.

MONTREAL, Jan. 12.—The captain of the H. B. Co.' boat Prince of Wales (reported abandoned in Hudson Bay) with great difficulty reached what is called the Outer Roads, about 30 miles from Moose Factory. A boat was sent to Moose Factory to get the necessary supplies of fuel and clothing. After a difficult passage, during which floating fields of ice were encountered, the boat on several occasions being nearly cut to pieces and the crew suffering terribly from intense cold, the fort was reached. Next day one of the large boats belonging to the fort was manned and well supplied with provisions, clothing, axes, sleds, moccasins, mittens, etc., for wintering the ship, and started for the vessel. The boat, however, only managed to make three miles through the fields of ice, when she became firmly frozen in, and with great difficulty was cut out and the party returned to the fort. Recourse had now to be made to Indians who were

DESPATCHED TO FIND THE VESSEL.

They also returned in the course of a few days saying they could not see her. On the 8th of November another expedition in light open boats was despatched, and after making about eight miles with great difficulty and enduring a night of terrible cold, they also returned after an unsuccessful search. The only hope is that the vessel has reached Charlton Island, which, at least, is wooded and will afford a supply of fuel. Another attempt will be made to locate the ship by means of dog trains. Dogs and sledges will be brought from Fort Albany and Rupert's House, and provisions and clothing hauled to the ice-bound mariner. The letter received, however, does not speak very hopefully of the safety of the vessel, and says, "although we hope to see Capt. Bishop in January, and trust he reached Charlton Island in safety, the ship is not in a too pleasant position at present."

In the Hands of a Receiver.

Suit was commenced in the U. S. circuit court yesterday by Lawrence Harrison and Lawrence Baker, for themselves and others, against the Oregon & California Railroad Company, the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., and the Oregon and Transcontinental Co. The complainants, who are citizens of Great Britain, for themselves and for all holders of mortgage bonds of the Oregon and California, bring this suit against the company, a corporation which is a citizen of Oregon, the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., a citizen of New York, and the Oregon and Transcontinental Co., a citizen of Oregon, and complain on about twenty pages of legal cap, the substance of the complaint being that they are bondholders of the O. & C. R. R. Co., and that the company has not paid the six months' interest on the aforesaid bonds which fell due this month. That they are of opinion that the proceeds of the road are not properly applied, the running expenses being, as they think, too large, and they therefore ask that a receiver be appointed to operate the road. The court appointed R. Koehler and A. G. Cunningham receivers to take charge of and operate the road. They are required to report to the court once a month the receipts and expenditures of the road, and the amount on hand, which they are required to deposit in the First National bank. They are required to give bonds in the sum of $75,000. The bonded indebtedness of the road amounts to $9,020,000. The monthly income is about $100,000, and the operating expenses about $70,000.—*Oregonian.*

CANADA.

A LARGE DEFICIT.

Important for Divorcees.

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 18.—It is generally believed that by the end of the present fiscal year there will be a deficit in the Dominion treasury. Three years ago the government had a surplus of over $7,000,000, which the minister of finance said would be kept up. Returns published by the government show the revenue to have fallen off during the past six months from $1,561,000 to $1,056,000, as compared with the last six months of 1883. In the face of this shrinkage of revenue expenditures were increased from $13,756,000 to $14,860,000, or nearly $1,200,000.

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 18.—The Dominion supreme court has decided an important case, involving the legality in Canada of divorces obtained in the United States. Henry Julius Fisk and Virginia Gertrude Stevens were married in New York in 1871. Mrs. Fisk had a fortune of $270,000 in cash, bonds, etc., inherited from her father. Fisk, soon after marriage, left New York for Montreal, where he commenced business as a merchant, his wife following him. In about a year she left him and went to live in Paris. Since that time she has been living in Paris and New York. In 1876 she demanded and recovered a portion of her property, which had been placed in Fisk's control in the marriage. Mrs. Fisk then applied for and the obtained in New York a decree of divorce, on the ground of adultery, and soon after commenced proceedings in Montreal to recover the balance of her property. Fisk set up in defense that the decree of divorce could not be recognized in Canadian courts, and that a wife could not sue her husband without authority. This plea was set aside and judgment rendered in Mrs. Fisk's favor. This judgment was set aside by the court of queen's bench, whereupon the case was carried to the supreme court, which reversed the decision of the queen bench court, and declared that the divorce was valid and must be recognized.

NOTE PAPER in boxes, at half price, at Hibben & Co's.

Eastern Canada Mail.

(Per Northern Pacific Railway.)

TORONTO, Jan. 11.—The Toronto gun club will probably send a team to the international pigeon shoot at the New Orleans exposition next week.

The board of trustees of Wycliffe college have accepted as a whole the scheme proposed by the minister of education for university federation.

A burglar confined in the Toronto jail to-day made his escape by opening his handcuffs by means of the key of a valise left in his possession.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 11.—D. J. Wagner, of Prince Albert, who was reported to have perished on the plains, arrived safely yesterday.

Several burglaries have taken place recently, but only a little plunder has been secured. Miller, Morse & Co.'s hardware store was broken into last night and eight revolvers taken.

The Canadian Pacific railway has opened a land depot at Calgary.

Mr. W. W. Ogilvie arrived yesterday. He says his firm has purchased two million bushels of wheat, but closed their mills because American firms could undersell him in Canada, they paying twelve cents less in Minneapolis than Winnipeg prices. The mills will reopen soon, as Minneapolis millers have advanced the prices.

Mr. Harry Dart, at one time a resident of London, and latterly editor of the Winnipeg Siftings, died at Ingersoll yesterday, of consumption.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—The Bothwell Oil Well Company at 10 o'clock yesterday morning struck salt, and that at 2 p. m. they had drilled 40 feet in solid salt, and were still going down.

ST. JOHNS, N. B., Jan. 10.—The election in Sunbury County yesterday for the vacant seat in the house of assembly was won by Mr. Glasier, government supporter. Mr. Morrow was the opposition candidate. The vacancy was caused by Mr. Glasier resigning when the previous election was contested.

HAMILTON, Jan. 12.—The Ontario Rolling Mills are at a standstill. On Saturday the iron workers quit because the company refused to grant them an increase of pay of 5 per cent. and have not yet returned to work.

SHELBORNE, Jan. 11.—Rev. John Straith died here yesterday morning at the Presbyterian manse. He was fifty-nine years of age and was a native of Aberdeenshire, Scotland. He was well known throughout Ontario, was eloquent in the pulpit, and efficient in pastoral work. He leaves a widow and a large family, most of whom have reached maturity. On the decease of the deceased in the wife of Mr. John Jamison, Presbyterian missionary of the Island of Formosa, China. The funeral will take place at Ingersoll, at 4:30 p.m. to-day.

TORONTO, Jan. 12.—It is understood that the Dominion and Manitoba governments have arrived at an agreement relative to the financial arrangements between the two which will take effect from January 1st. It is in substance that in lieu of her lands, which are held and administered as Dominion lands, the province shall receive an annual grant of $100,000 instead of $45,000 as now; and that this shall be regarded at a final settlement of the land question. In addition to this, the province is to be put in possession of all the swamp lands within her borders, instead of one-half the swamp area as heretofore.

The disappearance of G. H. Furner, the King street merchant, formerly of Hamilton, is still the topic of conversation among business men.

The G. T. ticket office, at the foot of York street, was entered by thieves last night, who made an unsuccessful attempt to burst the safe, owing to the vigilance of an upstairs occupant.

MONTREAL, Jan. 11.—In the case of Tiffin Bros., offers of 33½c and 38c in settlement, have been refused as already stated, by the creditors. A new offer of 40c on the dollar is now looked for. The Union Bank of Lower Canada is suing Joseph Tiffin for $4,275.

The failure of Lomor, Alexander & Co., phosphate merchants, is announced. The liabilities are reported heavy. The assignments has been made to Colpar, Macartie & Co., of Liverpool, and Mr. Alexander, the only registered partner being in England, it is difficult to obtain any facts. It is believed, however, that Mr. Alexander, who put some $10,000 into the business, will lose heavily. The firm own considerable property in the vicinity of Buckingham.

HALIFAX, Jan. 10.—A public meeting of the fishermen of this portion of western Nova Scotia is to be held at Barrington passage on Wednesday next to consider the advantages of a reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States, and to unite with the electors of the other counties of Nova Scotia and the chamber of commerce of Halifax in urging upon the Dominion government and parliament the importance of making proposals for such a treaty.

MERRITON, Jan. 1.—Wm. Partington, a freight hand, was knocked under two cars which were being shunted in the G. T. R. yard here this morning; his thigh was crushed and he was otherwise injured about the head, probably fatally.

HAMILTON, Jan. 11.—A crisis has been reached in the tollgate case at last. The gate was chopped down last night and thrown into the Desjardines canal. It is said the farmers on the plains, after their arrival home from the city last night, met at the township schoolhouse and there decided to take concerted action. As a result, about 50 men, well armed with axes, etc., proceeded to the disputed tollhouse about 11 o'clock, and after chopping away the gates on either side of the tollhouse they carried them to the Desjardines bridge and threw them into the canal. Judging from appearances, the party had evidently started to chop down the shed which covers the road in front of the tollhouse, but probably changed their minds and departed, leaving it in a half demolished condition, with the sides nearly all torn out and the corner posts chopped halfway through. No attempt is being made to collect toll to-day, and the people of the tollhouse are confining themselves to the back part of the house. It is hardly probable that the gates will again be hung at present, or that any effort will be made to collect tolls until action is taken by the courts.

MONTREAL, Jan. 11.—Thirty witnesses were examined at the inquest held on the remains of the late John Dube, who was so foully murdered at Terrebonne. The evidence went to show that the fearful crime was premeditated, and that a great number participated in the attack upon deceased. The jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of wilful murder against Louis Brière and Henry Emond, and against Louis Ledure and Pierre Briere as participants in the crime. The prisoners have all been committed for trial at the assizes.

Mrs. J. S. Farrell, who was knocked down on the street here and run over by a private sleigh driven at a furious rate some time since, succumbed yesterday to the severe injuries she then received. There is no clue to the owners of the sleigh, as it was driven hastily away after the accident.

The syndicate of capitalists, millers, and produce shippers here who went in some time ago for buying all the wheat they could find room for in Canada at very low prices are said to have done a most profitable stroke of business, as the prices have much advanced of late.

The directors of the Montreal and Sorel railway say the bondholders of the road in England, who have advanced only $30 0,000, upon which there is just $20,000 of interest due, will not lose a dollar, as the road has cost a million dollars, which is good security. One of its directors has advanced out of his own funds half the amount of expenditure.

Some time last November John Furie was unfortunate enough to swallow his front teeth, ever since which time they have been lodged in his throat. Monday he went to Harper Hospital, Detroit, and Tappey cut open his throat and extracted them.

The 49th congress will contain 182 democrats, 140 republicans, 1 greenback democrat and 1 greenback republican.

TRANS-ATLANTIC GOSSIP.

Pithy Sayings and Doings from Across the Ocean.

The British ironclads, Minotaur, Neptune, Sultan, Northumberland, Achilles and Agincourt are being fitted for foreign service.

The inability of the London police to discover the preperators of the recent dynamite outrages is bitterly criticised.

It seems to be understood that the Congo State will be made a monarchy, and it is believed that the assent of the powers will be obtained for the crowning of Phillipe, Count of Flanders, with the reversion of his younger son, Albert, who will be 10 years of age next April. The plan is to have the king live in Europe and govern by a deputy.

The Irish Nationalists are preparing for the next campaign with great activity and fervor and are muched pleased with the tone of their constituencies, especially in Ulster.

The German papers discover in the Duke of Camberland's intention to buy in Hanover all the furniture, hangings, &c., for his new palace at Ganunden, a deep-laid plan to acquire Hanoverian support and thus keep the Guelph claims alive in the North, and they are probably right.

The half forgotten fact that there is a king of the two Sicilies alive was recalled last week by the death in London of Marquis de Fortunato in Pall Mall Lodgings. He had lived in London ever since the Neapolitian revolution as the representative of his fallen master's fortunes, and was a great pet of the English aristocracy.

Canon Liddon is hard at work in his biography of Dr. Puse, of which great things are expected.

The project for the erection of the memorial church to Charles Reade, over which his nephew Compton Reade shall be installed as first rector, is now well under way.

Ismail Pasha, who attended an American New Year's reception in London, is described as "a dumpy little man with an enormous jowl and double chin. He now only wears a short mustache. He departed from Paris on Monday, and has high hopes of being in the Khedival palace again before another year rolls round."

A new Sunday Paper, the Age, has made its appearance in London. It is to be conducted on the constitutional principles of upholding the empire, the Queen, the Lords of Commons. Joseph Hatton is one of the leading spirits of the enterprise.

Mrs Oliphant's new novel is to bear title "A House Divided against Itself."

Mr. Burnand is writing two new burlesques, one is "Mazeppa," the other on "The Lady of Lyons."

It is probable that the sum of £1,500,000 will be devoted this year to the improvement and widening of the Strand, the most celebrated, but a narrow thoroughfare of London. The two famous old churches in the Strand, St. Mary le Strand and St. Clement Danes, which now stand on either end of the narrow part of the Strand, will probably be allowed to remain, with roadways encircling them.

Mrs Beecher Stowe is one of the many persons that are now passed in review, and she is described as a timid, quiet woman, with two carroty daughters wearing immeasurable crinolines and red cloaks,

Another novel amusement in the near future will be races with balloons, when the many machines that profess to pilot aerial navagation will be put to a public test.

A curious fight is thrown on the insane craving in France for new forms of excitement in the fact that several aristocrats of ancient lineage and great wealth have built private circuses for the exibition of their own feats and the amusements of their friends. A well-known marchioness recently delighted a whole bevy of beauty and rank by her skill with the dumb bells, and by the agility with which she jumped through the hoops, while the Duke de Rochefoucauld has established a great reputation as a performer on the trapeze.

It is said that the Conservatives intend to make a vigorous attack on the whole Gladstone administration shortly after the meeting of parliament, but they are utterly incompetent creatures that their assaults are more calculated to serve than to damage the ministry.

The season in London is picking up, and the theatres as a rule are doing good business. In Paris they are even gayer than here. "Theodora," Bernhardt's new play, is now voted a little slow, and many erudite people are criticising its archeological accuracy; but it is drawing immensely, and Sarah is held to have created the greatest role of her whole life.

In some discussions that have been going on in the newspapers on the payment of policies of assurance the fact is revealed that the widow of the hanged murderer Lamson received the full amount for which he was insured, in spite of the method of his taking off.

The young lady whom Stephen Gladstone, the prason son of the Premier, is going to marry, is barely 21 years of age, and is described as having a perfect temper and unfailing spirits.

There is much talk about the approaching marriage of Princess Beatrice with Prince Henry of Battenberg. Among everyday people nothing is heard but contempt for alliance with another poor German pensioner. The Prince is one of the handsomest men in Europe and very popular with his compatriots in Berlin, but if he had the beauty of Apollo and the brains of Solomon he would be all the same disliked here. The Princess Beatrice is a decided favorite with the public.

THE LOWENBERG SALE.—The sale of household furniture and effects of the late Ld. Lowenberg was held at the deceased's residence yesterday, and comprised some 613 articles. The attendance was large, in fact too great for the capacity of the house. Mr. Joshua Davies commenced punctually at 11 o'clock, and in his usual rapid and systematic manner had at noon disposed of 150 lots. Moving from one room to the other was with difficulty and retarded somewhat the efforts of the auctioneer. About one-half the articles had been sold, when the auctioneer announced that lunch was ready, and that a twenty minutes' recess would be given before proceeding. The presence of a number of ladies made competition keen, and satisfactory prices were obtained. The sale was over at 4:30.

Y. M. C. A.—The Ydung Men's Christian Association have secured the rooms, occupied until lately by Harris & Hargreaves, corner of Government and Bastion streets, and will furnish and move into them about the 10th February. The rooms will be opened by a book social, which means that each one, attending will bring with them one or more books, for the purpose of forming a library.

MR. ROBT. BISHOP, formerly of this city, is now a respected resident of Cornwall, England, and looks hearty and well.

FOURTH PROVINCIAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION.

THURSDAY, Jan. 22, 1884.

The speaker took the chair at 2:10 p. m.

Prayers were said by the Rev. Mr. Percival.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Cunningham presented a petition from the people of New Westminster praying for the passage of an act to deal with certain lands in that district.

Mr. Martin presented a petition asking for the building of a road.

The speaker informed the petitioner that no petition could be received for a public work, and therefore it was out of order.

Mr. Orr presented a petition for the passage of a bill allowing the construction of a railway from the South fork of the Semilkameen to connect with a point on the Canadian Pacific railway.

Three petitions presented by Mr. Martin were read, numerously signed, asking that a delay be made in the building of a bridge over the Dunsmuir river, and that it might be built at a more convenient point.

On motion the petition was received.

COAL HARBOR LANDS.

Mr. Semlin moved that a select committee be appointed to enquire into the claims of settlers on the lands proposed to be transferred by the provincial government to the Canadian Pacific Railway Syndicate; said committee to be composed of Messrs. Cunningham, Wilson, Martin, Helgesen, and the mover; and to have power to send for persons and papers, and to report to this house.

The mover said that he supposed there would be no objection to the appointment of such a committee. If these squatters had claims that were just, or if they were unjust, he thought a committee of inquiry should be appointed to inquire into the matter. Had the railway applied for a charter there would have been no necessity for such a committee of inquiry, as of course the matter would have been dealt with before the house.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said there would be no objection to such a committee. He would suggest another name to be added to the committee, that of Mr. Dunsmuir, from Nanaimo. It was rather strange that all these claims came from outside parties, and he had answered that such claims had no legality or justice. He had received no reply to his letters, but an honorable gentleman had ventilated his claim on the street. He had no objection, and would only be too glad to have such a committee of inquiry instituted.

Messrs. Dunsmuir and McTavish's names were added to the committee.

Mr. Martin having asked to be released from serving,

Mr. Wilson asked that his name, be struck from the committee, as he had also to serve on the public accounts committee. He could not see why these rights had not been presented to a court of law if they were just claims. They probably might have just claims which should come before the government. In any event a committee of enquiry would be of great benefit.

Mr. Semlin said that after listening to the honorable member from Cariboo he would be very sorry to have his name omitted from the committee.

MOTIONS.

Mr. Orr moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, that an address be presented to the lieutenant-governor, asking for the establishment of polling places at Sapperton, Port Moody, Lehmann's Landing, Moodyville, and Shannon's Clover Valley. This was rendered necessary by the increased population of the district. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Orr, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, that an order of the house be granted for a return of all papers and correspondence relating to the appointment of a resident physician at the asylum at New Westminster. The last physician had given great satisfaction and had been discharged without notice, and he thought it right that what led to his discharge should be made known.

Mr. Martin moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, that an address be presented to the lieutenant-governor asking for the establishment of a polling place at Eagle Pass landing. Carried.

PROVINCIAL LANDS.

Mr. Duck moved, seconded by Mr. Galbraith, that an order of this house be granted for a return of the land sold; showing the name of the purchaser, number of acres purchased by each person; the locality of the land; price per acre; the amount of purchase money paid in each case, from 1st January, 1883, to the 31st December, 1884; separating the period from the 1st of January to the 30th of June, 1883; the 1st July, 1883 to the 30th June, 1884; and the 1st of July to the 31st of December, 1884. The mover said that there was a large increase in the receipts for lands, and it would be interesting to know from what source they were indebted for such increase.

Mr. Theo. Davie said that he would approve of the resolution if the honorable mover would change the resolution to read a return of the crown grants issued instead of land sold. Land might be sold long before the crown grants were issued. He thought that would be the best way of getting at the information.

Mr. Duck said that he had no objection to the words "and crown grants" be added as what was desired was to get at what land was really sold during the periods mentioned.

Mr. Theo. Davie moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Orr, that the words "and crown grants" be added after "return of land sold."

Hon. Mr. Smithe said he appreciated the objections raised by the honorable member for Victoria, as it would be hard even now to furnish the information. Had the words "crown grants" been inserted instead of "sold," the matter would have been easier. More crown grants had been issued this past year than in any year previous. Land had been sold months ago, but on account of press of work, crown grants had not been yet issued. If a return of crown grants were asked for he could furnish the information. He would be very glad to make the return as fairly as possible.

Mr. Duck said that if there could be anything added to the resolution that would draw out further information for the public he would be very glad to have it added.

The amendment was put and carried.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Orr, seconded by Mr. Galbraith, that the date be changed from 31st Dec., 1884, up to Jan. 22nd, inclusive.

The amendment was put and carried and the resolution adopted.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. Theo. Davie said that he rose to a question of privilege. Hon. members would remember some couple of years ago that the member for Cassiar, Mr. Grant, had made personal remarks concerning himself, to the effect that he (Mr. Davie) had accepted a fee from the government for the prosecution of a case and also one from the prisoner for defence during his practice in the district of Cassiar. He would ask the indulgence of the house to set himself right in the matter. Although two sessions had elapsed the hon. member had not the manliness to withdraw the accusation, and he in consequence had been forced to enter an action against Mr. Grant in the courts, though he knew at the time that there was a bar against a successful issue, for members of the legislature were protected against such proceedings. However, the suit was entered and Mr. Grant had been forced to put in a statement, which he held in his hand, and with the permission of the house would read.

Mr. Grant asked that the hon. gentleman would read what was first filed before by him.

Mr. Davie—There was nothing filed. He then read the statement put in by the member for Cassiar, which is as follows:

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Between Theodore Davie, plaintiff, and John Grant, defendant.

Statement of Defence:

1. The defendant does not admit the allegations contained in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th paragraphs of the statement of claim.

2. The defendant denies the allegations contained in the 11th and 12th paragraphs of the statement of claim, and says that he did not either speak or publish the words alleged in the said last mentioned paragraphs to have been spoken and published by him.

3. The defendant says that if the said words alleged to have been spoken by him were so spoken and published by him they were spoken and published *bona fide*, without malice, and without the meanings severally and respectively alleged in the said last mentioned paragraphs, and without any defamatory meaning.

4. The defendant says that if the said words alleged in the 11th paragraph of the statement of claim were so spoken and published by him, they were so spoken and published when he was a member of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, whilst the said assembly was sitting during a debate in the said assembly, and when he was addressing the said assembly and commenting on a matter of public interest as a member of the said assembly.

Delivered the 30th day of September, 1884, by D. M. Eraser,
Langley street, Victoria, solicitor for the defendant.

Mr. Grant said that he had entered a reply denying that he had made any such injurious statement. If as alleged the hon. gentleman wished to have an investigation into the matter, let a committee be appointed to inquire into it and report to the house.

Mr. Davie asked that the hon. member for Cassiar withdraw the last paragraph from his statement in which he claimed his privilege as a member of the house. In that event he (Mr. Davie) would know what to do.

Mr. Grant—I will withdraw nothing.

Mr. Davie—No, of course you won't.

Mr. Speaker ruled the debate out of order.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. John asked that his motion be struck from the orders, which was done.

Mr. Pooley asked the Hon. Mr. Smithe "What has become of the $10,000 deposited with the government by Messrs. McNamee & Co., as a guarantee for their carrying out of their contract for building the Esquimalt graving dock?"

Hon. Mr. Smithe said that the amount having been forfeited under the contract it now forms part of the consolidated revenue of the province.

Mr. Orr asked the leader of the government, Is it the intention of the government, during the present session, to bring in a bill to amend the Constitution Act so as to give the district of New Westminster increased representation in this house?

Hon. Mr. Smithe said the matter was under consideration.

Mr. Martin asked the provincial secretary what reply, if any, has been obtained from the Dominion authorities to a resolution of this house passed on January 14th, 1884, in reference to the Indian reserves of British Columbia?

The clerk read the following letter in reply:

OTTAWA, 13th Feb., 1884.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of 31st ult., enclosing an address by the legislative assembly of British Columbia respecting the re-arrangement of Indian reserves and to state that the matter will receive due consideration.

(Signed) G. POWELL,
Under Secy. of State.

To His Honor the Lieut. Gov. of B. C.

Mr. Semlin asked the chief commissioner is the government in receipt of a petition from the people of the Yale and Lillooet Districts in favor of an appropriation for the construction of a waggon road from Lytton to Lillooet?

Hon. Mr. Smithe—Yes.

Mr. Duck asked the chief commissioner under what statutory authority did the hon. the chief commissioner of lands and works offer to give about 6,000 acres of public lands, in the vicinity of Coal Harbor and English Bay, Burrard Inlet, to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, or trustees in their behalf?

Hon. Mr. Smithe—Section 58 of the Land Act, 1884.

Mr. Duck asked the chief commissioner: have the