arries Julian B; Hara H; Johnson Isaac B; ston F K; Langley bert; Myer M H; Matthews Geo H; Maraine E (appeared by Mr ld to be informal appliobjection not being s or vexatious); Mc-askill Kenneth; Mat-Wm; Mills Walter; ro Malcolm ; Newbery ; Pattrick Thos (dead) s; Robertson Andrew Wm; Solomon Moses; treet Charles; Teague Rowland Wm : Tite legality of notice and r; vote disallowed from lification); Jessop Jno being in Government

VE COUNCIL.

truck out).

WEDNESDAY, April 4. 45 p.m. Present—The etary [presiding], Atasurer, Donald Fraser,

occupation on which

essop stated that he had nd was not in occupa-

out); Varicas Horatio EC; White Ed; Wal-

urice (copy of warrant

dered; objected to by

n allowed; further proof

was read from Mr. Thos. by of a petition said to ds of 200 inhabitants of

ng about seven-tenths rs, against the Nanaimo ege that the bill is in no ants or requirements of ing the measures sought hem as unnecessary and terests of the place and olders, that the advannot be realized, and that posed will not compenthat would be incurred

ut, they call upon the bill, when it comes beof space precludes our on.] NCORPORATION. for second reading, and

consideration of a larger

rer remarked that as the by three fourths of the n-eights of the property could not do anything people's throat against therefore move that it

months.
General said he hardly it, in the face of such a he preamble which said xpedient to incorporate of Nanaimo, etc." ial Secretary said the

agreed to defer the billact too hastily as there sent down in favor of the ien dropped.

ey General gave notice duce bills in respect of res, and Births, Deaths Corps Bill passed the

the Council adjourned mittee on the Franchise usly.

D!-The Oregon Statesch says :- A leading mert thus far this season the business transactions at of parties bound for mines. Of those who very large proportion are r Columbia mines: Very hear that Capt. White's rt for the new diggings, off at the earliest moment. ations it would seem that out equally divided be-d the Columbia, if any ad. The accessibility of ve them great advantage country, and from this r, it will not be strange if immigrants head for the

G BEND-The Dalles cor-Oregon Herald, a new Portland, writes: Large s, with their saddle and aily crossing the river at or Big Bend mines on the anagan and Kamloops, he British road from Fort twenty miles of these nd packs. This is thought than by Colville, saving as the expense, of 250

-Judge Begbie at the stminster has sentenced McGilvray, well known e, in addition to imprisprivately whipped." It would be the most effecring some scamps in this cially Indians) from vis-quently only to be provi-be food at the public for an indifferent day's

ES ECLIPSED-We see it I. L. Meason has invented tmospheric telegraph, by can be sent through the id of wires or telegraph point upon the earth or point. This sounds like so have many inventions, , have become realities.

Che Weekly British Galonist.

Tuesday, April 10, 1866. THE ATTEMPTED DISFRANCHI-

SERS. The fates dealt rather severely yesterday with the obstructives. Their stapidity was exposed in the revision court and their chicanery in the House of Assembly. In both cases their object was the same-to disfranchise the citizens of Victoria. For days and weeks they pored over the list of voters for the city, they sorutinized every name, and at length having satisfied themselves that they had the fate of one hundred and forty-eight voters in their hands, the power in fact to crush the union and tariff party, they sent their missives to the doomed electors. The political animus, however, was stronger than the political discretion. and in the haste to serve objections they lost sight of the forms prescribed by law, and thus vitiated the whole of their political labors. Yesterday when the revising court opened, the servants of the obstructives were there, receipt books in hand, ready to do the customary amount of swearing, but their blundering was exposed at the outset, and their notices fell through. The ene hundred and forty-eight voters were allowed, therefore, to breathe again. So much fer the political knowledge and astuteness of these electioneering Titans, but outside this ignorance of English law, there was something in the ruling of the revisor essentially repugnant to our ideas of right. Heretofore the revising officer, as well as the sheriff, has ruled that no change disqualifies a voter, unless the change be in the nature of the qualification, or te an amount under that prescribed by law. A change from one freehold to another, or from one leasehold to another, has always been allowed. The revising officer yesterday, however, took a different view, and we may thank the blundering of the oba structives for the prevention of a wholesale disfranchisement. Had the cases that were objected to been entertained the greater portion of the voters summoned would have been struck off the roll. The injustice of such a course would have been the more apparent from the fact that the people had been guided entirely by the precedent established by the sheriff and previous revis-

pains to re-register their qualifications. Abstractedly, however, considered the ruling of the revisor is wrong. The object of all property qualifications is to obtain a guarantee that the voter has a certain interest in the country. So long as this can be shown the most liberal interpretation should be given to the act. In a new country like Vancouver Island, where continuous residence is the exception instead of the rule, it becomes ten times more necessary to deal liberally in the matter. It is a very grave responsibility to deprive any man of his right to vote; and however anxious a few shallow pated politicasters may be to reduce the number of those who enjoy the franchise, we expect | To put such a motion as the one proposed | that they should be patented elsewhere. It the revisor to guard with extreme care the

suffrages of a community. As we have said, a similar attempt at dis-

franchising was made by the obstructives vesterday in the Assembly: When the Speaker's attention was called the other day to the fact that Mr. Franklin's seat had become vacant through a three months' absence during the session, it was suddenly discovered that a serious conflict existed between two franchise acts, and the Speaker found it necessary to consult with the Attorney General in the matter. Of course the learned gentleman could only give the one opinion, that the last act was an amendment to the first, and was the act under which the Assembly should be governed. Now according to this act, the very moment a member's absence, during the sitting of the House and without leave, reaches three months, that moment his seat is vacant and a new writ is ordered to issue immediately. To show the shallowness as well as the unscrupulous character of some of the members we here append the clause in its entirety. " Absence from the colony for three months during the session of the House, without the leave of the House for that purpose obtained, shall ipso facto determine the membership of the member absent, and a new writ for the electoral district which such absent member represented shall be immediately issued for the return of a new member in the place of such late member." We have italicized the substance of the clause, to show more clearly the false ruling of the Speaker and the stupidity as well as iniquity of those who voted yesterday against the issuing of the writ. It will be seen that the Speaker had no right to put a vote to the House, either with regard to the vacancy or the issuing of the writ. If the House had taken Drs. Trimble and Powell's view of the matter, we should have had the ridiculous sight of the members saying, by a simple vote, that a man who, according to the Act, had vacated bis seat was a member of the Assembly. On this principle every act in the Statute book could be altered at will by a vote of the House. The refusal to issue a writ is no better. The act says distinctly that a writ " shall be immediately issued," but the House

declares it shall not. Now it may not matter

full compliment of representatives or not; but it is a matter of the very gravest imports ance that the laws of the colony should be maintained, and especially by those who corporation, and giving the Mayor magismake them. If an accidental majority in the House can break one act with impunity Dr. Trimble brought up the amendment be in fact can be destroyed or set at defiance any afternoon. The result shows us how absurdities, but the greatest wickedness. It shows as also when men are doing what they know to be wrong they dread a public censure. The act of the members yesterday, after it had been acknowledged that the seat was vacant, in refusing to allow the public of Victoria to choose a member in place of Mr. Franklin, shows more forcibly than anything we can say the rottenness of their

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

to the popular voice.

position, and how much they dread an appeal

WEDNESDAY, April 4. The House met at half past one p.m. Present-The Speaker, and Messrs. DeCosmos, Carswell, Dennes, Cochrane, Dickson, Me-Clure, Pewell, Trimble, and Ash.

MR. FRANKLIN'S SEAT. Dr. Powell applied for leave of absence for Mr. Selim Franklin. He did so because he (Dr. P.) was one of those members who had been solicited to ask for leave for Mr. Franklin:

of motion. Mr. DeCosmos thought the question in connection with the seat should be settled at once, and asked the Speaker if he was pre-

The Speaker said it would require a notice

pared to give his decision as to the applica- recommittal. tion of the last act. The Speaker said he had conferred with the Attorney General, and that gentleman gave it as his opinion that the last act, making the three months' absence a vacancy in the

representation, was the act by which the House should be guided. Mr. DeCesmos contended then that the seat was vacant according to law, and moved

for the issuing of a writ. Dr. Trimble thought it very hard that an hen, member should be deprived of his seat that the seat was not vacant.

Dr. Powell thought with the last speaker. ber's absence. Besides it was tacitly agreed ing officers, and had consequently taken no declared vacant.

Dr. Trimble seconded. Mr. DeCosmos asked the hon, member on what authority he said it had been agreed that Mr. Franklin's seat should not be declared vacant. He for one never consented

to any such arrangement. Mr. M'Clure thought the two hon. gentlemen, Drs. Powell and Trimble, who proposed to retain Mr. Franklin in his seat either knew nothing of parliamentary law, or were more anxious to serve individuals than the country (hear, hear), It was simply an outrage to attempt to distranchise a constituency for no other reason than that its member was absent. Besides the Speaker could not entertain a motion so absurd; for the act distinctly declared that any member

preposterous to contemplate. Dr. Dickson agreed with the last speakerit would be virtually making a resolution of bill was premature altogether, as we were the House destroy an act. He thought it not likely to have any very important invenwas the duty of hon. members to protect the | tions made in our small population. It would rights of constituencies instead of destroying be better if the patent law could be abolished them by keeping vacancies unfilled.

Dr. Ash thought it would be wrong to attempt to retain Mr. Franklin in his seat contrary to the stipulation of the act (hear,

Mr. DeCosmos thought it a most disgraceful thing for men calling themselves lawmakers to coolly propose to break the law. He for one was determined to maintain the law so long as they had it on their statute

Drs. Powell and Trimble made some further remarks when the motion to declare the seat vacant was carried by the following

Ayes - DeCosmos, Dennes, Cochrane, Dickson, M'Clure, Ash. (6)

Noes-Carswell, Powell and Trimble. (3) It was then moved by Mr. DeCosmos that writ be issued in conformity with the act. Dr. Ash opposed, thinking the session too near its close for a new election.

Mr. M'Clure said it was the Speaker's duty to issue a writ without putting the matter to a resolution of the House; The clause in the act distinctly stated that a writ should be immediately issued on the declaration of such vacancy. If the House ruled otherwise it would be setting the act at defiance. Independent of this it was a most extraordinary proposition first to declare a seat vacant and then that it should not be

The Speaker stated that the act gave him no power to issue a writ while the House was in session without leave of the House, Mr. M'Clure contended that the clause in

question prevented the House voting on the uestion of issuing a writ. The motion was put with the following result: Ayes-DeCosmos, Dennes, Dickson and

M'Cluze. Noss-Ash, Trimble, Powell, Cochrane, Carswell.

The writ was therefore refused: Mr. DeCosmos characterized the vote as a disgrace to the House and bitterly assailed the opposite members as traitors to the interests they had sworn on entering the

House to protect. Dr. Powell called the hon. senior member the greatest traitor, whereupon
Mr. DeCosmos called the hon. gentleman

(Dr. Powell) a cur, and the Speaker amid some confusion put the motion to go into Committee of the Whole, which was carried. The House then went into Committee and much to the country whether Victoria has her | took up the

VICTORIA INCORPORATION. House in Committee on this bill, Dr. Dick-

eon in the chair.
Clause 8, placing the Police under the

they can break another; the whole statutes had previously introduced requiring the police of the town and districts to carry out the

municipal by-laws and ordinances.

Mr. M'Clure thought that the police had men, guided by no settled principle, are liable better remain as they were than that so at any time to commit not only the greatest ridiculous an amendment should pass (hear,

hear).
Da Trimble's amendment was lost by the casting vote of the chairman: Ayes-Messrs. DeCosmos, Ash, M'Clure,

Noes-Messrs. Trimble, Powell, Helmcken Carswell. The original clause was expunged by vote of 6 to 2.

Cochrane.

Dr. Trimble then introduced a resolution abolishing the Mayor's Court, and requiring the magistrate to carry out the municipa

by-laws. Messrs. M'Clure and DeCosmos stoutly opposed the resolution.

After the bill had passed the Committee Dr. Helmcken moved that the Committee report progress. This drew Mr. DeCosmos again to his feet, and with some warmth he deprecated the waste of time occasioned by the frequent motions to rise. He looked upon it as a gross violation of the pledges given by hon. members to serve the best interests of their constituents.

Dr. Dickson tock the opportunity of ex- next. pressing his views, which were entirely in tavor of municipal government.

The motion was carried, Messrs: De Cosmos Dickson, and M'Clure dissenting, and the Committee rose.

Mr. M'Clure moved the recommittal of the bill, which, on a division, resulted in a tie vote, and the Speaker gave it against the

House adjourned till Thursday at 3 p. m. THURSDAY, April 6th.

The Speaker took his seat at 3:15 p.m. Present-Messrs. DeCosmos, Trimble, Pows ell, M'Clure, Ash, Dickson, Carswell. MAGISTERIAL FEES BILL.

Dr. Dickson asked leave to introduce a bill authorizing the justices of the peace other than stipendiary magistrates to charge certain lees and to remunerate constables.

The introducer was aware that it was not because he had not had an opportunity of the practice in the old country for justices of an instance where two skillful gentlemen asking leave from the House. He maintained the peace to charge fees, but in the Eastern Provinces it was sanctioned, and he considered that in a new country like this it was It looked like taking advantage of a mem- desirable to provide a small schedule of fees to pay for such services. He read a schedule or understood by the members that Mr. provided by a Canadian act, and said before Franklia should be allowed to retain his introducing the bill he would be glad if Franklia should be allowed to retain his introducing the bill he would be glad if Progress was here reported, and the House seat. He would move that the seat be not hon, gentlemen would say plainly whether adjourned till Friday, at one p.m. they intended to oppose it or not.

Leave was granted. VICTORIA INCORPORATION. This bill came up from the Committee for

third reading.

Dr. Dickson said he objected to the bill as it stood. He thought it would be much better to have no municipal bill at all than one shorn of all power.

Mr. M'Clure moved a recommittal of the bill, which was seconded by Dr. Dickson, and lost by a vote of 4 to 2.

INVENTIONS BILL.

The bill protecting inventions came up for second reading.

Dr. Helmeken was entirely opposed to the absenting himself for three months without colony, it would be better that the colony granted to apply next month. obtaining leave from the House lost his seat. should have the benefit of inventions and would be to subject an act of the Legislature was found to work badly in the old countries Lind for a house at South Saanich. to a resolution of the House-a thing too and opened the way to all kinds of black mail, those who made the inventions were not the ones who reaped the benefit. The altogether. He thought the bill would do more harm than good.

Mr. McClure thought the hon. Speaker rather inconsistent in his remarks. He first said patent laws proved mischievous in large communities, and then said the present bill was toe premature, on account of our being a small community. The general conclusions of the hon. gentleman were, he thought, equally erroneous. So far from patent laws being things of the past, they existed at the present time in every civilized country. Throughout the United States, in the North American colonies, in England and over Europe. In England a debate had not long ago taken place on the patent law in the Social Science Congress, but so far from the Speaker's ideas being in the ascendant there the general conclusion was not to abolish the law but to make it more liberal-more, in fact, after the pattern of the United States. In the latter country the patent system was carried out to the uttermost, and what was the result? Why, mere useful inventions than could be found in any other country. The patent law was no doubt the chief cause of this extraordinary development of the inventive faculty which was to be found in the United States. To consider the matter, however, as one of justice, the man who toiled to produce something useful to mankind should reap the benefit. Without a patent law any erson could come in and claim every advantage enjoyed by the inventor, although the latter had all the toil and all the expense of bringing the invention to light.

Mr. Carswell-Perhaps some light can be thrown by the hon. Speaker on patent medicines (laughter).

Dr. Helmcken-Patent medicines mean opening medicines (laughter). I don't believe in patent medicines. I am opposed to this bill in principle, and to patent laws in men and others interested in such matters. principle. The population is too small. Such things may exist in British Columbia, but we have nothing to do with them. We are told the Social Science Congress came to the opposite conclusion to what I have done. Some time ago the House of Commons elicited a mass of evidence from which I was led to the conclusion that the patent law

worked evil instead of good.

quality, or with as much certainty as is with the madicipal opilism, by not keeping Per sohr Perrit, to Honolair, S. I.-Hidson can do so by the Government Wagon Road wished. But who is to help that? When a light burning at night front of Captain Bay Company, John Wikie and Co, Lowe Bres.

almost everything. Any person who had mixed much with them or travelled from the Atlantic to the Pacific would know that the people dis played a strong desire to discover something new. The man who labored and toiled in order to give something new to the world

wished to secure the results of his toil and study, and was willing to pay for enjoying the benefit. No wrong could be done in thus stimulating the industry of the country. Tho Hon- Speaker had himself spoken of our glorious forests and the utility and benefits that would be derived by a machine for extracting stumps (hear, from Dr. H). The thing was much wanted, and if machines were invented the discoverer should have a bounty. He could not see while the nation observed the ordinary notions of the rights of property, how they could, whether or not it opened the way to litigation, refuse to give a man the benefit of a discovery, the results of his labor. A bounty should be given by the country to any person who benefited mankind by a new invention, and a patent law was the fairest system of awarding the

Dr. Helmcken replied to the remarks of the hon. gentleman, arguing that it was impossible to tell whether an invention claimed had not been already patented elsewhere.

The bill, after some further discussion, passed through Committee with some amend ments, and was reported.

LAW OF EVIDENCE.

The bill to amend the law of evidence and to allow Indians to take an oath, came up

Dr. Helmcken said he had from the first been opposed to this bill, and he thought it would have a much more injurious than beneficial effect to allow aboriginals to make affirmations. It might lead to one or two more convictions of guilty, but many more of innocent persons.

Mr. DeCosmos said there had been a case of late in which a man bad been convicted entirely on Indian testimony, and judging from the newspaper reports it had not created a favorable impression. He would state that he for one was entirely opposed to any white man being convicted on the evidence of any aboriginal. Mr. DeCosmos pointed out the difficulty of interpreting the language, even by those skilled in it:

Dr. Helmcken coincided in the difficulty of interpreting the Indian language, which was a barbarous one, depending a good deal on intonation and gesture, and he knew of gave quite opposite translations. As regarded their veracity, it was well known that when one tribe was prompted by feelings of animosity towards another they would not adhere to truth, and could not be depended

LICENSING COURT.

[Before the Stipendiary Magistrate, John Morley, Esq. and Thomas Harris Esq.]

WHOLESALE.

Allen Phillips, for wholesale, for house on Fort street. Granted. Application for license by Joe Lovett for a house on Blanchard street. Postponed for one day to allow the Police to examine the

premises. TRANSFERS.

Albion Saloon, Johnson street-from Jeffray to Mills. Granted. Mr. Walter Miles gave notice of an appli-

cation for a license for a house on the corner bill; there was no use for a patent law in this of Fisgard and Government streets. Leave Saanich.—Postponed application of Mr. Judson's Simple Dves.

Mr. Bishop for the applicant, Mr. Copland opposed on behalf of Mr. Porter, the proprietor of a house at South Saanich. The local magistrates Messrs. Harris and Anderson. considering that a house was required in that district, the court therefore granted the ap-

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, April 5. Council met at 2:30 p.m. Present-The Hons. Chief Justice [presiding], Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Treasurer, Surveyor General, Donald Fraser, H. Rhodes.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The Hon. Attorney General introduced a bill regulating Weights and Measures, which was read the first time.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES. This bill was also read the first time.

VOLUNTEER CORPS BILL. The Council went into Committee on this bill, regulating the Volunteer force of the Colony, the Hon. Treasurer in the chair, which occupied the remainder of the session, clause 1 to 11 being passed with verbal and other trivial amendments, and the Council

adjourned until Monday. NEW PADDLE WHEELS .- The S. F. Alta gives the following description of a new paddle wheel invented by a young mechanic at the Bay City, who has applied for a patent: -The feathering of the paddles is effected by a very simple contrivance, consisting of a lever working solely by the power of gravi-tation, which locks and unlocks the buckets as the wheel revolves, each paddle working independently of the others. The invention has been tried upon a four foot model, and worked to the entire satisfaction of sompetent mechanics and scientific men who witnessed the trial. A model of the invention will be placed on exhibition at the Mechanic's

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MARY A. LEWIS,

Johnson street.

Victoria, V.I., March 27, 1866. ap2 Im