

Wednesday April 20 1870.
Ocean Mail Service.

On Wednesday last the Select Committee appointed some three weeks earlier to consider the question of our ocean mail service, reported. Few will, we imagine, read that report without feeling that the three weeks' incubation was to little purpose—that the gentlemen composing the committee must have been singularly unconscious of the importance of the subject referred to them. The report certainly possesses the merit of brevity. It reads as follows:—

Your Committee beg to report, that in view of the probability of a line of British steamers being established on the North Pacific Coast, arrangements should be made to open negotiations with any such company for placing a steamer on this line. Your Committee are further of opinion that were arrangements made with the Pacific Sound steamer to come to Victoria more frequently and remain a longer time much good would result to the colony and mail communication would be very much facilitated and improved.

Could anything well be more thoroughly indifferent? Not a word expressive of either the importance or the urgency of the matter. It is only in view of the probability of a line of British steamers being established on the Northern Pacific coast that negotiations are suggested. Not a word about the character of the steamers, the rates for freight and passage or the frequency of communication. All is slurred over in a short and slovenly sentence, just as if the whole thing were a matter of perfect indifference. In truth, if the report can be presumed to exert any influence at all it will be in the wrong direction. This is no trifling matter. We shall scarcely be expected to go over ground so often and so recently trodden in order to point out the great importance of this colony of having at once established frequent, cheap, safe and attractive communication with San Francisco. As the only means of obtaining population until the Canadian Pacific Railway shall have been completed, it is really indispensable. As the sure means of obtaining population as fast as the colony can employ and absorb it such communication would scarcely be dear at any price. Better that the colony should devote a hundred thousand dollars a year towards that object than be without it. But, as was pointed out in a previous article, there is really no reason why it should cost the colony half that sum to maintain first class fortnightly communication between here and San Francisco. Indeed there is reason for believing that tri-monthly communication could be secured without our being called upon to pay more than, say, \$35,000, the Imperial Government doing its share. Under these circumstances it is not utter folly—downright wickedness to exhibit such profound indifference? The early establishment of such communication is second in importance only to the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is no longer the California of the past, with which we seek to enjoy facile intercourse. Since the opening of the Union Pacific Railway that State has undergone a marvellous transformation, has become in a great measure assimilated to the Eastern States in point of population, commerce and labour; and all that is needed to introduce a constant stream of immigration into this colony is to tap the great current by means of such a line of steamers as we have been advocating. It will be strange indeed if, now that population has been brought to our very gate, we do not possess the energy and enterprise to reach out and take it. The wiley report of the Select Committee would appear to indicate that we have now

RECEPTION AND TRIAL OF THE DELUGE STEAM FIRE ENGINE.—Yesterday—one of the most unfavorable of the season, in point of weather—was selected for the reception of the Deluge steamer, just landed from the English bark Alpaca; but the boys in red made light of the wind, rain and dust and appeared, from the alacrity with which they manœuvred the ropes of the new machine and braved the pelting storm, as if they would wish for nothing better than an opportunity to wrestle with the fiery element. The engine was received at Dickson, Campbell & Co's wharf and, headed by the Volunteer band, was drawn to the tank at the corner of Yates and Government streets, where she was got ready for business. Mr Sweeney, engineer of the steamer Lilloet, superintending the working of the engine. Fire was started at 24 minutes to 4 o'clock. The draft was full and uncertain, owing to the gale, but in 7:56 minutes steam was generated and the whistle blown. In 8:28 minutes the pressure of steam was 25 lbs; in 10:30 minutes, 35 pounds, and in 12:55 minutes after fire had been kindled the gauge showed 37 pounds, when the gates were opened and five streams of water thrown through 100 feet of hose from one-inch nozzles over the St Nicholas flagstaff. The high wind cut off much of the streams, so that a fair test of the capacity of the engine was not obtained. Although not so showy or so highly finished as the Tiger engine, she is pronounced by competent engineers to be a fine and powerful engine and one that will give a good account of herself at any time and on short notice. The boiler, which was tested in the maker's shop to 250 lbs, in Peter's patent, the peculiarity of which is that the water is contained in the tubes while the fire plays around them; on the other hand, the boiler of the Tiger steamer admits the fire to the tubes. The Tiger Engine and Hook & Ladder Companies were largely represented in the line, the members of these two efficient companies assisting their friends of the Deluge in a most fraternal manner. After the wash a collation was given at the Deluge House, and a good time generally was had. It is probable that a trial between the Tiger and Deluge steamers will be made in a few days. The Volunteer Band rendered their services gratuitously.

ROAD TAX DELINQUENTS.—The City Council are after road tax delinquents. Yesterday Councilor Carey introduced the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted:—

Whereas, by the Road Ordinance, 1869, it is the duty of the Collector to make out a list of all persons resident and not resident, as therein mentioned; and whereas, the performance of the said duty of the said Collector has been obstructed and prevented by the agents or attorneys of such absent parties, which agents or attorneys possess the best means of ascertaining the names and addresses of the said absent parties, and which they have hitherto refused to give to the said Collector; and

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LILLOET.—A letter from this district of date of March 27th states that barley had already been sown and that ploughing would be general in about a week's time. The ice on the river was becoming rotten and creaking upon it dangerous. Mr Brady, while crossing on horseback, fell through and narrowly escaped drowning.

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EXPORTATIONS.—The schooner A. P. Jordan, Perry, will carry away \$2000 worth of lumber and shingles, shipped by W. P. Hayward, and \$13,000 worth of general merchandise, shipped by Henry Nathan Jr. & Co. The Jordan will sail to-morrow.

SALE OF A TANNERY.—J. P. Davies & Co. will sell, at 12 o'clock to-morrow, the Victoria Tannery property, situated on the Arm, together with the lease of lot and tools, engine, &c. The establishment is in complete working order.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY RACE.—A handicap, for which 22 horses are entered, will be run for the Queen's Plate on the 24th May. With so many contestants it should be an exciting race.

THE BARK HYDRA, while passing through the Narrows, in Barrard Inlet, struck a large sunken rock and lost a few sheets of copper. She will be repaired at the Inlet.

EASTER SERVICES will be held at the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches to-day.

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EX ALPACA.
Large and Fresh Additions to our Stock of
Dry Goods, Clothing, Liquors,
Groceries, &c.,
Just received and for Sale at REDUCED RATES by
HENRY NATHAN JUN'R & CO.,
Wharf Street, Victoria, V. I.

SPROAT & CO.
OFFER FOR SALE:
ALE—Bass and Allsopp in qts
POTTER—Byass in qts
BRANDY—Hennessey in cask and case, Martell in cask, Jules Robin & Co in 4 cks and oct
RUM—32 O P in puns, hds and bbls
WHISKY—Camachie in cask, Scotch
OLD TOM—Swaine, Boord & Co
GENEVA—Red and green c
FERRY—in cask and case
FORT—in cask and case
CHAMPAGNE—Cliqueot
MARASCHINO, Cherry Cordial,
ORANGE
BITTERS

LANDSBERGER & CO'S CAL WINES.
TEA—in chests and boxes, a choice selection.
CANDLES—of all qualities
SOAP
SANTAL CURRANTS
JAMS and JELLIES
BOTTLED FRUITS
PICKLES—Grosse and Blackwells
Lea & Perrins Sauce
THE SAUCE

ARROWROOT, SAGO, TAPIOCA
Cassia, Black Pepper, Pimento, Cloves
Patent Groats and Barley
Pearl Barley,
Taylor & Bros Mustard, C. Leary
Tobacco
TABLE SALT IN JARS

WHITE LEAD—Nos 1 and 2, in kegs
PAINTS IN KEGS
BOILER PLATES
PERCUSSION CAPS—Eley Bros
MILL BELTING
LAMP CHIMNIES
CORES
INDIAN MUSKETS

MADDER, PRINTS
CARPETS
HEARTH RUGS
CRIMean SHIRTS
CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS
HESSIANS
FRAGS
BURLAPS
CANVAS
TARPAULING
TENT-DUCK
SPOUTS
SPOUTS
SPOUTS

SPROAT & CO.
WHARF STREET.

Jesse Cowper.
YIELD
New Photo View

Boots & Shoes
LEATHER AND SHOE FINDINGS
At the stand of Walker & Co, is prepared to supply the wants of the public in his line.

THE LATEST STYLES
J. H. TURNER & CO.
Importers of Dry Goods
Commission Merchants,
LONDON FIRM—T. P. Tunstall & Co, 113 Bow Church Yard.

SANDWICH ISLANDS' PRODUCE
SUGAR, MOLASSES,
COFFEE, PULU, MESS BEER,
OREGON PRODUCE,
FLOUR, MIDDINGS,
CHOPPED FEED, BRAN,
HAMS, BACON, LARD, BUTTER
DRIED and GREEN APPLES,
SUNDRIES.

TEA—Choice Breakfast Congou in boxes and 1/2 chests
TEA—U. S., Geo Lei, & Co. in 1/2 chests
SUGAR—Circle A in 100lbs. and 200lbs. Barrels
VERMICELLI—Chilli, in 25lb cases
WALNUTS—Chilli, in Bags
ALMONDS—Chilli, Shelled in Bags and in Barrels
ALMONDS—Chilli, Soft Shell in Barrels
RAISINS—Layers, in Whole, 1/2 and 1/4 Boxes
WINES.
California, White, Red and Sparkling.
—FOR SALE BY—
J. Robertson Stewart.
Victoria, March 25th, 1870.

BURNS & EDWARDS
COR. YATES AND BROAD STS,
HAVE RECEIVED BY LAST STEAMER

DRY GOODS
CLOTHING
CONSISTING IN PART OF
FRENCH MERINOS
GALA TARTANS
ABERDEEN WINSEYS
Plain and Figured POPLINS
CALICOES,
TABLE DAMASK, DIAPER,
Damask Table Cloths,
Table Covers, &c. &c.

A cheap line of TWEEDS and DOB SKINS, suitable for Boys' Suits
A carefully selected invoice of M. B. N.'S CLOTHING, Long Cloth Shirts, All Wool Shirts, Crockery, China Glassware, Electro-plated Ware, Table Cutlery, &c.

HATE CONSTANTLY ON HAND,
CARPETS—Brussels, Tapestry, Kidder and Felt
OIL CLOTH—Cocoas and China Matting
DOOR MATS—Cocoa Fibre and Wool bordered
WINDOW GLASS—From 13x9 to 34x 25

WALL PAPER—12 1/2 cents a roll and upwards
PAPER LINING
Children's Carriages, Bird Cages, Looking Glasses, Mirrors, &c. &c.

SHED OATS and WHEAT CATTLECROW from Portland food last year.
HAILED OATMEAL, mixed green, not thrashed
SUNDRY HAY, dried or loose
3 YEAR OLD BUTTER, by Tom Sawyer, (Second Prize last year. Price, \$1.00.
J. D. FERRINGTON.

Responsible Government
It has already been announced in these columns that the deputations pointed by the public meeting at the Theatre Royal on Monday had an interview with His Excellency the Governor on Wednesday, the subject of securing for this Colony a Constitution based upon the principles of Responsible Government with its admission into the Dominion of Canada. It is also pretty generally known that the result of that interview was satisfactory, the Governor stating that although it was still an opinion that the introduction of a form of government would be premature, yet he had no objection to interpose if the colonists desired it, and that the question should be submitted to them at the election, along with the other subjects. We should have, in fact, been surprised had the Governor not done the vote of six out of the nine active members of the Legislative Council, backed up, as it was, by the of the aforesaid public meeting, a variety of other ways. The concession on the part of His Excellency illustrates his desire to do just demands of the people, and doubtless give very general satisfaction throughout the colony. It is the feeling of irritation, almost universal on the Mainland to the Confederation was likely to be unaccompanied by Responsible Government. That such a feeling is widespread and deep there is no doubt. Now, however, the clear, if the delegates only to the important trust reposed in them, and if the Canadian Government meet them in that liberal spirit there is every reason to expect that the future would be nothing but a British Columbia gliding gracefully down the Dominion before another month has come and gone.

Letter from Paris.
(Regular Correspondence of the Colonist.)
PARIS, March 12
The French have never had a taste for successful colonization, it is nothing astonishing in their eyes to make anything out of Algeria. A signy in 1865 informed the world that the French had a permanent source of colonies, which absorbed the money of the mother country. He Arabs afford from time to time little wars, where experience is gained in the re-assembling of the Corps of the condition of the Colony by order of the day. Like such a general, the House did not find it attractive, but nevertheless accepted the minister's promise to resign after 1848, would be represented in the Chamber—likely by three members that the future would see more of a military element in the administration of the Colony.

What gave most importance to the debate was the first blow of the given to the Senate. It is to the body that has under its special conduct of matters Algerian, and it is to reform this exclusive control of the Chamber very much. Besides, has at present a vote on the Chamber of Deputies, and such accordance with the new order still less with the wishes of the Senators are exclusively appointed Emperor, and each receives a 30,000 francs a year. It is the *valides*, for the illustrations of the Senate is now on its trial. It does not regard it as a *flotte* institution, in passing the reform from the Chamber to the People's House, its utility. Vacancies are only the death of a Senator. In the Senate is elected by the popular can be dissolved. That of France be similarly constituted.

The Decentralization Committee is its important work. It is to ascertain how far the Imperial can be relieved from mixing in the knotty point is to decide if mayors of the parish parliaments nominated by the Government, become its representative, or by vote leaving them independent.

Meanwhile the work of liberating country goes on, and the people are beginning to see that it is not to be comprehended by classes as they have hitherto done. Plans, shales on yellow fever. It is to plant freedom in the where opinion is to mobilize, and it is as a pedagogue—moving to power when the wind blows from sides, and so appearing when becomes too strict. Of two classes one does not like liberty, and the other is too much, stifles it in its love for the Cabinet to keep quiet. But the most important question is the relation with Rome were they so critical. That the soon be withdrawn is a fact, and indifference with which the pro-French Government are receiving Holiness or the Jesuitical Comaril, has touched the national quick. Day after day, special dispatches are forwarded to Rome, and no doubt dogmas of infallibility and syllables entertained, it is time for the Octo Fact. rance it is rumored v

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes entries for High, Daily, Commercial, and other categories.

Choice Dairy Butter!
166 FINKINS BUTTER.
A. DOUGLASS & CO.