

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 7.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1866.

NO. 23.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

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TERMS: For the Year, in Advance, \$10.00. For Six Months, \$6.00. For Three Months, \$3.50. Single Copies, 10 CENTS.

Subscribers in Victoria will be supplied by the carriers for 25 cents a week.

Advertisements: For one square, 10 lines, 10 cents per week. For one square, 10 lines, 10 cents per week.

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AGENTS.

John Mackin, Nanaimo. Clark & Co., New Westminster. Bernard's Express, Quesnelle, B. C. Lytton. Van Winkle, Richmond. Barkerville. Camerontown. Clinton. L. P. Fisher, San Francisco. F. Algar, Clement Lane, London. G. Street, 80 Cornhill, London.

THE NEWS.

The most important telegraphic news today is the defeat of President Johnson by Congress on the Civil Rights Bill. A few days ago we laid the case before our readers and anticipated what has taken place—a vote in the Senate of 33 to 15 against the President's veto—more than the requisite two-thirds majority. This is the most important Congressional proceeding that has taken place for many years. The Senate was densely crowded with visitors, and the debate lasted several days. The bill was to have been taken up immediately in the House, but its discussion there will not occupy much attention, as it formerly passed by the enormous majority of 111 to 38. It may be therefore safely said that the bill has passed, and that President Johnson is thoroughly beaten in the antagonistic attitude he has assumed towards Congress. The powers which are conferred by the constitution on the President are very great, but against a two-thirds vote of the Senate and the House of Representatives say in law. There is of course still the proclamation power to be used, under certain restrictions and in certain circumstances, and the President has made a very unwise use of it in the present imbroglio. He has issued a proclamation of peace in which it is stated that the insurrection in the Southern States, with the exception of Texas, is at an end. The object of this proclamation, at a time when the Civil Rights Bill was under discussion, was to take away all grounds for dealing with the Southern States in an exceptional manner. But Congress was not to be drawn away from the point at issue, and we have the Senate passing the bill as if no such proclamation had been issued. A measure so important as this Civil Rights Bill probably to many of our readers requires a little explanation. It is entitled an act to protect all persons in the United States in their civil rights and furnish means for their vindication. By the first section all persons born in the United States, and not subject to any foreign power, excluding Indians not taxed, are declared citizens. The colored population everywhere throughout the Union are to have the power to make and enforce contracts, sue and be sued, give evidence in courts, purchase, lease, sell, hold, and convey real estate and personal property, and to have full and equal benefits to all laws the same as white citizens, and to be subject to the same punishments, pains and penalties, in connection with white citizens and no voters. Another section imposes penalties upon members of the Legislature of any State who may pass laws contrary to the spirit and meaning of this act and upon judges or officers who may attempt to execute them. It will thus be seen how important is the measure which has just been passed in the Senate over the President's veto. It is the crowning work of a people desirous of getting rid of slavery for ever— anxious to avoid the possibility of another civil war—and determined to deal out even-handed justice to all classes of the population. Without some such bill, the Southern forces on the battle-field would have been defeated in vain, and the beneficent fruits of the civil war would have been irrevocably lost. The class legislation of some of the Southern States would have quickly brought into being a species of barbarity and tyranny just as bad as that which existed in the days when slavery was in the ascendant. The victory of Congress, therefore, is a victory on the side of humanity; for it puts an end to the cruel and petty despotism of one race over another. It is a victory, also, on the side of republicanism; for it destroys the power of the old slavery-loving oligarchy,

and awards to all classes of the population the same civil rights.

By our Canadian files we learn that the Confederation scheme is making good progress in the Eastern provinces. Newfoundland has given its adhesion to the scheme by a vote of nineteen to seven in the Lower House and unanimously in the Upper. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are both expected to follow the example. Vancouver Island and British Columbia are now looming up in the press of Canada as integral portions of the great confederation. "Those who look forward," says the *Toronto Globe*, "to an ultimate union of all the British North American Provinces, must feel a lively interest in the progress of the Pacific colonies, and especially in those developments which hasten the time when a union between the Provinces east of the Rocky Mountains with those on the west side will be practicable." Our Canadian contemporary then goes on to allude at some length to the recent discoveries at Big Bend, and gives the mingling results as they appeared in the press of these colonies. "What is now required," it says in conclusion, "to give an impetus to the development of the gold mines on the eastern slope of the mountains, and to make Canada and the Lower Provinces the highway to the Pacific Colonies, is the speedy settlement of the North-west question, the formation of a satisfactory union between the eastern or Atlantic colonies, and the opening up the land and water communications with the great West. With the means of reaching the head waters of the Saskatchewan rendered tolerably convenient, a mining population would soon be found firmly planted upon the eastern slope; the development of the rich agricultural lands of that country would follow, and before long, the Atlantic and Pacific Colonies would be found united in a Confederation of all the British North American Colonies."

continue to be the subject of discussion. The Conservative journals demand its rejection. Others call for amendments. The *Daily Telegraph* declares it is "growing quite clear it will become a law." The real crisis of the measure was its first appearance, which it passed through safely.

The Parliamentary oath proposed by the Government, as modified in the first two classes by Disraeli, is adopted.

Accounts from Spain state the Spaniards to be in a perfect fury at the disorders which have befallen their squadron in the Pacific, and the papers breathe vengeance against the Chileans, who fled their Covadonga from them, and drove their Admiral to commit suicide. They invoke immediate hostilities, without any regard to remonstrances either from North America, or from England, for no one has a right to interfere between them in the performance of what they believe to be their right and their duty.

MEXICAN NEWS.

New York, April 4.—Advises from the City of Mexico to March 19th say that Gen. Ortega has proclaimed himself President of the Republic by virtue of the Constitution of 1857, at the town of Cuicatlan.

Gen. Masder (Imperialist) had insisted a severe reverse upon the plains of Uruapan where, it is stated, 200 prisoners were shot in retaliation for the execution of Liberals under the recent decree of Maximilian.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The Mexican Minister has received intelligence from El Paso confirming the reported successes by the Liberals, and announcing the expectation that Juarez will establish his seat of Government at Chihuahua at once.

CANADA.

MORE FENIAN EXCITEMENTS.

CHICAGO, April 5th.—The Canadians are again in great alarm. They have reliable reports that war vessels and convoys, including two schooners loaded with cannon, are fitting out at Chicago. There are rumors that an expedition under B. Moran Killian, consisting of three steamers, with 5,500 men, has sailed from New York for New Brunswick, and another report gives Bermuda as its destination. It is believed that General Sweney designs an attack on Central Canada. An official proclamation from Colonel O'Mahony, announces the escape of James Stephens from Ireland, his arrival at Paris, and his speedy arrival in the United States to head the Fenians. Discussion is prevalent in the North-west.

TELEGRAPHIC.

By the Arrival of the California, we have files of San Francisco papers to the 7th, kindly supplied us by Purser Morton, containing Eastern news to the 6th. The following are the chief items of interest.

The Navy Department has received a despatch from Com. Rogers and his subordinate officers of the Vanderbilt, Powhatan, and Monadnock, announcing their arrival at Valparaiso, Chile. The dangers of the trip are deemed to be ended, the remainder being plain sailing. He says the powers of the Monitors have been more than equal to the voyage. It was observed that in the South Pacific's long sea the Monadnock took very little water, rising over waves easily and buoyantly.

JEFF DAVIS.

New York, April 6th.—The *Times*' Richmond correspondent says, after consulting, it has been agreed by the friends of Jeff Davis, who had proposed to sue out a writ of *habeas corpus* in his behalf, to abandon the movement, as the cause might embarrass President Johnson.

THE TEST OATH.

New York, April 6th.—The *Times*' Washington special despatch says the President will, in a few days, send a message to Congress asking a modification of the test oath, in order to enable the Government to appoint revenue officers in the South. Col. A. A. Markland has been appointed Special Mail Agent for the Pacific coast.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEACE PROCLAMATION.

I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the insurrection which has heretofore existed in the States of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida and Texas is at an end, and henceforth to be so regarded.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord 1866, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 90th.

ANDREW JOHNSON, President of the United States. W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO.

The Civil Rights Bill was carried in the Senate over the President's veto by 33 to 15, amid great rejoicing.

EUROPEAN.

The San Francisco papers contain the following additional European telegrams:

The Reform bill was explained in the House of Commons by Mr. Gladstone on the 12th. The main features of the bill are, a reduction of qualifications of county voters from £50 to £14 occupancy, and for boroughs to £7 rental, and to lodgers paying £10 or upward for apartments. The measure adds about 4,000,000 to the number of voters. The bill deals only with franchise, leaving the redistribution of representation for another session.

After many speeches for and against the proposal, Mr. Bright expressing satisfaction with it, the bill was read the first time.

The Liberal journals generally approve the measure, although it hardly comes up to their wishes. The chances of the bill

continue to be the subject of discussion.

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EUROPEAN NEWS SUMMARY.

DATES TO FEBRUARY 24th.

The Bishop of Oxford has recommended the clergy of his diocese to set apart a day of fasting and humiliation during Lent on account of the cattle plague.

The usual Easter Monday review of the South of England Volunteers is to be held this year at Brighton.

Mr. David Munro, the Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives, has been knighted.

The Lords of the admiralty have resolved that lads under 18 years of age shall not in future be subjected to the terrible punishment of flogging.

Retaining a reserve fund to meet outstanding liabilities of £4,000, the committee of the late Dublin Exhibition state their net profits to amount to £10,000.

The *Sunday Gazette* says that Mr. Layard has been appointed to the vacant Trusteeship of the National Gallery.

The number of wrecks reported last week was 43, which makes the total for the present year 136.

The Earl of Kinross died at Torquay, on the 18th, in his 81st year. He is succeeded in the title and estate by his son, Lord Dupplin.

The Bishop of Ely has recommended his clergy to invite their parishioners to set apart a day of humiliation early next month on account of the cattle plague.

The Royal English Opera, Covent-garden, London, was suddenly closed on the 17th, owing to pecuniary difficulties.

Mr. Adams, the American Minister in London, will not yet quit his post. His Government have requested him to remain longer, on the ground most honorable to him,—that they cannot spare him.

A telegram states that inquiries are general in ports of Spain for foreign vessels, as Spanish ship owners object to the risk of encountering Chilean cruisers.

The 29th of June, 1867, will be the 1800th anniversary of St. Peter's death. On that occasion the Pope is to convoke all the bishops of Christendom to Rome, where a grand jubilee will be celebrated.

Advices from Copenhagen state that the young King of Greece is expected shortly in that city, and will remain there about three months. In the interval a regency will take charge of the Government.

Intelligence from Copenhagen states that the marriage between the Princess Dagmar and the Hereditary Grand Duke of Russia is determined upon, and that the ceremony will take place in April, on the anniversary of the birth of King Christian IX.

The Spanish squadron in the Pacific will, says a Madrid journal, soon be increased to two armor clad frigates, eight screw frigates of from 40 to 50 guns each, five transports, and seven screw sloops of great power.

A balloon train, to ply between the Place de la Concorde and the Champs de Mars, is spoken of as one of the schemes to be tried during the great gathering in Paris next year.

The cholera still prevails in Southern Russia, where the mildness of the winter has produced a great deal of illness. At Moscow there have been so many cases of typhoid fever lately that the hospitals are quite full.

Petitions have been presented against the return of seventy-one members of the House of Commons. The Conservatives petition against forty-one Liberal seats. The Liberals oppose twenty-five Conservative returns, and there are five contests between Radicals and the sitting Liberal members.

It is understood that upwards of £300,000 have been privately subscribed for the Atlantic Telegraph Company, and an appeal will probably be made to the public for £250,000, to complete the manufacture of new cables, with a view to another attempt at submerging them during the present season.

William Read, one of the heroes of Trafalgar, has just died at Waltham. Read was captain's consort and captain of the masted on board the *Agamemnon*, and was in that ship at the battle of Trafalgar, when the gallant Nelson fell, and he remembered seeing Captain Berry leave the ship to go aboard the *Victory* to see the dying hero in his last moments.

Credit is taken for the *Empress Eugenie* for not having been present at General Fleury's party when Theresa sang. The heroine of the *Aleazar* now finds the best salons open to her, and in the fashionable prints her movements are chronicled as carefully and respectfully as those of Mdlle. Patti, or any of the great musical artists.

The death is announced of Mr. Andrew Spottiswoode, lately the head of the house of Eyre and Spottiswoode, Queen's printers. He was M. P. for Colchester for a short time in 1831 as a Tory, but was unseated as holding a Government contract. He succeeded his uncle, Mr. Andrew Strahan, as Queen's printer in the same year.

The *Morning Herald* makes the following statement: "It is rumored in Parliamentary circles that Sir Hugh Rose has demanded further instructions from the Government with regard to his duty in Ireland. Sir Hugh says that he has the example of Governor Eyre before his eyes; that he knows how to put down a rebellion, but that he cannot act without further orders."

Queen Victoria is gradually returning to public life. She will hold during the season, at Buckingham Palace, five courts for the reception of a certain number of ladies and gentlemen—each reception being limited to two hundred and fifty, to avoid fatigue.

Messages were presented in both houses of Parliament from the Queen, on the 20th, stating that provision had been made for the Princess Helena on her marriage, and Prince Alfred on his coming of age.

The Peruvian iron-clad corvette *Independencia*, which has been so long watched in the Scheldt at Antwerp, was allowed to put to sea on the 19th of February.

The London *News* makes the announcement that Generals Grant and Sherman will visit England in May next.

Prince Alfred is gazetted to the rank of captain in the royal navy.

In the House of Commons on the 22nd, Mr. Gladstone, in some appropriate remarks, proposed the granting of an annuity of six thousand pounds, and a dowry of thirty thousand pounds to the Princess Helena, upon her marriage, and an allowance of fifteen thousand pounds a year to Prince Alfred, the Queen's second son. Both propositions were agreed to.

Another proposal made by Mr. Gladstone was that a monument to Lord Palmerston should be erected in Westminster Abbey at the expense of the nation. Mr. Gladstone pronounced an eloquent and glowing eulogy on the late Premier. Mr. Disraeli seconded the motion, and also passed a short eulogium on the late minister. The motion was agreed to.

The bill to reorganize the government of Jamaica was passed to a second reading.

In the House of Commons on the 23rd Mr. Gladstone, in reply to Mr. Baxter, said that no communication had taken place with the United States regarding the propriety of sending a joint squadron to the coast of Cuba, for the purpose of preventing the importation of slaves into that island. There were communications between the two governments in 1864, with respect to the expediency of sending a small American squadron to the African coast, but the United States government expressed a wish that the vessels employed in the service should be released from the operations of the restrictions placed on the United States cruisers generally under the neutrality obligations. Her Majesty's government were prepared to assent to that proposal, on condition that the vessels so released should be employed exclusively in suppressing the slave trade; but the United States government declined to accede to that condition, and her Majesty's government being unable to waive it, no arrangement was come to.

The London *Shipping Gazette*, of February 20th, says "letters from Dublin, state that although the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* has taken the whole population by surprise, no persons were so much astonished at the proceedings of Saturday as the Americans who have infested Dublin for some weeks past. The

number of persons in custody appears to have been exaggerated. It was previously stated at two hundred and fifty, but later and more trustworthy advices from the Irish Capital affirm that there are one hundred and thirty under arrest.

In many cases the prisoners protested that they were mere victims of suspicion, and abjured Fenianism with considerable energy. Many more stood on their dignity and gravely cautioned their captors that the American citizen was not to be trifled with, and the President would exact a terrible revenge. Neither persuasion, expostulation, nor threats, saved the suspected. The news spread with extraordinary rapidity, and those fortunate strangers whose names were not on the list, or whose lodgings were unknown to the police, remained in cover until nightfall, when an unusual number of cabs were seen driving along the North Wall. The muffled passengers stopped nowhere, passed all their usual haunts, asked no questions, carried no luggage, and made all speed on board the Liverpool steamers. Fortunately for them, the police interposed no hindrance, and as the departing excursionists had suddenly forgotten their own rank and dignity, they did not receive any ovation from the crowd that looked on. Another detachment of Federal officers fled by the mail train to Cork, and these, in all probability, have already sailed by the Cunard steamer. But beyond doubt many are still secreted in Dublin, and i ever there is to be an outbreak, the suspension of the act must precipitate the action of the Fenian leaders.

According to one account no fewer than from 1,400 to 1,500 American officers took their departure on Saturday night by the Liverpool steamer. As the the Irish population forms a very strong proportion of the inhabitants of Liverpool, a good deal of uneasiness was created by this sudden and unexpected irruption.

The London *Times*, of February 19th, says there is reason for believing that small arms, of spurious manufacture, have been sold in extraordinary numbers by a firm in the city of London, and that a fresh consignment has been made to them. There is no question but that they have disposed of as many as eight thousand muskets of the kind mentioned, and have in their possession three thousand more barrels, supposed to be of American manufacture, and to have been originally fabricated for the Confederate service during the American civil war; but that is only conjecture.

The *Moniteur*, of February 16th, says that private letters from Rome to the 14th instant, announce the official rupture of relations of Prussia with the Pontifical Government. Cardinal Antonelli is said to have received a note from Prince Gortzhakoff, who refuses to disavow the language uttered by Baron De Neudorff in an audience he had with the Holy Father on the occasion of the Christmas festivities. Russia will merely retain an unrecognized agent at Rome.

It is stated that the advanced liberals in the Prussian Chambers had resolved to call on the government to withdraw a letter addressed to the Chamber by Count von Bismark, otherwise they will decline to discuss any future bills presented by the government.

Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department, in asking leave to bring in a bill suspending the Habeas Corpus act in Ireland, at a special meeting of Parliament held on the 17th, said that the Fenian conspiracy had only recently assumed its recent proportions. It was necessary to strike an effective blow at the Fenian schemes, which were wholly disconcerted by the American government. The loyalty of the British army was beyond a doubt. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland earnestly requested the suspension of the act, saying that he could not hold himself responsible for the safety of the country if power were withheld from him.

Mr. Disraeli, leader of the Opposition, concurred in the remarks of Sir George Grey. Mr. Bright protested against the suspension of the act, but said he would not oppose the government. Leave was then given to suspend the Habeas Corpus act in Ireland by a vote of 364 to 6. The bill was then passed through all the stages and sent to the House of Lords, who likewise passed it without opposition. The royal assent was given to the measure at eleven o'clock the same night.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF BIG BEND.

The Toronto *Globe* of March 9th contains a long and favorable article on the Big Bend Digging. The San Francisco journals continue to give the reports from these mines a conspicuous place, and from passengers who arrived yesterday by the California, we gather that they were creating considerable excitement in California. Owing to the cheap rates of fare down to Portland and other causes, many preferred taking the more circuitous and in the end more expensive and tedious route up the Columbia River. Nevertheless the succeeding boats to this port will, it is thought, bring a good number of passengers.

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STATEMENT OF DIS- MPLED FROM OFFI- ORITIES.

Vancouver Island.

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VICTORIA, V. I.

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FOR THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—At the establishment of Mr. J. Heywood, on Yates street, may be seen four splendid hams, cured by him, from pigs raised by Mr. Deeks, of Spanish, and Mr. Rowland, of Burnside, and intended to be sent to the Paris Exhibition. Two of the hams weigh 55 lbs. each, and the other two 45 lbs. each, all being in magnificent order. Mr. Heywood, after a life experience in Yorkshire and the United States, says he has never seen four finer specimens turned out of any establishment.

THE RAID ON THE INDIAN RESERVE.—Yesterday, in the police court, a quantity of tools, bed linen, clothing and other articles, seized by the police in their late raid on the Skidgate camp, were produced, and three Indians named Ehin, So, Johnny, and Tom, were charged by officer Taylor with being in possession of the goods, knowing them to be stolen. The prisoners were remanded for one day, when the police expect to secure others belonging to the gang. The stolen articles were recognized as having been taken from the premises of Messrs. Trahey, Glover and others.

SWISSARTION.—Mrs. Harris is kindly making a collection for the relief of Mrs. Beayes, whose husband recently proceeded to Australia, leaving her in a helpless condition, destitute of means and friends. The Amateur Dramatic Society have headed the list by a donation from their benevolent fund of \$21.

ISLAND HOTEL ROBBERY.—George, the Thompson River Indian was charged by officer Taylor with having stolen some sheets, counterpane, clothing and other articles from the premises of Anthony Glover on Government street. Mr. Glover related the circumstances of the two robberies and the capture of the prisoner, which have already been published. He identified some of the stolen goods produced in Court seized by the Police on the Reserve as having been missed on both occasions. Mr. Pemberton remanded the prisoner for further enquiry, as it looked like an organization in which white men or Chinamen were concerned. Mr. Welch said he was already exhausted and were not strong enough to be the affiant. Mr. Pemberton remanded the prisoner for three days.

COPPER FROM ALBERNI.—The schooner Gazelle, which arrived on Wednesday morning as we were going to press, was from the Alberni Copper mine, on the west coast and not from Queen Charlotte Island. She brought back Mr. Lange and several miners, and some twelve bags of very good looking ore. The working party had got down with their shaft 60 feet and struck a rich looking vein about four feet thick. This bids fair to be one of the most successful mines on the Island.

CORRECTION.—In our report of the proceedings of the Legislative Council on Tuesday, the compositor made the Hon. Chief Justice say that he did not look upon the adoption of a foreign standard of weights in this colony as a material question. It should have read national question. The Chief Justice's views on the subject were liberal and sensible.

FROM NANAIMO.—From a person who arrived yesterday from the above port, we learn that the bark Carotta, Capt. Harrington, had arrived, 13 days from San Francisco. The petition in favor of the Corporation Bill received 100 signatures on the first day. The attempt to have a funeral service over the bill was a failure, none but washes participated in it, and the laugh was turned on the originators of the intended joke.

H.M.S. SPARROWHAWK resorted Esquimalt from New Westminster yesterday at 6 p.m., having Governor Kennedy and family, with Lieutenant Cooper on board. The Sparrowhawk made good time from Fraser River, and the Enterprise could not get away from her.

SPARRING EXHIBITIONS.—George Baker, the "Canadian Pet," who recently made such a good stand against Eden in the prize fight, accompanied by his pupil, Sam Walker, intends giving a few sparring exhibitions shortly on his way to Cariboo.

EDITORIAL CHANGE.—Mr. J. W. Dissette, late editor of the Chronicle, will, we understand, proceed to Big Bend on Friday next. We learn that Mr. J. K. Suter is at present assisting in the editorial department of that journal.

HANDS FULL.—The Legislative Council have at present twenty-two bills before them for consideration. The Colonial eggs will undergo nine months' hatching again this year if the Council do not expedite business.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY did not meet yesterday, the Clerk of the House being ill. The members who attended, were the Speaker, and Messrs. Tolmie, Powell, McClure, Ash, and Carswell.

THE BARK DOMINGA cleared on the 6th instant at San Francisco with 35 passengers for Realito, Central America.

"NITTLE NELL" appeared in song and dance on Friday evening at the New Westminster theatre and was well received.

"BRITISH COLUMBIA TAVERN."—The first number of this journal published at Yale, was to appear on Monday last.

FAIR.—The two arrivals yesterday from Portland brought 400 boxes of apples to this market.

SECURE YOUR PREMISES.—The Stipendiary Magistrate yesterday requested the reporters of the Press to caution the public to be more watchful of the security of their premises than heretofore. At this season of the year particularly, when Indians are leaving for their homes, they are prone to make a raid at somebody's expense. Numerous robberies had occurred of late, some of which exhibited the greatest carelessness in the occupiers of houses. The Police force had been reduced, and perhaps it was not advisable under the present state of the colony that it should be increased, but the least the inhabitants could do would be to protect themselves as far as they could. In outside residences beyond the reach of the police this was especially necessary. He (Mr. Pemberton) took the precaution to have bells attached to the doors and windows of his own residence, and he might mention that just before the robbery of Mr. J. D. Pemberton's house, he heard his window bells ring, and on descending with a revolver no one was to be seen. They had taken alarm and flown. Where these precautions were not observed a terror or watch dog should be kept. The interests of society and the colony generally demanded more care as the place would become the abode of a horde of these characters if these frequent robberies were not checked. Mr. Pemberton recalled some of the performances of two former desperadoes, Burns and Brockie Jaek who required the united efforts of the whole powerful police to deal with them, and the inhabitants would find such characters among them again if they did not take care. He believed white men were at the back of all these robberies and shared in the plunder.

AT WORK AGAIN.—The announcement of the suspension of the enterprising firm of Spratt & Kremler, of the Albion Foundry, a day or two since, caused considerable uneasiness in business circles, and with good reason. The stoppage of the principal manufacturing establishment on the Island employing a number of workmen would, indeed, be a serious public calamity, setting aside the fact that by the excellence of their work the industries and deserving proprietors had acquired the confidence not only of the people of these colonies but of our American neighbors, and for the last two or three years have supplied a desideratum much felt hereabouts. We are happy, however, to announce that the difficulties were only of a temporary nature, and arrangements having been made to enable them to continue operations, the familiar foundry whistle will be heard as usual.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.—George Baker, the "Canadian Pet," accepts, as will be seen by a notice elsewhere, the challenge of Joe Eden to fight him for \$2500 and gives Joe the option of fighting for \$100 or \$200 within two days. He further stipulates that he will agree to fight Eden, if he chooses, in the fall. The stakes to be stamante deposited in the Bank. Joe has thrown down the gauntlet but his late opponent is apparently equally game and ready for business. We think the parties would display more wisdom if they remained satisfied with their recent plucky encounter and refrained from stirring up ill-feeling.

DEATH AT THE FEMALE INFIRMARY.—Mrs. Hatch, who has for some time past been a patient at the above institution, expired suddenly yesterday morning, after partaking of some breakfast. She had been previously in a very low condition, but previous to her death appeared to rally. Dr. Davis was in attendance on her. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that death was caused by the bursting of an abscess in the brain.

THE SHERIFF'S LAND SALES.—Great complaints are made at the mismanagement in the publication of the Government Gazette containing the returns of land sold by the Sheriff for arrears of taxes. It appears that only 113 copies were struck off, out of which the Government received 100 copies and the consequence is that the numerous parties interested who have applied for copies have been disappointed.

COUNT OUT.—There was another count out at the House of Assembly yesterday, the only members present being the Speaker and Messrs. Dickson and McClure. Messrs. Duncan and Carswell arrived subsequently.

THE NEWS FROM BIG BEND, published yesterday, had a most reassuring effect on the community, and caused those who were wavering to make up their minds to be off at the first convenient opportunity.

THE WRITS.—We learn that the writs for the election of members to serve in the Assembly for the City of Victoria and Town of Esquimalt will be forthwith issued.

ON A SURVEYING CRUISE.—H.M. Surveying steamer Beaver, Lt. Comdr. Pender, is now ready to proceed on her surveying cruise to the North.

BOARD OF DELEGATES.—Mr. Saml. Kelly has been chosen President of the Board of Delegates of the Fire Department, vice Mr. Chas. Gowen, resigned.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise will leave for the above port at 10 a.m. to-day.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—No family should be without these pills. Their long-tried efficacy in removing indigestion, stimulating the bowels, and purifying the blood, have secured them an imperishable praise throughout the globe. Whatever the disease, a few doses will relieve the more urgent symptoms and thereafter completely control all disordered action, rouse the torpid liver, enlarge the congested spleen, cleanse the obstructed kidneys, stimulate the food, improve the blood, and thereby vigorize the system and restore a healthy and regular course of nature. In cases of indigestion, dimness of vision, mental and physical lassitude, these restorative Pills act as a charm. They expel rheumatic and gout, while they infallibly correct female complaints in young and old, delicate and robust.

THEATRE.—The entertainment given by the Alert Amateur Club last night, under the patronage of Capt. Innes and the officers of the ship was not as well patronized by the citizens of Victoria as it deserved to be. The performers had evidently taken considerable pains in rehearsing and preparing their pieces for the boards, and there was a marked absence of those hitches common to amateur theatricals. The fine Scotch tragedy of Douglas, was repeated with considerable success. Critics might take occasional exception to the enunciation of the author's language, but we do not look for refined elocution from amateurs, and what the company lacked in that respect they more than supplied in a perfect retention of their parts and every creditable acting. Glenavob (King), Old Norval (Ellis), Lord Randolph (Rooke), Douglas (Kegan), and Lady Randolph (Dixon), were really well represented, and the minor parts respectively represented. Dixon don't the petticoats and walks the stage with all the ease and dignity of a full grown matron. The vocal interlude bridge set to a capital song, "Let me kiss him for his meeker," by Ellis, and "Maggie and my Side," by Miller, were loudly applauded, but the comic songs of "Polly Perkins," by King, and "Kitty O'Shanghnessy," by Kegan, brought down the house. In the amusing farce of "Which shall I marry," Naimen Tite, a blacksmith (Ellis), and Alanzo Skipjack, a young gent (Kegan), and Mary Moo, a bouncing milkmaid (Honey), occasioned much fun and sent the audience home in the best of humor.

ALL DISORDERS AFFECTING THE LIVER, STOMACH AND BOWELS.

Whenever the stomach, liver, or bowels are disordered by high living, climate, over-indulgence, or any other cause, these fine regulative Pills will soon rectify the disorder, and bring back energy, strength, and cheerfulness to the frame where previously all was lassitude, gloom, and dejection.

Despondency, Low Spirits.

The misery occasioned by a disordered digestion is unfortunately felt by most. These famous Pills immediately rectify the disorder, and adjust the disturbed functions, which dispel headache, biliousness, nausea, lowness of spirits, and all similar ailments. A course of these invaluable purifying Pills never fails in removing the cause of all disorders, without subjecting the sufferer to any inconvenience.

Influenza, Diphtheria, Bronchitis, Coughs, and Colds.

In our changeable climate, few persons escape without colds, sore throats, influenza, diphtheria, or bronchitis, for all of which these famous regulative Pills may be taken with the certainty of effecting a cure. While the Pills are expelling all impurities from the body generally, Holloway's Ointment should be well rubbed upon the chest and throat; it will penetrate the skin, reduce inflammation, and restore lasting soundness.

Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases:

- Ague
- Biliousness
- Blotches on the Face
- Bowels Costive
- Constipation
- Consumption
- Debilty
- Dyspepsia
- Female Complaints
- Fever of all kinds
- General Debility
- Hemorrhoids
- Indigestion
- Inflammation of the Liver
- Jaundice
- Liver Complaints
- Lumbago
- Piles
- Rheumatism
- Sore Throat
- Sore Eyes
- Sore Glands
- Sore Gravel
- Sore Gums
- Sore Nipples
- Sore Testicles
- Sore Uterus
- Sore Vagina
- Sore Wounds
- Sore Ulcers
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- Sore Gravel
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- Sore Vagina
- Sore Wounds
- Sore Ulcers

Sold at the establishment of PROSSER, HOLLOWAY, 24 Strand near Temple Bar, London; also by all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicines throughout the civilized world at the following prices:—1s. 12d.; 2s. 6d.; 5s. 6d.; 10s. 6d.; 20s. 6d. each box. Sent by post on receipt of the price.

N.B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each box.

THE ROAD TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS FOR PURIFYING THE BLOOD.

Impurities of the Blood.

It is the most appropriate medicine for a particular ailment, there may be some difficulty in one can be found to purify, regulate, and improve the quality of the blood. These Pills possess and exert these three qualifications in an extraordinary degree. They enable the stomach to digest ordinary food, increase the secretory powers of the liver, cleanse and purify the blood, expel all morbid matter, and throw into circulation the purest elements for sustaining an energetic frame.

How many persons suffer from debility without knowing the cause why they are feeble? In many cases the stomach is the aggressor. Holloway's Pills have long been famed for regulating a disordered stomach, and restoring its healthy digestion; they are therefore constantly recommended, as a never-failing remedy, in all cases where the constitution, from any cause, has become impaired or weakened.

Diseases of the Head and Heart.

These formidable diseases are, unfortunately, of frequent occurrence; for the most part they creep on gradually, but may be prevented by proper precaution. Holloway's Pills are the surest preservatives against all disordered actions of the brain and are the speediest correctors of irregular circulation. If they be taken without delay when tingling in the limbs, drowsiness, or giddiness comes on, the effect will be marvelous.

Females of all Ages and Classes.

The fame of these Pills is partly based upon the beneficial effects they have upon the constitution of females. From the domestic avocations to the press, universal favour is accorded to them for their invigorating and purifying properties, which render them so safe and invaluable to the female sex. Obstructions of every kind, either in young persons entering into womanhood or approaching the turn of life—the most critical period—may be radically removed by recourse to these Pills.

All Disorders affecting the Liver, Stomach and Bowels.

Whenever the stomach, liver, or bowels are disordered by high living, climate, over-indulgence, or any other cause, these fine regulative Pills will soon rectify the disorder, and bring back energy, strength, and cheerfulness to the frame where previously all was lassitude, gloom, and dejection.

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N.B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each box.

AMMUNITION.

TARGET

Representing average shooting at 100 yards, with

ELEY'S

AMMUNITION

of every description for

Sporting or Military Purposes,

Double- Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Additions to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges for Billiard Game, &c., all long distance, "Breath Loading" Cartridges, Deane's superior quality for Shot Guns and Rifles, Pic Cartridges for "Lefauchaux" Revolvers of 7, 9, and 12 millimetres.

Jacob's Rifle Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colts', Deane's, Trautner's, Adams', and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield Rifles, also for Westley, Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Mont Storm's, &c., and other breech-loaders.

Bullets of uniform weight made by compression from soft refined Lead.

Mechanically fitted projectiles for Rigby's and Wadsworth's "Henry's" Rifles.

ELEY BROTHERS,

Gray's-Inn-Rd., London, W.O.

Wholesale Only.

The Most Popular Book

PIANOFORTE INSTRUCTION

Richardson's New Method.

Having a regular sale of

Twenty-five Thousand Copies a Year

It is superior in excellence to all other "Methods" and THE BOOK THE KEY TO THE PIANO-FORTE. It is the most complete and thorough system of Pianoforte playing, it is adapted to ALL GRADES OF TUITION, from the Rudiments of the Youngest, to the Studies and Exercises of Advanced Pupils. Two editions are published, one adapted to American and Foreign Fingering, when the work is ordered, if the preference is denominated, the edition with American Fingering will be sent.

Be sure that in ordering if you are particular in specifying the "New Method." Price \$3 75. Mail, post-paid.

OLIVER, DITSON & CO.,

277 Washington Street, Boston.

FOR SALE AT

HIBBEN & CARSWELL'S AND WAIT'S BOOKSTORES.

59 Mile House, Cariboo.

SAUL & CO'S

Lochlomond House.

First-Class Liquors, &c.

CALL AND SEE US.

SAUL & CO.

Dinnford's Fluid Magnesia

As the great remedy for

Acidity of Stomach, Headache

Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour

Eruptions and Bilious Affections

It is the Physician's cure for

HEUMATIC GOUT, GRAVEL, and other complaints of the Bladder, and in cases of Fever, and Febrile Irritability of Skin

It produces grateful cooling effects. As a safe and gentle medicine for the relief of Pregnancy, Dinnford's Magnesia is indispensable, and when taken with the Acidulated Lemon Syrup forms a

Delightful Effervescent Saline & Aperient.

Prepared by

DINNFORD & CO.,

CHEMISTS, LONDON.

And Sold by Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the World.

CAUTION.—ASK FOR DINNFORD'S MAGNESIA, and see that

"Dinnford & Co." is on every bottle and label.

W. M. Searby, Agent for Vancouver Island.

THE FAMILY WASHING

May be speedily accomplished, to the great delight of the Housewife, by using Harper's "Glycerine Soap Powder."

"Glycerine Soap Powder."

A Clergyman's wife says, "one half of Soap's suds is saved, two-thirds of time, and three-fourths of labor."

Sold in Penny Packets by all Storekeepers, and Wholesale by Harper, Twycroft & Co., Bromley-by-Bow, London.

Wholesale Agents for Vancouver Island, MESSRS. JANION, GREEN, & RHODES.

Any One can use Them.

A basin of water is all that is required to produce the most brilliant and fashionable colours on Silks, Woolens, Cottons, Ribbons, &c., in ten minutes, by the use of

Judson's Simple Dyes.

Ten colours, Price 6d. per bottle, and 12 per dozen.

These Dyes will also be found useful for impregnating Feathers, Furs, Grasses, Seaweed, Ivory, Bone, Wood, Willow Shavings, &c.

For

Painting Photographs, and for Illuminating.

May be had of all chemists throughout the United Kingdom and British Colonies.

Wholesale DEPOT—14, Coleman St., London.

Agents for VICTORIA, N.B.

ENGLAND.

The telegrams from England

publish this morning touch upon

which may deeply affect the fate

two colonies. We are told that the

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The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, April 17, 1866.

THE GREAT QUESTION IN ENGLAND.

The telegrams from England which we publish this morning touch upon a subject which may deeply affect the fate of these two colonies. We are told that Earl Grosvenor's amendment to the second reading of the Reform Bill will be made the test of the Ministry, or in other words that it will be accepted as a motion of want of confidence in the Government, and Gladstone's firm and defiant attitude leaves no room to doubt the determination of the Ministry to stand or fall on the question. If the Ministry be beaten, however, the union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia will be jeopardized. Certain it is, no change in the political condition of either colony will be made the present year. It is needless to discuss the effect of such a calamity on the Island, as well on the mainland. Wholesale depopulation could be the only result.

The motion of Earl Grosvenor is well characterized by some of the London journals as an insidious one. It does not take the manly stand and say that reform is inexpedient, but that it is inexpedient to discuss the bill until the whole scheme which the Government has in view shall have been laid before the House. The Government finds it, no doubt, impracticable to deal with the whole scheme in one bill or at one time, and therefore confines its action in the present measure to England and Wales; but Earl Grosvenor and Lord Stanley, with the Conservative phalanx no doubt at their back, take advantage of the difficulty, and without giving any opinion pro or con, on reform, desire to kill the bill on the pretext that it is only a part of a general system; and should therefore be postponed until that general system shall have been introduced. The proposition is virtually what Gladstone implies it is—a want of confidence in the Government; for, if the proposers had confidence in the Ministry they could vote on the merits of the reform measure at present before the House, and trust to the Government to bring in the completion of the scheme. That there is a coalition between the Conservatives and some of the "liberal Liberals," if we may be allowed to use the expression, there seems very little doubt; and it will in all probability be a hard fight for the Ministerial side of the House to hold its own. There is one great advantage, however, in favor of the Government. It has within its hand the power to precipitate any other dissolution. That power, just now is worth in itself a great many votes; for there are few men in the House of Commons who like at any time to run the risk and undergo the toil, trouble and expense of an election, and immediately after a general election, the disinclination to face the constituencies is intensified. Many members have spent large sums to get returned, and now when they have just entered into Parliamentary business to be compelled again to go before the "free and independent electors," is a prospect that must strike them with dismay. To this class, whether Conservative or Liberal, the fear of a dissolution will have a marked influence, and the Ministry will find supporters where in less critical times they would be certain to meet enemies.

We have gone on the supposition that Earl Russell if defeated will ask Her Majesty to dissolve the House rather than hand in his resignation, and we think the supposition a correct one. At the late general election the reform question did not enter much into the contest, for the simple reason that Lord Palmerston's Government declined submitting any scheme or making reform a test question; the present Ministry will, therefore, have good grounds in asking for a dissolution, in order that the opinion of the people may be obtained not only on the general principles of reform, but on the particular measure which Parliament refused. Under such circumstances a general election will be a momentous agitation. The cry of the London Times and of the Conservative statesman that the people care nothing about reform will be quickly silenced; for, however quiet political affairs may be generally throughout the Kingdom, once let the watchword of "extension of the franchise" be taken up in a great political contest, and the country will be shaken to its very centre. Earl Grosvenor and Lord Stanley will have raised a Frankenstein far beyond their efforts to lay. This is the strength of Gladstone and the danger of the Conservatives; for just as surely as a general election takes place on such a question, so surely will that restless political spirit which has lain dormant for many years be reawakened and called into vigorous action. Every ultra-Liberal from Bright downwards will be in American parlance, "stamping" the country, and an agitation will be got up strong enough to force from the Government more liberal terms than even those contained in the present measure before the House. The Conservatives, and even what are called "moderate" men, cannot shut their eyes to this fact. The bold step, therefore, which Gladstone has taken is likely,

when the question comes on for a second reading, to inspire the timid and the wavering with a wholesome dread of popular agitation, and force from them their adhesion to principles which they inwardly condemn. With all the apparent power, therefore, of the enemies of the bill, we have every reason to suppose that the Ministry will carry their measure, and that supposition is heightened at seeing what promises to be a great majority in favor of passing a bill to do away with the absurd restrictions imposed on dissenters in Oxford University. The popularity of abolishing these restrictions as well as the church rates shows what an advance the House has made in liberalism. As a matter of justice, we hope to see the reform bill become law, and as a matter concerning the interests of Vancouver Island, we hope to see that law passed without obliging the Ministry to resign, or to postpone the public business by calling for another general election.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Canadian Military Affairs. TORONTO, March 29.—Orders have been issued to muster out the volunteers in excess of 10,000, retaining that number as a standing army of observation against the Fenians.

Jeff. Davis's Family. CAIRO, March 29.—Mrs. Jeff. Davis and her two children arrived here to-day on the steamer Linnary, accompanied by Col. Jenkins. The party go to Louisville en route for Canada.

Ball to Madame Juarez. WASHINGTON, April 3.—The Secretary of State gave this evening a handsome entertainment to Madame Juarez, wife of President Juarez. It is said that all the representatives of the Spanish American Republics were present; also, the Russian Minister. The party was one of the most brilliant of the season.

From Havana. NEW YORK, April 3.—Havana's advices of the 24th ult. say the health of the island was very good, there being less sickness of any kind than usual at this season. The reported Negro insurrections on several plantations in the interior caused some excitement, and troops had been sent to the scene of disturbance. Little danger is apprehended of a general insurrection at present, but many feel it will come sooner or later.

A large delatation has been discovered in the military treasury, and Don Quin Galvez and the inventor Don Vincente Rodriguez had been condemned to pay the sum of \$2,562,294.

Heavy Floods. CHICAGO, April 4.—Disastrous freshets are reported in Wisconsin since Sunday. Dams, bridges, and mills were swept away, and immense damage done at Milwaukee and on the Menominee river. After great accumulation of water by the ice gorges it broke through the city of Milwaukee last night, and a volume of water eight feet higher than before known, destroyed bridges, shipping, and warehouses. The total damage is estimated at \$1,000,000.

Forest Coming. EDWIN Forrest is announced to sail on next steamer for California.

EUROPEAN.

New York, March 28.—The steamer China arrived this evening with Liverpool dates to March 17th. In the House of Lords, March 16th, Earl Grey, after a long speech on the Irish disturbances, moved that the House go into Committee to consider the state of Ireland. Debate ensued, Russell deprecating the attempt to carry out the violent remedies proposed by Lord Grey, as it would produce an unprecedented agitation in the country. He referred to a gradual and well considered reform. Grey's motion was negatived without a division.

In the House of Commons Laird said promises had been received from Spain, Chile, and Peru that vessels now building in England should not leave until the pending difficulties should be settled. The Corps Legislatif was debating a paragraph in the address relative to international liberties, and Jules Favre spoke in support of the amendment of the opposition. During his speech he was called to order by the President for attacking the constitution. Other speeches were made in favor of the amendment, which, however, was finally rejected by a vote of 238 to 72.

A telegram says the convention with Mexico in reference to recruiting in Austria a volunteer corps for service in Mexico, was signed on the 15th by Count Mensdorf, the Mexican Minister. The London journals say the King of Prussia has overruled Von Bismarck. An arrangement may yet be effected by which Austria may consent to the annexation of Schleswig-Holstein to Prussia. It is said to be in contemplation to give back Schleswig to Denmark, as a concession to the public. The Cork Examiner says it has excellent reasons for knowing that the report current for the last five days that Stephens had really left Ireland is correct, and that Stephens prior to his departure had enjoined on the members of the "brotherhood" in Ireland the advisability of paying more attention to the present than their peaceful pursuits that they had been doing for some time.

FROM IDAHO.

A large party of Irish had arrived from Kootenay and commenced "jumping" claims on Elk and Bear Creeks. They seized and burned the Recorder's books. The acting Governor is unable to obtain commissary stores of the merchants and business men to carry on the campaign against the Indians.

European News.

THE REFORM BILL—FENIAN AFFAIRS—ANGLO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH—DEATH OF THE EX-QUEEN OF THE FRENCH—DISSENTERS AT OXFORD, AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA, &c.

PORTLAND, ME., April 4.—The steamer Damascus arrived this evening with dates to March 23d. In the House of Commons, on the 21st, the bill abolishing certain restrictions on dissenters at Oxford University was debated and carried to second reading by a large majority. The Daily News regards this discussion as the best criterion yet presented of the strength of parties in the new parliament. The chances of the reform bill continue to be buoyantly canvassed by the journals, some opposed contending that Earl Grosvenor's amendment will seal the doom of the bill, while the other side anticipate little or no danger from it, unless there is a severe defection in the ranks of the Liberals.

A London letter says Earl Grosvenor's amendment was drawn up by D'Israeli. If it should obtain a majority it will be followed immediately either by the resignation of the Government or the dissolution of the House, but most probably by a dissolution.

The statements in regard to Austria and Prussia are conflicting. The German firms in London have uniformly ridiculed the idea of hostilities, and the latest telegrams are of a reassuring character; but still the German press continues dealing in warlike rumors. Recruiting of Austrian volunteers for Mexico was about to commence.

New York, April 5.—The steamer Cuba from Liverpool 24th via Queenstown 26th has arrived. Fenian affairs had received some attention in parliament. The Attorney General for Ireland said, with respect to parties under arrest who had come from America, he was ready to give favorable consideration to their applications for discharge, provided they leave Ireland.

Gladstone announced that the Government intended to proceed with the Reform Bill regardless of suggestions and proposed amendments. They would resist Grosvenor's amendment as it implied a want of confidence in the Government.

The House adjourned to the 9th of April for the Easter Holidays. The stock of the Anglo-American Telegraph Co. \$600,000 is all subscribed and the books closed. The cable progresses at the rate of 19 nautical miles per day.

Napoleon received the address of the Corps Legislatif, and made a speech accepting the vote of the great majority as a continued endorsement of his policy. He also spoke in favor of an extension of liberty calculated to strengthen the Government—not such liberty as may become an arm to undermine and subvert it.

LONDON, March 24.—Consols 86½, 5-20's 117¼. Liverpool, March 25.—The Ex-Queen of the French, widow of Louis Philippe, died at Clarendon yesterday.

FROM CHINA.

Shanghai advices of February 21st represent that the Nienfi Rebels were threatening the northern ports, where they had occasioned great alarm. Vigorous preparations had been made for resisting them. The French Consul at Shanghai had been imprisoned for refusing to give up certain documents.

ON THEIR WAY TO IDAHO AND MONTANA TERRITORIES.

The steamers Pacific and Montana, which will sail this morning for Portland, Oregon, will carry up quite a number of sturdy and hard-fated miners, who have determined to try their fortunes in the much vaunted gold fields to be found in the Territories of Idaho and Montana. The major portion of them will cross the Rocky Mountains and proceed to the Blackfoot diggings on the Eastern slope of the mountains. The mining district, with the principal city, Helena, is located in the Prickly Pear valley, on the very head waters of the upper Missouri river, near the dividing ridge separating the Columbia and Missouri waters; the distance between the two slopes, via "Mullan's Pass," is so short that the traveler can drink from the limpid waters of the Columbia in the morning, and (crossing the "divide") quaff the water of the Missouri, at noon. Blackfoot is about 470 miles northwest from Walla Walla, in Washington Territory, and some 150 miles south of Fort Benton—which is the highest point that steamboats from St. Louis have yet reached on the upper Missouri. We are informed by a gentleman who belonged to the expedition, that Mullan's party found gold on the Missouri as early as 1856, while engaged in building a Government road through that country. The party was composed mostly of men who had mined in California in '49; they had become disgusted with their adventure to Fraser river, B. C., and joined the Government party in order to have an opportunity to return to the Atlantic States, via the Missouri. They, however, knew what a gold bearing country was, and said: "Before many years a second California in early days will be opened up here—just where the celebrated Blackfoot mines now are. The Government road party also found red hematite, iron ore, traces of copper, plumbago, etc. Channah is said to exist along the Hell's Gate, and at a point along the Upper Missouri. Coal is found on the Upper Missouri, and a deposit of canal coal near the Three Battens' mouth west of Fort Benton is supposed to exist. In this connection we may observe that the Oregon Steam Navigation Company are having built a steamboat at the foot of Pease-Oreille Lake, intending to run here some eighty miles to the head of the Lake; thence to Blackfoot is about 230 miles. The steamer will be completed early in April, when Mr. Wm. K. Ish, of Oregon, will place a line of stages up the River to connect with the O. S. N. Company's steamers at

some point on the Columbia—perhaps at Wallula or Palouse; landing thence, via steamboat on lake to the mines. The fare from the Columbia, including the Lake passage, will be \$100. Now that the fare hence to Portland, Oregon, is put down so low, it is estimated that the sum of \$130 will amply suffice to carry a person from San Francisco into the Blackfoot mines.—S. F. Flag, March 31.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

IMPORTANT FROM BIG BEND.

Bench Diggings Struck. Wright's Wagon Road Finished. The steamer Enterprise arrived yesterday with a few passengers and an express. The Columbian publishes the following interesting news from Yale:—

From a reliable miner who arrived here from Lyton City we learn that rich bench diggings have been struck on Carne Creek, Big Bend. The prospects obtained were so rich as to create great excitement. The discoverer of the diggings immediately proceeded to Lyton City, where he recorded eighteen claims, and he sold sixteen ounces of coarse gold, which he had taken out of Messrs. Buie Bros., merchants. Some prospecting was done in the bed of Carne creek last fall by a company of old Caribooites, of which Bob Nobles was a member. They found that the diggings were deep and that they could not get down to the bed-rock before the winter set in, and being short of provisions they were obliged to leave until spring. The bench diggings were unknown last fall, and their discovery cannot fail to be a valuable addition to the previous discoveries made in the Big Bend country. Lakes Kamloops and Shuswap were not open one week since, but it is the opinion of those who have returned from Savana's Ferry that they will be navigable by this time. A great number of men have already proceeded to the mines from all quarters, and there is but one opinion regarding their great richness and extent. During the present week six pack trains with goods have left Yale for the new mines, and Bargard's stages are running three times a week with passengers. Great progress has been made with the building of the Hudson Bay Company's steamer. The machinery will leave here on Monday next, and it is anticipated that about the first day of May the Marten will be in running order.

FURTHER. We learn from the resident magistrate here that he has received a letter from the Recording Officer at Lyton City confirming the news of a miner having come there to record eighteen bench claims on Carne Creek, Big Bend, and also that he had a considerable quantity of gold dust in his possession.

LATER FROM BIG BEND.

From Mr. Thomas Spence, who has just arrived from Cornwall's ranch on the wagon road, we learn that Jim May, an old and well known Cariboo miner, had struck a very rich claim on French Creek, four or five miles further up the stream than any prospecting had been done last fall. The lucky Jim immediately communicated with his old Cariboo chums, and a number, including Jim Sellers, forthwith rushed off to join their former companion and share in his good luck. They have since recorded nine full claims, and the interest excited amongst the miners is very great. Jim May is one of the pioneer prospectors of Cariboo, and he has traversed as much of that mountain region in pursuit of gold as any man who has ever ventured into the upper country. He left Soda Creek about the 1st of November last year for the Big Bend, and he has wintered there. The wagon road to the lakes has been completed, and nearly all Wright's men have been discharged. Wagons have passed over the new road already. The ice on the lakes has become too dangerous to cross over, so that its immediate break-up is looked for. Hundreds of men are camping at Kamloops waiting for the ice to break up to get into the mines.

GOOD NEWS FROM BRIDGE RIVER.

Lillooet correspondence of the Columbian dated the 7th inst., thus alludes to a sample of gold from Bridge River sent down for exhibition:— It is handsome a sample as I ever saw in either hemisphere, and is the one-half of the first week's wash from the China claim wig-dam. The probable amount this claim may yield before the rising of the waters, and before almost any white men in the country get a cent, is reckoned by competent prospectors at fifty-five thousand dollars, between the party of twelve. In case miners should labor under the impression that I am trying to pass this sample off as from the new mines found by Jamieson and party last fall, I wish distinctly to say that this is obtained full 70 miles lower down the river from ground of which plenty promises as well, that can be best opened during the fall and sleeted out before the spring floods. From the upper or summer side we have no news except confirmation of the accounts published last fall, from the fact that the ground is yet kept in its virgin state by the frost. The new discoveries have never been represented as "pile" diggings; but as good, steady pay. Old residents may remember that Lillooet District first made the country, and I assert that, if properly called on, our Bridge River camps where British indolence gives it up. These men who produce the sample may be styled lucky; when the truth is they worked as times (but not at the coldest) when white men, with just as fair chances, were idling round and spending money that it would take to open the work.

The sample, which contains 20½ ozs. of beautiful gold, the result of one week's work of 12 Chinamen was to be seen at the office of Messrs. Dicks & Nelson.

FROM YALE.

FROM YALE.—The steamer Reliance, Capt. Irving, arrived from Yale and Hope on Monday, connecting with the Douglas steamers at Harrisonmouth. The Douglas steamers are being forwarded on to the Big Bend mines at a lively rate.

FROM QUEBECMOUTH.

QUEBECMOUTH, April 7.—The Fraser river is not safe to cross upon the ice. It is expected that navigation will be opened in a few days. The roads to Williams Creek are very bad. The weather is fine. The ice commenced breaking up here this afternoon, and made quite an opening in the middle of the river.

FROM SIMILIKAMEN.

Hope, April 7.—An Indian arrived yesterday from Similkamen with an express. He reports travelling over the mountains very good; everything bore the appearance of spring. Stock had wintered well on the Similkamen; horses and cattle are in good condition. He brings no news from Big Bend or Kootenay.

FROM CARIBOO.

We are without any definite information from Cariboo, although it is currently reported that rich pay had been struck on Grouse Creek.

DARING ESCAPE OF AN INDIAN PRISONER.

The two Indians who were awaiting their trial at Quebelsmouth for the murder of John Morgan, broke gaol on the night of the 4th. One of them escaped, the other was secured through the timely assistance of Messrs. Clark, Bauer, Charles R. Barrage, and one or two others. They freed themselves by breaking the locks and rivets on their shackles while the constable had gone out for a few minutes. On opening the door the Indians attacked the constable with a knife and cut him severely on the left hand and shoulder. He then closed the door and at once gave the alarm. One of the Indians jumped through the window and escaped. Turning when a few yards off, he fired at Alfred McNeil, who was in pursuit of him, but the shot did not take effect; he was armed with a revolver. Several armed parties were immediately on the spot, but owing to the darkness the fugitive was soon out of sight. Two men started to endeavor to find traces of him, and returned on the 7th, having been down to the intersection of the different trails, but they could see no trace of him. He is supposed to have made for the Forks of Quebelsmouth. The following is his description:— Height five feet seven inches; very dark complexion; buckskin underclothing, bluish pants, has a slight cut on the upper lip. He has been twice tried for murder, but escaped for want of evidence.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

Mr. Banks, (rep.) of Mass., from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a joint resolution authorizing and requiring the Secretary of the Navy to detail one steam vessel from the Pacific Squadron to make a survey and sound both of the American and Russian coast where it is proposed to establish telegraph communication between the Western and Eastern continents and for the transportation of materials, and generally to afford such assistance as may be best calculated to secure the success of the enterprise and to carry out the purposes of the act of July, 1865. Mr. Washburne, (rep.) of Illinois, opposed the resolution, as he was not willing to place the navy at the disposal of a foreign government or private parties. Mr. Banks said if addition were to be taken on this matter it should be taken at once. Mr. Stevens, (rep.) from Pa., remarked that last year, when Congress permitted the company to lay a telegraph by way of Russia, they authorized the Secretary of the Navy to send one or two ships to aid them; but some clerk in that department said the vessel should not be sent, as the act said "authorized" and not "required." Russia had ordered two vessels for the service. He hoped the intention of the law would be carried out, and that the vessels might not be withheld merely on the whim of a clerk. Mr. Banks said this was one of the grandest enterprises of the age. The vessel proposed to be furnished would carry the flag of the country. It was desirable to connect the lines at Behring Straits. The author of the enterprise Mr. Collins, was a native of New York, but a citizen of California. Col. Bulkeley, as well as Mr. Collins was well known to him; he was one of the most able, patriotic and firm men he ever knew. The telegraphic communication would be completed in 1867. The establishment of the Secretary of the Navy would be able to communicate with our vessels in any part of the earth. Not only Russia, had sent out vessels, but the British Government had also given everything required, and the American Government had given nothing at this vessel. Mr. Washburne, of Illinois said this was a bill in effect asking the people to pay the expenses which the company itself incurred. Mr. Brooks, (dem.) of New York, said this was not a corporation. The enterprise was a great act of civilization, stretching out the American continent to the Old World. It was the only means of reaching the people favorable to the United States. It was indispensably necessary, to unite ourselves with our only national friend—Russia. Mr. Banks repeated that this was not a private telegraph. The whole world was interested in it. If the Navy Department had no interest in it, the United States have. This line would place us in communication with six million of people in Russia and China, the only national friends we have. It dwarfed, in the future, the European Powers hostile to us. Therefore every member ought to vote for the measure now before the House. The joint resolution was adopted. Corr. Oregonian.

Customs Receipts for the week ending Saturday, April 7th, 1866.—Duties, \$4,602 94; do Gold, \$11 40; Harbor Dues, \$61 52; Headmoney, \$177 09; Tonnage Dues, \$892 22. Total, \$5,565 17. Passengers, 180.—Columbian.

EUROPEAN IMMIGRATION.

The total number of passengers who arrived at New York from Europe during the year 1865, was 200,031.

Advertisement for 'The Weekly British Colonist' and various goods like 'MUNITION', 'CARTRIDGES', 'Liquors, &c.', 'Fluid Magnesia', 'Soap Powder', 'Simple Dyes', etc.

Our London Correspondence.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]
LONDON, Feb 24th, 1866.
This plot has greatly thickened since I last wrote to you; and rebellion has not a moment too soon been prevented. On Saturday last, to the wonder of the whole country, a Parliamentary sitting of both Houses took place. I need not say that this day of the week is always a *die non*; but the intelligence sent to the Government by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland was so alarming that there was nothing for it but to take the bill by the horns at once. The fact is that the Irish Administration became suddenly apprised that on a certain day this week there would be a general rising, not only in Dublin but in every part of Ireland except the North, and they instantly telegraphed to say, unless the Habeas Corpus Act was immediately suspended in Ireland the consequences could not be answered for. Starting as was this news, the Houses were found that day in an emergency, and feeling they would be so, Lord Wodehouse anticipated the passing of the measure by the repeal of the standing orders, and caused numerous persons to be arrested before Parliament gave him unlimited authority. The consequence of this unexpected action has been to drive hundreds of Americans and disaffected Irishmen out of the country, their alarm only being equalled by their villainous treason. To their going no obstacles are offered, but the police do not lay aside an atom of their activity, and every mail brings the news that arrests are being made in all directions. When this news reaches America it will not a little astonish the Fenians there, especially when they come to learn that the U. S. Government has kept our Government *en courant* of all that is going on and was intended, and so have enabled the Ministry to act with decision and certainty. Before I conclude this letter I may have to tell you that Stephens, the Head Centre, who broke prison, is re-captured; for he is known to be in Ireland—probably in Dublin—and two days ago his ally and confederate, McDonald, who has acted as Vice-Centre, was nabbed. The conspiracy is nipped, but it is a very serious matter, its ramifications extending much further than at one time it was thought to be possible. That it will die nobody doubts, but it will take a long time before it can be pronounced as buried.

HER MAJESTY AND THE HABEAS CORPUS ACT.

The Queen has only within the last forty-eight hours returned to Windsor from Osborne, where she was when the necessity of suspending the Habeas Corpus Act for Ireland arose. Of course that measure could not become law without Her Majesty's signature. She was immediately communicated with by telegraph, and some persons persist in saying that she refused to come up to town upon being requested to do so by the Ministry. Whether it was so or not I don't pretend to say, although appearances are against her; for a special train had to be sent down to get her signature, and because of delay in returning the bill was not received till half-past two P. M. last Sunday, up to which time the Lord Chancellor and the Commissioners appointed for completing the bill had to wait in the House of Lords. One M. P., a Mr. Mainwaring, who sits for Denbigh, had the courage to ask in his place in the House of Commons for an explanation of Her Majesty's conduct; but although his question was postponed, and Mr. Gladstone replied that she was at Osborne and could not be in London or at Windsor at the same time, it was clear enough to everybody that she might have come up, as she ought to have done, at whatever amount of inconvenience her sudden departure might have occasioned. The act being passed on a Sunday morning, has been held by some to be illegal; but there is no law to prevent a Sunday sitting of Parliament, and although such an event is unusual, should occasion require it, there can be no doubt the meeting would not violate any statute.

PRINCE ALFRED AND THE PRINCESS HELENA.

On Thursday, the 22nd inst., Mr. Gladstone brought down a message from the Crown asking for a maintenance for each of these sons of the Royal family—for the latter on her approaching marriage with Prince Christian of Wurtemberg, who is possessed of an income literally of only £100 a year; and for the former on his having come of age. The Princess is to have £2000 a year, with a dowry of £30,000, and the Prince £15,000—the same sum which was allotted to the Duke of Cambridge. In the case of the daughter it will be seen the Queen has followed the precedent of the Princess Alice, and in that of the Prince moderation has been observed, especially in the grant of the income is made contingent on his remaining in England, and will discontinue when he succeeds to the Dukedom of Coburg.

LORD PALMERSTON.

After the grant had been passed to the Prince and Princess, Mr. Gladstone moved an address to the Crown to obtain a grant for placing a monument to Lord Palmerston in the great national mausoleum, Westminster Abbey. The learned gentleman introduced this subject with his usual eloquence; but to those who heard him, as I did, there did not appear to be much heart in his eulogy of the deceased Premier. His manner was more that of one who had been appointed to make a funeral oration over the grave of a person of dignity and rank, with whom there had been but slight acquaintance and not much cordiality, and he was not very happy in his references to that event of Lord Palmerston's career, which, however much the man was liked, did not indicate any large amount of consistency. The general verdict upon Mr. Gladstone's labored oration may be best ascribed in the words of the Queen, respecting the Playactress in Hamlet: "Me thinks the lady doth protest too much." Had he said less he would have been thought to have been more sincere; as it was, Dinah, from whom nothing was expected, gathered all the laurels that could possibly be submitted all that could be wished to and gracefully expressed respecting, the

noble deceased. The vote was mostly carried, and assurance was given that the monument would be completed without delay, and not remain unfinished, as that for the Duke of Wellington remains to this hour.

THE CATTLE DISEASE.

This fearful disease still continues to rage, the reports coming in from all directions confirming the statement that it grows worse and worse. Even since Parliament has met the House of Commons has been night after night engaged in deliberating upon the best means of stamping it out. Standing orders have been suspended that no further time be lost in doing that which had it only been done three months ago might have saved hundreds of heads of cattle; but whilst doctors are differing the malady is increasing in intensity; and, ere long, there is every probability that England will be all but deprived of animal food of home growth. The system Parliament now provides for is that a cordon shall be drawn round every infected district, that the moment a beast falls sick it is to be slain and the carcass buried. Inspectors are empowered to go everywhere, with competent authority to enforce the slaughter of diseased beasts, and for every one so slain the owner is to receive out of the general rates a sum not exceeding £20, or one-half of its value immediately before it was infected. The matter is not of so much moment to you as it is here, but the files of papers I send herewith will give you all the information your readers may wish to have should you feel inclined to print them. Hundreds of people are professing to be possessed of a cure for this malignant disease, but not one as yet can be pronounced as a panacea. All traffic by railway or otherwise is suspended, and the markets through the kingdom are closed. Whatever meat comes from abroad, it is slaughtered at the out ports, and not permitted to come up as all there be even suspicion of infection, and yet in spite of all this in London, at least, the show of fine meat never was larger, and prices, though high, do not rise in proportion to the general panic. It says very little for the science of medicine that there is so much doubt and hesitation as to the means of remedy, but that remedy exists can scarcely be doubted. Fortunate indeed, would be the man who could only manage to hit upon it.

REFORM.

This subject 'drags its slow length along,' and is scarcely spoken of or thought of anywhere. Earl Russell as yet has made no sign of intention to do anything very desperate, and it is generally thought he will let the matter drop if he can; for so surely as he presses it forward he will find it the rock upon which his Cabinet will suffer shipwreck. As, however, on this head, I have nothing new to speak of, it will keep for another fortnight at all events.

JAMAICA.

Party feeling still runs very high respecting the recent outbreak of the negroes, and the summary means taken for its suppression. The opinion gains ground that nothing more than was warranted was done by Gov. Eyre, and that he will come quite clean out of the inquiries, which by this time must be nearly finished, and of which we may have the report in about ten days time. As this opinion grows the anti-slavery party becomes quieter in the both within and without Parliament. The extreme organs, those who seem to think the negro can do no wrong, even though it be proved he is bent upon murder, lust and rapine, has already recoiled upon them, and they are so much the more savage in proportion to their being distressed. They have striven to force Parliament into a discussion, before the Government is in possession of the results of the Commission of Inquiry, but they have been prevented doing much by the wisdom and the determination of the House of Commons not to prejudice the question in the slightest degree, but to wait, and when supplied with facts calmly and deliberately to determine who is right, and who is wrong.

SIR CHARLES WOOD.

There is, indeed, good news for India, for 'old Charles' Wood, as he is there contemptuously designated, is no longer Secretary of State for that country. A few months ago he got a fall in the hunting field, which shook him greatly, but he pulled through that, and went to work again with a will in his old way of offending everybody, and doing all in his power to obstruct the promotion of the Indian officers, who were deprived by the mischievous of the chances of promotion. The notion, however, seems all at once to have come upon him that he will not be able to take so officiously as he tried to do last year the remonstrances against his conduct, which are already beginning to pour in from India. Last session he had his fill of petitions against his unruly conduct and arrogant disposition; but where hundreds came last year thousands will come this, and therefore "making a virtue of necessity" he has cut—run—ere he can be called to task, making his infirm condition the plea for resignation. He has been, however, too long a lawyer or of the Whig Government without something being done for him, so he has been pitched into the House of Lords by the title of Viscount Halifax, and there will rest his weary bones to the end of his days. He is succeeded by Earl de Grey and Ripon—an amiable and hard-working official; but that he will prove 'strong enough for the place' is very much doubted. He will, however, at all events, treat those who come in contact with him as gentlemen, and will neither insult a griffin nor a governor-general as if they were dirt or vermin, as the retired Secretary Ripon will be aided by Mr. Stansfield, as Under Secretary for India, but the post will not be greatly strengthened on this score. Mr. Stansfield, it will be remembered, had to quit office because of his being a friend of Mazzini.

FRENCH POLITICS.

French politics during the week have been occupied chiefly in debating on the Address. The Duke de Persigny in a speech on this subject declared that English Parliamentary institutions were not suitable to France, and eulogised those founded by the Emperor as being equally durable. On Sunday the address in reply to the speech from the Throne was presented to the Emperor. In answer Louis Napoleon stated that the constitution upon his speech explained all he wished to convey. He said it was not by continually

disturbing the building of an edifice that its completion is hastened.

PRUSSIA.

The Chamber being more vehemently than ever opposed to Count Bismark's determination to prove the divine right of Kings to govern wrong, refused the supplies, and have been again summarily dismissed. The plot appears on all sides to be threatening, and soiled as the Prussians proverbially are, to be driving them beyond the bounds of patience. An immense meeting of the working men's association called together to consider recent constitutional infringements was broken up by force. The relations too between Prussia and Austria relative to the Duchies continue most perplexing. The Holstein nobility have forwarded an address to Count Bismark deploring the present provisional state of things in the Duchies and asserting that the welfare of their country can only consist in union with Prussia, and expressing a hope that the King will take steps to that end.

NEW ZEALAND.

Intelligence from this distant part of the world announces the capture of a large rebel party, and states that the war is now virtually at an end, and that the troops are leaving for England. We fear this is far too good news to be wholly credited.

THE EASTERN PROVINCES.

From the Halifax *Unionist*, of the 28th February, we learn that both branches of the Newfoundland Legislature have accepted the Quebec scheme of Confederation. The *Unionist* states that the resolutions were carried in the Lower House on a division of 19 to 7, and in the Upper House unanimously. The Canadian Trade Commissioners are at present in British Guiana where they have had a grand reception. The *New York Herald* of March 10, says:—Her Britannic Majesty's steamer *Bozzard* arrived at Antigua on the 20th, with the British North American Commissioners on board, who are making a tour of the islands, for the purpose of regulating the Canadian commercial interests, as the treaty between the United States and Canada, relative to the free importation of their merchandise, &c., through ports of the United States is about to terminate. The *Toronto Globe* says that the cause of Confederation has made a great advance in New Brunswick, and that there is a prospect of the immediate adoption of the measure by the formation of a new Coalition Government.

FROM CHINA.

By the bark *Parsee*, fifty-eight days from Hongkong, we *Alta* have thirteen days later news from that port. The British garrison at Hongkong is suffering from a strange mortality. Forty-two per cent. of the regiment have died in nine months. The French brig *Jean de Joseph* was taken by China pirates near Hongkong.

AUSTRALIA.

DATES TO JANUARY 13TH.

Heavy rains had fallen in different sections of the Province and the farming prospects were very promising. The termination of the protracted drought, was celebrated by the designation of a day of humiliation and prayer, which was generally observed, services being held in all the principal churches and business generally suspended.

Dunn, the notorious bushranger, whose atrocities have long been the terror of peaceful citizens, has been captured after a desperate resistance. The sheep disease, which has raged so fearfully in the Australian Colonies, has reached its culminating point; the number of animals infected on the list of November last being only 16,000.

The New South Wales Ministry has been reconstructed with Mr. Cowper as Premier, Mr. Robertson as Secretary for Lands, Mr. Smart as Secretary for Public Works, Mr. Bardeken as Colonial Treasurer, and Mr. Plunket as Attorney General.

The political wrangle in Australia still continued. The parliamentary elections were pending and the excitement ran very high. A free trade candidate was howled down in Melbourne and not allowed to speak. Charges of bribery and corruption were openly made against members of the Ministry.

The prospects of the wheat crop in all parts of Australia are reported to be very fine. The effects of the late drought were terrible. Bush fires were raging on all sides, animals were perishing with thirst by the thousands; the heat was intense, and the earth was literally scorched. No wonder the people hailed the welcome rain with joy, and offered up prayers for the grateful benefaction.

Died—Ex-Governor McDougal died yesterday, of apoplexy. For some time he has been in poor health. Yesterday he got out and walked round a little; lawyer Platt saw him in the street and told him he had better go in and sit down awhile. He remarked that he was liable to die at any moment, and did not want to have it said he died in a bar room. Mr. Platt took him to his office, where he was taken suddenly worse and in a short time expired.—*S. F. Flag.*

Scotches—Paymaster Dunn of H. M. S. *Mutine* committed suicide on the 4th ult. at Panama, by cutting his throat. To sell a

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The steamer *Enterprise* arrived yesterday morning from New Westminster having put in to Cadboro Bay on Saturday evening from stress of weather. She brought few passengers an express. The following are the chief items of local intelligence in the Columbia:—

FROM LITTON.—A telegraphic office was opened here on Friday.

FROM YALE.—The steamers *Reliance* and *Lillooet* arrived from Yale yesterday, bringing news from the interior confirming the rich strikes in Carne's and French Creeks. The information from all parts appears to be of the most buoyant and encouraging character. Roads are open and travelling is excellent, while both men and provisions are 'rushing' toward our exciting and attractive new mines. Immigrants need hesitate no longer. The country is now ready to receive all that will come, and 'do well by them,' too.

DEPARTURE OF OFFICIALS.—The official members of the Legislature who belong to districts in the interior are hastening to their various stations. The hon. Mr. O'Reilly went on on Wednesday, and the hon. Messrs. Elliott and Hayes will start to-day. The hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works left on Wednesday for Savana's Ferry on official business.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.—We understand that it has been decided to transfer Capt. Spalding, Postmaster General of this colony, to Queenstown, as Stipendiary Magistrate and Assistant Gold Commissioner for that district, and to place the postal department under the supervision of A. T. Bushby, Esq., Registrar General. We have not learned whether the Post Office is to be continued where it is at present, or removed to the Registry Office. This change indicates a desire on the part of the Government to carry out the views of the people as expressed through their four representatives in the Legislative Council; for it will be recollected that, in Committee of Supply, the four independent members proposed disposing with the services of the Postmaster General and placing that department under the Registrar General. We would compliment His Excellency the Administrator of the Government upon this concession to public opinion, and express a hope that it is only the first step in a sweeping measure of re-trenchment. The hon. J. A. R. Homer has been appointed High Sheriff of British Columbia, vice the hon. P. O'Reilly, resigned.

GOOD NEWS FROM ROCK CREEK.

RICH DIGGINGS STRUCK! The hon. Mr. Haynes has received a semi-official letter from Osyoogos, dated 1st April, instant, from which we have been permitted to make the following extract:—"Fourteen white men and 40 Chinamen are mining on Rock Creek. Randall & Co., at the crossing, have dug one hundred buckets of dirt and got \$11. There is quite a stir here about it." The letter goes on to say that owing to the excitement men who had engaged to work on the roads had determined to leave for the diggings. The crossing alluded to is six miles higher up the stream than the diggings hitherto known, and goes far to establish the fact that Rock Creek mines are richer and far more extensive than was supposed.—*Columbian.*

BIG BEND—THE ROAD OPEN.

The *Columbian* publishes the following letter:—
Six.—You need have no hesitation in advising me to come forward now; indeed, by the time they can get here every-thing will be ready. There appears to be plenty of provision on hand at Seymour, as well as Kamloops and men are packing from the former place over to the mines. The check given by you to the miners was well timed, and the consequence is that no grub has been used up needlessly. Now that men can go through with much less difficulty, they could into Caribou in early days, they need have no hesitation in pushing forward. A number of pack trains have passed this point already, and teams are now on the way up. There are an abundance of boats on the lakes to carry forward supplies. Barnard has two large canoes, well fitted up and manned for the conveyance of stage passengers through Caribou. His stages now run to the foot of the lake. While writing I may add that the Government may congratulate itself in having given the contract for the road to Savana's to G. B. Wright. Had it been in almost any other man's hands, it would, in all probability, have kept the country back a month or two. As it is, the road is finished and well finished too, and that gentleman is entitled to the thanks of the community for having thrown his whole energies into the work, and made it passable for wagons at least fifteen days before contract time. Query—Will the Hudson Bay Co. have the "Marten" out 15 days before contract time?
Cache Creek, April 6th, 1866.

GOVERNOR KENNEDY.

On Wednesday morning Her Majesty's ship-of-war *Sparrowhawk* steamed past with His Excellency Governor Kennedy and family on board. The Government dispatch boat accompanied the *Sparrowhawk* out of the river. As the ship passed the city the chimps being floated forth a merry salutation, while bunting floated from many a flagstaff. Governor Kennedy has been the guest of His Excellency the Administrator of British Columbia for nearly a week, and we hear those who have had the honor of an introduction speaking of him in terms of the warmest praise.—*Columbian.*

OBACI MORT.

New Dates.—The *S. F. Alta* appears in an entirely new dress, and presents a particularly neat appearance.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY DID NOT ASSEMBLE YESTERDAY.

The House of Assembly did not assemble yesterday.

THE TELEGRAPH CABLE.

Six Miles Laid and Working!

The gunboat *Forward*, Lt. Com. Fox, returned to Esquimaux last night at 8 o'clock, having successfully submerged six miles of the cable from Fidalgo Island to Lopez Island. The gunboat lay weather bound in Walmouth Cove until yesterday morning, and at 10 o'clock commenced paying out. At first, while a portion of the line coiled on deck was being paid out, she proceeded under easy steam, but afterwards went ahead, and at noon brought the end to Lopez Island. Several messages were sent across to establish the fact that the cable was "O. K." Mr. Hayes and Mr. Vancouver speak in high terms of the behavior of the ship and the treatment they experienced on board. The *Forward* will immediately ship another portion of the line.

GREAT EXCITEMENT—THE FENIAN HEAD CENTRE IN JAIL.

The usual monotony of New Westminster hum-drum existence was somewhat disturbed yesterday by the arrest and imprisonment of Mr. Thomas Caffery, keeper of a hotel on Front street, known as "Head Quarters." It appears that during Thursday night a sign board, bearing the ominous word "Fenian," had been placed over the original sign of the hotel, making it read "Fenian Head Quarters." The circumstances having come to the knowledge of the Chief of Police, an officer was sent to wait upon Mr. Caffery with the polite request that the treasonable addition should be removed. Mr. Caffery declined to comply with this request, and in default of his removal, the Chief of Police, and in default of his removal, the Chief of Police, sentenced to three months imprisonment, while the offending board was removed. We are disposed to look upon the sign as a foolish and unseasonable joke; and we hope Mr. Caffery will consent to give the required bail, and obtain his liberty.—*Columbian.*

FENIANISM—The Fenian plot was discovered not a minute too soon, as Dublin has turned out to be a perfect volcano, living there being like sleeping over a barrel of gunpowder. Arms, rounds of ammunition, bullet moulds, and pikeheads by thousands, are discovered all over the city; and to show the stupidity of the local police, in no case has the seizure been made through them, but by informers, one of whom was made a terrible example of a day or two since, being shot dead in the city. Stephens, the Head Centre, is it confidently asserted, in the country still. Yet the intelligent constabulary who declare so cannot find him. The amount of money that has been remitted to Ireland from the United States for them is something fabulous, and only shows that there must have been some big men at the bottom of it in the States.—*Corr. Alta.*

EXTRAORDINARY IMPOSTURE EXPLODED.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION SETTLED. Innumerable efforts have been made by medical men to square the circle. It is now admitted by rational men that no such thing is possible. A question of the same sort, nearly, is often propounded which for the moment, may puzzle a man of slow wit, but which is evidently seen to be incapable of solution, likewise. It is this? What would be the consequence of an irresistible body coming in contact with an immovable one? Very little of consideration is required to discern that this is a contradiction in terms. The closest approximation to a categorical answer that we have ever heard of has been given by an eminent pathologist, Professor Halloway, who has proved beyond all question that his extraordinary Pills and Ointment are irresistible in their effects on diseases which under every other treatment were absolute and incurable. This is no boast. It is true. We court disproof. His medicines, we say, are the greatest remedial agents that scientific genius ever invented. "Phaw," some contemptible party exclaiming, "what is it all but quackery?" Ignorant, or unthinking people may be found to echo the charge. But stop, friends! You have in your mind that this very cry of "quack-quack-quackery," which is so frequently raised against the true thing as the false, savors itself of the greatest quackery. Besides, an imposture cannot last for ever. If Halloway's Medicine are an imposture they are the most gigantic one that ever darkened civilization. If they are an imposture they have effected more good to humanity than thousands of ostentatious but ineffectual nostrums. If they are an imposture no other imposture has ever originated like them, for they are the result of a high skill. If they are an imposture then it is an imposture which the world has been a thankful for. The most eminent medical men of the age have testified to their unparalleled effects as sanative agents. Princes and Potentates have borne voluntary testimony to their virtues. Nobles of nature's making, (as well as nobles of man's making) have alike acknowledged in terms of deserved eulogy their extraordinary powers. They are secured by a patent throughout the world, which has not willingly made itself the medium of communicating to the public the astounding cures which these Medicines have effected. In most countries a patent is attained to a patronage, the extent of which is perhaps without precedent when the comparatively brief period of their introduction is taken into account. Professor Halloway can produce almost countless numbers of written acknowledgments from every clime and in every language of their efficacy, forwarded to him unasked. Where then is the imposture? Let us state a few facts of greater interest.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALIFORNIA.

N. Co's. screw steamship *California* Buttler, arrived yesterday at mid San Francisco, bringing 168 passengers of whom are for New Westminster freight for this port as per manifest encountered strong N. W. winds early part of her voyage. She is to leave to-day at 10 a. m. for N. minister, taking passengers and freight. Her fares up were \$30 and \$15.

LAVING THE CABLE.

The gunboat Lieutenant-Commander Fox left yesterday at 1 p. m. to submerge the cable between San Juan Island and Bay under the superintendence of Mr. and Mr. Vandenberg. We did not what success attended the undertaking. To SHIPBUILDERS.—Attention is called to the notice in our advertising calling for tenders for building up of the respective lengths of 100 feet; breadth 16 feet and 14 feet moulded 12 feet and 10 feet.

SHIPPING.—The Mackay was still at last date at Liverpool for this.

The Royal Tar and Egmont at Lond Evelyn Wood was loaded and left on the 23d February. The Franklin was announced to clear on the 9th Francisco, and the *Labouchere* was at ten a. m. to-day.

JOINT ENTERTAINMENT.

We are understand that there is a probability joint dramatic and musical entertainment being given in the theatre on Mr. Tuesday week by the Fleet and the teers.

THE ELECTION.—Mr. Harris appears the only candidate who will seek suffrage of the City voters. He inf that his address will appear so soon as his name is issued.

FOR HONOLULU.—We understand steamer Thames will leave for the ab on Wednesday or Thursday next with cargo of lumber, coal and general merchandise.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The Enterprise left yesterday morning for River with passengers and freight.

PAWNS ALARM.—Victoria is certain of the most extraordinary places known false alarms and alarms. On Saturday the gate, a false cry was raised boat had been upset and two drowned. Fortunately the parties were at the time at their respective beds the wickedly foolish rumor would have caused the greatest consternation friends of the supposed victims.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

FROM NANSIMO.—The steamer Douglas, Capt. Clarke, arrived, and Nansimo last evening with passengers, among whom were C. S. Mr. Tiedeman, Messrs. Bates, and others. The Sir James Deane down two and a half tons of coal was shipped to San Francisco. Several messages were sent across to establish the fact that the cable was "O. K." Mr. Hayes and Mr. Vancouver speak in high terms of the behavior of the ship and the treatment they experienced on board. The *Forward* will immediately ship another portion of the line.

THE STEAMER LABOUCHERE, we have been splendidly fitted up, and elegant and commodious as she is and safe ocean going passenger was to leave San Francisco to-day and will probably be pretty well taken to Victoria, cabin, \$30; steer to New Westminster, cabin, \$31; \$16; to Port Yale, cabin, \$33. Tickets for New Westminster are available for one week after Victoria. Freight to Victoria, 5 and 5 per cent. prime; to New Star, \$9 per ton, free of wharfage; Yale, \$15 per ton, free of wharfage.

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The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, April 17, 1866.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday, April 14.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Capt. Clarke, arrived from Comox and Nanaimo last evening with sixteen passengers, among whom were C. S. Nicol, Esq., Mr. Tiedeman, Messrs. Bate, Stone, Platt, and others. The Sir James Douglas brought down two and a half tons of oysters, which will be shipped to San Francisco. A sailor was drowned on Thursday while painting the ship Heloise. He must have fallen unobserved from a plank into the water, while coal was being sent down the chute, and was not missed for about an hour. Parties were dragging for the body, which had not been found when the steamer left. A steamer was observed making for San Juan at 5 p.m., supposed to be the gunboat Forward engaged in laying the cable. The steamer Emily Harris, Capt. Frazer, arrived yesterday morning from Nanaimo with 60 tons of coal. An enthusiastic meeting was held in the Institute on Thursday evening in favor of the Incorporation Bill, Mr. John Bryden in the chair, and Mr. Platt officiating as Secretary. The room was crammed, and a resolution having been submitted approving of the bill, the meeting divided, but the opponents of the bill out of a most ridiculous figure, only some twenty (including all the juveniles in the room) ranged on their side, while the resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority with loud demonstrations. Messrs. Platt and Stone were appointed to proceed to Victoria to present the counter-petition, which is signed by 179 of the inhabitants, representing a majority of the people, of the landholders, and of the intelligence of the place, and including some thirty of those who signed the other one. We are given to understand that facts will be brought to light that will not reflect much credit on those who raked up the anti-municipal petition. We are compelled to hold over several communications from Nanaimo, regarding the meeting and other subjects.

THE STEAMER LABOUCHERE, we learn, has been splendidly fitted up, and is now as elegant and commodious as she is a powerful and safe ocean going passenger boat. She was to leave San Francisco to-day at 10 a.m. and will probably be pretty well filled. The rates of freight and passage are as follows: To Victoria, cabin, \$30; steerage, \$15; to New Westminster, cabin, \$31; steerage, \$16; to Fort Yale, cabin, \$33; steerage, \$18. Tickets for New Westminster and Yale are available for one week after arrival at Victoria. Freight to Victoria, \$6 per ton, and 5 per cent primeage; to New Westminster, \$9 per ton, free of wharfage; to Fort Yale, \$15 per ton, free of wharfage.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALIFORNIA.—The O. S. N. Co's. steamship California, Captain Butters, arrived yesterday at mid day from San Francisco, bringing 168 passengers, 94 of whom are for New Westminster, and freight for this port as per manifest. She encountered strong N. W. winds during the early part of her voyage. She is announced to leave to-day at 10 a. m. for New Westminster, taking passengers and freight free. Her fares up were \$30 and \$15.

LAYING THE CABLE.—The gunboat Forward, Lieutenant-Commander Fox, left Esquimalt yesterday at 1 p. m., to submerge the marine cable between San Juan Island and Oadboro Bay under the superintendence of Mr. Haines and Mr. Vandenberg. We did not learn what success attended the undertaking.

TO SHIPBUILDERS.—Attention is directed to the notice in our advertising columns calling for tenders for building two hulls of the respective lengths of 100 feet and 85 feet; breadth 16 feet and 14 feet depth moulded 12 feet and 10 feet.

SHIPPING.—The Mackay was still loading at last date at Liverpool for this port; and the Royal Tar and Egmont at London. The Evelyn Wood was loaded and left the dock on the 23d February. The Franklin Adams was announced to clear on the 9th at San Francisco, and the Labouchere was to leave at ten a. m. to-day.

JOINT ENTERTAINMENT.—We are given to understand that there is a probability of a joint dramatic and musical entertainment being given in the theatre on Monday or Tuesday week by the Fleet and the Volunteers.

THE ELECTION.—Mr. Harris appears to be the only candidate who will solicit the suffrages of the City voters. He informs us that his address will appear so soon as the writ is issued.

FOR HONOLULU.—We understand that the steamer Thames will leave for the above port on Wednesday or Thursday next with a full cargo of lumber, coal and general merchandise.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise left yesterday morning for Fraser River with passengers and freight.

FALSE ALARM.—Victoria is certainly one of the most extraordinary places known for false rumors and alarms. On Saturday, during the gale, a false cry was raised that a boat had been upset and two citizens drowned. Soon after the parties mentioned were at the time at their respective homes of the wickedly foolish rumor would have caused the greatest consternation to the friends of the supposed victims.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF MR. H. N. TOOBY.

The community was shocked yesterday morning by the announcement that Mr. Henry Norton Tooby, lately associated with the press in this city, had committed self-destruction by nearly severing his head from his body with a razor. Those who had sufficient taste for the morbid, and could revel in such sights as are unfolded to view in Madame Tussaud's chamber of horrors, were fully gratified on repairing to the premises of Mr. Thomas Cretney, on Fort street, in a back chamber of whose house lay the unfortunate suicide weltering in blood, his throat cut to the spine. It appears that Mr. Tooby, who has lately been out of employment, had given way to intemperance to excess, and at the time he committed the fatal and fearful deed was suffering from delirium. He went to bed early on Saturday night in Mr. Cretney's bed chamber and rose at midnight and left the house. Towards three o'clock he went down to the gaol and demanded a policeman, alleging that burglary had been committed on the boat, but the officer on the boat, but the next morning, he was found in the next room, and he then roused the next-door neighbor, Mr. Whear, who opened the door for him: The unhappy man after gaining admission to Cretney's house then asked Mr. Cretney for the loan of his shaving glass, which he took into a back room or scullery, and there seating himself on the floor, he fastened in a common blue shirt and trousers, and his arm bared for the fatal stroke, took away his own life. Mr. Cretney heard a groan and a thump, but nothing more. On looking into the chamber poor Tooby was a bleeding corpse. Mr. Cretney at once gave information to the Police. The inquest will be held to-day. The deceased was a native of Gloucester, in England; his age was about 34; and he leaves, we believe, a wife and one or two children in England. From statements made by him, we believe that he has been in the service of Coutts & Co., Bankers, London, and was for some time engaged on the reporting staff of the Daily Telegraph, chiefly as theatrical and literary critic, in which branch he was very proficient. Mr. Tooby was possessed of an excellent memory, and a fund of anecdotes, and his intimate acquaintance with the sayings and doings of the celebrated literateurs who frequent the Savage Club made him a highly entertaining companion. His disposition was mild and amiable, and we do not think that he possessed an enemy in the place. The fearful passion which has added another to its long list of victims in this country was contracted, we have been told, through family cares, fostered no doubt of late by the depression caused by poverty.

ANOTHER BURGLARY.—On Saturday night or Sunday morning the liquor store of Mr. Eugene Thomas on Yates street was entered from the skylight, the safe in the office opened, and some \$40 stolen. Mr. Burns, barkeeper, who occupied a room behind, on entering the store yesterday morning discovered that a corner pane of glass just large enough to admit a man had been removed from the skylight, a piece of packing case rope fastened round the chimney on the roof hung down through the aperture by which the burglar evidently descended, alighting on some spirit casks that were piled up beneath. This done, the thief directed his attention to the Tilton & McFarlane safe in the office, which was opened by a duplicate key, and the contents (fortunately only about \$40) abstracted, leaving behind two or three old coins and Mexican half dollars. The lock of the back door was thereupon unscrewed with a hatchet, and the bar of the iron door removed so as to enable the thief to pass out. Suspicion at once fastened on a Russian who had worked on the roof and was well acquainted with the premises, he having been heard to say that he possessed a key that would enable him to open Mr. Thomas' safe any time that he wanted to. The suspicion was strengthened by the circumstance that a bull-dog which is left in charge of the premises at night, knows the man well, and the dog was missing in the morning. The suspected man was accordingly arrested.

BALL IN THE LYCEUM.—The ball to be given by Mrs. Digby Palmer on Wednesday evening, in the Lyceum, in connection with her dancing class, promises to be one of the most attractive of the season, judging from the high class of music to be provided, and the general arrangements in progress under the management of Mr. Palmer and the stewards. The terms of admission are \$2 50 to the public and \$1 50 to pupils. Supper will be provided by the proprietors of the French Hotel at \$1 each for those who choose to partake. This will be the last entertainment that can take place in the Lyceum Hall, as workmen will commence pulling down the structure on the following morning. Those who delight in a good dance in a good room, to good music, and want cheering up in these dull times, should make up their minds to attend and secure tickets without delay.

FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Russian ship Cesarewitch, Capt. Hoff, 17 days from Honolulu, reached Esquimalt on Saturday afternoon with a consignment of salt, etc., to Messrs. Janion, Green & Rhodes, who will load her with coal for Sitka. She was three days in the Straits. The captain's wife, who had been in a delicate state of health, died the day before entering port. In running into the harbor the anchor was dropped a little too soon and the ship in swinging came in contact with the jibboom of H.M.S. Scout, which was carried away, smashing her own quarter boat and causing other damage.

THE ALBION IRON WORKS.—The announcement made by us that this foundry was to continue at work is confirmed by an advertisement elsewhere.

THE STEAMER CALIFORNIA, Commander Butters, left on Saturday morning for New Westminster under the direction of pilot Titcomb, with a number of passengers bound to the different up country mines, and must have experienced rough weather crossing the Gulf, as it blew violently from the S. E. in the morning and shifted in the afternoon to the westward with heavy squalls. The Enterprise saw her making for the entrance of the River. She is announced to leave Victoria on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock for San Francisco, taking Wells Fargo's Express but not the mails.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Important from Europe. CHOLERA RAGING. War between Prussia & Austria. WRECK OF A BRITISH SHIP. Jeff Davis and Clay to be Paroled. GREAT EXCITEMENT IN CONGRESS. CIVIL RIGHTS BILL PASSED. Disastrous Fire at Port au Prince.—One Thousand Houses Burnt.

HAIPHONG, April 9.—The steamer England, from Liverpool, March 28th via Queenstown 28th, arrived here this morning with 1,320 passengers, of whom 60 had died of cholera. There were 60 cases on board. No communication with her has yet been allowed, but the agent of the Associated Press is endeavoring to obtain the news, which is four days later. She brings the following:—

LONDON, March 23.—Consols 86½ to 86¾. 5-20 71 to 71½. The probability of a war between Austria and Prussia was increasing. A crisis was considered imminent. The cattle plague in England was on the decline. The Berlin correspondent of the Times says Prussia has not mobilized or sent a single regiment to the front. Some new regiments have been called in, but they have not come up to the number which, in the most peaceful times have been collected on the appearance of some distant danger.

The Russian nobility assembly have carried by a vote of 189 against 10, a petition from the present President of the Assembly, the Emperor to know if the Provincial Parliament is to discuss matters and address him. The proposition was negatived by the Czar some time since. The clerk of the steamer England reports that on Tuesday occurred the first case of cholera, sixty cases had broken out and fifty deaths occurred; she was ordered off by the Government, but owing to the rapid spread of the disease and the danger of the sick it was found impossible to proceed. She lies below the lighthouse. A number of the passengers will be placed in the hospital ship. There are three doctors on board, she has 1,320 passengers, and a crew of 100. The passengers are mostly Germans and Irish. The Captain thinks the disease was brought on board by the Germans.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 14.—A salute of 200 guns was fired to-day, 100 in honor of the Union victory in Connecticut, and 100 in honor of the Union victory in Congress over the President by passing the Civil Rights Bill.

The U. S. transport brig Gen. Joseph was sold at auction this morning. Captain Dougherty, formerly in command, was the purchaser.

Advises by the Laertes from Tahiti state that the British bark Sir George Grey, from Valparaiso for Sydney, was wrecked about the 20th of February on Cook's Bay, 100 miles east from Tahiti, where she was sold at auction for \$100. She was loaded with flour, and according to the Captain's statement is sunk in 18 feet of water. The Captain and crew arrived at Tahiti in an open boat after a passage of seven days.

Forty-six Chinese were this morning sentenced by Judge Cowles to the County Jail for thirty days as common prostitutes.

On the 9th inst., gold in New York opened at 127½, dropped to 125, and closed at 126. On the 10th the quotation was 126. Legal Tenders remain without change, 79½ buying, and 80 selling.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The steamer New York arrived from Aspinwall with California mails and treasure. Fifteen negroes attempted an insurrection at Panama, on March 24th, and were surrounded by the troops and shot down like sheep.

The Tribune's special despatch says it is generally expected that the President will in a few days release Jeff Davis and C. C. Clay on parole.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—The House galleries were crowded to the fullest capacity to-day. At a quarter past one o'clock, p. m., the Civil Rights Bill was taken up for action.

Wilson of Iowa, after a few remarks, demanded the previous question. Eldridge of Wisconsin, moved a call of the House, which was declared not to be in order. Leibold, of Ohio moved to lay the bill on the table; negotiated, ayes 38, noes 121. Eldridge and Finlay made motions to adjourn, which were voted down. Eldridge then announced the secession of indignant members, saying they had left the House on seeing a determination to pass the bill over the President's veto by operation of the gag rule. The previous question, having been ordered, the vote was taken and resulted as follows: ayes 135, noes 18. The speaker declared the bill had become law, when tremendous and long continued applause broke forth, followed by hisses. Amid this excitement the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—In the House during the morning hours, Davis' resolution offered January 10th, expressing confidence in the President, came up as unfinished business. Raymond of New York being entitled to the floor, moved to postpone the consideration of the resolution for two weeks; agreed to by a vote of 100 yeas and 100 nays.

offered resolutions to the effect that whereas Jeff Davis, C. C. Clay, and others were charged in the President's proclamation of May 3d, 1865, upon evidence in the murder of President Lincoln, therefore instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire if there is any probability of their being tried with power to report for persons and papers. The Civil Rights Bill and the veto message were taken up and it was a quarter past two p. m., when the reading was completed.

New York, April 10.—The township election in Essex County yesterday resulted in Union successes. The Democrats carried only three townships.

Chief Justice Chase last evening, in a speech at the Methodist meeting at St. Paul's Church, alluded to the passage of the Civil Rights Bill as a great triumph, and said the next step would be to give universal suffrage.

The Herald's Fortress Monroe special despatch says rumors increase that Jeff Davis will be taken to Richmond on a writ of habeas corpus. His health is growing worse.

Dispatches from St. Domingo of March 25, give the particulars of a great fire at Port au Prince, on the 19th, which raged thirty hours and burned thirty-three blocks, embracing a thousand houses. There is great distress in consequence.

CHICAGO, April 10.—The eight hour bill, which was before the Ohio Legislature, failed to become law by the negligence of the House to concur in some few trifling amendments made by the Senate. The Legislature has now adjourned.

PORTLAND, ME., April 10.—The steamship Belgian, from Liverpool the 29th, via London, arrived the 30th, at 8 a. m. The London Times says there is too much reason to fear that the peace of Europe is about to be broken by one of the least just and least necessary wars of modern days, and the Times hopes that England may hold aloof.

Special Dispatch to the "Colonist."

Eastern News.

The Breach Widening—Ill Feelings Gaining Ground.

CHICAGO, April 12.—The Wisconsin Legislature, by a strict party vote, except two Republican members, in each branch adopted resolutions declaring that Senator Doolittle has betrayed the people of Wisconsin and ought to resign. A resolution approving the President's policy was voted down without a single republican vote being given in its favor. The Legislature adjourned to-day.

The Tennessee House is still at a dead stand. Speaker Haskill (conservative) refuses to entertain any motion to refer the credentials of new members to a committee, and insists that those members who did not resign but whose seats were declared vacant by the Governor, are still members. If the Speaker votes there will be enough conservatives present for a quorum at any time they choose to withdraw, new radical members having been elected from districts declared vacant by the Governor. The bad blood on both sides presages personal violence. The radicals consider it a life and death struggle. If beaten now the whole Brownlow Government goes down.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The Health Commissioner having ordered cows and pigs to be removed from the limits of the police district, physicians declare that the cows are nearly all afflicted with pleuro-pneumonia, and if sent into the country they will spread the disease and cause immense loss.

SPAIN AND CHILE.

Naval Engagement—Victory of the Allies—Spanish Squadron Driven off with Heavy Loss.

News of the entire defeat of the Spanish squadron by the Peruvian and Chilean fleet is confirmed. The allied squadron consisted of the Apurimac, 30 guns; Peruvian corvette America, 12 guns; Peruvian corvette Union, 12 guns; Peruvian dispatch boat Covadonga, 3 guns; which with the Chileans amounted in all to 75 guns. The Spanish vessels were the frigate Blanca, 36 guns, frigate Villa de Madrid, 50 guns, in all 86 guns. For about two hours a most earnest cannonading was kept up, the fire of the allies being well regulated throughout. The Blanca was rendered almost useless and unable to continue the fight. She dropped behind the island and endeavored to do damage by throwing shells over the island upon the allies. Her cabin was knocked to pieces. Of killed and wounded the number must have been very heavy, judging from the dead bodies afterwards seen floating about. The other vessel suffered badly also, and both soon cleared out. Most unfortunately the machinery of the Apurimac was disabled, and the America and Union could not leave their anchorage, otherwise the Spanish ships would most assuredly have fallen a prize to the bravery and skill of the allies. The latter's loss amounts to a trifle, only two men having been killed in the action, and the damages to the vessels is scarce worth mentioning.

The United States steamers Vanderbilt, Tuscarora, and monitor Monadnock were at Valparaiso.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA.

Rebellion at Panama—Leaders Captured—Conspirators Shot—The Barbaçoas Mines—Timely Warning to Miners.

On the 24th March a rebellion occurred at Panama. The conspirators were shot down by government troops and all the leaders captured.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES, PANAMA, March 28, 1866.—To Messrs. Editors Star and Herald.—Gentlemen:—I fully approve the views expressed in your paper of the 27th instant in regard to the emigration of poor miners to Barbaçoas. Great suffering already exists at the mines, and my advice to all miners in California and Nevada is do not come unless you have \$500 in your pockets besides the expenses of getting to the mines, as a capital to start with, or as a means of returning if sick or disabled. I have very respectfully your obedient servant (Signed) W. B. LITTLE, Consul.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 13.—No Eastern News to-day.

Steamship Sacramento, from Panama, arrived this morning. The steamship Moses Taylor sails for San Juan del Sur at 11 a. m. to-morrow, with a large number of passengers.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Sacramento will sail on the 18th instant instead of the 19th—the usual sailing day heretofore. Hereafter in all months where there are 30 days, the 18th, instead of the 19th, will be the day of departure. This change of programme has been adopted for the purpose of connecting with the French line at Aspinwall.

J. A. Crane and John King were yesterday committed to the Insane Asylum. Gold in New York yesterday 127½.

Our market for legal tenders is a little weak, and quotations irregular. The bankers have been buying at 78½@78¾ and selling at 79@79½.

Yesterday coal oil sales of 1000 cases Boston brands at 75c.

Rice, by auction, 1,950 mats, 50 pounds each, No. 1 Canina crop of 1865, ex Fair Light, sold at 6.85; 4,274 do ex Blackburn, 6.85; and 806 do, White Bengal, at 6.30, cash.

Flour—Superfine, half sacks, per barrel, \$5 75@5.85; quarter sacks, \$6@6.25; Extra, half sacks, \$6@6.25; quarter sacks, \$6 25@6.50.

Wheat dull and heavy. Sales include 2,200 sacks of fair grades at \$1 75@1.80, chiefly at the inside price, and 1200 inferior, reported at \$1.60 per 100 lbs.

Barley—1,700 sacks at 80@85 per 100 pounds, for good feed and brewing old. Oats—1,200 sacks shipping sold at 2 per 100 lbs.

Potatoes at 110@112½ per 100 lbs. Arrived—Bark D. O. Murray, 19 days from Honolulu. Sailed—April 13th, Bark Torrant, Puget Sound.

LET THE TYRANTS TREMBLE!—The plans of the Fenians are now nearly matured, and the "army of invasion will move shortly." The "movement" has heretofore been of a rather windy character, but now something is to be done. It has not yet transpired whether the invasion will be in a fleet of clam-boats or by means of a tunnel, starting from some point in New York and emerging at Cork, or elsewhere in the Green Isle. But whatever plan may be settled upon will be promptly carried out. Meantime don't let pecuniary operations flag, or the zeal of the Biddies slacken. Keep passing round the hat!—S. F. News Letter.

THE RINDERPEST.—We learn from a private letter, says the Alta, that "the rinderpest has appeared among the cattle near Corson's, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, spreading consternation among the farmers and dairymen along the Schuylkill." The writer adds: "The fear of cholera is associated with this cattle pest, and there is a serious panic among the people." If it should take root in the Eastern States, some measures will have to be adopted to keep it out of California. That the pestiferous can be excluded from a place is satisfactorily established in the case of Ireland.

MARINE DISASTER—Santa Cruz, April 6.—There is a report here that a vessel was seen burning off the coast, about 12 miles from Santa Cruz, day before yesterday, at six o'clock in the evening. It is not known what kind of a vessel.—Flag.

FROM THE NORTH.—We notice that quite a number of business men from Portland, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana Territories, are at present in this city. They come to lay in large stocks of goods for Northern markets.—S. F. Flag.

British Columbia.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 2d March, 1866.

IN PURSUANCE OF A RESOLUTION OF the Legislative Council, passed on the 22d February, 1866, the Officer Administering the Government, with a view of developing the resources of the Colony, has authorized the following Premium to be offered:

A Premium of \$3,500 to any person or persons who shall first erect a Quartz Crushing Steam Mill in Cariboo, of not less than 60 horse power, capable of working two batteries each of four stamps of the weight of 800 lbs.

The Mill to be in working order on or before the 30th September next, and to have been worked for three months, to the satisfaction of the Assistant Gold Commissioner, before the premium is payable.

The Governor in Council to be the sole judge as to whether the above premium is to be awarded. By command, HENRY M. BALL, Acting Colonial Secretary.

RETRENCHMENT.

Photographs, OF ALL KINDS, AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES!

CARTE DE VISITES, per dozen, \$5 00. " PER K " 8 00.

At Fardon's Photographic Gallery, Corner Langley and Yates streets, February 6th, 1866. N. SHAKESPEARE, 49 1/2

Queen Charlotte Coal Mining Company

NOTICE OF MEETING. THE SECOND ORDINARY MEETING of Shareholders of this Company will be held in the City Council Chambers, Broad street, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th of APRIL next, at eleven a. m. sharp.

Business—General and the passing of certain special resolutions, which may be seen at the Company's office, under the name of the Secretary, at the corner of Broad and Terrace streets, at eleven a. m. April 6, 1866.

W. B. LITTLE, Secretary.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

A few days ago we announced in our telegraphic despatches that President Johnson had given a second veto—that he had refused to sanction the Civil Rights Bill which passed both Houses of Congress. The general tenor of the bill was to place the colored people in every state of the union on an equality with white men before the law. The President took exception to the measure on the old ground of the sovereignty of the States, and contended that Congress had no right to dictate to the States what laws they should make. The question is even a more important one than that of the "Freedmen's Bureau," and both Houses of Congress are more cautious in their movements to destroy the President's veto. The press of all sides agree that the chasm which now exists between the President and Congress cannot be bridged over. There can be no compromise between an ultra democrat, which Johnson is now proving himself to be, and radical republicans. The only result, therefore, is victory or defeat. The New York Herald, which supports the President, says:—"The veto marks the impassable barrier between the President and the ruling radicals of Congress. Henceforth there can be no party interpositions of Congress coupled with professions of adherence to the Administration." The Tribune, the organ of the radical republicans, says that the President "has chosen to let us know that not this particular bill, but any measure whereby Congress shall attempt to protect the blacks against white abuse, must encounter his determined deathly opposition." And the World, an ultra democratic paper, asserts that the conflict between the President and Congress admits of no compromise. We, therefore, see Congress arming for the fight; and Johnson using all his power and patronage to carry the various elections which are at present taking place and those that will shortly be on the political programme. At the present time one or two members added to either party in the Senate would turn the scale either way. The total number of members in the Senate by recent telegrams, is 49; out of these 31 are against the President, 15 in his favor, and 3 absent through sickness. One of these three—senator Foots of Vermont—has, however, since died and a republican senator has been appointed by the Governor in his place. This will, therefore, give to the majority 32 votes against 15. An election for senator is taking place in New Jersey which is expected to result in favor of the republicans, so that everything seems to foreshadow a great victory for Congress. The next telegraphic news we receive will, in all probability, give us the result of the Presidential conflict—whether or not the Civil Rights bill has been passed by the necessary two-thirds majority. If Congress succeeds it will be literally a death-blow to the President, who has taken a most determined stand on the question. There is, however, no doubt about Congress gaining its point ultimately. In nearly all the State or local elections which have been recently carried, the Congressional party have come out victoriously. In Connecticut, after a very exciting contest a republican Governor has been elected, and this in despite of everything the President could do or say. With all the importance of the result, there was something essentially amusing in the canvass. Two candidates ran—one a republican and the other a democrat. The first went to the President to see if his views were favorable to the Executive, and was told that "whatever difference of opinion he (Johnson) had with the members of the Union party, he expected to fight it out within the lines of that political organization." This was published in due course, and in due course gave much aggravation to the democrat, who felt certain that he had the President's support. Away then this candidate trotted to the President, when the latter delivered himself in the following oracular fashion:—"When I said the Union party, I did not mean the men who are trying to break up the Union party, but men who stayed by me. I believe the maintenance of the Union depends on the policy which I have indicated in Congress. Those who sustain that policy are my friends; those who oppose it I certainly have no desire to see elected to any office. The party of Radicals is not the Union party." To give effect to his language he accepted the resignation of postmasters who support the Republican candidates, and refused to receive the resignation of those whose sympathies were of the Democratic order. The result, however, as we have said, was against the President, not only in the election of Governor, but in the election of the members of the Legislature, and we have no reason to believe that other States when it comes to their turn will act in a very different manner.

A lady travelling in a railway carriage, was mobbed by a companion continually embarrassing his conversation with "fart" and "flat air." A few moments afterwards she quietly requested him to close the window, remarking "this air is affected by that air."

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.
Sir,—We, the undersigned Committee appointed at a public meeting to assist Mr. Cunningham, our representative to frame a bill for the incorporation of Nanaimo Town, have noticed with satisfaction your motion in the Legislative Council to stay the further consideration of the bill for a short period, thus allowing us time to forward a memorial praying for the bill to become law; and desiring that the petition now before the Honorable Legislative Council does not represent the interests of the law or the majority of its inhabitants; and that fraud, misrepresentation and undue influence were employed to obtain signatures to the said petition. We have to thank you for what you have already done in our behalf, and beg of you still further to delay the consideration of the bill for at least one week, thus affording the inhabitants an opportunity to peruse the bill and enable us to complete the work we have now undertaken.

We have, &c.,
(Signed) R. H. STONE,
A. HOOD,
D. W. GORDON,
R. DUNSMUIR,
C. PLATT.

The Hon. Chief Justice commented strongly on the allegations of fraud, misrepresentation and undue influence preferred against the so-called 7-8ths of the property holders of Nanaimo. The charges were serious ones, and should he thought be proved or disproved by evidence being heard pro and con.

The motion to defer was agreed to.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
At the suggestion of the Chief Justice the Hon. Attorney General explained the object of the bill, which was to provide for the English standard of weights and measures in this colony and to appoint Inspectors to enforce the observance of the law.

Hon. Mr. Fraser said that the system suggested would entail a staff of clerks to reduce one standard of weights and measures to another. Many people in business here were accustomed and wedded to the American standard of weights and measures, and it was convenient to them.

The Hon. Attorney General explained that the principle of the bill was that the person buying a certain quantity of any article should get it, and not be cheated. It did not signify whether there were one or two standards so long as the buyer was protected and Inspectors enabled to see that the standards were observed.

Hon. Colonial Secretary thought it most desirable that the colony which had now been settled some years should have some standard of weights and measures. At present a butcher might send you 12lb of meat by his scales, and on weighing it by a pair of English scales it would only make 9lb. On remonstrating with the butcher he would tell you that his scales were right and yours were wrong.

Hon. Mr. Rhodes would like to see, as this was an important measure some more time taken over it. For years there had not even been an Imperial gauging rod here, and the contents of a cask were ascertained by an American gauging rod, and the Imperial gallons reduced to the American, or vice versa. He approved of a standard of weights and measures, but would like to see the system assimilated to those in use in countries around us, and instances in a case lately where a merchant from Sitka ordered the price of goods, and on being informed of the price they were too dear; on its being explained that they were dear, that the Imperial gallon exceeded the American he was satisfied with the price but begged that the goods should be invoiced at the American measure, as they were accustomed to "other in their colony. The trade with the neighboring territories would increase, and so would the trade with Sitka and Sandwich Islands, and it was therefore advisable to assimilate our system as much as possible to those in force there. He moved that the matter be deferred and evidence taken.

The Hon. Chief Justice thought this was not a material question. It might be very desirable to follow the laws of England when they were applicable, but this was essentially a commercial community, and it was advisable to frame such laws as would best further the commercial interests. He, therefore, thought, with the Hon. Mr. Rhodes, that time should be taken and the evidence of commercial men received. The Hon. gentleman alluded to the complications which arose from the standard system of English weights and measures. A ton of coals was called 2240 lbs, which really represented nothing, whereas the Americans simplified it by calling it 2000 lbs. He questioned, therefore, whether it would not be better to adopt the decimal system at once, as most suited to the requirements of trade.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary said the Council appeared to be agreed that some system was required, and it struck him that it would be better simply to make the English pound weight the standard pound, the English yard the standard yard, and so on, and abolish bushels and the other dry measures.

The Hon. Surveyor General called attention to the fact that from the absence of any standard of measures in this colony each Surveyor had his own chain, and there was no appeal. This meant that he used different rods, and it gave rise to serious inconveniences. He suggested the motion to defer.

The Hon. Attorney General remarked that a number of tons, lots of 60 tons from the land out, and each had measured off his 60 feet, and the owner of the last lot found he had 70 feet.

The Hon. Surveyor General said that was done purposely to avoid disputes.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

The bill was then deferred to the 24th inst. The bill providing for the registration of births, deaths and marriages came up for second reading.

The Hon. Attorney General explained the object of the bill.

Considerable discussion ensued, in the course of which the Hon. Chief Justice drew attention to the fact that not a piece of consecrated ground had been set aside for interment in any of the districts outlying Victoria, which he looked upon as a serious evil. He had been made aware of this circumstance, on enquiring into the estate of a man who recently died, leaving seven orphan children unprovided for. The father was well found dead on the Saanich road, left a few things behind him, which realised some \$150, and undertakers and everybody grabbed at it. Seeing a charge made of \$36 for conveying the body to the grave he felt inclined to disallow it, but was informed that there was no other burial ground except the Victoria cemetery to which the body could be conveyed, not even at Esquimalt, and he hoped that the attention of the Legislature would be drawn to this fact.

The general principle of the bill appeared to meet with the approval of the Council, and the bill passed the second reading, when the Council adjourned.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC BENEVOLENT FUND.

Three years ago the Amateur Dramatic Association, devoted the net proceeds of one of their performances, amounting to \$126 75 to a fund for the relief of persons in distress; and placed the sum for distribution in the hands of the Stipendiary Magistrate, A. F. Pemberton. The whole of the amount has now been expended, and at the request of the worthy trustees, we append a statement of the expenditure.

A. F. PEMBERTON IN ACCOUNT WITH THE AMATEUR DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION.

Dr. Received from the Hon. Secy Amateur Dramatic Association	\$126 75
Per Mr. McCann	4 50
Total	\$131 25

October 5th, 1863.

Cr. Paid Rev. A. C. Garrett, donation in aid of Mr. Templeton	\$5 00
February 23rd, 1865	
Paid Secy of St. Andrew Society, towards fund to send home Tait and Templeton, lunatics	\$50 00
February 14th, 1865	
Paid towards passage to an Asylum, for Mrs. Dean, a lunatic	\$10 00
April 9th, 1865	
Paid Mrs. Harris, for the relief of Mrs. Reeves	\$21 60
Total	\$131 60

(Signed) A. F. PEMBERTON, Secy. S. M. A.

THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD SCHEME.

A correspondent of the Oregonian writing from St. Paul, Minnesota, under date February 26th, says:—"The proposed union of the Atlantic and Pacific by railroad over the northern route, is attracting a great degree of attention in various parts of America and in England. The London Railway Record, in the interest of English capitalists, who it will be remembered are largely in favor of the north-western railroad to the Pacific, has an article well worthy of attention, from which I learn that the routes by which British Central America has been hitherto approached—through Hudson's Bay, by Lake Superior, and over the plains from St. Paul; the preference given to the latter is admitted, and the events of the few past years show that there is no barrier so formidable but what it can be surmounted, and a railway completed within a reasonable time. The Record's article closes with the following paragraph:—"In 1862 the railway system of the United States terminated at La Crosse in the State of Wisconsin. The ocean steam navigation to St. Paul, land transportation for 250 miles to Georgetown, on the Red river, and steam navigation to Fort Garry, were the improved modes of transit. Beyond the Selkirk settlements the oared batteaux and the wooden cart of the fur trader are the rude resources of the inhabitants. But with gold discoveries a new state of things is at hand. Seamans once placed on Lake Winnipeg and the Saskatchewan, an emigrant can make the journey from Toronto, in Canada, to the mines of British Columbia, in thirty days, and at less expense than is now required for the journey on land from the mouth of the Fraser river to the Cariboo country. If we are not mistaken, this great work will be a leading enterprise of the coming year. From other sources we are advised that Boston, Chicago and Buffalo are the three giants who propose to stride over the territories of the north with seven league boots, and bind them in iron fetters. The project is being pushed in earnest by men of these cities who devote time, heart and fortune to it. The last link now to be completed is the upper Missouri, in Montana, with the Columbia or Eastern Oregon. It is believed that 500 miles of the road will unite the navigable waters of these two streams. An exploring expedition of capitalists, scientific men, and members of the press will leave St. Paul in May, crossing by Mullin's Pass to the Columbia."

CUTTER EXPECTED.—The steam revenue cutter Lincoln, Capt. J. W. White, was expected to arrive at the Columbia river, on the 5th of the month. The Lincoln arrived at San Francisco on the 25th of February, en route for Puget Sound district, where she was ordered, from the East. She is a propeller of 600 tons burthen, of fine model, and said to be a clipper to scull.

A Tight Fit.—Intoxication. "What's the use," asked a ragged fellow of a man working himself to death to get a living "to get drunk?" "You mean to get a living?" "I never patronize a business that don't advertise for the reason that I invariably get cheated." "The patronizing principle that prevents a man from keeping his business before the people will prevent him from selling cheap."

VICTORIA SCHEMES.—Under this head our

Portland contemporary, the Oregonian has the following:—"The British Colonist of March 24th, printed at Victoria, compliments in the highest terms Mr. W. H. Oliver of San Francisco, who has taken an active part in urging an emigration to Big Bend via Victoria, and characterizes the gentleman as 'the indefatigable representative of the Chamber of Commerce in California, in relation to the immigration and the Columbia river mines.' On the 26th of March, two days after, the same paper prints a letter signed 'W. E. O.' dated Lyton, March 19th, which appeals mercifully to the press to stop the Chamber of Commerce, in the letter of 'W. E. O.' appears a statement corroborating what we have already published regarding the suffering on the route, and saying further that men must be provided with provisions, and 'double the amount of cash stated in the published reports as being required' to reach Big Bend by that route. The writer concludes that the action in this matter will 'put the country back two years.' [The object of the above distorted paragraph is not so much to attract attention to the Portland route, as to traduce the British Columbia route to Big Bend. The writer overlooks one most important fact however, viz, that W. E. O. and his party started from Victoria for the mines several weeks ago, whereas the steamer 'Forty-Nine' was not to make her first trip up the Columbia River until yesterday. Finding however that the season was late and provisions very scarce, our correspondent W. E. O. very considerably warned miners against coming up too early unless well supplied with provisions or money.]

THE PORTLAND PRESS ON 'BIG BEND.'

The Oregonian is evidently piqued at the flow of immigration hitherward. It not only puts wrong interpretations on news coming from this quarter, but uses every argument, good, bad, and indifferent, not with a view to prove that the Columbia River route is the shortest, best or cheapest, but that the other route is bad and should not be travelled. If we may have about depth of snow and ice, scarcity of provisions, starvation, snags, &c., &c., drawing away those who have satisfied themselves that the British Columbia route is the shortest, safest, cheapest, easiest, and most expeditious way to travel to the new mines. Indeed it goes so far as to admit that a great many now in Portland, and all those who are not posted, will invariably prefer the Victoria route. We should like to know, however, whether the drawbacks incidental to a severe winter and late spring will not be found to exist even to a greater extent on the Columbia River approach? We have grave doubts indeed (although we shall be glad to hear that Captain White's boat is doing a 'good trade' whether the Forty-nine, which was to leave yesterday, will be able to push her way far up the Columbia—whether, in fact, the miners who have selected that road to travel will not meet with serious difficulties, which the Oregonian cannot take credit for, that whatever drawbacks exist in the country are made known for the benefit of all concerned, and by publishing the warnings given in the columns of the Victoria papers the Oregonian is unconsciously giving them credit for that most essential newspaper ingredient—honesty.

OUR MINING IMMIGRATION.—The Oregonian

pays the following reluctant compliment to the energy displayed by our Chamber of Commerce in spreading the advantages of the Victoria route to Big Bend:—"A great many of the passengers here now, we learn are en route for Big Bend. One, a former Victorian, whose name we suppress by his own particular request, says that the miners generally are disposed to give 'Victoria the go by,' as many have been successively felled there, and badly sold from time to time for years. He says that if our people exercise one half the spirit to advertise this route that the Victorians have, to spread themselves on the British Columbia route it would not only result to the advantage of the Columbia river trade but would prevent much suffering, as men not posted will invariably go via Victoria. Cannot parties interested take some steps in this important matter? Nearly every bummer in San Francisco gets his whisky on Victoria or Chico, or Red Bluff money, while there is scarcely a man in that city to say a word in favor of the interests of Portland, or the routes via the Columbia river to the various mining regions."

VICTORIA FREIGHTS.—The two vessels

now taking freight in this city for Victoria, are receiving at \$6 per ton—the customary price for sailing craft. The Alfred Crosby, under command of Capt. Selby will clear to-day at one o'clock p.m. The Pacific, loading at the foot of Morrison street, will clear on to-morrow. They will have nearly, if not quite a full cargo each. The Pacific is chartered by the Portland Gas Light Company, and will return laden with coal. Capt. Gage yesterday invited us to take a look at his vessel, which is really a fine craft, well calculated for carrying fifteen or twenty tons of coal, and having ample cabin accommodations for a number of persons. We should like very much to see the Pacific and Crosby both, particularly employed in this route, but have, been informed, that the Pacific is not able to be so engaged, as part of her owners has interests for her to represent on the Umpqua, which call her frequently to make voyages between that locality and San Francisco.—Oregonian.

BRITISH COLUMBIA SILVER MINING COMPANY.—We briefly alluded to the fact on

Thursday last that a number of our citizens were interested in a valuable mining region of British Columbia, known as the Shuswap, on last Saturday, articles of incorporation were filed, and the company organized under the above name. The location is on the North-Cherry Creek about sixty miles from the Columbia river. The capital of the British Columbia Silver Mining Company amounts to \$500,000. Edwin Russell, Esq., of the Bank of British Columbia was chosen President under the organization on Saturday, and W. W. Page, Esq., Secretary. The following named gentlemen are the Directors: Col. J. S. Kooker, Thomas J. Carter, Wm. Davidson, E. W. Tracy, and Edwin Russell. Mortimer Robinson, Esq., and Major L. L. Blake were elected by the directors as Superintendents, and will proceed at once to immediately comply with the provisions of the British Columbia government which has conferred upon the company important grants of lands for the furtherance of the object.—Oregonian.

THEATRICAL.—Grist is expected shortly in

England. R. Cathart, a well known English actor, died recently at Manchester at an advanced age. The deceased was the father of the Mr. Cathart travelling with the Keans. Sims Reeves was well enough to sing at Leicester, England, on New Year's Day. Pretty little Patti is singing in the South of France, and gets a thousand dollars a night, and is literally covered with flowers. The Dramatic Chronicle has the following:—"Stephen Massett," remarks the London Era, January 7th, "universally known throughout America, Australia and India as James Pipes, of Pipeville, and whose fame in the United States is equal to the Charles Dickens of our own country, is expected to arrive by the next steamer from New York, and will shortly give his most successful entertainment entitled 'Drifting About.' The merits of this artist are spoken of by the American press in terms of the highest commendation." It is not to be wondered at that we have Stephen Massett accepted in England as the American Charles Dickens? James Pipes must have sent a good agent ahead of him.

A GRAND CHRISTENING.—The christening

of the infant daughter of the Right Honorable Sir Robert Peel, Bart, M. P., and Lady Emily Peel, took place on Wednesday afternoon at the Royal Chapel, Whitehall, in the presence of a select number of friends. Her Majesty, who had most graciously signified her wish to be godmother, was represented by the Marchioness of Ely, The Duchess of Wellington, sister of Lady Peel, was the other sponsor; and Mr. Lawrence Peel, brother of the late Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, was the godfather. The Very Rev. D. officiated, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Knollys. The Earl Russell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, and a host of friends, were present at the ceremony. Sir Robert and Lady Emily Peel afterwards gave a grand entertainment at their residence in Whitehall, in elegant terms, proposed the "Health of the infant" who had been baptized that day. The Queen presented her godchild with a costly locket containing some of Her Majesty's hair, set with rubies and diamonds, with the inscription, "Victoria Alexandra Julia Peel, from her godmother, Victoria R. Jan. 24, 1866." The Duchess of Wellington sent a beautiful gold embossed cup, with service en suite.

UPPER COLUMBIA STEAMER.—Mr. Briggs,

purchaser of the steamer Forty-nine, on the Upper Columbia, passed through this city on his way up a few days ago. He informed us that the boat would, in all probability, start for the new mines above on or before the 10th of April. The ice, he had no doubt, would be out of the lakes by that date sufficient to admit the passage of the steamer. Persons intending to go to the new mines ear there, fore govern themselves accordingly.—Walla Walla Statesman.

FOR BIG BEND OR BLACKFOOT.—The Man-

tana and Big Bend Stage Company have opened an office in this city at Arrington's, the old stage office of the Oregon and California Stage Company. The fare to Blackfoot is \$100, and to White's Landing \$60, from the Columbia River. The first four wheel coach for Blackfoot passed through the streets of our city yesterday, and will be shipped to-day for the Dalles.—Oregonian.

EXPORTS.—The schooner Pacific, Capt.

Gage, which leaves for Victoria this morning, has the following cargo—Flour, 200 quarter sacks; fruit, 220 boxes; bacon, 303 quarters; wheat, 170 sacks; butter, 35 barrels; lard, 15 barrels; mill feed, 196 sacks; eggs, 4 boxes; timothy seed, 2 sacks.—Oregonian.

THE POPULATION OF PORTLAND is set down

by the Golden Era at 6,038 souls. The Oregonian admits that there may be that number of souls in the city, but questions whether the same number of souls are to be found there, a day or two later in the season.

BILLS PASSED DURING THE LATE SESSION.

The following is the list of the measures passed during the session of the Legislature of British Columbia:—Confirmatory Ordinance, Trustees Relief; Union Telegraph Extension; Trades Licenses; Joint Stock Companies; Ferry Regulation; Creeks Bed-rocks; Finance; Pilotage; Gold Tax; Rappahannock; Supplemental Amendment to County Courts Jurisdiction; Homestead Bill; Claims Imprest Bill; Columbia river joint district; and others. The losses by fire in New York city from the first day of June to the last day of Nov., 1865, foot up \$3,784,304.

THE REPUBLIC AND THE

It is a matter of some interest to witness the negotiations going on between Canada and the United States to reciprocal commercial relations. The defeat of the measure in Congress late the week between the Republic and the British Provinces set at rest the removal of the reciprocity treaty. Canadian delegation who with Secretary McCulloch at Washington is still in hopes of an arrangement that would prove satisfactory to both countries.

The report of the United States commissioners on the treaty indicates enough the basis on which any agreement will have to be drawn. The case was as anxious as the people of Canada as international commercial relations should be made; "in view" they the closer geographical connection United States with the British rendering them in many respects commercial—and of the magnitude of world relations existing between the two would be impolitic and to the detriment of the interest of the United States the consideration of all propositions to the re-establishment of some satisfactory international commercial relations. Such a source would be in position to the spirit of the age, the of our people, and the policy of availing our resources as a means of relieving the burden of our public debt. Whatever ulterior motives the United had in terminating the present treaty will be serious losers by the act. present time the trade with the British is next to that with Great the most important commercial which the Republic possesses. The import and export trade of the States with Great Britain is \$217, and with British North America \$68. The latter is almost as large as the trade with France, Germany and China equal to the entire trade with Brazil, China and the British West. It is therefore very evident that the for abolishing the treaty must have been considered very strong in the opinion people of the United States. The ost reason is to the effect that the Republic the interest on a large debt to pay of necessity require the imposition of rates of taxation. But as many articles find their way into Canada either of duty altogether, or subject to very imposts, it follows that the United must either expend large sums to p smuggling, or submit to wholesale fraud the revenue. The late reciprocity treaty not relieve the Republic of this responsibility along the border, and for that reason others it is abrogated. It was unjust, they argue to the manufacturer in the while the excise taxation in the Republic very high, the duties imposed as excise Canada were little or nothing; so the article manufactured in the United States to meet with a ravenous competition from British Provinces. To obviate this, it recommended, as we have in former shown, that the excise in the Provinces be raised to an amount equivalent the duties in the Republic or in words Canada, which did not require excise duties, and which could not pay them, was to labor under similar but with the United States. The tendency request was simply to bring the British North American colonies under the scheme of taxation which obtains in the Republic. This was, in fact, one of propositions made in Washington, to our English and other European manufacturers; as they are now shut out to a great degree by the prohibitory or highly protective duties of the Republic. The proposition, however, did not take, and we find a small scheme put forward that on the face of looked plausible enough, but which would proved a most insidious one when in operation. This was instead of having a reciprocity treaty to make such legislative regulations as would admit certain articles duty free, subject to a light tariff agreed upon by both countries. The effect of this would be, to apply to make Canada more and more dependent on the United States, for the system might be changed any session of Congress, and could, like the proposition of a uniform tariff, only lead in the end to annexation. It will be a matter of some curiosity as well instruction to see what steps the two parties will now take, whether commercial hostility will usurp the place of reciprocity, or whether its energy will be concentrated in applying its industrial resources in that manner, be suited to the circumstances.

EXTRAORDINARY NOVEMBER HEAT IN AUSTRALIA.—Australian papers make mention of sudden and intense heat in the middle of November, affecting the health of many persons. The Melbourne Age says that a Beechworth several animals, principally cats and dogs, died of sunstroke. On the 21st the thermometer at Adelaide reached 115 degrees in the shade, and 165 degrees in the sun, shown by the register at the observatory.

Tuesday, April 17, 1866.

THE REPUBLIC AND THE PROVINCES.

It is a matter of some interest to us to witness the negotiations going on between Canada and the United States with regard to reciprocal commercial relations.

The report of the United States revenue commissioners on the treaty indicates clearly enough the basis on which any treaty will have to be drawn.

Whatever ulterior motives the United States had in terminating the present treaty, they will be serious losers by the act.

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EXTRAORDINARY NOVEMBER HEAT IN AUSTRIA. Australian papers make mention of a sudden and intense heat in the middle of November, affecting the health of many persons.

AUSTRALIAN ROBINSON CRUSOE.

The Melbourne correspondent of the Times supplies a long narrative of a man named Musgrove, who was a year or two ago shipwrecked on an island of the Auckland Islands.

Early in January, of last year, Musgrove, commanding a small sealing vessel called the Grafton, out of the port of Sydney, was driven in a gale of wind on to one of these islands, and his ship became a wreck.

With difficulty he and his crew contrived to reach the shore in a boat. The severity of the weather, gales of wind, being the rule rather than the exception in that boisterous latitude, prevented them from getting many things from the vessel, and the only tools they had were a hammer, an axe, an adze, and a gimlet, with which they contrived to make, after long and persevering labor, a thing they called a house, with a fire-place and chimney to it.

For provisions they were dependent on seals, pigeons, mussels, and a sort of saccharine root found on the island, which served for bread and potatoes, and which after some time they learned to brew into some stuff, which, although not beer, the captain says was better than cold water.

First catch your seal, was constantly the cardinal principle of their island cookery. The seals were in prodigious numbers, and Captain Musgrove's diary is interesting in its notices of these curious creatures.

And so on the diary proceeds—occupying nearly two pages of the Age newspaper, with the daily warfare on the seals; with an account of the murder of a fine phlegmatic, ever present, immovable old seal, they called 'Royal Tom,' the plague of sand flies and blow flies, and boils breaking out on the faces of the sufferers, until at last some of them determined on attempting an escape from the island.

The nearest inhabited land was New Zealand, 400 miles off. To traverse such a tract of stormy ocean in such a boat Captain Musgrove knew was little other than a form of suicide; but grown desperate, he determined on the attempt.

These ancient hooks, some of which were two-barbed, bore considerable resemblance to the modern kind; some of the larger of these hooks were headed, the leads being formed into conical or cylindrical lumps, shaped like dolphins, and named Delphin, after a certain rude resemblance to that fish.

He holds the labrax, and beneath its head, a sharp hook with care and oblong shape of lead. Named from the form a dolphin; plumed with this the bait shoots heading through the blue abyss.

could look to the right and see where the wall had crumbled and fallen into the sea. You could look above and see the logs rest and gashed, and the brick wall with great scars and ragged cracks and wide seams, as would have been the storm of iron shot of the sea.

THE INDIAN TROUBLES IN MONTANA. The Montana Post has the following item in regard to the Indians in Montana: From a letter from George Steele, of Benton, dated the 26th ult., we learn that the Piegans and Bloods, of treaty-making notoriety, are still camped there, and are stealing everything they can lay their hands upon.

HOW THE ANCIENT GREEKS FISHED. It is currently supposed that honest Isaac Walton was the father of the science of angling. Nothing can be more erroneous. The Greeks were masters of the rod and line 5,000 years ago.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE—HINT TO LADIES. It is fashionable with many to come late to church, long after the services have begun, to the edification of the curious in the congregation and the comfort of the nerves of the pulpit.

CONGRESS AND THE PACIFIC COAST.—The following resolution offered by Mr. Henderson, of Oregon, in the House early in December, was agreed to:

PLACER DIGGINGS.—The citizens of Vancouver have again been aroused by fresh reports coming in from the mines, the last of which is, that good prospects have been struck in a gulch below where the quartz ledge crosses.

GRAND ENTERTAINMENT AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.—His Excellency the Administrator of the Government gave a grand ball at Government House last night. Invitations were very generally extended to our citizens, and included a goodly number from the neighboring colony.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, &c. CAMOMILE PILLS. A RECENTLY recommended as a simple but a powerful tonic and gentle aperient, they are in operation; safe under any circumstances; to the benefits derived from their use.

INDIGESTION & STOMACHIC WEAKNESS. PEPSINE. THIS INVARIABLE MEDICINE for weak and impaired digestion may be had in the form of PURE, WINE, and LOZENGES, the POWERS LOZENGES, a NEW, AGREABLE, and convenient manner of taking the medicine.

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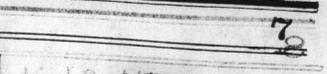
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