

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

And Victoria Chronicle.

VOL. 8. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1867. NO. 12

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY
HIGGINS, LONG & CO.
TERMS:
For Six Months, in advance, \$5 00
For Three Months, in advance, 4 00
For One Month, in advance, 1 25
Per Week, 2 00
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The Constitution of the Council.

On Wednesday the Legislative Council will meet for the transaction of public business, and the first matter that will engage the attention of the House will be the question of the legality of its constitution. The hon. senior member for the city, for the bold stand he took at the opening of the Legislature, is entitled to the thanks of the whole Colony; he has given the people an earnest that the fragments of liberty they possess will be zealously guarded during the session, and that the interests of this constituency have been entrusted to a champion who will do battle manfully in the cause of right and justice. The question propounded by the doctor is simply one of fact, which unless it can be negatived, will render the convention of the new Colonial Parliament nugatory, its proceedings illegal, and its immediate dissolution imperative. In another column will be found the hon. gentleman's arguments in support of his views, which, we incline to think, will require more than the legal acumen of the learned Crown adviser and his compeers to gainsay. The wording of the Imperial Act uniting the Colonies, we confess, is somewhat loose and indefinite with reference to the representation of the Island in the Legislature, but by no process of reasoning short of absolute sophistry can clause IV. be interpreted to confer greater representative privileges on the mainland than it formerly enjoyed. The Act says: "On the Union taking effect the form of Government existing in Vancouver Island as a separate Colony shall cease, and the power and authority of the Executive Government and of the Legislature existing in British Columbia shall extend to and over Vancouver Island; but, in order that provision may be made for the representation of Vancouver Island in the Legislature of British Columbia after the Union, the maximum number of Councillors in the Legislative Council of British Columbia after the Union shall, until it is otherwise provided by lawful authority, be twenty-three instead of fifteen." The only construction that these words will bear is, that the number of Councillors from the mainland, as before Union, shall continue to be fifteen, and that the additional numbers required to make up the total number of twenty-three must, therefore, be supplied from this Island. Thus, Vancouver Island is either constitutionally entitled, as Dr Helmecken remarked, to eight members in the Legislature or to none. This point conceded by the Government, and the question divested of its alleged legal technicalities, the city member may be told by the Attorney General that the provisions of the Act have been complied with, and that the present Council is composed of twenty-three members, eight of whom represent Vancouver Island. The Hon. W. A. G. Young occupies a seat in the Council, but has never been gazetted, and by what right or in what capacity

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Monday, Jan 28.

Opening of the Legislative Council.

The first Council of the United Colony of British Columbia and Vancouver Island was opened on Thursday by His Excellency Governor Seymour. At 1:30 the members of the New Westminster Volunteers, under Capt. Pritchard, the Home Guards under Capt. Calder, and the Seymour Artillery under Capt. Holmes, assembled at the Drill Hall, and headed by the Brass Band marched to the Camp, accompanied by a number of citizens and visitors. The Volunteers were drawn up as a guard of honor to receive His Excellency at the Council Chamber, while the hall was quickly filled with spectators. The Hon. members present were the Hon. Colonial Secretary Birch, who appeared in the uniform of the Civil Service, Hon. Attorney General Wood, Chief Commissioner Trutch, Collector Hamly, Magistrates Brew, Ball, Cox, Sanders, O'Reilly, Macdonald, and members elect Helmecken, DeCosmos, Pemberton, Southgate, Robson, Stamp, Walkem, and Smith. Among the ladies present were Mrs Seymour, Mrs Trutch, Mrs J. Trutch, Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Crease and daughters, Mrs Jones, Mrs Homer, Mrs Bushby, Mrs Sanders, Miss Moreby, Mrs Dickinson, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Black, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Kemp, Mrs Pritchard, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Rasthon, Miss J. Nagle, Mrs Claudet, Mrs Dewdney, Mrs Wright, Mrs Cunningham, Mrs Holt, Mrs Westgarth, Mrs J. Young, the Misses Calder, etc.

At 1:30 p.m. His Excellency arrived in full uniform attended by Messrs Maunsell and Sipletoe, the Volunteers presenting arms and the band playing the National Anthem. After administering the oath to the members, His Excellency read the opening speech, which has already appeared in our columns, and retired. H. M. S. Malacca, which had arrived in the morning and anchored in the steam close by, celebrating the opening of the House by a salute of 18 guns. The presidential chair was then taken by the Hon. Colonial Secretary Birch who formally opened the proceedings.

Hon. Dr Helmecken rose and said he felt some diffidence at this early period after the Union of the Colonies, in bringing forward any subject that might cause difference of opinion; the members of the Council should rather strive to work for the benefit of the whole country without sectional differences, but there was a matter that had created considerable agitation in the public mind of Vancouver Island, which he felt it incumbent upon him to bring to the notice of the Council at the earliest moment; he alluded to the subject of only seven members having been appointed to represent Vancouver Island. According to the Act he believed that the people of Vancouver Island were entitled to eight members, and on examining the Government Gazette he could find no more than seven. This was an important

subject, for if Vancouver Island were entitled to eight members, and only seven were allotted to take the full number of twenty-three was made up, then the Assembly must be illegally constituted and the defect must be remedied before proceeding any further. His own feeling was that the Island was entitled to eight members, and that the Act could not be construed any other way, though he was open to conviction, and hon. members learned in Law might be able to remove that impression. He did not think that there could be any difference on that point. If Vancouver Island was not entitled to one more member, then she was not entitled to any members at all. He felt sure the Governor did not intend to deprive the people of the Island of the small modicum of representation that they had, and that what they had sacrificed for Union. They felt this more poignantly than any other section; since they had once been free they felt they were not the same as they were before, though they hoped soon to be placed in a similar position; and he would leave it to this Assembly to say whether they were entitled to one more member or any one. This matter might possibly have been overlooked, and he felt confident His Excellency would endeavor, when a grievance was represented to him, to have it remedied.

Hon. Attorney General Crease in reply said he was not prepared with papers or documents and it was therefore impossible to go into the question; it was moreover a subject that would take a long time to discuss, and he would ask that it might be brought forward the first thing at the next meeting. It was usual according to standing orders to give proper notice as the late Speaker of the Vancouver Island Assembly was aware.

Hon. Dr Helmecken had no objection to defer the question were it not so important, for if the Council was not legally constituted the sooner it knew it the better. (Hear, hear.) He did not yet know what the standing orders of this Legislative Council were, but the Hon. and learned Attorney General must know since he had himself been a member of the Vancouver Assembly, that a question of privilege could be brought up at any time without notice. He (Dr H.) brought this forward as a question of privilege. The Hon. and learned gentleman's reply looked as if the question had not been considered and that the omission was therefore inadvertent. He would give the Hon. and learned gentleman time to read, look through, and study the Act and would suggest that a special day be named for the consideration of the question. He would leave it to the Hon. gentleman to name his own time. (Hear.)

The Hon. President suggested that the question be placed on the orders of Council for next sitting, which was agreed to.

Hon. W. A. G. Young moved that the Governor's speech be printed, and carried.

Hon. Magistrate for Yale moved the appointment of a Select Committee to frame the reply to the Governor's speech. Seconded by Hon. member for Cariboo and carried.

Hon. Mr DeCosmos asked whether the reply could be discussed.

Hon. President said the Council had adopted the same rule as prevailed in other Colonies. The Committee would present the reply when framed to the Council for its consideration. He would nominate the Hon. Collector of Customs, Magistrate for Victoria and Yale, and the members for New Westminster, Victoria District, and Cariboo.

Hon. junior member for Victoria said it was not contrary to the rules of the Council he wished to give notice of an important motion. [This was understood to be an address to the Governor to cause the suspension of the collection of duties on goods shipped from Victoria to New Westminster.]

Hon. President did not like to break through the rules and said it was not usual to accept notices of motion before the reply to the Governor's speech had been considered.

Hon. Mr Ball moved, seconded by Hon. Mr Brew that the Council adjourn till Monday next.

Hon. senior member for Victoria moved in amendment, seconded by Hon. Attorney General, that the House adjourn till Wednesday at 3 p.m. The amendment was carried, and Council adjourned accordingly.

FROM THE KOOTENAY MINES.—

We learn from Mr Milby, who left Wild Horse Creek in November, that he considers that the best mining camp in the country. There were about 73 white men and 275 Chinamen wintering on the Creek, and all doing well. Every man had money and business was brisk. The Chinamen live in style and are better off than their countrymen in any other part of the Colony; they dress well and emulate the manners and habits of the white man. There will be a large number of miners there next season, and it is believed that other creeks in the vicinity will be prospected to advantage. Mr Milby came by way of Fort Shepherd and Colville, over the Government trail, which he pronounces a great blunder. On Salmon Mountain there were 14 feet of snow, and on the Cascades several feet. The want of a good trail is the cause of winter coming from the American side. The winter at Kootenay was pretty open. There were only a few inches of snow on the creek.

NANAIMO COAL.—

The new bore in operation has reached a depth of over 400 feet. The indications are extremely favorable, and coal it is supposed will be struck within the next day or two.

EDUCATION.—

In our observations on Friday on the Governor's opening speech, we omitted to notice one important item, namely, that concerning Education. His Excellency must be aware—for he was informed of it by the Board of Education—that the teachers have been continuing their labors in the most praiseworthy manner, since August last without receiving any salary, and without even entering a complaint. Under such circumstances, the subject might have been considered one of the utmost urgency. But how does His Excellency express himself on the matter? He says: "I shall address you a message on Education and a few other topics in the course of the session." In other words, the urgent question of Education may be postponed for several months. How the teachers will bear this fresh delay, it is difficult to say; but, if prolonged, it must amount to closing the schools altogether—a result that the Governor can scarcely contemplate.

Messrs. GRIFFIN AND THOMAS, the two gentlemen appointed to wait upon the Governor with the petition on the subject of the Liquor Licences in Victoria, returned by the Enterprise on Saturday afternoon. They were very courteously received by His Excellency, who assured them that the subject would be brought under the notice of the Council at the earliest possible moment. From what the Governor said, they are led to believe that the licences will be charged at the same rate as in New Westminster, which will be a reduction of about thirty-three per cent. A still further reduction was suggested by the deputation, but His Excellency said that present circumstances would not permit of additional relief at present.

RUFFIANLY.—

On Saturday evening, an inoffensive Chinaman, while passing along Government street, near O'Dwyer's bakery, was knocked from the elevated sidewalk into the street, and severely injured by a young white ruffian who, unfortunately, made his escape, although pursued by an eye-witness. The poor celestial was assisted to his feet by passers-by. It is to be regretted that the dastardly fellow cannot be traced and punished as he deserves.

TRINITY CHURCH, N.W.—

A premium of \$100 is offered by the rector and churchwardens of Holy Trinity, New Westminster, for what may be in their opinion the best design for a pure Gothic church, 110 feet in length, of which the chance is to be less than one-fourth and not more than one-third. It is not intended, at present, to erect more than the chance and so much of the nave as will accommodate 150 persons.

IN LUCK.—

We are glad to hear that a telegram was received from Barkerville on Saturday stating that the United Tunnel Company in the bill on Conklin Gulch had struck it rich. They were supposed to have found the Ericsson lead, which proved so remunerative the year before last. Mr George Webster of this city, among others, is the fortunate owner of a half interest in this claim.

THEATRICAL.—

The Marsh and Pixley families, with some amateurs and musicians, will leave by the Enterprise to-morrow morning for New Westminster, where they will give two or three entertainments in the Theatre, which has been placed at their disposal by the New Westminster Dramatic Club.

IMPORTS.—

The Government Gazette contains a table of the imports for the past six months ending December 25th, 1866, at New Westminster, which foots up to \$484,267 22. The value of the imports to the port of Victoria from the 20th November to the 25th December was \$83,318 05.

EX-MAYOR HARRIS

has opened one of the largest and most stylish markets on the coast, and stocked it with choice meats of every description. We hope that Mr Harris will meet with a hearty support from the public—no one deserves it more.

THE SHOOTING AFFAIR AT COMOX.—

The inquest on the body of Harrop, who was shot by Holder at Comox, has been postponed till to-day in order that a full post mortem examination may be made and the actual cause of death ascertained.

ECCLESIASTICAL.—

The Bishop of Columbia returned on Saturday by the Enterprise from New Westminster, where he preached and held a confirmation yesterday week, and made a visitation of the two churches during the week.

FIFTY (LIVE) AMERICAN INDIANS,

men, women and children, are to visit the World's Fair at Paris, leaving New York in March. They will carry with them their wigs, canoes and household and war implements.

FEMALE IMPRISONMENT.

Mrs Seymour has been pleased to accept the office of Patroness of this valuable institution, which is appealing with strong claims at the present time for the assistance of the benevolent.

THE RAFFLE FOR 28 VOLUMES OF THE

Encyclopaedia Britannica took place on Saturday. Mr Robt. Bishop was the fortunate winner.

SUMMARY COURT.—

A Summary Court will be held to-day at the Court house, James Bay, at 10 o'clock a.m. There are about 17 cases, some of which are important.

BROTHER'S LEDGE.

The beacon staff on this rock has disappeared, and should be immediately replaced by a conspicuous buoy.

IT IS EXPECTED

that Captain Porcher, of H.M.S. Sparrowhawk, will deliver a lecture before the Mechanics' Institute on Thursday evening.

SNOW WAS FALLING

at New Westminster on Saturday morning when the Enterprise left, and considerable float ice was coming down the river.

Cariboo.

(From the "Examiner.")

Dietz & Nelson's express and mail from Cariboo arrived on Tuesday, 27th inst. from the 9th inst. Canoes also arrived with Mr John Boie, of Williams Creek, and Mr. Thos. Boie, of Lytton, Mr W. H. Sutton and Mr Henderson, of Yale.

Barnard's express sleigh had arrived at Yale, with twelve passengers, amongst whom was Mr Jones, appointed to take charge of the Bank of British Columbia in New Westminster.

Mr J. Buie left William Creek on the 9th inst., and furnishes us with the following:

The weather was mild on Williams Creek, and six to eight inches of snow on the ground. Most of the claims were working. The Heron and Discovery claims on Grouse Creek are paying well. A rich quartz lead has been discovered on Canyon Creek. Sleighting is good to Yale.

MARKETS.

The markets had settled, flour selling at 24c to 25c; butter, \$1 25 to \$1 50; sugar, 35c to 40c; beef, 25c to 30c; mutton, 40c; candles, 90c to \$1; bacon, 75c; tea, \$1; H. B. Co. tea, \$1 50; coffee, \$1. There is an extensive assortment of goods on the Creek.

Mr Buie expresses belief that flour, the coming season, will be sold as low as 12½c, and does not intend to ship any from the lower country. At the present time flour can be obtained at Lytton for 8c. The Lillooet mill will in future manufacture one brand only—extra—the miners wanting the very best quality. Mr Adams will have his grist mill at work at an early period. Grain is expected, can be supplied in abundance at 3½c to 4c.

Some parties on the creek had started curing bacon and sold it at 50c. Wages were seven dollars a day. There were no idle men, and money was plentiful. All business is now transacted only by the medium of hard cash, from two bits up, to the satisfaction of all parties.

On Grouse creek mining was still being carried on with vigor. The Heron and the Discovery were paying well.

On Canyon creek a rich lead has been discovered in another of the quartz claims.

Barnard's express continues to make bi-monthly trips. Mr Barnard's energy is highly spoken of by the miners and traders between Yale and this city there is no float ice to interfere with navigation.

We have received the Cariboo Sentinel of the 31st ult., but it contains little news. The Mining Board were still engaged in revising the Mining Laws. The Board passed resolutions recommending the removal of the Public Library and Post Office to Barkerville. The board also strongly recommend that no extension of the Charter of the Grouse Creek Bad Rock Flame Co. be given, as they had utterly failed to comply with the terms thereof.

MINING INTELLIGENCE.

The following is from the Sentinel:

The Heron Co. is still paying largely; for weeks ending December 15th, it paid \$4,500; dividend, \$350 to the interest. For weeks ending December 22d it yielded \$6,567; dividend \$600 to the interest.

The United company has quit for want of water.

Nearly all the claims above Richfield are paying over expenses.

The Dutch Hill company paid 56 ounces last week, including a \$90 nugget.

The Welsh Company took out for last week 300 ounces.

The Bed Rock Drain Company have begun work again.

The Discovery company on Grouse Creek is paying largely again.

Mr Martin Torrey met with an accident by the explosion of a powder flask.

The colored population of this district intend celebrating the anniversary of emancipation in the United States, on the 1st of January.

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giving remedies are now, for the first time, by to the world. For over a quarter of private practice the ingredients in these

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case they add new life and vitality, and re-energize to their prime state. To the middle-aged, they will prove most available, and starting for middle life. Here is a medicine, that Ponce-de-Leon, sought for three ago, and never found. He looked for a would restore the old to vigor and make

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the light of years, but they can force back, of disease that might triumph over the young. Let none hesitate that, but seize opportunity, that offers. When taken as

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are more productive of cure than these Pills. magie influence is felt at once; and the habits of this most distressing disease are these remedies are made from the purest

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harm the most delicate female, and can be effect in prescribed doses to the youngest

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one of the skin, the SALVE is most valuable, not heal externally alone, but penetrates searching effects to the very root of the

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attention to the following—Pickles, Sauces of all kinds, Jams, Potted, in Mustard, Orange Marmalade, Robert Peel's Sauce, M. Soy's Mushroom Catsup, and numerous all of which are of the highest prepared with the most complete purity and wholesomeness. Their are finest imported.

AGENTS.

the most useful article ever, afforded to one can use them, anything can be dyed in minutes without soiling the hands. Judson's Dyes are as Household of Clothing that have been put aside may be made nearly equal to new, by the simple directions appended to

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You see "Judson's Dyes" are the most useful article ever, afforded to one can use them, anything can be dyed in minutes without soiling the hands. Judson's Dyes are as Household of Clothing that have been put aside may be made nearly equal to new, by the simple directions appended to

Sanitary. The presence of a steamship at San Francisco with two score of passengers dead or moribund from the cholera, should be accepted as a warning to our local authorities to prepare for a visitation of the pestilence. Every precaution must be used to prevent the grim monster reaping a plentiful harvest in our city during next summer. Every cesspool, sink, water-closet, and drain should be inspected, and, if found to require cleansing, the work should be done at once by the owner under the pain of the usual penalty in default. The ravine should also receive the early attention of those most interested in its sanitary condition; dead cats and dogs should be banished from its banks, and compelled to find a cemetery more remote from the abiding place of human beings; the depositors of garbage instructed not to dump their fragrant loads beneath the olfactories of a large proportion of the inhabitants; and citizens of every hue and occupation taught that the ravine, instead of being intended as a receptacle for everything too nasty and pestilential to encumber the earth, is a water-course designed by nature to drain the marshes, and that any attempt to obstruct it with decaying animal or vegetable matter, will not only defeat the wise object for which the ravine was created, but will render the locality more unwholesome and pestilential than it has yet proved. When the cholera reaches here—and it is certain to come—let us be prepared for it on every side. We make these remarks, not because we anticipate an early visit from the terrible scourge, but because we know that precautions cannot be too speedily and effectually taken to prevent a large mortality list.

Yale Representation. A special telegram from Yale announces that Mr Barnard has consented to stand for the Yale representation. Mr Barnard is a clever and energetic business man, a '59 pioneer, has large interests in the Colony, and will make a good and intelligent member. It has been said that Mr Barnard cannot sit, if selected, because he is a Government contractor; but the objection is absurd and untenable. There is no election law or rule in force on the mainland to prevent him taking his seat on that score; and Government established a precedent when it accepted Mr Smith, of Cariboo, who held a road contract at the time he was selected for the Council; besides, if we are not much mistaken, the only member who objects to the presence of Mr Barnard in the Council on the contract score is himself guilty of the heinous offence of printing advertisements for the Government. Where is the difference in the morality of the thing? The editor of the Columbian is much more likely to be bought with an advertisement than is Mr Barnard with a mail contract. We say again, that we hope Mr Barnard will be successful, because we believe he will vote understandingly and honestly on every question that may come before the Council, whether the interests of the Government, of Victoria, or of New Westminster are jeopardized by the result of his vote. As for Doctor Black, our acquaintance with the Yaleites leads us to the belief that they will never accept as their representative a gentleman who has been twice rejected by mainland constituencies.

By Electric Telegraph

Eastern States. New York, Jan. 10.—The friends of Jas. Stephens assert that he will be forthcoming at an early day, and give satisfactory explanation to the public. Washington, Jan. 10.—The Senate this morning passed a bill changing the time of commencing session of Congress, beginning the fortieth Congress on 5th March 1867, by a vote of 26 yeas to 7 nays.

New York, January 8.—The pressure against the impeachment of the President is very great, and remonstrances are pouring in from all quarters by mail and telegraph. The vote of yesterday is by no means to be remarked as indicative that those in favor will support the charges made; on the contrary, the belief is quite the other way. Several Republicans who voted, to send the matter to the Judiciary Committee have since stated that they did so as the surest way of getting rid of it. The Ohio Legislature passed the Constitutional Amendment to-day. Carson, Nev., January 11.—The Constitutional Amendments were adopted in assembly to-day by a strict party vote of 34 to 4. St. Louis, January 10.—The House passed the Constitutional Amendment to-day by a vote of 75 to 7. Albany, January 10.—The House passed the Constitutional Amendment to-day. Washington, Jan 11.—In the Senate the bill relating to the organic act of the territories, which declares that henceforth in any territory now organized or hereafter to be organized, there shall be no denial of the elective franchise on account of race or color, and a previous condition of slavery, and all territorial laws in conflict with this act are hereby declared null and void, was passed by a vote of 24 to 8. Mr Bidwell introduced a resolution instructing the postal committee to enquire into the expediency of having mail service performed by steamer between San Francisco, Astoria and Portland. The territorial bill lay on the table half an hour and was then taken up, and after the operation of the previous question, was passed by 104 yeas to 38 noes. Chicago, Jan 11.—The next Congress will convene at noon on the 4th of March. Topeka, Kansas, Jan 11.—The Constitutional Amendment was unanimously ratified by the Legislature. The Maine House yesterday passed the Constitutional Amendment by 126 to 20. New York, Jan 12.—Cholera is reported among the soldiers and passengers by the Nicaragua route. Washington, Jan 12.—The admiralty are preparing an estimate for a large increase of the navy. Washington, Jan 15.—Congress of California, offered a resolution giving the present Postmaster General authority to order the ocean mail service between San Francisco and Portland, three times a week. Cost not exceeding \$25,000. Chicago, Jan 16.—The Legislatures of Illinois and Michigan ratified the Constitutional Amendment. Chicago, Jan 17.—The West Virginia Legislature yesterday ratified the Constitutional Amendment. New York, Jan 15.—We have had the most severe snow storm witnessed for many years in this city. The streets and country roads are blocked up; the river and harbor are seriously obstructed by ice. Travel by land or water is exceedingly difficult. The impeachment question is being discussed in the city papers. The Times says the inaugurators of the project are working zealously for impeachment. The chances are two to one that the House sustains the impeachment. It is possible that the President will resist by all the means in his power—using the army and navy. The Tribune's Washington special says sufficient evidence is already before the committee to justify Ashley's action. The Herald says no preconcerted event is more certain than the impeachment or removal of the President. The World says that well informed sources confirm its opinion that the Radicals are bent on impeachment. The European press discusses the subject with deep seriousness and in an alarming manner. Chicago, Jan. 17.—Very cold; no snow. Philadelphia, Jan. 17.—The snow storm has almost suspended business. New York, Jan. 18.—Boston is literally snowed under. The storm only ceased at midnight, and no trains have passed out or in. Some of the streets are utterly impassable. New York, Jan. 18.—A furious wind storm prevailed throughout the night, and the snow here drifted in some places eight feet deep.

London, Jan. 15.—The ice on the lake in Regent's Park broke through to-day while crowded with skaters. Over two hundred persons were precipitated into the water, and thirty were drowned. Dent & Co., well known in the China and India trade, who were forced to suspend some time ago, have resumed payment. Florence, Jan. 16.—It is rumored that Minister King has been invited to remove the American chapel outside the walls of Rome. London, Jan. 17.—The Reformers are to have another monster demonstration on the 11th February. It is to surpass all other demonstrations.

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London, Jan. 17.—The Reformers are to have another monster demonstration on the 11th February. It is to surpass all other demonstrations.

San Francisco. Sailed, Jan. 17.—Ship Revier, for Nainimo.

Oregon. Jacksonville, Oregon, Jan. 17.—This morning, at daylight, the people at Fort Klamath were startled from sleep by the shock of an earthquake, immediately accompanied by a noise as of distant thunder. It began to grow dark—the whole heavens were full of a very black smoke or cloud; the air had a sulphurous smell, and ashes of a brownish color fell as fast as snow. Breakfast had only been fairly commenced when the earth seemed rolling like waves upon the ocean. Everyone was thrown to the floor, and only regained their feet to be placed again in the same position. With the rattling of dishes, crashing of window-glass, cracking of timber of buildings, and screams of the frightened people, you could not imagine a more perfect chaos. The majestic pines which surrounded the fort, seemed lashing themselves into fury; the wagons in front of the stables were engaged in pitched battle; horses and cattle crowded on the ground uttering the most piteous moans; dogs howling, and the unearthly yell of the Klamath Indians, camped near the fort completed the scene. The sutler's store was thrown about 20 feet from its former position. No lives were lost; it is supposed that a volcano has broken loose, near the Klamath marsh, as a continuous dark volume of smoke is seen ascending in that direction. This occurred about half an hour between the first and second shocks. Klamath Lake has receded about half a foot, and is still falling. Crooked Creek is dried up entirely.

San Francisco. San Francisco, January 16.—At the annual election for Directors of the California State Telegraph Company to-day the following persons were chosen: George H. Mumford, O. E. C. McLane, J. W. Dwinelle, Jas. Gamble, F. McCrelsh, W. C. Ralston, and W. H. Haight, directors. President, George Hart Mumford; H. D. Haight, Vice-President; George S. Ladd, Secretary and Treasurer; James Gamble, Superintendent. The British man-of-war Scout left Mazatlan, December 30, for La Pas. San Francisco, January 17.—The steamer America was stopped by blank shot from the revenue cutter Wanda, about 12 o'clock this morning, as she was slipping past Black Point in the dark. The general health of the ship is good, though there have been a number of deaths since she left San Juan del Sur. On the Isthmus, fourteen civilians died; on the voyage, four civilians and five soldiers died. The number of soldiers that died on the Isthmus was forty. The surgeon reports five deaths from cholera since sailing from San Juan. San Francisco, January 18.—The Board of Health and quarantine officers, after a thorough investigation, are justified in saying there is no contagious disease on board the America, and accordingly, at their meeting last evening, they decided to land the passengers as soon as it could be successfully done. The America will be thoroughly fumigated before allowing her to come to the wharf.

Yale Representative. Yale, Jan. 23.—Mr Barnard, Mail Contractor, is running for the representative of Yale district. Europe. Rome, Jan. 11.—An interdiction has been laid on the continuance of religious services in the Scotch Protestant Church, in this city by the Episcopal authorities. It is said they threatened to stop the services held in the American chapel. London, Jan. 12.—The Times has an argumentative article on the subject of the impeachment of the President of the United States, and says the scheme looks like a fatal blow at the Constitution. London, Jan. 13.—The Globe in an editorial says: The Eastern question has become so pressing that it demands the immediate action of the European Powers. The Globe thinks a general conference of leading Powers will be proposed on the subject. Report says an impression is on the point of breaking out in Bosnia. A report from Madrid states that Garibaldi is in Candia.

Paris, Jan. 13.—Dispatches from the East report a Ministerial crisis at Constantinople. The Porte has recalled its Ambassador from Athens. It is also reported that a number of reinforcements for the Greek insurgents have landed in Candia from Greek ships and given the Cretans a necessary supply of arms. The Czar and the members of the Imperial court were present at the bass lately given in aid of the suffering families of Cretans. Madrid, Jan. 12.—The proffered mediation of the United States in differences between Spain and Chile, is regarded as almost a certain forerunner of an important and permanent peace. Vienna, Jan. 12.—The journals of this morning say the Sublime Porte has impressed 150,000 men into service to quell the Greek insurrection. Florence, Jan. 12.—The Chamber of Deputies has adopted the draft of an address in reply of the speech of Victor Emanuel. London, Jan. 12.—The Admiralty are preparing an estimate for a large increase of the Navy. There is a remarkable understanding in the Hungarian Diet, and disposition is to break off negotiations with Austria if the latter insist on reorganizing the army, other measures equally desirous. The Vienna press says: a large insurance has been made at Hamburg on the personal effects of Emperor Maximilian which are to be shipped to Ragara on the Adriatic.

Cuba. New York, Jan. 18.—Havana advices of January 12th states that the small-pox continues its ravages at Matanzas. There were over 300 cases under treatment, and there had been 500 deaths in one day. About 48 per cent of the cases terminated fatally. The financial crisis in Havana was about over. South America. Buenos Ayres, Nov. 14.—The California colony in the Granchoche is doing well. They have many acres, and expect an addition to their numbers. The Government highly favors them. At last account, the Paraguayan war was in progress. The Brazilians were waiting for reinforcements to renew an attack under Margus de Suria. The Paraguayans were full of confidence. Minister Washburn was permitted to enter, and was invited to a State dinner by the President. New York, 11.—Advices from Rio Janeiro the 3d ult, states that by the China Mail Line, San Francisco is thrown open to the trade of all nations. A riot broke out at Pernambuco between Brazilians and Portuguese, in which 80 of the latter and 100 of the former were killed. United States. New York, Jan. 18.—The Herald's special says a report is in circulation in New Orleans that Gen. Sheridan has been in the habit of endorsing letters of marque issued by Juarez to prey upon French commerce, and guaranteeing to holders of them a right to fit out at New Orleans, and bring their prizes into that port. This story has been circulated by friends of the rebel Col. Melvan, who was arrested by Sheridan some time ago as the leader of the Knights of Arabia. Washington, Jan. 18.—The Conservatories of the Executive Mansion at Washington were burned yesterday. The loss of valuable plants cannot be replaced, and amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars. The buildings are damaged to the amount of \$20,000. The White House had a narrow escape. New York, Jan. 19.—Adolphus Swartz, a passenger by the steamer Bremen, was arrested on his arrival by order of the U. S. Marshal, on a charge of forgery committed in Vienna, for the amount of 160,000 forins. A requisition for his extradition was issued a few days since, at the instigation of the Austrian Consul, on the authority of a cable dispatch. Swartz was committed to prison to await the arrival of witnesses from Austria. Canada. Montreal, Jan. 13.—The export of Canadian products from this port last year amounted to \$7,250,000, being an increase of 70 millions over last year. California. San Francisco, Jan. 19.—Capt. James Vantine, of the firm of J. Vantine &

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, January 29, 1867.

The Speech and the Council.

The telegraph enables us to lay the Governor's speech before our readers this morning. The lateness of the hour at which the despatch was received compels us to defer a lengthy article upon its merits and its peculiar bearing, so far as the interests of this Island are concerned, until to-morrow; but there are one or two points to which we wish to direct public attention to-day. We refer, first, to His Excellency's brief promise to send down a message "as to the cause of the selection made for the seat of Government of the United Colony." Has the "selection" then been already made? Is New Westminster or Victoria to be the capital? Why did not His Excellency announce the fact in his speech when he acknowledged he was aware that a "amount of interest that he cannot comprehend" is manifested? The people will await the message with an anxiety that two lines of the speech would have placed at rest. We fear, however, from the delicate manner in which the subject is handled, the removal of the archives to New Westminster, and the allusion to the public work of "secondary importance" on the Island now nearly completed (Government House?) affords little room for the hope that in exchange for the advantages of the protective Government and Free Trade, which we surrendered for Union, our demands are to receive just consideration at the hands of the Government, and that in no event will the capital question be submitted to the Council. In a "few days," however, the promised message will be laid before the Council, the best or the worst will be known; until then, patience! The promised assimilation of the laws of the united colony, the repeal of the Real Estate Tax Act (nothing is said about Trades Licences) and the statement that the Estimates will not exceed those formerly required for the mainland alone, are all important and gratifying to the taxpayer. The reduction in salaries (His Excellency's among the number) and the amalgamation of offices, are measures which, if carried into practical effect, will give general satisfaction. The United Legislature is now in working order, and we perceive that Dr Helmecken has seized the first opportunity for asking why Vancouver Island is granted only seven members when the constitution calls for eight? Mr DeCosmos offered a notice of motion requesting that the collection of duties at New Westminster be stayed; but the President declined to receive the notice until after a reply has been voted to the speech. The Council then adjourned until Wednesday next.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday, Jan 28.

PORT TOWNSEND ITEMS.—A melancholy accident occurred in Port Townsend harbor on Saturday evening last. Three men, on their way from Port Discovery, in a Whitehall boat, were upset by a squall. They clung to the boat for some time, when two of the party started to swim to the shore, but must have drowned on the way, as they have not since been seen. The remaining man lay on the bottom of the boat all night and was carried by the tide out of the harbor and back again. His shouts failed to attract attention until long after daylight, when the ferryman, in crossing to Whidby Island, discovered him. The poor fellow, having been sixteen hours on the boat's bottom, was almost gone when conveyed ashore, but is now recovering. One of the drowned men was named Bartlett. On Monday last a man who keeps an oyster stand shot at another man with whom he had a difficulty, but missed his aim. New buildings are going up on every side, and the city fathers are improving the highways and byways.

THE McNEAR.—The steamer Josie McNear, Captain Winsor, arrived from the Sound last evening en route to the Columbia River, where she will be exchanged for the New World. The Josie will remain in this port for a few days to refit before leaving for the Columbia.

The Enterprise will return with the members of the Legislature on Tuesday morning.

WILSON'S CONCERT.—Mr Geo. F. Wilson has earned for himself the gratitude of the people of Victoria for the rare musical treat of Wednesday night. The great attraction of the evening was Madame D'Ormy, who more than realized all that was anticipated from her. In personal appearance she reminds us strongly of the celebrated Grieg, as we last saw her. She undoubtedly made a favorable impression. Her voice, a powerful contralto, perfectly transfixed her hearers; she has evidently a great command over it, and long practice has taught her how to use it effectively. Mercadante's 'Il Jiuamento' was intended to demonstrate its power, and perfectly succeeded; as no artist less richly endowed than Madame D'Ormy, could have produced such telling effects. The audience was excited to a high pitch of enthusiasm and loudly applauded her; she acknowledged the encore by singing a little scena with much clearness of articulation; she afterwards sang Schubert's fine song 'The Wanderer,' another instance in which a less powerful voice would have absolutely failed; she acquitted herself with great eclat, and in response to the rapturous applause with which it was received, sang M'appari, the gem from Flotow's Opera of Martha, which in our estimation was decidedly her best effort; the great compass of her voice, its wonderful pliability and volume, afforded her a rare opportunity to display her skill as an artist. The execution was fine and well merited the rapturous applause bestowed upon it. The drinking song in Lucia di Borgoa was given in her best style, and was deservedly encored. Madame D'Ormy has undoubtedly carried the Victoria public by storm, and will reap a rich harvest from her victory should she again discourse sweet music in this city. Miss Alice Palmer, an interesting young lady, sang very nicely; a little more practice before the curtain will give her that self-possession which is all that is requisite to secure for her a high position in the musical world; she sang the favorite Cavatina 'Thou' the Wood,' very pleasingly, and receiving a hearty encore, she gave 'Happy Days' with much taste. Later in the evening she gave Schubert's beautiful serenade, but was more at home in the sweet ballad 'Give me your blessing, Mother,' to which she did full justice.—infusing so much pathos and expression into this pretty song, as to reach every heart. Mr Gibson sang a pleasing ballad from Lurline and was applauded. Mr Harries sang 'The People, feelingly. The Orchestra was very creditable to Victoria; the several gentlemen filled their parts with efficiency. The overture to 'The Miller and his Men,' Coote's quadrille Chaisworth; 'Young Man from the country,' galop; Overture 'Heart of Midlothian,' and 'Bird Waltz' were well played. The selections from Don Pasquale and Rigoletto, however seemed to please most generally. Mr Wilson was most delightful throughout on the cornet-aspidon, and exhibited rare artistic merit, as did also Mr Digby Palmer on the piano. Messrs Wilson and Harries played a duet on the cornet, showing great proficiency on that fine instrument. The Marsh and Puxley families, assisted by Mr Clark, performed that racy farce of 'Luk's in a Name'; the parts were well filled and kept the spectators in a roar of laughter throughout, by the spirited manner in which the sparkling fun was served up; we thought at the moment that Mr Marsh had achieved a great success with the means at his disposal. We have certainly never been better pleased with an evening's amusement in this Colony, and trust that the full house on Wednesday night will convince the parties interested that in croaking the 'Depression Chorus' Victorians have only acquired a bad habit, and that there is a plentiful harvest to be reaped here by artists of undoubted talent.

MONUMENT TO SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—On Thursday last a monument to Sir John Franklin, the money for which was voted by Parliament, was unveiled in Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, by Sir John Parkington, First Lord of the Admiralty. The statue, which is, perhaps, Mr Noble's most successful among many highly satisfactory works, is eight feet four inches in height, and the figure is represented in the uniform of a commander in the navy, with an overcoat of fur. In the right hand are a telescope, a chart and compasses. The statue, which is of bronze, stands on a pedestal of Aberdeen granite, polished and decorated with a bronze cable, oak leaves and acorns. On each side of the pedestal is a panel. That on the front, a very fine bas-relief, represents the funeral of Franklin. The grouping here is excellent and the details are full of power and delicacy. On the back is an embossed chart of the Arctic regions, and on the sides are inscribed the names of the crews of the Erebus and Terror.—Times.

OUR CLIMATE.—Telegrams from Seattle and Olympia, and advices from Nanaimo, report a heavy snow storm on Wednesday night. Here the ground was hardly whitened. At Westminster, no doubt, the fall was at least a foot deep. With a climate mild and springlike in midwinter, and delightfully cool in summer, are we not a favored community?

AUSTRALIA.—From a return issued by the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, and recently published, we Times, find that the value of British and Irish produce exported to the colonies in Australia last year exceeded by rather more than £3,000,000 sterling the value of material imported into the United Kingdom from that country. Of this latter wool is the staple commodity, being represented by a sum amounting to nearly £9,000,000, which is more than four-fifths of the whole value of imported merchandise. Nearly as large a relative proportion of the exports is made up of miscellaneous articles, such as wrought leather, haberdashery and apparel, all of which are taken to these colonies from the mother country in vast quantities.

STATISTICS OF NEW ZEALAND.—From the financial statement made by Mr Jollie, late Colonial Treasurer, on the 8th of August, we (Times) find that the exports for the past year amounted to £4,669,152, against £3,168,766 in 1863-4. The imports amounted to £5,270,072, or £913,622 less than the imports of the previous year. The general ordinary, territorial and customs revenue of the colony amounted, in round numbers, in 1865, to one million and a half sterling—a very large amount of taxation for so small a population, seeing that it does not include local municipal taxes. The latest census gives the European population of New Zealand, exclusive of the military and their families, at 190,607. The military and their families brought it up to 201,702. There are about 35,000 aboriginal natives, principally in the province of Auckland, but, except in the northern portion of this province, they do not contribute much to the revenue. The sale of the Crown lands produces the territorial revenue; but the balance of one million sterling is a tax upon industry. The following was the European population of the various provinces on the 31st of December, 1865:—Auckland, 49,605; Wellington, 19,163; Nelson, 13,920; Canterbury, 48,618; Southland, 7,046; Taranaki, 4,478; Hawke's Bay, 4,302; Marlborough, 5,465; Otago, 46,599.

FROM NANAIMO AND WAY PORTS.—The steamer Sir James Douglas arrived last evening at 4 o'clock with eight passengers, a cargo of coal, and two head of cattle. The brig Ann was loaded, but remained till to-day to take on board some spars. A schooner arrived yesterday to load coals for Victoria. Snow lay on the ground to the depth of six inches yesterday.

THE COLD SNAP will have an unfavorable effect upon river navigation, and will probably close the Fraser from the mouth upwards. Serious apprehensions are entertained for the safety of H.M.S. Malacca and the gunboat Forward, which vessels started for New Westminster a day or two ago, and will, it is feared, be blocked in with ice.

THE LUMBER BUSINESS on the Sound is said to be improving once more; the price of the commodity has advanced in the San Francisco markets, and a healthy demand has sprung up in foreign ports.

NO TIDINGS have been received of H.M.S. Sparrowhawk, which vessel started north to relieve the shipwrecked sailors of the Mauna Kea, two weeks since.

Lieutenants Hodgson and Hunter, of the U.S.R.C. Lincoln, having been ordered below, have gone overland from Port Townsend.

The Emily Harrie departed for Nanaimo yesterday, with a small freight and a few passengers.

There was not a single police court case yesterday.

The Enterprise will return to-morrow evening.

What kind of a joke would it be if the vessels now at New Westminster were frozen in for the remainder of the season? A Capital one.

A TELEGRAM to this office last evening from Portland states that the Pacific from San Francisco had not arrived, and that a heavy storm prevailed.

HOME AGAIN.—The Enterprise with the Legislative Councillors is expected to return this evening.

ERRATUM.—For "protective government" in yesterday's leader read "representative government."

The gunboat Forward, with Justice Morley on board, arrived from Cowichan yesterday.

THE ACTIVE will probably leave San Francisco for this port to-day, and will be due on Thursday.

SKIM ICE formed on James Bay above the bridge on Thursday night.

The Malacca prudentially went to Burrard Inlet instead of New Westminster.

The Josie McNear is being refitted for her trip to Portland, Oregon.

H.M.S. Malacca would proceed from Fraser river to Comox and Nanaimo.

THE BARK Metropolis, Captain Howard, is lying at Honolulu, S.I., awaiting repairs.

The schooner Premier has been chartered to carry a cargo of lumber to Callao, Peru.

The Wreck of the Mauna Kea.

Rescue of the Captain, Five Seamen, and a Kanaka Woman, by H. M. S. Sparrowhawk.

H. M. S. Sparrowhawk, Capt. Porcher, returned from Klaskino Inlet yesterday afternoon, bringing Capt. Robinson, five seamen, and a Kanaka woman, lately belonging to the wrecked bark Mauna Kea, of the Hawaiian Islands, which was wrecked on the West Coast of the Island, about two months ago. The Sparrowhawk was absent two weeks, and met with frightful weather. Capt. Porcher experienced no difficulty in rescuing the shipwrecked men; and it appears that the "yarn" spun here about their having been made slaves by the Indians, was without foundation. Capt. Robinson and his men speak in the highest terms of the treatment they received from all hands on board the Sparrowhawk. An interesting account of the trip of the Sparrowhawk, together with the statement of Capt. Robinson, furnished by a special correspondent, will be found below:

Jan. 10th.—Left Esquimalt for the West Coast to look for the crew of the Hawaiian bark Mauna Kea, reported wrecked somewhere in the vicinity of Klaskino Inlet.

11th.—Anchored in the afternoon in Tribune Bay, Hornby Island; the weather stormy the barometer having fallen to 29.14 in.; a family of Uclitas found encamped close to the anchorage; had been successful in killing numerous deer, seals, &c. This island, on the anchorage side, appears to be formed of a recent sandstone, interspersed with black shale, offering fair indications of the presence of coal; and along the eastern side is sparsely wooded with dwarf oak (Quercus garryana) presenting a park-like appearance, and holding out considerable prospects for a settlement, as there would be no great difficulty in clearing the land, the soil appearing to be good and the water supply plentiful.

12th.—Left at daybreak and anchored at dusk in Plumper Bay, the weather squally and snowing heavily, thermometer 24 deg. 13th.—Proceeded at daybreak and arrived off Fort Rupert at 7 p. m. The wrecked party, consisting of 6 men and 1 woman, were supposed to be at Quatsino, but had no certain intelligence, as the Indians that had been sent to their assistance with provisions and blankets from the Fort had not yet returned. Next morning, visited the Fort and saw Capt. Moray, the Indians of the village, close to the Fort, were somewhat excited, being engaged in their medicine rites, and preparing for a magnificent "potlach," at which amongst the numerous things to be given away, were some very fine canoes, displayed, hauled up on the beach. They were, however, peaceable, and a marked improvement was observable in their deportment since the visit of H. M. S. Ohio last year, the punishment then inflicted having had a very salutary effect.

14th.—Left Beaver harbor at 11 a. m., and experienced a very stormy weather in passing round Cape Scott, the wind blowing strongly from the south-west, and snow falling heavily.

15th.—Arrived, at 11 a. m., in Winter Harbor, situated up Forward Inlet, and came to a stop opposite the Quatsino village; the Indians could give Captain Porcher no information, and had heard very little about the wreck, they are a very small tribe and number about forty; compress the head into a conical shape, and speak the Qua language, which dialect prevails from Fort Rupert round to Kyquoot. We left here without coming to anchor, and proceeded to Heate Cove, anchoring near the Koskeemo village. This village consists of fifteen large huts, and offers quite a contrast as compared with the other Indian settlements visited all along the coast, being very superior to any of the others both as regards cleanliness and comfort, the lodges being roomy and well constructed. The natives appeared a vigorous and fine race, cheerful and intelligent, the juvenile population healthy and numerous—a good feature in the community. The tribe number about 400, of which 120 are adult males. The conical head was here seen in perfection, more especially among the females, the head of one of whom measured in diameter, fore and aft, 17 inches, and side to side 14 inches, circular 24 inches, across the zygomatic arch 11 inches. Several infants were seen undergoing the process, lashed up in cradles in the shape of a small canoe, with a cavity just large enough to admit the body of a child and the head also, giving it room to expand in length. The pressure is applied by means of two lateral pads of cedar bound to each side of the head by a circular bandage, and after leaving the child about the age of puberty a circular band of cedar is worn, which the girls sometimes render ornamental by coquetically placing in it a sprig of pine above the right ear. Another feature also attended to in the infantile development is keeping the feet bandaged with the toes turned in. The compression of the head seems to have no prejudicial effect on the intellect, and is, perhaps, on the whole, less injurious than squeezing the waist, which we do know interferes with the vital functions. As regards the "toeing in," it has been proved in the late American war that "a man walks faster and longer with his feet in this position than with the toes turned out, as it enables him to avail himself more completely of the action of the muscles of the leg and foot." From information received here we found that the Indians who had been sent to Fort Rupert by the wreck with provisions from Fort Rupert had returned and reported that the wrecked party had left Klaskino and were living in the house of a white trader, named Charlie, somewhere in Kyquoot Sound, as the Klaskino Indians had no more food to give them, and Charlie had "by you."

16th.—Left this morning for Kyquoot, but were obliged to put into Kopyrno harbor on account of strong south-westerly winds, accompanied with rain. The afternoon and next day were spent cutting wood and watering the ship. The formation both here and at Heate Cove appeared to consist of red metamorphic sandstone, much colored by oxide of iron and overlaid in some places by a coarse conglomerate, the whole reposing on a bed of clay, slate and trap. No coal was observed in this neighborhood, although the

formation is decidedly carboniferous. Coal, however, I am told crops out in considerable quantity higher up the arm. The timber found to exist here consisted of Menzies Spruce (Abies Menziesii), Hemlock Spruce (Abies Canadensis), Cedar (Thuja Gigantea), with dense undergrowth of crab, alder, and salal (gaultheria shallon).

18th.—Started again this morning, but had to bear up for North Harbour, on account of strong S E gales accompanied with rain. The neighbourhood of the harbour appears to be a very favorite summer residence from the heaps of sea ear-shells (balliotti) piled up on the beach.

19th.—Got underway this afternoon, experiencing very rough weather on clearing the Sound, and although steaming full power making little progress.

20th.—Heavy sea from N. E., ship rolling about 180 a minute and occasionally shipping heavy seas over her stern; atmosphere thick and heavy, rendering it impossible to distinguish the entrance into Kyquoot Sound. Barometer 29.11 inches.

21st.—Arrived this afternoon in Kyquoot Sound and anchored in Fair Harbour. The Sound is surrounded by an abrupt range of high mountains, evidently of an igneous nature and at the entrance is obstructed by numerous dangerous reefs and hidden rocks, on one of which some Indian canoes were passed, thinking we were going to strike, made most violent pantomimic signs with their paddles to warn us. This tribe (the Kyquoot) number about 200, are very poor, live in low dirty hovels, go about almost naked with the exception of wearing tippets of cedar bark, and altogether are engaged in rather a severe Darwinian "struggle for existence." They speak a separate language of their own and do not compress the head. On inquiring after the wrecked crew we found they were living on an island about 10 miles off, at the entrance of the Sound, Nettle Island, in the house of the trader Charlie alias Charlie Carlton. In order to communicate with them Capt. Porcher hired a canoe and dispatched it in charge of Sergeant Ferrel of the Victoria Police, a most energetic and intelligent officer, who accompanied the ship as interpreter and was of very great service in communicating with and obtaining information from the natives. He returned late in the evening, having communicated with the wrecked party, and again started next morning with Lieut. Harrison in one of the ship's boats, fetching back late in the evening, Capt. Robinson, five seamen and one Kanaka woman (who was taking a passage on the wrecked ship). One of the men was suffering from paralysis of the lower limbs, the effect of exposure, and another was slightly frost-bitten. They all spoke in the highest terms of the great kindness and hospitality they received from Carlton, who supplied them in the most liberal manner with every thing they stood in need of. They also say that the Klaskino Indians behaved very well to them, sharing their food with them until they had no more to spare and were becoming short of supplies themselves, and then conveyed them to the trader Charlie's house. This tribe (Klaskino) appear to be a very small one and rapidly dying off, numbering about 40, of which not more than 12 are adult males, seem to have no distinct language of their own, but like other border tribes speak with equal facility the language of the Kyquoots on one side or that of the Koskeemo's on the other, to the latter of which, however, they appear more nearly allied, as they practice the conical compression of the head after the Koskeemo fashion, a custom not existing in the Kyquoot tribe.

Captain Robinson gives the following account of the circumstances of the wreck: He left Port Gamble, Puget Sound, November 9th, 1866 in the Hawaiian bark Mauna Kea, 370 tons, laden with lumber and bound for Honolulu, and on the 17th November, being a week out from Port Angeles, was dismasted in a severe gale, somewhere off the mouth of the Columbia River, and drifted up helplessly along shore, anchoring at the entrance to Klaskino Sound, November 29th, but next day the anchor parting the bark went on shore; 4 of the crew clung to the deck house, 2 of which safely reached the shore, the other 2 being drowned, while the remainder reached the shore on a raft. They saw no natives for 9 days, during which period they subsisted on some flour and beans thrown on shore from the wreck, and on the 10th day the Indians made their appearance and conveyed them to their village, situated 10 miles up the arm. The provisions of the Indians failing, two men started on the 23rd of December to reach Fort Rupert by Quatsino Sound, and on the following day Capt. Robinson left for Nettle Island, the residence of Carlton, which he reached on the evening of the 25th of December, the remainder of the crew arriving two days subsequently, since which they have remained up to the date of our arrival.

Jan. 23rd.—Steamed out of the harbour for Esquimalt, passing through a sheet of ice about an inch thick, which had formed during the night, and arrived on the afternoon of the 25th at Esquimalt.

A Slander Refuted.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIAN.—Sir,—My attention has been called to a passage in a leading article published in your paper of the 16th inst., in which it is stated that I gratuitously presumed to advise Governor Seymour as to how he should administer the affairs of the colony a couple of years ago, and subsequently, it is said, insulted him in London.

Any one dealing with public matters must expect his share of abuse, which it is wise to take for what it is worth, and so let it pass. I do not therefore make any allusion to your remarks in so far as they affect myself alone. But when you inform the public on what authority I know not, that I insulted Governor Seymour in London, permit me to state that I never to my knowledge wilfully insulted anyone, much less the Governor; and if word or act of mine has been so construed by anyone no one can more truly regret it than I do. Whatever your opinions and habits may be, I shall always endeavor, wherever differences of opinion exist, to observe the rules of courtesy and good breeding.

Yours truly, ROBERT BURNABY.

VICTORIA, V. I., Jan'y 22nd, 1867.

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, January 2 1867.

The Governor's Speech.

When we consider that the reputation of His Excellency the Governor is at stake at the Colonial Office, no one can doubt that he is fully alive to the responsibility of bringing together in close communion two sections until lately bitterly antagonistic to each other's interests.

ing Her Majesty to grant them immediate Union, as the only escape from utter ruin, the politicians on the mainland kept a "stiff upper lip" and maintained a shabby-genteel appearance to the very last day of their separate existence.

created a greater amount of newspaper discussion than any political question that has agitated the Colony of late—is it not strange, we ask, that His Excellency should have remained so completely in the dark as to the agitation that was going on that he "cannot comprehend" the amount of interest felt in it?

By Electric Telegraph

Opening of the Council!

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH I

NEW WESTMINSTER, Jan. 24. The Legislative Council opened at 1:30. The following is

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH. Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

I by no means under-estimate the importance of the duty which devolves on me today of practically giving effect to the Legislative Union of the two British Colonies of the North Pacific; nor can I avoid feeling the grave responsibility which rests upon me as Governor under the present distribution of power.

There is considerable, though I trust, temporary depression existing in several portions of the Colony. There are conflicting interests which time alone can reconcile.

In all legislative bodies on the English model it is the duty of the head of the Executive Government to state the reasons why such legislative body has been convened into session, and this I shall proceed to do. But first it is well that I should lay before you the Standing Orders for the conduct of public business. They are prepared in obedience to Her Majesty's command, and vary but little from those previously in force.

I place prominently in the list of measures which I wish you to pass, bills of indemnity to my predecessor in office in Vancouver Island and myself, for money expended without an Appropriation Act.

From the British Columbia Ordinances I would select for general adoption those enabling Indian evidence to be received in Courts of Justice; the law for the prevention of the sale of spirituous liquors to the aborigines, and that for the protection of their graves.

Colony, as soon as a satisfactory reconveyance of the Island from the Hudson Bay Company to the Crown shall have been made.

The estimates of revenue and expenditure are prepared and shall be laid before you at an early date.

I deeply regret to have to state, what, however, is well known to you, that the finances of both sections of the Colony were in a very unsatisfactory condition at the time that Union took place.

The estimates are prepared to meet the present condition of things. They will be found in the aggregate to apply for a smaller sum than has for some years past been voted for the service of the mainland alone.

You will find from the estimates that I do not propose to undertake any public works of magnitude during the year.

I shall be glad if you will express an opinion on two points of importance: What is to be done with the dredging machine now lying in Victoria harbor, and the steam vessel built in connection with it?

Great as is the present temporary financial embarrassment, justice requires the abolition of some of the taxation still existing in the late Colony of Vancouver Island.

I feel that I have called you together somewhat late in the season, and as there are many matters of vital importance to be dealt with, I will not impede your progress by any measure which can be deferred.

I shall address you by message on the subject of Education, and a few other topics of importance during the course of the session.

One of these will probably be as to the cause of the selection made for the seat of Government of the United Colony.

And now before leaving you let me express my confidence that better days are yet in store for us.

I shall watch with much interest your proceedings in this session. I open to-day, Grave and important duties are confided to our hands, and I firmly believe that they will be fairly dealt with.

Trusting that the blessing of the Almighty may rest upon the efforts we are about to make to promote the welfare of the magnificent territory he has temporarily confided to our charge, I now leave you to your deliberation.

His Excellency here withdrew.

reply to the speech, and the House adjourned until Wednesday next, when the question of the legality of the Constitution of the Legislature by reason of Vancouver Island having 7 instead of 8 members comes up for consideration, on motion of Dr Helmecken, when Mr Crease will explain.

The Loss of the Mauna Kea. Messrs. Editors:—On behalf of ourselves and men, we wish to return heartfelt thanks to Captain Porcher and the officers and men of H.M.S. Sparrowhawk for the kindness we experienced while on board that vessel.

Respectfully, D. ROBINSON, Captain. JOHN B. MORRISON, Mate, bark Mauna Kea. Victoria, V.I., Jan. 26, 1867.

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Table with columns: ENTERED, DEPARTED, PASSENGERS, CONSIGNEES, IMPORTS, DIED.

PASSENGERS. Per star JOSIE McNEAR, from Puget Sound—General McKinley (Superintendent Indian Affairs, W.T.) George Doan, J. Ferguson, Miss McQueen, D. Hinds, J. Robinson, G. Miller, H. Pollock, H. Thelacoon, F. Cummiel, and one kitochman.

CONSIGNEES. Per star JOSIE McNEAR, from Puget Sound—Hutchinson & Co., Reynolds & Co., G. D. Clark & Co., Carson & Co., Sullivan, Pickley.

IMPORTS. Per JOSIE McNEAR, from Puget Sound. 14 hd cattle, 2 sheep, 5 cattle, 7 cattle, 10 cattle, 64 sheep, 1 bull, 1 pig, 1 lot of household furniture, etc.

DIED. In this City, at the Royal Hospital, on the 25th inst., from the effects of a gun-shot wound, received at Comox, a short time since, Henry Harrop, a native of England, aged 29 years.

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MUNICIPAL NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT in the enforcement of the Municipal By-Law for raising a Municipal Revenue is suspended until further notice.

THE

VOL. 8. WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST AND CHRONICLE. PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY. HIGGINS, LONG. TERMS: Per Annum, in advance; For Six Months; For Three Months; Per Week.

AGENTS: Alexander & Co., John Mackin, Holder & Hart, Sam'l Harris, Clarkson & Co., Barnard's Express.

The Government and the Council, being in a large majority, appear disposed they please with the coits inhabitants, regardless consequences. They appear to set at naught com as well as common to mock at the solemn pr the Constitution, and to lo the perpetuation of their and the complete enslavem people. We have arrived conclusions after carefully late debates in the Council the popular side have be with singular moderation, good sense, while the op characterized the emanat Government members. W the three of framing a Governor's speech as a notice of an intelligent p whether we consider the d expressed conviction of the General as to the ext powers vested in the with regard to the rep of the Island; whether at the bill introduced by hon. member to indemn Excellency for past illegal a protect him from the conseq persistence in the same illeg whether we regard the ext course of His Excellency capital question, we conf utter "want of confidence Council as at present e Well might the hon. senio for a Victoria, during the on double duties, threw hands in despair and de the popular representati practically useless; well solemnly warn the G against the continuance of that will alienate the peopl section of the Colony in loyalty. When the hon. ju ber for Victoria, with a ma which does him credit, offer part of the people of the vote an indemnity for past wrongs were not perpetu Government members, had actuated by a desire to act wards us, would have gac the opportunity to conciliat store confidence to the peo no. The Attorney Genera attempt to argue the legal collection of duties at Ne minster; with him it was " of expediency;" but the learned, sagacious and sweet Collector of Customs—the g who, of all other member Government is known to be acquainted with the duties per his office—the gentleman wh few weeks ago, when Union proclaimed, in the enthusia moment and in the exuberant spirits at the prospect of hav more consumers on whom to scale of duties, actually that the Victorians had been