

The Weekly Colonist.

Canada. M. A. N. Richards, M. P. P. for Leeds, has been gazetted Solicitor General and member of the Executive Council.

The North American Steamship Company is the name of a new line to be established between Montreal and Liverpool.

Desertions continue from the Kingston garrison. The Globe handles without gloves Hon. Wm. McDougall, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

The latest dodge of the Federal recruiting agents in Canada is hiring men for the Pennsylvania coal mines. Parties are leaving daily, and as soon as they cross the line they are enlisted.

Mr. Tancred Bouthillier has been appointed Sheriff of Montreal. The Hon. Adam Ferris died in Hamilton on Dec. 29th very suddenly.

THE CHESAPEAKE PIKERS.—Two young men belonging to St. Johns, N. B., have been arrested for piracy and murder in the Chesapeake affair.

A Murderer Killed—Two Men Killed by the Apaches. The transportation question has engaged public attention throughout the country.

THE JOHNSON MURDER. The coroner's jury, in the Johnson murder case, are still taking testimony. Everything quiet.

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advancing through the bush they heard the sound of men's voices speaking the native language. Upon this, with a knowledge that the enemy consisted of about 200 men of the Ngāmaniapoto tribe, Captain Swift deemed it advisable to throw his men into ambush.

The weather generally had been mild. Beyond Alexandria, sleighing was being carried on. Between Alexandria and the Junction there was no sleighing, the snow having thawed and left the road very muddy and bad to travel.

The only claim now paying on Williams Creek is the Caledonia, which was doing well. The other claims working at the Airore, the Burn's Hill, and the Junction, which were taking out some little pay; also the Eureka, Fountain-head, and Vaughan and Company, adjoining.

There were over 500 miners on the Creek and in the neighborhood, all healthy and enjoying themselves. Our informants state that the representations which have been made regarding the prospects recently obtained by some of the claims are without foundation.

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ARRIVAL OF THE ENTERPRISE.

Later from Cariboo. The steamer Enterprise arrived Tuesday from New Westminster, with 24 passengers and a small amount of gold by Dietz and Nelson's Express.

From Dr. Black, M. L. C. of British Columbia, William Collins, and William Nathas, who left Williams Creek on the 2nd instant, we have the following intelligence:

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Sporborg & Rued.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Importers and Wholesale Dealers.

Groceries, Provisions, Boots and Shoes.

IRON HOUSES, SUGAR-SHEDS, ROOFS, Etc. CORRUGATED, GALVANIZED IRON.

AMMUNITION. TARGET. 12 PRZ SQUARE.

ELEY'S AMMUNITION. Sporting or Military Purposes.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, &c. CAMOMILE PILLS.

PURE DRUGS, CHEMICALS, BURGONE & BIRDBRIDGES.

Dinnerford's Pure Fluid Magnesia HAS BEEN, DURING TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, EMPHATICALLY SECTED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION, AND UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED BY THE PUBLIC.

Best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, &c.

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THE SUFFERER'S BEST FRIEND!

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS. All Disorders affecting the Liver, Stomach, and Bowels.

These Pills are confidently recommended as the most simple and certain remedy for indigestion, flatulency, acidity, heartburn, colic, constipation, and all the many ailments resulting from disordered stomach or bowels.

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Tuesday, February 23, 1864.

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the company, and argued at some length that no questions could be asked this witness.

Mr. Ring followed at some length, and when he concluded the Court rose for one hour.

ATTEENOR SESSION.

The Honor ruled that the evidence of the witness, relative to his connection with the Bentinck Arm Company was admissible.

Albert Hensley's evidence continued by Mr. Wood—I do not know much about the company. I took a share at the request of Mr. Cary.

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The amendment striking out the clause providing for the payment of unlicensed Pilots in the absence of licensed Pilots, was also rejected.

The rest of the amendments, being chiefly of a verbal nature, were agreed to.

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF BANKS.

This Bill was read a second time, and sent to committee of the whole.

To-morrow the House will be in committee on Supply.

FRIDAY, February 19, 1864.

House met at 3:15 p. m. Members present, Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, Tolmie, Jackson, Foster, Street, Carawell, Duncan, Bayley, Denness.

WAYS AND MEANS.

House in committee on supply, Mr. Franklin in the chair.

Painting Government Buildings, \$1,500. Passed.

Erection of Powder Magazine, \$3,638. Passed.

Fencing part of Government square, \$500. Passed.

Repairs to Government Buildings, \$2,000. Passed.

Fencing in Beacon Hill Park, \$1,000. Item rejected.

Building Harbor-master's Office, \$2,000. Mr. DeCosmos asked if it were contemplated to connect an Assay office with the Harbor-master's Office.

Mr. Young said such a plan had been suggested.

Item passed.

Repairs and repairing Buys, \$500. Passed.

House of Assembly—Furniture and fittings, \$1,000. Passed.

Roads, Streets and Bridges—Barrisdale deviation, \$2,000. Passed.

Surrounding road, round head of Inlet, \$2,000. This amount was amalgamated with the preceding item.

West Saanich road, from Victoria to Thomson's (Peter Lind), \$10,000.

Mr. Street said he would propose in amendment, that the appropriation be for the road from Victoria to Harris's. The portion of road which most needed repairs was beyond Mt. Newton. A portion of that road was impassable at any time of the year.

Mr. Duncan said the worst part of the road was in Lake district, and that part of the road should be properly made before going further.

Mr. Street said the whole appropriation of last year was laid out in Lake. Not a dollar had been expended in Saanich, and there was not a foot of macadamised road in the district. The road from Victoria out to Dr. Tolmie's was a good metalled road.

Dr. Tolmie—I beg to contradict the honorable Member (Laughter).

Mr. Duncan said the road in Lake was full of bogs and holes.

Mr. Street—Where? not a bog in the road.

Mr. Duncan—The proper principle is to make the road good out of Victoria.

Mr. Street said he had been told by a gentleman to-day that the road from Victoria to Harris's was very good; beyond Harris's was the place wanted.

Mr. Jackson—Does that gentleman live in Saanich?

Mr. Street—He does. (Laughter).

West Saanich road, extending north of Mt. Newton—\$5000. Passed.

West Saanich—Cross road at Peter Lind and two bridges—\$700. Passed.

East Saanich road north of Mt. Newton—\$2000. Passed.

Shawigan to Ouchican—\$3000. Passed.

Quamichan deviation and three bridges. Mr. Duncan said the item was quite inadequate. He would move that it be struck out, and the item considered in the supplementary estimates.

Dr. Helmecken said he had been told by a gentleman who had travelled over the road, that there were a few impassable bogs which \$1500 would put in a passable state.

The item was passed.

Comox Road, between Comox and Cowichan, to complete existing contract—\$5000. Passed.

Reginald Road—\$2500. Passed.

Metchoin Road—\$5000. Passed.

Do branch to Gold Stream—\$1000. Passed.

Cedar Hill Roads, old and new—\$5000.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the sum be expended on the Cedar Hill Road by the way of Cook street and the Springs. Victoria paid nearly all the taxes and it was proper that she should receive part of the benefit.

Dr. Helmecken said that we should give Victoria District as much money this year as we can, to make trunk roads, and let that be all, let them make their own side roads after that.

The committee reported progress. On Tuesday the House will take up the Bank Bill.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THURSDAY, Feb. 18.

THE SCHOOLMASTER ABROAD.—Yesterday, three of our city members visited and examined the Victoria District School, and the result of their inspection has been, we are glad to say, the determination to advocate the immediate erection of a large and commodious city school-house, and the employment of an efficient staff of instructors, including a female teacher.

We understand that an additional appropriation for this purpose will be made in the supplementary estimates. This is an excellent move, and deserves the approbation of every intelligent citizen.

ROBERTSON'S BLOCK.—The twenty-six years' lease of the handsome two-story brick building at the corner of Government and Fort streets, including the Occidental Saloon and Gentile's store, and known as Robertson's block, was yesterday sold by Daniel Scott and Co. at public auction, for the sum of \$15,000.

THE RACE ON BEACON HILL.—A number of persons repaired to Beacon Hill yesterday to witness the race between Mr. Clark and Mr. Ward's mare for \$250. The race, however, was devoid of interest as the contest was unequal. Mr. Clark's fine animal was much too fleet for her opponent, and won easily.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.—The present session of Parliament is expected to close in about ten days. It is expected that the estimates will be disposed of on Friday, and the new Corporation Bill will then be introduced.

FRIDAY, Feb. 19.

ODDLY AGAIN.—Thomas J. Odell was charged yesterday before Mr. Pemberton with supplying a bottle of spirits to an Indian. Sergeant Hill and officer Hankin were examined, from whose evidence it appeared that an Indian was employed to obtain the bottle from the prisoner, and was supplied with a marked half-dollar; witnesses saw the prisoner enter a Saloon on Johnson street, and supply the bottle to the Indian, who sat on the door-step. The marked half-dollar was found upon prisoner's person when he was searched. Prisoner had been convicted twice before of the same offence. The Indian was also examined, and testified to the purchase of the bottle from the prisoner. Mr. Wright appeared for the accused, and endeavored to shake the testimony of the Indian, but to no purpose. Mr. Pemberton remarked that he was one of those cases in which it was necessary to resort to such means as had been used to convict the offender. He regretted that the law rendered it necessary for him to be continually sending persons to prison for this offence, and would wish to see the law altered, so that respectable men might be allowed to dispense liquor in moderate quantities to Indians, instead of leaving it for men of the worst character, to do who would not work for their living. He could not in this case exercise any clemency, and therefore fined the prisoner \$250, or six months imprisonment.

MEAS. FRANKLIN'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE took place yesterday, and was attended by a crowd of buyers. The prices realized for city property were very fair, but suburban lots were sold very low, many being disposed of at less than one-fourth of the amount they brought a year or two ago. City lot 517, Government street, brought \$1500; 225 Kane street, \$1010; lot corner Esquadr and Blanche street, \$1025; lot 1906, and 1946 James Bay, \$250 each; lot 36 North Park street, \$300; Crawford's house and lot, \$1075.

ELECTION OF CITY COUNCILLOR.—By a notice appearing in this issue it will be seen that an election of a City Councillor for Yates Street Ward, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Lewis, will take place on Tuesday next, the 22d instant. The poll will open in front of the Police Barracks at 3 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. It behoves the tax payers to seek, without delay, some fitting man to whom they can safely confide their interests.

CHARGE OF DOG STEALING.—Kirk Jackson, a colored man, was charged yesterday with feloniously receiving a setter bitch belonging to a Mr. Smith, knowing it to have been stolen. Jackson explained the circumstances under which he became possessed of the dog, and the evidence being insufficient to prove that Jackson had become unlawfully possessed of the animal, the Magistrate dismissed the charge against Jackson, but ordered the dog to be given up to the claimant.

JOHNSON'S CASE.—The colored man Johnson was yesterday fined \$250, or in default six months' imprisonment with hard labor, for supplying liquor to squaws at a house of ill-fame, on Cormorant street.

SATURDAY, Feb. 20.

NAVAL.—H. M. S. Camelion arrived yesterday afternoon, at Esquimalt, from her Cruise to the North via San Juan. She left the gunboat Forward at Nanaimo; the latter to leave yesterday for Comox; Captain Hardinge will be relieved by Captain Jones, who is expected to arrive by the mail steamer to-morrow. H. M. S. Tribune is now daily looked for from the South Pacific.

NOR THE MAN.—John Thompson, better known as Liverpool Jack, who has just returned from the Sound, desires us to state that he is not the man who was recently apprehended on a charge of being unlawfully possessed of a ham. We make the correction in justice to Jack, though the charge was not proved against the other Thompson, who had been in the Sound.

NATIVE COPPER AND SILVER.—We have just seen the finest specimens of pure copper and silver that have ever been found in these colonies. The copper is a lump or slab, about 5 or 6 inches long, and weighs 1 1/2 lbs.; the silver is in washed nuggets, very similar to Cariboo gold, and is almost pure; some of it being slightly mixed with copper. The specimens were taken out of the bank of the Stekin River, about two miles below the north fork, by an American miner, named Shuff, and according to his statements, tons of the copper may be taken out with very little trouble. The lumps of metal are found thickly distributed through a reef of partially decomposed quartz. The locality of the deposit was pointed out to Shuff by an Indian chief, and although the statement was not believed, the party determined to test it, and obtained the above-mentioned results. Shuff left two comrades at work on the reef, and hastened to Victoria with his specimens, and is now preparing to return with a small vessel to ship down the results of their labor. The specimens are to be seen at Jungerman's, Yates street, from whom we received the information. It is to be hoped that the Stekin River may again be the scene of a greater rush than ever, and with much more satisfactory results.

THE ALEXANDRA.—Captain Moore's stern-wheel steamer, The Alexandra, is now fitting up at the Hudson Bay Company's Wharf, and will soon be ready to commence plying on the Fraser. Her mail was yesterday successfully stopped.

MRS. MILLICENT PAGE.—Mrs. Millicent Page, wife of William Page, living at the corner of Yates and Cook streets, within city, drowned herself in the well on the premises, on Friday night. She had gone to bed with her husband apparently in good spirits, but the latter awaking through the night, missed her from his side, and finding the door open in the place where he had looked in, he found the unfortunate woman, quite dead. From her previous account, it is surmised, that the poor creature drowned herself in a fit of temporary insanity. An inquest will be held on Wednesday next at 7 p. m.

LARGE IMPORTATIONS FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—In addition to the large and valuable cargoes shipped at San Francisco for this port per Camden and Rival, particulars of which appear in our commercial, the Sierra Nevada yesterday brought the largest freight which has been received for many months. Her imports are valued at \$48,000 (including \$25,000 in specie for the Bank of British Columbia). The goods were all discharged yesterday, but owing to the heavy rain which fell without intermission all day they had to be stored at Esquimalt.

TELEGRAPH LINE.—We understand that a gentleman has arrived by the Sierra Nevada for the purpose of consulting with the Government of this colony respecting a submarine telegraph across the Sound to connect with the State telegraph line from San Francisco.

SHIPMENT OF TARAPUE.—The Bank of British North America will ship this morning by the Sierra Nevada \$40,579.97.

POSTAL MATTERS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The Postmaster-General of British Columbia has just sent in his Annual Report for the year 1863. From it we learn that the total receipts of the department for the year were £1,498 14s. 8d., of which one-half was due on official correspondence, books, &c., leaving £749 7s. 8d. to be paid into the Treasury; the total expenditure was £2,291 11s. 9d. The following changes in the postal services are proposed for the ensuing year: A mail three times a month from New Westminster with a loop via Douglas, Lillooet and Yale, Lytton, through to Williams Creek. Mails to be despatched from Victoria to New Westminster, by the first steamer after the arrival of the Ocean Mail, and from thence via the Mouth of Quesselle River with the same speed as the Express. Mails to leave New Westminster for Hope, Yale, and Douglas by every regular steamer; from Yale to Lytton, and from Douglas to Lillooet once a week. Branch post-offices to be established at some storekeepers in Hope, Yale, Lytton, Douglas, Lillooet, Clinton, Quesselle Mouth, Van Winkle, and Atlix, with a salary of £250 a year. At Williams Creek a post-office agent with a salary of £400 a year. The following are the proposed rates of postage for 1864: From Victoria to New Westminster, 6 cents; to Douglas, 18 cents; to Hope, 18 cents; to Yale, 18 cents; to Lytton, 30 cents; to Lillooet, 30 cents; to Mouth of Quesselle, 54 cents; Forks of Quesselle, 54 cents; to Van Winkle, 54 cents; to Williams Creek, 54 cents; to Atlix, 54 cents. On Williams Creek letters will be delivered at an extra charge of 25 cents. The report states, that of the whole number of letters conveyed in the colony, two-fifths are carried by mail, one-fifth by express, and two-fifths by private hands. In order to put a stop to the last-mentioned practice, it is proposed to inflict the regular penalty in the Postal Act, on such offenders, viz., £5 for every offence, and £100 per week while the practice is continued; the sender also incurs a penalty of £5, with costs of suit. The total number of letters carried during the year was 18,358, of which 14,830 were foreign, and 3,738 colonial; it is estimated that from 25,000 to 30,000 colonial letters were carried by private parties, thus occasioning a loss to the revenue of about £1,500.

FROM FORT COLVILLE.—From advices received from an old miner at Fort Colville, dated January 9th, we learn that all the miners in that neighborhood had formed such favorable opinions of the richness of the head-waters of the Kootenais River on the British and American boundary line, that it was fully expected that the Columbia River diggings would be abandoned for the brighter prospects of that tributary.

IMPORTANT FROM THE MEXICAN COAST.

MANZANILLO BLOCKADED—American Vessels Overhauled.

MANZANILLO, January 31, 1863.

Our small population has been lately kept in a continual state of excitement. On one side the French army, after taking Guadalupe, marched on Zapatlan; and General Marquez came down from Morelia to overthrow the Constitutional troops under General Uruga, who had entrenched himself on the ravine through which the road leads to Colima.

On the other side, the French corvette Cordeliere has been blockading our port for a couple of weeks past, but without interrupting all legitimate commerce, vessels entering and clearing without embarrassment, as long as they carried no munitions of war. But unfortunately the Mexican schooner Francisco, better known as San Francisco, under her former name of Lord Raglan, bound from Acapulco to Mazatlan, was overhauled by the said corvette, and as she had one gun and a complete "parque" on board, vessel and cargo were seized—a loss to the owners of about \$25,000.

The American schooner Golden State with a full cargo from San Francisco for this port and Acapulco, was also escorted into our harbor by the said Cordeliere, and had to anchor under her guns. The manifest was thoroughly examined, and all her cargo permitted to land except two cases, which the French captain thought to be of a suspicious character, but which he will soon be obliged to give up, as the vessel did not bring a single package which contained "munitions of war" or contraband articles as laid down by the treaty of Paris.

Also, the little schooner Ermina, which arrived a few days ago from your port was subjected to a rigorous search on the part of the French Escadre, as the miserable specimen of the blockading fleet calls itself. Every package was turned upside down or opened, and all they found, of a suspicious character was a case of toys, containing some lead soldiers and wooden guns.

Our population is greatly outraged that a single man-of-war should thus usurp the right of a harbor police and of a regular blockade, while no notice has been given that this coast was to be blockaded—a proceeding contrary to all the rules of international law; and I hope that the American Government will protest against such proceedings, if we had had the good luck of seeing the Stars and Stripes displayed from one of Uncle Sam's frigates, master Capard would not have dared to insult thus our flag in its legitimate trade.

As the steamer is on the point of leaving I must leave further information to my next letter.

MEXICAN NEWS.

New York, February 10.—The Eagle brings dates from Havana to the 6th February, and from Vera Cruz to the 31st January, and from the city of Mexico to the 26th.

A report from Cevina dated January 24th says that Gen. Euzarraz was taken prisoner at Sal Vateria. There has been several skirmishes between the French and Juarez troops; one at San Juan Deloscas lasting four hours, in which Gen. Garsesaya and a large number of soldiers were captured and killed. The French loss was only 1 killed and 3 wounded.

A convoy from Jalapa to Vera Cruz arrived on the 24th without molestation.

The port of Compechy surrendered to the French corvette Magellan, on the 21st January.

Doblado was at Zacatecas on January 9th. The French papers report that Juarez had abdicated and was succeeded by Ortega. No date is given of this, and no confirmation has been received. The report was thought to be premature.

The Mexican Minister has received advices from the Juarez Government to the 22d January. Juarez was at Saltillo. The reported capture of the city of San Louis Potosi is not confirmed, although Doblado had entered that State. The Archbishop and numerous other Bishops had entered a protest, in the name of the whole Mexican clergy, against the decrees of the French Regency declaring that acquisitions of church property, under the acts of the Liberal Government, should be forfeited by the Courts in this protest the Bishops say their condition is worse than under Juarez. With other grievances, they mention the fact that they have no liberty to express their opinion, and the protest concludes by excommunicating the authors of the Regency decrees and all yielding obedience to it.

FROM ACAPULCO.

ACAPULCO, January 29, 1864.

The long-looked-for French are here. At least a war-steamers has squatted down right in the mouth of the harbor. It looks a little unwell no doubt, but such a craft should get to our path, and not leave it dry or sight, so that blockade runners cannot have half a chance.

The United States steam frigate Lancaster keeps an eye to windward just as picketing as these waters. Woe be to the craft that wakes up his dogs of war. She is as neat as a lady, quiet as a lamb, but terrible as an army with banners. The sprightly little Saginaw is waiting to fill in when required.

The town is very quiet just now; but many of the people have left, seeking for safety in the interior. No important news has reached us from the seat of war for some weeks. Rumor, however, has it that the French army is "marching on."

SCISSORS.

ACAPULCO TO BE ABANDONED BY THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES TO THE FRENCH.

[On the evening of January 26th, just before the sailing of the Golden Age, a gentleman in a cap and frock, writing to a friend in San Francisco, says: "The authorities here have resolved to evacuate the city to the French." This was written on the envelope of a sealed letter, and the writer had no time to say more.—ED. BULLETIN.]

NAVAL.—H. M. Ship Charlybelle, Captain Turner, and Devastation, Captain Pike, were at Mazatlan on the 13th January, on which day the Devastation (according to the S. F. Bulletin), sailed for Panama to proceed thence to this station.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, February 22, 1864.
House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present—Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, Trimble, Jackson, Foster, Duncan, Carwell, Bayley, and the Registrar. The bill, as amended by the Legislative Council, will be taken up on Thursday next.

WAYS AND MEANS.
The House went into committee of the whole. Mr. Franklin is the author of the bill. Chief Justice—\$3,880. The chairman called the attention of the committee to the resolutions of Mr. DeCosmos in regard to the pensioning of the present Chief Justice and the appointment as Chief Justice of an English barrister. The Registrar of the Supreme Court is not less than 2 years practice in England, Majesty's superior courts of Great Britain or Ireland, and that a salary of £1200 should be paid to such Chief Justice.

Dr. Trimble moved, that in the event of the retirement of the Chief Justice, an address be presented to the Governor, stating that this House is prepared to pay the salary of the Chief Justice, and that the present Chief Justice hold office till a barrister of 10 years practice, and now practicing in the United Kingdom be appointed. Mr. DeCosmos said the resolution did not govern the required grounds. The point was, do we want another Chief Justice or do we not? This resolution did not express any thing decisive on the matter.

Dr. Trimble explained that he understood the Chief Justice was about to retire, and he wished to keep him in office till his successor was appointed.

Dr. Powell said he did not see how we could ask the Chief Justice to retire, as his appointment did not rest with the House. He would support the amendment as a more delicate mode of intimating the wish of the House to have a new Chief Justice.

Mr. Bayley proposed that we should vote the salary of the Chief Justice as it was down in the estimates.

Mr. Street said he was strongly in favor of the amendment, he rather inclined to support the amendment as being "couched in better language."

Dr. Talmie said since the last debate on this matter, he had heard contradictory reports as to the retirement of the Chief Justice; he had heard it said that he had no intention to retire, and he had also heard it said that he would retire.

Mr. Street asked the mover of the amendment if he would insert the words "common law barrister" in the bill.

Dr. Trimble—Certainly.

Mr. DeCosmos saw no guarantee in the amendment that we wished the Chief Justice removed. It was a plain business matter, and he believed in using plain language.

The Duke of Newcastle had not thought it expedient to refer to the appointment of a new judge, and he did not see why we should do so.

Col. Foster said he could see nothing in this amendment setting forth in any way the shape the opinions either of the committee or of the public. (Hear, hear.) The present state of things might simply go on till the end of the year, and no objection whatever be made of the retirement of the Chief Justice. The wording of the amendment was also objectionable, as it was not good English; how could the House recommend to His Excellency that it was prepared, and he certainly could not support the amendment.

Mr. Franklin said he was opposed to the resolution of both resolutions; at present they were premature; we have thrown out the salary of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer and Surveyor-General, and we have now to consider the salary of the Chief Justice.

Dr. Helmecken moved a resolution of the House was the sole authority a committee be appointed to consider the salary of the Chief Justice, but a resolution of the House to make the resolutions instead of being preparatory, they should have been discussed three months ago. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Jackson moved an amendment to the bill resolution, that in the opinion of the committee, the present Chief Justice, from his not being a barrister, is not qualified for the position in the present advanced state of the colony.

Mr. Bayley moved that the consideration of this subject be postponed, and that a committee be appointed to wait on the Chief Justice to ascertain his views on the matter.

Mr. DeCosmos insisted strongly on the committee taking positive and decided action in the matter. The country looked to the House to bring about the much needed change, and it was his duty to further their wishes. He pressed the adoption of his resolutions, with the amendment of the junior member for Victoria district.

Colonel Foster moved the following resolution in amendment to all the previous motions: That this House address His Excellency to request the Duke of Newcastle to appoint as Chief Justice of this colony a Common Law Barrister of not less than ten years standing.

Mr. Street said if the hon. gentleman would add this amendment, it not being or having been a member of the bar or judiciary of this colony, or British Columbia, he would support the resolution.

Colonel Foster added the words proposed, "and who would add this amendment, it not being or having been a member of the bar or judiciary of this colony, or British Columbia, he would support the resolution."

Dr. Trimble withdrew his amendment, and proposed an amendment to Colonel Foster's resolution, that this House is prepared to vote an annual sum of £2500 as a retiring pension to the Chief Justice.

Mr. DeCosmos said he would withdraw his resolution as Col. Foster's contained the pith and substance of his (Mr. DeCosmos').

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Dr. Trimble's amendment as to pension was then put, and was carried.

Mr. Bayley moved that £400 be substituted instead of £500.

The amendment with £500 was carried.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Trimble and Bayley voted for £400.

The estimate of £3,880 for Chief Justice was then struck out.

Mr. Duncan said he thought this office might be added to the duties of the Registrar General.

The Chairman and Mr. Street spoke of the

responsible nature of the duties of the Registrar General, and deprecated placing any additional work on his shoulders. The salary for Registrar was voted, also \$1,000 for Clerk of Writs. On the item of contingencies \$250.

Mr. Duncan remarked that he had an inveterate hatred of contingencies; he would like an explanation.

Mr. Young said he thought \$20 per month was not a large sum for finding the Supreme Court in stationery, fuel, &c.

The item was passed.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—\$1,455.
This item was struck out.

CLERK—\$1,000. Passed; also contingencies, \$250.

Mr. Street would only wish the hon. gentleman to know what amount of fees came into the hands of the Sheriff.

Mr. Young said he had not the figures at hand for last year, but in a previous year, 1862 or 1863, they amounted to £75.

The amount was also for occasional assistance, \$250, and contingencies \$100.

REGISTRAR GENERAL—\$1,940. Voted; advance on do, \$425.

Mr. DeCosmos opposed any addition to the Registrar General's salary; he thought the colony could not afford it.

Mr. Street would only wish the hon. gentleman were the father of a family, he would then know how anxious a man must feel living on \$1940 a year.

Mr. Young and the Chairman strongly supported the addition. Through the exertions of the present incumbent the fees of the office had greatly increased. Additional sum voted; also, contingencies \$250.

The Committee rose and reported progress.

CORONER'S FEES.
Mr. Street gave notice that tomorrow he would move, for all returns of all fees paid to the Coroner, to jurymen, and all other moneys paid through the Coroner's hands for 1863.

Mr. DeCosmos proposed that the business of the House be adjourned to the 23rd inst.

Monday Feb. 23.
House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present—Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell, Street, Duncan, Bayley, Dennis, and the Registrar.

Mr. Street moved for returns from the Coroner of all moneys passing through his hands as fees and other expenses for the year 1863.

Mr. Young said he had gone over the various fees, and passing through the Coroner's hands, in anticipation of this motion, and was in a position to give very nearly all the information the hon. mover desired. The whole amount passing through the Coroner's hands for 1863 was \$23,120, and the balance of Mr. Street's bill would be quite satisfied with the statement of the hon. Colonial Secretary, and would withdraw his motion.

The motion was carried.

The report of the Committee on the Defences lately published in our columns was adopted by the House.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE CROWN LANDS.
Dr. Trimble's notice of motion to stay the pending bills of the resolutions paying for one civil list which were lately adopted by the House, till further discussion, was postponed owing to the absence of the hon. mover.

The Speaker said this showed the importance attached to the motion.

SKILL DEBTS BILL.
The House went into committee of the whole on this bill. Mr. Bayley in the chair.

Mr. DeCosmos said he did not see the need for the appointment of a new judge, as he thought we should discharge litigation as much as possible, although some of his hon. colleagues might differ from him in that respect. We had applied for a new Chief Justice, who we were told would be able to do all the work of the colony, and he did not see the need for another judge.

Mr. Duncan said that in his opinion no such court was wanted in the country; he thought we should discharge litigation as much as possible, although some of his hon. colleagues might differ from him in that respect. We had applied for a new Chief Justice, who we were told would be able to do all the work of the colony, and he did not see the need for another judge.

Mr. DeCosmos said he did not see the need for the appointment of a new judge, as he thought we should discharge litigation as much as possible, although some of his hon. colleagues might differ from him in that respect. We had applied for a new Chief Justice, who we were told would be able to do all the work of the colony, and he did not see the need for another judge.

The bill was then put and passed.

Mr. DeCosmos did not see why the bill should be withdrawn.

Mr. Young also opposed the withdrawal of the bill. He thought the County Court law of England, so far as applicable to this country, might advantageously be followed.

Dr. Helmecken did not see the use of reporting progress on this bill; it was only wasting time, and the session had lasted too long already. So far as the rural districts are concerned, they do not want such a measure as this, and it would be only encouraging litigation, which was a great evil. People were perfectly happy where there are no lawyers. (laughter.)

The committee rose and reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

To-day (Wednesday) the House will be in Committee on Supply.

The House adjourned.

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1864.
House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present, Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell,

Franklin, Trimble, Jackson, Street, Foster, Duncan, Bayley, Dennis.

THE RESOLUTIONS AGAIN.
Mr. Franklin asked if he would be in order in wishing the resolutions on the civil list to come up for examination, and for the construction of the Council; and the same in regard to the resolutions on the harbor defences?

The Speaker said the civil list resolutions had disappeared from the House; the harbor defences affair was simply an address, and has been already sent to the Governor.

WAYS AND MEANS.
House in Committee of the whole—Mr. Franklin in the Chair.

Commissioner of Police—\$2,000.
Mr. DeCosmos asked why the salary was increased from last year? He moved that the salary be \$1,750. Carried.

Superintendent of Police, \$1,500, voted; also clerk and stockkeeper, \$800; two sergeants at \$1 75 per diem; eight constables at \$1 50 per diem; cook at \$1 50 per diem; constable for Equivalents, at \$2 per diem; contingencies, \$100; and extra constables, \$500.

Governor of Gal—\$500.
Mr. DeCosmos and Mr. Duncan advocated cutting down this item to \$450.

Mr. Young, Helmecken, Trimble and Franklin opposed.

Item voted; also one gaoler, \$750; one assistant do, \$500; one superintendent of convicts, \$800; two convict guards at \$1 50 per diem; two door keepers at \$1 50 per diem; and contingencies, \$25.

Magistrate at Nanaimo, \$1,700.
Mr. Bayley asked if it were contemplated to appoint a harbor-master at Nanaimo?

Mr. Young said it was intended to make Nanaimo a port of entry, and a harbor-master was necessary. It was intended to make the Nanaimo magistrate harbor-master, and, in fact, general government agent.

Mr. DeCosmos said he would propose a reduction in this salary. He did not see why the magistratical duties should not be done at Nanaimo as they are at Alberni, by an officer of the company. Nanaimo was owned by a company, as Alberni is, and he thought might be managed in the same way. He moved that the salary be \$1,250, same as last year.

Mr. Duncan supported, both in this particular case and as a general principle; he was opposed to raising salaries.

Mr. Bayley advocated the payment of the amount asked for.

Mr. Young said the difference between the Alberni and Nanaimo companies, was that the former paid no revenue, and the latter paid over \$2,000 per annum. The total revenue from Nanaimo was \$30,000, while from Alberni it was not \$1,000.

Mr. Franklin supported the payment of the salary asked for.

Col. Foster supported the payment of the full amount—\$1,700 voted.

Constable at Nanaimo—\$500.
Mr. Young in answer to Mr. Bayley said that heretofore one of the workmen had been sworn in but it was proposed now to appoint a constable.

Contingencies—\$50 voted.

Legislative Council—Clerk, \$500 voted; also contingencies, \$100.

House of Assembly—Clerk, \$1,700.
Mr. DeCosmos said that if the Clerk did a whole year's work he would not grudge him the salary of \$750, but he did not see why our sessions should extend over a great part of the year, and if we had a Ministerial Council, whose action would shorten the sessions to 40 or 50 days, he did not see why he should pay a Clerk a full year's salary. He would move that the salary for the period of the sessions be \$750.

Mr. Dennis said he could not agree with the hon. member as to the length of the sessions being 40 or 50 days. And to get a gentleman of education and experience for the amount proposed, was impossible. He (Mr. Dennis) would support the amount asked for.

Col. Foster said this was an appointment the House could not do without.

Mr. Street moved that the salary be the same as last year—\$1,250.

Dr. Helmecken said he was of opinion that the House of Assembly should have a permanent Clerk, by giving small salaries, we offer inducements for the Clerk to leave whenever he could get any thing better, and thus put the business in confusion. There was a good deal of work to be done while the House was not in session. Besides, he thought the Clerk should be obliged to devote his general services to the Government work, as should also the Clerk of the Attorney General, and in that case, he would vote for the full salary; otherwise, if the Clerk only did the work of the House, he would vote for reducing the salary.

Mr. Young argued on the necessity of having a permanent Clerk for the whole year at a proper salary. The position of Clerk required a gentleman of education and ability, and we could not expect to get such an officer if we only engaged him for 6 months, and left him unemployed for the rest of the year. The Executive would doubtless gladly avail themselves of his services for the time he was unemployed.

Mr. DeCosmos withdrew his motion in favor of that of Mr. Street for \$1,250.

Dr. Powell supported the full amount asked for.

\$1,700 voted, also contingencies \$750, and occasional assistance, &c. \$1,000.

Attorney General—Expenses of prosecutions \$1,250. Passed.

Sheriff—Criminal punishments \$500. Passed.

Quarter Sessions—Fees, \$250. Passed.

Coroner—\$1,800.

Mr. Young moved that this item be voted as a whole. He believed this was the usual custom, and his object was that, as in England, the Coroner should be a salaried official, and not be paid by fees, so as to give people an opportunity to say he held unnecessary litigation. He would propose to give him \$500 or \$600 a year.

Mr. Street said the payment of fees was a guarantee that no bodies would be interred till proper examination had been held. He took particular exception to granting a salary in this case, as it was a person's own members of the House, by button-holing them, and saying that a salary had been promised by the Colonial Secretary.

To-day (Wednesday) the House will be in Committee on Supply.

The House adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 25, 1864.
House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present, Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell,

present incumbent that the Colonial Secretary had told him to speak to individual members and ascertain their views.

Mr. Young had no recollection of making such a proposition.

Mr. Street said the Coroner had refused to pay witnesses, which he thought wrong; there was \$500 set down for fees for witnesses and others.

Mr. Young withdrew his proposition, and the items were voted: fees to Coroner, \$300; fees to witnesses, \$500; removal and burial of bodies, \$376; and contingencies, \$220.

Charitable Allowances—Victoria Hospital, \$2,500.

Mr. Franklin asked if the amount were not too large.

The Speaker said the Hospital would still be in debt \$700 or \$800.

Dr. Trimble said the Hospital owed him \$2000. Item voted; also \$250 for Female Hospital.

Police and Goals—The items set down in the estimates amounting to \$9,487, were passed without dissent.

King's House for Governor, \$1,000.

Dr. Helmecken said the Governor must have a residence, but whether we shall vote \$1,000 for one is another matter. It was the business of the Executive to find a residence, and pay it out of the Crown Lands. We had three or four Civil Lists, and we would not get the Crown Lands. Without any dissent to the new Governor he thought the Executive should look out for a residence for him.

Mr. Street thought we should vote the amount; it was rather paltry to throw overboard this kind of a thing.

Mr. DeCosmos said if there was only one Governor coming, he would be happy to vote the amount. (laughter.) But if two were coming; he would be very chary of doing so.

Dr. Talmie could not see how we would be showing any disrespect by not voting this sum.

The item was thrown out. The item of rent for Harbormaster's office, \$330, was passed; also Post office \$330, and Nanaimo gaol \$100.

Education—Victoria district—\$1,000.
Mr. DeCosmos said a sum of \$1,000 was too small; he was happy to say that a majority of the city members had had the matter under consideration, and had agreed on asking for a much larger sum in the supplemental estimates.

Dr. Powell was of opinion that the amount was insufficient. At the committee meeting, the Crown Lands Committee had occupied the only committee room, and the Education Committee were waiting till they got through. (laughter.)

Dr. Talmie said that being a member of the committee, he had also been waiting for the Crown Lands Committee to rise. Our chief requirement was a good city school with an adequate salary. We could not get good teachers unless we paid them enough.

Mr. Street, as the last member of the committee, also laid the blame on the Crown Lands Committee.

Mr. Duncan was glad to hear the general opinion expressed that the amount voted was small. The question of education had been neglected, and deserved the greatest attention.

Dr. Trimble would not be disposed to vote a cent for schools unless they were strictly non-sectarian.

Mr. Young said this question had occupied the most attention of the Executive, and they were desirous of having the assistance of the members of the House, who were better able to form an idea of the necessary amount required. The sum of \$5000 had been put down, simply from not knowing any more was wanted, and they were now engaged in preparing a supplementary estimate.

Dr. Helmecken thought that if all the children now being educated in the colony were put into one school, he thought \$5000 would educate them all.

The various items making up the \$5000 were voted.

Conveyance of Mails—To New Westminster—\$1,000.

Mr. Young explained that British Columbia paid the same amount. Item voted.

To Equivalents—\$300. Passed.

To Nanaimo, Cowichan, &c.—\$1,800.

Dr. Helmecken said the amount was far too small.

Dr. Talmie—Not half enough.

Mr. Bayley also thought the amount too small.

Mr. DeCosmos would vote for the sum as a temporary measure, but he believed the only true way to open up a country was by a good trunk road. Item passed.

To San Francisco—\$9000.

Mr. Young explained that the steamship company refused to carry the mails for less than \$250 a trip, or \$8000 a year.

Mr. Franklin thought British Columbia should pay half this amount.

Amount voted.

Harbor improvements—\$78,078.

Mr. Young said the sum of \$18,000 had been already voted by the House for this purpose; the items in the estimates were simply to show what the Executive intended to do.

The various items were voted, and the House reported progress.

PILOT BILL.
To-morrow the Pilot Bill, as amended by the Council, will be taken up.

Mr. Bayley moved that a copy of the map of Beacon Hill Park, showing the proposed lines of fencing, be laid before the House.

House adjourned.

WHAT BRITISH ENTERPRISES CAN ACCOMPLISH.
So long as the worthy Bishop Hills continues in England there can be no necessity for an emigration agent. The following rough year was spun by his Lordship during a speech made by him at Newcastle on the 1st Dec. last, as reported in the Northern Daily Express of the 2d December: "British enterprisers had already built up such cities as Victoria on Vancouver Island, and New Westminster on the Fraser river, each having a population of from 50,000 (1) to 100,000 (1) inhabitants; and forming an emporium of British commerce." (The reporter of P. D. must surely have gratuitously given us the benefit of an additional unit, and, even then, his Lordship was considerably "off the track" in his estimate; we must have female immigration. "Dat's what's de matter."—Ed. Col.)

SUICIDE AND INQUEST.
A lamentable case of self-destruction occurred yesterday morning on board H. M. Surveying steamer Beaver.

The deceased, whose name was William Ward, was a Quarter-master on board the Beaver, and had been addicted to habits of intemperance. Shortly after 7 a. m. yesterday, he was discovered lying dead on deck, with a dreadful wound through his forehead, and a musket at his side, which too plainly revealed the manner in which the fatal deed had been accomplished.

The Beaver came round to Victoria shortly after the occurrence, and at 7 a. m. an inquest was held on board before Coroner Dickson and a jury of fifteen, of which Mr. J. K. Suter was foreman.

After the jury had inquested the body of the deceased, Mr. Bonwick, engineer in charge, was examined, and deposed—At 7 1/2 a. m. on deck and saw some blood. On looking round saw a man apparently dead; went up to him and saw it was the Quarter-master. Seeing blood on his face thought his throat was cut. Ran to the Captain and reported so.

To the Coroner—Saw nothing else. After leaving the Captain went to ascertain whether the man was dead or not. On looking saw his face much disfigured and a hole in his forehead, and I then found out he had shot himself, found a rifle beside him; heard no report of a gun.

Coroner—What was his general character?—Ans.—Am sure he was addicted to intemperance.

Cor.—Has he labored under delirium tremens or drink?—Ans.—Yes, last week he was drunk.

Cor.—Was it the custom to give the men drink?—Ans.—No, but we were obliged to give them rum.

Ans.—No, but they smuggle it and are punished for drunkenness.

In answer to Jurors, witness said: At 4 a. m. when deceased relieved the watch he was then sober; he appeared lately to be recovering from former excesses (especially last Sunday). Did not know how he got a rifle; every man has a rifle but no ammunition; he had been on board 14 months, and was often intoxicated. He had the watch from 4 to 6. No one heard the report. He must have rested the rifle on his nose; the discharge carrying away the bridge of his nose; knocking one eye out and splitting his head open. It happened in Equivalents. Found a stick with which he had touched the trigger. The ball passed through the upper deck.

Robert McEwin, Carpenter's Mate, sworn to—Witness Ward appeared quiet for the last two or three days as usual. He had not been under the influence of liquor for the last week; it was not his duty to carry a rifle when on deck. Confirms the evidence of the former witness. On Saturday last deceased appeared quiet; at night had occasion to come on deck and saw deceased in Mr. Bonwick's cabin; he said there was a dog in there; saw none. Overhauled him, found nothing on him; reported to Mr. Blackney that I did not think him capable to keep watch. Sent him away in a boat at 10, and saw him in bed on his return. This occurred on Saturday night. Was instructed to relieve him after my report. Took all knives, razors, &c. from his cabin that night. As he would answer no questions and did not appear so sober as usual, had some suspicion that he would commit suicide. He, and I, went on watch for three or four nights before his death.

Robert Russell, seaman, was relieved at 4 a. m. by deceased; William Ward; he knows him fourteen days, and has seen him sometimes under the influence of spirits; he did not see him in bed on Saturday night. He had been rather restless, and unable to sleep for three or four nights before his death.

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The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, February 23, 1864.

THE ANTLER BED ROCK PLUMBER.

The Prospectus of the Company formed for the purpose of laying a bed rock flume in Antler Creek, will be read with much interest by miners and all interested in the future prospects of the mining districts of British Columbia. It is by such undertakings as this alone, that the full extent of the riches of Cariboo can be fairly developed. It is utterly impossible that individuals can surmount the various obstacles that exist in the way of successful prospecting and working the mines in Creeks such as Antler, Lightning, and others, where the difficulties in the way of reaching the bed rock and working to advantage are so great. But the united action of the shareholders of a joint stock company will effect much more and there can be little doubt that the shares in this company will soon be at a premium. The profits which are likely to accrue from the bed rock flume system can hardly be estimated with any degree of certainty, but from the richness of the bed rock deposit in Antler Creek we may fairly estimate that they will be very large, and we may also fairly expect to reap as the flume is in working order that claims will be worked on Antler Creek with as good prospects of success as in any other parts of Cariboo. Had it not been for the difficulties of working and the vast quantity of water in the creek, Antler would not have been so deserted as it was in 1863. No one doubts for one moment the richness of the creek; and when it becomes possible, through the instrumentality of the bed-rock flume, to work the diggings, we may expect to see a concurrence to some extent of the excitement of 1861. In California, bed-rock fluming has been exceedingly profitable; it has been one of the things useful to the thorough development of our own mines, and there is no reason to fear that it will be less lucrative in Cariboo than in California. Indeed, probabilities are strongly in favor of its being more so, on account of the well-known richness of the rock and impossibility of working the mines satisfactorily without a bed-rock flume.

LATER FROM COMOX.

The following letter from our resident correspondent containing the latest intelligence from the above settlement will be read with interest.
BORNEO BARRICK COLONIST.—It is now some time since my last letter appeared in your paper. Since then we have had quite an excitement in the settlement, and we fully expected at one time to have had a quarrel, of rather a serious nature with the Indians, but it seems now to have blown over, and we are again enjoying our usual quietude. I have now and again by a robbery or something of that kind. About the new year we were visited by the gunboat "Forward," Captain Lascelles, and although at that time we were in imminent danger of the loss of our property, and even our lives, and although the authorities had this to be the case, strange to say, Captain Lascelles had orders not to interfere unless the Indians were brought aboard the gunboat.

OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

EDMUND BARRICK COLONIST.—It is not a very easy matter for a person to write disinterestedly, especially when he has an interest in the subject, as your correspondent, a Colonist and Barrick, has attempted to do in his letter on the above subject, published in your paper of the 3rd instant. I desire to correct and make a few comments upon that letter, and endeavor to prove that the "glit" of the writer's remarks; is fact I may say, the whole drift of the letter is a punning, though fruitless aim to injure the Schoolmaster and Postmaster, and however well "a Colonist" may fancy he has disguised himself, it does not require "a microscopic eye" nor spectacles to boot, to detect the close fact.
From a long and intimate acquaintance with the school teacher here, and knowing his ability as a teacher, having sent my children to his school, I cannot permit "a Colonist" to launch his dirty water at the head of a deserving and worthy man without a passing notice.
At the outset I would ask, does the public know why that letter appeared, who is the originator of it? I throw not. But I will try to show them "the track." I have already above alluded to, the object of its appearance. The first two-thirds of the letter is that peculiar long exordium, characteristic of "a Colonist," so familiar to us at Nanaimo, almost void of meaning, though no doubt admirably serving the purpose of the "Original," viz., a cloak for the latter part.
To anyone perusing the letter the animus of the writer must be apparent in the desperate effort made to darken the character of a public servant, who for the past seven years has shown fidelity and ability in the discharge of his duty, and during the whole of this period has given general satisfaction, but who it seems has the misfortune to differ from "a Colonist" in his religious creed; hence the "stab in the dark."

It is not the animus but the serenity of "a Colonist," however, to which I take greatest exception; the former can easily be explained, as I will afterwards show, with your permission Mr. Editor. To write a letter for publication professedly on "Common School Education," as "a Colonist" has done, and to make that a pretext for defamation of character, and for raising religious questions, is work too mean and dirty for an honest man. I have very little doubt that the letter in question has emanated from a quarter well known to the Nanaimo people as the source of all the "potentiated stuff" and religious discord that has ever arisen amongst them.

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As to "a Colonist's" misstatements, I notice he remarks, 1st.—That the colonial schoolmaster here is strong in his religious sentiments, and makes his school an excellent feeder and nursery of the church to which he belongs. The schoolmaster is a religious man—what all schoolmasters ought to be—but that he is not of highest or sectarian views is well known to the old residents here, as, for instance, his introducing public worship here according to the forms of the Church of England in 1857, two years before the arrival of any clergyman, and to that service requesting the attendance of his pupils, the only case in which he has sought to influence them in attending public worship! Occasion upon the arrival of a minister here, before going to his own church, he discontinued the former service and joined his own communion, the Wesleyan Methodist. The Church of England subsequently sent a clergyman here, and have also established a school in which their own tenets are taught in scripture lessons given by the minister daily. But the assertion that the Colonial School has been made a nursery and feeder to the Wesleyan Church is wholly untrue, as no instance has yet transpired in which such undue influence has been used. The belief of "a Colonist" that it is doubtful whether he (the master) could take the lowest certificate, &c. &c. would perhaps be admitted by a few of the same father as "a Colonist." But one would think it strange that after seven years service the master is to glean this piece of information from the columns of a newspaper, and not from "the people" among whom he lives, who know his abilities without being interrogated by a "Colonist," whose opinion is formed from ignorance of the person whom he calumniates. The statement that out of 130 children only 30 attend the Colonial School is intended to mislead. The idea "a Colonist" seems to wish to convey by that is, that some deficiency or incapability of the teacher is the reason why a greater proportion do not attend, ignoring the Church of England School at which, perhaps, 20 attend, and the fact that some of the older boys are employed in the mines, also that the majority are too young to attend school. The building occupied as a school too, is not large enough for the purpose, being only 16x23 feet; and hence, some time ago, when the attendance was a little larger than usual, some who applied for admission were refused for want of accommodation. This, I know to be a fact, for a place like this, a more commodious building should be provided. 4th. "a Colonist" asks indignantly what do we think of allowing \$1,200 a year to a school to which children somewhat advanced are sent, and the fact that the parents are not in a better condition in the master's ability to superintend the higher branches of study. The latter part of this sentence is as absurd as it is untrue, no such case having ever been brought to the notice of the teacher; and if such a case had occurred, I wonder where in Nanaimo the higher branches are taught? "a Colonist" again errs in the amount of salary, if the teacher receives the \$1,000 this year, as proposed in the estimates, that, with the fee of \$5 each child, would amount to \$1,150, and then "a Colonist" studiously avoids stating the amount of the salary of the Postmaster, which circumstance is worthy of consideration before pronouncing too hastily upon the "unconditional allowance" of \$1,150 a year! I think there are no two such offices in the whole of our civil service performed at a more reasonable rate. "a Colonist" then tells the colony, what is his purpose, to force endurance, if such a calamitous state of things is allowed as the future existence of such a monstrous as a Methodist Schoolmaster and Postmaster on \$1,150 in Nanaimo. Doubtless, if "a Colonist" could have had things his way, the schoolmaster and all the Methodists in Nanaimo would long ago have been sent to "Kingdom come, or some other good place."

and unsupported assertions when writing on the subject of "Common Schools."

I am, &c. A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY. NANAIMO, 9th Feb, 64.

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BENSON'S WATCHES & CLOCKS.

WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER, AT SPECIAL APPOINTMENT, TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Opinions of the London Press upon Benson's Great Clock and Watches in the Exhibition, 1862.

"An example of clock-work on a large scale, the work of this are probably the finest ever been seen in this country. No other watch could be fitted with more perfect and carefully adjusted mechanism than this. It is a triumph of ingenuity."—Times, June 23, 1862.
"More elegant and completely finished piece of mechanism we have never seen."—Standard, June 17, 1862.
"Some of them could be fitted with the same spirit and success as the present attempt."—Morning Post, June 23, 1862.
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