





The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, April 30, 1867.

Quebec, the City of Quebec; of the City of Halifax, and of the City of Fredericton. LEGISLATIVE POWERS. 1.—Ontario. shall be a Legislature for Ontario of the Lieutenant Governor styled the Legislative Assembly of Ontario composed of Eighty-two Members, to represent the Eighty-two electors set forth in the First Schedule.

(subject nevertheless to either the Legislative Assembly of Ontario or the Legislative Assembly of Quebec being sooner dissolved by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province), and no longer. 86. There shall be a Session of the Legislature of Ontario and of that of Quebec once at least in every Year, so that Twelve Months shall not intervene between the last Sitting of the Legislature in each Province in one Session and its first Sitting in the next Session. 87. The following Provisions of this Act respecting the House of Commons of Canada shall extend and apply to the Legislative Assemblies of Ontario and Quebec, that is to say,—the Provisions relating to the Election originally and on Vacancies, the Duties of the Speaker, the Absence of the Speaker, the Quorum, and the Mode of voting, as if those Provisions were here re-enacted and made applicable in Terms to each such Legislative Assembly. 4.—Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. 88. The Constitution of the Legislature of each of the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick shall, subject to the Provisions of this Act, continue as it exists at the Union until altered under the Authority of this Act; and the House of Assembly of New Brunswick existing at the passing of this Act shall, unless sooner dissolved, continue for the Period for which it was elected. 5.—Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia. 89. Each of the Lieutenant-Governors of Ontario, Quebec, and Nova Scotia shall cause to be issued for the First Election of Members of the Legislative Assembly thereof in such Form as by such Person as he thinks fit, and at such Time and on such Conditions as he may direct, and so that the First Election of Members of Assembly for any Electoral District or any Subdivision thereof shall be held at the same Time and at the same Places as the Election for a Member to serve in the House of Commons of Canada for that Electoral District. 6.—The Four Provinces. 90. The following Provisions of this Act respecting the Parliament of Canada,—namely,—the Provisions relating to Appropriation and Tax Bills, the Recommendation of Money Votes, the Assent to Bills, the Disallowance of Acts, and the Signification of Pleasure on Bills reserved,—shall extend and apply to the Legislatures of the several Provinces as if those Provisions were here re-enacted and made applicable in Terms to the respective Provinces and the Legislatures thereof, with the substitution of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province for the Governor-General, and for a Secretary of State, of One Year for Two Years, and of the Province for Canada VI.—DISTRIBUTION OF LEGISLATIVE POWERS. POWERS OF THE PARLIAMENT. 91. It shall be lawful for the Queen by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate and House of Commons to make Laws for the Peace, Order, and good Government of Canada, in relation to all matters not coming within the Classes of Subjects by this Act assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces; and for greater Certainty, but not so as to restrict the Generality of the foregoing Terms of this Section, it is hereby declared that (notwithstanding anything in this Act) the exclusive Legislative Authority of the Parliament of Canada extends to all Matters coming within the Classes of Subjects next herein after enumerated; that is to say:— 1. The Public Debt and Property. 2. The Regulation of Trade and Commerce. 3. The raising of Money by any Mode or System of Taxation. 4. The borrowing of Money on the Public Credit. 5. Postal Service. 6. The Census and Statistics. 7. Militia—Military and Naval Service and Defence. 8. The fixing of and providing for the Salaries and Allowances of Civil and other Officers of the Government of Canada. 9. Beacons, Buoys, Light Houses, and Sable Island. 10. Navigation and Shipping. 11. Quarantine and the Establishment and Maintenance of Marine Hospitals. 12. Sea Coast and Inland Fisheries. 13. Ferries between a Province and any British or Foreign Country, or between Two Provinces. 14. Currency and Coinage. 15. Banking—Incorporation of Banks and the Issue of Paper Money. 16. Savings Banks. 17. Weights and Measures. 18. Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes. 19. Interest. 20. Legal Tender. 21. Bankruptcy and Insolvency. 22. Patents of Invention and Discovery. 23. Copy Rights. 24. Indians and Lands reserved for the Indians. 25. Naturalization and Aliens. 26. Marriage and Divorce. 27. The Criminal Law, except the Constitution of Courts of Criminal Jurisdiction but including the procedure in Criminal matters. 28. The establishment, maintenance and management of Penitentiaries. 29. Such Classes of Subjects as are expressly excepted in the Enumeration of the Classes of Subjects by this Act assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces. And any Matter coming within any of the Classes of Subjects enumerated in this Section shall not be deemed to come within the Class of Matters of a local or private nature comprised in the Enumeration of the Classes of Subjects by this Act assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces. FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise arrived yesterday afternoon from New Westminster. Twenty passengers came down by her, amongst them being Capt Cooper of New Westminster, Mr W Leigh and wife of Yale, Messrs Gowdie and Pearson from Quesnelmouth and Cariboo respectively. DEFAULTERS.—The Government Gazette contains three pages and a half of closely printed names of defaulters under the Real Estate Act.

The Rumored Proposition to Cede this Colony to the United States. We were not unprepared for the report that the United States wishes to buy Vancouver Island and British Columbia, and that an offer has been made by Mr Seward to accept this Colony as an offset to the Alabama claims. The proposition includes, as a matter of necessity, the entire Territory lying west of the Rocky Mountains, and the adjacent Islands, with the backbone of the great range for the division line. Since the cession of the Russian Possessions to our neighbors, the command that the Americans have obtained over the greater portion of this British Pacific Coast is almost overwhelming; and it must be apparent to even a careless observer that it only requires the cession of San Juan Island to the United States to render our possessions on the Pacific utterly indefensible and worthless in case of a rupture between the two countries. We are hemmed in on the north and south. The lines are being drawn tighter every year. In 1825, the blundering of British statesmen over the Northwest boundary gave a coast line of three hundred and fifty miles in length to the more wide-awake Russian, who only the other day used the concession granted forty-two years ago to pay us off for interfering in his little game in the Crimea. The loose, shambling manner in which the Treaty of 1846 with the Americans was drawn, has since afforded them an excuse for seizing on San Juan Island, where their guns command the two channels leading to the Seat of Government on the mainland. But it is not alone the encroachments of our neighbors that have created a wide-spread feeling of alarm and discontent here. It is the extraordinary indifference and apathy with which our demands are treated by the Home Government that have given just cause for complaint. No attempt is made to assist us in developing latent resources; no expedition is sent out at Government expense to explore the country and show what we have to offer the starving millions of the Old World. We are required to "foot the bill" of an expensive Civil List, and told not to expect a penny from our hard-hearted mother to aid us in the discharge of that obligation; we meet with no encouragement in any shape. There are men in Parliament who voted to unite us to the mainland, but who have not the faintest conception of where we are located. Heavy burthens are strapped to our back. If we succeed in carrying them—if the country "goes ahead" and becomes populous and rich—it will be said Great Britain did it, and we shall bear a great deal about the latest and brightest gem added to the British Crown. But if the Colony goes down, involving the colonists in common ruin, we shall be told that we are lazy and shiftless, and deserve no better fate. Why should this state of things continue, if the Home Government really entertains the strong affection towards the Colonies that some speakers in Parliament profess? Why should a line of policy be persevered in that is alienating the affections of colonists from Great Britain and causing them to cast their eyes across the imaginary line that divides them from their Anglo-Saxon brethren, and long for a "closer communion" with the children of a Government that does so much to foster and encourage the growth of every section of its vast domain? Sitka has not been three weeks in the possession of the Americans—the Stars and Stripes have not even been unfurled to the breeze on its shore—yet we hear already of an expedition being on its way out from Washington to thoroughly explore the country and report upon its capabilities and resources. Before the summer has passed away, we shall hear of a territorial Government being formed in the North, and a delegate will pass through our city to take his seat in Congress and lay before that body a statement of the wants of the new star that has just risen in the

American firmament. Is it to be wondered at that we find a great and growing feeling of discontent pervading the public mind when they contrast their own situation with that of the States and Territories about them? Is it any wonder that a transfer of the Colony to the United States under the arrangement proposed would be hailed with satisfaction by many of our people? We deeply regret that such is the state of popular feeling here today. But what are our people to do? Where are they to turn for relief? Their patience and means are exhausted, and their loyalty is put to a severe test when they reflect that while the rest of the world is moving forward they are going behind. They know from the experience of the past that no help need be looked for from home. Confederation would save us; but when may we expect its consummation? None would regret more deeply than ourselves the failure of British institutions on the Pacific; but if the day ever arrives when the British flag shall be supplanted on this Island by the Stars and Stripes, the responsibility will rest with the Home Government, not with the Colonists. The present negotiations, we believe, will amount to nothing. Great Britain will not sell her Colonies. She might exchange British Columbia for a generous slice of the State of Maine, which would give a fine seaboard to the new Confederation. But the Americans, on the other hand, will not part with Maine. So no bargain can be struck. Money cannot buy us at present, notwithstanding we are treated very indifferently, and every day told we are a burthen and a source of continual annoyance to our old mother.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE. Thursday, April 25.

Lower River Items. (From the Examiner and Columbian.) OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.—Hon P. O'Reilly goes up river this morning to enter upon his duties as Magistrate of the Yale and Lytton District. Hon H. M. Ball will also start tomorrow for Cariboo for the same purpose. It is rumored that Hon C. Brew will succeed Mr Ball in the magistracy of Cariboo when the latter fills the office of Colonial Secretary in the absence of Hon A. N. Birch. Mr Ball about the end of June will return to the Capital to occupy the position of Acting Colonial Secretary, during the absence of Hon Mr Birch in England. Mr Chadwick left Lillooet on Friday, coming the Fraser river route. At Spinklam's Flat he encountered a heavy snow storm. The road between Lytton and Yale he found in tolerably good condition, and met a dozen or so of teams between these two points, upward bound with loads of freight. Mr Chadwick has one hundred acres under grain crops this season. He informs us that he has sown nearly 3000 lbs of excellent bacon, which he offers at 40 cents per lb delivered at Lillooet. The two grist mills (the Lillooet Company's and Mr Scott's) have made about 200,000 lbs of flour during the season, most of which now awaits purchasers at 8 cents per lb. It is said to be of a very superior quality. The farmers complain of the high tolls taken at these mills. They have to provide sackings and allow one-sixth for grinding. The only mining being carried on at present is on Bridge River, where two companies had commenced taking out rich pay. The dirt yields at the rate of 16 cents to the pan! There are ten men in each company, and the utmost confidence is felt in the operation. STATEMENT OF proceeds arising from a Soiree given in aid of the Orphans of St. Ann's Convent. Sale of tickets (260) ..... \$390 50 Sale of one bag of flour..... 75 00 Sale of bar..... 26 75 Donations..... 21 25 Donation from musicians..... 15 00 \$528 50 EXPENSES. Gas..... 6 75 Light..... 2 50 Musicians' stand..... 2 50 Printing—Colonist..... 14 00 Morning News..... 5 00 Gas fittings..... 8 00 Hall and decorating..... 11 75 Music..... 50 00—100 00 \$428 00 COMMITTEE—P. O'Dwyer, T. J. Burnes, P. N. McDonald, A. N. Nicolson, James Collins. CHOCOLATE.—Mr Piper has commenced the manufacture of chocolate in quantities sufficient to supply the local demand. H. M. S. SPARROWHAWK will go to Nanaimo to-day and thence to New Westminster. THE time for the payment of taxes for the present municipal year has been postponed until the 1st of May.

From Cariboo. From Mr Edward Pearson of Williams Creek, who left that place on the 7th and arrived here on the 22d instant, we have obtained the following items of news: The weather on the Creek was mild and the snow rapidly thawing. The consequence was that the water, for want of which little work had been done for some time, was rising, enabling work in many claims to be resumed. There is, however, nothing of interest to record. The Hood company, on Conklin's Gulch, had given out the job of drifting their tunnel, for \$739 per foot. The contractors, after running in 200 feet, struck very hard rock and threw up the contract, having lost \$500 by the operation. Another party undertook to carry it through at \$15 a foot, and the work was being vigorously pushed forward. The United Company, who struck it so rich a short time ago, are drifting a tunnel direct to the rich lead. Market prices had experienced a slight decline. Mr John Callbreth had brought in 4000 lbs. of the Adams mills flour, but there was little demand. There was considerable snow on the road to within 10 miles of Quesnelmouth, and, owing to the thaw, travelling was sloppy. Teams are still passing over the Quesnel river on the ice. Grain at that place was 15 cents, and tending upward. Freight from there to the Creek was from 7 1/2 to 10 cents.—Columbian.

Mr Wilson Brown, of this city, now in London, has addressed a letter to the editor of the Star, in which he declares his intention of disposing of his property in England and settling permanently on Vancouver Island. He says he is taking several farm servants out with him. He suggests a gradual emigration, such as the colony can absorb, to be fostered by Government and charitable aid. In the letter the following effective passage occurs:—"Wanted as I have been through bright sunshine from a clear bracing atmosphere, to arrive in England just now is depressing, but to see the poor creatures who are sinking with cold and hunger in London is horrifying, when so many lands would rejoice to receive them, and I have no hesitation in saying a great proportion of these miserable people, if they were to be judiciously selected for the different colonies, would not only cease to be a trouble at home, but realize a comfortable living, and be a source of wealth to the country of their settlement. Such may be said of Vancouver Island to a limited extent, especially if at this juncture and change of Government the colonial authorities would see the necessity of taxing the unoccupied and unimproved lands so as to do away with the iniquitous system of holders and speculators in real estate. One of the causes of the present depression in the colony is the misrepresentation of men of high repute, but who, I have no doubt, did so from a miscalculation as to the capacity of the colony to absorb emigration, which induced them to say "there was a living for all," forgetting the amount of passage money forbade the hewers of wood and drawers of water to undertake the voyage, but which was no obstacle to young men from the counter and counting-house, who, deceived by such reports, rushed out there to suffer more than I should like to recount."

THE CANADIAN GOLD MINES.—A letter from Madoc in the Montreal Witness, says The gentleman who put the blast in the Richardson mine in January, who has been a miner in California and Cariboo, says there is no doubt as to the extent of this mine; and one of the best proofs of this opinion is that, the company who have now purchased the quartz passage into the tap passing down through the crushing mill, and coming out at the bottom of the powder, ready for separating and gathering with quicksilver; the whole building, machinery, mills, and engine room, etc, costing from \$30,000 to \$500,000. I therefore leave your readers to judge of the anticipated result of the renewed Richardson Madoc gold mine. Other claims are being brought up with prospects equally favorable at fabulous prices, varying from \$5,000 to \$30,000, for from five to one hundred acres; the latter price having just been paid near this village. Companies are being formed in every direction in Canada West for mining and speculating operations, some of whom are about to prospect from thirty to seventy miles north—a region which is supposed by judges of mining operations, upon information collected by old hunters, to excel this locality for gold mining.

GUBERNATORIAL MOVEMENTS.—His Excellency the Governor and Mrs Seymour will probably arrive down from New Westminster to-day. The Enterprise brought His Excellency's horses down last evening. DISCHARGED.—The French Canadian charged a day or two since by Mr Timmerman with wilfully burning a barn, was yesterday discharged by the Police Magistrate.

A TOUGH'S STORY.—The Cincinnati Gazette tells the following sad story, the moral of which is evident: We once knew a man to struggle for years to color a particularly obstinate meerschaum pipe. He smoked incessantly. He tried all the different kinds of tobacco; put a "button" in it, boiled it in tobacco juice, but all to no avail. It wouldn't color. He grew morose and sour, shut himself up by himself and smoked, and smoked and smoked, muttering savagely between his teeth: "Color! I say. D—n ye. I'll c-o-l-o-r ye!" He gave up all business, and devoted himself wholly to smoking, determined, as he said, to color the pipe or die in the attempt. One day he failed to make his appearance at breakfast. His room was opened, and there he sat in his chair, dead the fatal meerschaum clutched tightly between his teeth. The meerschaum was as white as when it first emerged, Venus like, from the foam of the sea, but the man was turned to a rich dark brown: The meerschaum had colored him!

BOAT RACE.—A novel match has just been made here, between four boats—one boat rowed by Mr Bunster and one man from his brewery; a second by Mr Vogel and one man from his brewery; a third, by Mr A. Phillips and one man from his soda factory; and a fourth, by Mr Stuart and one man from his brewery. Steersmen to be selected haphazard; the boats to be two oared, and lots to be drawn for pick of boats. The first day of May has been selected for the race: stakes \$25 a side, to be deposited with Mr Becroft of the Gorge Retreat on the 28th of April. The distance rowed will be from the Hudson Bay Company's wharf to the Gorge. The agreement was signed yesterday in the presence of Mr Becroft of the Retreat.

FLOUR.—From Lillooet we learn that the flour manufactured there is giving general satisfaction in Cariboo. The grist mill at Soda Creek is also turning out an excellent article. It has been said that no flour would be required from the lower country this year, owing to the abundance of grain in the agricultural sections of the upper country. The arrival of the Onward, from Yale, on Monday, with information from Cariboo down, does not verify the statement. The amount of grain, though large, is not, it appears, proportioned to the consumption. The stocks of flour now in Cariboo are not large, and an advance in price is expected. The next mail, it is said, will probably bring information that the staple has advanced to 30 cents.—Examiner.

THE THEATRE.—There was a very full house at the theatre last evening, and Miss Arnot must have reaped a substantial benefit. The fair beneficiary never appeared to better advantage than as "Our Jenny." Mr Rush-ton, who made his farewell bow, was warmly applauded, and "did" his part excellently well. But Mr Callingham, as Giles Freek-face, was the "gem" of the evening—the "bright particular star" round which the lesser planets revolved. An efficient orchestra contributed greatly to the success of the entertainment. Owing to the lateness of the hour an extended notice is deferred until to-morrow.

I.O.O.F.—The forty-eighth anniversary of the introduction of the I.O.O.F. on the American continent, will be celebrated to-morrow, by an oration on "The Principles of Odd Fellowship," to be delivered by Bro. Rev. Thomas Somerville, Chaplain, at 3 p.m., at Odd Fellow's Hall. The public generally are respectfully invited to attend. At 7 p.m. the Brethren and their guests will meet at the St. George Hotel, View street, and partake of a dinner. Sojourning Brethren in good standing are cordially invited to attend. Tickets can be obtained from members of the committee.

A BILLIONAIRE.—Millionaires have come to be common affairs, but a billionaire is not stumbled upon at every corner. George Peabody is merging toward that extremely respectable figure. The Washington Republican says he made a will in 1856, which demonstrated that he was then worth fifty million pounds sterling; and it estimates that the increase of his fortune by good management has made it amount to one hundred million sterling—five hundred million dollars.

THERE were rumors about town last evening to the effect that news had been received of a serious mutiny on board H. M. S. Sutlej (Admiral Denman's flag ship), at Valparaiso. We could not trace the report to a reliable source, and doubt its correctness.

THE TELEGRAPH LINE TO ESQUIMALT.—Mr O. W. Wallace has received from Government the exclusive right to construct and maintain a telegraph line between Victoria and Esquimalt for a limited number of years. The line will be built at the expense of Mr Wallace and not by him under contract.

THE U. S. Revenue Cutter Lincoln arrived from the Sound yesterday afternoon to await the arrival of the mail.

THE Fidelity will carry five hundred barrels of lime to Portland.

Ma Selim Franklin, of this city, is said to be on his way out from London.



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The Movements of the Fenians.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that in opening the present session of Parliament in Great Britain it was announced from the Throne that the Government would be enabled to dispense with the exceptional powers—the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland. The abortive and ridiculous attempts at insurrection at Chester and Kilkenny called, however, for a continuance of the extraordinary powers with which the Executive were invested. The discussion in Parliament brought out the whole truth relative to this movement. The first duty of Government is to give security to life and property, and without this security the present or the improved laws cannot promote the prosperity of Ireland. Never were baser motives on the part of any persons undertaking to be rebels and insurgents than those which impelled the instigators of those outbreaks. It was not a spontaneous outbreak, but was excited by those who came from abroad, and who had speculated and practised on the credulity of the people of Ireland. In the United States great sums have been collected on the pretence that "Ireland was to be freed," and that the "Irish Republic" was about to be established; and advantage was taken of the panic created at one time in Canada, at another in Ireland, to make fresh demands upon the unfortunate dupes who gave their money, hoping that this great revolution was about to be accomplished, but in reality only for the purpose of filling the pockets of those who practice on their credulity. There is but one feeling about the men engaged in this conspiracy—that they are mean and despicable and their motives sordid. It has been called, to a certain extent, a military movement; but its military exploits have been wholly null and void. The leaders are hardly ever seen; the reputed leader has, ever since the 28th of October, been in hiding, and even in the midst of the large population of the United States which is known to sympathize with this movement, he has not dared to show his face. There has been no particular skill or ability manifested on the part of those engaged in the conspiracy, but it has been difficult to obtain that amount of information which is usual when such designs are intended, from the fact that the leader and principal organizers of the conspiracy have never been Ireland, that they carry on their plots in foreign lands; all they appear to have done is to issue orders to their sympathizers, agents and dupes. The Government have been fully prepared, and to show the ease with which troops may be transported from one part of the country to the other, and how hopeless of success these movements must be, it may be mentioned that the information of the late outrage did not reach Dublin until six or seven o'clock in the evening, the commander of the forces had intelligence at eight o'clock, and by eight o'clock next morning he was 100 miles off with a small army of 100 men, ready to march anywhere. The outbreak took place; it was evidently got up and led by persons not known in the country, who succeeded in persuading a small party of deluded individuals to appear in arms, for as long as three days, against the authority of the Queen. The first lesson shown by these occurrences is the extraordinary ease with which the most active measures may be taken by the Government for the repression of such disturbances. The second is that the most ample information is at the disposal of the Imperial Government, and that they are warned in sufficient time to allow them to take the fullest precaution for the preservation of the peace. Another remarkable fact is that the spirit of the population has displayed itself, and that there have been no signs of sympathy with the Fenian movement on the part of the great mass of the agricultural population of Kerry. (Killarney is in the county of Kerry.) The insurgents, by threats and persuasions, endeavored to induce

the agricultural population to join them, but they signally failed in every instance. No sympathy was expressed in the movement, and although a certain amount of terror, no doubt, caused by these armed bodies of men, was exhibited, they did not succeed, except in one or two instances of extreme compulsion, in getting food. A great deal has been said about the supposed sympathy of the agricultural population of the south of Ireland with the rebels. Figures laid before the House of Commons show that the number of arrests, up to November, 1866, was 752; in that number there were only 35 farmers and 20 farmer's sons—35 occupiers of the land. The remainder belonged to the class of small traders, citizens and American adventurers. But those who know anything of Ireland feel that danger is not likely to proceed from the rural population. It is the loose population of the towns that has supplied the supporters to the Fenian cause; but upon the occasion of the stir at Killarney they kept out of sight. Earl Russell, in the House of Peers, said that it would appear, from a passage in the message of the President of the United States, that the Government of that country have gone even beyond what international duty prompts, and have endeavored to interfere with the course of justice in the case of persons participating in these insurrectionary movements. It is quite right to show mercy and to exercise clemency wherever those qualities can properly and wisely be exhibited. But is it right that any foreign Government should put forth appeals for mercy and clemency on behalf of those who have made it evident that a mercenary expedition was their only object in venturing to Ireland, with a view of exciting the subjects of Her Majesty who are loyal, to rise in rebellion against her throne, to disturb all the relations of society, and to break out into open rebellion? Her Majesty's Government will, no doubt, take into consideration the degrees of guilt on the part of those who may be convicted, and applying to each case its measure of punishment, will extend such mercy as they feel can safely be done. But there never was more misplaced sympathy, there never was a more unjustifiable demand upon the Government of one country by another than to extend a complete amnesty to men who, having left their native land and obtained a settlement and a means of succeeding by their industry in another country, returned with the detestable notions to invade Her Majesty's dominions.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday April 26th.

NEW MINES ON "49" CREEK.—The news from Creek 49 is of the most encouraging nature, and great excitement prevails among the miners and business men as to their future prospects. The existence of rich and extensive mines is confirmed, and it is hard to say what extent the diggings are. Numerous letters received from that point, and the arrival of men who were there a few weeks since for the express purpose of ascertaining the truth of the reports, all agree that the mines will pay from \$12 to \$17 per day to the man—though in many places much greater—that is believed to be an average, as far as prospected up and down the creek. These mines are very easily worked, but little stripping, from eight to twelve feet to the bed rock, nearly all which is pay dirt, though the nearer the bed rock the better the prospect. All the work that has been done so far is on bars along the creek, though one man who came from there a few days since gives it as his opinion that the bench diggings will prove much better than the creek. There have been two or three creeks discovered near by that prospect nearly as well as 49, though no work has been done on them as yet. About twenty men wintered in the mines, and about seventy started during the last ten days, and many others are preparing for a start. Nearly every man in the valley whose business is such that he can go, has either gone or is making preparations to go. These mines are much more extensive than at first thought. There have already been good prospects found over sufficient ground for at least fifteen hundred claims, some state more (this is one creek). The gold is rather coarse, and about the quality of Kootenai gold. These mines have a great advantage over many other new mining camps, from the fact of their easy access, and being easily worked.—Portland Herald.

A Washington says: How it happens that Speaker Colfax appears in Carpenter's picture of "The Death-bed of Lincoln," in violation of the historical fact, is that President Johnson was first painted in, where he belonged and was, but in consequence of his growing unpopularity, the artist thought his presence would harm the picture, so he pointed him out and put the Speaker in.

BRITISH COLUMBIA IN LONDON.—A private letter from London says that Mr Klaucke's immigration scheme will meet with no encouragement. A notice in the Daily Telegraph cautions people not to invest in British Columbia Bonds because the country is "clean gone in."

The Last Performance of the Season.

The performance of Wednesday evening by the Victoria Amateur Dramatic Club, although not the most successful, was quite up to the standard of amateur entertainments generally in other places, while it fell somewhat behind, in point of excellence, the two previous performances of our club. Perhaps in no city of equal size in the world will be found the same number of gentlemen drawn from ordinary business pursuits and associated together with the charitable object of ameliorating the condition of their fellow men, who can make as favorable an impression or deservedly win the encomiums that were bestowed upon the amateurs who made their last bow for the season on Wednesday evening. The entertainment commenced with the delightful domestic drama of "Our Jenny," in two acts—Country and Town. The first scene is laid in the country. The homespun dresses and simple, honest manner of the rustics were really charming. In this act Miss Annot was very successful in her personation of "Jenny Bell," a country girl, supposed to be an orphan and living with a kind benefactor, Dame Hurdle (R. G. Marsh). Jenny was desperately in love with Alfred Emmet (Mr Godfrey Brown), who returned the passion with interest: but influenced by the stern, matter-of-fact father, a miller (Mr B. P. Griffin), was induced to give her up and go to London in search of a rich wife, greatly to the disgust of Tom College (Mr H. Rushton), a harum-scarum medical student, who espoused the cause of Jenny and gave Master Emmet and his speculative father a piece of his mind, which the old miller returned with compound interest by calling College "a scapegrace." Giles Freckleface (Mr Callingham) was a country lout, brimful of honesty and good humor, except when he saw Jenny ill-treated, when, "like a lion in his wrath," he had to be held by Tom College to prevent his committing an assault upon the Emmets. Augustus Coddleson (Mr Charles Clarke) was the spoiled child of his mother (Mrs Marsh), who granted him everything he wanted for and a little more besides. Mrs Coddleson was a woman of fortune, and while on a visit to the country became struck with the appearance of Jenny Bell and offered her the position of companion, and poor Jenny, having just had her heart torn by young Emmet, and glad of a change of scene, accepted the offer. The parting scene between Jenny and kind old Dame Hurdle was an admirable piece of acting, displaying much feeling on both sides. Two years were supposed to have elapsed between the acts. Act II. (Town) opened with a scene in the parlor of Mrs Coddleson's house—Augustus reclining on a sofa, while his calculating mother developed a scheme for uniting Jenny to her hopeful son. Augustus listened with the air of a man who is being severely bored, and Mrs Coddleson informed him that she had discovered that Jenny's father was rich, and she wished to marry her to Augustus before she became aware of the fortune in store for her. Jenny, although she has received a city polish and externally has changed, still clings to the recollection of her her old love; but while detesting Augustus, is willing to sacrifice herself for the sake of Mrs Coddleson, who has been so kind to her. Giles Freckleface, who has been transplanted from country to town, is clad in plush and livery, and is Mrs Coddleson's footman. Miss Thurlow (Mrs Reeves) appears on the scene as a rich young heiress, and the fiancée of young Emmet, who has developed into a city beau; Tom College has become a successful M. D., has fallen heir to the estate on which old Emmet's mill is situated, and is the perfection of honor and morality; he is waited upon by Emmet and his father, who wish a renewal of the lease. After giving Alfred another piece of his mind for the mean way in which he had treated Jenny Tom renews the lease of the mill to old Emmet telling him, that being called a "scapegrace" stung him to the quick, and caused him to change his mode of life. While Tom is conversing with his visitors a summons is brought for him to visit a gentleman lodging next door. The doctor excuses himself for a minute, and presently sends a message requesting the guests to stop in next door and witness a will which the dying man is about to make. The patient turns out to be Jenny's father, who has just returned to England from foreign parts; he is enormously wealthy, and leaves £30,000 to his daughter. Having witnessed the will, young Emmet—who had heard a day or two before that Miss Thurlow was penniless and had discarded her—posts off to Mrs Coddleson's house, where he sees Jenny and renews his suit, protesting that he was compelled by his father to break off the match in the country which he now renewed in the Town. Jenny, knowing nothing of the fortune that has fallen to her, bursts into tears and about to accept Alfred, when the door is flung open and in walks Dr Tom College, who tells her all about her father's death and the property to which she is heiress, and exposes the rascality of young Emmet, who is met on the threshold by Miss Thurlow young scamp by informing him that the reported loss of her fortune was merely a ruse to test his love. Having ascertained its value, she would not trouble him further. In the meantime, Giles Freckleface had discovered that Augustus had married Susan (G. Marsh), the housemaid, and a gold watch belonging to Augustus having been found in the kitchen drawer, Giles is accused of the theft and hurried off to the station-house. Susan then appears and declares that Giles is innocent, informs Mrs Coddleson that she is her daughter-in-law, and that the watch was a wedding present from Augustus to her. Giles is released from prison and returns to the house in his old smock frock and corduroy shoes. Jenny marries Tom College, retains honest Giles in her service, and allows Mrs Coddleson, Susan and Augustus something handsome to live upon. At the fall of the curtain Miss Annot, Mr Rushton and Mr Clarke were highly successful, closed the entertainment at 11 30 o'clock.

was indisputably the best. Miss Annot was quite natural in her acting. Mr Rushton, in the scene where he tells Jenny who and what she is, was very effective. Mr Clarke made a better dandy than he did a spoilt child; but he is always correct, and never fails to please and win much merited applause. Uncle Ben Griffin did the stern-hearted parent to perfection. We had rather see Mr Brown in any other role than that of a villain; what he undertakes he does well, but the character didn't seem natural to him. Mr Elliott was in two pieces favored the company with two capital songs; and the musical burlesque of "Villikin's and his Dinah," in which Miss Annot, Mr Rushton, Mr Callingham and Mr Clarke were highly successful, closed the entertainment at 11 30 o'clock.

FATAL DUEL.—Prince Solms, of Austria, was killed in a duel with Count Wedel. The Prince was the challenging party. The meeting took place at daybreak, in the Prater; the adversaries were placed 35 paces apart, with liberty to advance each 10 paces, the intermediate space being marked by the sabres of the seconds. After a few moments' hesitation, Count Wedel drew the trigger of his pistol. The weapons that had been more precise than is usual with duelling pistols, and the ball struck his adversary almost in the center of the chest, a little to the right. The Prince fell almost senseless to the ground, but had still sufficient strength when Count Wedel, overwhelmed at the result of his aim, threw himself beside him to select for the pardon he implored. Prince Solms lingered for nearly 24 hours, and died the next morning at six o'clock. The funeral solemnly took place on the 19th February, and was attended by the King, the Crown Prince and the Princess of Hanover, the Archduke William, the uncle and brothers of the Prince, and a large concourse of Generals, officers and members of the aristocracy.

THE REMOVED MUTINY ON BOARD H. M. S. SUTLEY.—It is said that the following particulars have been received here of the mutiny on board H. M. S. Sutley: Captain Coode ordered the men to wash their hammocks while the ship was on the way to Valparaiso; the order was complied with. Two days subsequently the hammocks were again ordered to be washed. The men murmured and were put to work picking oakum. The same night the lower rigging was mysteriously cut and other damage done. The report concludes that Admiral Denman and Commander Sullivan condemn the course of the captain, and that the latter demanded a court-martial.

COMPLIMENTARY.—Mr Henry Rushton, for five years past Accountant of the Bank of British Columbia in this city, being about to leave for England, was entertained at the Bee Hive Hotel, on Wednesday evening, by a large number of friends, amongst whom were the members of the Amateur Dramatic Club. Ex-Mayor Franklin occupied the chair, supported by Mr J. A. McOrea as Vice. The health of the guest of the evening was drunk with cheers, and songs and toasts occupied the company until an early hour in the morning. In the departure of Mr Rushton the community will lose a valuable and public-spirited citizen, and the Bank a faithful, popular and intelligent officer.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALIFORNIA.—The steamship California, Captain Williams, arrived from San Francisco yesterday evening, at 7 o'clock. She brings 70 passengers, a full freight and a mail and express. In the passenger list we notice the names of R. F. Pickett, E. Marks, Mrs Captain Finch, M. Blum and wife, and Rev David Holmes. In rounding the Red Buoy, the steamer struck on the spit. The gunboat Forward, which had just arrived from New Westminster, and the U. S. Revenue cutter Lincoln, went to the assistance of the California, but she remained on when we went to press.

RETURN OF THE GOVERNOR.—Governor Seymour, accompanied by Mr Birch and Mr Mansell, returned from New Westminster at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in the gunboat Forward. The party landed at McNeil's Point and walked to Government House, while the gunboat came into the harbor and discharged a few articles of furniture. A crowd that had assembled on the wharf to gaze upon His Excellency were much disappointed upon learning that he had been landed outside.

RATES OF PASSAGE.—The fares on the last steamer going East from San Francisco were \$230, \$165 and \$120. The opposition steamer, to sail on the 24th, advertised to take first class passengers at \$130. The news by telegraph is to the effect that all opposition is at an end.

THE BARK SCOTLAND.—This bark will be hove down and repaired. She is now being relieved of her cargo of coal, about 100 tons of which have been sold to H.M.S. Sparrowhawk and Alexandra for their own use. The vessel will require extensive repair.

SUICIDE.—Capt J B Army, a newspaper man of San Francisco, committed suicide on the 19th instant, by taking laudanum. He left a letter saying he was perfectly sane and sober and wished to be at rest. He had lived unhappily with his first wife.

THE PILOT COMMISSIONERS met yesterday to regulate the pilotage of the Colony. After deliberating for some time the Commissioners adjourned until to-day. It is said the whole system of pilotage will be overhauled.

THE ALLUSION TO the suspension of the Municipal By-Law yesterday related to Westminster and not to Victoria.

I. O. O. F.—The Odd Fellows will celebrate the 48th anniversary of the introduction of the Order on the American Continent to-day in a proper manner.

THANKS.—The Sisters of St Ann return sincere thanks to the public and the members of the soiree committee for the kind aid extended them.

COUNTERMANDED.—The order for the Sparrowhawk to sail for New Westminster has been countermanded.

BALL.—It is reported that a ball will be given at Government House in about a fortnight.

HAPPY MAN!—The marriage notice of Mr N. Jacob, lately of this city, appears in a San Francisco paper.

TWENTY FIVE of the California's passengers are bound for the Sound, OUR QUARTZ INTERESTS.—Mr J. G. McWorthy, who returned yesterday on the California, has come up to prosecute the working of quartz leads in Cariboo.

THE California has freight on board for Port Townsend for which port she will sail this evening.

Eastern States.

NEW YORK, April 15.—The Supreme Court refused to entertain the Mississippi bill to join the President from enforcing the Military Reconstruction bill. The Court allowed the filing of the Georgia bill, as the same objection did not apply to that.

There is a rumor that the Pacific Mail Steamship Company have bought off Pearson's proposed opposition. It causes great dissatisfaction among California shippers. The advertisements of the opposition line are withdrawn from the papers.

Pacific Mail stock closed at 12 3/4. The Central American Transit Company has issued seven per cent convertible bonds, and they trust to Webb to provide means for river and harbor improvements. The steamship line has taken \$200,000 of the bonds.

South America.

NEW YORK, April 15.—Panama correspondence of the 3rd inst. says Mosquera is at the head of 1000 well armed men, and is expected to sweep all opposition before him. A strong party at Panama will join Mosquera the moment he arrives.

Through the intervention of France an exchange of Spanish and Chilean prisoners had been agreed upon.

The new loan of \$19,000,000 effected in London creates a good feeling, although it is reported that it was conditioned on the acceptance of foreign mediation.

Owing to disturbances by women and priests in the galleries of Congress, pending the discussion of religious liberty, it was resolved to discuss the question in secret session.

NEW YORK, April 17.—The Russian treaty is still a prominent topic, and the value of the territory acquired by the United States is rapidly appreciating in public sentiment. Captain Fox, who has been on a special mission to St. Petersburg, states that the impression that Russia was willing to cede her American possessions to the United States because she conceived them of no value, is utterly false. The Government of the Caar is fully aware of the vast natural resources of this territory, and was moved to make the cession by no wish to get rid of it. He says the importance of the acquisition cannot be overrated. The country is similar in many respects to Northwestern Europe, and contains the elements of great wealth. General satisfaction is evinced at the prompt ratification of the treaty, which is regarded as of great political and commercial importance.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Mr Seward is much pleased with the ratification of the Russian treaty, and regards its successful negotiation as the greatest act of his official life, as it is expected to lead to still greater consequences. It has created quite a sensation in Canada, and it is thought will strengthen the feeling in favor of annexation.

Europe.

[BY STEAMER.]

PARIS, April 4.—A war with Prussia on the Luxembourg question is beginning to be regarded as imminent. The action of Bismarck and the proceedings in the North German Parliament have greatly intensified the anti-Prussian feeling, and it is felt that any backing down on the part of France would be humiliating. Increased activity is manifest in all branches of the army and marine, and the Bourse is beginning to evince symptoms of a panic.

LONDON, April 4.—From the Continent it is stated that extensive warlike preparations are going forward, both in Prussia and France, that troops are being quietly marched toward the frontier. In all parts of Germany the determination is expressed to resist any alienation of German territory to France, and the action of Bismarck is warmly indorsed. In this city the aspect of affairs is regarded as most threatening.

[BY CABLE.]

LIVERPOOL, April 13.—Great anxiety is manifested to have the Alabama claims settled, even if against England, as in the event of a war with Spain, now threatened, they would set a precedent most dangerous to English commerce.

LONDON, April 14.—The Tories are very jubilant over the defeat of the Liberal party by the vote on Gladstone's amendment to the Government Reform bill on Friday night, and the so-called Liberals who voted with the Administration are much complimented by the Tory press. The Liberal leaders, however, show no discouragement, and are confident of ultimate victory. This temporary check has greatly increased the popular feeling, and the Tories are warned of a reaction which will force them to the wall.

NEW SPRING GOODS.—At Victoria House—(corner of Fort and Douglas streets), are now being unpacked the first instalment of their spring goods received by last steamer, comprising novelties in dress materials for spring and summer wear, Ladies' and Children's Mantles and Jackets, Hats, Bonnets, &c., &c.

The Weekly British Colonist, AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, April 30, 1867.

The Working Men of England and the Franchise.

During the Reform debates of the last session of the British House of Commons it was attempted to introduce poverty or dependence as the characteristic of a political class. That well known politician Mr T. Hughes, argued that the "excessive solvency" of the upper and middle classes disqualified them for appreciating the views of working men, contrasting the "dependence" of the latter with the "independence" of the former. From documents lately laid before the public it would be found very difficult to maintain that position. But there is no difficulty in proving that the greater portion of the working men are, according to their mode of living, as well provided against a rainy day as the average shopkeeper, clerk, artist or professional man generally. Their position is the result of an organization of labor; the various classes of trades have co-operated and associated so that the absolute "dependence" or uncertainty of subsistence as the characteristic of the order has to a great extent disappeared. With Trades' Unions, Friendly Societies, Benefit Societies, and Societies for mutual help of all kinds and descriptions, a working man has always the means of assistance at hand. By these agencies he can and does insure himself against sickness, accident, old age, loss or suspension of employment, domestic casualties, or any kind of contingency which might diminish his income or increase his expenditure. Working men can, by thousands together, cease from labor of their own free will, in order to enhance, if possible, the value of that labor, and, so far from living in a state of helpless dependence, they can put this pressure upon their employers for months at a time. These working men's clubs have large accumulations of capital at the service of their members. The Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies, of last year, gives a list of these Associations, extending over 132 pages, printed in double columns, and this list is entirely independent of associations for the purpose of trade. Then the accumulations of private capital, as exhibited in the returns of the savings banks, are enormous. The old savings banks alone have nearly a million and a-half of depositors, with an aggregate of deposits little short of four millions of money; in fact, the average amount of each depositor is £26 7s. 8d. It is presumed that the depositors mainly represent the working classes, consequently it follows that upwards of a million of working men possess, upon an average, private capital equal to six months' subsistence, apart from their claims on Unions and Societies. All this, too, is exclusive of the sums deposited in the new saving banks opened at the post offices by the Government, and of the annuities purchased on similar security. Now, if it is asked, upon the whole, if there is any calling which is better provided or less dependent than this? Labor is organized, not according to socialists' theory, by State agency, but by the better agency of working men themselves. Upwards of ten thousand of these societies have made returns to the Registrar, showing the number of members to be 1,874,425, and the amount of funds to be £5,362,028 stg. Add this sum to the deposits in the old and new savings banks together, and it shows a total sum of more than fifty millions of money which the working classes in England alone have put by. The total number of "workers" in England alone, male and female together, is 7,500,000, so that upon an average, every man and woman of the working class would have a saving of some £7 to fall back upon. This, of course, is a rough calculation, but it will suffice to show that the working classes of Britain are not, in their own spheres, more "dependent" or helpless than the class above them. It may now be asked, if such is the position of the working men in England, why withhold the franchise from them? It is

answered, that however anxious statesmen may be that working men should possess their own share in the political influence of the country, yet for their sakes as well as that of others, it is objected to give them a "monopoly of the representation," or, which would virtually amount to the same thing, to enfranchise so many of them as to render them masters of the situation in manufacturing towns, and in a majority of the boroughs. For there are such things as trades' unions, of which the tyranny is irresistible. Combinations of workmen against their employers and "strikes" are of daily occurrence these habits, undoubtedly, supply a very strong argument against entrusting, with a preponderance of political influence, the classes which indulge in them. For it is well ascertained that the prime movers in strikes, combinations and trades' unions are not well-to-do mechanics, renting £10 houses, which now gives them a vote, which by their industry they have acquired, but emphatically unskilled laborers, with such demagogues at their head as Mr Potter—himself an unskilled laborer, and a very clever (smart) as well as a very mischievous individual into the bargain. Among the superior order of working men there is to be found a great deal more intelligence, and at least as much thrift as among the small shopkeeper and beer-house class. It would be doing them, who are already possessed of the franchise, small service, as well as paying them a wretched compliment, en presence of doing justice to their order, to place on a level with them, by Act of Parliament, crowds of persons who have never so much as tried to earn for themselves a good name, or to rise to that political status which better men have achieved. Experience has shown how incompatible with poverty and idle habits is the proper discharge of the electoral trust. Nor must the moral aspect of the question be lost sight of. One great object of lowering the franchise was to hold out to the working classes a motive for good conduct and provident habits. Some of the "fancy" franchisees, if made large enough, would admit a number of the working classes which would be an unmixed good. What could produce a more excellent moral effect than the saving's bank franchise, if it were low enough? And why should not the franchise be extended to other classes of property? Why should not the man who possesses £30 or £40 of real estate property of any sort in a bank or any other form not have a vote? If the "moral" elevation of the working classes were aimed at, the household franchise should not be lowered indiscriminately; it should be kept at a high standard and the franchise should be otherwise extended—by plans based upon intelligence and providence—to those who have no desire to overthrow all the institutions of the country. The constitution guards the rights and liberties of all, by arming each class with a check upon the encroachments of the other on society. The defect in Mr Gladstone's bill was that it put in the hands of a class a lever to monopolize the whole power of the State. The electric telegraph informs us that an amendment to the new bill by Mr Gladstone, proposing a £5 household qualification has been lost by a majority of 21. The arrival of the long delayed mail puts us in possession of the principle of the Derby bill. The Reform Act of 1832 altered the distribution of political power, and restored the Constitution by placing the middle classes in that situation to which they were entitled, and which was most likely to prove advantageous to themselves and to the community. As we anticipated, the moderate Liberals and Constitutional Whigs have ranged themselves under the Conservative banner. The day has gone by when it was practicable to urge upon Parliament the deposition either of the middle and upper classes generally, or in particular of that portion of them which is dependent upon the land. It is a difficult question to settle; six different sessions it has been before the House of Commons, and it is not called for now by any rational movement of intelligent public opinion, but mainly by those who are not willing to recognize that in the present social state of Great Britain, where a dense population and the accumulation of a long history have produced a vast contrast of conditions, precautions, therefore, must be taken that poverty shall not become supreme. If their clamor for a share covers a design upon the whole; if they intend to ignore property in the distribution of power; if, under pretence of breaking down exclusive barriers, they contemplate setting up the rule of numbers—then those who venerate the ancient lines of the constitution must unite to oppose any plan for extending the franchise that will virtually disfranchise those who now hold it.

Wednesday, April 24

FROM BURRARD'S INLET AND NANAIMO.—The steamer Isabel, Capt. Stamp, arrived last night, at 10 o'clock, from Burrard's Inlet via Nanaimo. The ship Parisian was towed by the Isabel from this port to the Inlet to load with lumber at Moody's mills. Capt. Stamp's Mills are running and sawing a large amount of lumber daily. At Nanaimo, the ship Gharamara was loading. The hands struck for a holiday on Good Friday, which being denied them, they have since refused to do duty. H. M. S. Shearwater was taking in coal for her homeward voyage.

Municipal Council.

The Council met at 8 p. m. last evening. The Mayor and Councillors Gowen, Gibbs, Trahey, and Hubbard were present.

CHAINGANG QUESTION.

Correspondence carried on between the Mayor and the Executive were read, relative to a loan of \$1000 and the use of Government carts, &c., in connection with the chain-gang, for the repair of Fort street.

The Mayor made an explanation, and the communications were received and placed on file.

E. B. Earles applied for permission to remove a building from the south to the north side of Government street. Granted leave.

J. B. Timmerman offered the use of premises on Fort street for the purposes of a City market. Placed on file.

Communication read from J. G. Phillips, notifying Council of the assignment of \$157 75 balance due Jeffery, Bray and Reynolds, by the Corporation in respect of the Johnson street contract.

On motion of Mr Gibbs it was filed, and order accepted.

THE VIEW STREET DRAIN.

Communication from M. M. Titus was read, requesting permission at least to remove the planking, &c., in connection with building of the View street drain, inasmuch as the claim for completion of same had been ignored by the Council. Laid over.

CITY MARKET.

The committee appointed to report as to a City market, recommended for favorable consideration the premises of J. P. Davies, on Fort street, on account of central location and its adaptation for the purposes of a market.

A communication was read from Mr Davies, laying down the terms, which the committee said somewhat differed from those given the committee. Report was received and filed, and Mr Davies' communication was laid over.

Further offers are expected in regard to a market.

Mr Gowen moved that the sum of \$50 be voted for the repairs of Fort street (in connection with the chain-gang). Carried.

The Finance Committee reported adverse in regard to the refund of certain monies paid to the Council by the agents of the Royal Insurance Co.

A second communication, of Messrs Drake & Jackson, in relation to same, was referred as before, to the Finance Committee.

SANITARY MATTERS.

Considerable time was devoted to the discussion of matters affecting the sanitary condition of the City, on the approach of the warm weather.

Mr Gowen gave notice of motion relative to the matter, to be taken up at next meeting.

Mr Titus' application was then considered in Committee of the Whole; Mr Gowen in the chair.

The ironwork was ordered to be returned to Mr Titus, and he was recommended to apply to those persons who signed the petition for the drain and who had not paid anything for its construction. Adjourned till Monday next.

OUR LION (LYING) CONTEMPORARY.

The Morning News is a paper on which it would neither be profitable nor pleasant to waste many words. When one goes to stir up a skunk, he needs to use a very long pole; for the same reason, when we allude to the News, we wish to do so without disturbing the personality of its conductors. We have already, on the part of the COLONIST, or either of its proprietors, denied emphatically that any message intended for the News was suppressed at this office. To fasten the charge upon one member of this firm the News yesterday quotes part of a private letter received from a gentleman whom it at first charged with being privy to the alleged fraud. Were the whole letter published it could not but result in our triumphant vindication; but the News says that it cannot produce it because it is confidential. Yet our contemporary can outrage common decency and quote just enough from the confidential communication to suit its own vile purpose to blacken private character. With this evidence of the nice sense of honor that animates our contemporary before us, we are persuaded that the best said in reply to so worthless a fellow the better. Any respectable person may obtain from us full information upon the subject in dispute; but the untruthfulness and blackguardism of the writer in the News have sunk him so low that an explanation for his benefit would be quite superfluous.

AN OLD CHARGE REVIVED.—In October last two police officers detected a character named Shipley in the act of selling a bottle of whisky to an Indian, but he succeeded in avoiding arrest and fled the country. Day before yesterday, Shipley imagining that the affair had blown over, returned to town. The memories of policemen are not so short, however, as he supposed, and he had hardly set foot in the city limits before he was arrested. Yesterday he pleaded guilty to the charge before Mr Pemberton, and was let off with a fine of \$20, which he paid.

LAUNCH.—Spratt & Kriemler's new steamboat was successfully launched at Port Madison on Monday last.

A SUDDEN CONVERSION.—On the morning of the 17th April, the following remarkable paragraph appeared in the News of this city: "Governor Seymour, in permitting Mr Sparrow to nominate a substitute to act as Inspector until his return from Cariboo has not only performed a gracious act, but has done an act of justice."

To the extraordinary principle here laid down, of allowing a public officer to fill two positions at one and the same time we took exception, and pointed out the injustice, illegality and absurdity of the system. The News replied in support of the act of the Government, and accused us of opposing the "gracious act" because Mr Sparrow is a "poor colonist with a family." This accusation, on Monday, we answered, by reiterating our previous objections. Yesterday, the News commences a long article with the assertion that the Colonist had got off a "column of the most unmitigated trash," "touching the appointment of Mr Sparrow."

After devoting nearly half-a-column of its valuable (?) space in consideration of the "trash," our contemporary suddenly tells the truth by accident in the following unmitigable language: "All our contemporary says about the propriety of the Government permitting parties in its employ to engage in other pursuits, to the neglect of their official duties, we rather coincide with, and are only surprised that the Colonist, for once, should be found to take a correct view on any question. This is just our opinion, so here we stand on even ground—no room for controversy."

What will the friends of poor Mr Sparrow think of his champion now? After first boldly asserting that the action of Government was a "gracious act,"—"an act of justice,"—the mountebank turns a complete somersault and denounces the Government for doing the very thing that it previously applauded. What was a highly proper course on the 17th of April, became a heinous offence six days subsequently. In the language of our contemporary, "there is no room for controversy," and we have no more to say.

THE MINES OF '49 CREEK.—A private letter received by a gentleman of Portland (says the Oregonian of recent date) a day or two since, from a reliable party at Fort Colville, says, in substance, that the prospects are good; that the creek is 90 miles from Colville; the steamer Forty-nine goes within 15 miles; the mines are very extensive; up to this time—April 3d—enough discoveries have been made to employ 2500 to 3000 men; old California and Cariboo miners say they believe it will be the best camp they have seen, for a poor man, since they left California; they have been to Blackfoot, Idaho and everywhere in the mining regions, but never found such a camp; goods cannot be shipped by any other route than the Columbia river, at any reasonable price; there are about one hundred men there now, more going every day; the mines are easily worked, and pay from the surface down; prospects so far will pay from \$6 to \$18 per day; the chances are that rich strikes will be made this summer; not much money around now; all the men that left here had no money, but managed, through friends, to raise a small outfit; it will not take long, from all accounts, to take out money enough to make things lively here; the gold is coarse, something like Kootenai dust. Other accounts from '49 mines agree with the above."

MISS ARNOT'S BENEFIT.—The curtain will be rung down this evening for the last time during the present season upon the Amateur Dramatic Club, and at the request of Mr Henry Rushton, one of its most talented members, who is about to leave this Colony for England, the proceeds will be placed at the disposal of Miss Jenny Arnot, the pleasing young actress, who has often contributed to the amusement of a Victoria audience. "Our Jenny," a "Musical Interlude," and "Villains and His Dinah," constitute the bill, and the cast is a powerful one. We hope that all who wish to bid farewell to Mr Rushton, as a member of the Dramatic Club, and at the same time contribute towards a substantial testimonial to Miss Arnot, will not fail to attend this evening. Seats may be secured to-day from 11 till 8 o'clock.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—A movement is on foot for the observance of the Queen's birthday, by running races over Beacon Hill. Several fast horses will be entered. It is desirable that an effort should be made to retain among us the money that might otherwise be expended abroad, and in no way can this object be more effectually attained than by carrying to a successful issue the movement now on foot.

FREIGHT AND PASSAGE TO NEW WESTMINSTER.—Captain Swanson, of H. B. Co.'s steamer Enterprise, gives notice that on and after the 26th instant freight to New Westminster will be four dollars per ton, and passage five dollars. This rise has taken place in consequence of the decrease in traffic, which renders the carrying trade unprofitable at the old rates.

THE ENTERPRISE sailed for New Westminster at 10 o'clock yesterday morning with 100 passengers for Cariboo and a good freight.

A GOOD RIDDANCE.—James Stevens, the Plumper Pass cattle thief, who was bound over in his own recognizance to appear in the police court and answer the charge preferred against him by Mr Greavy of killing his cattle, failed to appear, and his recognizance was ordered to be estreated. The man has left the country.

A PASSENGER on the New World, the other day, while eating a plate of beans, was almost strangled by one of the leguminous seeds sticking in his gullet. He lay for a long time in great pain, and his escape from death was very narrow. People should chew their food instead of holling it.

ANOTHER BOAT RACE.—The four foundrymen who with the "Glace" beat four boys in the "Dart," on Good Friday, have agreed to change boats and race again. The match will come off on the last day of May.

I.O.O.F.—The Forty-eighth Anniversary of the introduction of this Order on the American continent will be celebrated on Friday next by the Brethren residing here.

St. George's Day.—Yesterday was the anniversary of the natal day of England's Patron Saint. No demonstration was made by our English residents.

The schooner Spring Vale yesterday brought \$615, subject to a claim of \$550, at J. P. Davies & Co.'s auction rooms.

POSTPONED.—The gubernatorial trip to Yale has, we learn, been postponed for a few days owing to the low stage of water.

The body of the late Mr Hard, of Esquimalt, was interred yesterday.

H.M.S. Sparrowhawk will go to New Westminster in a day or two.

THE CALIFORNIA will be due at this port to-day.

BRISTOL'S (Vegetable) SUGAR-COATED PILLS!

THE GREAT CURE For all the diseases of the LIVER, STOMACH AND BOWELS. Put up in Glass Phials, warranted KEEP IN ANY CLIMATE.

These Pills are prepared expressly to operate in harmony with that greatest of blood purifiers, BRISTOL'S SERRAVALLE, in all cases arising from depraved humors or impure blood. The most hopeless sufferers need not despair. Under the influence of these two GREAT REMEDIES, maladies, that have heretofore been considered utterly incurable, disappear quickly and permanently. In the following diseases these Pills are the safest, the quickest, and see best remedy ever prepared, and should be at once resorted to.

DYSPEPSIA OR INDIGESTION LIVER COMPLAINTS CONSTIPATION HEADACHE DROPSY PILES.

For many years these PILLS have been used in daily practice, always with the best results, and it is with the greatest confidence they are recommended to the afflicted. They are composed of the most costly, purest and best vegetable Extracts and Balsams, such as are seldom used in ordinary medicines, on account of their great cost, and the combination of rare medicinal properties such that in long standing and difficult diseases, where other medicines have completely failed, these extraordinary PILLS, have effected speedy and thorough cures.

Only 25 cts per Phial. FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS. M.D. & W. L. Hostetter, Smith & Dean.



LEA & PERRINS' Worcestershire Sauce. DECLARED BY CONNOISSE TO BE THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE.

CAUTION AGAINST FRAUD. The success of this most delicious and unrivaled Compound having caused certain dealers to apply the name of "Worcestershire Sauce" to their own inferior compounds, the Public is hereby informed that the only way to secure the genuine is to buy of the following:

ASK FOR LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE, and see that their names are upon the wrapper, label, stopper, and bottle. Some of the foreign markets having been supplied with a spurious Worcestershire Sauce, upon the wrapper and label of which the names of Lea & Perrins have been forged, L. & P. give notice that they have furnished their correspondents with power of attorney to take instant proceedings against Manufacturers and Vendors of such, or any other imitations by which their rights may be infringed.

Ask for LEA & PERRINS' Sauce, and see Name on Wrapper, Label, Bottle and Stopper. Wholesale and for Export by the Proprietors, Worcester: Cross & Blackwell, London, &c., &c.; and by Grocers and Colonial Merchants. Agents for Victoria: Jamieson, Green & Rhodes. J.A.L.W.

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, April 30, 1867.

The King of the... We lay before our readers a portion of the Confederal which passed the Imperial with verbal amendments received the Royal assent. Federacy is to be known as the Canada. Canada rejoice in the title of Ontario, in that of Quebec, Maritime Provinces are to present designations. Made for the admission Columbia, Newfoundland, ward's Island, the North and Rupert's Land federacy on such terms as ment of Canada shall deem and as the Local Legislatures agree to. Nothing, we think, is fairer than this proposition (in our case) that the be left with the popular in the Legislative Council to The general features of the scheme are preserved in the the Toronto Globe complete differs in some respects in the The Globe appears to be all the Eastern Provinces share more than their just proportion the annual grant from the Federal for the support of the Local ment, which, it thinks, should be distributed as so much per head ing to the ratio of population of being handed over in a Local Some complaint is also made General Parliament will have to dabble in the local affairs of the Province. Agriculture, Maritime, Penitentiaries, Sea and Inland Fisheries, are all under the eye of the General ture, while the Quebec scheme that they should be left Local Governments. And last by no means least, "the door ed for the direct interference Federal Government and Pa with the school system of Canada, and the revival of evils which heretofore have plentifully from the sectarian controversy." The Globe copiously from the speeches editor (Mr Brown) to show a decision of the Quebec delegates, 1864, has been ignored in the stances. The thunder fulminating the Globe is, however, wasted Bill, with its objectionable has become law; and in a few we expect to hear that the K has been proclaimed! There doubt, plenty of room for in ment. No new machinery smoothly at first; but a little will suffice to set matters right the Eastern Provinces will forward upon a career of unexampled prosperity.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday, April 30. THE SOIREE.—The Soiree in aid of phans of St. Ann's came off last evening at St. Nicholas, and proved a highly successful affair. The attendance was large proportion of those present being Early in the evening Mr J. P. Davie up" at auction a bag of cornmeal, which knocked down to himself for \$5. Mr immediately donated the sack to the and it was again offered and knocked to Captain Swanson three times in a sion for \$7, \$5 and \$6. Mr James was the next purchaser for \$5; Mr followed at \$4 50; Miss O'Dwyer chased it twice for \$5 and \$5 50; Derham for \$5; Chief Engineer Kee \$6; Eugene Thomas for \$5; Assistant engineer Barnes, \$3; Cash, \$4; and for \$2 50 to Miss O'Dwyer, who will to the orphans this morning. The sale was by the ingenious plan was Supper was laid at 11:30 o'clock, and full justice had been done to the viand company returned to the hall and dancing, which was kept up until a hour this morning.

THE HOLIDAY ON THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY. The Mechanics' Institute have been Capt. Stamp's elegant new steamer "Isabel," for their annual excursion British Garrison, at the Island of Juan, and will issue an advertisement few days of the programme of amusement devised for the happy excursionists. ing by the great success and satisfaction the trip of last year, to the Garrison gave to all participants, we anticipate a good time.

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

Tuesday, April 20, 1867.

The Kingdom of Canada.

We lay before our readers to-day a portion of the Confederation Bill, which passed the Imperial Parliament with verbal amendments, and has received the Royal assent. The Confederacy is to be known as the Kingdom of Canada. Canada West will rejoice in the title of Ontario; Canada East, in that of Quebec; while the Maritime Provinces are to retain their present designations. Provision is made for the admission of British Columbia, Newfoundland, Prince Edward's Island, the Northwest Territory and Rupert's Land to the Confederacy on such terms as the Parliament of Canada shall deem equitable, and as the Local Legislatures may agree to. Nothing, we think, could be fairer than this proposition, provided (in our case) that the bargain be left with the popular members of the Legislative Council to arrange. The general features of the Quebec scheme are preserved in the Bill; but the Toronto Globe complains that it differs in some respects in the details. The Globe appears to be alarmed lest the Eastern Provinces shall receive more than their just proportion of the annual grant from the Federal chest for the support of the Local Government, which, it thinks, should be distributed as so much per head, according to the ratio of population, instead of being handed over in a lump sum. Some complaint is also made that the General Parliament will have a right to dabble in the local affairs of each Province. Agriculture, Marine Hospitals, Penitentiaries, Sea Coast and Inland Fisheries, are all brought under the eye of the General Legislature, while the Quebec scheme required that they should be left to the Local Governments. And last, though by no means least, "the door is opened for the direct interference of the Federal Government and Parliament with the school system of Upper Canada, and the revival of all the evils which heretofore have sprang so plentifully from the sectarian school controversy." The Globe quotes copiously from the speeches of its editor (Mr Brown) to show that the decision of the Quebec delegates, in 1864, has been ignored in these instances. The thunder fulminated by the Globe is, however, wasted. The Bill, with its objectionable features, has become law; and in a few days we expect to hear that the Kingdom has been proclaimed! There is, no doubt, plenty of room for improvement. No new machinery runs smoothly at first; but a little wear will suffice to set matters right, and the Eastern Provinces will bound forward upon a career of unexampled prosperity.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday, April 23. THE SOIREE.—The Soiree in aid of the Orphans of St. Ann's came off last evening at the St Nicholas, and proved a highly successful affair. The attendance was large, a fair proportion of those present being ladies. Early in the evening Mr J. P. Davies "put up" at auction a bag of cornmeal, which was knocked down to himself for \$5. Mr Davies immediately donated the sack to the fund, and it was again offered and knocked down to Captain Swanson three times in succession for \$7, \$5 and \$6. Mr James Gillon was the next purchaser for \$5; Mr Elliott followed at \$4 50; Miss O'Dwyer purchased it twice for \$5 and \$5 50; Mr B Derham for \$5; Chief Engineer Keenan for \$6; Eugene Thomas for \$5; Assistant Engineer Barnes, \$3; Cash, \$4; and finally for \$2 50 to Miss O'Dwyer, who will send it to the orphans this morning. The sum realized by the ingenious plan was \$75. Supper was laid at 11:30 o'clock, and after full justice had been done to the viands, the company returned to the hall and resumed dancing, which was kept up until an early hour this morning. THE HOLIDAY OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY. The Mechanics' Institute have chartered Capt. Stamp's elegant new steamer, the "Isabel," for their annual excursion to the British Garrison, at the Island of "San Juan," and will issue an advertisement in a few days of the programme of amusements devised for the happy excursionists. Judging by the great success and satisfaction that the trip of last year to the British Garrison gave to all participants, we anticipate a good time.

CRICKET—VICTORIA VS. THE FLEET.

Below we insert the full score of a very interesting match which was played yesterday on Beacon Hill between eleven of Victoria and an eleven from the Navy and Esquimalt. The Navy won the toss, and sent their opponents in to the bowling of Messrs Pooley and Howard. Small scores were the order of the day—Ball and Tye only succeeded in reaching a double figure. The Navy Eleven in their first innings, reached within four of the Victorians, Richardson and Powell bowling throughout the innings. The second innings of the Victorians amounted to only 43—the bowling of Pooley and Howard being too good to be trifled with. J. Fere contributed 13 by careful play. The close of the game was very exciting, the Victorians just succeeded in pulling off the match by seven runs, and it is not too much to say that the result was attributable to the two bowlers—Messrs Richardson and Powell. Mr Pooley, of New Westminster, made 19 in the last innings; his leg-hitting was much admired. Mr W. Richardson and Mr Ohas. Green were Captains of their respective sides. The Victoria Eleven desire us to return thanks on their behalf to Mr Farwell for his valuable services as umpire on this occasion. The return match will be played in a few weeks.

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes names like J. Fere, W. Richardson, and scores like 11, 9, 10.

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ARRIVAL FROM PORTLAND.—The steamer

Fideliter, Capt. Erskine, arrived from Portland yesterday afternoon with 13 passengers and a full freight of produce. The Fideliter left Portland on the evening of the 19th, and crossed Columbia River bar on the afternoon of Sunday. Among the passengers we noticed Mr George H. Coe, formerly of this city, but late of Idaho; Hon. S. Garfield, and Indian Agent Webster.

SCHEME TO COLONIZE BRITISH COLUMBIA.

At a meeting of the Board of Trade in Ottawa, Canada, recently, resolutions were adopted to promote a scheme for the colonization of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, and the adoption of the Homestead law recommended to stimulate emigration. It was also proposed to give free maintenance to colonists settling in Victoria.

IN DISTRESS.—The American bark Scotland, which sailed hence on Thursday last, ran into Esquimalt harbour yesterday morning in distress, having sprung a leak during the severe gales of Friday and Saturday last. She is laden with Nainimo coal and will require to discharge and undergo thorough repairs before she will be again ready for sea.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—The body of an Indian woman and her two half-breed children have been found hanging to the limb of a tree, on Whidby Island. They had been missing some months, and it is thought that the mother, who was in poor circumstances, first hanged her children and then herself.

NAVAL.—A letter received by the British Consul in San Francisco states that H M S Scout would leave Panama for this station, about the end of the month. Capt Innes of the Alert has been invalided, and is on his way to England from the coast of Mexico.

RETURNED.—The remainder of the Good Friday excursionists returned from Puget Sound last evening on the New World. They are loud in their praises of the kind treatment they received at the hands of their American neighbors.

MISS ARNOT'S BENEFIT.—The performance to-morrow evening will be the last by the Amateur Dramatic Association for the season. The box office will be open from 11 till 3 o'clock to-day and to-morrow.

FOR THE SURVEY.—The steamer Alexandra yesterday steamed round to Esquimalt. All her stores and fuel are on board and she will probably sail to-day to complete the survey of the northwest coast.

FIRST IN.—The Eliza Anderson arrived at 8 o'clock last evening, winning the elk horns for this trip. The New World was detained above Steilacoom by the fog, and did not reach her wharf here until 10 o'clock.

CATALOGUE SALE OF FURNITURE.—The large sale of furniture, by catalogue, will come off at the St. Nicholas Hotel. The catalogue comprises 21 pages, and includes about 1100 lots.

DEATH AT ESQUIMALT.—William Hurd, a native of England and late servant of Lieut. Denny, died at Esquimalt yesterday morning, after a prolonged illness.

THE schooner Nor'wester, bound for Port Townsend, with a cargo of coal, anchored outside yesterday for repairs, having lost her rudder.

QUICK TRIP.—The Sparrowhawk made the run from San Francisco to Esquimalt in 79 hours—which is one of the quickest trips on record.

POLITICAL.—Mr Flanders, of Wallula, has been nominated for Congress by the Radicals of Washington Territory.

Canada. At Perth, C.W., in a dispute about keys of their store between Capt. J. McG. Chambers and his brother, Dr Chambers, father of the member of Parliament for Brookville, the Captain called his brother a liar, whereupon the latter drew a revolver and shot the Captain through the breast, inflicting a dangerous and probably a fatal wound.

PETROLEUM. C. W. April 8.—Jonathan Keathe's bakery was burned last night. His two daughters, aged eight and twelve, perished in the flame. The rest of the family bely escaped.

By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST

Venezuela.

New York, April 16.—The Times has a Panama correspondence of April 3d; advice from Bogota to March 12th, say the report of the arrest and imprisonment of Congress is untrue. Mosquera gave notice that he did not consider Congress a legal body, Nequarrel, and the session continued. Mosquera's party hold their ground at Magdalena and Abella. One hundred and thirty men are near Miritha, without farms. Mosquera has withdrawn the exequatur of the British Consul at Cartagena.

Europe.

New York, April 16.—In the House of Lords, April 2nd, the Duke of Buckingham said that the cessation of Russian America was likely to cause great feeling, and, probably, considerable excitement. He could not think, however, that the action of the United States was likely to have the overwhelming influence on the colonies as might at first be imagined. The English papers express much regret at the ratification of the Russian treaty, considering that England was entitled to the refusal of the territory.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—We understand that a final consolidation has been made between the Holiday line of steamships and the steamships of the C. S. N. Co., on the basis of the cash value of the steamship property of both Companies, and stock issued in proportion to the value of the property. C. J. Brenham is associated with Jesse Holladay in the agency at San Francisco. Wm. Norris will be elected Vice-President of the Home Company, in New York, and will have the general management of the affairs at that port. The steamer Idaho and Montana have been purchased by the new Company in this arrangement.

The California O. and M. S. Co. have the prestige of the entire Pacific Coast steamship business from Mazatlan to British Columbia. No general news despatches from the East since the 16th. Lines working so badly.

DELAYED DISPATCHES.

Mexico.

Vera Cruz dates of the 2nd say a disagreement has occurred between the Imperial Commission and Gen. Gomez, in consequence of which the latter threw up his command. The disagreement is supposed to extend to other officers, who will probably follow Gomez's example. Gomez was commander of the Imperial forces at Vera Cruz. Puebla is reported captured by the Liberals.

The Herald's Vera Cruz correspondence of the 30th ult. says that the city is so well defended it is impossible to capture it by assault. Within twenty-four hours after the French left, it might have been successful, but now the troops have gained confidence in their leaders, and it is impossible to tell how long the siege will last.

CHICAGO, April 12.—Thaddeus Stevens has written a letter to Secretary Seward warmly approving of the ratification of the Russian treaty, and congratulating the Secretary for the vote it received in the Senate.

NEW YORK, April 13.—The Times dispatch says it was proposed to make the newly purchased Territory a portion of Washington and Idaho, but the project has been abandoned for the present.

Parties representing Washington Territory interests have united on Hough as the candidate for Governor of that Territory. WASHINGTON, April 10.—Dr Norris, attending physician, requires the President to be kept as quiet as possible in order to give him an opportunity to recuperate. His illness proceeds from an affection of the liver, from which he has suffered severely heretofore.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The Senate rejected the nomination of Thos. W. Sweeney, late Fenian Secretary of War, as Major of the 6th infantry.

New York, April 11.—The friends of Thad. Stevens say he was not so ill as reported, and is now nearly well again.

Europe.

STUTTGART, April 11.—Evening.—Orders have been sent from Berlin to the principal railway stations in Wurtemberg and Baden, to send cars for the transportation of cavalry horses.

LONDON, April 11.—The Princess of Wales is reported at the point of death. A surgical operation is required, and the bone of the knee necessary to be cut out. She cannot endure the pain; she is too weak, and obliged to take chloroform. The news is carefully kept from the public. The Prince haunts the theatres as usual.

Canada.

MONTEAL, April 12.—The Sorel poisoning case is concluded, and Sophie Boisclair has been condemned to death. She protested her innocence before the Court. Her counsel opposed the sentence on the ground that the accused was *enratic*. A jury of matrons is appointed to investigate the matter.

Eastern States.

CHICAGO, April 23.—Gen Rouseau has been ordered to Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, to relieve Gen Steele.

Canada.

MONTEAL, April 14.—A force of Federal troops has arrived at Rouse's Point. There is an impression that the Fenian raid will be made this month. New York, April 16th.—The Montreal *Minerva* says steps will be taken in England to buy the northwest territory in order to connect by this belt of land British Columbia with the Eastern Confederation. It is also said in official circles in England that the United States may take a fancy to claim part of the Valley of Red River and the Saskatchewan.

Colombia.

New York, April 16.—Advice from Panama present a picture of the anarchy and despotism prevailing in Colombia. Mosquera has finally broken up Congress by military power, and imprisoned President Mariabille, his rival at the next election. It is expected that the next object of attack will be Panama and that that State will probably declare itself free and independent.

Europe.

New York, April 15.—In the British House of Lords, in reply to a question put by Earl Clarendon, the Duke of Buckingham said that recent communications from St. Petersburg confirmed the cessation of the Russian territory to the United States. The question was likely to create great feeling and some excitement, but he trusted it would not be allowed undue weight in the minds of Englishmen. He did not think the cessation likely to have an overwhelming influence upon the progress of the British Colonies in America.

New York, April 14.—A special despatch by the cable to the *Herald* says that a great race between the Cambridge and Oxford Clubs took place on Saturday, the 13th inst., on the Thames. Great interest was manifested. The banks of the river on both sides were lined with people for four miles. The race was one of the most exciting ever witnessed. The Oxford club won by half a length; time, 22:29.

Spain has yielded to the demands of England in the case of the steamer Victoria. SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—A fire broke out in the Cosmopolitan Hotel this afternoon, the particulars of which are not yet received. The last despatch reports that the two upper stories were in flames, and that it was probable the whole building would be destroyed. The Occidental, which adjoins it, was also in great danger.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 22.—The following telegram will explain in part why Eastern despatches have come so irregularly during the past few days:—"Omaha, 22d.—We have been unable to cross the Missouri river since Saturday, by ferry or skiff. The water is high. The wires are still down over the Platte river, south of Omaha. The three miles flat on the east bank of the Missouri river is all under water, and the wire is off both masts on each side."

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—The Cosmopolitan Hotel is on fire. The hotel was full of guests, nearly every room in the house being occupied. If the two lower stories escape it will require months to put the building in repair. The whole attic story is gone, and the smoke is driving out of the windows of the next story below on the southeast corner. It may be possible to save the lower floors.

Eastern States.

New York, April 18th.—The *Herald's* special says an expedition to Russian America is being organized by the Department of State for the purpose of making thorough and scientific explorations. It will start about the first of May. The officers have not been designated, though Professor Baird, Smith or Henning will be one of the members. It will assemble at San Francisco and take the revenue cutter Lincoln and go to Sitka and thence explore the interior and coast.

It is rumored that negotiations are pending with England for the purchase of the western portion of British Columbia, including Vancouver Island. The only difficulty in the way of that consummation seems to be that Seward insists on turning in the Alabama claims as payment, to which Lord Stanley, Foreign Secretary, demurs.

Europe.

BERLIN, April 18.—Evening.—It is reported that the French frontier is to be put on a war footing and ambulances purchased, and that the French reserves will be called in on the 1st of May. Prussia is making preparations for war.

Canada.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 18.—The Canada papers complain that a gold excitement is prevailing among the young men there. Companies are forming throughout Canada; machinery is being transported at great expense; claims are sold at from five to fifty thousand dollars. The Madoc district presents the chief attraction.

