

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 7. VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1866. NO. 13.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.
(Sundays Excepted,
at Victoria, V. I.)

TERMS:
One Year, (in advance), \$10 00
Six Months, do 6 00
Three Months, do 3 50
Single Copies, do 10 cents.
Subscribers in Victoria will be supplied by the carriers for 25 cents a week.

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

Published every Tuesday morning.
One Year, (in advance), \$6 00
Six Months, do 4 00
Three Months, do 2 50
Single Copies, do 10 cents.

Clarkson & Co., New Westminster
Bernard's Express, Queen's B. C.
Lytton
Vancouver
Richfield
Barkerville
Camerontown
Clinton
L. F. Fisher, San Francisco
F. Alger, Clement's Lane, London
G. Street, 30 Cornhill, London

THE NEWS.

Our English newspaper dates by the Active are up to the 15th December. The most important event appeared to be the death of the King of Belgium. The prophecies which had been enunciated to the effect that Louis Napoleon was ready to seize upon the country so soon as the king had breathed his last were awaiting their fulfilment. We said some weeks ago that these prophecies were merely childish fears—which construed the most ordinary expressions and the most natural actions of the French Emperor into mysterious menaces against the peace of the world. Louis Napoleon, so far from showing the devoting quality of the wolf in "Little Red Riding Hood," takes the opportunity of the accession of the Duc de Brabant to the throne, under the title of Leopold II., of assuming the new monarch in the most marked manner of the continuation of his friendship to both the king and country. Now that Leopold is dead, we have the usual posthumous tribute paid to the memory of a great man. The usual exaggerations are, however, not confined to the simple reason, probably, that the deceased king was one of the most remarkable men of his day and whose wis-

dom and sagacity were so generally acknowledged. King Leopold occupied in Belgium," says the *Spectator*, "rather the position of the ideal than of any actual constitutional sovereign. He was that impartial moderator or constitutional conscience rather than heart or brain, which, as a rule, constitutional monarchs never are. The ideal of that most useful but anomalous functionary we take to be a statesman raised by birth or a final election above all rivalry, serene, passionless and patient; without feeling for party, but with deep feeling for the people; able to work with any Cabinet, but carrying into varied and even opposing Cabinets a tradition of national policy, a steady tone of moderation, a permanent remembrance of classes too low in the social order to influence the minds of party politicians. Such a man we have never, since the death of William III., had on the throne of Great Britain, such a man the late Prince Consort might have been had he been King, or had his position been public and acknowledged, and such a man we believe he was in respect to foreign politics. A king of this stamp in England would have little to do in moderating parties, for they are too moderate already, but he would have much to do to remain in successive Cabinets the efficient Minister of the unrepresented, the statesman who never forgot the toiling millions, who never omitted Ireland from the field of effort or overlooked that million of paupers who seem to millions so very far away and to kings as close as the remainder of their subjects. This place in Belgium was filled by Leopold, and it was a very great place indeed."

Earl Russell has been receiving a deputation of Members of Parliament and ministers of religion, embracing Professor Fawcett, M. P., and the Rev. Newman Hall, on the subject of the Jamaica insurrection. Nothing, they said, would satisfy the British public but the recall of Governor Eyre and the most searching investigation into all the particulars connected with the insurrection. Strong protestations were also urged against the recent measures introduced into the Jamaica Legislature by Governor Eyre, one giving the constitution of the island into the hands of the Governor and a party nominated Council, and the other making it a penal offence for any dissenting minister to preach without first obtaining a license costing £3. Another clause in the same act provided against the spread of education. An English paper, summarizing the matter, says: "Any negro, therefore, who

fancied that he could instruct his fellows, any minister in the habit of opening prayer meetings, any Sunday-school teacher who thought his little knowledge might be beneficial to persons with none, must have taken out a license, paid a fee fixed intentionally at a rate beyond his means, or endured the treadmill for not less than six months." Earl Russell in replying to certain statements to the effect that the volunteers had provoked the outrages by firing on a peaceful crowd read certain documents to the contrary effect. "All these accounts," he said, "tend to show that it was not a peaceful crowd, which the volunteers fired into without provocation, as some of the memorialists seemed to infer. It might have been like a mob here, where stones were thrown and riot took place. It might have been unwise or not to order the

The whole matter, however, is one exceedingly painful, and no wonder that the letters written by some subscribers in a tone of unbecoming levity in regard to these events have shocked the good feeling of every one who has read them. But however much we may lament what has taken place, we may at the same time hope that the state of society in Jamaica having been so unsatisfactory for so many years, and so many complaints having been constantly made—just complaints, perhaps—and in other respects great misunderstandings—that, if out of these dreadful occurrences we should find means to set our way to new measures that shall make that island less the scene of discontent and conflict, and to substitute harmony and good will, we may in that case yet anticipate good results out of these dreadful occurrences."

Some unusual incidents have occurred in the trials of the Fenian conspirators. In the cases of Luby and O'Leary, the prisoners made most eloquent defences, astonishing the court at such ability in men who had been engaged in the attempt to inaugurate another Irish insurrection. By the latest newspaper accounts we read of a mode of defence, if not as intellectual as that employed by the two celebrated Fenians above alluded to, at least displaying considerable ingenuity. A man named O'Donovan was placed on his trial in Dublin, and although showing nothing more than ordinary ability, undertook to defend his own case. He examined and cross-examined witnesses, and managed to waste the time of the court to no considerable extent, in the hope that the judges would be obliged to leave for the day. At length he commenced to address the jury, when he took up every document that had been used against him and read it to the court. Not content with this he got hold of the whole file of the *Irish People* newspaper, and began to place its contents before the jury. In all this there were various chances to escape an immediate verdict; for there was the possibility of the jurors being discharged in order that the judges might leave for Cork, and there was the chance of some of the jury taking ill, from total exhaustion. From ten o'clock in the morning till six o'clock in the evening—eight weary hours—O'Donovan kept the floor. The judges perceiving the object of the prisoner were determined on preventing an adjournment, and gave the Sheriff orders to provide the jurors with dinner in Court, and thus enable them to sit during the entire night. The prisoner, however, became exhausted himself and the contest ended. A verdict of guilty was returned and O'Donovan was sentenced to penal servitude for life.

From Spain the news still shows the aspect of affairs to be menacing to the Queen, on account of her immoralities. Alarmed, no doubt, at the state of things, Her Majesty has taken ill, and premonitory symptoms of anarchy are showing themselves very forcibly. It is, however, gratifying to find that the Spanish Government, at the request of England and France, have modified their views on the Chilean question, which is now probably settled. Our latest advices from the Chilean coast announce the suicide of the Spanish Admiral Pareja, on account of the surrender to the Chileans of one of his gunboats by the captain in charge. It is evident that dignity forms a much larger element in Spanish Admirals than what is usually termed common sense, and that the courage to brave a disaster has decreased very materially since the days of Cortez and Pizarro.

From Australia we learn that the great constitutional difficulty between the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament of Victoria has been settled by a compromise on the part of the Legislative Council. This body have declared their willingness to accept the Tariff bill, provided provision be made that it shall not extend beyond two years. The Lower House have consented, and the bill which had been tacked previously to the bill of supply is now to go up separately. This is virtually a victory for the Lower House, for it enables them to put their new scheme in force. If the bill does not

satisfy the people at the end of two years, the measure should under any circumstances be repealed; but if it meets with public approbation it is bound to be put again on the statute book. Mr. Cardwell in the meantime is required to invent some new colonial machinery to provide against these almost hopeless dead-locks. It is safe to say that the machinery which will be supplied will add sufficient power to the Lower branch to make it impossible for the Council to resist for any lengthened period the demands of the people.

TELEGRAPHIC.

NEW YORK, JAN. 26.—The steamer *Queenston* did not arrive at New York until the 25th inst. The jury did not agree on a verdict in the case of Byrne, the prison warden charged with aiding in the escape of Stephens. Byrne remains in custody. It is reported that Stephens is not allowed to stay in Paris and has gone to Geneva. The Paris correspondent of the *London Times* says: The Mexican difficulty was before the Ministerial Council. All the ministers were for the speedy recall of the French troops. The Emperor it is said does not think the moment has yet arrived to do so safely and will not until the Emperor of Austria shall have completed the necessary foreign contingent to keep his brother on the throne.

NEW YORK, JAN. 27.—The *Manchester Guardian* of January 17th says: In Liverpool, which has always been the great centre of the Fenians, the movement is progressing as vigorously as ever. The proceedings are now conducted with much more caution than before. The latest project is to appoint Thomas Francis Meagher Dictator.

A fire at St. Catharine's Dock, London, was one of the most disastrous that has occurred for years. Loss, £400,000. The Fenian trial was concluded at Cork on the 2d, and several more prisoners were convicted and sentenced. The trials of the remainder were adjourned to the Assizes, and many liberated on bail. John McAfferty and W. McKay, being aliens, were admitted on bail. The judges told them if they would leave the country they would not be called for trial. These men were cheered through the streets by large crowds.

The Emperor Napoleon gave his usual New Year's reception to the diplomatic body, and expressed his happiness that the past year had strengthened the bonds of peace and prosperity over the world.

The Pope received the congratulations of the French army on the 1st inst. He returned his thanks, and said it would probably be the last time he could bestow his blessings on them. He feared the enemies of the Church would go to Rome after the departure of the French troops. A letter from London says: The demand of the French Emperor for modification of the English extradition laws is creating some uneasiness. It seems Napoleon desires a treaty to surrender those who, on English soil, conspire against the government and the life of the Emperor. The end will probably be a Congress of the principal European powers, to form a society for united protection against conspirators and revolutionists, so that the enemy of one will be the enemy of all.

From Mexico.

NEW YORK, JAN. 22.—The steamer *Liberty* from Havana, January 17th, brings dates from the city of Mexico to January 9th.

The general situation of the Imperialists is, by their own accounts, very unfavorable.

A Mexican force which left Manzanilla recently found the 4th battalion starving. The people in the neighborhood of Acapulco emigrated after having destroyed the wells.

Desertions from the imperialist forces is very great.

The Minister Plenipotentiary to France and about 300 soldiers belonging to the foreign legion have arrived at Vera Cruz.

The death of the Belgian King was communicated to his daughter, Empress Carlotta, on January 6th.

Secretary Seward had not yet arrived at Havana.

The Captain General had fixed up his country seat and was making preparations to receive him in an enthusiastic and hospitable manner.

A new party has sprung up in Mexico called the Ortega faction, who hold commissions from Ortega and refuse to recognize Juarez. Cortinas is said to belong to this party.

Col. Lawrence Kip, of Cheilan's staff, who has been investigating the Bagdad affair, returned on Sunday morning.

Paymaster Prentiss has arrived at Brazos with funds to pay all the troops on the Rio Grande. A large number of colored troops are being mustered out. An order has been received to muster out nearly all General Clark's command.

About four companies of black troops are doing provost duty in Bagdad at the solicitation of the American citizens. No one can leave the town without a pass

from the headquarters of the United States forces.

General Crawford, Colonel Edgar, his Adjutant, and Governor Leon, of Tamalipas, have arrived en route for Washington.

The *Times*' Brownsville correspondent says Cortinas now occupies Bagdad with about 200 men. It is understood that Weitzel disapproves of the action of our officers in the recent capture of Bagdad and has already arrested some of them. All the heavy ordnance has been ordered from Brazos to Brownsville.

Colonel Hanks, agent of Adams Express was robbed of \$5,000 in silver by some of General Clark's command.

Preparations of a belligerent character continue at Brownsville and Matamoras. The *Ranchero* says Carvajal issued a proclamation to his soldiers advising them to submit to the Imperial authorities rather than unite in filibustering expeditions with the Yankees.

CHICAGO, JAN. 28.—The advices from Mexico are important. The Liberal General Morales defeated the Imperialists but was subsequently defeated by them with heavy loss. The Liberal General Martinez has captured the town of Alamos.

Letters from Brownsville, Texas, give details of the Bagdad affair. The capturing party was composed of a miscellaneous crowd of Mexicans, settlers, clerks, adventurers and idlers, who appear to have engaged in it as a good piece of sport, and though it is believed there were among the capture some United States soldiers, every one of them were present at roll call next morning.

Letters from the City of Mexico represent the profoundest anxiety prevails there on account of the embarrassed condition of the Imperial finances and prospects of the Empire generally. The demands for money to carry on the Government are great, but the Treasury is empty and there are no available sources from which to replenish it.

NEW YORK, JAN. 25.—A letter from Vera Cruz, dated January 13th, says: The great drawback of the Empire is the serious want of money. No sooner have a few dollars been collected at the Custom House at Vera Cruz and other parts than they are checked for by the Minister of Finance, and withdrawn. Officers of the Government do not even receive pay with any regularity and several have resigned on that account. Appropriations for public services or works of public utility cannot be collected; the decrees remain in fact null and void.

NEW ORLEANS, JAN. 24.—The commander of the French fleet has protested against the occupation of Bagdad by the United States troops, and those who had been sent over for the protection of the town and American interests have been withdrawn. Many families are leaving Matamoras fearful of further lawlessness.

Texas Matters.

GALVESTON, JAN. 8.—Sixty prominent citizens of the De Sota parish are under military arrest at Shreveport, Louisiana, charged with murdering negroes. There are constant and serious complaints from the interior parishes of the unwillingness of the freedmen to make contracts.

A Pennsylvania Vigilance Committee.

BUFFALO, JAN. 22.—A Titusville (Pa.) dispatch states that there were two large fires there last night. Three men were arrested on charge of being incendiaries, and are being tried by a Vigilance Committee. If found guilty, they will be hanged at once.

Fenian Rumors.

CHICAGO, JAN. 28.—A whole flock of Fenian rumors were let loose in the despatches from London by the last steamer. It is said the British Government has information of a conspiracy to blow up the public buildings; the Custom House has been undermined, and that the Home Secretary has instructed the Chief of the London Fire Brigade to adopt precautionary measures. The Custom House and the other public buildings are to be carefully guarded. From this long continued panic two results will ensue; Ireland will be practically placed under martial law and a definite demand will be made at Washington for the suppression of public Fenian demonstrations in the United States.

The correspondent of the *Paris Independent* says: It is known that the entire French Ministry are in favor of the evacuation of Mexico, and a rumor runs that at the last Council they obtained from the Emperor a promise to send no more troops to Mexico. The assertion is also added that the speech from the throne will make mention of the projected evacuation.

For the Trial of Jeff. Davis.

NEW YORK, JAN. 27.—Wm. Everts has begun preparation for the trial of Jeff. Davis, having been retained as Govern-

ment counsel, with a fee of one hundred thousand dollars. He is overhauling the records of treason trials since the days of the Stuarts.

Holladay's Stage Line.

DENVER, JAN. 27.—The Colorado Territorial Legislature has granted liberal charters to Ben. Holladay. One is for a road through Middle Park, shortening the distance to San Francisco 200 miles, and the other for Holladay's Mail and Express Company.

California News.

SAN FRANCISCO, JAN. 31.—Private intelligence is said to have been received in this city of the confirmation by the United States Supreme Court of the claim of D. Mahoney to what is known as the

land in the western boundary of the city and including the Ocean House, the Ocean Race Track, the Laguna de la Merced, etc. The decision of the Court is based on the Ransom survey. The value of the property is respectively estimated at \$250,000. The crew of the clipper ship *White Swallow*, which arrived from New York on Monday, are under arrest on the charge of mutiny committed on the high seas. It is charged that when the ship was off the coast of South America, the entire crew mutinied and took possession of the ship but a few days afterwards finding themselves unable to manage her, they released the officers and returned to their duty. John Campbell, tried yesterday in the 12th District Court for murder of Anthony Hargrave, was convicted of manslaughter. He will be sentenced on Saturday next.

Markets.

Candles—Emery's 23 1/2 cts. Grant's 27 cts. Sugar—The market though quiet is decidedly firm. In view of the disaster to and detentions of vessels from Manila to the refineries. We quote circles A and crushed 16, other grades at proprietors figures. Whisky—200 bbls Eastern low proof sold at \$1 85 cash. We quote Eastern pure spirits at \$2 cash and California at \$1 90. Lard—The price for double refined White lard—The price has advanced 3 cts. per lb. for pure, under the announcement of the destruction of the Atlantic White Lead Works, and in yesterday's *Bulletin* 18 cts. is now refused. Flour—we quote superfine half sacks per bbl \$6 50; \$6 75 extra half sacks \$7 75; quarter sacks \$7 25. Wheat is unchanged with moderate business. Sales include 800 sacks No. 2 Bay at \$2 17 and 1,000 do. choice do. at \$2 25 per 100 lbs. Barley—good is offered at \$1 10; 500 do. brewing at \$1 12; 8,000 at \$1 15 and 600 do. extra choice, across the Bay, said to be equal to \$1 17 delivered here. Sales of 500 sacks of prime at \$2; 230 do. at \$1 95 per 100 lbs. Sailed January 30th, steamer *Del Norte* for Port Angeles.

AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, OCT. 26.—A Conference between the Legislative Council and the Assembly of Victoria, in reference to the Tariff and Appropriation Bills, has been agreed to. It is reported that the Government would consent to separate Tariff and Appropriation Bills, and that the Legislative Council would agree to the former if the duration was not to exceed two years. Pending a settlement the Government has determined to collect the customs under the old tariff. Excited public meetings have been held here. An appeal to the country on the free-trade question is expected in August next. The steamer *Great Britain*, of the Black Ball line, sailed for England on the 22nd October with over £500,000 in gold.

SYDNEY, OCT. 24.—The Parliament was opened to-day. The Governor in his speech said that the revenue would cover the expenditure. He proposed to sell the back lands of the colony in order to promote emigration. A severe drought prevails.

NEW ZEALAND.

MELBOURNE, OCT. 26.—Advices from New Zealand give no indication of a speedy termination of the war. The natives lough at the Governor's peace proclamation, and they have murdered the first messenger bearing copies of it. Mr. Broughton interpreter of the imperial forces has been murdered by the Waikato natives. A warlike meeting of the chiefs had been held, at which they all expressed their determination to retake the Waikato territory. Immense excitement is caused by the rush to the newly-discovered gold field at Hakiitika. Large quantities of gold have been found there.

SHIPPING.—The bark *Mustang*, Captain Tobey, left San Francisco on the 14th ult. The *Eastern Chief* sailed from Liverpool, November 9th, for this port.

where, Lewis, Burrard's Inlet
Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan
Schr. Shark, Turner, Sooke
George, Nanaimo
Carter, Carleton, Nanaimo
Ship Annie, Elvin, San Juan
horndyke, Thornton, do
ey, Robinson, Fort Angelos

MARRIED.
on the 23d inst., by the Rev. A.
Mr. Randall Caesar, to Miss Mary
of this city.

DIED.
th inst., Mr. Raviere, aged 66
of France, at the residence of
upod, Cadboro Bay road.

January 24, 1866, of consumption,
of Captain Alfred Crosby, aged 40
his and 12 days.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS BE-
ING IN THE POST OFFICE
THE 20th to 27th JAN-
1866.

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M
N
O
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
W
X
Y
Z

Bell, J
Bulfinch, J T
Bohn, W
Brown, Miss L
Becker, K T
Brown, W V
Beardsell, J T

Collins, Jas
Cowan, G
Coragan, Mrs
Coulter, Jas
Duros, P
Dodd, W
Dolon, J
Domine, F
Evans, Mrs S
Franklin, S & L
Fairbrother, G

George, W R
Gartrell, H
Guy, W
Green, A
Garrett, Revd
Harris, A M
Halpenny, J
Hutin, J
Hopkins, H A
Hobbs, Mrs, 2
Hennessey, J
Jarvis, W T
Kerr, Miss C

Lovett, J
Larman, Mrs
Murray, J R
McWilliam, A T
Moore, W B
Mackie, J
McLaughlan, G
McDonnell, Mrs
McKenzie, Mrs
Morrison, J
Murray, N
Miller, E
Nunn, Capt

Pearce, P
Pulen, A W W
Reid, G
Reeves, E A
Smith, R T
Smith, Barr.—Ship
[carpenter
Trahey, J W
Vine, Mrs W

Wilcox, J F
Wells, M
Wilson, G
Greaves, R H
Hopkins, H M
Kiddie, G
Lince, E
McQuarrie, J
Morris, W D, 2
Montgomery, J H
Pearce, Mr Jesse
Richardson, R
Robertson, A
Sterritt, B
Vicary, G T

HENRY WOOTTON,
Postmaster.

VICTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT Chief Engineer's Report

Victoria, V. I., January, 1866.

To the Hon. W. A. G. Young, Colonial Secretary.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

In another column will be found the semi-annual report of the Chief Engineer of the Victoria Fire Department. It will be there seen that much as we have reason to congratulate the inhabitants on possessing so admirable an institution for the protection of the city as the department in question, there are still a number of urgent wants obtruding themselves on our notice that require the earnest attention of these in authority. The first is a large increase in the number of hydrants or cisterns. It is proved that the present water supplies in case of fire in several localities throughout the town are totally inadequate to meet emergencies, or, in other words, that the property in certain neighborhoods cannot be properly protected. This is a matter for the serious consideration of every household; for fire, like an epidemic, may arise in a very insignificant locality, but unless the most energetic means can be used for its early suppression, it may spread beyond the greatest efforts of man. The recommendations, therefore, of the Chief Engineer should receive practical attention. It is suggested that some arrangements should be made with the Water Company in their prospective negotiations with the Government to have a constant water supply in the places which are now neglected, and we think the suggestion a timely one. An application, we believe, will shortly be made by the Water Company to the Legislature for certain privileges, and we have no doubt that the Company will gladly accede to stipulations that will, by affording a proper supply of water, remove the present perils to property. The next question is that of getting rid of one of the engines and supplying its place by a steam fire engine. The ultimate saving in time and money, and the additional security which such a transformation would guarantee, are advantages which would quickly repay the expense of the change, and we hope when money is a little more plentiful in our midst that it is at present, to see the scheme effected. It would be almost impossible to take up all the points in the report, but we cannot help alluding to the financial condition of the department and the absolute necessity there is that the remaining thousands of last year's vote should be paid. It will be seen by our report of the business transacted yesterday in the Assembly, that a resolution covering this ground was passed by the House and forwarded to His Excellency. The department will, therefore, in all probability be paid without further delay. The recommendation that the Government payments should be regular, in order that the department by being able to calculate with certainty the time when it would have funds in hand, may regulate its expenditures, only shows the necessity of having a nearer and less complicated source of supply than the general Government. The application on this score may have the effect of making the Treasury more punctual in its payments, but we hope before the next month shall have transpired the town will be in possession of an Incorporation bill that will enable the civic authorities to make ample and regular provision for our fire companies. We cannot allow the efficiency of so important an institution as our fire department to be imperilled. When we consider how insignificant a per centage on the personal and house property of the place the inhabitants are required to pay for its maintenance, the wonder is how such an organization has been really kept together. On looking over recent proceedings of the Metropolitan Board of Works in London we find that a paid fire brigade, comprising 130 men, cost the Board in one year the nice little sum of \$72,800. Our department numbers 113 as effective firemen, we will be bound to say, as the 130 of the London brigade, and yet all the public are called upon to pay for its maintenance \$9,000 a year. When we look upon such a contrast as this we think the community has been signally blessed in receiving gratuitously the services of so many citizens in an occupation that demands all the promptness, energy and courage of our nature. Let the Government of the country as well as the inhabitants of Victoria, keep the London brigade with its \$70,000 in mind when our fire department puts forward its claims to public attention.

NARROW ESCAPE.—From Captain Irving we learn the following particulars of the loss of the mail bag from Portland and narrow escape of himself and companions. Captain Irving left Portland in company with Mr. Powell and the mail carrier; they found the road in very bad condition owing to the quantity of snow and the heavy rain that had been falling during the previous three or four days—the creeks had become swollen, and in some places the bridges were carried away or were floating. They reached a creek three miles on the other side of Brew's at night, and found the bridge gone. The mail carrier took the lead, and instantly horse and rider disappeared. When the horse was next seen the mail bag was gone and the rider had managed to scramble to the opposite shore. Captain Irving and Mr. Powell swam their horses across in safety. All suffered severely from wet and cold.

In compliance with the constitution and regulations governing the Victoria Fire Department, adopted by the Board of Delegates, November 6th, 1861, and approved by His Excellency Sir James Douglas, Governor, February 7th, 1862, I herewith transmit the necessary information required of me, and hope that any suggestions I may herein make will meet with your favorable consideration. Of the location of cisterns and fire apparatus, as also the situation of the houses wherein the apparatus is housed, I deem unnecessary to give a lengthened or detailed account, inasmuch as no changes have taken place since the last semi-annual report made by my predecessor in office. The condition of the public property now in the hands of the Fire Department, I am pleased to state is in tolerable working order, due entirely to the great care and attention given to said property by the officers of the Companies; the Deluge engine, however, requires so much attention to keep it in order for any emergency, that much dependence cannot be placed on its durable efficiency should it be placed in action, from the fact that recently repairs are required to be made on it every time it has been put in use. (Refer to statement two annexed as to condition of public property.) My immediate predecessor in his semi-annual report has fully set forth the necessity of providing a new engine for this well organized and efficient company—Deluge No. 1. In this connection I would here recommend, for the better security of life and property, that Deluge Engine be disposed of, and a steam fire engine be placed at the disposal of said company. My reasons for so advising are apparent from the aforesaid statement of Deluge Engine, and the coming summer months, attendant with southerly high winds, making the material in composition of our city more inflammable than at any other season of the year. I am sure that the above suggestions may be acted upon at as early a day as the financial condition of the country will admit. The public reservoirs now in use are inadequate for the wants of the city; I would therefore earnestly recommend that more cisterns be placed at such points of the city as designated in the appended statement of locations. I would also suggest that any negotiations existing or about to exist between the Government and the Spring Ridge Water Company, that steps be taken in such negotiation to secure hydrants for the use of the Department, with proper coupling to connect with hose butts, at such positions of the city as are mentioned in annexed statement No. 3. The great necessity for such is a well established fact which has not escaped the attention of all intelligent observers for the preservation of the city from fire. The Company have generously supplied the cisterns on demand when required, and I hope in the extension of their works the above suggestion may be favorably taken into consideration. Repairs are required to some of the cisterns now in use, but I find from the amount voted for 1866 a mere existence is allowed us, therefore no reserve fund is at the disposal of the executive officer for such repairs named. Without any knowledge of an extension of cisterns or hydrants being made for the use of the Department, it becomes doubly necessary that the present reservoirs be kept in order and repair. I would particularly call your attention to this that you may be pleased to lay the same before His Excellency, so that he may make such provision in the premises as he may deem proper under existing circumstances. In my predecessor's report of 1865 he calls your attention to repairs necessary to Engine houses, and in his estimates for the Fire Department asks an appropriation for such purposes. However, the same was not granted, although necessary. I should have been pleased had the improvements he suggested been made, but under the united retrenching reform of our legislators I hesitate to ask for an appropriation for said purposes although very desirable for the better efficiency of the Department. Since I came into office few fires have occurred, and those caused by carelessness, as is more fully explained in statement with general remarks. The public certainly have enjoyed a wonderful immunity from fire, but this is, in every case to my knowledge, attributable to the promptness and energy with which the Department has on every and all occasions been brought into active service. Moments of their promptness and efficiency stand to-day as records of these valuable services. The 3d class Engine first used by that most efficient Company, the Tigers, having been laid up as useless, has again been repaired, at a considerable expense to the Department, and put in tolerable condition, in case of an emergency. I have also in connection with said repairs had the condemned Hose put in as good condition as possible, which Engine and Hose is housed in the Union Hook and Ladder building. (Refer to statement 2.) In reference to the last mentioned Company's house I would beg to draw your attention to the fact that this is a most valuable auxiliary to the Department, and is badly situated for convenience. I consider it one of the first duties of the authorities to provide for this most efficient body a more prominent and central location; it is a most desirable arm of the Department, and should be placed where their rather unwieldy apparatus would be more attainable. The motive force of the Department you will find in annexed statement 5. Any planing this you will find appended the manner proposed for the distribution of moneys voted for the use of the Department. (See statement 6.) I would however call your attention to the non-payment of one thousand dollars voted for our service in last year, and which was promised by Acting Colonial Secretary Mr. Wakeford, at the commencement of the past year, in quarterly instalments of \$750, and upon the strength of which the Board of

Delegates pledged the credit of this Department and also made promises they were unable to fulfill. Much dissatisfaction has therefore been expressed by our creditors, and much annoyance experienced by the officers of the Department in being pressed for the payment of bills they had no funds to meet. I sincerely hope that the one thousand dollars due from last year's appropriation (every dollar of which is needed to meet our outstanding liabilities) will be paid to us at an early day. And also that the sum voted for the present year (3,000) will be paid to the Department regularly in whatever sums His Excellency may command, so that we may know to a certainty when we may have funds in hand and so regulate our payments accordingly. I have the honor to be, Your most obedient servant, J. S. DUMMOND, Chief Engineer Victoria Fire Department.

LOCATION OF APPARATUS—Deluge Engine No. 1 and Hose, &c., &c., situated on Yates near Douglas street, a very central position. Tiger engine No. 2, and hose, &c., &c., situated on Johnson between Government and Broad streets, also quite a desirable position. Union Hook and Ladder No. 1, situated on Bastion between Langley and Wharf, which is, allow me to intimate, a most undesirable and inconvenient position, and one that the authorities should remedy by procuring for this Company some site more central. I would here suggest that on Government street between Yates and Bastion, in the neighborhood of Mayor Franklin's office, is a proper place. Third class engine, formerly used by Tiger Company No. 1 and hose, housed in the Hook and Ladder house on Bastion between Langley and Wharf streets.

CONDITION OF PUBLIC FIRE APPARATUS in the hands of the Volunteer Department—Deluge Engine No. 1. This engine, I am sorry to say, is not in first-rate order. It is a second-class machine, and when purchased by this Colony was second hand, and in service now over sixteen years. Much more good service cannot therefore be expected from it. Its capacity is of very moderate calibre, and even if now in not now sufficient for the wants of the city, therefore my recommendation for a steam engine becomes more apparent from the said condition of this machine. Two Hose Carts, Deluge.—One of these carts is in good condition, the other is almost useless for heavy service. Hose, Deluge.—500 feet double riveted hose in good order, and 250 only tolerable, making 750 feet in all. House, Deluge.—The house occupied by this Company is their own property, and cost the Company \$1787, the greater portion of which was raised by subscription, the balance has been paid by the Company. It is expected that the authorities will some day refund this amount, which no doubt will again be expended in improvements to machinery and Company. Tiger Engine No. 2.—This Company are in possession of a second class Button & Blake engine, in first-rate order and almost new. It is in fact the only engine upon which dependence can be placed in case of a conflagration, being of good capacity, and it is besides quite an ornament to the city. Hose Carts, 2.—One of these hose carts is in good condition, the other unfit for service. Hose.—This Company have for their use 500 feet of double riveted hose in good order, and 250 feet in middling order, making in all 750 feet. House.—This Company occupy rented premises which are very inconvenient. The house is entirely too small for their purposes, they frequently having to resort to other places for oiling of hose, &c., &c., causing much expense to the Company, and, taking into consideration the heavy rent the Company are under, I would recommend that they be provided at as early a day as possible with a suitable house in some central location, as this is a most efficient Company whose services on various occasions have been gratefully acknowledged by our citizens. Gas and water have been introduced into this and the Deluge house, making their premises much more convenient than they were formerly. I would also state that the Spring Ridge Water Company kindly furnish water gratis. Tiger Engine No. 3.—This engine is of the third-class and was second-hand when purchased by the Colony; in bad order when taken possession of by Tiger Company No. 2, and was discarded by them as useless when they took possession of the splendid engine they have now in use. Since being discarded it has been partially put in order at considerable expense to the Department, so as to be ready in case of an emergency. Since undergoing repair it has been tested and found to be of some slight assistance in time of need. Hose.—The old hose formerly in use by Deluge and Tiger Companies has been inspected and 450 feet culled therefrom, oiled, and put in order for the use of the reserve engine. However, no great dependence can be placed upon it. Union Hook and Ladder.—This Company are in possession of a first-class truck with all the apparatus necessary in the shape of hooks and ladders for its efficiency. The Company have at different periods incurred considerable expense in perfecting their apparatus, which apparatus belongs to them, having been purchased by subscription. House.—The house occupied by this Company is also their own property, having been built by subscription. They also stand in the same position as Deluge Company and expect at some future day to be repaid for the outlay, when the authorities see fit to take the same in charge. The cost has been \$2776. The situation of the house and apparatus, as I have before stated, is not a desirable one, therefore my recommendation, for a change. Water has been introduced into this house by the Spring Ridge Water Company and is supplied gratis.

NEW CISTERNS OR HYDRANTS, And where they should be located: Two hydrants, corner Government and Yates streets. One hydrant or cistern corner of Government and Broughton streets. Two hydrants or cistern corner Fort and Douglas streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Fort and Blanchard streets. Two hydrants or cisterns corner Cormorant and Store streets. Two hydrants or cisterns corner Pandora and Government streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Pandors and Douglas streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Brown streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Douglas streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Blanchard streets. One hydrant or cistern corner View and Blanchard streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Broad and Johnson streets. Total number hydrants, 16. Upon reference to the localities it will be seen at a glance that the most thickly populated portion of our city would thus be provided with the necessary element to partially give confidence to property holders.

FIRES AND THEIR CAUSES. On October, 18th, 1865, at 7 a.m., a fire occurred in the lumber office, James Bay; owner, Wm. H. Austin; damage nominal; \$10; cause, carelessness. Whole department promptly on the ground; services not required, the fire being extinguished with buckets. October 28th, 1865, 8 p.m., alarm given by Deluge bell and taken up by Hook and Ladder. Department out and on the alert, but alarm was proved to be false; cause unknown. December 4th, 1865, 2 o'clock p.m., a fire occurred in house adjoining Railroad Restaurant, situated on Johnson between Store and Government streets; damage, \$10; cause defective range of restaurant.

EFFECTIVE FORCE AT DATE. Deluge Engine Co., No. 1, active members, 35. Tiger Engine Co., No. 2, active members, 40. Union Hook and Ladder Co., No. 1, active members, 38. Total, 113. DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION. DELUGE ENGINE CO., NO. 1. Ground rent, per month, \$15; material necessary for keeping engine in order, \$20; Steward's salary, \$30; total, \$65 per month. Per annum \$780. TIGER ENGINE CO., NO. 2. House rent, per month, \$35; incidentals, \$20; Steward's salary, \$30; total, \$85 per month. Per annum, \$1020. UNION HOOK AND LADDER CO. Ground rent, per annum, \$1; incidentals, per month, \$12; Steward's salary, per month \$20; \$32 per month. Per annum, \$384. Total, \$2,185. For incidentals not enumerated in the above expenses, based upon the average expenditure of former years.—For light, repairs to machines, hose, houses, cisterns, advertising, stationery, \$815, an amount quite inadequate to meet the requirements fully as enumerated.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT—Biliousness.—Dyspepsia.—There is no organ in the human body so liable to derangement as the liver. Food, fatigue, climate, and anxiety, all disorder its action, and render its secretions—the bile—more or less depraved, superabundant, or scanty. The first symptoms should receive attention. A pain in the side, or the top of the shoulder, a harsh cough, and difficulty of breathing, are signs of liver disease, which are removed without delay by friction with Holloway's Ointment. The Pills should also be taken early. For all diseases of the vital organs, the action of these conjoined remedies is a specific, by checking the over supply of bile, regulating its secretion, and giving nervous tone.

One hydrant or cistern corner Fort and Blanchard streets. Two hydrants or cisterns corner Cormorant and Store streets. Two hydrants or cisterns corner Pandora and Government streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Pandors and Douglas streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Brown streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Douglas streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Yates and Blanchard streets. One hydrant or cistern corner View and Blanchard streets. One hydrant or cistern corner Broad and Johnson streets. Total number hydrants, 16. Upon reference to the localities it will be seen at a glance that the most thickly populated portion of our city would thus be provided with the necessary element to partially give confidence to property holders.

FIRES AND THEIR CAUSES. On October, 18th, 1865, at 7 a.m., a fire occurred in the lumber office, James Bay; owner, Wm. H. Austin; damage nominal; \$10; cause, carelessness. Whole department promptly on the ground; services not required, the fire being extinguished with buckets. October 28th, 1865, 8 p.m., alarm given by Deluge bell and taken up by Hook and Ladder. Department out and on the alert, but alarm was proved to be false; cause unknown. December 4th, 1865, 2 o'clock p.m., a fire occurred in house adjoining Railroad Restaurant, situated on Johnson between Store and Government streets; damage, \$10; cause defective range of restaurant.

EFFECTIVE FORCE AT DATE. Deluge Engine Co., No. 1, active members, 35. Tiger Engine Co., No. 2, active members, 40. Union Hook and Ladder Co., No. 1, active members, 38. Total, 113. DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION. DELUGE ENGINE CO., NO. 1. Ground rent, per month, \$15; material necessary for keeping engine in order, \$20; Steward's salary, \$30; total, \$65 per month. Per annum \$780. TIGER ENGINE CO., NO. 2. House rent, per month, \$35; incidentals, \$20; Steward's salary, \$30; total, \$85 per month. Per annum, \$1020. UNION HOOK AND LADDER CO. Ground rent, per annum, \$1; incidentals, per month, \$12; Steward's salary, per month \$20; \$32 per month. Per annum, \$384. Total, \$2,185. For incidentals not enumerated in the above expenses, based upon the average expenditure of former years.—For light, repairs to machines, hose, houses, cisterns, advertising, stationery, \$815, an amount quite inadequate to meet the requirements fully as enumerated.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT—Biliousness.—Dyspepsia.—There is no organ in the human body so liable to derangement as the liver. Food, fatigue, climate, and anxiety, all disorder its action, and render its secretions—the bile—more or less depraved, superabundant, or scanty. The first symptoms should receive attention. A pain in the side, or the top of the shoulder, a harsh cough, and difficulty of breathing, are signs of liver disease, which are removed without delay by friction with Holloway's Ointment. The Pills should also be taken early. For all diseases of the vital organs, the action of these conjoined remedies is a specific, by checking the over supply of bile, regulating its secretion, and giving nervous tone.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT—Biliousness.—Dyspepsia.—There is no organ in the human body so liable to derangement as the liver. Food, fatigue, climate, and anxiety, all disorder its action, and render its secretions—the bile—more or less depraved, superabundant, or scanty. The first symptoms should receive attention. A pain in the side, or the top of the shoulder, a harsh cough, and difficulty of breathing, are signs of liver disease, which are removed without delay by friction with Holloway's Ointment. The Pills should also be taken early. For all diseases of the vital organs, the action of these conjoined remedies is a specific, by checking the over supply of bile, regulating its secretion, and giving nervous tone.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT—Biliousness.—Dyspepsia.—There is no organ in the human body so liable to derangement as the liver. Food, fatigue, climate, and anxiety, all disorder its action, and render its secretions—the bile—more or less depraved, superabundant, or scanty. The first symptoms should receive attention. A pain in the side, or the top of the shoulder, a harsh cough, and difficulty of breathing, are signs of liver disease, which are removed without delay by friction with Holloway's Ointment. The Pills should also be taken early. For all diseases of the vital organs, the action of these conjoined remedies is a specific, by checking the over supply of bile, regulating its secretion, and giving nervous tone.

Sporborg & Rueff, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Importers and Wholesale Dealers Groceries, Provisions, Boots and Shoes. WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, V. I. JAM D & W 11

The City of Glasgow LIFE ASSURANCE Company. Established 1838. Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament. Subscribed Capital, \$3,000,000 Annual Revenue, 560,000 Subsisting Assurances, 14,415,000 JANUARY, 1866. THIS COMPANY OFFERS TO the Public the combined advantages of Perfect Security, Moderate Premiums, Liberal participation in Profits, and great freedom in respect of foreign residence and travel, and has powers under special act of Parliament which simplify discharge of claims in event of assured dying abroad. Prospectuses and every information can be obtained on application to the undersigned, who has power to accept risks. J. ROBERTSON STEWART, 27 WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, V. I. Agent for British Columbia and Vancouver Island 6061aw

Persons with Violins Who wish a good collection of Music, will find it in "Winner's Excelsior Collection," Price, 75 cts. Excellent Duets for Piano & Violin will be found in the "Union Collection," Price, 25 cts. both of the above are published by OLIVER DITSON & CO, 277 Washington Street, Boston. For sale at Hibben & Carwell's and Watt & Co's Bookstores. 61620 6263

The Invalid's Friend. Illustration of a person sitting in a chair, possibly a medical illustration or advertisement for a health product.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS. Nervous Disorders. What is more fearful than a breaking down of the nervous system? To be excitable or nervous in a small degree is most distressing, for whose can remedy be found? Here is one—Drink but little wine, beer, or spirits, or far better, abstain from them altogether; do not take coffee; weak tea is preferable; get all the fresh air you can; take three or four of the Pills every night; eat plenty of solids, and avoid the use of stoves. If these golden rules are followed, you will be happy in mind, strong in body, and forget you have any nerves.

Disorders of the Kidneys. In all diseases affecting these organs, whether they be attended with stone or gravel, or with pains settled in the loins over the region of the kidneys, these Pills should be taken according to the printed directions, and the Ointment should be well rubbed into the small of the back at bed time. This treatment will give almost immediate relief after all other means have failed. Stomach out of Order. No medicine will so effectually improve the tone of the stomach as these Pills; they remove all acidity, counteract either by intemperance or improper diet. They reach the liver, and reduce it to a healthy action; they are wonderfully efficacious in cases of spasms—in fact they never fail in curing all disorders of the liver and stomach.

Biliousness, Loss of Appetite, Headache, and Lowness of Spirits. These Pills effect a truly wonderful change in debilitated constitutions, as they create a healthy appetite, correct indigestion, remove excess of bile, and overcome giddiness, headache and palpitation of the heart. Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases: Dropsy, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Stomachic Disorders, Liver Complaints, Nephritis, Dropsy, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Stomachic Disorders, Liver Complaints, Nephritis, Dropsy, Biliousness, Rheumatism, Stomachic Disorders, Liver Complaints, Nephritis.

SAUCE—LEA AND PERRIN'S Worcestershire Sauce. Pronounced by GONSOUBREUR TO BE THE Only Good Sauce, and applicable to EVERY VARIETY OF DISH. CAUTION. Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce. Bag to caution the public against spurious imitations of their celebrated WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE. L. & P. having discovered that several of the Foreign Markets have been supplied with Spurious Imitations, the labels closely resemble those of the genuine Sauce, and in one or more instances the names of L. & P. are used. L. & P. will proceed against any one who may manufacture or vend such imitations, and have instructed their correspondents in the various parts of the world to advise them of any infringement on their rights. Ask for Lea and Perrin's Sauce. Sole Wholesale and Export for the Colonies, Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, etc., etc., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally. Janion, Green & Rhodes, Agents for VICTORIA, V. I.

Dinneford's FLUID MAGNESIA! HAS BEEN, DURING TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, EMPHATICALLY SANCTIONED by the Medical Profession, and universally acknowledged as the BEST REMEDY FOR Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout, and Indigestion, and as a Mild Aperient for delicate constitutions, with the exception of Ladies and Children Combined. ACIDULATED LEMON SYRUP. It forms an agreeable Effervescent Draught, in which its aperient qualities are much increased. During Hot Seasons, and in hot climates, the regular use of this simple and elegant remedy has been found highly beneficial. Dinneford & Co., 178 New Bond Street, London. Sold in Victoria, V. I., by W. M. BERRY, Chemist, Government Street. And sold by all respectable Chemists throughout the World. 619173

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

As a matter of general information, the following extract from Mr. Labouchere, while Secretary for the Colonies, to Governor Douglas after the latter gentleman had a reins of power in Vancouver Island, documents possesses at the present time more than a mere historical value. It is a document which has been laid down carefully but decisions of the constitutional law which have recently come under the consideration of the Legislative Assembly of the Colony of Vancouver Island, and to the rights that the settlers of British Columbia possess. We have issued alluded to the despatch and its contents, but we think we better than give it almost in its entirety dated February 28, 1856, and thus: By the commission and instructions of the Colony of Vancouver Island was directed to summon general freeholders, qualified by the ownership of land, and with their advice and Council make laws and ordinances of the Colony of Vancouver Island. I am aware that the same commission another clause professing to empower me to make such laws with the Council only. I have been doubted by authorities in principles of colonial law whether can legally convey authority to make settlements founded by Englishmen, temporary or a special purpose, to any not elected wholly or in part by the people. If this be the case, the assent of the commission on which you relied would be unwarranted and invalid. It appears to Her Majesty's Government that the establishment of the only Legislature by the present constitution of the Island accordingly to instruct you to call the Assembly in the terms of your commission. For this purpose it will be within your power as provided by the ninth clause of your instructions, to fix the number of representatives you should consider it essential to divide the Colony into districts, and to select one or more members from each of such places, although with so small a number you will find this inexpedient. I leave it to your local knowledge, with the advice of your Council, to determine whether such a measure is required, and in particular, such as may be necessary, in order to leave no doubt of the proceedings already taken without the assent of the Assembly. But it appears to me, that in a community so very limited a number of representatives and a Council, may be selected, and that a small number of members of the present, and probably for some years to perform in a satisfactory manner the duties required in the present stage of the Island. Such a body, however, can be constituted by enactment of the Legislature, and the Commission, that is to say, of the Council, together with yourself, be no unusual circumstance for a legislative body to surrender its power into the hands of a single chamber. It has been done in some of the smaller West India Colonies. I leave it to yourself to consider, with the advice of your Council, the number of members of such a body, and the mode of their election; but in the event of your determining to introduce the elective principle into it, proportion, not less than one-third, should be reserved to the Crown. The power of the Crown, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

There is nothing very new in the despatch alluding to or impeding powers of a representative Assembly. To every person who any experience in representative government, they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented in this class, it is an old principle of colonial law, but there are some anomalies which have never considered or looked for authority upon it, an act of authority of the House brought before them, an authority like Mr. Labouchere's, is unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public on Saturday will appear based on foundation. In the extracts which recently from the rules and regulations, or negatively suspending, for the Crown, the resolutions passed by you, should be distinctly reserved to you; it is very essential that a constitutional description should contain a proviso, the violation of all money votes to the detriment.

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

3

Monday, January 29, 1866

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS.

As a matter of general information we publish the following extract from a despatch of Mr. Labouchere, while Secretary of State for the Colonies, to Governor Douglas, shortly after the latter gentleman had assumed the reins of power in Vancouver Island. The document possesses at the present time something more than a mere historic interest. It lays down carefully but, decidedly those portions of the constitutional law of England which have recently come under the consideration of the Legislative Assembly and the people of Vancouver Island, and which point to the rights that the settlers of every British Colony possess. We have in former issues alluded to the despatch and the nature of its contents, but we think we cannot do better than give it almost in its entirety. It is dated February 28, 1856, and commences thus:

By the commission and instructions which your predecessor, Governor Blanchard, received when the Colony of Vancouver Island was first founded he was directed to summon general assemblies of freeholders, qualified by the ownership of 20 acres of land, and with their advice and that of his Council make laws and ordinances for the good government of the Island.

I am aware that the same commission contains another clause professing to empower the Governor to make such laws with the advice of his Council only. Nevertheless, it has been doubted by authorities conversant in principles of colonial law whether the Crown can legally convey authority to make laws in a settlement founded by Englishmen, even for a temporary or a special purpose, to any Legislature, not elected wholly or in part by the settlers themselves. If this be the case, the clause in your commission on which you relied would appear to be unwarranted and invalid.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government, therefore, that steps should be taken at once for the establishment of the only Legislature authorized by the present constitution of the Island. I have accordingly to instruct you to call together an Assembly in the terms of your commission and instructions.

For this purpose it will be within your power, as provided by the ninth clause of your instructions, to fix the number of representatives and if you should consider it essential to divide the colony into districts, and to establish separate polling places, although with so small a number of settlers you will find this inexpedient. The power should be left to your local knowledge and discretion, with the advice of your Council, to suggest to the Assembly, when thus summoned, to pass such measures as you may yourself deem most required, and in particular, such as the Assembly, in order to have no doubt of the validity of proceedings already taken without the authority of an Assembly.

But it appears to me, that in a community containing so very limited a number of inhabitants, the maintenance of a constitution on the model of those considerable colonies, with a House of Representatives and a Council, may be inexpedient; and that a smaller and more select body will, for the present, and probably for some years to come, really require in the present stage of progress of the Island.

Such a body, however, can be constituted only by enactment of the Legislature, authorized by the Commission, that is to say, of the Assembly and Council, together with yourself, reserving the initiative of all money votes to the local Government.

There is nothing very new in that part of the despatch alluding to or implying the powers of a representative Assembly over money votes. To every person who has had any experience in representative colonies, before they possessed responsible government, and our population is well represented by this class, it is an old principle of constitutional law, but there are some amongst us probably who never considered the question or looked for authority upon it until the recent action of the House brought the matter forcibly before them. To them an authority like Mr. Labouchere will be unassailable, and the action of the Assembly as well as of the public meeting on Saturday will appear based on a solid foundation. In the extracts which we gave recently from the rules and regulations issued by the Colonial Office, we showed how limited were the powers of the Crown in two important questions connected with the political privileges of the settlers of a new colony. Mr. Labouchere explains them more fully. He shows that the Crown has no option in framing a constitution for a new colony—that the settlers must possess representative Government in any scheme emanating directly from the Crown or its ministers. The injunction laid upon Governor Douglas to take the first opportunity to have the acts which were passed by himself and Council made valid by the Assembly so soon as it should have been called into being, show clearly the illegality of any act done by the Executive that has not met with the usual sanction of the representative of the people. On the other point Mr. Labouchere is equally imperative. Speaking of the advisability, on account of the sparsity of the population, of uniting the two branches of Legislature, he says: "It is very essential that a constitutional law of this description should contain a proviso, reserving the initiative of all money votes to the local Government." If the Lower House had not the power to initiate money votes there would have been no necessity for a proviso in the new arrangement that the initiation of such votes

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, January 29.

House met at 1:20 p.m. The Speaker in the chair.

Members present: Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, and Cunningham.

SUPPLY BILL.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Dickson and Trimble were appointed to bring in the Bill of Supply.

RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC RESERVES.

Mr. Duncan asked leave to bring in a bill relating to rights of way and public reserves. Leave was refused on the ground that the report of the committee on the Church reserve petition had not yet come up before the House.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We have before given a synopsis of President Johnson's Message to the U. S. Congress, but the following extract is especially interesting to us:

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our domestic contest, now happily ended, has left some traces in our relations with one, at least, of the great maritime powers. The formal accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgents was unprecedented, and has not been justified by the issue. But in the systems of neutrality pursued by the powers which made that concession, there was a marked difference. The materials of war for the insurgents were furnished, in a great measure, from the workshops of Great Britain, and British ships, manned by British subjects and prepared for British armament, sailed from the ports of Great Britain to make war on American commerce under the shelter of a commission from the insurgent States. These ships, having once escaped from British ports, ever afterwards entered them in every part of the world to refit, and so to renew their depredations. The consequences of this conduct were most disastrous to the States then in rebellion, in causing their desolation and misery by the prolongation of our civil contest. It had moreover, the effect, to a great extent, to drive the American flag from the sea, and to transfer much of our shipping and our commerce to the very powers whose subjects had created the necessities for such change. These events took place before I was called to the administration of the government. The sincere desire for peace by which I am animated led me to approve the proposal already made to submit the questions which had already arisen between the countries to arbitration. The questions are of so much moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great powers, and so interesting to the peace and interests of every one of them, as to have insured an impartial decision. I regret to inform you that Great Britain refused the arbitration, but on the other hand invited us to a formation of a joint commission to settle the mutual claims between the two countries, from which those for the depredations before mentioned should be excluded. The proposition, in that very unsatisfactory form, has been declined. The United States did not present the subject as an impeachment of good faith of a power which was professing a most friendly disposition, but as involving questions of public law of which the settlement is essential to the peace of nations; and though pecuniary reparation to their injured citizens would have followed incidentally on a decision against Great Britain, such compensation was not the primary object. They had a higher motive, and it was in the interest of peace and justice, to establish important principles of international law. The correspondence will be placed before you. The ground on which the British Minister rests his justification, is substantially, that the municipal law of a nation, and domestic interpretations of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral; and I feel bound to declare my opinion, before you and before the world, that this justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not advise to any present attempt at redress by acts of legislation. For the future the friendship between the two nations must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Friday next was fixed to go into the consideration of Ways and Means.

House adjourned at two o'clock to meet on Wednesday next at one p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 31st, 1866.

House met at 1:20 p.m. Present—Messrs. Helmcken, DeCosmos, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Cochrane, Dennes and Carswell.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

The Speaker read a communication from His Excellency the Governor in reply to an address from the House asking for dispatches relating to the postal regulations of this colony, in which His Excellency referred the House to the *Government Gazette*, in which the correspondence relating to the matter was published. The Speaker also read the correspondence as published in the *Gazette*, noticing frequently numerous stars or asterisks which embellished the published documents.

Mr. DeCosmos would ask if that was to be considered a reply to the address of this House.

The Speaker—Certainly.

Mr. DeCosmos thought that owing to the pictorial character of the dispatch, the answer was not satisfactory—these stars alluded to by the Speaker, no doubt, were intended to illustrate the matter, but without their being interpreted the House must still remain ignorant of their meaning.

CONVEYANCES.

Mr. Dennes moved the second reading of a bill to prevent unqualified persons from drawing conveyances.

Mr. Cochrane said he was not present when this bill was introduced and was therefore ignorant of the reasons which the mover had given for its necessity. The hon. mover (Mr. Dennes) however had told him that he would give him valuable information in the matter. He (Mr. C.) would be most happy now to get that information.

Mr. Dennes said he had upon many occasions seen improper conveyances made, and that his safe was half full of such documents, and the public safety demanded the protection that this bill provided.

Mr. Cochrane admitted that mistakes sometimes did occur, but in his experience nine out of ten of such mistakes were made by legal gentlemen who professed to be qualified for the business; he (Mr. C.) thought every facility and convenience should be afforded to cheapen the expenses and labor of such matters.

The bill was committed.

ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Messrs. Powell, Duncan and Carswell were appointed a Committee to consider the propriety of founding an Orphan Asylum for this colony.

HOSPITAL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The resolution of the House requesting His Excellency to pay \$3000 to the Royal Hospital, and \$1000 to the Fire Department as soon as possible, were passed.

PETITIONS.

The Committee on Petitions submitted a report as follows:

In regard to the petition of Mr. C. B. Young and others relating to Fisheries, the Committee recommend that some compensation be allowed the petitioner.

Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

FREE PORT.

The petition of the Chamber of Commerce asking a repeal of certain impost laws as they impaired the integrity of the free port.

The Committee felt that no laws have been passed imposing duties on Imports, and consider it inexpedient to repeal the Stock and Carcass Act. Adopted.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

A petition from the Chamber of Commerce asking for the passage of a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, January 29.

House met at 1:20 p.m. The Speaker in the chair.

Members present: Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, and Cunningham.

SUPPLY BILL.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Dickson and Trimble were appointed to bring in the Bill of Supply.

RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC RESERVES.

Mr. Duncan asked leave to bring in a bill relating to rights of way and public reserves. Leave was refused on the ground that the report of the committee on the Church reserve petition had not yet come up before the House.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We have before given a synopsis of President Johnson's Message to the U. S. Congress, but the following extract is especially interesting to us:

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our domestic contest, now happily ended, has left some traces in our relations with one, at least, of the great maritime powers. The formal accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgents was unprecedented, and has not been justified by the issue. But in the systems of neutrality pursued by the powers which made that concession, there was a marked difference. The materials of war for the insurgents were furnished, in a great measure, from the workshops of Great Britain, and British ships, manned by British subjects and prepared for British armament, sailed from the ports of Great Britain to make war on American commerce under the shelter of a commission from the insurgent States. These ships, having once escaped from British ports, ever afterwards entered them in every part of the world to refit, and so to renew their depredations. The consequences of this conduct were most disastrous to the States then in rebellion, in causing their desolation and misery by the prolongation of our civil contest. It had moreover, the effect, to a great extent, to drive the American flag from the sea, and to transfer much of our shipping and our commerce to the very powers whose subjects had created the necessities for such change. These events took place before I was called to the administration of the government. The sincere desire for peace by which I am animated led me to approve the proposal already made to submit the questions which had already arisen between the countries to arbitration. The questions are of so much moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great powers, and so interesting to the peace and interests of every one of them, as to have insured an impartial decision. I regret to inform you that Great Britain refused the arbitration, but on the other hand invited us to a formation of a joint commission to settle the mutual claims between the two countries, from which those for the depredations before mentioned should be excluded. The proposition, in that very unsatisfactory form, has been declined. The United States did not present the subject as an impeachment of good faith of a power which was professing a most friendly disposition, but as involving questions of public law of which the settlement is essential to the peace of nations; and though pecuniary reparation to their injured citizens would have followed incidentally on a decision against Great Britain, such compensation was not the primary object. They had a higher motive, and it was in the interest of peace and justice, to establish important principles of international law. The correspondence will be placed before you. The ground on which the British Minister rests his justification, is substantially, that the municipal law of a nation, and domestic interpretations of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral; and I feel bound to declare my opinion, before you and before the world, that this justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not advise to any present attempt at redress by acts of legislation. For the future the friendship between the two nations must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Friday next was fixed to go into the consideration of Ways and Means.

House adjourned at two o'clock to meet on Wednesday next at one p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 31st, 1866.

House met at 1:20 p.m. Present—Messrs. Helmcken, DeCosmos, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Cochrane, Dennes and Carswell.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

The Speaker read a communication from His Excellency the Governor in reply to an address from the House asking for dispatches relating to the postal regulations of this colony, in which His Excellency referred the House to the *Government Gazette*, in which the correspondence relating to the matter was published. The Speaker also read the correspondence as published in the *Gazette*, noticing frequently numerous stars or asterisks which embellished the published documents.

Mr. DeCosmos would ask if that was to be considered a reply to the address of this House.

The Speaker—Certainly.

Mr. DeCosmos thought that owing to the pictorial character of the dispatch, the answer was not satisfactory—these stars alluded to by the Speaker, no doubt, were intended to illustrate the matter, but without their being interpreted the House must still remain ignorant of their meaning.

CONVEYANCES.

Mr. Dennes moved the second reading of a bill to prevent unqualified persons from drawing conveyances.

Mr. Cochrane said he was not present when this bill was introduced and was therefore ignorant of the reasons which the mover had given for its necessity. The hon. mover (Mr. Dennes) however had told him that he would give him valuable information in the matter. He (Mr. C.) would be most happy now to get that information.

Mr. Dennes said he had upon many occasions seen improper conveyances made, and that his safe was half full of such documents, and the public safety demanded the protection that this bill provided.

Mr. Cochrane admitted that mistakes sometimes did occur, but in his experience nine out of ten of such mistakes were made by legal gentlemen who professed to be qualified for the business; he (Mr. C.) thought every facility and convenience should be afforded to cheapen the expenses and labor of such matters.

The bill was committed.

ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Messrs. Powell, Duncan and Carswell were appointed a Committee to consider the propriety of founding an Orphan Asylum for this colony.

HOSPITAL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The resolution of the House requesting His Excellency to pay \$3000 to the Royal Hospital, and \$1000 to the Fire Department as soon as possible, were passed.

PETITIONS.

The Committee on Petitions submitted a report as follows:

In regard to the petition of Mr. C. B. Young and others relating to Fisheries, the Committee recommend that some compensation be allowed the petitioner.

Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

FREE PORT.

The petition of the Chamber of Commerce asking a repeal of certain impost laws as they impaired the integrity of the free port.

The Committee felt that no laws have been passed imposing duties on Imports, and consider it inexpedient to repeal the Stock and Carcass Act. Adopted.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

A petition from the Chamber of Commerce asking for the passage of a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, January 29.

House met at 1:20 p.m. The Speaker in the chair.

Members present: Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, and Cunningham.

SUPPLY BILL.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Dickson and Trimble were appointed to bring in the Bill of Supply.

RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC RESERVES.

Mr. Duncan asked leave to bring in a bill relating to rights of way and public reserves. Leave was refused on the ground that the report of the committee on the Church reserve petition had not yet come up before the House.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We have before given a synopsis of President Johnson's Message to the U. S. Congress, but the following extract is especially interesting to us:

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our domestic contest, now happily ended, has left some traces in our relations with one, at least, of the great maritime powers. The formal accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgents was unprecedented, and has not been justified by the issue. But in the systems of neutrality pursued by the powers which made that concession, there was a marked difference. The materials of war for the insurgents were furnished, in a great measure, from the workshops of Great Britain, and British ships, manned by British subjects and prepared for British armament, sailed from the ports of Great Britain to make war on American commerce under the shelter of a commission from the insurgent States. These ships, having once escaped from British ports, ever afterwards entered them in every part of the world to refit, and so to renew their depredations. The consequences of this conduct were most disastrous to the States then in rebellion, in causing their desolation and misery by the prolongation of our civil contest. It had moreover, the effect, to a great extent, to drive the American flag from the sea, and to transfer much of our shipping and our commerce to the very powers whose subjects had created the necessities for such change. These events took place before I was called to the administration of the government. The sincere desire for peace by which I am animated led me to approve the proposal already made to submit the questions which had already arisen between the countries to arbitration. The questions are of so much moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great powers, and so interesting to the peace and interests of every one of them, as to have insured an impartial decision. I regret to inform you that Great Britain refused the arbitration, but on the other hand invited us to a formation of a joint commission to settle the mutual claims between the two countries, from which those for the depredations before mentioned should be excluded. The proposition, in that very unsatisfactory form, has been declined. The United States did not present the subject as an impeachment of good faith of a power which was professing a most friendly disposition, but as involving questions of public law of which the settlement is essential to the peace of nations; and though pecuniary reparation to their injured citizens would have followed incidentally on a decision against Great Britain, such compensation was not the primary object. They had a higher motive, and it was in the interest of peace and justice, to establish important principles of international law. The correspondence will be placed before you. The ground on which the British Minister rests his justification, is substantially, that the municipal law of a nation, and domestic interpretations of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral; and I feel bound to declare my opinion, before you and before the world, that this justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not advise to any present attempt at redress by acts of legislation. For the future the friendship between the two nations must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Friday next was fixed to go into the consideration of Ways and Means.

House adjourned at two o'clock to meet on Wednesday next at one p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 31st, 1866.

House met at 1:20 p.m. Present—Messrs. Helmcken, DeCosmos, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Cochrane, Dennes and Carswell.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

The Speaker read a communication from His Excellency the Governor in reply to an address from the House asking for dispatches relating to the postal regulations of this colony, in which His Excellency referred the House to the *Government Gazette*, in which the correspondence relating to the matter was published. The Speaker also read the correspondence as published in the *Gazette*, noticing frequently numerous stars or asterisks which embellished the published documents.

Mr. DeCosmos would ask if that was to be considered a reply to the address of this House.

The Speaker—Certainly.

Mr. DeCosmos thought that owing to the pictorial character of the dispatch, the answer was not satisfactory—these stars alluded to by the Speaker, no doubt, were intended to illustrate the matter, but without their being interpreted the House must still remain ignorant of their meaning.

CONVEYANCES.

Mr. Dennes moved the second reading of a bill to prevent unqualified persons from drawing conveyances.

Mr. Cochrane said he was not present when this bill was introduced and was therefore ignorant of the reasons which the mover had given for its necessity. The hon. mover (Mr. Dennes) however had told him that he would give him valuable information in the matter. He (Mr. C.) would be most happy now to get that information.

Mr. Dennes said he had upon many occasions seen improper conveyances made, and that his safe was half full of such documents, and the public safety demanded the protection that this bill provided.

Mr. Cochrane admitted that mistakes sometimes did occur, but in his experience nine out of ten of such mistakes were made by legal gentlemen who professed to be qualified for the business; he (Mr. C.) thought every facility and convenience should be afforded to cheapen the expenses and labor of such matters.

The bill was committed.

ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Messrs. Powell, Duncan and Carswell were appointed a Committee to consider the propriety of founding an Orphan Asylum for this colony.

HOSPITAL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The resolution of the House requesting His Excellency to pay \$3000 to the Royal Hospital, and \$1000 to the Fire Department as soon as possible, were passed.

PETITIONS.

The Committee on Petitions submitted a report as follows:

In regard to the petition of Mr. C. B. Young and others relating to Fisheries, the Committee recommend that some compensation be allowed the petitioner.

Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

FREE PORT.

The petition of the Chamber of Commerce asking a repeal of certain impost laws as they impaired the integrity of the free port.

The Committee felt that no laws have been passed imposing duties on Imports, and consider it inexpedient to repeal the Stock and Carcass Act. Adopted.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

A petition from the Chamber of Commerce asking for the passage of a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, January 29.

House met at 1:20 p.m. The Speaker in the chair.

Members present: Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, and Cunningham.

SUPPLY BILL.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Dickson and Trimble were appointed to bring in the Bill of Supply.

RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC RESERVES.

Mr. Duncan asked leave to bring in a bill relating to rights of way and public reserves. Leave was refused on the ground that the report of the committee on the Church reserve petition had not yet come up before the House.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We have before given a synopsis of President Johnson's Message to the U. S. Congress, but the following extract is especially interesting to us:

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our domestic contest, now happily ended, has left some traces in our relations with one, at least, of the great maritime powers. The formal accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgents was unprecedented, and has not been justified by the issue. But in the systems of neutrality pursued by the powers which made that concession, there was a marked difference. The materials of war for the insurgents were furnished, in a great measure, from the workshops of Great Britain, and British ships, manned by British subjects and prepared for British armament, sailed from the ports of Great Britain to make war on American commerce under the shelter of a commission from the insurgent States. These ships, having once escaped from British ports, ever afterwards entered them in every part of the world to refit, and so to renew their depredations. The consequences of this conduct were most disastrous to the States then in rebellion, in causing their desolation and misery by the prolongation of our civil contest. It had moreover, the effect, to a great extent, to drive the American flag from the sea, and to transfer much of our shipping and our commerce to the very powers whose subjects had created the necessities for such change. These events took place before I was called to the administration of the government. The sincere desire for peace by which I am animated led me to approve the proposal already made to submit the questions which had already arisen between the countries to arbitration. The questions are of so much moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great powers, and so interesting to the peace and interests of every one of them, as to have insured an impartial decision. I regret to inform you that Great Britain refused the arbitration, but on the other hand invited us to a formation of a joint commission to settle the mutual claims between the two countries, from which those for the depredations before mentioned should be excluded. The proposition, in that very unsatisfactory form, has been declined. The United States did not present the subject as an impeachment of good faith of a power which was professing a most friendly disposition, but as involving questions of public law of which the settlement is essential to the peace of nations; and though pecuniary reparation to their injured citizens would have followed incidentally on a decision against Great Britain, such compensation was not the primary object. They had a higher motive, and it was in the interest of peace and justice, to establish important principles of international law. The correspondence will be placed before you. The ground on which the British Minister rests his justification, is substantially, that the municipal law of a nation, and domestic interpretations of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral; and I feel bound to declare my opinion, before you and before the world, that this justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not advise to any present attempt at redress by acts of legislation. For the future the friendship between the two nations must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Friday next was fixed to go into the consideration of Ways and Means.

House adjourned at two o'clock to meet on Wednesday next at one p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 31st, 1866.

House met at 1:20 p.m. Present—Messrs. Helmcken, DeCosmos, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Cochrane, Dennes and Carswell.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

The Speaker read a communication from His Excellency the Governor in reply to an address from the House asking for dispatches relating to the postal regulations of this colony, in which His Excellency referred the House to the *Government Gazette*, in which the correspondence relating to the matter was published. The Speaker also read the correspondence as published in the *Gazette*, noticing frequently numerous stars or asterisks which embellished the published documents.

Mr. DeCosmos would ask if that was to be considered a reply to the address of this House.

The Speaker—Certainly.

Mr. DeCosmos thought that owing to the pictorial character of the dispatch, the answer was not satisfactory—these stars alluded to by the Speaker, no doubt, were intended to illustrate the matter, but without their being interpreted the House must still remain ignorant of their meaning.

CONVEYANCES.

Mr. Dennes moved the second reading of a bill to prevent unqualified persons from drawing conveyances.

Mr. Cochrane said he was not present when this bill was introduced and was therefore ignorant of the reasons which the mover had given for its necessity. The hon. mover (Mr. Dennes) however had told him that he would give him valuable information in the matter. He (Mr. C.) would be most happy now to get that information.

Mr. Dennes said he had upon many occasions seen improper conveyances made, and that his safe was half full of such documents, and the public safety demanded the protection that this bill provided.

Mr. Cochrane admitted that mistakes sometimes did occur, but in his experience nine out of ten of such mistakes were made by legal gentlemen who professed to be qualified for the business; he (Mr. C.) thought every facility and convenience should be afforded to cheapen the expenses and labor of such matters.

The bill was committed.

ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Messrs. Powell, Duncan and Carswell were appointed a Committee to consider the propriety of founding an Orphan Asylum for this colony.

HOSPITAL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The resolution of the House requesting His Excellency to pay \$3000 to the Royal Hospital, and \$1000 to the Fire Department as soon as possible, were passed.

PETITIONS.

The Committee on Petitions submitted a report as follows:

In regard to the petition of Mr. C. B. Young and others relating to Fisheries, the Committee recommend that some compensation be allowed the petitioner.

Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

FREE PORT.

The petition of the Chamber of Commerce asking a repeal of certain impost laws as they impaired the integrity of the free port.

The Committee felt that no laws have been passed imposing duties on Imports, and consider it inexpedient to repeal the Stock and Carcass Act. Adopted.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

A petition from the Chamber of Commerce asking for the passage of a bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, January 29.

House met at 1:20 p.m. The Speaker in the chair.

Members present: Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, McClure, Dickson, Trimble, Duncan, Dennes, Carswell, and Cunningham.

SUPPLY BILL.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Dickson and Trimble were appointed to bring in the Bill of Supply.

RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC RESERVES.

Mr. Duncan asked leave to bring in a bill relating to rights of way and public reserves. Leave was refused on the ground that the report of the committee on the Church reserve petition had not yet come up before the House.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We have before given a synopsis of President Johnson's Message to the U. S. Congress, but the following extract is especially interesting to us:

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our domestic contest, now happily ended, has left some traces in our relations with one, at least, of the great maritime powers. The formal accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgents was unprecedented, and has not been justified by the issue. But in the systems of neutrality pursued by the powers which made that concession, there was a marked difference. The materials of war for the insurgents were furnished, in a great measure, from the workshops of Great Britain, and British ships, manned by British subjects and prepared for British armament, sailed from the ports of Great Britain to make war on American commerce under the shelter of a commission from the insurgent States. These ships, having once escaped from British ports, ever afterwards entered them in every part of the world to refit, and so to renew their depredations. The consequences of this conduct were most disastrous to the States then in rebellion, in causing their desolation and misery by the prolongation of our civil contest. It had moreover, the effect, to a great extent, to drive the American flag from the sea, and to transfer much of our shipping and our commerce to the very powers whose subjects had created the necessities for such change. These events took place before I was called to the administration of the government. The sincere desire for peace by which I am animated led me to approve the proposal already made to submit the questions which had already arisen between the countries to arbitration. The questions are of so much moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great powers, and so interesting to the peace and interests of every one of them, as to have insured an impartial decision. I regret to inform you that Great Britain refused the arbitration,

Tuesday, February 6, 1866

GOVERNOR KENNEDY AND THE CORONER.

His Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy has, after a sojourn of two years in the colony of Vancouver Island, and after various expressions of public opinion against a large official expenditure, at length seen the necessity of retrenchment. If we applied the illustration of the rejoicing over the one sinner that repenteth, we should say His Excellency's conversion is a matter of general jubilation over the length and breadth of the colony. It is nothing to the purpose to state that Governor Kennedy had asked the people of Vancouver Island to raise \$400,000 for 1865, and that his demands for 1866, although scarcely so exorbitant, were outrageously beyond the capacity of the population—it is nothing to the purpose to say that not until the House had decided on lopping off from the present estimates and the promised supplementary ones some seventy or eighty thousand dollars, that His Excellency became imbued with the desire to lighten the public burdens—we say all this is nothing to the purpose; Governor Kennedy has decided on a scheme of retrenchment—a scheme such as a daring and economic mind could alone originate—a scheme which will, if honestly carried out, save the colony the sum of two hundred and sixty dollars a year. Let us give honor to whom honor is due. Two hundred and sixty dollars are not to be picked up every day. Computing our population at 5000 persons, we have the taxation reduced by this far-seeing scheme of His Excellency exactly five cents and one-fifth of a cent per head! Who shall say after this that Governor Kennedy's administration is an extravagant one? Who shall say that the Executive are callous to public opinion?

It is not, however, on the ground of economy alone that we are forced to admire this elaborate but well-digested scheme of retrenchment—an obnoxious public man has been made to feel the wrath of an outraged Executive. Dr. Dickson has met his well-merited doom. He voted for a reduction in the public expenditure—he opposed, on every legitimate ground, the ruling powers—it is even whispered that he defied the Governor. Shades of despotism! what could we have more? A thousand deaths would scarcely satisfy outraged justice. We live, however, in an age of clemency, and the coroner's office, not his life, has paid the forfeit. Let this, at all events, be a warning to our public men. Let them tread lightly on the sacred ground of Executive domain. A gubernatorial eye is upon them—a gubernatorial sword, more terrible than that of Damocles, is suspended over their heads. Dr. Dickson went to bed, a coroner with emoluments of \$260 a year—he awoke to find himself a plain M.D.—his glory having departed from him, his office having been taken away. Let us hope that the sympathy he expended on the officials will prove like bread upon the waters and come back to him; and that the terrible pecuniary loss to which his misconduct has subjected him will guide his political footsteps in the pathway that leads not to public good, but to the much higher destination—the whim and caprice of His Excellency Governor Kennedy.

Of course, there are perverse people on Vancouver Island who will take a different view of this matter,—who will give His Excellency credit for neither his \$260 scheme of retrenchment nor his anxiety for relieving a member of the Assembly of his public office,—who will, in fact, see in the whole matter nothing but an ebullition of childish spleen. To these individuals it will appear that His Excellency has not only violated constitutional but statutory law; and that he has taken a step which he will have to retrace. We will at present content ourselves with discussing the merits of the question in a Parliamentary light. It will be in the recollection of every one who has given any attention to the estimates, that Governor Kennedy asked the House to vote \$1000 for expenses of inquests, including coroner's fees. When this subject came up before the Assembly it was moved by a member that the offices of coroner and stipendiary magistrate should be amalgamated, or, in other words, that the very same arrangement which His Excellency is attempting to effect now should be carried out. After a lengthy discussion, in which it was shown that, independent of the impropriety of the scheme, there would be no saving in expense, the Committee of Supply, resolved unanimously that the offices should remain separate, and that \$800 instead of \$1,000 should be voted. His Excellency, however, after asking the House to vote a sum of money for coroner's fees, turns round when the House has done so, accepts the \$800 which was voted for the total expenses of inquests, and does or attempts to do what the House distinctly and by a deliberate vote said should not be done—amalgamate the office of coroner with that of stipendiary magistrate. Now independent of all other matters here arises the grave question of a Governor of a colony deliberately setting at defiance a resolution of the House of Assembly respecting the expenditure of the public money. It is quite clear, if His Excellency can set aside one legitimate resolution he

can set aside another, and expend the public money just as he pleases. This is not a mere question of who should be coroner or who should not, or of whether the colony would gain \$240 a year by the retention of Dr. Dickson, or whether it would lose it—it is a question whether the people's representatives in their efforts to cut down the public burdens are to be met with despotic assumption on the part of the Governor, and to be virtually told that their votes and their resolutions are so much waste breath and so much waste paper. The same outrage was perpetrated last year in the case of Superintendent and Inspector of Police. What makes the action of His Excellency ridiculous as well as unconstitutional is the fact that the House has decided that the retention or abolition of the stipendiary magistracy will rest with the municipality of Victoria. The consequence would be if the stipendiary magistracy were abolished the coronership would be abolished also—an act which no municipality could perform. We have not space to discuss the question at greater length in the present issue, but we may assure His Excellency that the people of Vancouver Island will tolerate no animus in the Executive of the Colony against any individual, high or low; nor will they accept tois attack on the coroner as a means to divide public opinion and distract the general attention from the retrenchment scheme of the Assembly. But few of the officials, whose salaries have been abolished by the House, have been discharged; it is in fact currently reported that the great bulk of them will still be retained. At any rate the public are watching carefully the Executive action, and what is demanded of the Governor and his constitutional advisers is fair and dignified dealing with the representatives of the people. If this course be not adopted, His Excellency and his official friends may as well make up their minds to a sea-voyage; for their tenure of office in Vancouver Island will be of extremely short duration.

PUNCH'S ALMANAC.—All old country people can remember that as the new year approached the eager interest which was manifested to see the budget of artistic humor, pictorial fancy, genuine flashes of wit, and delicate irony, which issued annually from the Punch sanctum. It was well known that the intellectual resources of every member of the staff would be called into requisition and the jokes and caricatures upon every conceivable subject subsequently became an endless fund of amusement in every family circle far and wide. An inexhaustible topic of conversation was started, and many an absorbing flirtation sprang into existence while discussing the contents of the facetious brochure. Many a care-worn face was again wreathed into strange smiles under the inspiration of the inimitable John Leech and his editorial co-adjutor Mark Lemon. Douglas Jerrold, now sleeping in peace in Kensal Green Cemetery, calmly oblivious of the numerous enemies his caustic pen called forth, contributed his quota of sarcasm, ever wielded in storm denunciation of wrong, and the conscientious support of the sacred rights of humanity. Thackeray, also, passed into the Valley of the Shadow of Death, indited his brilliant comments upon the hollow shams and snobisms of pseudo-polite society. The brothers Mayhew, Henry, Horace and Augustus) now men of considerable mark in the literary world, Tom Taylor, Percival Leigh, Albert Smith, the lamented Gilbert A'Beckett, all taxed their powers to the utmost to enhance the reputation of their hump-backed friend. The magic pencils of Leech, Tenniel, Doyle, Landells and their confreres, produced innumerable satires upon social foibles with rare skill; and who can forget the felicitous sketches of fair demoiselles by the first-named artist, which have ravished many a youthful aspirant for the bewitching smiles of capricious beauty. Time has however wrought sad havoc in this merry band of literary laborers, but their places, like similar vacancies in all departments of life, have found fitting successors. The number for the current year is before us, and will doubtless evoke many a hearty laugh at colonial firesides. Chas. H. Bennett, with his curious combination of weird and fanciful drawing, Du Maurier, Chas. Keene, Howard, (by the way, poor Julian Potch, scarcely in his prime, and whose career promised so bright a future, lies prostrate, stricken with hopeless paralysis) and other artists, not forgetting Tenniel, whose cartoons have won him a world-wide fame, have amply realized public expectation. The follies of fashion are again exposed with ruthless accuracy, and notable events and popularities are hit off with genial drollery. The literary portion is good, but we must confess, and it may be deemed prejudice, that we miss some of the vigor of the days of yore, notwithstanding we bear that new blood has been recently infused into it; we think we can trace the broad, side-splitting fun of F. G. Barnard, the burlesque writer; and our home correspondence also informs us that the veteran dramatist, Bayle Bernard, Shirley Brooks, the novelist, and the versatile Leicester Buckingham, the prolific author of many comedies and farces, and whilom leader writer for Bright and the Manchester party's organ, the Morning Star, have reinforced the ranks of this popular public censor. On the whole, we are thankful for many a pleasant half-hour engaged in conning the pages of Punch's Almanac, and cordially commend it to our readers.

UP.—The project of Mr. Geo. Wallace to publish a paper in San Francisco is said to have been abandoned. Mr. W. had better transfer his undertaking direct to Big Bend. BRO BEND ROUTE.—Mr. Leneveu has brought from New Westminster for the Chamber of Commerce a copy of the Government map showing the two routes to Big Bend.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, February 2.

House met at 1:15 p.m. Present: Messrs. DeCosmos, Trimble, McClure, Dickson, Duncan, Carwell, Dennes, Powell.

CHURCH RESERVE.

Mr. Dennes begged to be relieved from this committee on the ground of professional engagements.

Mr. DeCosmos was placed upon the committee in his stead.

HARBOR ENCROACHMENTS.

Mr. Duncan gave notice of motion that a respectful address be presented to His Excellency requesting him to inform this House by what authority those parties having property in front of the harbor of Victoria have encroached by building, some to the extent of 100 feet, outside the limits of their property or beyond high water mark.

REMOVAL OF THE CORONER.

Mr. DeCosmos rose to complain against the removal from office by the Executive of Jas. Dickson, Esq., Coroner.

The Speaker thought it was not in order. Mr. DeCosmos believed, according to parliamentary usage, honorable members might rise at any moment when they considered the constitution of the country was invaded. He believed the fundamental constitution of this colony as well as that of Great Britain had been invaded. A public officer had been removed without cause or preliminary notice. The Speaker said the facts were not before the House.

Mr. DeCosmos—I have the document, signed by the Hon. Colonial Secretary of the colony. And allow me to state that I consider this one of the gravest infringements of the constitution of the colony. He proceeded to say that he had not before known of an occasion when a member of that House had been called upon in his place to complain of a similar act. The English law was clear and definite. The coroner could not be removed without cause.

The Speaker—Do you rise to make a motion?

Mr. DeCosmos—I shall do so.

The Speaker—Is not notice of motion required?

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the standing orders be suspended.

The motion was put and carried. That His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to transmit without delay to this House copies of all documents showing the cause or causes which induced His Excellency the Governor to remove James Dickson, Esq., M.D., from the office of Coroner of Victoria District, Esquimalt, and the districts adjacent thereto.

Mr. DeCosmos observed, in connection with his previous remarks, that the action of the Executive was an infringement of the constitution, inasmuch as a coroner could not be removed without process in Chancery. He could only be temporarily suspended. The Estimates sent down by His Excellency \$1000 was asked to be voted for Coroner. After due deliberation that amount was reduced to \$800. The question of uniting the office with that of the Stipendiary Magistrate was considered, and it was deliberately resolved that no such union should take place. He considered that the course pursued was uprooting one of the fundamental laws that had governed the Anglo Saxon race for a thousand years. The House had transmitted the Estimates, and according to the Hon. Speaker those Estimates had been graciously received. The hon. gentleman read the following correspondence, and concluded by demanding a full investigation, as he considered the action of the Executive a direct attempt, for paltry considerations, to intimidate the members of the House in the discharge of their duty (hear, hear).

Colonial Secretary's Office.

1st February, 1866.

Sir,—I am distressed by the Governor to acquaint you that as part of a general scheme of retrenchment which His Excellency is now carrying out, he has decided to impose the duties of Coroner for the districts of Victoria and Esquimalt, and for the districts lying adjacent thereto, upon the Stipendiary Magistrate of Victoria, without fees, and that therefore His Excellency is under the necessity of dispensing with your further services, in the separate capacity of Coroner for those districts. His Excellency has consequently annulled and revoked your warrant of appointment, which ceases from this date to be of any force or effect, as will be seen from the enclosed certified copy of the instrument of revocation.

2. I am to request you will be good enough to hand over at your earliest convenience to the Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Pemberton, the public books and other government property now in your possession, and also the records and documents connected with the office you have held, passing the usual delivery and receipt vouchers for the same.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient and humble servant,

WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG.

James Dickson, Esq., M.D., &c.

INSTRUMENT OF REVOCATION.

By His Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy, Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies, &c., &c.

To all to whom these present shall come, or whom the same may concern.

WHEREAS—Whereas a warrant was issued dated the ninth day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty, under the hand and seal of the Governor of the Colony of Vancouver Island, nominating and appointing James Dickson, Esquire, M.D., to act as Coroner for the Districts of Victoria and Esquimalt, and for the districts adjacent thereto; and whereas, other provision has been made for the performance of the duties of Coroner, in the districts as aforesaid; now know ye, that by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, I, Arthur Edward Kennedy, Governor of the Colony of Vancouver Island, as aforesaid, do hereby recall and revoke the said before-mentioned warrant, and declare it to be null and void, from and after the date hereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal at Victoria, Vancouver

Island, the first day of February, A. D. 1866, and in the 20th year of Her Majesty's reign. [L. S.] (Signed) A. E. KENNEDY, Governor.

By His Excellency's command, (Signed) WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG, Colonial Secretary.

Mr. McClure seconded the resolution. He believed it was the well understood principle of Representative Government that where the people's representatives deliberately laid down a scheme, that scheme must be carried out, unless it be proved unconstitutional. A certain sum amounting to \$1000 was placed by the Executive on the Estimates for coroner's fees and expenses of inquests. The House thought fit under its scheme of retrenchment to reduce it to \$800; but the Executive had virtually ignored the whole amount. The question then was—Did the Executive send down a sum for the House to vote for the Coroner which it never meant to expend? If so, it was trifling with serious subjects, and lowering the dignity of the Government by indulging in freaks and whims. It was treating the members like so many children to say that, after they had spent time in discussing estimates sent down to them, it was not intended these estimates should be put into effect. It was the duty of the Executive when any expenditure recommended by itself had been voted to endeavor to carry it out. If the House allowed the Executive to set at defiance, as it had done in this instance, the deliberate vote of the Assembly, the representative institutions of the Colony would then become a dead letter (hear, hear).

Mr. Carwell remarked that it looked as if the Executive were playing a game of echeck, and as if the Executive would get echecked. (Laughter.)

Mr. DeCosmos's motion was carried without a dissentient voice.

FINANCIAL RETURNS.

Mr. Duncan rose before considering the question of ways and means to move that the standing orders be suspended, that he might move for returns of revenue and expenditure.

The rules of the House were accordingly suspended, and Mr. Duncan's motion, of which the following is a copy, was submitted: "That a respectful address be presented to His Excellency requesting that he will cause to be laid upon the table of this House an account of the financial condition of the colony, with an account of the monies received from the various sources of revenue; also an account of the expenditure according to the various appropriations."

Mr. McClure seconded, believing it advisable that the House should be informed upon the matters referred to before going into the question of Ways and Means.

The motion was passed.

INVESTMENT SOCIETY.

Dr. Powell gave notice of motion to encourage the establishment of Investment Saving Societies.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. Cochrane rose to a question of privilege and of justice. A communication signed "Mosquito," had appeared in one of the morning papers (the Chronicle) containing not only reflections upon the members of the House—reflections which however were unworthy of notice—but casting unfair and unjust reflections on the Clerk of the House, a member whose position precluded him from taking it up. The paragraph read as follows:

"Let each individual of the Club initiate an appropriation to save himself or his friends; let the officer who is dependent on the Club for his salary audit the accounts, and God help the public."

The tenor of that remark was to make it appear that the Clerk occupied a false position [hear] and he would venture to say that all members of the House whatever might be their political views would agree with him that the Clerk fulfilled most satisfactorily the duties that he owed to the House, and was wholly independent of any Club or any member of the House. He thought it most cowardly and most unfair to attack the Clerk in print in that manner when he could not defend himself [hear, hear, from all the members.]

Mr. DeCosmos—Oh, I don't think anybody minds what appears in that paper regarding the Estimates.

Mr. Carwell rose to propose that the sum of \$606 be paid to Mr. J. C. Colquhoun for compensation for dismissal from the public service without notice.

The motion was ruled to be out of order and the House adjourned until Monday at one p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FRIDAY, Feb. 24, 1866.

Council met at 3 p.m. Present—The Hon. Colonial Secretary (presiding), Attorney General, Surveyor-General, Donald Fraser and H. Rhodes.

POSTAL SERVICE BILL.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the recommitment of this bill to reconsider the amendment passed during his absence, adding the words "without present salary or emolument." He entirely objected to the bill being passed with the additions of those words and gave his reasons for dissenting to the proposed means of tying down the hands of the Executive.

Hon. Donald Fraser opposed the motion and moved the third reading of the bill. He had before given his reasons for his views and would not repeat them. The fact was he did not care about entering into the question of the present state of the colony. He was in favor of giving the Governor power over postal matters, but still advocated retaining the clause. He had since ascertained that the postal revenue would not pay for the services. There was no complaint that he could learn against the present postoffice and to be plain, the country could not, and would not bear any further expense. He would like to know who had made any money last year. The profits of the merchants and traders and the rents received by land owners would not come up to the expenses of the Government.

Hon. Treasurer seconded the recommitment of the bill and took exception to the startling figures that had been furnished by the Hon. Mr. Fraser which were altogether erroneous. He was not prepared to go into figures himself, but he would say that the expense of

collection of the taxes which come within his province was two and three-quarters per cent. The trades transactions were five million dollars. He questioned the source from whence the Hon. gentleman had obtained his information.

Some discussion followed between the two Hon. gentlemen on revenue and expenditure. Hon. Attorney General said there were other sources of profit not taken into consideration, the first, for instance, which spent some £150,000 annually.

Hon. Surveyor General—The Suttley alone spends £20,000 a year.

The Hon. Mr. Rhodes seconded the third reading, as he believed that the bill would not otherwise pass.

A lengthy discussion ensued in the course of which the Hon. D. Fraser reviewed the history of the bill last session when it was thrown out by the Assembly, and said although another reason was then assigned to him, he had since learnt what he did not know when he introduced the present amendment, that the real objection was that an office was to be created for a favorite. That circumstance however would not have affected his amendment as he made it purely on the ground of the state of the country necessitating it.

The Hon. Chief Justice and R. Finlayson having entered, the former urged the recommitment of the bill and the expunging of the words, believing the Council were really all of the same opinion on the subject.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary again repeated the assurances he had several times before given and the necessity for a postal system. He demurred to the Council endorsing a kind of suspicion, that the amendment created, against the good faith of the Executive, after the guarantees that had been given.

The Hon. Surveyor General said he had been in favor of the amendment, but after the explanations given and opinions expressed by the Hon. Chief Justice, Colonial Secretary, and the Attorney-General, and the assurances given by officers of the Government, that it was not intended to create further expense, he thought it was going down the hands of the Executive too much to let the clause pass, and he should favor the recommitment.

On a division the recommitment was carried and the amendment expunged.

Contents—Hons. Colonial Secretary, At. General, Treasurer, and Surveyor General.

Non-Contents—Hons. Donald Fraser, R. Finlayson, H. Rhodes.

BILLS OF SALE ACT.

This bill came up for a third reading. The Hon. Mr. Fraser made a few remarks in respect to the bill, its object and effect, and was followed by

The Hon. Chief Justice in a forcible speech. He strongly opposed the bill on the grounds that it paralyzed credit, and hindered capital coming into the Colony; that it protected the fraudulent debtor to the detriment of an innocent creditor; that it gave the dishonest debtor the duplex power of really pledging property to one creditor while pledging the credit to another, so that one innocent man must suffer. The tendency, said his Lordship, of all legislation since he had arrived in the Colony was to protect the fraudulent debtor, by means of slight or otherwise, instead of affording additional security to trade, and he now learnt that a bill was on its way to the Council that would give the debtor a most comfortable "nest egg" (hear, hear). His honor urged the rejection of the bill with some warmth.

The Hon. Donald Fraser made some practical and sensible remarks about the necessity of making real and moveable property equally marketable and merchantable in a new country, to afford increased facilities to commercial enterprise, but the bill was eventually thrown out.

Council adjourned till Monday at 2 p.m.

DISCHARGED OFFICIALS.—Notice has been received, we learn, from the Governor by the following Government employes, in addition to the Coroner, that their services are no longer required:—Mr. J. T. Pidwell, Superintendent of Roads; Mr. J. B. Harries, Clerk in the Surveyor General's Department; Mr. Fowler, second Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Department; Mr. Hayes, Messenger do.; Colonel Foster, Magistrate at Sooke; and Mr. Theobald, Clerk to the Attorney General. What disposition has been made with the Magistrate and Clerk at Nanaimo and the Governor's Private Secretary, Assessor, Registrar and other officers, whose salaries were disallowed by the House, we have not been able to ascertain. In the Police Department the Superintendent, Mr. Hankin, and Inspector Welsh are retained, the only difference being some change in the disposition of the force, the former is made Inspector and the latter Sergeant. The Clerk to the Treasurer, Mr. Jackson, whose salary was disallowed by the House, is retained, he being directed, it is said, to assume the duties of an older officer in the Surveyor General's office for whom provision was made, but who has been dismissed, like the Coroner, without cause being assigned. It is rumored that one or two of those whose offices have been disapproved with will be retained, under some pretext or another. There is but one expression of opinion out of doors in regard to the course being adopted by the Executive in showing favoritism to some and visiting its wrath on unoffending parties to gratify private spleen, which will materially hasten the impending crisis. So far as retaining any office under Government as at present constituted is concerned, it is patent to all that *Le jeu n'en vaut pas la chandelle*, but the public will not stand by quietly and see those who have served them faithfully dismissed without cause, to make room for Executive favorites.

COLORED TROOPS.—From the annual report of the Secretary of War it appears that the whole number of colored men enlisted into the service of the United States during the rebellion was 178,975. The largest number in service at any one time was on the 15th July, 1865, viz., 123,186. The losses among these troops during the war from all causes (except such as were mastered out) was 68,178. The number still in the service is 85,024.—Oregonian.

Tuesday, February 6, 1866

Our London Correspondent

LONDON, Dec. 1

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS. On Sunday last, the 10th instant, at 12 o'clock, Leopold I, who ages will designate as the "Sage" at Laeken near Brussels, surrounded Belgian Royal family, Ministers and other Court officials. The late I. beer breaking in health for some time, but until a few weeks before his death immediate danger was anticipated. Europe, no less than in England, has been and still is the one great prominently discussed above all other Thursday the 14th the Lord Chancellor issued orders for the Court to go into and this is to continue till Jan. The Deputy Earl Marshall also issued other stating that Her Majesty expressed to put themselves in mourning days commencing from the 14th Belgian Senate on Thursday, the 14th officially announcing the decease of I. presented an address to the new Duc de Brabant in the streets of London announcing their loyalty to him and sing the sincere wishes of the people for his King's death that the event it occurred would throw the whole of into confusion on account of the statistics in that little kingdom; but if in this event has consolidated the more more securely than ever, and politics has been sunk in the general mourning sincere sorrow which is manifested Emperor of the French has telegraphed to Leopold II, intimating that he may the help and continuation of France, visting to follow in the steps of his The funeral takes place to-day at Windsor, Prince of Wales, the Crown Prince of Prussia, Louis of Hesse, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and a host of other celebrities will be present.

THE QUEEN. "Another funeral!" That is the amongst the officials and servants Court, whenever the Queen visits the leum at Frogmore where the remains Prince Consort rests. On Thursday being the fourth anniversary of his there was the usual visitation and a service performed within this building which Her Majesty and the Royal family attended. On her return to the Castle once shut herself up in the closest retirement for the rest of the day, having given that the tomb should be left open for inspection, of which hundreds availed selves much more out of curiosity than sorrow. With respect to the absurdities for Her Majesty opening Parliament in person, that the Royal robes placed over the Chair of State a Chancellor read the Speech, a good has been passed to this effect, Peers and Peersesses be requested to in morning costume, to former to their robes upon their left arm, which Chancellor's wig is to be carried, Sword of State or deposited on the Wall as may be determined before the day. Everybody is in fits of laughter absurdity of a chair being made the of the regal costume, and not a few avow that, if Her Majesty desired to monarohy into contempt she could not effectually do so than by giving way to cranky feelings. In the meanwhile the ness between mother and son grows, as be remarked by the absence of the P wholly from the ceremony of Thursday the Prince going down to Windsor at his father's tomb after the ceremony at the rest of the family were present. proposed marriage between the Pr Helena and the Duke of Augustenburgh, is to come off in June through the mentality of the Prussian Court, is de at Marlborough House, and there are few who are doing their "little best" the flame. It is very sad, but a great suit to Denmark could not have been and no wonder the Princess of Wales feel annoyed.

Parliament will be opened February The political prospects are much distressed. That the Government will attempt a Bill is certain, and it is as certain the will be beaten. It is then thought Earl Clarendon will patch up a combi ministry to tide over the session and 1867. Then the political pack of cards be again shuffled, but who will ministers no one can speculate upon. meanwhile the Estimate Boards have menced their labors and the estimates present year are now being prepared. wilder rumors are afloat as to the the new government mean to press Parliament. Only to-day I have been that in the Navy alone it will be four million Without calling upon any one to believe I can nevertheless say with certainty tduction will be something considerable officials at present do not know the amount. The Government too, with last two or three days, have sent ro circular in one of the largest depart calling on those of the officials who wish to retire on certain specified term signifying their intention at once. This tainly looks as if some large scheme of omy is intended.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE. So far from diminishing, I regret deep have to tell you that this fearful disease spreading right and left. Very few dist are now free from it, and the destructi the animals, both by the visitation and crimate slaughter, is terrible. Not standing the number of Orders in Coun the instructions of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and the advice given various other agricultural and scientific stockowners do not even now appear to prehend the magnitude and imminence of danger. None of the various measures erto proposed and adopted have proved quate to arrest, or even materially to c the rapid spread of the disorder. From returns issued by the Veterinary Depart of the Privy Council Office for the ending December 2, it appears that the number of new cases reported was 3

The Weekly British Colonist

Tuesday, February 6, 1866.

Our London Correspondence.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, Dec. 16, 1865.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

On Sunday last, the 10th instant, at a quarter to 12 o'clock, Leopold I, whom future ages will designate as the "Sage" expired at Laeken near Brussels, surrounded by the Belgian Royal family, Ministers of State, and other Court officials. The late King had been breaking in health for some time past, but until a few weeks before his decease no immediate danger was anticipated. All over Europe, no less than in England, this event has been and still is the one great subject prominently discussed above all others. On Thursday the 14th the Lord Chamberlain issued orders for the Court to go into mourning and this is to continue till January 4th. The Deputy Earl Marshall also issued another stating that Her Majesty expects all persons to put themselves in mourning for ten days commencing from the 14th. The Belgian Senate on Thursday, the 10th, after officially announcing the decease of Leopold I, presented an address to the new King, the Duc de Brabant in the streets of Brussels, announcing their loyalty to him and expressing the sincere wishes of the people to support his throne. It was greatly feared before the old King's death that the event whenever it occurred would throw the whole of Belgium into confusion on account of the state of parties in that little kingdom; but if anything this event has consolidated the monarchy more securely than ever, and political feeling has been sunk in the general mourning and sincere sorrow which is manifested. The Emperor of the French has telegraphed also to Leopold II, intimating that he may expect the help and countenance of France, and advising to follow in the steps of his father. The funeral takes place to-day at which the Prince of Wales, the Crown Prince of Prussia, Prince Louis of Hesse, Prince Joineville, and a host of other celebrities will be present.

TO SUCCEED THE QUEEN.

"Another funeral!" That is the saying amongst the officials and servants of the Court, whenever the Queen visits the mausoleum at Frogmore where the remains of the Prince Consort rests. On Thursday the 14th being the fourth anniversary of his death, there was the usual visitation and a solemn service performed within this building, at which Her Majesty and the Royal family attended. On her return to the Castle she at once shut herself up in the closest retirement for the rest of the day, having given orders that the tomb should be left open for public inspection, of which hundreds availed themselves much more out of curiosity than of sorrow. With respect to the absurd directions for Her Majesty opening Parliament in person, that the Royal robes shall be placed over the Chair of State and the Chancellor read the Speech, a good skit has been passed to this effect, "that Peers and Peereesses be requested to attend in morning costume, the former to carry their robes upon their left arm, whilst the Chancellor's wig is to be carried on the Sword of State or deposited on the Woolpack, as may be determined before the opening day. Everybody is in fits of laughter at the absurdity of a chair being made the recipient of the regal costume, and not a few openly avow that, if Her Majesty desired to bring monarchy into contempt she could not more effectually do so than by giving way to such cranky feelings. In the meanwhile the coldness between mother and son grows, as may be remarked by the absence of the Princess wholly from the ceremony of Thursday, and the Prince going down to Windsor and to his father's tomb after the ceremony at which the rest of the family were present. The proposed marriage between the Princess Helena and the Duke of Augustenburgh, which is to come off in June through the instrumentality of the Prussian Court, is detested at Marlborough House, and there are not a few who are doing their "little best" to fan the flame. It is very sad, but a greater insult to Denmark could not have been offered, and no wonder the Princess of Wales should feel annoyed.

Parliament will be opened February 4th. The political prospects are much discussed. That the Government will attempt a Reform Bill is certain, and it is as certain that they will be beaten. It is then thought that Earl Clarendon will patch up a combination ministry to tide over the session and last till 1867. Then the political pack of cards will be again shuffled, but who will turn up ministers no one can speculate upon. In the meanwhile the Estimate Boards have commenced their labors and the estimates for the present year are now being prepared. The wildest rumors are afloat as to the savings the new government mean to present to Parliament. Only to-day I have been told that in the Navy alone it will be four millions. Without selling upon any one to believe this, I can nevertheless say with certainty the reduction will be something considerable—the officials at present do not know the exact amount. The Government too, within the last two or three days, have sent round a circular in one of the largest departments, calling on those of the officials who may wish to retire on certain specified terms to signify their intention at once. This certainly looks as if some large scheme of economy is intended.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

So far from diminishing, I regret deeply to have to tell you that this fearful disease is spreading right and left. Very few districts are now free from it, and the destruction of the animals, both by the visitation and indiscriminate slaughter, is terrible. Notwithstanding the number of Orders in Council, the instructions of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and the advice given by various other agricultural and scientific bodies, stockowners do not even now appear to comprehend the magnitude and imminence of the danger. None of the various measures hitherto proposed and adopted have proved adequate to arrest, or even materially to check the rapid spread of the disorder. From the returns issued by the Veterinary Department of the Privy Council Office for the week ending December 2, it appears that the total number of new cases reported was 3828,

being an increase of 218 as compared with the previous week. In England the total number was 2521, in Wales 116, and in Scotland 1191, being an increase of 678 in England, a decrease in Wales of 69, and in Scotland of 391, the decrease in the latter being probably accounted for from the fact that returns had not been received from the county of Stirling for week ending December 2, at the time the report was made up. The plague is still very virulent in the districts described as being the worst in last week's returns. The total number of diseased animals reported since the commencement of the plague is as follows:—Attacked, 39,714; killed, 10,787; died, 19,936; recovered, 2909; remaining, 6082.

FENIANISM.

In Ireland this "oraze" is pretty well stamped out. Every promoter of rebellion who has been brought to trial, after the most searching examination and fair treatment, has been punished with twenty and ten years of penal servitude. Only in one instance has the sentence been for life, against O'Donovan Rossa, who had previously been imprisoned for sedition in 1859. The "chief centre" Stephens, who broke prison, got clean away, and has not since been heard of. The report of the spread of this modern "tempest in a teapot" in Canada turns out to have been exaggerated, the information having been supplied by agents of the malcontents.

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

It has been well received here, the prevalent opinion being that whilst "the right man is in the right place" President Johnson could hardly have said less, and might have said much more. Of course his observations are picked to pieces, especially with reference to what he says about England having admitted the existence of belligerent rights, but the feeling engendered by the document is one of satisfaction, affording assurance that peaceable relations between the two countries will not be broken.

NEW ZEALAND.

The affairs of New Zealand are as critical if not more so than ever, as there are no signs of the termination of the war. The Governor's peace proclamation was only laughed at, and the first messenger who took copies out to the insurgent natives was murdered. Mr. Broughton, an interpreter, has also been murdered. The native chiefs have had a warlike meeting at which they expressed their determination to retake the Waikato territory.

A TRIP UP NORTH.

DIARY OF THE OTTER.

We left Victoria, January 4th, at four o'clock, p.m., on the H.B.C. steamer Otter; anchored in Plumper Pass at 12; started at 8 o'clock next morning for the capital of British Columbia, the ship's boat going ahead throwing the line and feeling our way; moving at a snail's pace and threading our passage through the labyrinth of intricacies which so zealously guard the approach to Fraser river, we reached New Westminster. Never was the unspeakable folly of compelling vessels to make this tedious and tortuous journey more apparent. Here was the time of thirty men, having no other business here, consumption of fuel, interest on capital invested in ship and cargo, involving hundreds of dollars, wasted—serving no purpose except to exhibit the indifference of the British Columbia authorities to the development of their own resources and the suicidal policy of separate Governments.

Passing over the usual monotonous details of the diary, with its enumeration of head winds, high seas, sea sickness, etc., we left New Westminster at 2 o'clock and arrived at Nanaimo at 11 p.m., to take in coal; business here, though limited, seemed to be healthy.

Left Nanaimo at 2 o'clock on the 6th, and arrived at Fort Rupert at 3 o'clock on 7th, where we were kindly received by Mr. Compton, H.B.C. Agent, who is a fine fellow, good talker and quite hospitable; spent a pleasant evening; the Rev. Mr. Gribbell, Mr. Tronoe and myself visited the Indian ranches and viewed the destruction caused by H.M.S. Clio a few days before; a portion of their houses had been burned down, shells had perforated many that were left standing, exhibiting apertures as large as a dinner plate, where the missiles of death had passed through. They told piteous tales of losses of food, oil, blankets, and some seventy canoes; the refusal to give up two of their number charged with murdering a slave was the cause of the attack, but the innocent suffered far more than the guilty.

Left Fort Rupert at 12 a.m. on the 8th; passed Galiano Island, through Galeo Channel, leaving Cape Scott (the most northerly point of Vancouver Island) to our left, into Queen Charlotte Sound; after several days detention from "stress of weather" having to anchor in Cansuabaw and adjacent inlets on the coast of Queen Charlotte Island we made Skidegate Straits and anchored in Cowitz Harbor, the site of the Queen Charlotte Coal Company's works at 3 o'clock p.m. on the 13th. We found a spacious harbor well sheltered, with good depth of water, comfortable and commodious buildings erected, and the enterprise progressing finely; after remaining six days to enable the directors to transact their business and to ship coal, &c., we weighed anchor at 8 o'clock on the 19th, destined for Fort Simpson; on Saturday, the 20th, made Steven's Island, the weather piercing cold, our ship resembling a floating iceberg. While waiting for the seas to subside we visited four Indians, who upon coming along side proved to be Mr. Duncan's proteges belonging to Metlakahla, who were on a hunting expedition, and had thirteen deer and some ducks; took them aboard; started on the 22d and made the Chimesan Peninsula; stopped off Metlakahla, where the Rev. Mr. Gribbell and Captain McNeal disembarked; stood on our way and reached Fort Simpson at 4 p.m. Mr. Moffat, the Company's agent at this point is relieved by Mr. Madson, who came up with us; the fort buildings exhibit a good state of preservation, and the interior is quite neat and pleasant; there is quite a large camp here, and the houses of the Indians seem better built than others that we have seen, occasionally by revelling in the luxury of a

window sash; having three days to remain here we concluded to inspect them more closely; accordingly Messrs. Tronoe, Robinson and myself under the leadership of our obliging friend Dr. Tolmie, paid them a visit. They seemed glad to see us and commenced to show us their "tea pots," i.e., their certificates of recommendations which they have received from traders and others, and which they prize very highly; some of them had been written forty years; some of a very complimentary character, others doubtful and advising you to be watchful, in language more emphatic than polite—such as "This is a d—m rascal, look out for him;" but they hand you either with equal confidence. Started for Metlakahla on the 26th at 10 a.m., arrived at one p.m. Receiving a kind invitation to breakfast from Mr. Duncan, the Missionary, we seated ourselves in a frail bark and beneath a pitiless rain were conveyed to the Mission house; breakfast being over Mr. Duncan suggested that we make the most of our short stay; the bell having been rung, about 60 juveniles assembled in the school room to go through exercises in singing, which were accomplished in a very creditable manner; the most of the older boys were assisting their parents in wooding the ship, hence we could not witness exercises of a more advanced character. The houses of the people here both in their exterior decoration and interior appointments have the impress of an advance in civilization superior to anything we had observed among Indians before; they generally speak tolerable English, some quite fluently; they idolize Mr. Duncan, who has their confidence to a remarkable degree, exhibiting a happy exemplification of the power of kindness and justice over the Indian character. They have mechanics of different kinds, hunters, and laborers; by an admirable system they are kept employed and paid in cash for the labor they perform; there are no drunkards or prostitutes. Mr. Duncan has certainly done a noble work during the seven or eight years he has been among them, and deserves the thanks of every friend of humanity for his earnestness, devotion, and efficiency. Rev. Frank Gribbell, a fellow-passenger on a flying visit to Metlakahla, will hereafter be an associate of Mr. Duncan in his missionary labors; Mr. G. preached on last Sabbath at the Queen Charlotte Company's Works, and is a young man of fine parts and good promise, and will no doubt be a valuable assistant.

Left Metlakahla at 8 a.m. on the 28th; derangement of machinery compelling us to anchor at the north end of Grenville Channel to-day being Sunday Mr. Gribbell discoursed fervently and practically upon the text "Who is my neighbor?" Monday, 29th—Got through Grenville Channel and entered a similar one formed by Princess Royal Island and the main land; weather pleasant with the exception of an occasional shower of rain, sleet or hail; we here had a splendid view of one of the many waterfalls with which the lofty mountains, hundreds of miles on either side of these channels, abound. As far up as the eye could behold, apparently having its source in the clouds, came gushing an impetuous volume of water, widening as it fell on step-like tables or benches in the mountain side, presenting a broad sheet of pearly foam only distinguishable by its animation from the snow clad foliage that everywhere surrounded it.

Tuesday, 30th—Made a good run to-day; crossed Millbank Sound through Fisher's Channel, Fishburn and Queen Charlotte Sounds; leaving Newwiti to the right, we passed into Galeo Channel and anchored in Beaver Harbor, Fort Rupert, at 2 o'clock a.m. on the 31st; weighed anchor at 11 a.m. and were under weigh for Nanaimo; passed the rapids at 12 and arrived at Nanaimo at 9 o'clock a.m. February 1st, where we remained an hour and left for Victoria.

While at Fort Rupert we were joined by Mr. Moss, the Indian agent for British Columbia. Mr. Moss seems quite conversant with localities and "prospects" of the mineral deposits of the North. He exhibited a variety of specimens which look well, but not being intimately acquainted with "Mr. Rock," I can only be hopeful.

In witnessing the thousands of miles of water frontage from Fort Simpson to Burrard's Inlet, and the towering mountains of sandstone, slates, quartz and granite—with the evidence on every hand of immense upheaval by volcanic action, we cannot rid ourselves of the conviction that they are the depositories of untold mineral wealth; while at their base nature seems to have cut a continuous canal in the creation of small islands in an broken line along their front, seeming to say "this shall be your highway, this your means of carriage."

Let us hope then that by pursuing an enlightened policy, concentrating our energies by the Union of the Colonies we shall be able among other desirable achievements to obtain a geological survey of the united colonies—that the Queen Charlotte coal enterprise, so fairly launched, and having such brilliant prospects, may be but one of a kindred kind for the development of the latent resources of the country. I can only close this desultory sketch by thanking Captain Swanson, who by his urbanity and vigilance contributed so much towards making the trip agreeable. G. W. M.

From Queen Charlotte Island.

ARRIVAL OF THE OTTER

The steamer Otter, Capt. Swanson, arrived on Thursday from her trip to Queen Charlotte Island and stations on the Northwest Coast of British Columbia, having been absent 28 days. On board were Dr. Tolmie, M.L.A. of the H. B. Co., Messrs. Tronoe and Gibbs, Directors of the Queen Charlotte Coal Co., Mr. Robinson, Overseer, Capt. Loudon and others. The tenor of the news brought by these gentlemen from the mine is very satisfactory. The Otter has on board some 20 tons anthracite coal. Operations were being pushed forward with vigor and the prospects were considered highly gratifying. The workmen were all in good health and spirits. The weather had been rough and unfavorable for the prosecution of work. The report of the visiting directors to the Board will no doubt be made immediately, and will be looked forward to with considerable interest. We present our readers elsewhere with an interesting diary of the voyage, kindly supplied by a gentleman who accompanied the expedition.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

News from the Interior

LATER FROM CARIBOO.

The steamer Enterprise arrived Thursday from New Westminster with 20 passengers. Navigation was open to New Westminster. Bernard's Express from Lytton had got down.

From Mr. T. Buie, who travelled with Bernard in the Express Sleigh from Lytton to Boston Bar, we learn that a few hours after arrival at Boston Bar on the 27th, the Hudson Bay party bound to Kamloops, under the charge of Mr. Thompson, arrived, having been three days from Yale, and obliged to make their own path through the snow. No communication had taken place between the two points for eight days previously. They had had a very hard time of it owing to the severity of the weather.

The heavy rains which had fallen had the effect of raising the river, in some places to within two feet of high water mark, the greatest height known at this season of the year. Had it not been for the rains the river would not have been open for several weeks. There were no late arrivals from up above. Captain Irving intends starting for Yale on Saturday.

The Harrison River was frozen more intensely than was ever known before. The rapids were even frozen solid.

Mr. Faujas, who has a place twelve miles past the head of Shuswap Lake on the route to Columbia River, had engaged twenty Indians at Lytton to go up and pack goods in from his place to Columbia River and Big Bend.

A trader from Yale who went up to the Bonaparte to buy barley had had his nose and cheeks badly frost-bitten. Several others had also suffered from the effect of the frost.

Bill Moore and his party passed through Lytton on the 15th to build a boat on Kamloops to carry some forty tons over the lakes. Mr. McKay, who was met near Yale, did not anticipate that the steamer would be ready before the 1st May.

(From the British Columbian.)

By Bernard's Express from Barkerville, Williams Creek, direct, and which reached Yale on the 10th inst., we have been favored with the following items:

A charter, on favorable terms, has been granted by the Gold Commissioner to a number of the principal mining companies to construct a bed rock drain, commencing at the head of the old bed rock drain and extending to the mouth of the canyon. This work will drain all the principal claims on the creek and enable a vast extent of new ground to be worked which has hitherto been unavailable. The drain will be completed by the 1st July. Adair & Co. have commenced clearing out the old drain to facilitate the work on the new one, and a large number of men are getting out timbers for the new drain.

The census of Williams Creek was taken on the 1st inst. by order of the Commissioner, showing the population to be 720. The whole population of Cariboo East is 1046 persons.

The Alturus, Floyd, High-low-Jack, Pioneer, Taffale, Jenkins, and Emory Companies, on Stout's Gulch, are at work, and their claims are prospecting well.

A new company have started a tunnel up Conklin's Gulch.

On Williams Creek the Foster Campbell Co. are sinking a new shaft.

A company are driving a tunnel into the hill abreast of the Barker claim with every indication of success.

Another tunnel is being run into the hill above Richfield under the direction of Mr. Andrew Swain.

The Borealis Co. have struck \$4 to the pan and are in high glee.

New life has been infused into the Williams Creek Bedrock Flume. The old foreman, Mr. William Millar, is in charge, and has about 25 men employed and is driving on the work at a very satisfactory rate.

The quartz ledge on Bald Mountain is creating considerable interest, and ground in the vicinity is being eagerly taken up. It is reported that the Government has offered a premium for the erection of the first quartz mill in Cariboo. Considerable prospecting is being done on outside creeks, in some instances not without encouraging results. A general feeling of confidence in next season's operations pervades the mining population.

The community have enjoyed an entire immunity from sickness; but the same cannot be said of "accident and sudden death." A man named James Hamilton dropped dead on the 30th ult., while working at his claim. He was highly esteemed, and his remains were followed to the "cold grave" by several hundred people. Samuel Crane, of Lowhee, who cut his foot very severely some weeks ago, and whose life was at one time despaired of, is recovering. The conduct of the miners on the creek is spoken of as very exemplary in extending to the sufferer all the aid and comfort in their power. Drs. Bell and Brown were in attendance.

The weather on Williams Creek was exceedingly fine. The mercury, between the 1st and 9th January, did not fall more than 80 below zero, and on the 5th at noon it rose to 40.

The markets are abundantly supplied, and prices for staples are low.

The roads are in excellent condition, and sleighing good, with the exception of a portion of Lake La Hache. On the 17th the mercury fell 30° below zero, and in the Green Timber 40°, and on the following day it was frozen. Nearly three feet of snow had fallen in the cañons, but was giving way under the influence of the recent heavy rains. Mr. Thompson, foreman of the party going to Lake Shuswap to build the steamer, was carried by a snow-slide over a bank 30 feet high, and precipitated close to the edge of the river. He escaped without injury.

LICENSING COURT.

[Before the Honorary Magistrate, Mayor Franklin and Thomas Harris Esq.]

TRANSFERS.

Royal Hotel,—Tracer & Spruce, to Sophy Hill, granted.

Queens Saloon,—Piacentelli, to Smith, granted.

Kings Head,—W. C. King, to C. B. Scammell, granted.

Victoria Hotel,—M. Rowland, to G. Richardson, granted.

Patrick's Saloon,—Executors of Thomas Patrick deceased, to J. R. Robertson, granted.

Carroll's House, Yates street,—Michael Carey, to Joseph Carey, permission to sell for one month, granted.

Miner's Exchange,—Assignees of Joe Morris to Tom O'Connor. Granted.

Burnside—Rowland for Victoria House. Granted.

Aderson for house on Burnside Road. Granted.

Saanich—Peterborough Hall. Application for a license for Mrs. Lind. Postponed for one month.

ANSWER TO MOUNTAINEER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir,—I observe," says "Mountaineer," writing to the British Columbian, "in one of the brilliant communications of the Colonist's itinerant correspondents, that that sapient authority is dissatisfied at the action of Mr. Cox in not laying over claims before last November. Now, in the opinion of all sensible miners here the Commissioner was quite right; indeed many think that claims should not be laid over at all except for special cause, and it is well known that hitherto many claims have stopped work by the end of September that could have worked profitably at least one or two months longer, if not all winter."

Does "Mountaineer" candidly expect to serve Judge Cox by putting him on the back in such a manner? God save us from such friends; as Lafontaine says, "it is better to have to deal with a generous foe than with a foolish friend." Though I do not want to say anything disparaging about Judge Cox, I do not believe any more in his infallibility than in that of any other man, *errare humanum est*. I think I shall better serve Judge Cox's interests by speaking the truth in plain terms than by bestowing on him unmerited praise by way of sycophancy as "Mountaineer" seems disposed to do. The Gold Commissioner may have served the purposes of some merchants in Cariboo, but he has incurred the discontent of many hardy miners who on their way down gave vent to their feelings in most unreserved terms, as I stated in a previous communication.

Acting as your correspondent, I thought it was within my province to make myself the interpreter of other people's griefs, though breathing friendly feelings towards Judge Cox. A correspondent, in my humble opinion, should be a mirror reflecting the opinions of other people as well as his own. The individual who has not moral courage enough to do so, for fear of incurring displeasure, ought never to wield a pen.

Does "Mountaineer" substantiate his arguments by one single fact? No. We find in his letter nothing but empty words—mere assumptions. Does he tell us how many companies are at work washing out gold? how many men, out of a population of 1046 who reside in Cariboo East according to his own statement, find steady, remunerative employment? Are there one-half or one-quarter? Can he even give us the names of two hundred?

I have spent myself a whole winter in Cariboo prospecting hard. At the end of the season I was \$700 worse off than at the beginning. I did not hear at the time of any company working steadily but the Galedonia, besides this company and a few other miners, the rest were all strapped like myself. The fact is obvious to every miner that work on a large scale is out of the question during the winter, owing to the freezing of the water and ground. Two weeks previous to the laying over of claims all companies stopped working on Cunningham Creek, and such, most unfortunately, was the case with most of those mining on the other creeks.

"Mountaineer" goes on to say, "the owners however having made some money in the summer were too anxious to spend it on the pleasures of Victoria and too often came back in the Spring dead-broke." From the latter part of this sentence we would be led to infer that "Mountaineer" is a very kind hearted individual were it not in manifest contradiction with the former, in which he gives vent to his spite because "we spend our money on the pleasures of Victoria," whilst he, poor fellow, risks the discomforts of a Cariboo winter. How do you pity him? Now let me ask "Mountaineer" in earnest, does not a miner bear on his forehead the stamp of a free man, and if so, has he not a right to spend his money where and how he pleases? If miners return back dead-broke, are the most part of those who risk the discomforts of a Cariboo winter better off. The greatest number are involved in debt working all summer to pay them off.

The funniest part of "Mountaineer's" Quixotic epistle is its conclusion where, in an unguarded moment, he shows where the shoe pinches him. "Of course," says he, "Victorians think it very wrong that there should be any alteration in so despicable a state of affairs and feel indignant at a thousand men presuming to stop in Cariboo, thus cheating them out of legitimate perquisites." Let me inform "Mountaineer" that miners do not come here to benefit Victorians, but to enjoy themselves after a campaign of hard toil. Nothing prevents him from coming down and doing the same; but let him have charity enough with others for so doing, and if the poor miner is to be looked upon as a *milk cow* as the writer seems to insinuate in his concluding sentence, for God's sake let him have the choice of the milk, no matter whether he may be called a Victorian or a Cariboo merchant. Will "Mountaineer" object to giving his proper name instead of shielding it under a *nom de plume*. Comedians often assume the parts of generals on the stage, and so many wolves roam about now-a-days in sheep's clothing that I feel like St. Thomas.

In the hope that my request will be complied with I wish "Mountaineer" good luck among the discomforts of a Cariboo winter.

B. D.

Tuesday, February 6, 1866.

THE RATIONALE OF THE PARASITES.

"No reformation" says a celebrated writer, "is so hazardous as that of retrenchment; it forces the corrupt to give a practical assent to a system which they outwardly extol, but inwardly execrate. Never was there a more correct aphorism, and never was there a better illustration of the sentiment than the feeling which is evinced by the enemies of the public good at present on Vancouver Island. The ghouls who fatten on decay, the creatures who have been bounding on the country to its death, have been brought to bay, and in the terror of the moment have been forced to take up the country's shibboleth, and cry "retrenchment." They are in favor of retrenchment—indeed they are—they are quiet, unoffending people; they never wished the country to be overburdened, to retain a large staff of officials: Getting a little bolder as the excitement decreases—just as the pallid wretch who has escaped from the dock becomes more confident when he breathes the outer atmosphere—they assert that they desired the expenses to be cut down, but that the task should have been performed by gentler hands. It was necessary that the number of officials should have been reduced, but then why was the private secretary interfered with. The assessor was a costly office, but it was wrong to amalgamate it and diminish expense. There were too many clerks, but they should not have been reduced. The salaries were too high, but it was very mean to curtail them. Retrenchment, in fact, was absolutely necessary, but then it should not have interfered with the dignity of Government and the interests of the officials.

Such is the language of those parasites who hang around the garments of officialism, and such are the drivellings of that political refuse which finds an apt vent for its impotent spleen in the columns of our morning contemporary. Outwardly extolling the action they inwardly execrate they present a spectacle as humiliating as it is ridiculous. In the Legislative Assembly they are a nullity; in the public meeting they are afraid even to hold up their hands. Skulking in corners and hissing in quarters; fabricating expressions that were never uttered, sentiments that were never penned, and actions that were never performed, they appear the incarnation of spiteful imbecility. At one moment they complain of a majority ruling in the Legislature, at another they are indignant because some one is called upon to speak at a public meeting. Unable to make the first effort to promote the welfare of the country themselves they stand yelping, like so many small dogs in the manger, at every one who attempts to enter the gate of progress. They are as profound in their reasoning as they are sincere in their protestations. They do not think there is any use for public meetings. If the Assembly, they say, has a constitutional right to do a certain thing, why ask a public meeting to endorse it, and if it has not a right, why ask the public to say it has. This is the very quinquessence of Whateley. If a thing is constitutionally right it need not be sustained. It is constitutionally right in England to extend the franchise, ergo, there should be no public meetings to sustain the Reform party in the House of Commons. This is the logic of one of the Chronicle's politesseers, sagely endorsed by the Chronicle itself. The public must not ratify any action of the House of Assembly for fear the action may be wrong, or because the action may be right. Again, no person must speak at a public meeting, because he may have an interest in getting the public to think as he does. The fact that meetings are open to all—that if a fallacy is delivered, any one who chooses may refute it—and that the public themselves are left to be the final judge—goes for nothing; for when a sentiment or resolution meets with the unanimous assent of the public, it is always done by some wire-pulling—in other words, according to these authorities, the people never know what they are doing.

Again, if any one asserts that Governments are not sacred things, that they should come like every other institution under the laws of political economy, these profound nonentities declare that it is rank blasphemy. The Crown has no figurative meaning with them—it is really the thing of jewels—the "bauble." In their sagacious eyes the whole fabric of the British Constitution would tumble to pieces the very moment a Governor opened a Legislature without his sword and cocked hat. Give them the wig and gown no matter if sawdust make up the inside. They rejoice that it has only taken \$1,000,000 to keep five or six thousand people in order during the last year in British Columbia, and draw comparisons between the offences committed by a population of two thousand miners and those committed by twenty or thirty times the number. Their ideas, if indeed we can dignify their mental emanations by such a term, may be briefly summed up thus: Governments are things created for the special benefit of those in power. If we can get law and order carried out, and all the duties of an efficient

administration filled for twenty or thirty thousand dollars a year, let us vote the proposition "dirty democracy," and like actions of true nobility as we are, go in for \$300,000. This at least will show that we are alive to dignity, although perchance it may add to the work of the bankruptcy court. Let us be certain to talk glibly about the "style" in which the officers of the Government should live; if for nothing else than to show our appreciation of the ape-like quality of imitation. Let us eschew everything in the shape of usefulness or economy. If one clerk is wanted let us employ two, and if work is to be done let us avoid contracts and give it out to private friends. In this manner we shall show our detestation of that vulgar science called political economy—of being, in fact, above the suspicion of having the Government of the country carried on at the lowest possible cost. Fire companies, the Chronicle maintains, buy engines for show not for use—they take pride in the gilding and the paint, not in the power or capacity of the machine; let us do the same. Let us emulate the Pharisee of old and concentrate all our attention on the outside—let us adopt this system and we shall satisfy our morning contemporary, its half dozen scribblers, and its thirteen supporters. We shall, of course, insult the intelligence of the whole community, but what of that—"the people don't understand the question."

TELEGRAPHIC.

[Despatches to the Oregonian.]

European News.

The Bombay, from Liverpool the 23rd, and Queenstown the 24th ult., has arrived. The correspondence between Minister Adams and Earl Clarendon is published, and is voluminous. It includes suggestions of Mr. Adams that when the Shenandoah arrived at Liverpool, the British Government should have taken some action against the crew. Clarendon's reply is, there was nothing to justify any action against such of the crew as might be British subjects. He says the naval officer at Liverpool was fully satisfied that the crew were all foreigners. A Fenian named Barr, convicted at Dublin, has been removed to Barlow Prison. The London Globe highly eulogises Grant's official report, and says it is a very able, clear, and strikingly modest document, frankly admitting failures and losses.

CORK, Dec. 21.—Charles Underwood was found guilty of treason, and has been sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. Further diplomatic correspondence between Adams and the British Foreign Secretary, has been published respecting the Shenandoah. Under the date of November 21, Adams says that he is instructed to state that the proposition of Her Majesty's Government for creating a joint commission is respectfully declined. December 21st, Clarendon, writing to Adams, says Her Majesty considers that no advantage can result from prolonging the controversy, the topics of which might possibly, if continued, induce acrimony between England and the United States. Clarendon, however, declares how strongly Her Majesty and the people of England desire to be in close friendship with the United States. Virtually, this controversy leaves the question of American claims on England suspended.

The steamer Ibe, from Cork, was wrecked near Cork, and about 200 lives lost. The Times has an editorial on Secretary McCulloch's report, which says it is singularly able. It thinks there are strong reasons to determine Congress against extending the existing exemption of Federal bonds from local taxation. The trial of O'Reardon, late Captain of the Fenians, resulted in a verdict of acquittal. Perfect tranquility now reigns in Cork. Sir Henry Stork has been formally gazetted as Captain General. The Paris Patrie says that France and England have not offered mediation to Spain in the Chilean question, but their good offices only, which have been accepted by Spain.

It is confirmed that the French Government has resolved to withdraw from the extradition treaty with England. The treaty expires in June next. The market remains good with an advancing tendency. At Liverpool breadstuffs were flat with a downward tendency. Provisions quiet. At London on Friday, Consols were quoted at 87½ to 88½ and 5-20s 06½ to 66½. Weekly returns of the Bank of France show an increase of bullion amounting to over thirteen and a half millions. A Paris letter says the report of the Foreign Minister is expected to be issued on the 23rd. It states that the year 1865 will close with probably a small excess over 1864, in consequence of the reduction of expenditures. It will also show an excess of thirty million of francs to be carried to the sinking fund.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—In the House, Delano of Ohio, presented the credentials of the representatives elect from Arkansas. Referred to the Committee on Reconstruction. Conklin, of New York, introduced an

amendment to the Constitution, which was similarly referred. The amendment provides that the basis of representation and taxation shall be the whole number of citizens of the United States, but where colored people are denied the right of suffrage, such race shall be exempted from the basis.

Brownell, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution setting forth that as the white men in the District of Columbia have decided that the blacks shall not vote, the Committee for the District of Columbia inquire into the expediency of ordering an election at which the blacks shall decide whether the whites shall vote. Laid on the table.

Kasson, of Iowa, from the special Committee, made a statement refuting the charge of the New York News, that Mrs. Lincoln had been guilty of larceny of furniture, &c., from the White House. He said the Committee had examined over a dozen witnesses and found no ground for the charge. Only one article was missing, and that was given to Mrs. Lincoln by the Secretary of the Interior, and Commissioner of Public Buildings.

It is stated that Gen. Grant is at work on the detail of a new military bill, to be incorporated with the best features of Senator Wilson's bill, or supercede it altogether. It is stated on good authority that the Senate Committee on contested elections has prepared a report adverse to Senator Stockton of New Jersey.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Senator Chandler offered a preamble and resolution declaring as follows: "The British Government having refused indemnity for damage American commerce by her subjects, therefore

Resolved, That the President be requested to withdraw our Minister from the Court of St. James and declare national non-intercourse between the two nations. Mr. Dixon objected to the resolution. It was laid over under the rules.

Mr. Howard offered a resolution, calling for the trial of Jeff. Davis and Clay by military commission or court-martial. Resolution objected to and lies over.

Revenue Taxes.

New York, Jan. 13.—The Herald's Washington despatch says that no reduction on revenue tax on tobacco, whisky, cotton or petroleum is contemplated, but the tax is likely to be increased. The warehouses of Antonio Marcus, at Matamoras, was burned, 58 lives were lost and several persons were severely injured.

The Liberal Government of Mexico.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Official intelligence from the city of Chihuahua, Dec. 10, has been received. Juarez, instead of being at San Antonio Texas, as reported, was sojourning quietly at Chihuahua. He writes to a friend as follows:—"The commanders have all expressed their approval of the extension of my term, and I have reason to believe that the same will happen in other States of the Republic. The French had sent another expedition to Chihuahua, and should this be in great force the Mexican Government will again abandon that city for some other convenient point in the republic.

Louis Napoleon and the United States.

New York, Jan. 15.—The Tribune's Washington special states that a private letter from a trustworthy source received from Paris, states that the Legislature of the French Empire is to assemble about the 18th inst. The Emperor in his opening address will express the most amicable and pacific sentiments towards the United States, and unless in the meanwhile the relations of the two countries become hostile by measures on questions of honor he will promise the evacuation of Mexico as promptly as practicable.

California News.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 16.—The steamer America took a large number of passengers. The overland line was not in working order until this evening.

Gold and exchange dispatches from New York came over the wires as follows: January 9th, gold 137 and 139½; exchange, 108½ and 109; Jan. 10th, 189 and 189½; exchange, 108½ and 109; Jan. 12th, 188 and 188½; exchange 108½; Jan. 13th, 187½ and 189; exchange 108½. Several dispatches speak of a good deal of activity, and the closing price on the 13th is given as 139. Legal tenders here do not seem to respond. At the Board this morning, 71½ was offered with no selling price named. D. W. Cheeseman, U. S. Treasurer, has returned from the East, bringing with him the bonds lost by the overland mail, and the steamship Golden Rule. The owners can have them by calling at his office. Last night the Market street railroad cars ran over and crushed the foot of a man named Dean, who was lying on the side of the track. No blame is attached to the persons in charge of the train. The opposition steamship Moses Taylor arrived this morning.

A desperate attempt to escape from the State Prison was made recently by the convicts. They seized the Captain of the Guard and attempted to use him as a shield in the same manner as was once done with Lieutenant George Chellis, but a trusty convict rushed to

the Captain's assistance and the plan was frustrated. Three of them afterwards dug through the walls and escaped. The barque Oregon, which arrived from New Castle on Saturday, brings advices via Honolulu, of the discovery of a rich guano bed along the Mexican coast.

A Peruvian naval captain came up on the last steamer commissioned to purchase and fit out a privateer to prey upon Spanish commerce.

Markets.

Coal Oil—Saturday, sales of 8000 gals at \$1.30. The price is now \$1.40 per gallon. Pure Spirits—Sales 12½ pipes of Eastern at \$2. There have been transactions in California at \$2.20. Flour—the market firm with a brisk demand for export, sales included 5000 bbls at 6 @ 6 75 ¢ bbl for superfine, and 6 75 and 7 for extra in half and qr. sacks included in the sales; 500 bbls extra, Clinton Mills at 6 75 ¢ bbl. Wheat—market excited and high, prices irregular; sales 5000 sacks chiefly at 2 12½ @ 2 17, with rumored sales at 2 20 @ 100 lbs. Barley—sales 1200 sacks, common feed at 1 06 @ 1 00; good 1 07½. 500 sacks choice brewing at 2 12½, and 1000 do across the Bay, equal to 1 10 @ 100 lbs. Beans—there is a speculative movement in progress; sales 3000 sacks chiefly red and pink at \$3 ¢ hundred lbs. Oats have again advanced in rates of \$1.50 @ 2.00 @ 100 lbs. Hay ranges from \$13 to \$17 ¢ ton, but the market is quiet.

Congressional—Senate.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—Senator Wilson's bill to provide for the appearance of every officer in the United States army before a complete board of examination, was referred to the military committee. Wilson's bill recently offered by him for fixing the strength and providing for the organization of the army on a peace basis, was on motion recommended to the military committee.

Mr. Wade presented a memorial unanimously signed in favor of a protective tariff, which was referred to the finance committee.

Mr. Sumner presented a petition of the Methodist Churches of Missouri, in favor of universal suffrage; referred to the special committee on reconstruction.

Mr. Sherman offered the following, and explained that the person named in the resolution had been appointed on the recommendation of a member of the House in Kentucky in preference to the son of General J. J. Dickson, a Federal officer killed in the late war:

Resolved, That James J. Wheeler, of Kentucky, now a cadet in the Naval Academy, and formerly in the naval service of the so-called Confederacy, be dismissed from the Academy, and that no person shall be appointed as a cadet in the Naval or Military Academy who has served in the rebel service.

The Contested Seat from Pennsylvania.—WASHINGTON, January 15.—The House committee on elections have agreed to report in favor of Mr. C. Roffarth, from the Tenth District of Pennsylvania.

Foreign Loan Bill.

New York, January 15.—The special correspondent of the Commercial, under date of Washington, January 15th, says: "A strong pressure from your city has been brought to bear against the foreign loan authorized by Mr. Morrill's new bill. Its object will tend to increase the financial importance of London at the expense of New York, and cause a depreciation of gold that will render future conversions of loans impracticable."

Taxes in Georgia.

WASHINGTON, January 16.—Secretary McCulloch communicated to Congress a statement from the Internal Revenue Assessor of Georgia, who says it is difficult to find competent men as assistants, who will take the test oath unless it is modified in some manner, and it will be impossible to collect taxes.

Inauguration of Governor Marshall of Minnesota.—CHICAGO, January 9.—Governor Marshall, of Minnesota, was inaugurated yesterday. He took decided grounds in favor of requiring due guarantee from the late rebel States before consenting to their re-admission to Congress. He also spoke strongly in favor of universal suffrage.

OUTLAWS IN ALABAMA.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 13th.—The Mobile Register says the steamer Sallie, captured by outlaws, was rescued by a detachment of the 21st Missouri. After landing about 70 bales of government cotton the outlaws left. The officers of the boat who were in durance vile during its possession by the guerrillas, says they expressed a determination to prevent any government cotton coming down the Alabama river.

THE NEW SENATORS FROM IOWA.

S. J. Kirkwood and Jas. Harlan have been elected United States Senators from Iowa, Kirkwood for the long term. Colonel Ackerman, and ex-provisional Governor Marvin have been elected United States Senators from Florida, over two rebel generals. They arrived at Savannah on the 6th en route for Washington.

GENERAL NEWS.

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—A letter from Governor Morton of Indiana, giving an account of his arrival in England, says:—"I have eaten but one meal since I went aboard the steamer, and that was on the evening that I left. My limbs are very weak, much weaker than when I started. Serious apprehensions are felt as to the effect of this trip upon his health."

A dispatch from Huntsville, Alabama, to the Tribune, says that in that portion of north Alabama, east of Huntsville, great desolation prevails, and that relief to both whites and blacks by the State or General Government is indispensable. Around Tusculum and Florence everything seems to prosper, except that there are not enough laborers to work one half of the land. The freedmen are all at work at good wages. More are wanted. White labor is also lull employed. Brigadier General Seaman has been elected President of the Ohio Military Academy at Cincinnati.

The steamer May Queen, belonging to this port but laid up at Milwaukee, was burned on Saturday night; loss, \$30,000; insured for \$20,000.

One half of the business portion of Domagie, Michigan, was destroyed by fire on Sunday last; loss \$70,000 to \$80,000. Seventeen stores were consumed.

Speaker Colfax, in an address at Poughkeepsie, N.Y., on Saturday night, said that no rupture would take place between the President and Congress.

A fire occurred at Talladega, Ala., involving a loss of \$75,000. Four car loads of cotton were burned in Texas on the Central railroad, en route for Houston. Loss \$300,000.

The Third Michigan Cavalry was disbanded at San Antonio for mutiny. A national bank has been organized at Galveston.

CALIFORNIA NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 17.—Manuel Guilean, Agent of the Mexican Empire in this city, publishes to-day a decree of the Imperial Government of Mexico, issued at the City of Mexico, November 14th, 1865, annulling all alienations of public lands and all contracts made by the Government of Juarez since its departure from the capital, thereby intending to render null and void any transfer or mortgage of public lands given by Juarez for the purpose of obtaining loans for the benefit of the Republican cause.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 19.—It is currently reported and in such a manner as to give strong plausibility to the story, that young Macey, the defaulting mint clerk, left here on the opposition steamer Moses Taylor on the 15th of December, under the name of James M. Mury.

Captain Nelson of the schooner Ella Francis was knocked overboard by the boom of his vessel and drowned during the last trip from Point Reyes to this city. Judge Pratt to-day granted to Wm. Y. Johnson a divorce from his wife Amy Johnson.

Judgment was rendered this morning in the Twelfth District Court for \$2,241.50 in favor of the California Building and Loan Society and against Calvin E. Woodbury et al for foreclosure and sale of certain mortgaged premises to satisfy judgment.

The steamer Colorado took \$925,260 treasure and about the usual number of passengers.

The prize fight between Chandler and Maguire took place at Lakeview yesterday. The combatants fought thirty-five rounds, when the fight was suspended on account of darkness on the morning. Chandler was on hand in the morning, but Maguire failed to make his appearance, and the stakes for which they fought—some \$2000—were awarded to Chandler.

The second annual ball of the San Francisco Fire Department at Masie Hall last night was a brilliant affair and a decided success.

The overland telegraph is not in operation, and the legal tender market is heavy. Sales at the Board of \$30,000 at 70½ @ 70.

The mining share market continues dull, with a general shaking of prices. Butter—strictly prime New York State, quotable at 39 @ 40; good do 37½. Western, 30 @ 35.

Candles are well sustained. Flour—the market runs steady with a moderate demand; superfine in hf sks per bbl \$6.50; qr sks \$6.75; extra, hf sks \$7; qr sks \$7.25. Outside brands sell at 25c off per bbl.

Wheat—good to prime \$2.16 @ \$2.20. Barley—sales include 175 sks choice brewing at \$1.12½.

PORTLAND ITEMS.

Our Portland exchanges are to the 24th. The last mails to Olympia had been lost in a creek on the other side of Drew's, but were subsequently recovered though they had not come to hand. From the Oregonian of Wednesday last we call the following:

COLUMBIA RIVER.—It is thought that the Columbia river will be open to navigation by to-morrow, and unless there should be another freeze to-night the Oregon Steam Navigation Company will dispatch a steamer to the Cascades at the usual hour in the morning.

THE STEAMER.—A private despatch from a former citizen of Portland, late of Sacramento, states that he would leave on the 24th from San Francisco by the steamer Oregon for this city. By this we presume the Oregon was advertised to sail on or about today.

CLOSED FOR REPAIRS.—The telegraph office in this city was closed yesterday while the attaches went north and south of us to repair the line.

PERSONAL.—Among the passengers leaving by the steamer this morning we notice Mr. C. Aubrey Angelo, the "Chaos" of the Alta, San Francisco. Notwithstanding all the faults of our friend, he has been the means of accomplishing much, in directing the attention of people to the rich ariferous regions of Idaho, and is now on his way to New York where he hopes to be of still more service.

Nearly two feet of snow had fallen in and around Portland and the sleighing had been good. The weather had become milder and much rain had fallen.

The Sierra Nevada left on the morning of the 20th for San Francisco with \$95,000 in treasure and some freight.

HEAVY RAINS.—The quantity of rain which has fallen during this week must be very great. Perhaps the heaviest rain with which New Westminster has ever been visited fell during Thursday night. The result was that the tiny streamlets in the two ravines in the city assumed the dimensions of mountain torrents, while every ditch became a creek, and the water breaking over the banks carried large quantities of soil away, causing in several instances considerable damage to the streets. And yet we welcome the rain as the means of opening communication with the interior and throwing the country open to the spring immigration and trade a month or six weeks earlier than usual. Everything at present betokens an early spring.—Columbia.

THE NORTHERN COD FISHERIES.—We learn that parties from San Francisco are now building two large fine schooners for the fishing business, and if these are successful, the same parties will continue to build others. The schooner built at Steilacoom by Mr. Williamson is nearly finished, and will sail for the Northern fishing ground early in the spring.—Pacific Tribune.

Tuesday, February 6, 1866.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE FRACAS IN THE QUEEN'S William Goldsworthy appeared yesterday in the Police Court, charged with cutting and wounding a man who yet been found to give evidence. M. depended the accused. A witness present at the time deposed that disturbance, and a man entered was seated saying that he had been Blood was flowing from a wound temple and an incision in his side peared to have been made with a knife barkeeper, Mr. Smith, said he tending to a number of customers at and saw the accused with his left lifted as if in the act of striking, but not see whom he struck. It was not blow as Joe. Eden would give, but downward stroke. Saw blood on face, and hearing that he had been proceeded to fetch the nearest doctor Walker was not to be found, but D. and Powell were both brought, and arrived the man's face had been seen he had been removed by his friend and Goldsworthy, who was also taken charge of by his friends. think he could name any of the fr except one who was not present when turbulence took place. Sergeant Wilk for a remand, that he might not bring forward other testimony. M. applied for a discharge, as there was little of evidence so far against the It was not shown that he had ever blow, and it was unfair to keep him Mc Pemberton said it was a most d affair, and the interests of society that it should not be hushed up. I more suspicious when the injured were kept out of the way. He upon the police the necessity of hu the parties implicated, and said th could not expect him to protect they would not come forward to a ends of justice. He should, there mand the accused for three days. M applied for bail which was refused.

HORSE RACE.—The glorious sun yesterday induced a large concourse sons to wend their way to Beaco witness the match race between mare Lucy and Trahey's horse W. Jake for \$250 a side, mile heats. W was ridden by the well known Fitzpatrick, weight 135 pounds, and by Macdonald, 150 pounds. Two to freely offered on the old veteran r declined, it being thought that M was not in fair racing trim. In heat the two got away well together huffed each other to the first turn, mare took the lead. Macdonald's effort to collar her, but Fitzpatrick own, winning by over a length. Th was now reversed. In the second h showed to the front from the stand it all her own way, coming in an easy Lucy has proved herself to possess speed, and will make a valuable ad our racing stock. Considering the condition of the course the time was good, the first heat having been mad and the second in 2:8.

SUPREME COURT.—Lee vs Reid.—an action before a common jury to \$5000 for the non-performance of a to renew a lease. Mr. Wood, instr Mr. Dennis, for the plaintiff, and C. Creight, instructed by Messrs. Pe Green, for the defendant. His H rected a verdict to be entered for d without allowing the case to go t from the plaintiffs failure to estab identity of the lease.

THE OCCIDENTAL EMEUTE.—The Andrews was brought before the St Magistrate yesterday charged with part in the recent affray at the O Saloon. Peter, who had charge of stated that the accused was the in who flourished Mr. Vinter's sword a interference with his companions w gaged in their rowdy work. He w mitted for trial.

HOBBIING HENROOSTS.—This practic coming quite a favorite nocturnal ment. Charley, a Hydad India yesterday sent to the chain gang months for being detected by Mr. T in the act of helping himself to some hair in the rear of a house on Fo Charley pleaded that he was drunk evidently not incapable.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—The brig B left yesterday for the Bay City wit west. Pilot Titcomb, who accompa from Nansaimo, says she experience weather on the passage down, but th a very smart vessel and weathered t without receiving any damage to although the lost several sails.

ON DUNGERNESS SEIT.—A vessel w on Sunday morning, by those on b Countess of Rife, ashore on Dungen The sea was making a clean breach and she had evidently sustained dama is supposed to be the Victor.

COAL.—The schooner Gazelle arri terday from Nansaimo with a full carg to Kavanagh & Co.

FROM NANAIMO.—The schooner Diamond arrived yesterday with n of coal to R. Brodriek.

The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, February 6, 1886.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday, Jan. 30.

THE FRACAS IN THE QUEEN SALOON.—William Goldworthy appeared on remand yesterday in the Police Court, charged with cutting and wounding a man who has not yet been found to give evidence.

Mr. Bishop defended the accused. A witness who was present at the time deposed that he heard a disturbance, and a man entered where he was seated saying that he had been struck.

Blood was flowing from a wound in his temple and an incision in his side that appeared to have been made with a knife. The barkeeper, Mr. Smith, said he was attending to a number of customers at the time, and saw the accused with his left hand upraised as if in the act of striking, but he did not see whom he struck.

It was not such a blow as Joe. Eden would give, but was a downward stroke. Saw blood on a man's face, and hearing that he had been struck, proceeded to fetch the nearest doctor. Dr. Walker was not to be found, but Drs. Turner and Powell were both brought, and when they saw the man's face, had been washed and he had been removed by his friends. Richard Goldworthy, who was also hurt, was taken charge of by his friends. Did not think he could name any of the friends except one who was not present when the disturbance took place. Sergeant Wilmer asked for a remand, that he might endeavor to bring forward other testimony. Mr. Bishop applied for a discharge, as there was not a title of evidence so far against the accused.

It was not shown that he had even struck a blow, and it was unfair to keep him in prison. Mr. Pemberton said it was a most disgraceful affair, and the interests of society required that it should not be hushed up. It looked more suspicious when the injured parties were kept out of the way. He enjoined upon the police the necessity of hunting up the parties implicated, and said the public could not expect him, to protect society if they would not come forward to assist the ends of justice. He should, therefore, remand the accused for three days. Mr. Bishop applied for bail, which was refused.

HORSE RACE.—The glorious sunshine of yesterday induced a large concourse of persons to wend their way to Beacon Hill to witness the match race between Buster's mare Lucy and Trahey's horse Wake-up-Jake for \$250 a side, mile heats. The mare was ridden by the well known "Jock" Fitzpatrick, weight 135 pounds, and the horse by Macdonald, 160 pounds. Two to one was freely offered on the old veteran racer but declined, it being thought that Miss Lucy was not in fair racing trim. In the first heat the two got away well together and hugged each other to the first turn, where the mare took the lead. Macdonald made an effort to collar her, but Fitzpatrick held his own, winning by over a length. The betting was now reversed. In the second heat Lucy showed to the front from the stand and had it all her own way, coming in an easy winner. Lucy has proved herself to possess great speed, and will make a valuable addition to our racing stock. Considering the heavy condition of the course the time was very good, the first heat having been made in 2:7 and the second in 2:8.

SUPREME COURT.—Lee vs Reid.—This was an action before a common jury to recover \$5000 for the non-performance of a covenant to renew a lease. Mr. Wood, instructed by Mr. Dennis, for the plaintiff, and Mr. McCreight, instructed by Messrs. Parkes & Green, for the defendant. His Honor directed a verdict to be entered for defendant without allowing the case to go to a jury, from the plaintiff's failure to establish the identity of the lease.

THE OCCIDENTAL EMBUTE.—William E. Andrews was brought before the Stipendiary Magistrate yesterday charged with taking part in the recent affray at the Occidental Saloon. Peter, who had charge of the bar, stated that the accused was the individual who flourished Mr. Vinter's sword and defied interference with his companions while engaged in their rowdy work. He was committed for trial.

ROBBING HEMORRHOIDS.—This practice is becoming quite a favorite nocturnal amusement. Charles, a Hydah Indian, was yesterday sent to the chain gang for four months for being detected by Mr. T. H. Long in the act of helping himself to some Shanghai in the rear of a house on Fort street. Charles pleaded that he was drunk, though evidently not incapable.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—The brig Ben Gair left yesterday for the Bay City with a fair wind. Pilot Titcomb, who accompanied her from Nanaimo, says she experienced fearful weather on the passage down, but the brig is a very smart vessel and weathered the storm without receiving any damage to her hull, although she lost several sails.

ON DUNGENESS SPIT.—A vessel was seen on Sunday morning, by those on board the Countess of Effie, ashore on Dungeness Spit. The sea was making a clean breach over her and she had evidently sustained damage. She is supposed to be the Victor.

COAL.—The schooner Gazelle arrived yesterday from Nanaimo with a full cargo of coal to Kavanagh & Co.

FROM NANAIMO.—The schooner Black Diamond arrived yesterday with ninety tons of coal to R. Brodrick.

Wednesday, Jan. 31.

STREET FRONT.—The redoubtable Willis Bond got into a "milling scrape" yesterday in front of the Colonial Hotel, with another colored man, who was more importunate about a small bill owing to him than was agreeable to Willis. Besides possessing a more bulky frame Bond's experience had rendered him more au fait in the art of self-defence, and when the sponge was thrown up the debtor had left the impression of his "bunch of fives" clearly visible on the creditor's "peepers" and "snuff repository."

SING VARIETIES.—The regular soiree of this society will take place in their Hall, Government street, on Wednesday the 7th proximo. Tickets may be had of members of the society or of any of the committee of management, whose names appear elsewhere. These gatherings are so proverbially well conducted, and have become so popular that little need be done beyond making the announcement to ensure a large attendance.

THE CHARGE OF PERJURY.—The case against Michael Carey for alleged perjury was called on yesterday morning at the Police Court, but the accused did not appear, and the case was postponed for one day. In the meantime a warrant was issued for the apprehension of Carey, but it was rumored that he had "vamoosed the ranch."

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—The brig Tanner, Captain McCarthy, arrived yesterday, 21 days from San Francisco, with four passengers and a general cargo. She was towed into the harbor in good style by the Emily Harris. Her memoranda appears elsewhere.

THE WRECK ON DUNGENESS SPIT.—The ship ashore on Dungeness Spit, W. T., is the barkentine Fremont. The steamer Eliza Anderson shortly after her arrival from the Sound yesterday, proceeded to render her assistance.

FROM PUGET SOUND.—The steamer Eliza Anderson arrived yesterday from Olympia and way ports with a number of passengers, and a freight of live stock and produce valued at \$3,760.

FROM NANAIMO.—The schooner Meg Merrilies arrived yesterday from Nanaimo with a cargo of coal for Messrs. Kavanagh & Co., of the James Bay Coal Yard.

FOR NANAIMO.—The steamers Sir James Douglas and Labouchere left for this port yesterday morning. The Emily Harris will sail this morning at 8 o'clock.

THE EXTENDED.—The time for opening the tenders for direct steam communication with San Francisco has been further postponed until February 7th.

Thursday, Feb. 1.

MAN DROWNED.—From an extract taken from a letter dated Comox, January 26th, in this city, we learn that on the 22nd inst. Mr. Moses Phillips, Mr. John Hughes, and a half-breed named Louis, of the schooner Nansimo Packet, left shore in a boat to go on board the schooner which lay at some little distance from the shore, and that owing to missing their way in a fog the boat was unfortunately capsized and Hughes drowned. Phillips and the half-breed were with difficulty saved by two men on shore who heard their cries for assistance. The boat was laden with fire-wood.

GOT IN A PICKLE.—Jack, an Indian boy, was charged yesterday in the Police Court with stealing some bottles of pickles and other things from the kitchen of the Brown Jug. The offence was proved, and special officer Taylor stated that the accused on being conveyed to jail knocked his fist through a window. Jack said he helped himself to the pickles thinking they were useless. The magistrate gave him the benefit of the Juvenile Offenders Act, and fined him \$20 for the theft and \$5 for the damage.

INQUESTS.—The Coroner will hold an inquest to-day at 1 p.m., in the Police Court, on the body of John Alfred Hughes, mate of the Nansimo Packet, who was recently drowned at Comox. The inquest on the body of Beviere was concluded last evening. After the evidence of Mr. Seabry, Analytical Chemist, who examined the stomach, and Dr. Haggin had been heard, the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

TREMENDOUS FRESHET AT LEECH RIVER.—We learn from Mr. A. Barnett, expressman, that the greatest flood that has yet been known at Leech River occurred on Friday night, from the heavy rain fall. Cabins were swept away and stores flooded three feet deep. Work was for a time entirely suspended, but the waters have now abated considerably, and work is partially resumed. The snow on the trail is fast disappearing, and travelling easy.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—Mr. Moody and another man, with two Indians, arrived last evening in a canoe from New Westminster. They left New Westminster on Tuesday afternoon, and the mouth of the river early yesterday morning. They report the river open above New Westminster. The steamer Hope had come down from where she had been frozen in to New Westminster, and left on Tuesday for Yale. Dietz & Nelson's Messenger had arrived at New Westminster, seven days from Yale. The steamer Enterprise was near Plummer Pass.

STRALING BLANKETS.—George, a Stickeen Indian, was yesterday fined, under the Juvenile Offenders Act, \$20 or a month's imprisonment, for stealing two blankets from a squaw.

THE PERJURY CASE.—The efforts of the police to discover the whereabouts of Michael Carey have proved futile. It is generally supposed that he has left the city for parts unknown.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise left yesterday morning at eight o'clock for Fraser river with passengers and freight.

FOR NANAIMO.—The steamer Emily Harris sailed yesterday for the above port with ten tons of freight, some live stock, and several passengers.

FROM THE NORTH.—The schooner Nansimo Packet, Captain Phillips, arrived yesterday from the North with a cargo of furs and skins.

REPAIRING.—The bark Dominga hauled over to Lang's ship-yard yesterday for repairs.

H. M. S. ALERT left Esquimalt yesterday morning at 8 o'clock for Nanaimo to coal.

MR. COLFAX'S ELECTION.—A Washington correspondent of the Oregonian, makes the following pleasing allusion to the re-election of the Hon. Schuyler Colfax as Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives: I noticed that Mr. Colfax's mother and sister were in the gallery looking down upon the election of the son and brother for the second time, to this high office. They are sweet and homelike faces and always welcome in the best homes of Washington. The Colfaxes are a Half-street, a little north of the Avenue. Senator Wade and wife live there with them, and in a neat, modest, yet comfortable way they will pass the winter. I understand that Mr. Colfax intends that this shall be his career as a member of Congress. Twice elected Speaker, he cannot hope for any higher honors at the hands of the House. Probably at some future day, he may come to the Senate from Indiana but I doubt it. If he lives a few years he may be put on the National ticket as Vice President and finally as President. He is a young man and can afford to wait. Time will do his work for him if he can be patient, but the American politician cannot wait. This is generally true of him. Mr. Colfax may prove an exception to the general rule.

FROZEN.—We have news from Capt. Borland's Company of Oregon Infantry, which we hope is exaggerated. It seems that the company marched from Camp Lyon in the Owyhee country, some weeks since, to come down the Columbia river to be mustered out of service. In coming down Snake river, the command was out in the late severe weather and some twenty of the men had their hands, feet, and ears badly frozen. It is feared that more than a dozen of them will have to submit to amputation more or less serious. The men were halted on Powder river until arrangements could be completed for the treatment of the injured men. This is one of the results of ordering in the volunteers in the worst season of the year, and by it a dozen men are turned out on the world crippled.—Dallas Mountain.

THE POSITION OF AFFAIRS AT ACAPULCO.—When the Golden City stopped at Acapulco at midnight, December 26th, a French officer boarded her. It being generally understood that sickness and hostilities combined to forbid passengers to go ashore, some one of them said to the Frenchman, "I suppose we are not allowed to land." "Oh," said he, extra politely, "there are no restrictions. But it would be well to observe, that if you carry a lantern, the Mexican guerrillas on the hill will shoot you. If you can get along without a light, our men will take you for a Mexican sneaking around, and pop you over." Gentlemen you are all free to land." Gentlemen excused themselves. The troops on both sides are Mexicans. The invaders are dying fast with the Acapulco fever, and the French man-of-war's men are expecting orders to withdraw. The Admiral's flag-ship entered as the Golden City left.—Atla.

DIAMOND MINES.—The diamond fever, says the Owyhee Avalanche of the 8th December, has been raging furiously for the past week. This excitement is one that has either diamonds or crystals, which stand every known diamond test, for a foundation. Col. Fogus, G. Collier Robbins, Messrs. Dewey and Musgrave, have each subjected these crystals to the severest tests known, and they are convinced of the existence of genuine diamonds in the new district. The crystals found are small, from the size of a grain of sand to that of a small grain of wheat, but they exist all over a tract of country forty miles square. Viewed with a glass they present the shape and true diamond face.

JOURNALISTS.—The New York Tribune on the 1st ult., divided among its stockholders \$50,000, as the profits of four months' business. The entire original stock of the institution was only \$100,000. It is also stated that the Chicago Republican has a working capital of five hundred thousand dollars, and spends six hundred dollars a week for editorial labour and correspondence.—Charles A. Dana, late Assistant Secretary of War, and formerly of the New York Tribune, is at the present time its chief editor.

SALARIES REDUCED.—The Idaho Legislature has passed a bill repealing the law by which the Territorial officers were allowed compensation in addition to that paid them by the General Government. The pay of the Territorial Judges, for instance, was \$2500 per annum, and to this was added \$2500 that came out of the Territorial Treasury. The Legislature has very properly relieved the people of this unnecessary burden. If the salaries are not sufficiently large, they should be increased by Congress, and not by the voluntary action of the Legislature, which really has no authority to tax the people for that purpose.—Walla Walla Statesman.

THE STEAMSHIP MONOPOLY.

(From the Oregonian Jan. 22.)

We are called upon to correct a statement which appeared in this column on Saturday last, in reference to treatment of passengers by the Pacific, who were put on shore below the city, and not allowed to proceed on their voyage without paying their passage, when they had once paid, and held their tickets. The agents of the California Steam Navigation Company claim that the passengers had no right to go by the Pacific, as their tickets were to go from Astoria by the Sierra Nevada. Now, it was not specified on those tickets by what steamer they were to go. The passengers paid their fare through from Victoria, and were to leave by the steamer of Jan. 24, (on or about.) They were unfortunately delayed, and we are sure they have a right to complain at not being allowed to go by the first steamer after they reached here, inasmuch as it is well known that the California company own both the Active and the Pacific, and their arrangements are such with Holliday's line that it could not possibly have resulted in loss to either. If it was not the turn of the Pacific, if she was not authorized to take those passengers, then we assert that so long as the Sierra Nevada was at the wharf, the Pacific did wrong to leave as she did. The fact that the tickets of these persons called for passage from Astoria does not affect the justice of the matter, they were shamefully imposed upon, and any man of business can see what is apt to result from a detention of three weeks to a person, who is travelling on an important mission.

We are glad to know that the matter has not stopped here, and we urgently hope that a candid investigation of the case may result in the finding of the carriers in this instance guilty of a flagrant violation, as it is, of the principles which govern common carriers. Should they fail to obtain that measure of justice they are entitled to, it could be attributed to none other than the mere technicality that they embarked at Portland instead of Astoria, and as steamships are not obliged to take passengers from this place to Astoria, they could not get there for the purpose of fulfilling their part of the contract. These passengers were not disposed to complain of their detention on account of the accident which happened the Sierra Nevada, but still anxious to go forward, waited as patiently as possible for the Pacific to arrive. When the latter vessel took her departure it was freezing, and the Sierra Nevada could by no means possibly get off sooner than after the second night following. Were they not entitled to a spark of gentility, under these circumstances? Were they to be treated like dogs because they hailed from John Bull's possessions? By no means; they were gentlemen, and expected to be treated like gentlemen. We have not the slightest alteration to make to our statement of Saturday last. The matter has again given rise to conversation in a manner that may result to our home interests. For years we have suffered intolerably at the hands of these monopolists—they carry our freights, they carry our passengers in cockle-shell crafts quite unfit for the service, and not adapted to the trade. They never think of giving us anything better than the old worn out tubs that have commenced decaying in the arrangements of California, thinking even these quite as good as the "ignorant miners of Oregon" should have. No "intelligent Californian," no "shrewd business man" need patronize these unless they choose so to do. For years we have listened to promises, and been deluded by the hope that something would be done through the energy and enterprise of our own people, to check the policy hitherto pursued by these concerns. At no time has the coast looked so promising as now. There is an elegant ship building in New York, thanks to the energy of her owners, which promises well for us. We hope to see her here before many months, to form the nucleus of a line that may compel those now in the trade to take such passengers as they lately put on shore—and be eager to get them.

SERIOUS AFFAIR.—A YOUNG MAN SHOT BY A WOMAN.—Passengers by the Eliza Anderson brought word that a serious shooting scrape occurred at Seattle, W. T., on Saturday night, in which the chief actress was a certain Mrs. Sires, formerly residing in this city. From what we could learn it appears that the attentions of a young man named Edward Bridges, son of a lawyer, to a member of Mrs. Sires' family were objected to, and although cautioned not to come to the house he repeated his visit on the evening in question when he was fired at by the mother, the ball entering behind the ear and lodging in the roof of his mouth. He was said to be lying in a very precarious state.

REPORTED RICH STRIKE BY THE AURORA COMPANY.—We learn on good authority that a telegram reached New Westminster last week announcing that the Aurora Company on Williams Creek had made a big strike in their new shaft, sunk on a line with the Davis Company, whose lead they have found. The same lead is believed to run through the Ericsson Company's ground. The information has been kept secret to admit of a little speculation in shares, but the rumor leaked out yesterday.

Any One can use Them.

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

Judson's Simple Dyes. Ten colours, Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 5s. per bottle. These Dyes will also be found useful for imparting colour to Feathers, Fibres, Grasses, Seaweed, Ivory, Bone, Wood, Willow Shavings, Paper, also for

Tinting Photographs, and for Illuminating. May be had of all chemists throughout the United Kingdom and British Colonies.

WHOLESALE DEPOT—19a, Coleman St., London E.C. 3.

AMMUNITION.

19 Feet Square. Represents average shooting at 600 yards, with ELEY'S BEST ENFIELD CARTRIDGES.

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

of every description for Sporting or Military Purposes. Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Addings to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges for killing Game, &c., at long distances. Breast Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality for Shot Guns and Rifles, Pin Cartridges for "Lefauchaux" Revolvers of 7, 9, and 12 millimetres. Jacobs' Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colts, Deane's, Tranter's, Adams', and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield Rifles, also for Westley Richard's, Terry's, Wilson's, Mont Storm's, Green's, and other breech-loaders. Bullets of uniform weight made by compression from soft British Lead.

Mechanically fitting projectiles for Rigby's and Henry's Rifles. ELEY BROTHERS, Gray's Inn-Rd., London, W. C. Wholesale Only.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, &c.

NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS

Are confidently recommended as a simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation; safe under any circumstances; and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s., 2s., 3s., 6s., and 11s. each, by Chemists, Druggists and Storekeepers in all parts of the World. Orders to be made payable by London Houses. 4623 Law 1. Agent for Victoria, W. M. SEABRY, Chemist, Government street.

Indigestion & Stomachic Weakness

PEPSINE.

T. MORSON & SON.

Wholesale & Export Druggists, Manufacturers of the famous PEPSINE WINE, are enabled to offer the purest and most nutritious for the Gastric Juice. ITS USE IS NOW UNIVERSAL. Sold in bottles at 1s., 2s., 3s., 6s., and 11s. each, by Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors. MORSON'S PEPSINE LOZENGES, POWDER, TABLETS, GRANULATED, &c., &c. Manufacturers of Chemical, Pharmaceutical and Photographic Preparations.

T. MORSON AND SON.

31, 33, and 124, Southampton Row, London, W. Orders (payable in London), are most carefully shipped.

Pure Drugs, Chemicals, &c.

BURGOYNE & BURRIDGES, EXPORT DRUGGISTS, COLEMAN ST. LONDON.

Publish monthly a Prices Current of nearly 3,000 Drugs, Chemicals, Pharmaceutical and Photographic Preparations, Patent Medicines, Surgical Instruments, &c., and every description of Medical Sundries. This is the most complete list ever published, and will be forwarded every month, FREE OF ALL CHARGE, upon application. As the latest fluctuations of the market are always noted, this List is invaluable to Chemists, Druggists, Storekeepers, and Surgeons.

DAY & MARTIN'S REAL JAPAN BLACKING!

97, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON. For affording nourishment and durability to the Leather it stands unrivalled. Sold by all First Class Houses in British Columbia and the Colonies. In Bottles and Tins at 6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d. each.

Washing made Easy!

THE FAMILY WASHING

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

"Glycerine Soap Powder."

A Clergyman's wife says: "one half of Soap at least, is saved, two-thirds of time, and three-fourths of labor." Sold in Penny Packets by all Storekeepers, and wholesale by Harper Twelvetree, Bromley-by-Bow, London. Wholesale Agents for Vancouver Island, MESSRS. JANION, GREEN & RHODES. JUL 1874

FISHING RODS & TACKLE.

Walking Sticks, Cricketing Goods, Croquet, Archery, &c., FIRST-CLASS ARTICLES ONLY.

CHARLES WRIGHT,

376, STRAND, LONDON. EXPORT, WHOLESALE & RETAIL. ESTABLISHED, 1840. Orders, payable in England, carefully shipped. Price lists on application.

The Weekly British Colonist. Tuesday, February 6, 1866.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL FROM ENGLAND.—The H. B. Company's bark Princess Royal arrived yesterday 150 days from London.

UNION OF THE COLONIES.—A monster petition, embracing signatures from nearly every district in British Columbia, praying for union of the Colonies was to be presented yesterday to the Administrator of the Government.

INQUEST.—The Coroner yesterday held an inquest on the body of John A. Hughes, drowned at Esquimalt.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Labouchere arrived yesterday afternoon, and the Emily Harris last night with coal from Nanaimo.

Monday, Jan. 5. FROM COMOX.—A correspondent, signing himself "A Comox Farmer," writes to us from that settlement, under date of 31st January, as follows: "We have regular steam communication at last. What a blessing! I will tell you why. On the 5th of last month I started from here in a sloop with one cow, nine pigs, two hundred pounds of butter, one dozen turkeys, and thirty dozen eggs.

DETECTED.—Some time back a robbery took place from a house in Trench Alley, which was supposed to have been done by the gang of thieves who have been loying black mail on the town of late; but yesterday one of the articles stolen—a gold ring—was brought into a jeweller's store by a celestial, to have it altered to fit his finger.

TO THE FIREMEN.—They were called out twice on Saturday night. The first alarm was occasioned by a chimney on Johnson street having caught fire, which was subdued before the services of the department were called into requisition.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—A meeting of the Juvenile Missionary Society, in connection with the Wesleyan Sunday School, was held yesterday afternoon in the Church on Pandora street, in the presence of a number of friends of the cause.

FUNERAL.—The remains of the late Mrs. Mann were followed to the cemetery yesterday by the members of both Masonic lodges of this city and a large number of friends.

SKATING.—The ice on Skinner's Bottom was strong enough on Saturday to bear a number of skaters.

CREDITABLE.—The Royal Insurance Co has set a good example by contributing to the funds of the Fire Department a sum of \$300. The example should be followed by all the other companies, who receive such material benefit from the gratuitous services of the volunteer fire brigade.

FROM PORTLAND.—The steamer Active, Captain Thorne, arrived on Saturday afternoon from Portland, with passengers and freight as per lists elsewhere. It is rumored that she will visit New Westminster before leaving again for the southern coast.

WHOLESALE BURGLARY.—An establishment on the Esquimalt Road has been gutted by burglars.

CHILE

From the Panama Star and Herald. The fortnight has brought out nothing new except that the blockade of the ports of Iome and Talcahuano has been raised. The vessel stationed at these ports has been ordered to Valparaiso, and Pareja himself in the Villa de Madrid, has proceeded to the North, it is supposed to Callao.

The Comercio de Lima, in its number of the 24th of December, gives the following account of the suicide committed by the Spanish Admiral in the harbor of Valparaiso on the 29th of November: When Pareja heard of the capture of the vessel Covadonga, and the loss of his dispatches he was deeply affected, he came up on deck after dinner with his officers, with a revolver in his hand, with which he shot two birds on the wing, from where shortly afterwards a shot was heard. On somebody rushing in, the admiral was found dead, and on the table a letter, in which, it is stated, Pareja said that "as the commander of the Covadonga had not had courage enough to do his duty, so he (Pareja) had not enough to survive the disgrace of his flag," and finished with the wish that his body might not be buried in Chilian soil or Chilian waters."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

PLYMOUTH, Dec. 10.—The Diamond Company's steamer Uitenhage, from Table Bay, Nov. 9; St. Helena, Nov. 17; and Madeira Dec. 4, arrived off Falmouth this afternoon. She brings a full cargo of Cape produce, a mail, and 38 passengers.

The news from the Cape is of no great importance, the war between the Free States and the Basutos having degenerated into a series of raids, the object of which is the theft of cattle.

Moshesh, the Basuto chief, was left undisturbed in his mountain home, while bands of farmers from the Free State and the Transvaal republic were dashing into his country and carrying off everything upon which they could lay hands on.

The natives were retaliating in a similar manner, and it was impossible to say how long this state of things might continue.

Moshesh had expressed his readiness to afford every satisfaction for the Natal raid, but nothing further had been done. Appearances generally indicated weariness on both sides, and it was considered unlikely that the war would for some time come to a re-assume its former importance.

Trade in the Cape was somewhat improved, and it was hoped that the crisis had passed.

BRITISH COLUMBIAN LEGISLATURE.—The tenders for the interior mail service were considered with closed doors on Monday last.

Mr. Holbrook, of course, fired up at the idea of the sister colony contributing anything for maintaining the light houses that guide the mariner's path to the navigation of the Gulf of Georgia, or paying its quota for carrying the mails and promoting navigation from California.

THE BIG BEND TRAVEL.—Mons. D. Faujas, proprietor of the French Prairie House, twelve miles above Shuswap lake, on the Government trail to Columbia river, gives notice that he can accommodate travellers and furnish them with all requisite supplies, saving them considerable trouble in packing.

THE TORONTO GLOBE.—Correspondence from this city appears in this journal of Dec. 22d, which contains a truthful account of the condition of the colony generally.

SMALL POX.—It is suspected that this direful malady has made its appearance among the aborigines on the Indian Reserve. The authorities should enquire into the matter.

A FLOUR MILL

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST: Sir—By your paper of Saturday morning last it appears that the member for Lake, Mr. Duncan, brought forward a resolution, of which he had previously given notice, that a sum of one thousand dollars should be voted by the House to enable a company composed of Lake and Saanich farmers to erect a Mill for the use of these and the neighboring districts, to have their wheat ground within their own country, in order that their action might induce others to follow the example; but the conduct of the House of Assembly, through the representative of Saanich, completely frustrated that attempt by throwing an obstacle in the way, which obstacle was firmly sustained by the junior member for the district of Victoria, (now a prominent and persevering candidate for Lake). Were it not for that gentleman's introduction of a resolution dated so far back as 1864, to the effect that any person or persons who should erect a Flour Mill capable of grinding fifty barrels of superfine flour per day, should be entitled to a bonus of \$1250—by which action the proposed company will be completely shut out, as it is not at present in the power of the company to erect a Mill of that capacity. But on the other hand, if these two members had sustained the action taken by Mr. Duncan, it would have shown that the House had some desire to assist the farming interests, and not, as heretofore, to compel them to depend upon a foreign market for their bread. By the erection of the intended Mill the following settlements could reap the benefit—Cowichan, Chemainus, Comaiken, Salt Spring Island, Nanaimo, Esquimalt and Victoria districts—thereby supplying a large area of country.

I have only to remark that Mr. Duncan has been requested by myself and other farmers of the districts of Lake and Saanich, to bring forward the resolution that one thousand dollars be granted to the company to assist them in carrying out the above project. The districts of Lake and Saanich will be able to know who are their friends at some future period. I am, sir, Yours, A. BUNSTER.

DEATH OF MRS. CHARLES DILLON.—Mr. Charles Dillon, the English tragedian, arrived in this country a few days since. On the trip out his wife was taken ill with what was supposed to be Panama fever; but on landing here it turned to a violent form of typhoid fever, of which she died on Tuesday last at midnight. Mrs. Dillon was a handsome English lady of twenty-eight. She went on the stage after her marriage to Mr. Dillon, and has played minor parts in his tragedies. She is to be buried to-day from St. Mark's Church, where funeral services will be pronounced at eleven a.m. by Rev. Alexander Dillon.—N. Y. Herald, Dec. 14.

IMPORTS

To the Port of Victoria, V. I., for the month ending January 31st, 1866.

Table of imports from San Francisco, including items like Apples, Alcohol, Brandy, Beef, Bread, Bacon, Butter, Books, Candles, Coal, Corn, Flour, Fruit, Glass, Hardware, Hops, Hides, Iron, Lard, Leather, Liqueurs, Malt, Matches, Meats, Millinery, Moulds, Opium, Paper, Pickles, Potatoes, Raisins, Rice, Salt, Soap, Spices, Sugar, Tea, Tobacco, Trunks, Wine, and Wool.

FROM PORTLAND.

Table of imports from Portland, including items like Apples, Ale and Porter, Bread, Bran, Butter, Cattle, Chickens, Eggs, Flour, Fruit, Glass, Hardware, Hops, Hides, Iron, Lard, Leather, Liqueurs, Malt, Matches, Meats, Millinery, Moulds, Opium, Paper, Pickles, Potatoes, Raisins, Rice, Salt, Soap, Spices, Sugar, Tea, Tobacco, Trunks, Wine, and Wool.

FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Table of imports from British Columbia, including items like Hides, Lumber, Oysters, Fish, and Sheep.

FROM SAN JUAN.

Table of imports from San Juan, including items like Potatoes and Oats.

FROM ENGLAND.

Table of imports from England, including items like Books, Private effects, Ale and Porter, Belling, Vinegar, Machinery, Merchandise, Hardware, and Paper.

RECAPITULATION.

Summary table of total imports from various sources, including San Francisco, Portland, British Columbia, San Juan, and England, with a grand total of \$1,124,924.

VALUE OF EXPORTS.

From Victoria, V. I., to American Ports for the Month ending January 31st, 1866.

Table of exports to American ports, including items like Assorted Goods, Pig Iron, Porter, Lignors, Tin, Tannin, Brandy, Coffee, Miscellaneous goods, Furs, Skins, Linen, and Recapitulation.

COAL EXPORTS.

Statement of Vessels departed from Nanaimo, V. I., during the month of January, 1866.

Table of coal exports, listing vessel names, masters, tonnage, and destinations.

MEMORANDA.

Per steamer ACTIVE from San Francisco—Left Portland February 1st at 12 M.; arrived at Astoria at 7 P. M.; left Astoria Feb. 2d at 10.30 A. M.; crossed Columbia River Bar at 1 P. M.; arrived at Victoria Feb. 3 at 3 P. M.

Per brig TANNER, Captain McCarty, from San Francisco—Sailed January 9th; arrived at Victoria on the 23rd; left Victoria on the 24th; arrived at Seattle on the 27th; left Seattle on the 28th; arrived at Seattle on the 31st.

PASSENGERS.

Per steamer ACTIVE, from San Francisco.—Alex McKinsey, Capt Graves, U.S.A., Mrs. M. C. Erskine and child, J. D. Walker and servant, H. B. Brown, M. Kaum, A. Brown, Chas. Barker, James Barnes, Miss Donald, Wm. Ash-burner, G. C. Webster, Miss E. Webster, G. W. Chadsey, J. L. Chadsey, Ah. Fook, Ad. Sam, Cum. Tux.

IMPORTS.

Per brig TANNER, from S. F.—131 sks beans, 1 cs books, 1 do boots, 225 bxs candles, 1 cs case goods, 2 do cigars, 36 sks coal, 1 cs drugs, 3 do dry goods, 28 sks feed, 60 pgs fire crackers, 2200 lbs gun, 30 bskts preserved ginger, 1 cs glassware, 1 cs gum, 150 rolls matting, 100 bales hay, 1 cs bats, 150 rolls matting, 8 cs middlings, 1 cs olive oil, 6 cs opium, 8 cs perfume, 2 do pictures, 1 cs pipes, 10 bbls beef, 17 cs lard, 3 cs bacon, 25 lbs butter, 5 pgs cheese, 1 cs lard, 30 sbs rice, 1 pg saddlery, 1 cs seeds, 253 bxs soap, 10 cs bitters, 1 cs stationery, 171 bxs sugar, 60 do syrup, 91 bxs tea, 2 cs tobacco, 17 bxs do, 16 trunks, 5 bbls vinegar, 102 wine—Value, \$23,717.45.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

ENTERED. Jan. 29—Schr. Gazelle, Gollacer, Nanaimo. Str. Labouchere, Lewis, Burrard's Inlet. Str. Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Str. Enterprise, Monat, New Westminster. Str. Hamlet, Patton, Comox. Str. Ocean Queen, Watkins, Cowichan. Str. W. B. Naylor, Lake, San Juan. Jan 30—Str. Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles. Str. Black Diamond, McCulloch, Nanaimo. Str. Ringleader, Harper, Nanaimo. Str. Tanner, McCarthy, San Francisco. Str. Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Str. Meg Merrilies, Pamphlet, Nanaimo. Str. Sch. Discovery, Rudlin, Nanaimo. Str. Sch. Naimo Packet, Phipps, Comox. Str. Sch. Alpha, George, Nanaimo. Str. Feb 1—Sch. Matilda, Meldrum, Nanaimo. Str. Ocean Queen, Watkins, San Juan. Str. Feb 2—Slp Alarm, Hollins, Nanaimo. Str. Sch A. J. Wester, Mills, Port Angeles. Str. Enterprise, Moutat, New Westminster. Str. Bk Princess Royal, Marshall, London. Str. Feb 3—Str. Labouchere, Lewis, Nanaimo. Str. Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Str. Sch Industry, Carleton, Nanaimo.

CLARED.

Jan. 29—Str. Enterprise, Moutat, Burrard's Inlet. Str. Gazelle, Gollacer, Nanaimo. Jan 30—Slp Ocean Queen, Watkins, San Juan.

Str. Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Str. Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles. Str. Jan 31—Bark Mary, Williams, San Juan. Str. Sch. Meg Merrilies, Pamphlet, Nanaimo. Str. Sch. Black Diamond, McCulloch, Nanaimo. Str. Slp. Keturah, Coupe, Port Angeles. Str. Feb 1—Sch. Discovery, Rudlin, Salt Spring Island. Str. Slp. Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Str. Slp. Thornton, Middleton, Salt Spring Island. Str. Str. Enterprise, Moutat, New Westminster. Str. Slp. Ocean Queen, Watkins, Race Rocks. Str. Feb 3—Sch. Matilda, Meldrum, Sooke. Str. Str. Emily Harris, Frain, Port Angeles.

DEATHS.

At San Juan Island, on the 16th instant, the wife of Mr. Robert Firth of a daughter.

MARRIED.

At the residence of the bride's father, Black River, Thurston County, W. T., Jan. 18, 1866, by the Rev. T. J. Harper, Mr. Charles Goff, of Lewis County, to Miss Mary Shotwell.

On January 21, at the residence of the bride, Multnomah County, Oregon, to Mrs. Ruth M. Dow, of Olympia.

DIED.

In this city, February 2d, Barbara Ann, wife of Mr. Thomas Mann, aged 25 years. Drowned at Comox, on January 22d, John Alfred Hughes, aged 36 years, a native of England. New York papers please copy.

In this city, on the 29th instant, Heinrich Schluter, a native of Grunendick, Holstein, Germany.

In this city, on the 30th instant, Margaret, daughter of Richard and Janet Lewis.

In this city, on the 30th instant, of inflammation of the lungs, John Fyfe, aged 41, a native of Aberdeen, Scotland.

At Port Ludlow, W. T., January 12, 1866, of Typhus Fever, Albert Noyes, a native of Jefferson, Me., aged 26 years.

LIST OF UNCLAIMED LETTERS REMAINING IN THE POST OFFICE FROM 27th JANUARY TO 3d FEBRUARY, 1866.

Table listing unclaimed letters with names like Agassy, Adams, Boake, Bunting, Beckus, Beety, Coulter, Cady, Cochrane, Clench, Dean, Dennis, Edwards, Everett, Franklin, Garrington, Gibson, Gibson, Hason, Johnston, Kerr, King, Libby, Lee, Muir, McGowan, Meyer, Moses, McDonald, Nind, O'Hara, Roeder, Spelde, Simpson, Trefidie, Thomson, Westwood, Willis, Wilson, Waldron, Young.

HENRY WOOTTON, Postmaster.

BIG BEND!

To Miners and Travellers.

"THE FRENCH PRAIRIE HOUSE," 12 MILES ABOVE SHUSWAP LAKE, on the Government Trail to Columbia river, is ready for the accommodation of travellers. Miners wishing to carry their supplies to the mines will find there a very large and well-selected stock of Goods, Provisions, Tools, Clothing, and Liquors.

THE BRITISH COLONIST. VOL. 7. THE BRITISH COLONIST. PUBLISHED EVERY WEEK. AT VICTORIA, B. C. Single Copies, 25 CENTS. Subscribers in Victoria will be supplied with 25 cents a week.

AGENTS. John Meakin, Clark & Co., New W. Bernard's Express, San Francisco, Cal. L. P. Fisher, San Francisco, Cal. F. Aigat, Clement's Lane, G. Street, 30 Cornhill.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIAN ESTIMATES. The estimates of the British Columbia Government have been laid before the legislative Council. The items for the appear in dollars in cents, almost improvement, we are sorry to say presents itself in the whole financial statement. We find, with one or two exceptions, the same expensive establishment same exorbitant salaries and the same staff of officials. The reason given by Ball, the presiding officer of the Council, retaining things pretty much as they rather unique in its way. "It is a question," says Mr. Ball, "for this House to whether it would be wise, whether to be politic, to attempt to abolish the prosperity of the Colony and its population in perhaps two years might them to remake." Here we have the ability of being obliged to remake the two years' time set against the thousands of dollars of the public treasury. It is a rather novel economy certainly to tell the broker merchant to keep up his staff of office expenses, because in two years business might improve and the clerk be required. We cannot, however, out Mr. Ball as being the only one this new economic theory—we have ideas exactly among the principal of Vancouver Island. Let the count bankruptcy, but preserve us our office. The extent of the British Columbia trenchment is not even the \$30,000 by Mr. Birch, but, according to Mr. about \$18,000 on the establishments. "reductions have been principally effected in the managerial departments in the office. There are no reductions in the office campment at New Westminster—the extravagant list of Gold Commissioner Assistant Gold Commissioners, and the numerous aids. In fact in looking establishments we are led, by the official titles, the number of the amount of the salaries, unless as it were, to fancy that we are perpetrating the expenditure of the Australian colony of Victoria, with 600,000 of a population. For the Commissioner of the Columbia River Kootenay District, we have a salary of \$3,800 with an allowance of \$485, in all \$4,365 a year. Besides this office two assistant gold commissioners same district, with salaries and allowances of \$2,646 each. With a consideration does the Government credit these general are furnished with the additional \$1,500 for fuel and light—making a total sum of \$11,155 for three officers to look the miners in Big Bend and Kootenay. We add the other items of expenditure—clerks, constables, &c.—we have \$21,990 Cariboo East and West we have \$1,000 making a total of in round numbers \$40,000. For the Yale, and Lytton District and the District of Lillooet, there is put down the sum of \$1,000,000 the principal portion of which is easily saved by the establishment of municipal institutions in those places. Enormous the expenses of the above districts are, ever, we think they are even out-hered the departments at New Westminster. have first the Governor receiving the additional salary of \$5,000 as an offering the servile element in the Council. Of the acts which deserve reprobation at hands of the people of British Columbia voluntary offer by the so-called "people representatives" of an additional £1,000 T. Governor—an additional tax on the habitants at a time when they are stagg