



A TWO MONTHS' REMINISCENCE.

Reminiscences are sometimes instructive as well as amusing. On the 15th of January of the present year—a little over two months ago—a debate took place in the Assembly, in Committee of Supply, on the subject of police and stipendiary magistrates. In that debate, Messrs. Cochrane, Powell and Duncan took part, and voted that the office of stipendiary magistrate of Victoria, as well as the police of the city, should be placed under the control of the Corporation. A similar motion was sustained by these gentlemen in reference to the magistrate and police of Nanaimo: A few days ago we find our advocates of municipal institutions, adopting a very different programme. Not only did some of these gentlemen grow eloquent over the danger of turning the stipendiary magistrate over to the city authorities, but they voted for the recommitment of the clauses placing the police under the control of the Mayor and Council, in order that such clauses might be expunged. Yesterday Messrs. Cochrane and Duncan (Dr. Powell had left) voted against the clause in the Nanaimo Incorporation bill, giving the Council the power to "establish, regulate and maintain a police." Of course as things stand at present, to expunge this provision from the Nanaimo or Victoria Incorporation bill is virtually to destroy the measure. And yet we have these and other gentlemen of similar ideas in the Assembly talking glibly of municipal institutions. We have said that Messrs. Powell, Cochrane, and Duncan voted, little more than two months ago, for placing both Stipendiary magistrate and police under municipal control. On the motion of Mr. DeCosmos to transfer the stipendiary magistrate to the control of the corporation, Dr. Powell, according to the Colonist, said—"He had always been in favor of placing the police department under the control of the city (hear, hear), and would favor the motion, with a compromise in the salary, which he moved be \$1750." According to the Chronicle he is made to speak almost the same words. "He was always in favor of putting both the police and the stipendiary magistrate under the control of the Corporation. And as soon as a proper Incorporation Act was passed that must be done." There is not much ambiguity here nor sign of vacillation. Mr. Duncan, according to both papers, went even farther—"he was in favor of placing the police and goals (Heaven save the mark!) under the Corporation," and alluded in tones of indignation to the conduct of the police on the church reserve question, arguing if they had been under the Corporation instead of the general Government they would have made some effort to protest public right. Whither, alas, has the hifalutin fled! Have the "two short months" made as great a revolution in the hon. gentleman's feelings as they did in those of Hamlet's mother? Mr. Cochrane comes next, and we find this gentleman actually moving that the stipendiary magistrate be placed under the control of the Corporation at a fixed salary of \$1750 per annum. As a final proof of these gentlemen's determination to place the police department under the control of the city, we have their names down in the vote as follows:—Ayes—DeCosmos, Dennes, Duncan, Cochrane, Dickson, Cunningham, M'Clure, Powell; Noes—Helmcken, Carswell, Ash. We have said nothing in the foregoing of Dr. Trimble, who being chairman of the Committee of Supply, did not enlighten the House very much as to his ideas on the question at issue, but we have no reason to suppose, if we leave out the office of stipendiary magistrate, that his sentiments differed materially from those expressed by the gentlemen to whom we have particularly alluded. We would really like to know, if public men are to chop and change and swallow not only their deliberate words but their deliberate votes every month or so in the House, what is to become of legislation and representative institutions. Surely nothing could be a greater burlesque on a deliberative assembly, or tend to bring it into greater contempt. Of all the qualities that are most prized in public men is that of a steady adherence to a settled line of policy. The individuals who vote one way to-day and another way to-morrow, whose principles are as lippery as their ideas, are not only utterly useless but positively dangerous. With members like Dr. Helmcken and Dr. Ash, we know how to deal; and however much we may differ from them occasionally on general principles, we are always ready to concede to them an honesty of conviction—but with men who are like the conjuror's pea—"now you see them and now you don't see them"—the less the country has to do with them the better. We may in these remarks be doing an injustice to Dr. Powell. It is possible that this gentleman, although voting for the recommitment of the police clauses, had no idea of seeing the principle for which he had previously contended, signified in the Incorporation bill. It even proved that we have been wrong in placing him in the same category with the others, we shall take the first opportunity of making the

amends honorable. The matter will be quickly decided. To-day the question will come up again for debate, and the responsibility devolves on every member to be present either to kill or pass a proper Incorporation bill. If the police clauses be rejected the bill is dead to all intents and purposes; for we have no idea of seeing another emasculated measure foisted on the public of Victoria. If we are to be governed even in our local affairs from the Government buildings, let us accept the calamity in its entirety—anything is better than the wretched paralysis under which the city has been so long laboring.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Congressional. WASHINGTON, March 21.—In the House Price, of Iowa, on the committee on the Pacific Railroad, reported a bill to secure the speedy construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Ward, of New Jersey, said the friends of deceased soldiers buried at Arlington Cemetery were apprehensive that it should reach the heirs of Gen. Lee, therefore he desired to read a letter from the Secretary of War, which states that the Arlington property was bid in for the Government at \$260,000, at a sale for unpaid taxes January 11th, 1866. The certificate of sale would soon be placed on file in the Treasury Department.

The House passed the diplomatic appropriation bill, with an amendment authorizing the appointment of a solicitor for the department at an annual salary of \$3,000. The House also passed the bill to prevent railroads which have received land grants from receiving any compensation for Government business. In the Senate, Brown, of Missouri, introduced a bill to aid the construction of a railroad from Kansas City to Galveston. Ramsey, of Minnesota, presented a memorial from the Minnesota Legislature for the establishment of a port of entry at the head of Lake Superior.

The Senate passed a bill providing for incorporating the Kansas Railroad Company, and also a bill to punish counterfeiting or altering any bond. Cost of Government Printing. Secretary McCulloch contends that he must have complete control over all securities and postage of New York. The Chairman of the House Committee on Printing, in the report yesterday on printing the Patent Office Report made a compromise of the amount of paper used by Government calculated to open the eyes of the public. He says it uses one-thirteenth of all printing paper used in the United States, in fact by this it is the greatest publishing house in the world. And when it goes into the market to buy it affects the whole paper trade, consequently if reductions in the quantity used by Congress were made, it would have much effect in reducing the price and lowering tariff.

The President's Policy.—National Mass Meeting. Several Connecticut members had an interview with the President; among them Senator Foster and Gen. Hawley, Union candidate for Governor. The interview was of a private nature, and is reported to have been satisfactory to the callers. The President assured them he had given no intimation of a desire for the election of Senator, but on the contrary desires the success of the Union nominee, and is glad to see a disposition manifested by the people to support soldiers.

The House Election Committee voted six to three that James D. Brooks is not entitled to a seat in Congress, and that Dodge is. It has been anticipated for some time that Brooks would be ousted on the ground of fraudulent votes. A call is issued by the National Union Committee of which Alexander Randall 1st Assistant Postmaster General is President, for a grand mass meeting to be held at Washington next week to endorse President Johnson.

Telegraph to the West Indies. The Senate yesterday passed the bill authorizing the enactment of submarine telegraph between the United States and the West Indies with exclusive privilege for 14 years. Official Appointments. The Senate yesterday confirmed a large number of appointments, among them Edward McCork of Colorado, Minister resident at the Hawaiian Islands, H. Hawkins, of Nevada, Consul at Bombay, Wm. H. Seargeant, of Oregon, Indian Agent, in the Territory of Washington; Franklin H. Head, of Utah, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, for the Territory Grant, River Indians, B. L. Fairfield, of California, Agent for Mad River Indians; Jacob L. Houghton, of New Mexico, Associate Justice of the Territory of New Mexico.

European. New York, March 19.—The steamship Germania, from Southampton, 7th arrived last evening. Gladstone announced in the House of Commons that the reform bill would apply to England and Wales. He hoped then to state the course to be taken in regard to Scotland.

The Lord Chancellor's bill to make parties to a divorce suit complainants to answer any questions as to whether they have not committed adultery, was vetoed. The London Times says: The courage and decision exhibited by President Johnson in refusing his assent to the Freedman's Bureau Bill, confirms the respect in which his policy has been held in England, and will entitle him to credit as one of the ablest statesmen who have ever conducted a great nation successfully through a crisis by firmness, moderation and wisdom.

The prospectus of a new company has been issued. It is called the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, with £600,000 capital, for laying a new cable and raising the old one, introduced by Morgan & Co. with Mr. Peabody on the board of directors. It is rumored that Prince Couza has addressed the Great Powers, protesting against his forced abdication and soliciting their assistance, to obtain his reinstatement. Couza has arrived at Vienna. The Porte claims authority to intervene in the Principalities on account of the dissension between political parties. Masses of troops are being concentrated at Widdin, Prest, Chokos and Silistria. Paris has been selected for the Conference on the Principalities. Three regiments of Cossacks have reinforced the Russian corps of observation on the Moldow Chain frontier. Reinforcements were dispatched from Bucharest and Jassy, and military order established along the frontier of the Pruth.

Spain has demanded of Portugal the extradition of Spanish soldiers who had taken refuge in Portugal. Portugal hesitates to reply. Two regiments from Rome will return to France in April. A Montreal dispatch says that the excitement among the bank depositors during last week nearly exhausted the bank funds and would have crippled them but for Government aid. Depositors living fifty miles distant, came in hot haste to draw their little balances.

Portland, March 19.—The steamer Peruvian from Liverpool via Londonderry March 9th, arrived this evening. The House of Commons passed the bill for the abolition of church rates to a second reading, by 285 against 252. The announcement of the vote was received with loud cheering. It is thought the vote indicates an early solution of the question, although the present bill will doubtless be rejected by the House of Lords, as usual. The London Post asserts that public feeling is dead about reform. The Times continues to protest against dealing with parliamentary reform.

News from West India Islands. New York, March 20.—Further advices from Havana, per steamer Manhattan, state that the numerous recent fires throughout the Island, are attributed, by one of the Havana journals, to negro incendiaries. The discovery of a plot on the part of the slave traders to destroy one of the Havana newspaper offices, is reported.

The further progress of the Royal Commission in their work of investigating the Jamaican revolution, is reported in the Herald's Kingston correspondent. Abundant evidence, it is said, has already been produced to show that the affair was not morally a sudden and unpremeditated outbreak, but a deliberately organized rebellion, with the ultimate design of murdering or driving from the Island all of the whites. Members of the committee are reported to have left for England on the 26th inst.

The entire British West India squadron are ordered to Halifax. A strong feeling in favor of the annexation of the Island of Jamaica to the United States, is manifesting itself among the people of that Island. In Hayti, sixty persons charged with being concerned in the revolutionary movements that Republic, have been arrested, and it is supposed that twenty of them would be executed.

An Envoy Caught by Guerrillas. New York, March 20.—M. Saillard envoy from Napoleon, had left on his return to France. One of the Belgian envoys was caught by guerrillas en route to Vera Cruz. A concentrated effort will be made by the Imperial troops to clear the Rio Grande of guerrillas, and re-establish communication with the interior.

Affairs in Mexico. New York, March 20.—Advices per steamer Marietta, from Vera Cruz, show that the promised Imperial pacification of the country is as far as ever from realization, and the Republicans still maintain the contest with the invaders, and nearly all their stations with stubbornness and ability. Not the slightest indications of the withdrawal of the French is yet apparent. Additional Mendez over the Republicans in Michoacan is claimed to have been far more important than was at first reported, and he afterwards had a brilliant reception at Marlia in honor thereof. Gen. Mendez says himself he fought the bands of several chiefs combined, that he had a hard battle and that his losses were severe.

Confirmation is furnished of the critical position of the Imperialists at Chiapas. The Republicans are threatening the town, bringing their force within some 30 miles of the Pacific States, the Imperialists

were still confined to a few posts, the Republicans holding all the country. The latter had boldly attacked the garrison at Mazatlan on three occasions in five weeks. Lieut. Maury, Maximilian's minister of colonization, had left for England.

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MR. BIRCH AND CO. The miners of Cariboo, as have not met with much success, the gentleman at present of Government in British Columbia position to abolish the road negated by Mr. Birch. Can time to bear the brunt of British Columbia—the men Mr. Birch must look for a sal fact the whole Government rests, are to be crushed by a of taxation, or driven, as hunprising men have already b country in disgust. We can Mr. Birch on either his justic ment. His residence in New seems to have affected both son, in the responsible positio trator of the Government of a agree to a system that makes a country pay double the amo demanded from the other p difficult to conceive; it is even to understand the reasons as Birch for his action. Accordi monication to the Legislative C told that, owing to certain re made to him by lumberer prospectors of the hardships be entailed on them by p dition to the present duties impose of \$6 a ton, he has bee refuse his sanction to the Cou tion. Now let us see what sal is in this overwhelming reason been so persistently used by tors around the capital. Mr. B to impose \$6 a ton would be a the coal, lumbering and other quiring the investment of a lar capital before any return can Granting this, in what light upon the industries of Carib many of the projects in that re the investment of a large amo before any return can be expect the history of William's Creek of hundreds of thousands of dol on undertakings in which en capital had to wait during m month for a return? Where parts of British Columbia has fraction expended of that enor which has been invested in the schemes for developing the mine of Cariboo? It would be vain reply. Mr. Birch himself must the industrious investments of country are a mere bagatelle wh with those of the gold mines ground, therefore, does he g greater for the less? If \$6 a and impolitico on enterprises nee how much more unjust and impo in the interior, where the p ported articles are more than 500 But nobody, and certainly not th or miner of Cariboo, wished to lumbering, coal, or other industri of the Lower Fraser. Every one permanent industries like these fostered rather than retarded, ar would have been perfectly satisfie them exempted from the operation ton impost. Mr. Birch, however, the suggestion either directly or officials in the Council. If he the amount or character of the p posed, being the Legislator as v Administrator of the country he had any other substitute for the thought proper. He shirks the re however, of doing what he decl desire—equalizing the taxation of He holds out a kind of hope that Lilloet and Lytton will be abo that a toll-gate will be erected instead—a measure which so far ing to equalize taxation will on effect of making the miners o bear a larger proportionate w exempting a still larger portio Lower Fraser from the general t the country. The whole affair, glancing to end—the evident pande clamor of a few selfish, foolish New Westminster—reflects any credit on the Government. We have already alluded to A disinclination to impose \$6 a ton dustries of the Lower Fraser, but we say of his proposition to con posing \$40 a ton on everything in ately that goes to the mines? If \$6 a ton a wrong and an injury to on the Lower Fraser, by what extr process of reasoning does he arr conclusion that \$40 is just and exp the people of Cariboo? Is he with the British Columbian theo more difficulties nature throws in a population the more the populati be taxed—that the more energetic become, the more they should contribute to the General Govt It would really appear that this is the authorities of New Westmin been imbibing some of the civiliz of the Japanese, and have come to clusion that the more obstructions

The Weekly British Colonist

Tuesday, April 3, 1866

MR. BIRCH AND CARIBOO

The miners of Cariboo, as we anticipated, have not met with much consideration from the gentleman at present administering the Government in British Columbia. The proposition to abolish the road tolls has been negatived by Mr. Birch. Cariboo is to continue to bear the brunt of the taxation of British Columbia—the man to whom even Mr. Birch must look for a salary, on whom in fact the whole Government of the colony rests, are to be crushed by an undue weight of taxation, or driven, as hundreds of enterprising men have already been, from the country in disgust. We cannot compliment Mr. Birch on either his justice or his judgment. His residence in New Westminster seems to have affected both. How any person, in the responsible position of Administrator of the Government of a colony, could agree to a system that makes one portion of a country pay double the amount of taxation demanded from the other portions it is difficult to conceive; it is even more difficult to understand the reasons assigned by Mr. Birch for his action. According to his communication to the Legislative Council we are told that, owing to certain representations made to him by lumberers and coal prospectors of the hardships which would be entailed on them by paying in addition to the present duties the further impost of \$6 a ton, he has been induced to refuse his sanction to the Council's resolution. Now let us see what substance there is in this overwhelming reason, which has been so persistently used by the few agitators around the capital. Mr. Birch says that to impose \$6 a ton would be a great injury to the coal, lumbering and other interests "requiring the investment of a large amount of capital before any return can be expected." Granting this, in what light does he look upon the industries of Cariboo? Do not many of the projects in that region "require the investment of a large amount of capital before any return can be expected?" Is not the history of William's Creek, the history of hundreds of thousands of dollars expended on undertakings in which enterprise and capital had to wait during many a weary month for a return? Where in the lower parts of British Columbia has there been a fraction expended of that enormous outlay which has been invested in the numerous schemes for developing the mineral resources of Cariboo? It would be vain to wait for a reply. Mr. Birch himself must admit that the industrious investments of the lower country are a mere bagatelle when compared with those of the gold mines. On what ground, therefore, does he sacrifice the greater for the less? If \$6 a ton is unjust and impolitic on enterprises near the coast, how much more unjust and impolitic is his impost in the interior, where the prices on imported articles are more than 300 per cent. higher. But nobody, and certainly not the merchant or miner of Cariboo, wished to injure the lumbering, coal, or other industrial interests of the Lower Fraser. Every one knows that permanent industries like these should be fostered rather than retarded, and every one would have been perfectly satisfied at seeing them exempted from the operation of the \$6 a ton impost. Mr. Birch, however, never made the suggestion either directly or through his officials in the Council. If he objected to the amount or character of the impost proposed, being the Legislator as well as the Administrator of the country he could have had any other substitute for the tolls he thought proper. He shirks the responsibility, however, of doing what he declares is his desire—equalizing the taxation of the colony. He holds out a kind of hope that the tolls at Lilloet and Lytton will be abolished, and that a toll-gate will be erected at Clinton instead—a measure which so far from tending to equalize taxation will only have the effect of making the miners of Cariboo bear a larger proportionate weight, by exempting a still larger portion of the Lower Fraser from the general taxation of the country. The whole affair, from beginning to end—the evident pandering to the clamor of a few selfish, foolish people at New Westminster—reflects anything but credit on the Government. We have already alluded to Mr. Birch's disinclination to impose \$6 a ton on the industries of the Lower Fraser, but what shall we say of his proposition to continue imposing \$40 a ton on everything indiscriminately that goes to the mines? If he thinks \$6 a ton a wrong and an injury to industry on the Lower Fraser, by what extraordinary process of reasoning does he arrive at the conclusion that \$40 is just and expedient for the people of Cariboo? Is he tainted with the British Columbian theory that the more difficulties nature throws in the way of a population the more the population should be taxed—that the more energetic a people become, the more they should be made to contribute to the General Government? It would really appear that this is so—that the authorities of New Westminster have been imbibing some of the civilized notions of the Japanese, and have come to the conclusion that the more obstructions they can

throw in the way of strangers penetrating the interior of the country the better. If their policy means anything, it means—leave the resources of the country alone, gather clams and mussels around the coast if you like, take your double-barreled gun, your eye-glass and your yellow leggings and show that you are an English gentleman just come to the colony, you know, to have a little sport, you know; but let us see none of this prying disposition to know what is in the country—let us see no enterprise, no manly struggling with nature to wrest from her the treasures she has so long concealed, but a good, easy-going slothfulness that approaches as nearly as possible the vigor and the intellect of the Siwash; if this is what the British Columbian Government desire they are taking, no doubt, the most effectual way to accomplish it. If they intend to chase away the idle, fatigable and daring minds that have brought civilization to the Cascades, and wrested the Rocky Mountains from their rugged solitude—if their idea is to disgust the only people who can ever make anything of the country, and encourage a listless population that bears the same relation to enterprise that the fungus bears to the tree, they have shown an ingenuity in the process that is worthy of the highest emulation.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE

Tuesday, March 27.

AN INDISCREET EDITOR.—Our New Westminster contemporary in his attacks on the Victoria press resembles at present very much the mordacious bound laboring under hydrophobia; his "saaps" are just as discriminating and as much guided by reason. An editorial recently appearing in the columns of the Evening Post animadverting strongly on the fawning attitude assumed by the editor of the Columbian towards the New Westminster officials on the question of union, is attributed by the latter paper to the editor of the Colonist, and a string of vulgarities is in consequence flung at our head. The assertion it is scarcely necessary to say is untrue as it is ridiculous. When we desire to attack our contemporaries, we shall content ourselves with the columns of the Colonist. The point in the Post's article which seems to have excited the editor of the Columbian is an allusion to the guarded propensity of licking the hand that administers castigation. "Truly," it said, "no more could be expected from the abject spirit who whined forth from his dungeon a pitiable apology to those who illegally confined him." If this were true our contemporary should have treated the attack philosophically; if it were not, he should not have excited suspicion by getting out of temper. Under any circumstances he is out of his element as a public journalist if he cannot take a little abuse with a good grace.

BOAT RACE.—Last evening a race took place in Esquimalt harbor between the first cutters of the Clio and Scout, manned by mariners. The race was from the Naval Stores round a boat near the Powder Magazine and back to the Alert. The boats kept well together until the return on the home stretch when the Clio's boat got the lead and won by about four lengths. Governor Kennedy and family witnessed the race.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—The steamer Del Norte, Capt. Johnston, will leave this morning at 10 o'clock for San Francisco taking a few passengers and about 175 tons of freight, consisting of furs, skins, hides, brandies, iron, onions, etc. We understand that Capt. Johnston has courteously consented to carry the naval mail. She takes Wells Fargo's Express but not the regular mail.

NAVAL.—H. M. S. Clio, Capt. Turnbull, will leave this morning at 9 o'clock, for Mazatlan, coast of Mexico, whence she will proceed to Panama, where she expects to find the flagship Sutej. The Sparrowhawk returned yesterday from Port Angeles, whither she had been in search of property taken by deserters some time ago.

KEEP OUT OF THE WATER.—Among the hands engaged for the ship St. John, bound to Australia, we understand is the notoriously ubiquitous "Billy the B—g," alias Mr. John Costello. No man in this city has been more instrumental in saving his fellow creatures from a watery grave than this self-same John Costello, whose rough and uncouth exterior bears no indication of the kinder feelings of humanity that dwell beneath it.

ROYAL HOSPITAL.—We are requested by the Treasurer of the Royal Hospital to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of one hundred dollars, being the proceeds of the benefit given at the Victoria Theatre on the 22d instant, in aid of the Hospital funds, by the generous "Funny Fellows" of H. M. S. Clio.

VALER.—Capt. Turnbull and the jovial crew of H. M. S. Clio will take their departure for southern latitudes this morning. They will bear with them the best wishes of the entire community, amongst whom both officers and men have made many friends since their arrival on the station.

FOR AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Edwin A. Reeves, a young and rising actor, will proceed by the ship St. John to Melbourne, where we hope he will meet with sufficient encouragement to enable him to advance in his profession.

FOR NANAIMO.—The steamer Emily Harris left yesterday for the above port.

CHARGE OF THEFT.—An Son and Kin Foo two Chinamen committed for trial on the Langley street robbery, were charged yesterday in the Police Court on suspicion of being concerned in the robbery that recently took place at Farm cottage, the residence of J. D. Pemberton, Esq. Police officers Wilmer and Taylor were sworn and proved the finding of pieces of silk in the possession of the accused corresponding with dresses belonging to Mrs. Pemberton, which were identified by Mr. Pemberton. The prisoners were sent for trial. Mr. Bishop appeared for the defence.

GOING AWAY.—Dr. Cohen, who for the past three years has officiated as Rabbi of the Congregation Emanuel of this city, leaves this morning per steamship Del Norte for San Francisco. The doctor has received a deputation from his congregation, by whom he is held in high estimation, presenting him with a flattering testimonial, and has also received testimonials from the Masonic and Odd Fellows Societies, testifying the respect in which he is held by the brotherhoods.

FOR QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLAND.—The original company are communicating to-day by canoe with their working party at the coal mine on the above island. Letters and papers will be acceptable to the isolated workmen.

FOR COMOX.—The steamer Sir James Douglas will leave this morning, at 8 o'clock, for all the northern settlements.

FOR NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steamer Enterprise will leave this morning for Fraser river.

THE STEAMER RESOLUTE left yesterday for Meigs's mill, Port Madison, with hands for the ship St. John, bound to Australia.

Wednesday, March 28.

HABEAS CORPUS.—Yesterday morning, a few minutes before the sailing of the Del Norte Sheriff Naylor took charge, under a writ of habeas corpus issued from the Supreme Court, of a little orphan girl, about 13 years of age, daughter of the late Richard Smith of Saanich. It appears that previous to the demise of Mrs. Smith, some three or four years ago, she was visited by Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Cridge, and having a large family of young and helpless children she entrusted two of her little girls, in case of her death, to the guardianship of Mrs. Harris. The children have been properly looked after ever since, and the position held by Mrs. Harris as their guardian was recognised and confirmed by the father, who is now also dead. The elder girl was placed by Mrs. Harris with a Mrs. George, who upon leaving the colony transferred the child without the knowledge or authority of Mrs. Harris, to Mrs. Robertson of View street. The child was permitted to remain with Mrs. Robertson until that lady had sold off her property and was about to leave for the States, when Mrs. Harris interfered on the child's behalf, and as it appeared that the latter would be taken away from the colony, a writ of habeas was obtained by Messrs. Peakes & Green, and the child brought before Chief Justice Needham, who at once confirmed Mrs. Harris' claim for her control, and directed that she be delivered up to her guardian.

THE CABLE ARRIVED.—The submarine cable to stretch across the Straits of Rosario and connect Vancouver Island with the mainland arrived yesterday by the ship Heloise from San Francisco, Mr. Haines, the local Superintendent, arrived yesterday from the other side, just in time to meet the Heloise, which put into Esquimalt. The cable will be laid so soon as the necessary arrangements are completed, and it is probable that one of the war steamers on the station will be employed in paying it out. Victoria will soon enjoy the privilege of shaking hands with the rest of the civilized world.

MUSIC BY MOONLIGHT.—The Victoria Rifle Corps Band will not be disbanded as stated by the Post of last evening. Two or three members purpose leaving in a few weeks for Big Bend, and before doing so intend to favor the citizens with some favorite pieces. They will play from the roof of the St. Nicholas Hotel on Thursday night next, from eight to ten o'clock.

POLICE COURT.—Charley, an Indian, convicted of stealing some bottles of whisky from the premises of Messrs. Wilson & Murray, on Fort street, was yesterday ordered to pay a fine of \$20 or suffer two months' imprisonment. Two Tsimpsaan Indians, charged with assaulting a comrade, were each fined \$5.

ROBBERY AT SAANICH.—On Saturday last three white men landed from a canoe on the farm of Mr. David Bryden at North Saanich and in Australian parlance "stuck him up" on his own premises. They took from him a \$20 gold piece, a double barreled gun and his tools and then decamped, it is supposed for Cowichan.

THE HAREWOOD COAL CO.—Satisfactory advice were received last mail of the progress being made in the formation of this company. The share list includes some large capitalists, and the company is favorably regarded.

FROM THE ISLANDS.—The schooner Pfiel arrived yesterday from Honolulu, which port she left on the 26th Feb. She brings a freight of Island produce consigned to the Hudson Bay Company.

FROM THE SOUND.—The steamer Eliza Anderson arrived yesterday morning from Olympia and way ports, with nearly 30 passengers and the usual live stock and produce.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL met yesterday. Present—the Honrs. Colonial Secretary (presiding); Attorney-General, Treasurer, R. Finlayson, Donald Fraser, H. Rhodes. The motion of the Hon. D. Fraser for returns of arrears of taxes due, from whom, and in respect of what property, was, after some discussion, carried. It was suggested that the returns asked for would involve considerable delay and expense to the Colony, and were equivalent to the information furnished in papers now in preparation for the guidance of the Sheriff. The consideration of the Franchise Bill was again taken up in committee. The principal amendments proposed were that the registered ownership of Real Estate to the value of \$1500 one month prior to election; the enforcement of open voting, disallowing voting by proxy, the striking out of part of clause prohibiting persons qualified from voting in any town or district unless they shall have been bona fide residents in such town or district for one month preceding an election. The committee were occupied some time in discussing the disqualification clauses and the committee then reported progress, and Council adjourned until to-day.

THE GREENADIAN.—This steamer, which is reported lost on her voyage from Liverpool to Aspinwall, had on board goods consigned to Messrs. J. H. Turner & Co. and other importers of this city.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—The steamer Del Norte left yesterday morning at 9 o'clock, carrying about 60 passengers and freight as stated yesterday.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—The ship Heloise, Capt. Greenleaf, arrived yesterday in Esquimalt harbor, 9 days from San Francisco, having the telegraph cable on board.

HOLIDAYS.—The banks and public offices will observe Friday and Monday next (Good Friday and Easter Monday) as holidays.

FOR THE COAST OF MEXICO.—H. M. S. Clio left Esquimalt yesterday at 10:15 a.m. for Mazatlan.

THE "OREGON HERALD," a new Democratic daily newspaper, made its appearance in Portland on St. Patrick's Day.

Thursday, March 29.

THE MARSH FAMILY.—The pleasure-loving folk of this goodly city are indebted to the members of the Marsh family now sojourning amongst us for many enjoyable hours. Some three years have elapsed since the cheery rubicund visage of the elder representative of the family suddenly turned up in Victoria as a sort of histrionic patriarch. The attractions of his fair and talented troupe created a new interest in public amusements, and to a certain extent a new era was inaugurated in our local stage. No wonder then that the return of these theatrical favorites was hailed with satisfaction by playgoers amongst all classes in the community. After spending a winter season with us and enlivening many dull moments, certain prominent citizens have tendered them a benefit, which promises to be a very brilliant affair. Active preparations have commenced for the production of the romantic drama of the "Forty Thieves." The trials and tribulations of Ganem and Morgiana, and the picturesque rascalities of the dread Abdallah, with his sanguinary lieutenant, Hassarac, seem to possess a perennial interest with young and old, and there will be no diminution on this occasion. We learn the following cast has been decided upon by the managing beneficiary: Ali Baba, R. G. Marsh; Ganem, G. W. Marsh; Cassim Baba, W. A. Harries; Abdallah, Adjt. Vinter; Hassarac, Godfrey Brown; and Mustapha, the Cobbler, by Ben. Griffin. Morgiana will find a graceful and piquante representative in Jenny Arnot; and Alport, the "infantino" vocalist, will be a pathetic and devoted Cogia. The performance will terminate with Bruton's laughable farce of "Batling," in which Messrs. Rushton, Callingham, Harries, Young, Weynton, and others will appear.

CORMORANT STREET DENS.—The police magistrate was occupied for some time yesterday morning in enquiring into the merits of a charge preferred by a celestial named Sing Chong against a Skidegate Indian named Kil-out, for damaging his property. The partner of Kil-out's joys was also in the dock on a charge of D. and D., and when questioned as to what she knew of the affair became so garrulous and eloquent in the Chinook language that the police had some difficulty in stopping her. After hearing the parties the bench took the statement of Sergeant Blake, who said the Chinaman kept a number of dens that were used as Indian brothels, and were a great nuisance. A cross-charge of assault was entered against the Chinaman and Mr. Pemberton fined each \$10, warning the Chinaman against continuing the nuisance.

THEFT.—A man named Walker alias Wau-full was yesterday convicted of stealing a case of spirits from Wm. Lyons, of the Great Eastern, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labor. The prisoner admitted the taking of the spirits, but maintained that he got the case from a Siwash. An old offender and accomplice, named John Scott, was charged as a rogue and vagabond, and remanded on his own recognizance for ten days—a mild hint to "get up and dust."

ANOTHER PRAGAS.—A slight difficulty occurred last evening between a well known merchant on Wharf street and a real estate agent on Government street, resulting in a resort to attorneys. We refrain from making any comments, as the matter will in all probability be investigated by a legal tribunal.

CHARGE OF ASSAULT.—Mr. Herbert Gaston was charged yesterday in the police court by Mr. Joseph Frutin with assaulting him by knocking off his hat. The assault was admitted. It appeared from the statement of the parties that an altercation had taken place between them relative to some matters of business, when the complainant made some assertion which Gaston thought was a reflection on his veracity, and he thereupon committed the assault. The complainant offered to produce testimony that he was correct in his assertion, but the magistrate declined to receive it, and asked the accused whether he was not aware that he had transgressed the law. Gaston said he had acted in a moment of irritation and he regretted it. The magistrate then asked if he was willing to apologise, to which Gaston replied that he would apologise to the Court but not to the complainant; because if the same thing occurred again he should feel in duty bound to take the same course. Mr. Pemberton said he should have to inflict some punishment, and suggested, as the parties had arrived at years of discretion, that an apology should be given and accepted and end the foolish squabble. The complainant asked the magistrate to deal lightly as the apology was as much as could be expected from a country where bow-knives and revolvers were used. Mr. Pemberton would not allow such reflections to be made, and said if the complainant wished him to be lenient he would dismiss the case. He would, however, let the case stand over for one day to enable the parties to come to terms. Mr. Frutin asked for protection, and the accused was accordingly required to find bonds himself in \$500 and two sureties in \$250 each.

MASONIC.—An interesting ceremony will take place in a few days in connection with the Masonic body in this city. The brotherhood will lay, with the usual honors of the craft, the corner stone of Capt. Stamp's fine building now in course of erection on Government street, the second story of which has been leased for a Masonic Hall.

BOAT RACE.—A boat race for \$100 was arranged last night to come off on Good Friday, at 2 o'clock, between Lachapelle's boat "Glance" and Reid's four-oared gig, from the ferry, round Dead Man's Island, and back. The oarsmen are principally foundrymen and a tight race is expected.

Eggs.—Yesterday we were shown by Mr. J. Hoare an egg 7 inches by 5½ inches in circumference, laid by a common Island chicken, eleven months old. Mr. Hoare has also a maiden egg only 3 inches by 2½ laid by a chicken of the same brood.

THE GERMANIA SING VEREIN.—The last soiree of this association will take place on Tuesday next. As one of the pleasantest reunions of the season it will doubtless be well attended.

BANKRUPTCY COURT

G. E. Denno.—Second examination postponed until the 4th of April, to allow of settlement. \$150 were paid into the credit of the estate, by Messrs. Peakes & Green.

Aime Guillaume.—The bankrupt did not pass his examination, in consequence of his accounts not being filed.

A. Matheson passed his first examination. C. B. Young was appointed trustee assignee.

Queen Charlotte Copper Mining Co.—The liquidator was ordered to pay a dividend of 3½ cts. on the dollar, in this matter.

F. Blesh.—The assignee was ordered to pay 3½ on the dollar.

Mason and Revis.—The bankrupts received their discharge.

TASMANIA VS. AUSTRALIA.—In answer to the enquiries of "Susan," a maid evidently discontented with her lot and wishing to emigrate, the Weekly Dispatch has the following:—Tasmania is more likely to afford a comfortable home than Victoria. There is a good deal of wealth distributed amongst a small population in Tasmania. They possess over 4,000,000 sheep, which produce large quantities of fine wool, which is shipped to England and turned into hard cash. The people also produce an abundance of fruit, vegetables and corn, a portion of which is shipped to the neighboring colonies. Taxation is light; but Sydney offers a better chance of obtaining employment, because a large population is concentrated in that capital. Melbourne should be avoided. There is generally a want of comfortable homes. The houses are miserably deficient in space and the number of rooms. The supply of domestic servants has been far beyond the wants of the colonists, and the females who cannot find employment are soon reduced to extreme want. Tasmania is the smallest of the Australian colonies. New South Wales is nearly twelve times as large.

BILLIARD TABLES FOR MONTANA.—M. E. Hughes, of this city, has this week sold three billiard tables to a gentleman from Virginia City, Montana. The tables are of the finest finish, Phelan's patent, with frames of solid California laurel wood, and cost \$1,850. They are ordered shipped via the Gulf of California, the Colorado River and Salt Lake—a long way around but the shortest way home—and the freight will amount to about \$1,800. It must require some pluck and energy as well as capital to start a billiard saloon in Montana.—Atta.

IDAHO QUARTZ.—Wilson Waddingham of Boise, we observe, has made a sale in New York, through his broker, of 200 feet in the Esmaralda and 600 feet in the Ophir for \$125,000, the deeds arrived at Rocky Bay for record on the 17th instant. We learn from a person who has been in that country that a good deal of this claim is not worth much.

STOMACHIC WEAKNESS... PSINE... HOUSE, CARIBOO... & CO'S... MURPHY... LIQUORS, &c... SAUL & CO... FRESH... & Field Seeds... ANTEED... CAREFULLY SELECTED... SS, Clover and Onion Seeds... Fluid Magnesia... tomach, Headache, Indigestion, Sour & Bilious Affections... OUT... GRAVEL, and other complaints... Irritability of Skin... FORD & CO., LONDON... and Storekeepers throughout the Colonies.

Tuesday, April 3, 1866.  
THE RECORD OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.

The general municipal bill introduced into the House yesterday completes the programme of the liberal party in the Assembly. The public have now before them the measures with which this party have identified themselves. From the beginning to the end there have been but two objects in view—to have the government carried on at the lowest possible cost, and in accordance with the popular wish. With the first of these two objects our readers are pretty familiar. Retrenchment was inaugurated and carried out by the liberal members against all and every opposition—offices were abolished, salaries reduced, and general expenses cut down, to an amount running between \$30,000 and \$70,000. While this reduction was made public works were largely increased. The Executive's insignificant \$4,500 for roads was raised to \$45,000, and a steam subsidy, giving us steady communication with San Francisco, was granted. The party, in order to carry out their scheme of economy, found it necessary to call into action that power of the Lower House which had heretofore lain dormant—the right to initiate money votes. In the scheme of retrenchment as well as in this latter position the liberal members have been sustained by the entire population—in fact the only opposition was to be found coming through the very feeble tin-whistle of our morning contemporary. A few of the reduced officials and Government parasites essayed a little blast, but their efforts sounded more like the last notes of porking agony, than the forcible expression of men who felt themselves in the right, and the public only laughed contemptuously at both the paper and its unfortunate adherents. If we come to the legislation we shall find the measures of the party no less popular and no less necessary. The country has been day by day suffering more than we can well describe through the pernicious law of imprisonment for debt, and the want of a Homestead Act, and almost the first thing the Liberal party did was to introduce a bill for the abolition of the first, and a measure to secure to the inhabitants the benefit of the second. The mechanics wanted some protection for their labor, and a Mechanics' Lien bill was drawn up and carried through. To give an untrammelled expression to popular opinion a liberal Franchise Act was brought forward, and to give to Comox and Cowichan—our two principal agricultural districts—representation in the House of Assembly, a bill was also introduced. These, and a host of other measures almost equally necessary were carried through the Assembly and sent to the Upper House. If we come to the Ways and Means, we shall find acceptable reductions made, and equally agreeable imposts levied. We shall find the obnoxious Real Estate Tax repealed and in its stead a system of municipal government established that, while making real estate contribute to the general improvement of the country, by the expenditure of its taxation on public works and on maintaining "peace order and good government" in the various districts, will do away with the present generator of endless litigation and train up the inhabitants to a knowledge of self-government. The Salary Tax has been abolished, because, while raising but \$2500, it has created a very great deal of discontent among artisans and others. The half yearly license and the country liquor licenses have been reduced; the farming interest has been further stimulated by an impost on hay and the lumberers have had an additional encouragement afforded, by a duty on lumber; while, however, the industries of the country have been generally fostered, no interference has taken place in the commerce of the colony. Such is the record of the Liberal party in the House, and it is one which for the first time in Vancouver Island history has met with almost the unanimous support of the inhabitants: When we come to the record of their opponents, what is there to be seen? Nothing! absolutely nothing! In vain we look for their bills, in vain even for their attempted legislation—everything is a blank. On the shoulders of a few men has devolved the whole of the initiatory work of the session. We do not say this boastfully—we merely state a fact. The opposition in the House have not only done nothing, comparatively speaking, themselves, but they have retarded and thwarted in many instances the best measures that have been introduced. The issues, however, are now removed to another sphere. It is not a struggle between the members of the Lower House—it is whether the Legislative Council are to prove the incubus of last year—whether the demands of the people are to be met by the senseless gibes of a few silly officials—aged as well as youthful—whether the practical experience of the people and their representatives are to be thrown aside by quibbling ninnyes—whether, in fact, the prosperity of the country is to be jeopardized in this year of 1866, when everything looks hopeful, by a number of people who have been picketed on the public of Vancouver Island, and who have fastened like leeches to its Treasury. Whatever a few renegades in

the Assembly may say or do, or a few object scribbled like those of the *Chronicle* write, the people are of but one mind, and the Upper House may, before many months, feel the unpleasant effects of that unity in a manner they little wot of.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The steamer Enterprise arrived yesterday from New Westminster with 35 passengers and a Cariboo Express. Among the passengers was Mr. Ormanby, Express Messenger of the Bank of British Columbia, direct from Williams Creek, Cariboo, whose news is contained in the following supplied to the *British Columbian*:

LATER FROM CARIBOO

\$75,000 in Treasure.

The steamers Lillooet and Onward arrived from Yale on Monday, the latter bringing a Cariboo Express, with dates to the 16th instant, and Mr. Ormanby, messenger of the Bank of British Columbia, with \$75,000 of treasure belonging to that institution. The news from the diggings is not of a startling character, although highly encouraging. The weather was favorable and work had been resumed in many claims. Several claims had been worked above Richfield during the winter, most of them paying \$10 a day to the land. The tunnels in Conklin's Gulch have been run into the hill to a considerable distance, and in some of them good pay has been struck in the gravel. In the Australian Claim, opposite this gulch, two days' work produced 103 ounces. They washed the week before the express left 300 ounces. In the Cameron Claim they were working with rockers, and making \$10 a day to the hand, some of them as much as \$15, exclusive of twenty-five per cent paid into the treasury of the company. The Prince of Wales is paying over wages. The Union Quartz Company, in Conklin's Gulch were sinking a shaft. A good deal of prospecting has been done in the hills during the winter. Duncan McMartin and a company of 16 have been driving a tunnel on the other side of the hill from the creek towards Richfield. Johnny Bryant and a company of 15 had run a tunnel from near the head of Conklin's Gulch in the same direction. The Aurora Company are running a tunnel. A tunnel has been run into the hill on the west side, near the old Diller claim, and the men say that from prospects obtained it will pay well. The San Francisco Company on the opposite side of the creek, have commenced to put a shaft down. The Bed Rock Flume Company have got through a great deal of work this winter, and it is expected that the Bed Rock Drain will be completed as far up as Barkerville by the end of June. The Wake-up-Jake Company are sinking a shaft at the upper end of their ground. The Moffatt Company were to be at work in a day or two. The New York Company were working, and taking out a little gold. The Surprise Company, below the Morning Star, had put in a tunnel over 300 feet. The Black Douglas Company (Marysville) had been working all winter driving into the hill. It is believed these hills will be well prospected this season. The Cameron and the Dead Broke Companies were cleaning out their sluice boxes and would commence washing on the 16th. The market prices had undergone little change. It is estimated that steady employment will be found on Williams Creek, this season, for from 800 to 1000 more men than are there at present, and it appears to be the prevailing opinion that these mines will yield much more gold this year than they did last. The Reading Room has been well patronized during the winter, and has been very comfortable, while the debates have been well attended and listened to with much interest. The *Cariboo*, a manuscript weekly paper, under the able management of the enterprising proprietors, Messrs. McLaren & Anderson, has given great satisfaction, and afforded considerable amusement. Mr. Lang, manager of the Bank of British Columbia, had reached the creek in safety, and had enjoyed a pleasant trip. Mr. Evans, of the firm of Evans & Brothers, had also arrived. The travelling is described as excellent, there being good sleighing as far down as the Junction. It is understood that the Bank of British North America has about \$70,000 in treasure in its vaults on Williams Creek.

LATER FROM LILLOOET.

Great Fire—Important from Bridge River.

Dr. Featherstone arrived from Lillooet on Monday, having left that town on the 22d. The doctor is the bearer of the unwelcome news that a fire broke out in Lillooet, consuming a number of buildings. The Hon. Mr. Elliott has received a letter from Church & Co., of Guo Creek, in the new Bridge River Mining District, being about sixty miles from Lillooet. In this letter it is stated that they have prospected a good deal during the winter, and had found a large breadth of ground which will pay from \$12 to \$15 a day to the hand with sluices, or \$5 to \$6 with rockers, and that the ground pays from the surface. We also learn from a private letter that a party of three—Joe Wakefield, Bill Clark and Harry—men who had been working on the Cayoosh Bridge, and who are thoroughly reliable, went out to those mines a short time ago, and notwithstanding the snow, managed to prospect to some extent. These men had returned to Lillooet and report plenty of ground which they think will pay from \$8 to \$10 a day. They panned out \$11 in a very short time, but their provisions gave out and they came back. It is the intention of this party to return to these diggings in five or six weeks. Every one at Lillooet appears to be confident that, as to breadth of ground and certainty of yield from the first spadeful of dirt

to the bedrock, these mines will rank second to none in British Columbia.

There are 100 Chinamen at work on Bridge River, 15 miles from Lillooet, constructing a windmill. Several companies of white men are also at work near the same place. Travelling between Lillooet and this city is now excellent. Mr. Downey was met at Seaton lake on his way to Lillooet to survey the new trail to the Bridge River mines.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Council met at 3 p.m., His Honor Chief Justice Needham presiding. Members present—the Hon. Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Donald Fraser, R. Finlayson, and H. Rhodes.

NANAIMO.

The President announced the receipt of a communication from the Lower House enclosing a bill for the incorporation of the town of Nanaimo, and upon the motion of the Colonial Secretary it was formally read a first time.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary, in pursuance of notice, obtained leave to introduce a bill for legalizing the establishment of a Volunteer Corps in Vancouver Island, and in moving the first reading observed that the force at present in existence did not possess any properly constituted footing. In other countries enactments had been passed granting such military bodies a legal status; and though it was true that they had been recognized by the Legislature here, as demonstrated by certain sums of money having been voted them, it was far from desirable that a constitutional measure should be framed authorizing the organization. The Hon. Attorney General seconded the motion. The Chief Justice was anxious that no misunderstanding should go abroad as to the legality of the corps now in existence. It was perfectly legal in every respect, and it was indispensable to the welfare of the community that such a movement should be fostered. It was of the utmost importance to afford so valuable a body of men every facility for the embodiment of their patriotic sentiments, and in order to do so it was desirable to endow the members with legitimate powers for free operation. In Great Britain there were 170,000 volunteers representing every branch of the Service, and the admirable discipline of the troops was a subject of national pride. After alluding to the origin of the movement in the reign of George III, he said he was induced to make these remarks to prevent any misapprehension. The Colonial Secretary explained that in England there was a special enactment for this purpose, and the only motive which actuated him in the introduction of the measure was to act in conformity with constitutional precedent. Hon. Donald Fraser was glad to hear the opinions expressed by the Chief Justice, and he had no doubt the bill would receive ample consideration from the Council. The bill then passed the first reading.

THE FRANCHISE ACT.

The Council then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, the Hon. Henry Rhodes in the chair, and resumed the consideration of the Franchise Bill. The Hon. Donald Fraser then submitted the amendment to clause 8 proposed by the Colonial Secretary, which he stated he should have much pleasure in supporting. After inserting the requisite interpolations the alteration read as follows:

Absence from the colony for one month during the session of the House without leave of the House for that purpose obtained. In ceasing to be possessed of a registered property qualification as aforesaid of \$1500, or the incumbrance of the property in respect of which as shall at any time reduce the residue of such property below the market value of \$1500, or the accepting or obtaining of any appointment or contract from or under the Government, or becoming disqualified by reason of any of the disqualifications in this Act mentioned, shall *ipso facto* determine the membership of the member so absent or ceasing to possess his property qualification or incurring the same, or accepting or obtaining any appointment or contract from or under the Government, as aforesaid, and the Speaker shall cause a new writ for the Electoral District which such member represented to be immediately issued for the return of a new member in place of such late member. The amendment was carried *non con.*

With reference to the clause insisting upon every voter taking certain prescribed oaths involving the question of allegiance, which had been expunged by the Lower House, the Colonial Secretary moved the restoration of them. He stated that he was as liberal as most people, but he wished to see the principle of loyalty clearly set forth. In the course of his experience he had seen men in this colony come to the poll, and when these oaths were put to them they shrunk from the responsibility and went away without voting. It was expedient to apply this test of nationality. The Chief Justice to some length dilated upon the practice pursued in England. From the excitement which prevailed at election times it was found desirable to leave merely the fact of identity to be decided at the polling booths. Any other disputed point was adjusted by the revising barrister. However, it was for the Council to determine whether there were any exceptional circumstances in this island to justify a departure from such rules. Hon. Donald Fraser said that his Lordship had anticipated his views. Every precaution should be adopted to avoid giving the Returning Officer unnecessary trouble, thus reducing the probability of confusion. A protracted discussion arose upon the remaining clauses of the bill, in which the Hon. Colonial Secretary broached the idea that there were grave doubts as to the legal existence of the present House of Assembly. The previous House had expired by the effluxion of time in March, 1863. The period was obviously stipulated in the Act of 1859. Some of the members contended that the power to call the Assembly together was included in the commission of His Excellency Governor Kennedy. The Chief Justice said that we had really no written constitution to guide us, we rested chiefly upon assumption, but practically the constitution was recognized by custom. Hon. Donald Fraser was of opinion that it was the best system of Colonial government that could be devised, as much litigation and difficulty was thus avoided.

A desultory conversation then followed, in the course of which the Chief Justice said very emphatically "I have no interest to serve in this country, but as far as I can judge I cannot help thinking that if the colony could only obliterate all that has been done within the last eighteen months a golden horizon would be discerned in the future."

After some trifling alterations the remaining clauses were carried, with the exception of 9 and 11, which will be recommitted. The Council then adjourned until Wednesday next at 2 o'clock.

TELEGRAPHIC.

Eastern News.

(From the Columbian.)

Colonel Williams, well known as Adjutant General of the Army of the Potomac, has become insane, and has been sent to the asylum at Augusta, Me.

The *Charleston Courier* says it is hardly possible to imagine the extent to which small pox prevails throughout the entire South. In some places the blacks furnish the most victims, while in others the white population suffer most. No care to prevent its spreading is taken. Those who have the disease walk through the streets in the most indifferent and unconcerned manner in several of the large towns.

MEXICAN LOAN.

CHICAGO, March 23.—The Washington correspondent of the *Boston Post* says the new Mexican loan project should be thoroughly understood as it will most likely be reported back most favorably by the committee and pass the House. The correspondent adds that these bonds, to the amount of fifty millions, have already been paid. They have in the market been sold in gross five millions to a wealthy combination now bent on carrying a resolution of guarantee through Congress in order to secure the magnificent results that must ensue. This combination will pay fabulous sums for lobby expenses, and it is proposed to give the scheme every semblance of legitimacy by going so far as to secure the sanction of the Federal Government to equip several thousand men ostensibly for service in the cause of Juarez. Their expenses paid leaves a surplus of 25 millions; three millions will then be divided among the movers of this gigantic struggle. It is the biggest lobby job of late years.

EUROPEAN.

NEW YORK, March 22.—The following is additional by the steamer from Liverpool of the 10th inst.:

The London press generally speaks approvingly of President Johnson's 22d of February speech. A Madrid despatch says the Peruvian war ship independent proceeded to the Pacific to take part in the approaching struggle between Spain and Chili.

Special Dispatch to the "Colonist."

EASTERN NEWS.

CHICAGO, March 23.—Pike's Opera House in Cincinnati was totally destroyed by fire last night. The *Daily Enquirer* office and adjoining buildings on Fourth street were also burned. It was the most destructive fire that ever visited Cincinnati. Loss—\$500,000. The Ohio Senate has passed the eight-hour bill with trifling amendments, and if they are agreed to by the House the bill becomes law July 1st. It makes eight hours a legal day's work. Georgia papers publish a rumor that there will soon be held a convention of colored people at Augusta, for the purpose of nominating representatives to Congress from the Territory of Georgia.

CHICAGO, March 23.—The Committee on Weights, Measures, and Coinage recommend to Congress to authorize and encourage by law the admission and use of the metrical system of weights and measures, and also to introduce the system into the post-offices, by making a single letter's weight 15 grammes, and to cause the new cent pieces to be so coined that they shall weigh each 10 grammes, and that their diameters shall be made to bear a determinate and similar ratio to the metrical unit of length. NEW YORK, March 27.—The case of the Meteor, the alleged Chilean privateer, was up yesterday in the U. S. District Court, and the case comes on again to-day.

FRANKFORT, KY., March 27.—The Court of appeals has rendered a decision, which virtually prevents a soldier, Union or Confederate, from being prosecuted for acts committed under the orders of superior officers. NEW YORK, March 27.—An exhibition of the game of billiards took place last evening at the Cooper Institute. The players were Roberts, the English champion, Kavanaugh, Derry, Cahill, Grey and Forester. There were four games played, in two of which Roberts was victorious against Kavanaugh and Derry respectively. Cahill beat him at the French carom game.

President Johnson transmitted a veto message to the Senate to-day on the civil rights bill. The message has not, up to this hour (3 p.m.) been read. Senator Foote, of Vermont, is supposed to be in a dying condition this noon.

OREGON.

PORTLAND, March 26.—By a dispatch from San Francisco last evening we learn there has been another earthquake in that city, which was felt at Sacramento, San Jose, Gilroy, and several small towns in the interior. Chimneys in several places were demolished. Our dispatches give no particulars, owing to the wires being out of order. CALIFORNIA. SAN FRANCISCO, March 26.—Petitions are being circulated in all parts of the city, asking Governor Low to veto the bill expected to be passed by the Legislature increasing the fare on the city railroads. A "right smart" shock of an earthquake visited the city at 12:15 p.m. to-day. It was the most vivid reminder of the October shake we have had since that date, and sent quite a number of our citizens into the street. The funeral of Charles Peasley and Ben-

jamin W. Ballou took place yesterday afternoon.

Hon. Assen Burlingame, U. S. Minister to China, and Hon. B. Van Rensselaer, Minister to Japan, arrived in this city by the last steamer from Panama, and will spend a few days in California before proceeding to their destinations.

The marked decline in gold to-day in New York is a prominent theme in financial and commercial circles. The price vibrated between 125 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 124 $\frac{1}{2}$ , at which price it appears to have closed. The decline is generally attributed to the passage of the Loan Bill in the Lower House of Congress: Should the bill pass the Senate further decline is anticipated.

Exchange in New York continues depressed. Banker's sterling are quoted on the 24th inst. at 107 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Legal Tenders 79 $\frac{1}{2}$ @80 cts.

Arrived March 25.—Steamer Oregon, 12 days from Port Isabel; steamer Pacific, 3 days from the Columbia River; brig Franklin Adams, 20 days from Carmon Island, with sail to J. C. White; Bremen brig Helene, 59 days from Guatemala, coffee to C. A. Low & Co.; March 26.—Bark Clara Suteil, 62 days from Manila, with sugar.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27.—Arrived, March 26th, ship Valparaiso, 155 days from Baltimore; British ship Carlyle, 140 days from Liverpool; bark John A. Paulding, 95 days from Rio Janeiro, with coffee; steamer Montana, 3 days from Portland; bark Almatia, 5 days from the Columbia River.

The telegraph brings the price of gold from New York, 26th instant, at 126, and Banker's sterling at 107 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Greenbacks sold 80 @80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Brokers quote 80 buying, and 80 $\frac{1}{2}$  selling, which is really about the gold price.

HOW THE ANCIENT GREEKS FISHERD.

It is currently supposed that honest Izaak Walton was the father of the science of angling. Nothing can be more erroneous. The Greeks were masters of the rod and line 5,000 years ago. A writer in the October number of the *London Quarterly Review* says: "The old Greeks and Romans, having a particular weakness" for fish, were ardent followers of the gentle sport. "The existence of proficient in the art of angling," says Dr. Badham, "is competently attested from the scattered hints of contemporaries, and from frescoes, gems, bas-reliefs and coins." Athenian mentions the names of several writers who had written treatises or poems about fishing; as Caelicus of Argos, Numeus of Heraclea, Phanerates the Arcadian, Posidonius the Cretan, and Oppian the Cilician. With the exception of this last named poet, all these writers' works have perished. Seleucus of Tarsus, Leonidus of Byzantium, and Agatholus of Atreia, are also enumerated by the author of the *Deipnosophists*, as having written prose essays on this subject. Angling with line and hook, trolling, and even fly-fishing after a rather primitive fashion, were practised by the ancients; netting, of course, was in great vogue, while meaner devices to catch the fish by poisoning were sometimes resorted to, such as Homer refers to the art of taking sea-fish with hook and line— "As when the angler on a prominent rock Drags from the sea to shore, with hook and line, A weighty fish."

FISHING WITH RODS.

A rod was sometimes used in sea-fishing; or horsehair, must have been strongly made for the capture of large fish. A leaden weight was attached to the line to make it sink. "The angler at sea who used no rod," says Dr. Badham, whose interesting book evidences considerable knowledge of ancient piscatorial lore, "either wound his line round the left wrist [rather a dangerous proceeding should a mighty conger swallow the bait] and manoeuvred with the other hand, or else attached it to a boat-peg, with a number of hooks disposed at intervals, in a similar manner to our hand-lines; but when he ventured small for great ones, only a single large hook was fastened to the end of it. Of the third requisite to the angler's craft—fish-hooks—an abundant assortment, now in the museums at Naples, was discovered at Pompeii; they vary extremely in form, size, and mode of adjustment, and are manufactured of two different metals, some like our own, of steel (*nucleus ferri*), others, as we read in *Oppian*, of bronze— "His hooks were made of hardened bronze and steel."

GREEK FISH-HOOKS.

These ancient hooks, some of which were two-barbed, bore considerable resemblance to the modern kinds; some of the larger of these hooks were leaded, "the leads being formed into conico-cylindrical lumps shaped like dolphins, and named Delphini, after a certain rude resemblance to that fish." Of the following lines, which describe the ancient Greeks' mode of sea-trotting, apparently almost identical with the modern gorge-bait trolling for pike: He holds the labrax, and beneath his head, Adjusts with care and oblong shape of lead Named from its form a dolphin; plumbd with this. The bait shoots heading through the blue abyss; The bright decoy a living creature seems, As now on this side, now on that it gleams.

FLY-FISHING.

Fly-fishing is generally considered to be an invention of quite modern days, but it is certain that the device of taking fish by means of an artificial fly was known and practised by the Isaac Walton of classical antiquity. Martial, in one of his epigrams, alludes to the art in the following lines: Odi dolosa munera et malas artes, Imitator hamos dona; manqui quis nescit. Avidum vorata depicti scutum nescit. All treacherous gifts and bribes I hate, For gifts, like hooks, oft hold a bait; Who has not seen the scartur rise, Deceoyed and caught by fraudulent flies?

TELEGRAPHIC.—The Western Union Telegraph Company will commence work at Quenesmouth on the 1st May.

GOVERNOR SHYMOUR and his bride, we understand, are expected out in May next.

Friday, March 24.

PERSONAL DISPUTES.—It would be individual squabbles are the order of the day. It is the inevitable fate of communities that everybody should have an intense interest in the sayings and doings of public and private, of every body's serious antecedents are fruitful of speculative imaginations, and occasional or assumed, furnish a titbit of sensational gossip-mongers. The Frontin encounter came up for final before the stipendiary magistrate. The defendant Gaston was censured. Bench for his exorbitant conduct and aiv peculiarities, and was fined \$25; in addition to which ordered to find two securities for bound over himself in the sum of keep the peace for six months. The street fracas will be adjudicated by Supreme Court, and actions have entered for assault and battery of part and alleged defamation of the other. It is a matter of regret scandalous misapprehensions caused privately without any referential tribunals.

ESTATE OF G. E. DENNES.—In a paper headed "Paid over," our morning paper, who is addicted to taking other for inaccurate statements, yesterday some glaring misrepresentations. That the amount paid over by Messrs. & Green on Wednesday was \$130 & 23c, which the court had directed to be paid in. It does not the whole amount by from \$80 to the credit of the estate now paid in, not subscribed by any "Club" of the *Chronicle* is acquitted. The \$130 will not be equally divided among the creditors, as arrangements have been intended and will be made to full. More veracity and less animosity hurt our contemporary.

HOLIDAY AMUSEMENTS.—Our naval who contributes in no slight degree to time towards enlivening the month town, are busy preparing a caping's entertainment for Easter Tuesday. The time-honored play of "Douglas" be represented by the theatrical amateurs. "Alert." Although a bold and historic notice, report says that the performance will merit a liberal patronage. The new farce of the "Area Belle" in the programme, will be produced much merit, and will constitute atractive feature in the entertainment.

MUSICAL.—The band of the Volunteers afforded our citizens a musical treat night. A selection of popular airs were formed, on the roof of the St. N. Hotel, and the dulcet strains were heard and near, calling up pleasant recollections of gone scenes of gaiety and socialment. The members subsequently of a genial "stirrup cup" toasting hearty unanimity the success of the rades who are seeking their fortunes Big Bend country.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the committee of management of the cultural and Horticultural Society was yesterday at Messrs. Franklin's office, with Mr. McKenzie, Esq., in the chair. The resignation of Mr. Elliott, the efficient secretary, is about to proceed up on the 1st inst. was received and accepted, and Mr. Bales, of the firm of Jax & Co., of forists, was appointed Secretary. After some unimportant business meeting separated.

BIG BEND.—A letter from Captain dated Lytton City, March 22d, to inform this city, says it is altogether too expensive to proceed to the Big Bend. The roads are in a bad condition at present, provisions are very scarce, and there prospect for transporting any for some time to come yet.

ECLIPSE OF THE MOON.—There will total eclipse of the moon to-night commencing at about 20 minutes to seven, and shadow at about 15 minutes to seven ending at about 10 o'clock.

Monday, April 3.

BOAT RACES.—On Good Friday the race for \$100 announced to take place between Lachapelle's boat "Glance" Reid's four-oared gig created considerable interest. The course was from the round the furthest buoy and back, and of people collected on the wharves, and on other points where a good view of race might be obtained. The oarsmen each wore amateurs, not professional rowers but men of sinew, who trusted to their physical strength than their skill. The gig, steered by her owner, was the fastest away but was soon overhauled and turned. The latter boat then increased her lead, the gig rallied and endeavored to over her but to no purpose, and the Glance in several lengths ahead. The next event was a sculling match for \$25, a between Messrs. Glasgow and Alexa over the same course, which was won by the former. To-day an interesting for \$40 a side will take place between Glance and Reid's gig propelled by two instead of four, without coxswains. The winning crew will pull the former and well known Cariboo miner and another team will propel the gig.

The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, April 3, 1866.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Friday, March 30.

PERSONAL DISPUTES.—It would seem that individual squabbles are the order of the day. It is the inevitable fate of all small communities that everybody should manifest an intense interest in the sayings and doings, public and private, of everybody else.

ESTATE OF G. E. DENNES.—In a paragraph headed "Paid over," our morning contemporary, who is addicted to taking others to task for inaccurate statements, yesterday makes some glaring misrepresentations.

HOLIDAY AMUSEMENTS.—Our naval friends, who contribute in no slight degree from time to time towards enlivening the monotony of the town, are busy preparing a capital evening's entertainment for Easter Tuesday.

MUSICAL.—The band of the Volunteer Corps afforded our citizens a musical treat last night. A selection of popular airs was performed, on the roof of the St. Nicholas Hotel, and the dulcet strains were heard far and near, calling up pleasant recollections of by-gone scenes of gaiety and social enjoyment.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the committee of management of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society was held yesterday at Messrs. Franklin's office, Kenneth McKenzie, Esq., in the chair.

BIG BEND.—A letter from Captain Fary, dated Lytton City, March 22d, to friends in this city, says it is altogether too early for miners to proceed to the Big Bend mines.

ECLIPSE OF THE MOON.—There will be a total eclipse of the moon to-night commencing at about 20 minutes to seven, entering shadow at about 15 minutes to seven and ending at about 10 o'clock.

Monday, April 2.

BOAT RACES.—On Good Friday the boat race for \$100 announced to take place between Lachapelle's boat the "Glanco" and Reid's four-oared gig created considerable interest.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL has finished loading at Usalady and at last accounts was awaiting a steamer to tow her out of the Sound. She will call off this port for a crew.

ROAD TAXES.—A number of summonses are being issued before the Road Board for arrears of road taxes in the districts of Victoria, Lake, North and South Saanich.

BALL.—Administrator Birch of British Columbia will give a Ball at Government House on Friday evening next.

BOND'S MEETING.—No MONOPOLY.—At about 8 o'clock the meeting was called to order when the bill was read after which Mr Bond came forward and said that he did not come here to night to oppose the bill as a hole but this is some features in it he could not in Doras and sited the 1, 3, 4, 9, and 14 clauses With a greale of pains and considerable ability and argued that these clauses should and would he had no doubt Recive the strict attention from our members Parliament in whose hand We could With confidence Place our trust asseply When the God Given Rights of a free People is about to be assailed. Now sirs We have bined told that our Brads Ware Promis and our Water Shore and taking a view of natural Philosophy We have every assurance that our Wants will be supplied. Then again I call your attention to the 11th section of schedule mark "a."

THE THEATRE TO-NIGHT.—All those who attached their signatures to the requisition tendering a complimentary benefit to Mr. R. G. Marsh and his family, as well as his numerous other friends, must not omit to be present to-night at the theatre, where we have every reason to suppose that an excellent entertainment will await them.

ARRESTED.—A tall, powerful Greek fisherman, called George, was arrested last night by the police and conveyed to the gaol, attracting by his uproarious conduct a crowd of spectators. It appears that George, who is usually a quiet inoffensive man, had become maddened by drink, and created considerable alarm on Store street by discharging several shots from a revolver into the street, to the imminent risk of passers by, and by brandishing a knife. He also went to a man's house, burst open the door, and violently assaulted him. On information being conveyed to the police, officers Taylor and Mitchell proceeded in search of the miscreant, and found him at Bossi's, on Jobagon street. On his weapons being demanded, George struck Taylor a violent blow on the face, and was thereupon expelled, when he was arrested by the officers. On his way to prison he became very violent and bit officer Taylor's fingers. Two or three charges were entered against him.

FROM THE EAST COAST.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Captain Clarke, arrived from Comox, Nanaimo and way settlements on Saturday evening, with sixteen passengers, four tons potatoes, twelve bundles deer skins, and twenty sacks oysters. She experienced rough weather on the trip. There is no news of interest from the settlements. Snow had disappeared, and heavy rains had made the ground soft for the plough.

FOUND DROWNED.—An inquiry was held on Saturday on the death of an Indian found floating in the water near the Company's wharf, and in the absence of any testimony the jury brought in a verdict of "found drowned."

MECHANICS' BOATING CLUB.—We are glad to hear that it is contemplated to establish a mechanics rowing club in this city. A number of workmen have already consented to join the club, which will soon be in working order.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—The brig Tanager, with a cargo of live stock shipped by Mr. R. M. Hutchinson of this city, arrived in Esquimalt harbor from San Francisco on Thursday night last.

THE SUBMARINE CABLE has been discharged at Esquimalt from the Heloise. The steamer Sir James Douglas left yesterday to tow the Heloise to Nanaimo.

ROAD TAXES.—A number of summonses are being issued before the Road Board for arrears of road taxes in the districts of Victoria, Lake, North and South Saanich.

FROM NEW WESTMINSTER.—The steam yacht Leviathan with D. C. Maunsel, Esq., on board, came down from New Westminster on Saturday.

BALL.—Administrator Birch of British Columbia will give a Ball at Government House on Friday evening next.

NEW BED OF OYSTERS.—The Sir James Douglas on Saturday brought down from Comox twenty sacks of oysters from a new bed that Mr. Hart claims to have discovered.

SOIREE.—The last of the series of monthly Soirees given by the Germania Sing Verein will take place to-morrow evening.

ACCIDENT.—On Good Friday a Mr. Fox was severely injured by a fall from his horse.

NAVAL PERFORMANCE.—The gallant men of H.M.S. Alert will cater for the public amusement, to-morrow evening, in the theatre.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY did not meet on Saturday.

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

"WE WON'T GO HOME TILL MORNING, AND THEN WE WON'T GO HOME"—We have received a prospectus of a new club, to be called "The Young England One O'Clock Club," and we find that "a number of gentlemen living in London in chambers (or during the season), having found the One O'Clock Closing Act at times exceedingly irksome, have formed a club where the members can be supplied at all hours of the day and night with whatever they may desire." The members are to have the privilege of taking friends into the club house at any hour of the night. Old fashioned folks might think that when 1 o'clock comes it is time to go to bed; but Young England is evidently advanced beyond such antediluvian ideas.—Dispatch.

THE GOLD EXPORT TAX.—The bill repealing this obnoxious tax, we are happy to see, has passed the Legislative Council of British Columbia.

LIST OF UNCLAIMED LETTERS FROM 10th TO 31st MARCH, 1866.

- Austen, John Andean, W
Asirico, A
Beegan, Mrs Bessia, C
Berdan, S, 3 Brown, W V
Boake, B Brown, J H
Barrow, J J Brooker, A E
Booth, R Brown, A L
Bawden, A, 2 Buckley, E W
Baptist, J Blackman, A
Ballcock, A Burt, W H
Beck, A Brown, Miss L
Benslow, H Barwell, C
Byrne, J Bennay, H J
Cunningham, J, 2 Campbell, J D
Collins, J, 4 Calder, J
Campbell, N, W, 2 Caltunn, G
Crowther, R A Chartars, J
Clayton, J, 2 Craft, W
Connop, J C Costello, M
Charter, J Cameron, D
Crawford, W Clark, R
Collings, J W Clapperton, J, 2
Camm, J Cope, H P
Clark, Mrs G F Campbell, D
Clark, T W Cosens, R
Conuio, N Crossen, Mrs
Dale, D
Davison, Mrs Davies, E W
Dowling, J Davey, A W
Drillard, Monsieur Davis, E
Dunlop, S Down, S
Daugherty, J Dearborn, J A
DeVine, P E Driard, Monsieur
Doverney, K Downs, R
Dugan, J
Edmundson, B Ewan, L
Evans, W E Eastman, T W
Fowler, N, 3
Fisher, W Foley, W
Foster, R Foucault, V M
Foster, G F, 2 Ferguson, O
Ferguson, J Ford, J
Goesmith, M A Gray, J W
Gartrell, H, 2 Gyves, M
Gibson, X Y, 2 Gilbert, E
Gilbert, J Godsoe, L B D
Holness, J Hall, P J
Howman, E D Hersey, A, 2
Howe, Mrs J S Hunt, J E
Hilton, J Hollin, A

- Hofman, J
Hypolite, Monsieur
Huxtable, W H
Henly, H
Harris, J
Hushion, P
Hayton, H
Huttnchey, J
Holland, Mrs E
Hetchner, C
Harte, F W
Hong Ching Woo
Hopkins, H A, 3
Habermehl, H

- Innes, J
James, J
Jerham, J
Johnston, J
John, H
Jenner, M
Jones, J
Jackson, W
Jack, Mrs

- Kneebone, J
King, Miss
Kelly, A
Kelly, Mrs H
Kiefer, V J
Lange, G W A
Laing, C
Lyons, W

- Lees, M
Laidlar, J
Lindsay, Rev S
Lewis, D
Martin, H T
Murray, N
Murdoch, D
Mitchell, J
Moses, W D
Marshall, B
Montgomery, E S
Mitchell, S
McClane, A
Mitchell, J L
McLennan, R
McCrockon, W
Murray, J R, 2
McKay, H
Moallop, A

- Miller, J
McGravy, Mrs, 2
Magee, S H
Mansell, Mrs E
McDonnell, A J, 2
Monson, A
Marcoote, J
Miller, E
Monro, C
Megee, N
Mcintosh, J
Marshall, T
Muldoon, W
McDougall, J, 2
Norbury, T, 2

- Orr, R C
Oakley, W
Orr, R
Oliver, R
Oliver, W H
O'Donald, C

- Pascoe, J
Pringle, S E
Perdew, J E
Parker, J
Perkins, H
Pearce, P
Quick, L T

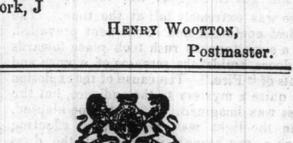
- Read, E
Reid, C
Robertson, W
Richard, A, 2
Roberts, C
Richards, A C
Realis, A
Robertson, W A
Ruhenan, A
Richard, F
Rose, F

- Shelbr, J M
Shouls & Co
Seip, T G
Stenhouse, R
Stephenson, J W, 2
Schaull, J
Sudden, J
Scammel, E R
Syrrell, J W
Sellers, T
Syres, R
Semlin, C A
Smith, J P
Sullivan, J D, 2
Sterrett, R
Speers, J

- Todd, Mr S
Tarley, J
Titus, M
Todd, C
Tong Sing
Tompkins, G
Taft, H G

- Ure, J
Vowel, A
Van Allman, J C
Warren, T
Wilson, J D
Wheeler, W H
Wallace, J
Wheatly, T
Williams, T
Ward, B W
Webster, H A
Walton, H

- York, J
HENRY WOOTTON,
Postmaster.



British Columbia.

IN PURSUANCE OF A RESOLUTION OF the Legislative Council, passed on the 22d February, 1866, the Officer Administering the Government, with a view of developing the resources of the Colony, has authorized the following Premium to be offered: A Premium of \$5,000 to any person or persons who shall first erect a Quartz Crushing Steam Mill in Cariboo, of not less than 60 horse power, capable of working two batteries each of four stamps of the weight of 800 lbs. The Mill to be in working order on or before the 30th September next, and to have been worked for three months, to the satisfaction of the Assistant Gold Commissioner, before the premium is payable. The Governor in Council to be the sole judge as to whether the above premium is to be awarded. By command, HENRY M. BALL, Acting Secretary.

GOLDEN GATE FLOURING MILLS, 430 Pine Street, SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 16, 1866. HAVING BEEN TAKEN AT AN INFERIOR grade of Flour has been respoked and offered in the Victoria Market, branded "GOLDEN GATE SUPERFINE FLOUR." We beg to call the attention of merchants and consumers to the subject. All the prominent business houses who deal in flour keep on hand our brand, and it is, therefore, for their interest to join us in tracing out this article; if it has really been perpetrated. We shall be very grateful to them, and all our patrons, for such aid as they may afford in discovering the facts in the matter. Respectfully, HORACE DAVIS & CO.

MARINE INSURANCE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PACIFIC INSURANCE CO.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT of the Legislature of the State of California entitled "An Act concerning Corporations," passed April 22nd, 1850, the Pacific Insurance Company of San Francisco makes the following Annual Report: I.—The amount of the Capital Stock of this Company is SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, and paid in GOLD 750,000. II.—The amount of the Assets is ONE MILLION AND FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS AND THIRTY-SEVEN CENTS.....\$1,651,480 3/4. III.—The Company has NO DEBTS. IV.—The amount of Insurance effected during the year, and which remained in force December 31st, 1865: Fire.....\$12,973,949 Marine.....484,408 This Company commenced underwriting Marine Risks August 1st, 1866. V.—This Company insures against the following risks, viz: BUILDINGS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, MERCHANDISE, RENTS, LEASEHOLDS, VESSELS IN PORT and their CARGOES, and OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY, AGAINST LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE. Also, on CARGOES, TREASURE, COMMISSIONS, PROFITS, and WAR-RISKS, and ON ALL MARINE AND INLAND NAVIGATION RISKS, TO AND FROM ALL PORTS IN THE WORLD. VI.—This Company will take on any FIRST CLASS RISK not to exceed \$75,000 (the limit fixed by law), and on all large risks will reinsure to an extent consistent with PRUDENCE in other RESPONSIBLE COMPANIES. J. HUNT, President. A. J. RALSTON, Secretary.

- San Francisco, January 19th, 1866. William Alvord L B Borchley Alex. Weill Moses Heller Abm. Seligman William Scholle Anson G Stiles Louis McLane John G Bray Oliver Eldridge A Hayward J G Kellogg D W C Rice A L Forbes C Meyer G W Bell D J Oliver Chas Mayne Alphus Bull Lloyd Tevis W C Balfour T L Barker John Wightman James De Fremery L Sachs William Sherman Frederick Billings John O Barl S M Wilson Alfred Borel Morton Cheesman G T Lawton William Hooper E L Goldstein John B Newton Moss Ellis Edward Martin P L Warner D O Mills David Stern H Haussmann

State of California, City and County of San Francisco.—On this nineteenth day of January, A. D., One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-six, personally appeared before me, H. S. Homans, a Notary Public, in and for the said City and County, and therein reading, duly commissioned and sworn, A. J. Ralston, who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he is the Secretary of the Pacific Insurance Company, and that the statements contained in the foregoing report of the Pacific Insurance Company are true, full and correct.

A. J. RALSTON, Secretary. Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 19th day of January, A. D., 1866. H. S. HOMANS, Notary Public. The undersigned begs to inform the mercantile community that he is duly authorized to effect Marine Insurance on behalf of the above Company to and from all ports of the world. J. ROBERTSON STEWART, Agent.

MAIL STEAMER TO Comox & Way Ports.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE STEAMER "SIR JAMES DOUGLAS" will leave Victoria for the Settlements on the East Coast as far as Comox, on the following days, weather permitting: Victoria to Nanaimo every week. 1st. Leaving Victoria at 8 A. M., on Tuesday. " Cowichin 1 P. M., do " Maple Bay 2 P. M., do Salt Spring Island (inside) 2:30 P. M., do Arriving at Nanaimo at 6 P. M., on Tuesday, and remain over Wednesday. 2d. Leave Nanaimo at 8 A. M., on Thursday. " Salt Spring Island about 1 P. M., Thursday. " Maple Bay " 12 P. M., do " Cowichin " 1, do " Arriving at Victoria " 6, do. Victoria to Comox every other week. 3d. Leave Victoria as in paragraph 1. " Nanaimo at 7 A. M., on Wednesday, arriving at Comox at 1 P. M., and remain over night. " Leave Comox at 7 A. M., on Thursday, arriving at Nanaimo about 1 P. M., remaining over night. " Nanaimo at 8 A. M. on Friday, then as in paragraph 2. By command, B. W. PEARSE, Acting surveyor General. 115 in. 16th January, 1866.

TO LOAN. SEVERAL SUMS TO LOAN ON APPROVED SECURITY. TO BE LET. HOUSES, COTTAGES, AND ROOMS IN the city and suburbs. Apply to THOS. ALLOP, Commission Agent, Government streets. Near Messrs. Franklin's.

P. M. BACKUS, Auctioneer and Commission Merchant.

SALES ROOM No. 6, Commercial Row, Wharf Street.

The Weekly British Colonist

Tuesday, April 3, 1866.

DEMOGOGUES AND THEIR CEN- SORS.

Men are really but children of an elder growth. They have their Santa Claus and their Raw-head-and-bloody-bones, their good angels and their bad ones, their ethereal benefactors and their unearthly enemies. Vancouver Island and British Columbia form no exception to the rule. The misfortune, however, is with some of our population that their imaginative faculty delights to dwell more on the horrible than on the hopeful. They cling to a hobgoblin with as much tenacity as Professor Pepper clung to his ghost, and resent any interference with their predilections with a very unghastly vehemence. At present, and for some time past, the bugaboo, the evil spirit, the raw-head-and-bloody-bones of this class is the political demagogue—the unscrupulous, unprincipled political demagogue. To this monster is ascribed all the malignant influences that of wont made witches so terrible. If a cow takes sick, if crops fail, if an epidemic arises, if houses become empty, if trade becomes depressed, the demagogue and he alone is answerable for the calamity. There is nothing of an evil character of which this dreadful being is not capable. The worst feature is, however, his fickle-mindedness and his ubiquity. You never know when or where he is going to strike. We have had many extraordinary instances of his diabolical power and peculiarities narrated by our morning contemporary, but the last number of the British Columbian shows more clearly than anything we have yet seen the inhumanity and inconsistency of the monster. Speaking of the late infamous plot to make the people of New Westminster pay something approaching their proper share to the revenue of the country our contemporary says: "Had the political cabal [demagogues] of Victoria set their wits to work for the purpose of devising a measure to accomplish what they have long striven for, viz: the destruction of the commerce of the colony and the reduction to the position of a mere mining ground for Vancouver Island, they could not have hit upon a scheme better adapted to that philanthropic and patriotic end."

We will not here inquire whether it is the "destruction of the commerce" or the "colony" that is to be reduced to the position of a mining ground for Vancouver Island; it is sufficient for the purpose to know that a cabal of designing demagogues in the latter colony have been endeavoring to build up Vancouver Island at British Columbia's expense—to take away the commerce of the mainland and make the country tributary to Victoria. This is something truly horrible and demands more than ordinary condemnation. Our contemporary quickly leaves the region of doubt about the authorship of the disgraceful \$6 a ton proposition, and advances boldly to that of belief: "We must be excused" he says, "for still thinking that if the history of the measure were known its paternity could be traced to that ambitious and unscrupulous clique of political demagogues who have dragged the neighboring colony down to the pitiable position of a mendicant, begging to be annexed to British Columbia on any terms."

We have italicized in both extracts the designs imputed to the political demagogues, in order that the inconsistencies and eccentricities of these disreputable characters may appear the more glaring. In the first extract we are told that the Victorian demagogues have endeavored to make the commerce and the mines of British Columbia—the colony itself, in fact—subject and subservient to Vancouver Island; but in the very next sentence it is said, these same demagogues have dragged their own colony down to a mendicant attitude, and made Vancouver Island subservient to British Columbia. In the one breath we are told that their great design is to enrich Vancouver Island at British Columbia's expense, and in the other to enrich British Columbia at the expense of Vancouver Island. Now, we think that demagoguism, with all its vices and its follies, is not so flighty as this. We are, indeed, rather inclined to believe that the inconsistency is more to be attributed to our contemporary's intellectual shortcomings than to the "cabal" eccentricities, and we would, therefore advise him in future to avoid the rather inconvenient habit of making assertions in the one line only to contradict them in the next.

THE EXCOMMUNICATION OF BISHOP COLENSO.—A copy of the notice sent by the Bishop of Capetown to Bishop Colenso prior to the execution of the sentence of the ecclesiastical authorities has been published. The Metropolitan offers to submit the judgment and sentence for revision either to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of England, or the Anglican Bishops of the Empire, but he refuses to submit it to any lay tribunal, and gives his reasons for this refusal. He notifies Dr. Colenso that if the latter accepts the appeal, he must give notice to the Dean of the Cathedral of Maritzburg within seven days, otherwise the Dean will issue at once the Metropolitan's sentence of excommunication.

A NEW ROUTE.—The Oregonian says that the people of the Dalles are interesting themselves in the opening of a route to Big Bend and Blackfoot mines by way of White Bluffs overland from that city.

CITY COUNCIL.

MONDAY EVENING, March 28.

Worship the Mayor and Councillors Lewis, Jeffery, Senr., Layzell, and Jeffery, Jr.

A communication was read from the Clerk of the House of Assembly, dated the 24th, enclosing at the request of the Chairman of the Select Committee on private bills, the Bill of the Spring Ridge Water Works Co. (Lim.) in order that the Committee might be informed whether or not the Mayor and Corporation are opposed to the granting of the privileges sought to be acquired under the said bill, and desiring a reply before Monday at 2 p.m.

The Mayor said there had not been sufficient time allowed to comply with the request at the desired time, and an answer to that effect had been written by the Clerk, but he suggested the nomination of a Committee of three to consider and report upon the subject as it was an important matter. Mr. Layzell thought the matter was one of great importance to the city and could be considered by a Committee of the Whole. Two Councillors were absent and it was advisable that all should be present.

It was finally agreed upon motion of Mr. Lewis that the subject should be considered by a Committee of the Whole to-day at 3 p.m.

NUISANCES.

The Clerk said he had waited upon the owners of the property on the ravine, complained of as a nuisance, and delivered a written letter, with the notice to repair culvert, to which no written reply had been sent.

Mr. Lewis said the opinion of the Committee of Nuisances was that it required an act of Parliament to compel a property holder to run a culvert through private property, and the Council could not therefore interfere. This had been a vexed question ever since the Council was in existence. The Committee had inspected the nuisance, and had seen the agent, Mr. Lowenberg, and had seen the culvert, who was willing to carry his portion of the culvert through, provided the other property holders were made to keep the water course clear. A rush of water had done some damage to Dr. Evan's garden, but dead animals and debris of all kinds were emptied into the ravine sufficient to choke up any culvert or water course, and it would hardly be fair to make Messrs. Joseph Bros. carry off all the filth and rubbish accumulated by their neighbors.

Mr. Jeffery, senior, thought the water course was a natural one, and it must either be left as nature made it, or the natural course kept sufficiently open.

Mr. Layzell said there was no doubt that Dr. Evan's property had suffered damage, but he thought Dr. Evan ought to contribute towards the expense of keeping the water course open.

The Clerk mentioned that the following property-holders had been complained of by the Committee on Nuisances: Messrs. Charity & Butler, L. A. Blanc, A. Baler, Solomon Brothers, Gerard and Pedro, who had been notified accordingly to abate the nuisance complained of. Mr. Passerard's yard, adjoining the Louisiana Restaurant on Johnson street, required cleaning out. Mr. Austen for nuisance on Douglas street between Fort and View.

SIDEWALKS.

Messrs. Cochran, Austen, Passerard, and Driard were notified to repair or lay down sidewalks.

Mr. Lewis drew attention to the fact that the earth excavated from Mr. Thomas' premises on Fort street had not been removed, and the Clerk was instructed to give Mr. Thomas notice to remove the same within 24 hours, on pain of summons to appear before His Worship.

EXPLOSION AND PANIC IN A LONDON THEATRE.—Recently at the Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, during the performance of the pantomime, and in a scene previous to the transformation, an explosion took place which shook the building to its foundation, filling the place with smoke, and extinguishing the gas throughout the theatre. The house was extremely full at the time. The wildest confusion and excitement prevailed, and a simultaneous rush took place towards the doors, amidst the screams of women and shouts of "Fire." The cause of the explosion was quite a mystery to the audience, but the worst was imagined. A short time elapsed, when the light was restored, in effecting which a gas branch in front of the theatre, which by some means got disjoined, and in the lighting of it a flame of fire shot out some feet, and thus caused a second panic; but being quickly put out all fear was abated. On order being restored it was explained to the remainder of the audience that one of the india-rubber bags used in the oxy-hydrogen light had burst, and the shattered vessel was exhibited as a demonstration of the fact. The manager stated that no damage had been done, neither could it be found that any person had been injured. The entertainment then proceeded to its close. Great credit is due to Mr. B. Wright, the stage manager, for his persevering endeavors to save the audience of their safety, and his calm demeanor was equal to the emergency.

MEXICO AND THE LATE KING LEOPOLD.

The death of Leopold may exercise a great effect upon the destiny of Mexico. Very indifferent to grandeur, the late King was not indifferent to money, and in thirty-four years he accumulated a fortune stated to exceed \$2,000,000. One-third he has left to his second son, another to his second son, and the third to his daughter, Empress of Mexico. One of the reasons which induced an Austrian archduke to accept his odd position as a satrap of France was pecuniary embarrassment, which this immense legacy will finally remove. Miramar with a great income may seem a far pleasanter berth than Mexico, without French troops or American reaction.

QUEEN EMMA will probably arrive shortly at Panama, and it is expected that the Clie will have the honor of conveying Her Majesty back to her Hawaiian home.

NANAIMO POLITICS.

MONDAY EVENING, March 28.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST.

Sir.—The asserting course of nature is upheld by sign and planet obeying one law, and the onward march of the moral world is secured by the subjection of systems and men to one common rule—the test of practical usefulness. This age is eminently practical, intensely utilitarian, and its men with stability of principle, purity of purpose, and with inflexible courage, to advocate and practise their convictions, in the face of all opposition and danger. Such men, we opine, are those in the House, who, in consonance with the spirit of the times, and in harmony with the urgent and necessities wants of the colony, have labored the last few months for the country's weal and right—against proscription privilege, and checking the revival of the long-ago exploded Castlereaghian doctrine, that "the people have nothing to do with the laws but to obey them," by commencing the retracement, and by severing from the official staff a few of the leeches who were feeding on the vitals and fattening on the life's blood of the colony.

At a crowded meeting in the Institute Hall, Nanaimo, resolutions endorsing the actions of the House were carried by large majorities. Of course the proceeding evoked the anathemas and maledictions of the "privileged" and their partisans. A few of the adherents to the doctrine of the *de jure* *Bomba* that "liberty is fatal to the people," having failed in effecting anything in the Hall, have since then flaminated weekly through the columns of the *Chronicle*. What effect they may have had in Victoria, I do not know but they influence the people of Nanaimo politically about as much as the baying dog affects the distant moon. Personalities, bitter invectives, base insinuations and malicious innuendoes are the chief characteristics of the correspondence that besmears the columns of your contemporary. And why? Simply because the duties of the representative of the Queen have been irreverently discussed by the profane lips of "vulgar democracy." Dear me! how intensely vulgar was Cromwell when he said "I would as soon run my sword through the heart of a King as any other man's," and how "vulgar" are the very people of Nanaimo because they claim the right to question the merits of the office of the stipendiary. What presumption! what profanation!

We wonder not at the ravings of the "scribblers." It is their fate to live in an age when "subjects as well as rulers are clothed with divine rights," to live in a land where the "Toe of Democracy" galls the heel of the would be aristocracy," goading them on in the work of progress and turning them out of the way. Hence the hue and cry. Not a stone is left unturned, not a schism is left untried, not a single "tool" is unemployed in arresting the decline of the "House of Hapsburg." If report is correct, they descend to the most unprincipled actions, such as appending to the late Petition for the retention of the magistracy, names of individuals without their consent or knowledge. As to their writings, we see they are surcharged with the most unscrupulous statements and personal attacks ever written. True, the number of "scribblers" seems on the decline. "Lover of Truth" has apparently backed down. "Fair Play" seems to be "played out," and "Spectator" cuts a sorry figure in his last. For some time he has taken upon himself the political censorship of this community, yet in his last he very candidly confesses his inability to continue the office, admits his political ignorance by telling us he "knows nothing about politics." The fact is his personal attacks and mischievous insinuations put him in a tight corner from which he must extricate himself, if in no other way, on his "marrow bones." I wouldn't be surprised if he does not appear again as "Spectator," though he may with his coadjutors appear again as "Old Inhabitant," writing advertisements for hotels and billiard saloons. "Veritas" is evidently hard up, and, as a consequence, has indulged in personal personalities, not only accusing his opponents of dishonesty, but libelling a Victorian by implicating them in the charge of assisting a "quirk of the law" in extorting money from the pockets of a generous friend. However honest "Veritas" may be in regard to what goes into his pocket, in reference to principles, I may say he is as honest as all latitudinarians, and can turn his principles round to suit his pocket.

NARROW ESCAPES FROM THE LOSS OF THE "LONDON."

The *Western Morning News* says:—"Some hairbreadth escapes in connection with this disaster are already known. A lady who was desirous of proceeding from Plymouth with her family to Melbourne by the London, had made repeated pressing applications to the owner's agents at Plymouth, and the captain had been consulted, but, fortunately for the applicant, had declared that his cabin was so full that he could not possibly accommodate her—a result that, at the time, caused her much disappointment. A second class male passenger was so alarmed at the rough weather which the London encountered on her arrival at that port that he immediately on her arrival at that port he came ashore, resigned his passage, and went back to his home, thus unwittingly saving his life. A young man, as the result of some family quarrel, left his home and took passage by the London. He was advertised for in the *Times* and importuned to return, his friends being aware of his whereabouts. Messengers were sent down to Plymouth, and an influential shipbroker in the town was employed to intercept him should he attempt to sail thence. Fortunately, he was detected amongst the passengers of the London, and his family communicated with by the broker, the result of which was that a brother of the young man came down to Plymouth and persuaded the would-be emigrant to forego his voyage."

THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE DISCOVERED AT LAST.

M. Frantz, a metallurgist, and M. Henri Faure, editor of the *France Medicale*, have just announced to the world that they have discovered a method for transmuting silver, copper and mercury into gold, "which," they say, "are only one and the same metal in different dynamic states."

IDAHO NEWS.

WEDNESDAY, March 28.

THE FOLLOWING NEWS IS FROM THE IDAHO STATESMAN FROM THE 8th TO THE 13th INSTANT.

INDIAN HOSTILITIES.—In Tuesday's issue we published a short note from Lieutenant Peppon in regard to the attack on Dr. Inskip's house in Jordan valley. The following letter gives more of the particulars and mentions also the killing of the other men since that time: Office Wells, Fargo & Co., 5th and Ruben City, March 5th, 1866.

More sad news was brought up from Jordan valley this afternoon. Last Friday evening about dusk, the Indians chased Mr. Osborn—horse and all—into Dr. Inskip's house and kept up a furious attack on the premises all night, completely riddling the board part with balls, fortunately hurting no one. During the night they killed a horse within sight of the house, built a fire, cooked and ate him up. Mr. Osborn got out of the back side of the house and went to the camp for help. Thirty soldiers were sent out but unfortunately lost their way and did not succeed in intercepting the savages, who continued their firing on the house until after daylight, and until about eight o'clock, when they left down the road towards the Owyhee. Some hours afterwards parties passing down the road found the bodies of two men, Messrs. Lockwood and Brown, who had been murdered by the savages and one of them horribly mutilated—being scalped and his heart cut out and stuck on a stake. Mr. Lockwood was well known here and universally respected, and his brutal outrage causes intense feeling hereabouts. I cannot get full particulars, but this is the substance of the lamentable affair. This band of Indians were about thirty in number and seem to have followed in the rear, Captain Walker's party. The rapidity and length of time they continued to fire on Dr. Inskip's house proved that they were well armed with firearms and had plenty of ammunition. Everybody is asking where this was obtained, and the universal opinion here is that it came from Boise City. While on are sending out men keep a watch for the friendly Indians prowling around your town.

THE MERCER FEMALE IMMIGRATION BUREAU.

From gentlemen in this city who were at New York during the time Asa S. Mercer was operating to get a cargo of women for Washington Territory, we are informed that some of the basest schemes have been brought to light concerning the transactions, and it is generally believed that the principal in them realized a handsome sum of money on account of the operations. The dispatches have, previous to this, told very hard stories, which the passengers corroborate, and from them all the inference seems to be that Mercer has acted very irreligiously. We have reports of the Superior Court proceedings before Judge McCann, of New York, giving full particulars of the alleged frauds of Mercer, the affidavit of the chief complainant, a communication from one of the sufferers, etc., which may not be uninteresting in time. The examination in the case shows facts substantially as we have before stated, and places the matter in the light of a huge swindle. Mercer, in selling worthless tickets to several hundred females for passage on the steamship *Continental* for Seattle, there was a deep interest taken in the trial by parties in New York, and our informant states that Mercer would have been treated roughly had the facts been made apparent before he left. As it happened he got away in time to save himself from this trouble. The story of the sufferers shows that the scheme was commended to them by those in authority, including the clergy. Those persons swindled were left destitute among strangers. We notice the name of Mr. Hilton, of New York, among those who have acted kindly to the sufferers in the matter. The *Evening Post* of February 7th, has the following on this subject: "Mercer, brought from the Pacific coast certificates of good character and social standing; and the Governor of Washington Territory gave him a commission as Emigrant Agent. He was approved by Governor Andrew of Massachusetts, who recommended his scheme to the New England public. It seems he has maltreated and deceived a considerable number of very respectable persons. Several cases of suffering have occurred; and the contributions of the benevolent should be so distributed as to relieve the immediate necessities of all who were deceived and impoverished, and whose claims upon the public sympathy are established."—*Oregonian*.

TRAGEDY AT PORTLAND.—A young man named George Badie, who came to this city in its early days, where he held an engagement as clerk, and has since been leading a vicious life in Oregon, was shot last week in a house of ill-fame in Washington street, Portland. He dropped down dead on the sidewalk while coming out of the front door, a pistol ball having severed a vital cord in the neck and lodged near the spine. Michael Gallagher, John Torrence and a female were subsequently liberated. Gallagher was held for further examination. The murdered man was buried at the expense of the taxpayers.

THE MARRIAGE OF PRINCESS HELENA.

The wedding of Princess Helena with his Serene Highness Prince Christian of Augustenburgh will, it is anticipated, take place on the 9th of June. According to present arrangements, there will be eight bridesmaids at the coming ceremony—two being daughters of dukes, two of marquis, two of earls, and two sisters of earls, viz., Lady Caroline Gordon Lennox, Lady Margaret Scott, Lady Alberta Hamilton, Lady Laura Phipps, Lady Muriel Campbell, Lady Fanny Fitzwilliam, Lady Alexandrina Murray, and Lady Ernestine Edgcombe.

FOR COMOR.—The steamer Sir James Douglas left yesterday morning, at eight o'clock, for the Northern settlements.

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE yesterday took away about 60 passengers, mostly miners bound to the upper country.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, March 28.

THE COUNCIL MET AT 3 O'CLOCK YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, HIS HONOR CHIEF JUSTICE NEEDHAM PRESIDING.

Members present—The Hon. Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Donald Fraser, and H. Rhodes.

DISTRICT COURTS ACT.

The President read a communication from the House of Assembly re-enclosing the District Courts Act, stating that that body could not agree to the proposed amendments. Hon. Donald Fraser thought that it would be advisable to urge that some reasons should be assigned for the course adopted, as some misapprehension evidently existed with reference to the provisions affecting the employment of agents in suits not previously sanctioned by the Court.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE COINCIDED WITH THE PREVIOUS SPEAKER, AS THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LOWER HOUSE COULD SCARCELY REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IN THE SUGGESTED ALTERATION.

It was a very dangerous precedent to entrust to irresponsible persons the power of wielding the machinery of the law, as it would lead to an amount of oppression which would be very lamentable. Upon mature consideration it might be deemed prudent for the Council to expunge the clause in question altogether, in order to protect the public interests.

Hon. Mr. Fraser was of opinion that it would be better to take time for deliberation before moving in this matter. It would certainly be requisite to remove the bias of the clause as it stood in the original bill.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

Hon. Colonial Secretary gave notice that on a future occasion he would ask leave to introduce a bill to legalize the formation of a Volunteer Corps.

NEW BILLS.

Upon the second reading of the eight fiscal measures transmitted from the House of Assembly, including the Repeal of Real Estate Act, Loan Act, etc.,

The Colonial Secretary remarked that it was impossible to take them up at present as they constituted a part of the financial scheme of the colony for the current year. He therefore proposed that they should be ordered to lie on the table for further information, which was agreed to.

THE FRANCHISE ACT.

The Council was then resolved into a committee of the whole. Hon. Mr. Rhodes in the chair.

The consideration of the Franchise Act was resumed at clause 7.

A long discussion took place respecting the expediency of disqualifying ministers of religion from sitting in the Legislative Assembly. The Chief Justice observed that he doubted the policy of excluding clergymen from participating in the government of the country. As a rule they were men of the greatest learning in the colony, and were generally men of enlightenment and chastened views. In a large community their deliberative assistance could perhaps be dispensed with, but with a limited population, it was different. The only valid objection entertained as to the propriety of their admission was their sectarian opinions, but they were invariably gentlemen of judgment and discretion, and their advice would be valuable.

The Colonial Secretary was content with the clause as it stood as disqualifying clergymen. It had been found to answer very well hitherto.

Hon. Attorney General was understood to say that a political career was not necessitated by dissent and contention was not exactly the province for ministers of the gospel.

The Chief Justice suggested that it would lead to give strength to the wisdom of our Government to add the Bishop of the Diocese to the Upper House, and one clergyman of high standing in the Lower. He deprecated an undue preponderance of any special element in a deliberative assembly. Professions of men naturally reasoned upon facts in such a groove. Their education conducted to such a result; but it was of moment to have the varied experience of the merchant, the scientific research of the lawyer, and the technical accuracy of the medical practitioner, to add weight to the debates. It was true that too much of one element frequently caused much mischief, but the number could be regulated by the enactment. It was not advisable to come hastily to the conclusion that ministers of religion should be excluded.

Hon. Donald Fraser said that it had occurred to him any alteration might be deemed a needless interference with the privileges of voters, and thus create dissatisfaction with the elective body.

After a further desultory conversation the clause was ultimately passed.

The remaining sub-sections of clause 7 were then adopted with some slight amendments, and the Council adjourned until to-day at 2 o'clock.

A CARD FROM A DEAD MAN.

COURTVILLE, Whidby Island, W.T. TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST. Sir,—In your weekly issue, dated 12th inst. I see reported the death of a Dr. De Lacy at Olympia. As to the best of my knowledge I am the only Mr. Lacy who practiced as a surgeon in Victoria, and many people will infer that I am defunct, you will oblige me by inserting this in your paper, as a report of my demise would naturally cause a good deal of uneasiness to my friends, who doubtless would rather hear that I am in excellent health and pursuing my profession in this Island.

I am, yours obediently, R. GLENN LACY, Surgeon.

We apologise to the doctor if the paragraph in the *Colonist* led to the inference that he was no longer a tenant of the terrestrial globe, but we think it will be found on referring back that it was one of our contemporaries who went so far as to give our "correspondent" his quietus. Under any circumstances we are glad to have the opportunity of announcing that Doctor Gilpin is not only alive and kicking, but is attending to the practice of his profession (in which his skill is acknowledged) among the good people of Whidby Island.

THE MUNICIPAL STRUGGLE.

TUESDAY, March 28.

THE NANAIMO INCORPORATION BILL PASSED THE ASSEMBLY, AFTER A STORMY DEBATE.

The great point was the system of police government whether the Executive should retain control of the police or whether it should or great as it might be, be placed under the control of the inhabitants. The House has decided in favor of the scheme. The Governor is to have power of appointing the members, but their pay is to be left to the Mayor, and their superintendence and control exclusively to the Mayor. We think it is but one opinion as to the action of the Assembly, and that one a hearty one. The principle of self-government is too dear to the heart of every intelligent British subject to be with impunity by any Legislature, the people want in every part of the where the circumstances will admit the power to manage their local affairs. They will have the power, despite any antagonism, come from what quarter. The miserable attempts which were made by a few members of the House to mangle the Nanaimo Incorporation bill a burlesque ignore the right of the inhabitants to themselves—recoiled on their own. There was sufficient manliness in the bill to rise above the wretched pand Executive power, and the schemes enemies of the public proved, as they will in the end prove, abortive.

The question at issue, although in affecting but a fraction of the people cover Island, embraces, nevertheless, the most important principles which crop up before a legislative body. It is ground, and not merely because the tants of Nanaimo will have a little say in the management of the police, deem the subject worthy of more than ordinary attention. It is on the ground a new country like this, where Governor are apt to deal in a despotic manner public interest, it becomes absolutely necessary that instead of adding power Executive we should transfer as much can to the people. Any person or persons who hold a contrary opinion are more fit for a Russian Province or English Colony. And yet we have creatures in our midst—we have indeed in the city of Victoria who would yield up every vestige of their manhood to a tyrant, and who would actually think it only a too unworthy offering shrine of Executive power. We have pharisees in the House and reptiles in the who glory in their own shame and atonion—who like the dastardly block yesterday's *Chronicle*, would actually with joy at the prospect of damage popular cause. Fortunately such creatures are rare on Vancouver Island, and nately they are as stupid as they are cruel. In all cases instead of exciting ire they become the objects of general censure and contempt, and have less with the inhabitants than the most w of the Flathead Indians.

We cannot say what may be the position made of the Victoria Incorporation bill to-day. But we know the public feel about the matter, and that they are even more anxious than they were when they transmitted monster petition to the House, to police maintained and controlled Corporation of the city. When we the size and character of that petition in fact of every respectable individual in the place—praying for the transfer of police from the Executive to the authorities, we are at a loss to know how person can have the presumption to in the House and declare that the inhabitants of Victoria shall not have what they shall not control what they are will maintain. There may be many offered to-day to replace the original situation—some partaking of Dr. Powell's resolution on the Nanaimo bill, others of a more cumbersome character pass what scheme the House may think will not be satisfied unless the tants some way or other shall have control of the police.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, March 28.

The Speaker took his seat at 2:25. Present—Messrs. DeCosmos, Trimble, son, Powell, McQuinn, Cochran, Cannon, Carwell, Duncan, Deness, Ash.

DISTRICT COURT ACT.

This bill came down from the House with some amendments in addition to made by the Assembly.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the amendments be returned to the Council. In perfect mockery and robbery under the of justice that parties should be put to expense for the recovery of small debts in instances a case of injustice that had become to his knowledge. The effect of the employment of attorneys or to the discretion of the judge was impossible an onerous burden upon litigants.

Dr. Dickson seconded the motion. Mr. Duncan would prefer the amendments sent to a committee, as he had understood them.



COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL REPORT. (From the Victoria Prices Current, March 26.) BACON & HAMS, (Oregon)—Prime, scarce, and tendency to rise in price.

BAYNES SOUND COAL CO.—This Company holds a Government Mining permit over 6400 acres of land situated to the westward of Denman Island and Baynes Sound.

VICTORIA MARKETS.

SATURDAY EVENING, March 31. Prices firm—Sales moderate. FLOUR—Extra, \$9@10 00 per bbl; Superfine, \$8 50; Common, \$8 25@6 50 do.

VALUE OF EXPORTS.

Table with columns: From Victoria V. I., to American Ports. For the Month ending March 31, 1866. TO SAN FRANCISCO: Assorted Furs, 325 00; Oysters, 90 00; Furniture, 133 00; Plans, 30 00; Coal, 141 75; Seal, 175 00; Clothing, 20 00; Printing Paper, 1098 33; Pig Iron, 797 26; Assorted Skins, 658 72; Dry Goods, 90 00; Fish, 1066 00; Fish Pendants, 20 00; Old Clothing, 401 47; Bottles, 160 95; Cutlery, 328 03; Curled hair, 315 00; Assorted Furs & Cigars, 1025 00; Skins, 2340 77; Brandy, 61 50; Brandy, 578 00; Plants, 61 50; Brandy, 578 00; Pig Iron, 1098 33; Brandy, 655 00; Printing paper, 821 21; Bottles & Rope, 86 00; Deer and Elk, 65 00; Glassware, samp., 1 00; Skins, 549 12; Coal, 1412 60; Pig Iron, 1650 00; Seal oil & skins, 1896 07; Liquors, 115 00; Brandy and print, Assorted Furs, 4088 85; Ing paper, 840 44.

IMPORTS.

Table with columns: To the Port of Victoria, V. I., for the month ending March 31, 1866. FROM SAN FRANCISCO: Apples, \$ 268; Meats, preserved, 116; Almonds, 80; Machinery, 35; Acids, 70; Merchandise, 173; Ale, 19; Meal, 687; Butter, 8,113; Nails, 1,173; Boots, 10,221; Opium, 97; Bran, 1,292; Oysters, 9,065; Beans, 250; Onions, 16; Billie's Tables, 650; Paper Hangings, 105; Beef, 859; Paper, 451; Bitters, 535; Paper, 173; Cheese, 1,016; Pork, 630; Candles, 2,940; Provisions—Chili, 780; Cutlery, 300; Rice, 7,502; Carcasses Beef & Mutton, 720; Soap, 1,650; Coffee, 610; Sugar, 82; Cigars, 13,165; Shandlery, 254; Claret, 1,359; Sheep, 688; Champagne, 1,214; Sundry, 785; Cards, 227; Sovers, 76; Doors, &c., 1,310; Sugar, 4,930; Drugs, 189; Syrup, 77; Duck, 4,188; Snuff, 72; Dry Goods, 77; Tobacco, 463; Express Matter, 799; Tobacco, 6,614; Flour, 19,451; Tea, 5,614; Furniture, 1,857; Trunks, 309; Groceries, 200; Toys, 85; Jewellery, 1,871; Wagon Material, 589; Hardware, 5,710; Whiskey, 3,760; Hats, 100; Wine, 109; Lard, 1,604; Yeast Powder, 1,302; Leather, 1,460.

IMPORTS.

Table with columns: To the Port of Victoria, V. I., for the month ending March 31, 1866. FROM ENGLAND: Books, \$ 497; Private effects, 1,727; Drugs, 1,680; Petroleum, Caps, 107; Gin, 2,935; Millinery, 3,050; Boots, 638; Iron, 1,608; Brandy, 12,300; Rum, 1,500; Dry Goods, 15,335; Steam, 419; Glassware, 450; Merchandise, 1,619; Carriage, 100; Stationery, 1,619; Lead, 350; Wine, 710; Hardware, 1,828; Shot, 125; Medicines, 684; Oilman Stores, 2,000; Tea, 759; Machinery, 156; Total, 68,688.

FROM PORTLAND.

Table with columns: Apples, \$ 304; Flour, 70; Bacon, 1,793; Hams, 470; Beef, 2,417; Lard, 688; Eggs, 50; Saddlery, 65; Total, 63,406.

FROM PORTLAND.

Table with columns: Apples, \$ 304; Flour, 70; Bacon, 1,793; Hams, 470; Beef, 2,417; Lard, 688; Eggs, 50; Saddlery, 65; Total, 63,406.

Table with columns: FROM PUERT SOUND. Apples, \$164; Grain, 20; Bacon, 36; Hogs, 145; Beef, 45; Hay, 136; Cattle, 7890; Onions, 829; Carrots, 10; Potatoes, 2019; Hogs, carcasses, 75; Seeds, 23; Chickens, 25; Turkeys, 5; Flour, 323; Wheat, 10; Total, \$13,225.

FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Table with columns: Cranberries, \$ 48; Laths, 16; Furs, 145; Lumber, 640; Isinglass, 66; Skins, 358; Total, \$1,473.

IMPORTS.

Table with columns: Per ship TANNER, from San Francisco—47 head cattle, 220 sheep—Value, \$5,000. Consigned to Hutchinson & Co.

IMPORTS.

Table with columns: Per ship ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound—15 sks bacon, 25 bxs apples, 4 bxs eggs, 32 hd cattle, 5 cows, 5 calves, 75 hd sheep, 2 hogs, 16 sks onions—Value \$2,673.50.

IMPORTS.

Table with columns: Per ship ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound—U Nelson & Co, R Greenbaum, J W Wait, Hutchinson & Co, Reynolds, Cline, Carson & Co, Fell & Co, Order.

PASSENGERS.

Table with columns: Per steamer ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound—L Betman and family, F Woodcock, Marrison, Simonton, Cans, Reed Shields, Street, Nole, Newman and wife, Miss Leife, M. King, Bartlett, Adams, Newell, Pardesa, and three nymphs of the forest.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

Table with columns: ENTERED. March 26—Str Del Norte, Johnson, New Westminster. Str Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Sch A J Wester, Mills, Port Angeles. Str Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Sch Nor Wester, Whitford, New Westminster.

ENTERED.

Table with columns: March 26—Str Del Norte, Johnson, New Westminster. Str Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Sch A J Wester, Mills, Port Angeles. Str Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Sch Nor Wester, Whitford, New Westminster.

ENTERED.

Table with columns: March 26—Str Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Sch Shark, Turner, Sooke. Str Enterprise, Swanson, New Westminster. March 27—Sch Black Diamond, McCulloch, Nanaimo. Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles. Ship Helois, Greenleaf, San Francisco. Port Angeles—Sch Winged Racer, Haines, Sch Thorndike, Thornton, San Juan. Slip Ocean View, Wainika, San Juan. Slip Northern Light, Montford, Port Angeles. Bg Pfeil, Zeigenhut, Honolulu. Mar 31—Str Emily Harris, Frain, Nanaimo. Brig Tanner, Black, San Francisco. Slip Thornton, Warren, New Westminster. Str Enterprise, Swanson, New Westminster.

IMPERIAL Fire Insurance Company. 1, Old Broad street; and 16, Pall Mall, LONDON. INSTITUTED 1818.

Invested Capital, £1,600,000. Rates of Insurance and every information will be supplied at the Agent's office.

BIG BEND GOLD MINES, British Columbia. The Safest, the shortest and the Cheapest Route to these rich Placer Mines is by way of Victoria, Vancouver Island.

Passengers going this way have not to cross the dangerous Columbia River Bar, and the distance is over One-Third—or 279 Miles—shorter by way of Victoria than by way of Portland.

The Governments of Vancouver Island and British Columbia have subsidised the following powerful steamers to carry miners from San Francisco to Victoria and New Westminster direct:—

The Hudson Bay Co.'s Stmr. Labour chere, Capt. Mount.

The Cal. S. N. Co.'s Stmr. Active, Capt. Thorn.

These, or other first-class steamers, will run on this route regularly, and will connect at Victoria with swift River steamers carrying passengers to Yale, a distance of 175 miles. From Yale to Savana Ferry, a distance of 133 miles, there is a splendid Government Wagon Road and Comfortable way-side Houses every few miles; over this road travellers can easily walk, or they can ride in Bernard's Fast Four-horse Stages. From Savana Ferry the Hudson Bay Co.'s new and swift Steamer Marten will run to Ogden City, upper end of Shuswap Lake, a distance of 111 miles. From Ogden City to the Columbia River, a distance of 84 miles, there is an excellent Government Pack Trail.

BRIDGE RIVER CARIBOO. Miners going to the Rich Mines of BRIDGE RIVER CARIBOO can do so by the Government Wagon Road from Yale, over which it is easy to walk, or travellers can ride in fast Stages.

The Steamers running from San Francisco for the conveyance of passengers, by way of Victoria and the Fraser River, being under contract to the British Colonial Governments, the Rates of Fare charged are very low, and passengers are expeditiously, comfortably and cheaply conveyed from Victoria to the mines.

Miners going from San Francisco to the British Columbia Gold Mines will derive another great advantage by visiting the FREE PORT OF VICTORIA. In Victoria, Miners can supply themselves with every article they require, free of duty, and 25 to 50 per cent cheaper than they can buy similar goods in California or Oregon.

Table with columns: Distance from Victoria, couver Island, to Big Bend, 473 Miles. Distance from "Astoria via Portland to Big Bend, 752 Miles.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF DISTANCES, COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AUTHORITIES.

Table with columns: From Victoria, Vancouver Island. To New Westminster, by steamer, 80; Thence to Yale, by steamer, 111; Thence to Savana's Ferry, by stages, 133; Thence to head of Shuswap Lake, by steamer, 111; Thence to Columbia River, at a point 30 miles above the supposed head of navigation, by Government Trail, 24; Thence to Gold Creek, by boats, 473; Total, 844.

Thence to the Dalles, Thence to Walla Walla, Thence to Colville, Thence to a point where the Trail crosses Shuswap Lake strikes the Columbia River, Thence to Gold Creek.

Showing that the distance to the Big Bend is 279 MILES LESS BY WAY OF VICTORIA than by way of Portland: The following Statistics, respecting the Time and Expense of Travelling from TORIA TO BIG BEND, have been compiled by Mr. F. J. Barnard, the well known British (Canadian) Express Agent and Stage Proprietor: CLASS 1—By Stages over the Wagon Road including Meals and Beds through, Dist. Time. Rate.

CLASS 2—On Foot from Yale to Lake Kamloops, taking Meals and Beds at Wayside Houses. Victoria to Yale, 175, 24 hrs., \$4.00; Yale to Kamloops, 133, 5 days, 10.00; Over Lake, 120, 1 day, 10.00; Head of Lake to Columbia River, 35, 2 days, 9.00; Total time, 9 days; Total cost, \$28.50.

CLASS 3—Men furnishing own Food on Steamer, Travelling on Foot from Yale to Lake Kamloops, and buying their own Provisions on the way or packing it with them. Victoria to Yale, 175, 24 hrs., \$4.00; Yale to Kamloops, 133, 5 days, 10.00; Over Lake, 120, 1 day, 10.00; Head of Lake to Columbia River, 35, 2 days, 9.00; Total time, 9 days; Total cost, \$28.50.

Published by authority of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce.

BIG BEND! To Miners and Travellers. THE "FRENCH PRAIRIE HOUSE," 12 HIKES ABOVE SHUSWAP LAKE. Goods, Provisions, Tools, Clothing, and Liquors.

BRITISH & FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY. The Auxiliary to the above Society For the Colony of Vancouver Island Established in June, 1863.

D. SPENCER, AGENT FOR THE Society's Bibles can now be purchased in the following languages at his store: BIBLES and TESTAMENTS—English, in plain and elegant binding and all sizes of type—From 2s.6d. upwards.

Messrs. Culler & Parsons. Have now ready at SAVANA'S FERRY, a BOAT OF 20 TONS BURDEN.

SHUSWAP LAKE. Storage and a person to take charge at Savana's. For Freight or passage apply to BUIE BROTHERS, Lytton.

To Miners & Shippers. THE PROPRIETORS OF THE Birkenhead Dock and Wharf, LIVERPOOL, and Quarries Crushing Mills, and are prepared to receive Ore for crushing, sampling, assaying, and for which warrants are issued.

Apply to EDWARD LOGAN & CO., 24, Cannon Street, West London, Or to SAMUEL JOHNSON & CO., Liverpool.

Published every Tuesday. Published every Tuesday. Published every Tuesday.

By the telegraphic news this morning we learn that the steamer for Victoria is filled for Big Bend; We also learn that Labouchers will start for Saturday. As things present therefore, just now, we shall of a fortnight, have probably 1,000 persons landing in Victoria to the mines.

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