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NO. 12.

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PUBLIC MEETING.

RETRENCHMENT AND UNION UPHOLD.

The House Sustained.

The Public meeting convened by His Worship the Mayor, on the requisition signed by a number of the citizens to consider the action of the House of Assembly on the Estimates, and the question of Union of the Colonies, was held on Saturday evening in the Lyceum Hall. At the appointed hour the hall was crowded with a dense concourse of the inhabitants, a large majority of whom were rate-payers, embracing clergy, merchants, officials, clerks, tradesmen, mechanics, laborers, and in fact every class of the community.

On the platform were Mayor Franklin, Messrs. Harris, Esq., Ex-Mayor, and members of the Municipal Council, with Mr. James

said it was not his intention to intrude his views on the meeting; but he would make a few general remarks. The object of the meeting was to consider the proceedings of the House in regard to the Estimates and the question of Union of the Colonies.

There was no doubt that if ever there was a time to exercise economy it had now arrived [hear], and if the House of Assembly in its wisdom had thought it right to cut off the Estimates and reduce the expenditure to a smaller scale they deserved the thanks of the whole community [applause]. At the same time it was possible to go too far, and care should be taken not to injure the working of the Government in carrying out the extreme of the case and adopting a system of false economy by reducing too many offices and underpaying those in offices of trust. On the whole he thought that a better state of things was now dawning upon the country. The prospects in British Columbia were much brighter. His Worship then touched on the Union question and commented on the folly of the two colonies with only 15,000 inhabitants between them having separate governments and a separate staff of officials. He alluded to the union sentiment in the sister colony and the feeling of opposition and ill-feeling towards this colony indulged in by a small section of the people, remarking that it was a pity in this remote part of the world that these people could not act in harmony with their fellow colonists and try to build up a British feeling instead of destroying it. He was glad the Union question was now to be considered, and he would like to see more union in our own towns among public men, he would like to see them sink private feelings and work together for the common good. The City Council (if the meeting would excuse him for alluding to the shop) was a striking instance of economy, for since he had presided over them they had not spent a cent [applause], and the reason, which was a very good one, was simply that they had not got it to spend [laughter]. He concluded by asking the meeting to support the Chair, to listen to both sides patiently and not to indulge in personalities.

Mr. James Fell came forward, and after commenting on the importance of the resolution he was about to offer, and expressing the usual regret that it had not fallen into abler hands moved:

Resolved—That this meeting fully endorses the action of the majority of the Legislative Assembly in their general scheme of retrenchment, and maintains, with the people's representatives to originate and increase, as well as reduce items of public expenditure.

He would like to ask the meeting one question; what had brought them there? [A voice—To hear you speak.] Mr. Fell—Step forward, and I will make way for you. It was to take into consideration what has been done by those you sent into the House of Assembly. To take in review the Estimates that have been passed. This was only a small community, and combined with the neighboring colony would not make a second rate English town, yet we had two most

cumbrous pieces of machinery in the shape of Government, and were likely to have for some time. A crisis had, however, arrived, the members seeing that the people could no longer carry on the present burdensome system had taken steps for relieving them. Exception may be taken to some of their acts, but taken as a whole he believed the vast majority of those before him would endorse everything they had done [loud applause]. He did not advocate poorly paid labor, but a fair day's wage for a fair day's work [hear]; and if the gentlemen filling Government offices have sufficient employment he would say retain them by all means, but if not, and some offices can be joined with others, then abolish them, and the country would not suffer through it [applause]. There were some men who said the Assembly was not wanted, they were always getting into trouble, and they were always getting out of it. Such men would like to govern the country themselves. He maintained, however, that he and all who paid their taxes had a perfect right to know how the money is spent [hear]. There were as shrewd and intelligent men in this community as he had found on any spot on earth [hear]. The people had the power and the right to a voice in the Government of the country, and he called upon them to exercise it. Most of those present came out here to better their condition in life and push their way in the world, and it was their duty to sustain their representatives who were striving to promote their welfare so long as they represented their views. There was another question to which he must refer, and that was the necessity of being careful how matters were carried home, everything should be properly placed before the English people, who did not know the whole of our wants, the whole of our grievances. Mr. Cardwell, he knew him well, [loud laughter] was a slippery fish and wanted watching, or he would make the best bargain he could with the Crown Lands. They should therefore look after their own interests and see that the real facts were laid before the authorities.

Mr. Councillor Gowen said he appeared on the platform not as a speaker but as the "right bower" to His Worship the Mayor. The gentleman who was to second the resolution was not present, and he would do so in his place. The action of the House as a taxpayer he fully endorsed [hear], also the powers vested in them of raising and lowering the estimates. In 1864 the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department made a report of the whole amount required to keep the department in good working order, which was estimated at \$4,000 and odd. When the Estimates came down the amount was lowered and the House voted \$3,000. Well, the department thought they could get along with that if paid quarterly, but they were kept in the dark, no money came in, and they got some. During the whole year they only received \$2,000 and had to assess themselves to make up the deficiency [hear]. Thus they would see the necessity of the House having power to raise the Estimates. The \$1,500 asked for would not pay rents and steward's fee. He individually expended \$100 a year on the department [hear]. The Board of Delegates were called together, and passed strong resolutions. The city members attended and saw the necessity of giving better support, otherwise the companies must be disbanded. A resolution had since passed thanking the members for the vote of \$3,000, though they thought it only their due [hear]. He concluded by again giving his sanction to the course pursued by the House, and particularly with reference to lowering and raising the estimates [applause].

On the Mayor asking if any other person wished to speak to the resolution.

Mr. H. Gillard mounted the rostrum amid much laughter, dissent, and a diversity of goodnatured chaff. At length quiet having been restored, the valuable orator proceeded to say that before coming to the meeting he had read over the whole of the estimates that he might be better prepared with what he had to say [laughter]. The foolish part of it was that the House was too niggardly, too mean. There was common sense in all things; but here were men turned out with wives and families, and it was going a step too far to discharge many of the officials who might be wanted [loud hisses and cries of dissent]. During the grinning the speaker went on to say that he had not been asked to come there and speak, he expressed his own views [laughter and cries of let a taxpayer speak]. The Chairman having asked for a quiet hearing, Mr. Gillard proceeded to indulge in the figurative. In '62 the House had a stable and a good horse. They had been obliged to discharge the keepers, and would soon have to sell the stable [laughter]. If in '62 the members had foreseen what he foresaw—[This statement was followed by shouts of derisive laughter which lasted for some time.] Men were then flocking into the country. They should have taxed the people and given work to the unemployed (more laughter). There was the Governor's secretary, he considered that almost unpardonable [loud hisses and groans]. They gave the Governor £3000 a year and yet would not give him a secretary. [A voice—Quite right, too.] Could not the Governor get the same salary in England? [Cries of no!] Then there was the Assessor, that was an office created by the Home Government and they could not strike it out. Next was the Chief Justice who had come out with his wife and family for £1200 a year. There were hundreds and thousands in his own line of business who could make that [laughter], and yet they would not give him a private secretary. It was niggardly [laughter]. The Attorney General's amount was too low without fees. The Stipendiary Magistrate had been cut down to \$1500, who disposed of 2000 cases annually. They had struck out the clerkship at Nanaimo and also the magistrate's pay. Who was going to pay for the clerk? Gentlemen, continued the speaker, I have only got one or two more ideas.

[This announcement caused another roar of laughter, which, however, in no way discouraged the speaker.] He wished to ask them whether they thought it fair to strike out the item of \$250 for a medical officer? Was it fair to make the policeman, as a member had said, pay for medical attendance out of \$2 a day [Cries of Yes and No]. The Governor had sent down \$5000 for provisions for the prison, and they had passed only \$3000. The idea of the members no doubt was by starving the prisoners to keep many out [laughter]. Often a man's act forced him in there [loud laughter], and he didn't see why he should be starved. Then there was the tower bell at Race Rocks struck out, was that not mean? He repeated that the House had acted in a niggardly manner, more particularly in striking out the assistance for Governor and Judge.

Another gentleman next rose to speak against the resolution that the Mayor. He endorsed the resolution that they had heard. An important crisis had arrived and he thought the action of the House of Assembly would bring them in a certain way to affluence and prosperity. He did not however according to the resolution endorse entirely the acts of the House of Assembly. It was for the meeting now to weigh and discuss where the House had done right or wrong. In an indiscriminate slaughter they might sometimes kill the innocent. He was not there as a citizen and taxpayer to defend anybody but to express his views, and he would say that he thought it wrong to make the Surveyor General Superintendent of Roads and Assessor. The fire department had \$1000 due to them—where, he would ask, had it gone? Had it gone with the ball and chain to decorate the palatial residence? Had they had the money for public schools? The money voted for the Hospital, where was that? The sum of \$50,000 was voted for the Governor's residence, the papers said only \$35,000 were to be expended; his opinion was that the whole sum had been spent. After agreeing with the right assumed by the House to alter the estimates Mr. Lewis touched upon the office of the Treasurer which he looked upon as a Crown appointment that could not be interfered with. He was glad to find that only one member in the House (the Coroner) held an official appointment, but he felt bound to say with regard to the item of \$1000 for Coroner's charges which had been reduced to \$800, that the members ought to have brought retrenchment home. He looked upon the item of \$1000 for the Coroner's charges as a very good example of economy.

Dr. Dickson would ask the patience of the meeting in order that he might rebut the charges which the last speaker had made against him and the House of Assembly. Mr. Lewis said that \$1000 had been placed on the estimates for the salary of Coroner (Hisses). Gentlemen might hiss, but let them wait until he had explained. This was not true—no such item appeared on the estimates. What did appear was \$1000 for expenses of inquests, including coroner's fees. He (Dr. Dickson) had moved that this sum be reduced to \$800. Now he would inform those who were unacquainted with the facts that this \$800 was to pay for the expenses, not in Victoria alone but all over the island, and all the Coroner got out of it was so much for fees for holding inquests. Last year this amounted to \$240, and previous years to very much less. So much for the truth of the statement of Mr. Lewis. But this gentleman asks what becomes of the \$800. Now he (Dr. Dickson) would inform them that this same Mr. Lewis pockets one-fifth of the whole amount for making coffins and digging graves. [Loud laughter.] So far as he was concerned he (Dr. Dickson) did not care a snap for the coronership. With regard to the objections that had been urged by one or two persons against some of the amalgamations of offices made by the Assembly, he could only inform the meeting that the members who supported the scheme of retrenchment had given the matter the most careful attention for four successive days—everything had been weighed, and every action had been taken with the earnest desire to do justice to all and lighten the burdens of the people. [Applause.]

Mr. W. J. Macdonald—How did you intend that the Harbormaster and Treasurer's position should work together?

Dr. Dickson said there might appear an anomaly in the thing but it was considered that the Harbormaster's office and Postoffice should be removed to a more central situation and that the Treasury department should be in the same building. [Applause.] However it was considered afterwards that it would be better as things stood just now, to have them separate, and he had moved in the House to have the Treasury replaced with the smaller salary of \$1700 a year, and the Harbormaster and Postmaster reduced to \$1700 a year. These salaries might appear too small, but the officials should bear part of the brunt of the general depression. [Applause.] He did not like to vote the man out of office, and he could tell the meeting that the first night after the salaries were abolished he could not sleep for thinking about the unfortunate men who would be turned out. [Oh, oh" and laughter]. The Private Secretary to the Governor had been alluded to. Now he would tell them that this office in former years was filled by the chief clerk in the Colonial Office, and

nothing was put down in the estimates for private secretary. [Hear, hear.] With regard to making the stipendiary magistrate subject to the Corporation he believed it was the right course. He believed the city would make the Mayor the chief magistrate and abolish the office of stipendiary magistrate altogether. [Hear, hear and loud applause.] In Canada, with a population of between two and three millions, nearly all the police court work was done by mayors or heads of municipalities. In Montreal with a population of 120,000 there was but one stipendiary magistrate. In Toronto, with 60,000, there was but one. In London, with 18,000, Kingston with 18,000, and even in Quebec, there were no stipendiary magistrates, the mayor in each instance performing all the duties. There were no paid magistrates in Canada, they were all honorary, and he thought it ridiculous that so small a community as ours should inaugurate the cumbrous and expensive system of stipendiary magistrates. [Hear, hear and applause]. The speaker then went through the various items that had been voted, and remarked upon the amalgamation of the Registrar of Deeds with the Registrar of the Supreme Court, that the former gentleman was not employed an hour a day. The union of the Assessor's office with that of Acting Surveyor or General was made on almost similar grounds. One of the most capable men for the office of Assessor in the colony, had told him he would be very glad to get \$400 for performing the duties. The fact was the officials had too little to do and it was thought better to get rid of some of them to make the rest work. [Applause]. The Government of the country was altogether too cumbrous, and one of the most iniquitous things about it was paying men to fill public offices, and then having them sitting in a Legislative Council wasting the public time. [Hear, hear.] He would not, however, trespass any longer upon their attention. Other gentlemen had to speak, and as he saw Mr. McClure, who was one of the Assembly's big guns, in the room; he would like to see that gentleman mount the platform.

The speaker then sat down amid much applause and amid loud and continuous shouts of "McClure."

Mr. McClure after some little time came forward and ascended the platform. He said he was out of place in standing before them on such an occasion as the present. As he understood it, the meeting was called to give the public an opportunity of condemning or endorsing the action of the Assembly, and he thought it out of place for any member of the Legislature to take any part in the proceedings. As he was called upon, however, he would endeavor to give the meeting in a few words as possible his ideas of the

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was needless to say could not be done, if the present expensive system were to be carried out. The House of Assembly in making reductions in the expense were, however, not inclined to stop there. They desired that the country should be prepared for the reception of immigrants, and they had worked hard to pass measures that would tend to this great object; as things at present stood, however, the work could be destroyed by the Upper House—as it had been last year—and men paid out of the public treasury could effectually thwart public measures. He did not know what the Legislative Council would do with the bills of the Assembly this year, but if they imitated their conduct of last session two year's legislation would be lost to the country. And this brought him to the possibility of a collision between the Assembly and the Council.

Very all of the resolution passed by the Assembly asserting its right to originate money votes; he saw that this question was embraced in the resolution before the meeting, and he would direct their attention to this subject particularly, for it was really the gravest question that could come before a free people. If the public did not maintain the action of the House on this matter the whole retrenchment scheme would fall to the ground; for it was found necessary while reducing a number of items to raise others. It was not only this, however—it was even more important than retrenchment—it was whether a gentleman sent from England to this colony should have it in his power to say what were the wants of the country and how much the people should pay towards supplying them [hear, hear]. Now he considered, and it was a constitutional right, that the people's representatives were the authorities to say how much aid for what purposes the people should be taxed [applause]. This was the point at issue, and this was the point that was likely to bring them into collision with the Executive, unless the latter body showed a disposition to abide by constitutional precedent. He called upon the meeting, therefore, if they valued their rights as British subjects, to pass the resolution that was before them, [loud applause].

The Chairman then put the resolution, which was carried unanimously amid enthusiastic demonstrations.

Mr. Lewis then came forward and proposed in a few pithy remarks suggesting the desirability of appointing delegates from both colonies to lay down the terms of union, the following resolution:

Resolved—That the following petition be presented to the Legislative Assembly:

We, the undersigned, citizens of Victoria, believing that the two expensive and irresponsible Governments for Vancouver Island and British Columbia are ruinous to both colonies, would respectfully request both

the Honorable your Honorable body be deemed expedient to bring about the immediate union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia under one Government.

Mr. Thomas Harris rose amid applause to second the resolution. He thought there was as little difference of opinion about union as there was about retrenchment. If they were to have a cheap Government the colonies should be united [hear, hear]. With regard to the remarks which had fallen from Mr. Gillard, he was disposed to think very badly of that gentleman. Mr. Gillard said he foresaw in 1862 what was to take place in the subsequent years. Now why did Mr. Gillard not impart that knowledge to the Government at the time, and thus have saved disasters to the colony [loud laughter]. Why did the gentleman, even when Governor Kennedy arrived in 1864, not give His Excellency or the Assembly the benefit of his foresight [laughter]. A man who could foresee—sit down and see wretchedness in the future—who could see numbers of people driven from the colony by disasters for which they were totally unprepared, but with which he was perfectly well acquainted—a man who could keep all that knowledge to himself at such a time was in his opinion an improper and dishonest citizen [uproarious laughter]. To come back to the resolution, however, he hoped the meeting would carry it unanimously. He saw before him many of the principal citizens of the town who had great interests at stake, and he knew they were as anxious as he was to see the colonies united. On the subject of retrenchment, he believed in the sentiment enunciated by Mr. McClure, that they must deal with Governments as they deal with everything else [hear, hear]. If the merchant's business falls off, some of his clerks have to be discharged and his expenses reduced; and so it was with Government. There were better times looming ahead, but just now they must retrench. Union, however, was the great retrenchment—for of all the ridiculous and extravagant things it was to see two small colonies like Vancouver Island and British Columbia with two cumbrous Governments [loud applause].

Mr. Leigh, in a few earnest words, supported the action of the Assembly and the resolution before the meeting.

Mr. Hardy Gillard again came forward amid a storm of groans and hisses to oppose the resolution. He said the people were not prepared for union [hisses]; they must first develop the resources of the Island; they must develop its *inlets and its harbors* [laughter and hisses]. They must get immigrants [groans]. They must bring colonists from England [roars of laughter]. He would give them all his ideas in a lecture one of these days, and he was shortly going to England to give the same lecture over the length and breadth of the country [laughter and hisses].

Loud and repeated calls for Rev. Mr. Garrett were then made, when that gentleman ascended the platform and said that it was not his place to come before them on such an occasion as the present, but he thought it would have been uncourteous to refuse the request of the meeting. He endorsed much that had been said about retrenchment and

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The Weekly British Colonist

Tuesday, January 30, 1866.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, Jan. 22. House met at 1:30, p. m. The Speaker in the chair. Members present—Messrs. DeCosmos, McClure, Trimble, Dickson, Duncan, Carswell, Cunningham, Cochrane, Ash.

Administration of Justice, continued, (exclusive of establishments)—Contingent expenses of unpaid magistrates, \$500.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the item be struck out. Dr. Helmecken said there must be something voted for this item. The Justices of the Peace were sent about from one place to another and other expenses were incurred which they would not pay out of their own pocket. He moved that it be \$250.

On a division the vote stood—Nees, DeCosmos, McClure, Carswell, Dickson. Ayes: Dr. Helmecken, Cunningham, Duncan, Cochrane. The chairman gave the casting vote in favor of striking the item out. Reimbursement to Chief Justice for passage expenses from England, \$750.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the item be struck out. In granting the pension it was stipulated that the late Chief Justice should hold office until his successor arrived, and when a gentleman accepts office on the understanding that his pay was not to commence until he took office he could not expect his expenses to be paid. He was not disposed to vote the amount out of generosity.

Dr. Helmecken thought the House was pledged to pay the amount. He read a despatch from the Duke of Newcastle on the subject of the appointment.

The item was struck out unanimously.

EDUCATION.—School house, Nanaimo, \$2,000. Mr. DeCosmos moved a reduction to \$1,500. Mr. Cunningham thought it impolitic to reduce the amount, as it was insufficient as it stood to pay for the school house; there were 230 children at Nanaimo—the present house would only accommodate some 30 children.

Mr. DeCosmos said had it not been that a sum had been promised to the good people of Nanaimo for a school house and an inducement held out to them to subscribe among themselves, towards it, he would not under the circumstances be in favor of contributing \$1,500, but anybody conversant with building in a new country would know that \$1,500 would build a very good school house. Could the country afford it he would vote \$500 or \$1,000 for school houses in Victoria and District.

Mr. McClure thought \$1,500 ought to suffice at present, more might be voted by and by if wanted. Dr. Helmecken considered \$1,500 sufficient, as it did not include instruction.

The motion was carried. Mr. Cunningham dissenting.

Repairs and additions to buildings, \$500; reduced to \$100. Books, petty expenses, &c., \$1,000.

Motion of Mr. DeCosmos to reduce the item to \$800 was carried.

Rent of school houses, \$1,080. Amount put and lost.

Ayes: DeCosmos, McClure, Cunningham, Dickson, Ash, Helmecken, Cochrane, Duncan, Carswell.

Dr. Powell here entered the house. CHARITABLE ALLOWANCES—Miscellaneous, \$500.

Dr. Helmecken moved that the amount be paid to the orphan school.

Motion by Mr. DeCosmos to postpone—carried.

HOSPITALS.—Contribution to Victoria Hospital, \$2,000.

A message from his Excellency was read furnishing a statement of the position, receipts and indebtedness of the Royal Hospital, and informing the house that the government had not deemed it advisable to pay the balance of \$3,000 due to the hospital.

Mr. McClure commented on the course pursued by the Executive in assenting to the payment of sums of money that could well be dispensed with, while amounts that were really indispensable were ignored. It was almost incredible to him how such urgent claims as those of the hospital, the public schools, and the fire companies should have been neglected, while thousands of dollars were expended on a gubernatorial mansion.

While forty thousand dollars or so were borrowed to build Government House, the Executive did not dare to get into debt to relieve the hospitals and overburdened fire departments. (Hear, hear.) He proposed the amount should be increased to \$5,000.

Dr. Helmecken said from personal experience he could say that the indebtedness of the Royal Hospital was as stated about \$3,000. During the year one hundred patients had been received, the daily cost of whom was seventy-five cents per head. The citizens and tradesmen had always behaved most liberally towards the Committee; meat, provisions, &c., had been supplied at the lowest rates, but difficulty had always been experienced in getting money from the Government. The \$3,000 was due from last year, and must be paid. He could not see why the Executive had refused to pay the \$3,000, and he coincided with the remarks just made. In adverse times the Hospital required more support, and \$5,000 was altogether too little. The Hospital surgeons had charged nothing for their services, and the Committee would no longer bear the responsibility of the debts on their own shoulders. In many instances the sick patients who were supposed to eat very little eat a great deal, and it was really a surer way than medicine that they required. The Hospital authorities did not ask more than \$5,000 for the present year, and would do the best they could with that sum. They were ready at any time to hand over the establishment to the Government if required.

Dr. Powell thought before so large a sum of money as \$5,000 was voted the House should know something more of the government of the Hospital by an irresponsible Committee. He had nothing to say against the Committee, but they had nothing to show to the House of the mode of expenditure.

Dr. Helmecken said a few words in explanation, and on a division the sum of \$5,000 was carried.

Female Hospital, \$250—struck out. POLICE.—Clothing for Constables, \$1,200.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the item be struck out. Dr. Helmecken—Oh no! the clothes have been ordered from England and are on their way out.

Mr. DeCosmos said that the Police in this colony was one of the grandest absurdities ever perpetrated in a new country. The attempt was made by the late and seconded by the present administration to make the police a well-dressed regimental body. He argued that the whole item be expunged and the clothing sold for what it would fetch on arrival.

Mr. Duncan thought a policeman should wear uniform to show that he was on duty; but he would not vote such a sum as \$1,200, considering that \$1400 was voted last year for clothing.

Dr. Dickson asked for explanation. If the amount was voted last year it was only keeping faith to disburse it now. But he understood clothing was on its way from England for 20 policemen and Superintendent, also for 90 convicts similar to what was worn in England.

Mr. Duncan said if that were so he would not vote a cent. The money if spent should be circulated in the colony.

Mr. DeCosmos thought the item should be struck out, as the police were shortly to be placed under City control. The fact of the Government having incurred so ridiculous a responsibility as the order from England should not weigh with the House.

The item was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Fuel, water, and light—\$500; reduced to \$100. Bedding—\$50. Struck out.

Arms and ammunition—\$50; struck out. Occasional necessary employment of special constables—\$500; struck out.

Gaols—Provisions for 60 prisoners—\$4818. On motion of Mr. DeCosmos all the items under this head were postponed.

RENTS. Ground rent of Government House—\$81 90.

Considerable discussion arose upon this item. Mr. Cochrane moved that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee. There seemed to be a difference of opinion amongst honorable members whether the lease was a perpetual one or not. If, as some asserted, at the end of a number of years the property could be purchased at a fixed price, the House had better know it at once.

The motion was carried. Rent of Harbor-master's Office, Victoria—\$330.

Dr. Powell could not refrain from expressing his astonishment at this item. This House had passed a resolution last year that this office should be removed to the Government Buildings, and he was surprised that the Government should send the item down in the estimates.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that immediate steps be taken to remove the harbor master's office and post office to some central and more commodious situation.

Dr. Helmecken thought the harbor master's office was already in the best place that it could be in.

Resolution passed. The item for \$330 rent, carried.

Rent of post office \$330, carried. Gaol at Nanaimo \$100, carried.

Look-up at Esquimalt \$100, struck out. Quarters for policemen in outlying districts \$500; struck out.

TRANSPORT. Travelling expenses of officers, police and others on duty, \$1,000.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that \$250 be substituted; carried.

Conveyance of prisoners \$500. On motion of Mr. DeCosmos \$150 was substituted.

MAILS. Conveyance of Mails between Vancouver Island and San Francisco \$9,000.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the sum of \$30,000 be substituted.

Dr. Helmecken thought it would be rash to grant \$30,000 at the present moment; he would advise waiting until we know what contract the Government might make, it was just possible the work of carrying the mails might cost us nothing; it was time enough to vote the money after we knew it was required.

Mr. DeCosmos said the House had already voted a sum of \$1500 per trip and had authorized the Government to effect a contract to that extent. The Government were not obliged to expend the whole \$30,000 if unnecessary, but the House should pledge a sufficient sum to secure the object sought.

Dr. Ash thought that granting so large an amount might lead to an extravagant expenditure, when perhaps the mails might be carried for a smaller sum if it was not known a large sum was granted.

Mr. McClure said he had gone into a system of retrenchment in order that money would be spared for urgent undertakings. He supported the \$30,000, because he wanted to provide against the possibility of obtaining an inferior class of boat—he wanted in fact to afford the Executive no excuse for making an imperfect arrangement.

Dr. Powell thought the remarks of the hon. junior member for Metehosin implied a want of confidence in the Government. He (Dr. P.) would support the grant of \$30,000, and it was presumed, of course, that the Government will exercise prudence and economy in the matter.

A motion to postpone was lost. \$30,000 carried.

Between Victoria and Esquimalt, \$400; struck out.

Between Victoria and Comox, \$5,000. Consideration postponed.

Between Victoria and Saanich, \$300; carried.

Between Victoria and Sooke mines, \$1,000; struck out.

Between Victoria and New Westminster, British Columbia, \$1,000; \$500 substituted.

Between Victoria and Washington Territory, United States, \$500.

Dr. Dickson said he would rise to state what he had stated last year in regard to this matter. Not one cent was paid by this Government for this service. (Laughter.) Hon. gentlemen might laugh, but what he said was a fact.

Dr. Helmecken said he was not laughing at what the hon. gentleman had said, but at the Paul Pry manner in which information was brought before the House.

Dr. Dickson said he would get information when and where he could, and would avail himself of it, and it would behoove some hon. gentlemen to get more information than they possessed before they gave their votes in the House. (Hear, hear and laughter.)

WORKS AND BUILDINGS. General Repairs to Buildings, \$1,000.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the sum be \$150. Carried.

Fencing round Government Square, \$750. Struck out.

Tower at Race Rocks Light House for Fog Bell, \$600. Struck out.

Fireproof Vault in Treasury, \$800. Struck out.

Finishing Court House at Leech River, \$200. Struck out.

ROADS, SEWERAGE AND BRIDGES. Repairs of existing Roads, \$1,000.

Mr. Duncan moved that \$5,000 be expended on the Saanich road through the Lake District.

Mr. DeCosmos thought the proper course would be to tax the property of persons through whose land the road passed. Such custom prevailed in other countries and worked well. If the roads were bad in the winter season the farmers should bring in the produce earlier.

Mr. Duncan thought the system proposed by the hon. senior member for Victoria city might do well in 1890, but at present we had undertaken to build certain roads, and it was necessary that those roads should be completed. Besides this, \$10,000 were voted last year for the road and only \$1,700 spent.

Mr. McClure said he would in a few days bring in his bill for granting municipal powers to the districts. The only way the roads of the colony could be kept in proper repair was to put the responsibility on the people of the various districts. This would have the double effect of saving the pockets of the citizens of Victoria, who now build nearly all the roads, and of making land speculators pay their proper quota (hear, hear). He hoped, therefore, the motions for the expenditure of large sums on the Saanich road would be withdrawn.

Dr. Helmecken thought it a most absurd idea, proposed by the senior member for the city (Mr. DeCosmos). Why the produce of the farmers would all rot before they could have it sold in the market. With regard to the idea of making each district responsible for its own roads, it was equally preposterous.

Mr. McClure thought the hon. the Speaker's long residence in such places as Vancouver Island disqualified him from giving an opinion of what was done in enlightened countries (laughter). In all the North American Colonies and in the Australian Colonies there were municipal authorities who took charge of the roads. In some of the latter colonies small grants were given by Government to assist the local road boards. With regard to the statement of the hon. member for Lake (Mr. Duncan) that the Executive only spent \$1,700 out of the \$10,000 voted last year, what guarantee had the hon. member that any sum voted this year would be expended at all? Municipal power was the only thing that would set this state of affairs to rights.

Dr. Helmecken thought if the hon. junior member for the city had been recently sent home to England that was no reason he should boast of his newly-acquired acquaintance with enlightened countries (laughter).

Mr. Duncan thought the hon. junior member for the city's argument about voting money that was not spent might be applied to nearly every item in the estimates.

Dr. Dickson's motion of \$9,000 was then put and lost.

Messrs. Dickson and Cochrane only being in the affirmative.

Mr. Duncan's motion of \$5,000 for Lake was also lost by a large majority.

Mr. Cochrane's motion of \$5,000 to be spent on the Saanich road, independent of locality, was lost by the following vote:

Ayes—Cochrane, Dickson, and Helmecken (3). Noes—Carswell, Powell, McClure, Duncan, Dennes, DeCosmos and Cunningham (7).

Dr. Helmecken moved that \$300 be granted to make a road from Cook's to Metehosin. He only wanted a cheap road cut through the brush to accommodate nine or ten settlers who are now greatly inconvenienced for want of it.

Mr. Dennes seconded. Mr. DeCosmos opposed. Dr. Helmecken thought the hon. gentleman did not know the locality. He was aware that the hon. gentleman was at Metehosin last year, but that visit only resulted in a benefit to the gentleman's health—nothing more (laughter). The settlers in question he was certain the hon. member did not know.

CITY COUNCIL.

MONDAY, JAN. 22. Council met at 7 p. m. Present—His Worship the Mayor and Councillors Gowen, Lewis, Jeffery, Senr., Layzell, Hibbard, and Jeffery, Jr.

RULES OF ORDER. On motion of Mr. Gowen, the mover, with Messrs. Lewis and Hibbard, were appointed a Committee to prepare certain amendments deemed necessary to the rules of order.

CHURCH RESERVE. Pursuant to a resolution of the Council the Clerk read a report of the entire proceedings in connection with the late Council and the Church Reserve.

On motion of Mr. Lewis the report of the Town Clerk, which he thought very creditable to that officer, was passed and ordered to be entered on the minutes with a synopsis of the annexures.

Mr. Layzell asked His Worship to express his views on this interesting question. The Mayor said it would be out of order; he would do so in Committee if desired.

A motion to go into Committee was passed with Councillor Gowen in the chair.

A lengthy debate ensued in which most of the councillors took part.

The Mayor thought the fencing in of the Church Reserve a great evil, and referred to the mode and purposes for which the Reserve was originally granted by the Hudson Bay Company, believing that the intention was not to set it apart for any particular Church, as certain rights had been exercised by other bodies on the Reserve; but the property had without doubt been made over by indenture with the consent of the Crown.

His view was not merely that the City should contend for the mere right of way, but for the property itself or its equivalent. He certainly would vote against assuming or defending this suit, on the ground that it was brought against certain individuals and not against the present Council. He concluded by expressing himself in favor of presenting a petition to the House of Assembly praying that that body would protect the public interests of the citizens by taking measures to secure the Reserve.

Mr. Lewis moved seconded by Mr. Gowen that the following petition be presented to the House of Assembly: [A copy of the petition appears elsewhere.]

The motion was carried, and on the Committee reporting progress the petition was adopted, Messrs. Layzell and Hibbard not voting, and the Clerk was instructed to present the same, with the corporate seal attached, to the senior member for the City.

CHAIRMAN GAVE. In answer to an enquiry from Mr. Layzell the Mayor stated that nothing further had been received from the Governor on the above subject.

EMPLOYMENT OF COUNSEL. Mr. Hibbard introduced a resolution for the employment of Mr. King to act on behalf of the Council, if necessary, until the House of Assembly had taken action in the matter, so as to prevent the case from going by default.

Mr. Layzell seconded the resolution. Mr. Jeffery senr. said the matter was a private one, or the late Mayor and Mr. Smith could not have got their names taken off. He wanted no Councillor to be responsible for him.

Mr. Gowen said the resolution was a repetition of what had been thrown out at the last meeting.

Mr. Lewis was opposed to the step. On motion being put Messrs. Hibbard and Layzell voted for, and Messrs. Gowen, Lewis, Jeffery senr. and Jeffery, junr. against.

Mr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Gowen, that Mr. Courtney be informed that the Council is not aware of any action against the Council.

Messrs. Hibbard and Layzell here left the board. The motion on being put was carried, and the Council adjourned until Monday evening at the usual hour.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, JAN. 23, 1866. The Council met yesterday at 2 p. m. Present—The Hon. Colonial Secretary (pre-siding), Attorney General, Surveyor General, Donald Fraser, H. Rhodes.

HAREWOD RAILWAY CO. Petitions were read in favor of and against the passing of the Harewood Railway Extension Act. The bill was read a first time after some discussion, it being thought by some honorable gentlemen that the bill after the second reading should be considered by a select committee.

THE THIRD READING OF THE BILL INTRODUCED BY THE HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR CREATING AND EXTENDING THE JURISDICTION OF DISTRICT COURTS WAS POSTPONED IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE ABSENCE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE, WHOSE OPINION WAS SOUGHT ON CERTAIN POINTS.

THE COUNCIL WENT INTO COMMITTEE ON THIS BILL, THE HON. SURVEYOR GENERAL IN THE CHAIR, AND AFTER SOME DISCUSSION THE COMMITTEE RESE AND REPORTED PROGRESS.

POSTAL SERVICE BILL. The Council went into Committee on this bill, the Hon. Surveyor General in the chair.

The Hon. Donald Fraser was not prepared without further information as to postal revenue to adopt such elaborate and expensive machinery as this bill proposed. He was in favor of a short bill giving the Governor power to regulate the postal system, but in the present state of the Colony he was opposed to further taxation being imposed.

The Colonial Secretary maintained that the proposed system was not expensive and the bill was much needed. At present there was no power in the colony to collect postage. The letters that came into the colony were the property of no one, but went into the hands of the postmaster, who required payment of so many cents before he would deliver them. In England the Postmaster General had power to prosecute for opening letters and other offences, but no such power existed here. Wells, Fargo & Co. paid outwards but not inwards postage on their letters.

It was high time he thought that power should be given to collect postage.

Hon. Donald Fraser agreed in the necessity of a proper postal system, but unless it could be shown that postage could be col-

lected under this bill without additional expense to the colony they might be months over the bill and after all it would never pass the House of Assembly.

Hon. Attorney General alluded to the Royal prerogative as to the carriage of letters and the Imperial power to enforce a colonial system.

Hon. D. Fraser replied that there was no fear of that, they would not be willing to incur the expense attending it.

Hon. Surveyor General did not see that any expense was attached to the bill.

Hon. D. Fraser—A Postmaster General won't work for nothing.

Hon. Col. Secretary argued that instead of additional expense the effect of the bill would be to increase the revenue materially. The Express Company would not be interfered with as it was of great value to the colony, but at present the Postmaster received his instructions from the Colonial office, sometimes verbally, sometimes in writing, and he thought it high time that the system should be defined and his instructions given under statute.

Hon. D. Fraser—If the Governor had the power of controlling postal matters, it would be better for him to place the whole thing in the hands of Wells, Fargo & Co.

Hon. Col. Secretary—It would be a hard thing to make everybody pay 25 cents for a letter.

Hon. D. Fraser—My only object is to save expense; I don't want to be a week over a bill that creates an office that has to be paid and has no prospect of passing the Assembly.

Hon. Col. Secretary hoped the House of Assembly was composed of reasonable men who would see that the colony is too far advanced to continue under the rule of thumb. The members were all fully aware of the necessity for a better postal system.

Hon. D. Fraser thought that if the House of Assembly could be assured that the Postmaster General was not to have any increase of salary there was some prospect of the bill passing.

Hon. Col. Secretary again explained that there was no authority whatever under which the postal service in this colony was regulated. The bill had been examined by the Postmaster General in England who was of opinion that it would fully answer the purpose and work well.

Hon. Mr. Rhodes thought that a guarantee that no extra expense was to be incurred was the only way to enable the bill to succeed in the Lower House, as they had before thrown it out without a first reading.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary objected. It looked like want of confidence to tie down the hands of the Governor, who knew what the wishes of the people were.

Hon. Donald Fraser said he felt no want of confidence in the Governor whatever. If he did he would say so boldly; but he had a want of confidence in the resources of the country. He would be very sorry to curtail the working of government; but under the present circumstances of the colony, the depression in trade, and the valueless position of real estate, it was his duty to oppose everything in the shape of creating fresh Government offices or expenses.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary was prepared to state broadly, clearly, and distinctly that it was not the intention of the bill to saddle the country with one iota of additional expense, but on the contrary to add materially to the revenue.

Hon. Donald Fraser—Look at the first clause and say if you believe it would be sanctioned by the House of Assembly. It creates an office, and a salary must be paid.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary maintained that although nominally a new office was created, in point of fact the office at present existed. It was not a money bill, since no salary was mentioned.

Hon. Donald Fraser—Then why not so express it in the bill?

The Hon. Colonial Secretary—Because I think it is going too far, and looks like a suspicion of something wrong behind. The House must have thrown the bill out before under a misapprehension that it was creating a new office.

A desultory conversation ensued, in which the Hon. Colonial Secretary explained the highly ridiculous working of the postal system with British Columbia; informing the Council that he had been unable, after repeated applications to obtain any of their colonial stamps, and consequently, when a letter went from this to the other colony it had to be accompanied by the money wrapped up in a piece of paper.

The Committee finally rose and reported progress, and the Council adjourned till Friday at 2 p. m.

FROM THE NORTH.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Captain Clarke, arrived yesterday from Comox and Nanaimo. She reached the former place on Friday morning, having experienced a snow storm which detained her at Nanaimo. On Friday evening the storm commenced at Comox, and raged for three days with great violence. On returning the steamer had to run into Deep Bay for shelter and lay there with two anchors down.

Throughout the entire trip Captain Clarke states he never experienced such weather, but the Sir James battled bravely with the elements. We have a copy of the Nanaimo Gazette of Monday, which appears in its enlarged form, and really presents a most creditable appearance. We congratulate our progressive contemporary on its rapid growth and prosperity. The weather last week was colder in Nanaimo than it had ever been known before. The snow drift was in some parts of Front street five feet deep, and the thermometer on Tuesday 3d of Wednesday nights ranged from zero to 7 degrees below it. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, Mr. John Sabiston succeeded in having 140 tons of coal placed on board the brig Ben Gairn on Friday last. On Thursday morning last Mr. Samuel Washington, one of the employes of the Victoria Coal Company, whilst engaged in his avocation as miner at the above named pit, was severely crushed by a portion of the roof falling upon him. He was placed at once under medical care, and was progressing favorably. The Gazette fully endorses the retrenchment policy of the majority of the Assembly, and says: "With such a result to point to they can well afford to put up with the taunts and sneers of a few pretenders to political science who are at present endeavoring, both inside and outside the House, to impede them in their great and popular work of retrenchment."

SAUCES, JAMS, & CO.

MANUFACTURED BY SE & BLACKWELL, PURVEYORS TO THE QUEEN, 105 SQUARE, LONDON.

HOUSE & BLACKWELL'S

First-class Manufactures are obtainable every respectable Provision Dealer in the World.

As a desiderium of being supplied with C. & J. which are all of the best quality, and of a wholesome character, should be careful to purchase articles not substituted. The preparations bear their names and the labels.

As all prepared in Pure Malt Vine in Oak Vats, by means of PLATINUM, thus avoiding all possibility of crystals, or any other injurious metal; and precisely similar in quality to those them for use at.

MR. MAJESTY'S TABLE

As Agents for the following:—Lancashire Game and Pork Pates, Fresh Fish, Salmon Cutlets, Whitebait, Fillets, Jiggs Sausages, Frying Sausages, Cakes, and Vegetables in Tins, Fruit in Jars, and Brandy, Crystallized Citrus, &c., as well as many articles too numerous to include in an advertisement, they can command. Their Salad Oil is the best.

As Agents for the following:—Lancashire Game and Pork Pates, Fresh Fish, Salmon Cutlets, Whitebait, Fillets, Jiggs Sausages, Frying Sausages, Cakes, and Vegetables in Tins, Fruit in Jars, and Brandy, Crystallized Citrus, &c., as well as many articles too numerous to include in an advertisement, they can command. Their Salad Oil is the best.

ON & STOMACHIC WEAKNESS

PEPSINE

ORSON & SON.

As Agents for the following:—Lancashire Game and Pork Pates, Fresh Fish, Salmon Cutlets, Whitebait, Fillets, Jiggs Sausages, Frying Sausages, Cakes, and Vegetables in Tins, Fruit in Jars, and Brandy, Crystallized Citrus, &c., as well as many articles too numerous to include in an advertisement, they can command. Their Salad Oil is the best.

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JAPAN BLACKING!

As Agents for the following:—Lancashire Game and Pork Pates, Fresh Fish, Salmon Cutlets, Whitebait, Fillets, Jiggs Sausages, Frying Sausages, Cakes, and Vegetables in Tins, Fruit in Jars, and Brandy, Crystallized Citrus, &c., as well as many articles too numerous to include in an advertisement, they can command. Their Salad Oil is the best.

DRUGS, CHEMICALS, & CO.

Tuesday, January 30, 1866

THE SUPPLIES.

The estimates are finally passed. The House went to work yesterday more vigorously than usual and sat from one o'clock till half-past eight. The standing rules were suspended, so as to admit the estimates being pushed through, and thus save the country probably a fortnight's more expense in the salaries that were abolished. The most important vote yesterday was that in relation to the construction of a trunk road to Nanaimo. A few days ago the scheme had many bitter opponents in the House; yesterday, however, it passed when the vote came on, without a dissent. This was as it should have been. The country wants opening up, the farmers want land as well as water communication, and the poorer classes want employment. It was not only, however, in the matter of the trunk road that the House showed itself alive to the pressing wants of the colony. The Saanich road had \$5,500 voted for it; the Burnside road \$3,000; the Sooke road \$3,000; Matchosin, \$3,000; Cedar District, near Nanaimo, \$1,500; and Salt Spring Island, \$500. Besides these there were several road items of the previous day. Taken altogether the amount voted for public works of this character, including the trunk road, is \$45,500. This, however, is not to be raised by taxation this year or the next; but paid for out of loans or exchequer bills. The total amount to be raised by taxation the present year is \$146,000, and this embraces the thirty thousand dollars for steam communication. Last year the actual amount voted was considerably over the sum and the year, before it was almost as much again. The amount sent down by the Executive the present year is \$193,895. This, however, would have had to be supplemented by \$21,000 for steam communication, as only \$9,000 are put down for this sum in the estimates. Including the steam project, therefore, the Executive's demands would have been \$215,000. When we add to this the various new items, such as \$1,500 additional for the fire department, \$6,000 for the hospital and several thousands voted for other necessary institutions, the amount would have reached to between two hundred and twenty and two hundred and thirty thousand dollars to be raised by taxation the present year. The retrenchment, therefore, has virtually been about eighty thousand dollars. Had it not been for the steam communication and the necessity for voting monies to relieve departments that were allowed to fall behind last year, we should have had but little over \$100,000 to vote. As it is, however, the "pruning knife" has done its work, and we think wisely. It is possible that some of the departments may feel a change at the outset of the new order of things, but things will quietly get into their groove, and the efficiency of the public service will be as good as ever.

FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The steamer Enterprise arrived on Saturday afternoon from New Westminster with about 40 passengers. There had been no communication with the Upper Country, the river up above being frozen solid, but a letter had been received by Messrs. Deitz & Nelson stating that heavy rains had prevailed and the ice would probably soon break up. A conversation in connection with the Sunday Schools of Trinity and St. Mary's Churches took place in the Council Chamber at the Camp on Wednesday evenings and was a great success. A mammoth Christmas tree was provided for the entertainment of the juveniles, and the Rev. Mr. Jenns exhibited a number of excellent geological, mineralogical, botanical and marine specimens. The firemen's ball on Thursday evening, under the patronage of the Hon. Mr. Birch, was largely and fashionably attended and is pronounced by the Colonist to have been the best of the season. No Eastern news had been received, the wires being down.

THE BRITISH SQUADRON IN THE PACIFIC.—The following ships, we believe, constitute the whole of the British fleet at present on the Pacific station: In the North Pacific (Esquimaux) H.M.S. Cleo, steam corvette, 22 guns, 1,472 tons, 400 horse power. Scow steam corvette, 21 guns, 1,462 tons, 400 horse power. Alert, steam sloop, 17 guns, 75 tons, 100 horse power. Sparrowhawk, steam gunboat, 4 guns, 676 tons, 200 horse power. Grappler, steam gunboat, 3 guns, 60 horse power. Forward, steam gunboat, 3 guns, 60 horse power. Beaver, surveying ship, 3 guns. The following ships are cruising in the South Pacific: Sully, flagship, steam frigate, 35 guns, 3,066 tons, 500 horse power. Leander, steam frigate, 39 guns, 2,760 tons, 400 horse power. Tribune, steam frigate, 23 guns, 1,570 tons, 300 horse power. Devastation, paddle sloop, 6 guns, 1,058 tons, 400 horse power. Camelion, steam sloop, 17 guns, 952 tons, 200 horse power. Mutine, steam sloop, 17 guns, 822 tons, 200 horse power. Shearwater, steam sloop, 11 guns, 669 tons, 150 horse power. Columbine, steam sloop, 5 guns, 659 tons, 150 horse power. Total number of ships 15; total number of guns 226.

THE CHILCATEN EXPEDITION.—In answer to the application of the British Columbian Government to the Imperial Government to bear half the expense of this expedition (£16,000), Mr. Cardwell informs Governor Seymour that the cost of the expedition must fall upon the Colony.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24th, 1866. The House met yesterday punctually at one o'clock. Members present: The Speaker, Messrs. DeCosmos, McClure, Trimble, Dickson, Powell, Ash, Duncan, Carswell and Cunningham. DIRECT STEAM. The Speaker read a message from His Excellency, stating that he had received a proposal for carrying the mails between San Francisco and this colony, to which he had to return a definite answer before 3 o'clock, and suggested that the House appoint a committee to confer with him on the subject. The matter was discussed with closed doors, a deputation of the whole House then proceeded to wait on His Excellency, and on returning sat again with closed doors, after which the reply of the House was carried to His Excellency by the Speaker and Messrs. DeCosmos and Trimble.

CHURCH RESERVE. Mr. DeCosmos presented the petition of the City Council on the Church Reserve, which has already been published. On the motion of Mr. Duncan the Speaker appointed a committee of Messrs. DeCosmos, Trimble, and Duncan to report on all petitions before the House.

STANDING ORDERS. Mr. McClure gave notice of a motion to suspend the standing orders of the House at any time during the session by a majority of the House.

REPRESENTATION BILL. Dr. Ash gave notice of motion to amend this bill.

THE ESTIMATES. House went into Committee on Supplies, Dr. Trimble in the chair.

ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES (continued). James Bay Bridge, new piling and repairs, unexpended in 1865, \$850.

Mr. McClure was of opinion the amount should be expended or very much reduced.

Dr. Ash asked for information. Dr. Helmecken did not know whether the expenditure of the sum asked for was requisite or not, but he thought the lives of the hon. members ought to be preserved; there were two piles that must necessarily be replaced.

Mr. McClure moved that the item be reduced to \$250.

Mr. DeCosmos said the town had to expend all its money in building up the country, he was opposed to the city paying all the expense of the country, the ratepayers benefited should bear the expense.

Dr. Helmecken said the time was when the country supported the town; the hon. gentleman was raising an animosity between town and country.

Mr. DeCosmos said on examination he found that the city contributed eight-ninths and the electoral districts only one-ninth towards the general Government; what benefited the country certainly ultimately benefited the city, but he was opposed to taxes being levied upon the city to pay for every improvement. This was a matter that should be dealt with by the municipality.

Dr. Helmecken denied that the city paid one-ninth of the general revenue, and as to the municipality there was none in existence. Mr. DeCosmos maintained that there was. After some further debate the item was reduced to \$250.

Comox road and bridge at Green's Landing, \$1500.

Mr. DeCosmos spoke in favor of the item, which was carried.

Kokosailah Bridge, Cowichan, \$1100.

Mr. DeCosmos moved a postponement until next meeting. Carried.

Mr. Cunningham moved that a sum of \$1000 be voted for a bridge across the Nanaimo Ravine.

Mr. McClure seconded.

Dr. Ash said as the hon. member (Mr. Cunningham) had voted against the item for Victoria Bridge this had better be dealt with by their own municipality. (Laughter.)

Mr. McClure said the hon. gentleman had voted against the general Government undertaking repairs not against its erecting bridges. (Hear, hear.) Municipalities or local districts should look after repairs. The item was carried.

Maple Bay Road, \$500. Postponed. Mr. Carswell moved \$1500 for road from Sooke River to Muir's Farm and repairs of bridge over the river. There were no means of carrying produce from that settlement nor could he even visit his constituents.

After some remarks from Mr. DeCosmos, the chairman ruled the motion out of order.

LIGHTHOUSES.—Provisions and fuel, \$1600. Mr. Duncan moved a reduction to \$1300, the same as last year.

Dr. Helmecken did not think it enough.

Mr. McClure supported the original item, and thought retrenchment should not interfere with the efficiency of so important a service as that of the lighthouses.

Mr. DeCosmos advocated the lighthouse keepers being allowed to provide for themselves.

The original item was carried.

Dr. Helmecken said on shore it was practicable, but not afloat.

Stores—\$1000.

Dr. Dickson alluded to the recent sale of the lifeboat at Race Rocks, which provoked some discussion, it being asserted by hon. members that the boat was too cumbersome to be of any service.

Dr. Dickson then introduced a motion that a sum of \$250 be appropriated to the construction of a boat for use at the Race Rocks lighthouse, accompanying it with some comments on the recent casualty that occurred there. The motion was carried.

The item of \$1000 for stores was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.—Revising List of Voters, \$400.

Dr. Dickson, without making any reflection upon anybody, thought the present List of Voters most incomplete and unsatisfactory. There were a number of persons who were dead still registered as voters on the list. There had been only some four or five names erased during the last three years. He opposed the vote.

A motion of Mr. DeCosmos to reduce to \$100 was carried.

Mr. Dennes here entered the House.

Sheriff—List of Voters, \$150.

Dr. Dickson moved that it be reduced to \$125.

Dr. Helmecken—Oh! I move that it be \$125 50.

Dr. Dickson's motion was lost and Dr. Helmecken's amendment carried, amid much laughter.

Contribution to Fire Department—\$1500. Mr. DeCosmos moved that it be increased to \$3000.

Carried without dissent.

Insurance of Government Buildings and property—\$1000. Carried.

Contribution to Agricultural Society, \$500. Mr. DeCosmos gave the gentlemen who devoted their time to getting up this show great credit; but he would move that it be reduced to \$250.

The original item was carried on a division by 6 to 3.

Mr. Duncan moved the appropriation of a sum of \$1000 for a Flour Mill at South Saanich.

Dr. Helmecken—Lake, you mean?

Mr. Duncan—I wish it was; I would then move for \$2000.

Dr. Powell thought notice of motion should be given before a resolution involving a money grant was entertained by the House.

Mr. DeCosmos thought it very remarkable in the hon. member introducing such a question at this stage of the proceedings of the Committee in Supply.

Dr. Powell said he had merely made the enquiry, but now he would move a resolution to the effect that such notice be required for the future.

Mr. McClure would have had no objection to such a measure had it been introduced at an earlier stage; but the estimates being now nearly got through with, he thought it quite unnecessary.

Dr. Helmecken thought such a course the most proper, and he regretted it had not been acted upon from the beginning. The course that the committee had been pursuing afforded facilities for unfair legislation, for members when they wanted to get a grant passed could watch their opportunity, and when they saw that they could command a majority they would bring their measures forward.

Mr. McClure—The item can be re-committed in the House.

Dr. Helmecken—But the majority that carried the question in Committee could also carry it in the House.

Mr. McClure—The hon. the Speaker is unusually acute. He tells us that a number of members finding themselves on some occasion in a majority can form themselves into a clique and bring forward a measure and carry it by a kind of snap judgment. On being told that the thing can be re-committed in the House, he sagely tells us that the majority in the Committee can also carry it in the House. Well, if that's the case, the clique is simply the majority of the House (hear, hear), and he would like to know by what means the Speaker intends to prevent the majority ruling (laughter).

Dr. Helmecken thought the hon. gentleman who had just sat down exceedingly facetious, it being very logical, and exceedingly wise. He had become quite an oracle in Parliamentary matters, but he had not put the case properly before the members. He disliked altogether the course that the House had adopted in regard to their dealing with the estimates; it led to a system of log-rolling, or "you tickle me and I'll tickle you!"

Mr. McClure thought the question out of order.

Mr. DeCosmos thought the motion out of order as it was against a rule of the House.

Dr. Dickson moved that the resolution of the hon. member for Lake (Mr. Duncan) be postponed until the next meeting of the House.

The Chairman said he would prefer that the Committee should refer the point of order that had been raised to the Speaker to decide upon.

Mr. McClure thought it was a matter that should be decided by the Committee; the Speaker had already given his opinion in regard to it.

Mr. DeCosmos thought the object of his hon. colleague (Dr. Powell) was not commendable in his opposition to the course which the Committee had been pursuing—and styled his (Dr. Powell's) opposition as snapping and snarling.

Dr. Powell might perhaps his snapping and snarling might prevent the hon. senior member for the City from forcing through the Committee some grant of money that might not pass upon due and timely consideration.

A motion to refer the question to the Speaker was carried.

The Speaker resumed the chair and decided that it was a standing parliamentary rule that no new matter could be brought before the House without notice, and that a money grant not embraced in the Estimates would come under the head of new matter.

Mr. DeCosmos gave notice that at the next sitting of the House he would move that the sum of \$25,000 be granted to build a wagon-road from Goldstream to Sayward's sawmill and through to Saanich.

Committee resumed—

INTEREST AND SINKING FUND.—Interest on road and harbor loan, 1862, \$11,640.—Carried.

Interest on temporary loan, \$2,000.—Carried.

Interest on sinking fund, \$7,760.—Carried.

DRAWBACKS, \$1,500.—Carried.

REPAIRS, \$500.—Carried.

IMMIGRATION.—For general purposes of immigration, \$1,000.

Dr. Helmecken thought it necessary to vote an amount in order that men might obtain assistance in getting out their wives.

Dr. Powell thought if men could not bring their wives out they had better leave them at home.

Mr. McClure said he would willingly support any well digested immigration scheme, especially if it were arranged by both colonies, but to vote \$1,000 to be applied as former sums have been he would not. The greater portion of the last thousand dollars had, he believed, been expended very unprofitably—one man's family had been brought out and almost the first boat took them to the American territory, leaving the Government to whistle for the money. Another family had been brought out, with almost the same result to the Government, as the money never was paid back. If money was voted the House should have some guarantee that it would be spent profitably and according to a well regulated system. He moved that the amount be struck out.

Mr. DeCosmos thought great discretion should be exercised in bringing people to the colony. He thought before immigration was encouraged some effort should be made to develop the resources of the country and reduce labor. Whatever money was expended should be applied in such manner as would benefit the colony by keeping immigrants within it.

Mr. Duncan thought the colony should first possess the Crown lands, and then there would be something to offer the immigrant. The lands were not open now to immigrants, and no good scheme could be adopted.

Item lost.

INDIANS.—Expenses connected with Indians, \$1000.

Dr. Helmecken, before voting on this item, would express his indignation at the recent proceedings of Her Majesty's ship Cleo with the Fort Rupert Indians. He would characterize the treatment of the Indians on that occasion as inhuman in the extreme. He did not consider it any part of the duty of Her Majesty's ships to fire upon and destroy wretches out of doors in the winter season, leaving them to shelter from the storm and cold, and to destroy their canoes, thus leaving them in an entirely helpless condition. He thought it the duty of this House to express in the most decided manner its entire abhorrence of such a system. The Indians were revengeful like the whites, and he (Dr. H.) had no doubt that they would be avenged for the injury done them, and innocent white men would be the sufferers. If Her Majesty's Government had taken in hand to govern and manage the Indians regardless of the advice of the colony, then he (Dr. H.) would say let Government bear the cost.

Mr. McClure concurred in much that had fallen from the hon. member. He could not but regret that so indiscriminate a destruction had been wreaked by the man-of-war on the encampment and property generally of the Fort Rupert Indians. A number of these natives had been brought down to Victoria, tried and discharged—thrown upon Victoria streets, without a home, without a canoe, and without bread. To the kindness of some white men several of them were enabled to start home again in a canoe; but there were some still hanging round Victoria unable to get back. The worst feature was that when they would get back they would find all their property destroyed—all the accumulations of years gone—and they would be obliged to commence life anew—and all this for an offence the courts of law acquitted them of. It could only be expected that retaliation on our northern settlers would ensue (hear, hear).

Mr. DeCosmos agreed with the remarks which had fallen from both speakers; he thought the best way to treat Indians was to buy their good-will; he approved of the course pursued formerly; he was in favor of the bread and molasses policy, but should they prove rebellious then of course it would be necessary to deal rigorously with them and put them down with the strong arm. The treatment of the Fort Rupert Indians was bad in the extreme—in fact he had heard that the natives had been literally robbed of many of their household goods.

Dr. Helmecken said the Indians' ideas of justice in many cases differed from our ideas, kindness was the only mode by which they could be managed, but should they revolt and become rebellious then adopt rigorous measures. The Indians within the limits of our towns and settlements should be compelled to conform to civilized law, but those Northern Indians were out of the bounds of civilization and in their own territory. So far as the statement of the hon. gentleman on his left (Mr. McClure) was concerned about the Indians being thrust on the street it was perfectly true, and he considered it an outrage; they should have been sent back. Had the Indians taken a number of persons even as hostages they would have dealt in a more civilized manner with them.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that \$500 be substituted for \$1,000.—Motion lost.

The item of \$1,000 was lost by the casting vote of the Chairman.

Mr. DeCosmos gave notice that at the next sitting of the House he would bring in a resolution relating to the amalgamation of sundry offices.

Committee rose and reported progress.

Mr. Duncan gave notice that on Friday next he would move an address to His Excellency requesting him to lay before the House his despatches to the Colonial Office respecting the Postal establishment.

House adjourned to meet on Friday next at 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, January 26.

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

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

COMMUNICATION.

The Speaker read a message from His Excellency in reply to an address from the House asking information in regard to selling liquor.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that it be printed.—Carried.

CONVEYANCES.

Mr. Dennes brought in a bill relating to conveyances, which was read the first time.

INCORPORATION OF NANAIMO.

Mr. Cunningham asked leave to bring in a bill to incorporate Nanaimo. Leave granted.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

Mr. Duncan moved an address to His Excellency the Governor, asking for his despatches to the Colonial Office relating to the postal regulations in this colony. Carried.

SUSPENSION OF RULES.

Mr. McClure moved that the rules of the House be suspended by a majority of the members present at any sitting.

Mr. Cochrane moved as an amendment that a two-thirds vote be required to suspend a rule of the House.

Dr. Powell thought it a dangerous principle to establish. A very small number of the House might reverse the action of the majority.

Mr. DeCosmos said if such a thing were done the majority of the House could again reverse the action.

Mr. Dennes thought a majority should govern in all cases.

Motion carried.

Yeas—DeCosmos, Carswell, Dennes, Mc-

Clure, Trimble, Cunningham, and Carswell (7).

Noes—Powell, Duncan, and Cochrane (3).

QUARTERLY COURT.

Mr. Cunningham's resolution, requesting His Excellency the Governor to instruct the Chief Justice to hold a quarterly court at Nanaimo, came up for discussion.

Mr. Cunningham hoped there would be no opposition, as it would require very little time.

Mr. Dennes would not oppose the motion, but still he feared the Chief Justice would not find time to attend a court at Nanaimo.

Mr. Cochrane seconded and supported the motion.

Dr. Powell would like to be informed how the duties of the Chief Justice were to be performed in the city.

Mr. Cochrane said the Chief Justice did not belong to the city of Victoria, but to the whole colony.

Mr. DeCosmos said the Chief Justice should hold circuit courts just as they did in other colonies.

On motion, the resolution was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Dr. Dickson moved that the rules of the House be suspended.

Mr. DeCosmos seconded the motion.

The Speaker ruled the motion out of order, no matter having yet come before the House requiring a suspension of the rules.

SUPPLY.

House went into committee on supply, Dr. Trimble in the chair.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the committee rise, and ask the House to suspend the rules of order to consider the estimates.

Dr. Helmecken thought a definite question should arise before the rules should be suspended.

Mr. DeCosmos thought it quite proper to ask for a suspension of the rules, in order to go into the Estimates generally, as it would obviate delay, and avoid the necessity of giving notice. He thought to object to the suspension of the rules was endeavoring to obstruct the business of the House.

Dr. Helmecken disclaimed any intention or desire to obstruct the business, but he thought the motion unparliamentary. There should be a definite question upon which the rule should be asked to suspend.

Mr. McClure said the committee of supply had among other things abolished the salaries of several officials; those salaries were still running on, and it was important that the supplies should be got through with as speedily as possible in order that the bill should go to the Upper House and be acted upon. The wants of the country demanded immediate action, and if the rules were suspended a great saving of money would be effected.

Dr. Powell said if the motion to suspend would nullify the rule requiring notice of motion before a money vote could be introduced, he would most decidedly oppose it.

Motion carried.

Yeas—DeCosmos, McClure, Dickson, Dennes, Carswell, Cochrane, Cunningham. Noes—Helmecken, Duncan, Powell. Committee rose and the Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the rules of the House be suspended for the purpose of taking into consideration the General Estimates.

Motion carried.

Committee resumed—

Mr. Duncan moved that \$1000 be granted in aid of a Flour Mill at Saanich. He said there was an excellent water privilege there, and a private company were willing to build a good mill provided they were aided by the Government. The motion was not seconded.

Dr. Dickson moved a resolution that this House renew the offer it had made as an inducement to build flour mills, as passed in 1864.

Mr. Cochrane seconded, and expressed astonishment that the hon. member for Lake (Mr. Duncan) should know so much more about the wants of his (Mr. C's) constituents than he did himself. He only knew that a private party was about erecting a flour mill, and he was opposed to giving private grants; he thought the mode proposed by the amendment the better way, the grant should be general.

Dr. Dickson stated that his resolution would grant \$1250 premium to any person or persons, erecting a flour mill capable of producing fifty barrels of flour per day.

Resolution carried.

POSTPONED ITEMS.

Engineer of Tug, \$1,091 25; carried.

Two Stokers at \$60 per month, \$1,440; carried.

Three crew at \$45 a month, \$1,620; carried.

STREAM TUG.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the steam tug Sir James Douglas be employed to carry mails, freight and passengers, on the East coast of this Island, under the management of the Government, and that insurance be effected upon her. Carried.

Petty expenses, \$250; carried.

Registrar General, \$2425.

A discussion took place upon this item, and the Chairman decided that it had been struck out.

Fuel and stores for steam tug, \$2500.

Mr. Duncan moved that the sum be increased to \$3,600. Carried.

Stores for keeping the machinery of dredger in order, \$500.

Mr. Duncan moved \$1000, and would remark before setting down that with the machinery, &c., that had been brought out from England for the dredger there was a very fine lathe which had been sold, and the consequence was it cost much more to get the machinery repaired than it would had the lathe been kept and put in use by the Government.

Dr. Helmecken said it was decidedly wrong to sell the lathe.

The motion for \$1000 was carried.

Charitable Allowances—\$500.

Dr. Helmecken moved that this sum be granted to the Roman Catholic School.

Mr. McClure thought the sum too small a grant for an orphan school, and more injury than benefit might accrue to the Roman Catholic body from the vote, inasmuch as while apparently giving the excellent institution known as the Convent School Government aid, the grant would not be sufficient to keep two orphans.

Dr. Dickson thought the Roman Catholics deserved commendation and praise, but more

ample provision should be made for orphans than the motion of the hon. Speaker proposed. He would, therefore move that the matter be referred to a Committee to consider a report some general and practicable for the consideration of the House.

Mr. DeCosmos thought the matter better referred to a Committee. All he thought the Catholic schools deserved he would prefer giving his vote in favor of general Orphan School than a private one. He feared it might stir up sectarianism.

Dr. Helmecken thought the Board of education should take some steps towards relieving an orphan school. He had his resolution to pass as an acknowledgment of the appreciation of this House benefit conferred by the Roman Catholic on this matter; but if there was any probability of its being the cause of sectarian

le, Cunningham, and Care...
Quarterly Court.
Cunningham's resolution, requesting...
The motion was referred to a committee...

ample provision should be made for orphans...
The motion to refer was carried.
The item of \$500 was struck out.

he supposed, to be in the minority. He alluded...
The motion to refer was carried.
The item of \$500 was struck out.

tional method to engraft the opinions of the...
The House then went into Committee on...
The motion to refer was carried.

AN ENGLISHMAN ON AMERICAN AFFAIRS.
Speech of Sir Morton Peto.
The following able and sensible address...
I said so much to you during the long summer evenings...

about the railways in this great country. I remember...
THE BURNS' ANNIVERSARY—Nearly thirty members...
CUSTOMS RECEIPTS for week ending Saturday, Jan. 20th, 1866...

Tuesday, January 30, 1866

OPENING OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIAN LEGISLATURE.

On Thursday last the Legislative Council of British Columbia was opened by the Hon. Mr. Birch, as Administrator of the Government, in the absence of Governor Seymour. The speech of Mr. Birch, although not the remarkable document the Columbian states it to be, possesses nevertheless considerable merit. It tells us, first, that out of the twenty-eight ordinances passed by the Council last year, twenty-three have received Her Majesty's approval. It is rather significant, however, that one of the Ordinances which still await Her Majesty's sanction is the ordinance to amend the duties of Customs. It is only a few days ago that our impulsive contemporary of New Westminster threw up his hat, and vociferated lustily that the Customs Amendment Act had, contrary to opinions expressed in Victoria, obtained the approval of Her Majesty. We now find by Mr. Birch's address that the British Columbian Government had "received no intimation of the Secretary of State's views" on the ordinance in question. The Columbian confused the "Harbor Dues Amendment Ordinance," which provides for levying 2s. a ton on vessels over thirty tons, with the "Ordinance to Amend the Duties of Customs," hence its premature hilarity. Mr. Cardwell so doubt thinks it advisable, to maintain harmony in the relations of colonies that will shortly be united, and, not having any vested interests in New Westminster, feels that it would be rather unjust to sacrifice the well-being of the two colonies to please a dozen or two shortsighted people in the small but ambitious capital of British Columbia.

Mr. Birch tells the Council that steps will be shortly taken to have the pre-empted lands in the colony surveyed, and that the Indian Reserves will be placed on a more satisfactory footing. Speaking of the Indians, he is of opinion that the discretionary power of the Executive is better for their management than legislative enactment. Out of the vote of £225,946 for the public service of last year, but £185,000 has been expended—a million of dollars a year, however, for the small population of British Columbia might satisfy the most inveterate spendthrift. We now come to the sad fact, which we announced many months ago as certain to take place, a deficit in the estimated revenue. The Administrator does not tell the Council the amount the receipts have fallen short, but we believe it will be many thousands. The export duty on gold and the road tolls show the greatest deficit.

With all the outrageous extravagance of the Government of the neighboring colony, it is a consolation to see that the public works have not been neglected. "The main wagon road," says Mr. Birch, "is now completed to the very centre of the Cariboo District. Communication between the towns of Richfield and Camerontown is facilitated by the formation of a road. A substantial pack trail has been constructed, by way of the Southern Boundary, to the Kootenay District—or rather, I might say, to the Rocky Mountains—a distance estimated at three hundred and eighty miles from the town of Hope. The country lying between the Fraser and the Columbia has been carefully surveyed, and a trail is already opened, to connect the Columbia river with the navigable waters of the Shuswap Lake. Several exploration parties have been fitted out by Government, and large tracts of country explored, with what varied success you are already aware, from the reports which have from time to time appeared in the Government Gazette. A light ship has been built, and is stationed at the entrance to the Fraser river. Substantial iron buoys having arrived from England, will shortly be placed in position clearly to define the channel. The construction of a wagon road between New Westminster and Yale is nearly completed, having been undertaken in conjunction with the Western Union Telegraph Company, whose line of telegraph following this route has already penetrated upwards of four hundred miles into the interior, and will, I trust, should the same energy be displayed as heretofore, place us in telegraphic communication with the whole civilized world before the close of another season."

It is gratifying to find the principle of retrenchment acknowledged by the Administrator of the Government of the neighboring colony, but when he tells us that his reductions to the enormous demands of the Executive will be something short of \$30,000, he rather provokes our humor. If so grave a subject can be so treated. Thirty thousand dollars out of say seven hundred and fifty thousand is about as substantial a reduction as taking the cockade from a footman's hat. Until the expenditure of the neighboring colony shall have been brought down to \$300,000, and the useless and expensive staff of officials immensely reduced, it is simply ridiculous to talk of retrenchment. Were the colonies united to-morrow the outlay would be brought within this limit, and instead of calling, as Mr. Birch does now, for more taxes, the miners and business men of British Columbia would be relieved

of the very heavy loads they are at present obliged to bear. In the absence of union, however, and of representative Government, the officials have it all their own way, and the colony is saddled with burdens that would ruin the richest country under the sun.

The most satisfactory announcement in the whole speech is the abolition of the export duty on gold. For this Mr. Birch will receive the thanks of the miners, not merely inasmuch as he has removed an obnoxious tax, but for the language he employs in its removal. Mr. Birch believes in the equity of the tax and says, "I should now hesitate to take this step did I not consider it the paramount duty of the Executive to carry out as far as possible the well understood wishes of the community." Such a sentiment, coming from a gentleman in the position of Administrator of the Government of British Columbia, is worthy of every commendation, and might be emulated, with much general benefit, by the Executive of Vancouver Island. It is the sentiment which we have always maintained should actuate the Government of a free country. When any law or Government measure becomes obnoxious to the people, however good its principle may be in the abstract, wisdom demands that it should be abolished, and public opinion respected. The remarks, as well as the decision, are a severe blow to the demagogues of New Westminster who desired to make the entire colony subordinate to their selfish ends, and who have done their utmost to bring the Executive into conflict with the mining and mercantile population.

To make up for the abolition of the export duty it is proposed to make the mining licenses compulsory, so that Chinsamen will be obliged to pay their quota like the rest of the mining population—a necessary measure that should have been inaugurated long ago. Another scheme, however, which is not so necessary is also proposed, to increase the trade and liquor licenses throughout the colony. If Mr. Birch does right he will add no new taxes, but cut away the road tolls, and abolish the endless expenses of recording mining claims. Let him do this and he will find that he will then have more money than he will know how to legitimately employ. The petition of the miners to have a "speedy hearing and determining of all disputes concerning mining interests," will be attended to. It is really time it should; for all the wholesale robberies of both time and money, the present system of adjudicating disputes on the mines of Cariboo bears the palm. How so disgraceful a state of affairs could have existed, as it has, is almost incredible. As things go on now, we believe it takes all the gold that is obtained from the ground to pay the lawyers. Mr. Birch speaks hopefully of having a proper system of communication established between the Fraser and Big Bend, and urges, as of the very greatest importance, the impracticable scheme of direct communication between San Francisco and New Westminster.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The steamer Enterprise arrived on Monday afternoon from Barrard Inlet with 45 passengers and a small express. She encountered a thick fog all the way, and had some difficulty in making the harbor. Fraser River was full of ice and no communication had been had with the upper country. The Cariboo express was at Yale, and would make its way down yesterday. The British Columbian Legislature was formally opened by Administrator Birch on Thursday last. The substance of the "Speech from the Throne," will be found in another column. We extract the following from the Columbian of the 17th and 20th instant:

The Anniversary Missionary Meeting of the Wesleyan body was held in Mary street Church on Tuesday evening, the Hon. Attorney General Crease in the chair. Several ministers, including the Rev. Dr. Evans of this city, and Rev. Mr. White of Nanaimo, addressed the meeting. The result is said to have been satisfactory.

THE NEW BOYS.—Fifteen of the iron buoys for the month of the river, recently ordered from England, have arrived at Victoria. They will be brought up in a few days, and moored as speedily as possible.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS for the week ending Saturday, January 13th, 1866: Duties (import), \$1,496 71; Do. (export), \$34 12; Headmoney, \$101 85; Harbor Dues, \$73 24; Tonnage Dues, \$15 30. Total, \$1,820 22.

BIG BEND. Another Rich Creek. We hear that a private letter from Mr. James Ory to a gentleman in this city, announces the discovery of another creek, prospecting better than any of those previously found in the Big Bend country. As the spring approaches the Big Bend gold fever begins to spread, and we should not be surprised to witness such a rush from this city as has never yet characterized the history of British Columbia.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—At a meeting of the directors of this flourishing institution, held Monday, Mr. Ramsay was appointed Librarian, vice Mr. Williams, who sailed for England by the last steamer. We observe that a beautiful cabinet, for the reception of geological specimens, has been placed in the library room. It was made by Mr. Richards and is, we understand, the gift of His Excellency Governor Seymour.—Columbian.

TELEGRAPHIC.

(From the British Columbian.)

NEW ORLEANS, January 6.—The *Pisanyne* gleans from a gentleman recently from the interior of that State, that the freedmen positively refuse to make new contracts to go to work, or leave the plantations. They were respectful and peaceful. They allege as a reason that they expect a new proclamation that will materially benefit their condition.

CHICAGO, January 7.—The Washington *Republican* says Admiral Dupont kept his ships outside Charleston Bar and made \$50,000 in prize-money. President Lincoln issued an imperative order to him to move his ships inside the harbor, and seal it against blockade running. Dupont disobeyed and was relieved. Dahlgren succeeded him and moved his ships inside the bar; blockade running was then so completely destroyed that Dahlgren's prize-money only amounts to a little over \$90,000. About six millions more are yet to be paid, which will probably swell the figures against the names of Lee, Porter, and Dupont.

WASHINGTON, January 7.—There is not a particle of foundation for the report that Chief Justice Chase asked for the pardon of young Ketchum.

The President yesterday signed a patent granting 45,500 acres of land to the Central Pacific Railroad.

About 30 commanders of vessels destroyed by the Alabama have already been summoned as witnesses for the Government in the approaching trial of Semmes.

The Government has realized within two years the sum of \$6,000,000, the proceeds of confiscation; confiscated cotton, sugar, and other property in the State of Mississippi.

NEW YORK, January 7.—An extensive fraud upon the Internal Revenue Department, by the issue of large quantities of counterfeit revenue stamps, has just been brought to light by the authorities of this city.

NEW HAVEN, January 7.—The safe of Adam's Express Company, en route from New York to Boston, on Saturday, was rifled of all its contents, with the exception of two parcels, which the thieves in their hurry overlooked. The extent of the loss as near as can be ascertained is about \$500,000. The car was probably entered while at the depot in New York. The thieves pried off the lock of the door of the car, and also the locks of two of the Company's safes. Eight hundred and five dollars in greenbacks and six hundred in Government notes were left by the thieves on the floor of the car. They got out with their plunder at Coldbridge. The officials of the Company are here investigating the matter. The robbery was not discovered until the arrival of the train at this city.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The select committee of both Houses to devise suitable means to testify national respect for the late President Lincoln had a meeting this forenoon, and selected George Bancroft to deliver the eulogy, in February next, in place of E. M. Stanton, declined.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The *Herald's* Washington special despatch says that Dr. Bacon, on behalf of the Faculty of Yale College, is reported to have sent a communication to Mr. Speaker Colfax, requesting the House to array itself against the reconstructing policy of the President.

The rumors of an impending Cabinet reconstruction which have prevailed among the informed circles for the past week are believed to have more foundation in fact than usually pertains to such reports. The President is known to be anxiously awaiting the reception of the European Mail to learn whether Mr. Adams proposed an immediate return from London. This, taken in connection with the small straws, is believed to indicate the course of the coming breeze.

The *Herald's* Fortress Monroe correspondent writes that Captain Alexander, of the Empire City, arrived there on the 3d instant from Key West. He had seen Dr. Mudd, Spangler, and O'Laughlin, the Lincoln assassination conspirators. They all occupy one room and are in good health. They do the most menial and degrading work about the prison. Dr. Mudd has behaved with exemplary propriety since his failure to escape some time ago, and is evidently striving to reinstate himself in the good opinion of his custodians, and his former easy and agreeable place in the prison hospital.

By order of Henry G. Wise, Chief of Bureau of Ordinance, a large lot of old miscellaneous cannon were disposed of at public auction at the Brooklyn Navy Yard yesterday. Only about forty persons were present at the sale. These guns, before delivery to purchasers, will be mutilated so as to be of no use as an arm of offence or defence, otherwise they would have been bought at large prices and met with a ready sale.

The names of the Adams Express robbers, arrested at Fort, Lockwood and Clark. It is said that Horace Greely had an interview with President Johnson. The latter expressed to Greely his desire to avoid any rupture with the Union party. No less than fourteen names are on the speaker's list for elaborate speeches on reconstruction. Members of the Cabinet emphatically deny that the President has issued any orders, stopping appointments upon the recommendations of members of Congress.

During the week ending to-day, two millions seven hundred and twenty thousand dollars in national currency were issued. The total circulation now is two hundred and forty millions.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—In the Senate to-day a resolution was adopted relating upon the President for information in relation to an order of military commanders in California forbidding the exportation of arms and ammunition over the frontiers and whether such orders was not in violation of our neutrality towards Mexico.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 13.—Horace H. Day addressed a special meeting of the Board of Trade in a lengthy speech this afternoon. Resolutions were adopted in favor of a ship canal offering the practicability of Day's scheme and declaring it presents many features entitling it to the favorable consideration of the committee appointed to confer with other Boards.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The *Commercial's* Washington special correspondent says a probably unsuccessful appeal has been made for the restoration of Gen. Sweeney, Fenian

Commander-in-Chief, to his position in the regular service. Gen. Grant, under orders from the President, is withdrawing all the troops from the Southern States except garrisons and United States forts at important points.

Official despatches from U. S. agents abroad, received at the State Department by American interests. The plans for the extension of European influence on our continent have received a death blow by the restoration of the Union. It is expected the withdrawal of all the French troops. There are grounds for believing that the State Department at Washington and the French Government have an understanding upon the subject, which is said to date previous to the termination of the civil war.

The *Post* says some of the Fenians of this city profess to believe Stephens' letter is a forgery, and that it was designed to overthrow the opposition to O'Mahoney before the truth could be known.

The Winoska is waiting for her opponent the Algonquin to get ready for the sea race. She will commence on Monday next another forty-six hours' trial, which, when terminated will be followed by another of the same duration; it is then supposed the Algonquin will be ready for sea and it is confidentially ascertained that both vessels will start about the 27th inst.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Full particulars of the loss of the steamer Maria Boardman are published. Two pilots, Henry Squires, and Stephen Jones, behaved in an heroic manner, hazarding their lives in a small row boat to save the passengers. Great credit is given Capt. Bird, of the steamer Charles Chamberlain and his crew, for their efforts to save the crew and passengers of the Boardman, for by their heroic exertions the passengers were saved.

The funeral obsequies of the late Robert G. Minturn took place in Brooklyn to-day.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 13.—A meeting was held in this city last evening for the purpose of choosing delegates from this city to attend the mining convention at Sacramento next week. The following resolutions were adopted authorizing the committee to add such names to the list as they see fit, and also endorsing the California Mining Bureau Association and recommending it to the favorable notice of the State Convention.

The steamship Colorado will sail for Panama next Friday. Rates of passage, 1st cabin, outside and ladies' cabin, \$210; do inside rooms, \$157 50; 2nd cabin, \$79 50; steerage, \$32 25.

The steam propeller Ajax left to-day for Honolulu with 58 passengers, among whom were Madame Anna Bishop and Charles Lascelles. "George M. Patchen, jr." the celebrated trotting stallion, left on the last steamer in company with his trainer for the purpose of contesting with some of the Eastern crack stock on the Long Island and other courses.

Last evening the building occupied by the primary school in Grass Valley was destroyed by fire.

Private telegrams from New York report a good deal of excitement in the gold market. On the 8th inst., the price fluctuating between 137 and 141 closing weak. Sterling Exchange same date was at 100 on the strength of the decline in gold. Legal tenders decidedly firmer, sales having been made over the counter at 72½, at the Court 71½ was offered with no sellers. The Mining Share market betrays weakness in the leading description operated in to-day, though there are no very marked fluctuations.

A private letter from Valparaiso states that the blockade of the port of Talcahuana, had been raised.

Flour was quoted at \$5 per bbl Chilean currency.

Candles are firm, with sales of 400 boxes Knapps at 27c.

Coffee—Further sales of 100 bags Kona at an advanced rate.

Rice—Sales 1000 mats No. 2 China at 6½ @ 7½ per 1000.

Flour Market firm with sales within the last day or two of the bulk of 10,000 bbls for export on a basis of \$6 50 per bbl for Standard Superfine in q's. The leading local mills are running on export orders.

Wheat—Within the last day or two, but not before reported, there have been sales of 30,000 sacks No. 1, chiefly for export at 205@210 per 100 pounds.

Barley—Sales include 2500 sacks brewing, at \$1 11½; 1800 do at \$1 10; and 1200 at \$1 70 and \$1 75 per 100 lbs.

THE BIG BEND MINES AND HOW TO GET THERE.—We would draw especial attention to the able and comprehensible letter addressed by A. C. Anderson, Esq., formerly of the Hudson Bay Co., to the Chairman of Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of this city, J. Robertson Stewart, Esq., in answer to the application of the committee for information respecting the Big Bend gold mines and the superior advantages of the Fraser River route. The Committee acted wisely in seeking information from a gentleman so competent to afford it as Mr. Anderson, whose intimate knowledge of the whole of that section of country and well known impartiality will carry much weight in Oregon and California. The Chamber of Commerce will cause a large number of copies of this communication to be circulated outside of the colony, and viewed in conjunction with the maps of both routes, now being lithographed by the British Columbian Government, will go far towards satisfying miners resident in the neighboring territories and in California of the most advisable route for them to take to the mines.

ROBBERY.—On the night of January 11th the warehouse of Messrs. Swan & Smith, of Arcada, was broken open and robbed of goods and merchandise to the value of over two hundred dollars, by an outlaw known as Scotta and five accomplices. The thieves were traced as far as Tum Water, and warrants taken out for their arrest. Scotta took refuge in an Indian hovel, where several of the citizens of that place attempted to arrest him on Tuesday, but he managed to escape. Some twelve or more shots were fired at him, and he fired one back without effect.—*Pac. Tribune*.

SUMMARY COURT.

(BEFORE CHIEF JUSTICE NERRHAM.)

MONDAY, Jan. 22, 1866.

Harrison et al vs Gilmore.—The plaintiff, on behalf of the Grizzly Company of Cariboo, sued the defendant for \$205 65, for the amount of judgment recovered in the Gold Commissioners Court of British Columbia at Richfield in September, 1865, in which the said John Harrison was plaintiff and the Grizzly Company and David Grier defendants.

Mr. Dennes appeared for the plaintiffs.—Mr. Ring, instructed by Mr. Jackson, for the defendant.

The defence was that the defendant at the time of the alleged contract had ceased to be a miner, his certificate having expired. On the other hand it was asserted that a certificate had been taken out by another person and in the name of the defendant. Several points in connection with British Columbian jurisprudence were raised; and His Honor, after deliberation, determined to give the plaintiff the option of an adverse judgment or a non-suit. Mr. Dennes elected the non-suit.

Dobrin vs Lyons.—This was a suit to recover the sum of \$41 50 for seaman's clothing and supplies furnished on the defendant's credit.

Mr. Bishop for plaintiff.

The defendant conducted his case very shrewdly in person.

The defence set up was that there was an overcharge on the goods supplied, but a book produced by the defendant upset his plea and judgment was given for the amount claimed.

Mercely vs Copland.—The hearing of this suit for the recovery of \$110 wages claimed by defendant as guardian of his son, was resumed yesterday.

Mr. Green for plaintiff. Mr. Wood for defendant.

After a patient hearing of the case, His Honor gave judgment for \$80.

Gibbs vs Allopp.—This was an action of replevin for an alleged illegal distress for \$75 on the premises of the Royal Exchange in Fort street.

Mr. Bishop for plaintiff. Mr. Green for defendant.

The matters involved were purely questions of Law, and the Judge after a protracted and ample inquiry, gave a verdict in favor of plaintiff against defendant, on the ground that the defendant, who claimed as a purchaser, was not clothed with the legal estate so as to enable him to distrain.

Cross actions are threatened.

F. Mitchell vs Hammond.—This was an action for \$56 75 for goods sold and delivered to Mr. Rice, deceased. The plaintiff said he sold the goods to Mr. Rice on the word of the defendant that he would be responsible for the payment. The defendant denied having said that he would be responsible for the goods, but had said that he would trust Mr. Rice.

His Honor gave judgment for the defendant, and said that a verbal responsibility for the payment of another man's debt was not sufficient; the law required a written acknowledgment of the liability.

VOLUNTEER BALL AT NEW WESTMINSTER.—The Volunteers in the neighboring capital gave a very successful subscription ball on the 15th inst. in their hall, which was elegantly decorated for the occasion. The following names of those present is furnished by the Columbian:—The hon. A. N. Birch, Administrator of the Government, Capt. Prichard and Mrs. Prichard, Hon. Mr. Ball, Mr. D. C. Maunsell, Esq., Hon. Mr. Homer and Mrs. Homer, Hon. Mr. Holbrook, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Bushby, Mr. and Mrs. Good and Miss Good, Mr. and Mrs. Claudet, Mr. McCulloch, Dr. and Mrs. Black, Mr. H. V. Edmonds, Mr. Eliwyn, Capt. Holmes, Capt. Horton, Mr. H. Nagle and the Misses Nagle, Mr. Wm. Jones, Mr. Pooley, Mr. Isaac Fisher, Dr. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. Bullock, Mr. Wm. Ladner and Mrs. Booth, Mr. Bolenge, Mr. M. McKeen, Mr. Brookman, Mr. Robert Neal and Mrs. Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. Dewdney and Missed Mohr, Mr. Berkeley, Mr. John Powell, Mr. and Mrs. Howse, Mr. and Mrs. Price, Mr. W. W. Wolsley and about forty others. Dancing was kept up with much spirit till two o'clock, and the pretty uniform of the Rifles added much to the effect.

THE POLICY OF THE HOUSE.—The *Nanaimo Gazette* has a sensible article on the recent action of the House on the Estimates. It calls the reduction of the number of officials "a social necessity," and says the action of the House in removing certain of those gentlemen from office and emolument, and lowering the salaries of others "is the result of stern necessity, and we can only regret that such necessity exists. Complaints are made of meanness, shabbiness and so forth—such complaints need not be listened to—we must fashion our garments to the measure of cloth we are content, although not so ample in fold as could be desired. Surely those gentlemen could not look upon tenure of office in a poor colony like this, as an heirloom to be enjoyed through life and then handed down to their posterity. They cannot but expect to share in the vicissitudes of fortune with their fellow-colonists. In the gold mines how many hundreds, after the most strenuous exertions, have been reduced to penniless poverty. In Victoria, how many merchants and others have seen their riches taking wings unto themselves and flying away. The blame in doing the work of necessity and duty, but that the Executive have left it for them to do."

PUGET SOUND NAVIGATION COMPANY.—We are pleased to learn that an Act to incorporate the Puget Sound Steam Navigation Co., has passed the Legislature, and the incorporators will shortly commence, at Steilacoom, the construction of a suitable vessel for the Sound trade.—*Seattle Gazette*.

BAR "ELDRIDGE" AROUND.—This vessel was aground high up on a sand bar, just above the Sierra Nevada, on the opposite side of the Columbia, as the Rabboni came down Saturday evening.—*Astoria Gazette*.

Tuesday, January 30, 1866

INFORMATION ON AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

In another column will be found a tant letter from A. C. Anderson, Esq., Chamber of Commerce, on the Oregon British Columbian routes to Big Bend man is better qualified for giving a of the respective routes, as well as tances, and when that gentleman to is a difference in favor of the travel Fraser River of 257 miles, those in reaching Big Bend may rest as the figure is rather under th rated. The letter, however, publi morning must be taken in conjunct communication which appeared in t rst twelve days ago on the same su the same gentleman. In that comm it is stated that the difference in tim between the Oregon and British C routes is in favor of the latter by twenty days. This is in itself a obstacle in the way of Portland any portion of the freight or passen When, however, we add the of the Oregon route, the question form one for discussion. Mr. states that the distance from Victo Columbia river in the vicinity of the might easily be travelled in six thus enabling the California r reach Big Bend within ten d his leaving San Francisco. By Portland it would be impossible by mining travel, to reach the mine twenty-one. The question indeed b be tried whether the steamer "Columbia" will be able to make through the impetuous rapids which navigation on that river during the months. We believe, and we spe very best authority, she will not number of miners should be induce the tortuous route, we expect to their being detained at Colville or other point in the vicinity of the Col a period that will leave them l to test the richness of Big B say this in no spirit of disparag the Oregon route, but with the caire to save the time and money of venturous miner. We say it i he may be deterred from travelling that cannot possibly admit him to Bend diggings before May or perha By the British Columbian line, he Gold Creek or any part of the main by the end of March. The fact i lumbia river, while the American s to ply, is obstructed for half the year is rendered during several of th months un-navigable through of the rapids. It is our i interest that no delay is experienced in the mining population, and with it amount of supplies at Big Bend present year, and so far as the ener inhabitants can go we will accom The House of Assembly has alrea \$30,000 to provide cheap and dire communication between San Fran this port; the rates from here to New minister, or direct to Yale, will be down to the lowest possible figure taking it altogether, the expense from San Francisco to Big Bend, of the Fraser River, will not excee five or forty dollars. The cost by land route will be considerably ov this amount. When we come to the difference in the price of freight portion will be almost the same. A to Mr. Anderson's calculation, freight landed at Columbia river from Ne minister at seven and a-half cents exclusive of the three cents for r which we have no doubt will be By the Oregon route the price can sibly be less than fifteen or twen All it requires to open out Big B fill it up with a vigorous mining po is a liberal policy on the part of the Columbian Government. Let the r and the head money be abolished, recording fees at the mines reduced, most prosperous mining country Pacific the present year will be the of British Columbia. All this can done if the authorities of New W ster are fit for the occasion. If they we shall see them attempting the r project of getting ocean steamers to New Westminster—or creating tax order that the laws of nature may be sed. It will cost, supposing the sol practicable, sixty or seventy thousa to induce any mail company to r vessels on the Fraser river sands, at this is done, Victoria will be able to California miner at New Westminste itly cheaper than he can be brought from San Francisco. Let Mr. B after the internal communications of Columbia, and not lend himself to the project of taking thousands of dolla the miners' pockets in the hope of few over-grown children in New West with the sight of an ocean steamer. port duty on gold is about to be ab let every nerve be strained to redu further the miner's contribution to the ne of the country—let no San F

The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, January 30, 1866.

INFORMATION ON AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

In another column will be found an important letter from A. C. Anderson, Esq., to the Chamber of Commerce, on the Oregon and British Columbia routes to Big Bend. No man is better qualified for giving a description of the respective routes, as well as the distances, and when that gentleman tells us there is a difference in favor of the travel by way of Fraser River of 257 miles, those interested in reaching Big Bend may rest assured that the figure is rather under than over-rated. The letter, however, published this morning must be taken in conjunction with a communication which appeared in the Colonist twelve days ago on the same subject from the same gentleman. In that communication it is stated that the difference in time of travel between the Oregon and British Columbia routes is in favor of the latter by fifteen or twenty days. This is in itself a sufficient obstacle in the way of Portland obtaining any portion of the freight or passenger traffic. When, however, we add the expense of the Oregon route, the question ceases to form one for discussion. Mr. Anderson states that the distance from Victoria to the Columbia river in the vicinity of the diggings might easily be travelled in six days, thus enabling the California miner to reach Big Bend within ten days from his leaving San Francisco. By way of Portland it would be impossible by ordinary mining travel, to reach the mines under twenty-one. The question indeed has yet to be tried whether the steamer on the Columbia river will be able to make her way through the impetuous rapids which obstruct navigation on that river during the summer months. We believe, and we speak on the very best authority, she will not. If any number of miners should be induced to take the tortuous route, we expect to hear of their being detained at Colville or at some other point in the vicinity of the Columbia for a period that will leave them little time to test the richness of Big Bend. We say this in no spirit of disparagement of the Oregon route, but with the earnest desire to save the time and money of the adventurous miner. We say it in order that he may be deterred from travelling a route that cannot possibly admit him to the Big Bend diggings before May or perhaps June. By the British Columbia line, he may reach Gold Creek or any part of the mining locality by the end of March. The fact is the Columbia river, where the American steamer is to ply, is obstructed for half the year by ice, and is rendered during several of the other months un-navigable through the force of the rapids. It is our interest to see that no delay is experienced in having the mining population, and with it a proper amount of supplies at Big Bend early in the present year, and so far as the energy of our inhabitants can go we will accomplish it. The House of Assembly has already voted \$30,000 to provide cheap and direct steam communication between San Francisco and this port; the fares from here to New Westminster, or direct to Yale, will be brought down to the lowest possible figure, so that taking it altogether, the expense of travel from San Francisco to Big Bend, by way of the Fraser River, will not exceed thirty-five or forty dollars. The cost by the Portland route will be considerably over double this amount. When we come to examine the difference in the price of freight the proportion will be almost the same. According to Mr. Anderson's calculation, freight will be landed at Columbia river from New Westminster at seven and a half cents a pound, exclusive of the three cents for road tolls, which we have no doubt will be abolished. By the Oregon route the price cannot possibly be less than fifteen, or twenty cents. All it requires to open up Big Bend and fill it up with a vigorous mining population, is a liberal policy on the part of the British Columbian Government. Let the road tolls and the head money be abolished, and the recording fees at the mines reduced, and the most prosperous mining country on the Pacific the present year will be the colony of British Columbia. All this can easily be done if the authorities of New Westminster are fit for the occasion. If they are not, we shall see them attempting the ridiculous project of getting ocean steamers to go up to New Westminster—of creating taxation in order that the laws of nature may be reversed. It will cost, supposing the scheme is practicable, sixty or seventy thousand dollars to induce any mail company to risk their vessels on the Fraser river sands, and when this is done, Victoria will be able to land the California miner at New Westminster infinitely cheaper than he can be brought direct from San Francisco. Let Mr. Birch look after the internal communications of British Columbia, and not lend himself to the insane project of taking thousands of dollars out of the miners' pockets in the hope of pleasing a few over-grown children in New Westminster with the sight of an ocean steamer. The export duty on gold is about to be abolished, let every nerve be strained to reduce still further the miner's contribution to the revenue of the country—let no San Francisco

steam company swallow up money that ought to be employed in facilitating the miner's travel from Yale to Big Bend, and in enabling the Government to abolish the head money and the road tolls.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Tuesday, Jan. 22.

THE CHURCH RESERVE QUESTION.—The following petition for presentation to the House of Assembly on this vexed question was adopted last night by the Municipal Council. Some Councillors feared that the Court would in the interim issue an order making the injunction final, but we do not think that any apprehension need be entertained on that score, as the plaintiffs would surely not move under the circumstances for an order, and if they did we do not believe that the Court would entertain it. To the Honorable the Speaker, &c.—The petition of the members of the Municipal Council of the City of Victoria humbly sheweth:—That whereas certain fences and buildings have been erected on the Church Reserve situated within the city limits whereby the customary approaches to the city have been impeded, and it being the belief of your petitioners as representatives of the city of Victoria, that such highways and byways so impeded are under their supervision; and as they believe that the reserves should be vested in the city; and as their duties involve the preservation of the right of the citizens to the public thoroughfares. And whereas the powers of the Municipal Council are not clearly defined and in the present state of the finances the Municipal Council are not prepared to take action in the premises, they would therefore humbly pray that your honorable House will adopt such measures for the recovery of the rights of the city to the Reserve as in your wisdom you may deem fit. And your petitioners, &c.

WESLEYAN MISSION.—The anniversary meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society was held last evening in the Methodist Church, in the presence of a large number of persons. An apology having been read from Chief Justice Needham for his inability, through indisposition, to preside, the Rev. Dr. Evans was voted to the chair. The Rev. Mr. Browning read a statement of the operations and fruits of the Mission, with the sums received and expended, which mentioned among other things the fact that out of a sum of about \$300 received, more than \$100 had been raised by the Sunday school children. The Rev. Mr. Somerville delivered an excellent address on past, present, and future missions, and was followed by Mr. Pidwell, who spoke fervently and ably. Several other gentlemen addressed the meeting, the intervals being agreeably filled up by the excellent performances of the choir, and the proceedings terminated most satisfactorily and successfully.

INFORMATION RESPECTING BIG BEND.—Mr. J. Robertson Stewart, of this city, has received an official reply from the Administrator of the British Columbian Government, in answer to the request of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce for information respecting the Big Bend country and the routes thereto. Mr. Birch informs Mr. Stewart that the Government is now having a guide-map made from the most authentic information, showing both routes through British Columbia and Oregon. A number of copies of this map will be forthwith lithographed and some sent to California and elsewhere for gratuitous circulation. The Chamber of Commerce are promised as many copies as they require for the same purpose.

A SMALL BILL.—We were yesterday shown particulars of a recent summary suit. The amount claimed was \$16 50, and the costs were taxed at \$11 70, making the total \$28 20. Had the principal been halved the costs would have been the same. We believe His Honor the Chief Justice will take this matter in hand with a view to the reduction of the present oppressive charges.

THE HOPE AND LADDER BENEFIT.—In our advertising columns will be found a card of thanks from the above fire company to those who assisted in their late benefit at the theatre. We understand that the net proceeds will exceed \$230.

Wednesday, Jan. 23.

POLICE COURT.

[From yesterday's Post.]

The Court was densely crowded to-day, and considerable interest was manifested to hear the case against James Brown, Daniel Watson, and Henry Robinson, charged "that they, on the morning of the 19th inst., unlawfully did make an affray in the Occidental Saloon, to the great terror and disturbance of Her Majesty's subjects." Mr. Courtney appeared for the accused, and Mr. D. B. Ring for the prosecution. Peter Cargotich, sworn, said that five men came into the Occidental Saloon on the morning of the 19th inst., and demanded drink; he refused to serve them, as they were a rough crowd, but afterwards supplied them, and then went down stairs to turn off the gas. On returning, he saw the prisoner Brown striking Mr. Vinter; a man had Mr. Vinter's sword in his hand, and threatened to cut him (Peter) down if he interfered; others had billiard cues in their hand; Brown was kneeling on Vinter. Cross examined by Mr. Courtney.—I was not terrified; a man who keeps a house has no right to get terrified; when one man said he would smash my head, that was time for me to leave, so I went for a policeman. J. G. Vinter sworn.—I was in the Occidental on the morning of the 19th inst.; I was playing cards; Plummer and Tronson were with me at the time; I recognise Watson and Brown as being there; Brown came and put his hand on my shoulder and put down four \$20 pieces and said he would back my play; after this some one knocked my gloves down, and at the same time threw a box of matches in my face; the next thing I saw was a chair held over Plummer's head and I was struck

from behind and kicked. (The witness's face and head is fearfully battered and a large quantity of his whiskers pulled out.) I do not remember anything more until Plummer assisted me to the washstand.

By Mr. Ring.—I cannot identify the man who struck me; Brown was the only man standing in a position to have struck me; Plummer had been excited but had calmed down some time previous to the row.

Mr. R. Plummer, the younger, sworn.—I was in the Occidental on Friday morning; Tronson and Vinter were playing cards; I cannot swear to the prisoners in the dock; I think Brown was present; I saw the matches strike Vinter; one of the parties held a chair over me and struck me, and threw the top of a spittoon at me. I ran to the other end of the room; I saw a man draw Vinter's sword.

By Mr. Courtney.—I was not afraid of the man who attacked me, but of the chair; when the chair was held over me I cleared from that spot.

Edward Tronson, sworn.—I was at the Occidental on the 19th inst.; I remember some of the men making a noise whilst we were playing cards and interfering with our game; Mr. Vinter asked them to be quiet, when a box of matches was thrown at his head; I recognise Watson and Brown; I think Watson was the man who held the chair over Plummer's head; the first thing I saw of the fight was Brown pitching into Vinter; a man who is not present drew Vinter's sword out, and said he would cut any man down who interfered.

Cross examined by Mr. Courtney.—I tried to stop the row; no one pitched into me; I from the moment I was asked to get the sword.

Mr. Ring addressed the court and characterized the assault as most cowardly.

Mr. Courtney said he pleaded guilty to an assault on behalf of his client, and asked the court to deal leniently with the accused, as he was an honest miner and had been led into the row by others, and if he was sent for trial he would lose a whole year's work.

Mr. Vinter said he did not wish to press the charge, and would wish the Court to deal summarily with the matter.

Mr. Pemberton.—I have not the power to deal with the case; my duty is to send it before a jury; I commit all the prisoners for trial but I will take bail, two sureties in \$250 each, themselves in \$500, or a deposit in each case of \$300 cash.

SUPREME COURT.—Re Culverwell's Estate Trade Assignees vs. Levy.—This was an order to produce all papers and securities given by the bankrupt to B. S. Levy for the sum of \$1500 previous to his bankruptcy. No one appeared on behalf of the Assignees, and His Honor ordered the case to be struck out. No costs were asked for.

EDUCATION.—A general feeling of indignation prevails against those members of the Assembly who either for the love of opposition, to gratify some private pique, or for some unaccountable reason, uprooted our Common School system by refusing to vote the item of rent of school houses on Monday last.

CATHOLIC SERVICES are being held, morning and evening, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, by the Rev. Father Bouchard S.J. The Rev. gentleman has a fine sonorous voice speaks forcibly and clearly, adapting himself to the capacities of all his hearers. A large number of persons through the church to hear him.

FROM PORT SOUND.—The steamer Eliza Anderson, Captain Finch, arrived yesterday morning from Olympia and way ports with passengers and freight as per list under the head of marine intelligence. She experienced very severe weather since leaving this port.

FROM NANAIMO.—The schooner Alpha arrived at Esquimalt yesterday evening from Nanaimo with a cargo of coal. The schooner Indian Maid is also on the way down with coal.

FROM SAN JUAN ISLAND.—The scow Anna arrived last evening from San Juan, with 14 tons potatoes and 3½ tons oats. She brought several passengers.

PALTRY.—We are not as sensitive as our New Westminster contemporary about having credit for reprint from our columns, but in the last Chronicle a perversion of the original report of the meeting of Vancouver Islanders at the London Tavern is made simply to avoid mention of the Colonist, which certainly does not say much for the magnanimity of our contemporary. Mr. Dallas in his speech is reported to have said that "he held in his hand the Canadian News of Nov. 16th, containing an extract from the British Colonist, a Victoria paper." The Chronicle in publishing the report thinks it necessary to omit the name of the authority. Rather small truly.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.—The English Courts of Appeal have decided that if the husband and wife have known nothing of each other's existence for seven years, either of them may marry again without being guilty of bigamy, and that the burden of proof lies upon the prosecutor in the case, and on this ground—that it is contrary to the spirit of the English law that a prisoner should be called upon to prove a negative.

Mrs. LINCOLN.—The Treasury officials have deducted the late President's salary for the month of March from the sum awarded by Congress to Mrs. Lincoln. A rare example of the generosity of these officials is to be found in their conduct in not having made a further deduction for the first half of the month of April. Of such pitiful niggardliness the country ought to be heartily ashamed.—Oregonian.

THE LORD CHANCELLORSHIP.—Lord Cranworth still occupies his seat on the woolsack. It is rumored that he will be succeeded either by Sir John Komilly, Master of the Rolls, or Sir Roundell Palmer, Attorney General,

Sporborg & Rueff, COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Importers and Wholesale Dealers

Groceries, Provisions, Boots and Shoes.

The City of Glasgow LIFE ASSURANCE Company.

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THIS COMPANY OFFERS TO THE Public the combined advantages of Perfect Security, Moderate Premiums, Liberal participation in Profits, and great freedom in respect of foreign residence and travel, and has powers under special act of Parliament which simplify discharge of claims in event of assured dying abroad.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

DIVISION OF PROFITS. Assurances effected on or before the 20th January, 1866, participate as of four years standing at the division of profits in January, 1869.

Prospectuses and every information can be obtained on application to the undersigned, who has power to accept risks. J. ROBERTSON STEWART, WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, V.I. Agent for British Columbia and Vancouver Island doctaw

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, &c.



ARE confidently recommended as a simple but powerful remedy for indigestion. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient; are mild in their operation; safe under any circumstances; and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s., 2s., 3s., 4s., and 11s. each by Chemists, Druggists and Storekeepers in all parts of the World. Orders to be made payable by London Houses, but how they are to be sent to the Agent for Victoria, W. M. SEARBY, Chemist, Government street.

AMMUNITION. TARGET 12 FEET SQUARE. Represents average shooting at 500 yards, with ELEY'S ENFIELD CARTRIDGES.

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

BALL CARTRIDGES For Enfield Rifles, also for Westley Richard's, Terry's, Wilson's, Mont Storm's, Green's, and other breech-loaders. Bullets of uniform weight made by compression from soft refined Lead. Mechanically fitted projectiles for Rigby's and Henry's Rifles. ELEY BROTHERS, Gray's-Inn-Ed., London, W.C. Wholesale Only.

Dinneford's Fluid Magnesia Is the great remedy for Acidity of Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations & Bilious Affections. It is the Physician's cure for GOUT, RHEUMATIC GOUT, GRAVEL, and other complaints of the Bladder, and in cases of Fever, and Febrile Irritability of Skin. It produces grateful cooling effects. As a safe and gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and for the sickness of Pregnancy, Dinneford's Magnesia is indispensable, and when taken with the acidulated Lemon Syrup forms a Delightful Effervescent saline & Aperient, and is highly recommended by the Medical Profession.

DINNEFORD & CO., CHEMISTS, LONDON, And Sold by Druggists and Storekeepers throughout the World. CAUTION—ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA, and see that the name is on the label. Dinneford & Co.'s is on every bottle and label. W. M. Searby, Agent for Vancouver Island.

The Road to Health and Long Life.

SECURED BY HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Impurities of the Blood. In selecting the most appropriate medicine for a particular ailment, there may be some difficulty unless one can be found to purify, regulate, and improve the quality of the blood. These Pills possess and exert these three qualifications in an extraordinary degree. They enable the stomach to digest any ordinary food, increase the secretory powers of the liver, cleanse and purify the blood, expel all morbid matter, and throw into the circulation the purest elements for sustaining and repairing the frame.

Weakness and Debility. How many persons suffer from debility without knowing the causes why they are feeble! In most cases the stomach is the aggressor. Holloway's Pills have long been famed for regulating a disordered stomach, and restoring its healthy digestive tone; they are therefore confidently recommended as a never-failing remedy in all cases where the constitution, from any cause, has become impaired or weakened.

Diseases of the Head and Heart. These formidable diseases are, unfortunately, of frequent occurrence; for the most part they creep on gradually, but may be prevented by proper precautions. Holloway's Pills are the surest preservatives against all derangements of the brain and are the speediest correctors of irregular circulation. If they be taken without delay when tingling in the limbs, drowsiness, or giddiness comes on, the effect will be marvellous.

Females of all Ages and Classes. The name of these Pills is partly based upon the beneficial effects they have upon the constitutions of females. From the domestic servant to the peeress, universal favour is accorded to them for their invigorating and purifying properties, which render them so safe and infallible in all disorders peculiar to the sex. Obstructions in womanhood or approaching the turn of life—the most critical period—may be radically removed by a recourse to these Pills.

All Disorders affecting the Liver, Stomach and Bowels. Whenever the stomach, liver, or bowels are disordered by high living, climate, over-indulgences, undue exertion or other causes, these fine regulating Pills will soon rectify the evil, and speedily bring back energy, strength, and cheerfulness, to the frame where previously all was lassitude, gloom, and dejection.

Dependancy, Low Spirits. The misery occasioned by a disordered digestion is unfortunately, felt by most. These famous Pills should be taken in appropriate doses, to adjust the disturbed functions. They dispel headache, biliousness, nausea, looseness of spirits, and all similar ailments. A course of these invaluable purifying Pills never fails in removing the cause of such morbid affections, without subjecting the sufferer to any inconvenience.

Influenza, Diphtheria, Bronchitis, Coughs and Colds. In our changeable climate, few persons escape without colds, sore throats, influenza, diphtheria, or bronchitis, for all of which these famous curative Pills may be taken with the certainty of effecting a cure. While the Pills are expelling all impurities from the body generally, Holloway's Pills should be well rubbed upon the chest and throat; it will penetrate the skin, reduce inflammation, and restore lasting soundness.

Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases:—

Table listing various ailments such as Ague, Anemia, Biliousness, Dropsy, Female Complaints, Gout, Indigestion, Jaundice, Liver Complaints, Rheumatism, Scalding, Scurvy, Stomachic Disorders, Tetter, Ulcers, Venereal Disease, and others.

Sold at the establishment of PROFESSOR HOLLWAY, 244 Strand (near Temple Bar), London, by all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicines throughout the civilized world at the following prices:—1s., 1½d.; 2s., 3d.; 4s., 6d.; 11s., 2s., and 8s., each Box. There is considerable saving by taking the larger sizes. N.B.—Directions for the management of patients in every disorder are affixed to each Box.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRIN'S Worcestershire Sauce. PREPARED BY JOHN LEA & CO. SOLE IMPORTERS FOR AUSTRALIA AND THE EAST INDIES, BY ROBERTSON STEWART, VICTORIA, V.I. To his Brother at Worcester, May, 1855. "Tell Lea & Perrin that I have been supplied with your Worcestershire Sauce, which is highly esteemed in India, and is, in my opinion, the most palatable as well as the most wholesome Sauce that is made."

Caution. Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce. Beware of the public against spurious imitations of their celebrated Worcestershire Sauce. L. & P. having discovered that several of the Foreign Markets have been supplied with spurious imitations, the labels closely resemble those of the genuine Sauce, and in one or more instances the name of L. & P. is used. L. & P. will proceed against any one who manufactures or vend such imitations and have in trusted their correspondents in the various parts of the world to advise them of any infringement on their rights.

Ask for Lea and Perrin's Sauce. Sole Wholesale and for Export by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. Cross and Blackwell, Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London; etc., etc.; and by Grocers and Billmen universally. Solely for Australia and the East Indies, by Robertson Stewart, V.I. Agents for VICTORIA, V.I.

GEMS OF GERMAN SONG. A collection of the most BEAUTIFUL VOCAL COMPOSITIONS. Beethoven, Von Weber, Mendelssohn, Abt, Schubert, Kuckon, Gumbert, Reichardt, Krebs, Spohr, Froch, Keller, and others.

With Accompaniments for the Pianoforte. The above work forms a new volume of the popular class of Music Books known as the "Home Circle Series," comprising "The Home Circle," "The Silver Chord," "The Shower of Pearls," and "Operating Pearls." Bound in uniform style (2s. 6d.) each in 30s. price, viz. Plain, 2s. 6d. and Gold, 3s. 6d. Publishers, 277 Washington Street, Boston.

For sale by Hibben & Carwell and Watt & Co. Booksellers, Victoria, V.I.

Concluded from First Page.

union [applause]. He believed that the circumstances of the colony demanded the most rigid economy in the administration of affairs, and he hoped that the policy of retrenchment would be carried without difficulties arising between the different branches of Government [applause]. He had no doubt by showing the necessary courtesy to the "powers that be" that everything would come right. So far as union was concerned, he maintained what he had stated in public before, that outside New Westminster the people of British Columbia were unanimously in favor of union [loud applause]. Union would benefit both colonies, but there were two grave difficulties in the way of its immediate consummation. There were interests of property and salaries of officials. However, if the work were done about right he thought they could be overcome. The proper way was to deal with the question boldly and openly, and not allow the most sensitive part of the arrangement to be treated in a hole-in-corner manner. The capital of the two colonies should be clearly stated and the whole scheme rigidly defined. Nothing should be left in the background [applause]. Then when union did come there would be no heart-burnings—no jealousies. Let the people do this, and let them in their scheme of retrenchment go forward not spasmodically but steadily, with a quiet force. Let them base their action on truth, on reason and on wisdom, and everything would go right. The rev. gentleman sat down amid a storm of applause.

On motion of Mr. Gowen, a committee of five was appointed by the chairman, consisting of Messrs. Gowen, Harris, Fell, Watson and Bull, to take the petition embodied in the previous resolution round to the inhabitants for signature and present it to the House of Assembly, and after three o'clock had been given to the chairman, the meeting, which was one of the largest and most respectable assemblages ever collected together on political matters in Vancouver Island, quietly dispersed.

THE POLITICAL MEETING.

We have had many public meetings on Vancouver Island; but never has there been so harmonious an assemblage collected together on any public question as the meeting on Saturday evening. Harmonious it was almost to a fault; for where the speakers are all on one side there is a kind of monotony sometimes and even tediousness. Opposition brings out the argument as well as the latent powers of the speaker, and gives a spice and variety to the proceedings. If we look, however, at results—and they are really the important things after all—the meeting on Saturday night was the most successful political gathering that has yet met on Vancouver Island. Every class of the citizens of Victoria was represented, and all gave expression to the one opinion. The merchant joined with the mechanic, the tradesman with the unskilled laborer—the free porter and the tariff fraterized; every diversity of interest, in fact, agreed on one point, and that was retrenchment. The action of the House of Assembly—the crude schemes of the Club—were sustained to the letter, the constitutional question of the right on the part of the people's representatives to initiate money votes met with a unanimous support. It was only to be expected that the public would sustain their representatives on matters affecting the general wellbeing of the colony; but it must be especially gratifying to those members of the House who spent their time in framing a general plan for the reduction of the public expenditure to know that their efforts have been unanimously endorsed by the people at large. On the second question—that of union of the colonies—the meeting was no less harmonious. The petition to the Assembly praying that the most vigorous steps should be taken to bring about the union of Vancouver Island and British Columbia was adopted with acclamation—a result that was aided, no doubt, by the very eloquent and appropriate remarks of the Rev. Mr. Garrett. Altogether, therefore, the meeting of Saturday night was a great success. It showed by its respectability, as well as by its numbers, how deeply the two great questions, economy and union, move the population, and how the old rule—"in things essential, harmony," was followed out to the letter.

Now that the representatives and the represented are as one—that the people have fully endorsed the action of the House—it becomes naturally a subject of interest to know in what manner the Legislative Council and Governor Kennedy will treat the measures of the Assembly. It would be both unwise and unfair to hazard a prediction about the action of either or both the other two branches of the Government on the Estimates; but we may hope that prudence will guide the counsels of those in power. His Excellency Governor Kennedy sees there is really but one opinion about the important questions which agitate the public mind, and it would be doing his judgment a grave injustice to fancy for a moment that he would run counter to that opinion. The people are the parties most interested in the Government of the country, and it is not only against their interest but against their inclination to have it inefficiently performed. When they state, therefore, that such and such a sum is all that can be spared, His Excellency may rely upon it that they are nearer right than he can possibly be. Mr. Young may say that the agitation on the question is but a "cuckoo's cry," but he sadly misjudges the deep current of public opinion at the present time, and has fallen into a most dangerous error if it be not speedily retrieved. So far

as we are concerned, we can add nothing to the expression which the people formally and informally have given, but we can ask His Excellency carefully to weigh all the circumstances of the case—to think for a moment how many people, how many interests on the Island are depending to-day on the question of whether we shall have an expensive or a cheap Government—of whether the opinion of the public will shape our legislation, or whether it is to be guided entirely by an irresponsible Executive. We put these questions seriously, calmly, and respectfully before Governor Kennedy. We ask him in all candor if he expects people to come from countries where free government exists—where the voice of the people's representatives is all potent—and settle in a colony where the paid public servants act as if they were the employers and the people the employees? We ask him what other interest is there on the Island but the public interest, and on what grounds the Executive presumes to dictate to the public on matters which reason would point out are more thoroughly understood by the people than they can possibly be by the officials? We do not ask these questions querulously, but with the desire that His Excellency may be induced to look at matters in their plain and unobscured light. Things have approached that crisis which creates or destroys public confidence in the Executive. Everything, in this respect, depends on Governor Kennedy himself. If he chooses to follow strictly constitutional precedent, and show that he is desirous of carrying out the public wish, he can make himself as popular as he was when he first came to the Island. All doubts and anxieties and ill-feeling on the part of the public will disappear as rapidly as the snow which recently blocked our streets. His Excellency has a sovereign remedy at hand, let him apply it in good faith and in good spirit and he will have no reason to regret the conciliatory nature of the step.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FRIDAY, JAN. 28, 1866. Council met at 2:30 p.m. Present—The Hon. Colonial Secretary (presiding), Treasurer, Surveyor General, R. Finlayson, Donald Fraser.

HAREWOOD EXTENSION BILL. This bill came up for second reading. The hon. Donald Fraser enquired what steps were necessary for the Council to pursue with regard to taking evidence before a Select Committee?

Hon. Colonial Secretary said there had not been an instance where it had been done, as it was always considered that a bill before it reached the Upper House had been thoroughly ventilated in the lower one, and the evidence taken before the Committee of the House of Assembly would no doubt be forthcoming if required. The petition it appeared to him, was against the law of the land.

Hon. Donald Fraser said he knew nothing of the merits, but he would not like to see the objectors foreclosed. The original bill had expired and the parties alleged that a wrong had been done for which there must be a remedy. He therefore moved that evidence be taken and objections heard on both petitions on Monday next at 11 a.m. before a select committee. He had no doubt the parties would be fully prepared.

The second reading and the resolution to refer were agreed to, and the hon. Donald Fraser, Surveyor-General and K. Finlayson were appointed a select committee.

BILLS OF SALE ACT. The Council went into committee on this bill, the hon. Surveyor General in the chair, and reported the clauses passed with verbal amendments.

POSTAL SERVICE BILL. Council resumed the consideration of this bill in committee, the hon. Surveyor General in the chair. The hon. Colonial Secretary repeated what he had before said that this bill was not intended to create one cent additional expense to the country. In view of direct steam communication it was essentially necessary to have some sort of postal system in the colony, and he therefore moved the passage of the first clause.

Hon. Donald Fraser admitted the necessity of a postal system, but he again objected to the bill creating, as it did, a paid office, and although he had the assurance that no fresh office would be created or additional expense incurred, he had received sufficient intimation that the House of Assembly would not pass the bill or any bill creating a fresh office.

Hon. Treasurer begged pardon for interrupting the hon. gentleman, but he thought it most undignified to anticipate any such objection. Hon. D. Fraser was in favor of an economical grounds of a short bill giving the Governor power to enforce the collection of postages and making the Hon. Colonial Secretary the Postmaster General, which would enable the Executive to carry out its wishes and save expense. He assured the Council that there was a very strong feeling in the minds of the people. He could not pass through the streets without being spoken to on all sides about the pressure of taxation and the necessity for saving the expenditure of the colony, and the Council should now show a bold front and do what they could to lessen the burden instead of creating any fresh office or incurring any additional expenditure. As regarded the want of dignity in considering what the other House might do, he would always sustain the dignity of his legislative position, but he did not see the use of wasting a week of his time which to him was valuable, in going through a bill which he had every assurance would be only labor thrown away.

Hon. Col. Secretary replied to the remarks of the hon. gentleman, re-asserting what he had before stated, that there was to be no additional expense. It was only desired to

have a body corporate in whom rights could be vested. He was strongly opposed to the Governor being told to appoint the Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, or any other officer. The object of the bill was simply to establish a system and not to saddle the country with expense, and he deprecated the idea of the Council shaping its course according to the wishes of the Lower House. He had great interests himself in the country, and he thought the cry of heavy taxation and expenditure was more a cuckoo cry than anything else. On an examination of the facts it would not be found to be near as serious as represented.

The Hon. R. Finlayson made a few remarks favoring the Hon. Mr. Fraser's view. Hon. Treasurer explained that it was necessary that such a title as Postmaster General should be confirmed by law to carry out the system and avoid confusion. The Treasurer had at present to issue stamps to himself and to keep the books of the Postmaster. The whole thing was anomalous.

Hon. D. Fraser proposed, seconded by Hon. R. Finlayson, that the words "without salary or emolument" be added to the creation of the office in the first clause. Hon. Col. Secretary gave his reasons for opposing the amendment. On the resolution being put it resulted in a tie and the Chairman gave his casting vote in favor of inserting the words, believing that it would do no harm.

The Council then proceeded with the remainder of the clauses of the bill, which is a lengthy one.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Thursday, Jan. 25. SUPREME COURT.—In Bankruptcy—Michael Carey yesterday appeared for his first examination, and underwent a series of questions from Mr. Green and Mr. Bishop, when he was ordered to come up again in a fortnight and in the interim to file a proper cash account and to afford all information to the official assignee.

ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL.—The mission services of the Rev. father Bouchard, S. J., was largely attended last night, and the ministrations of the eloquent clergyman were listened to with deep interest.

FOR BURRARD INLET.—The steamer Labouchere cleared yesterday for the above Inlet to tow out the ship Egeria now loaded at the mills.

REVISOR.—His Excellency the Governor has re-appointed Mr. John M. Wark to be a revisor of Trade Licenses.

Friday, Jan. 26. SUPREME COURT.—Nicholson vs. Ash.—Mr. McCreight instructed by Mr. Copland for plaintiff. Mr. Wood instructed by Messrs. Drake & Jackson for the defendant. This was an action for \$1200 for contract work at Sooke tried before a special jury. Mr. McCreight opened the pleadings and after hearing plaintiff and Mr. Green, Surveyor, the case was postponed. The only other case before the court was that of Antonio vs. Amor, both Portuguese, in which the plaintiff sued for \$640. Mr. Walker appeared for the defendant. Judgment was given for \$280.

CHARGE OF PERJURY.—We understand that a charge of perjury has arisen out of the recent case of Hartley vs. Carey against the defendant, which will be heard to-day in the Police Court.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Emily Harris, Capt. Frain, arrived yesterday from Nanaimo with seven passengers and sixty tons coal. The ship Helios had arrived to load coal.

FOR PORTLAND.—The steamer Active left yesterday morning, at eight o'clock, with the mails, 25 passengers, eighty Chinese, and some 20 tons freight.

FOR PUGET SOUND.—The steamer Eliza Anderson left yesterday morning, at five o'clock, for Olympia and way ports, with a few passengers and some freight.

ROBBERY.—Some thieves opened the window of Mr. Guy Huston's premises on Yates street on Wednesday night and abstracted three guns valued at \$60 each.

FROM THE SOUND.—The steamer Diana, Capt. Wright, arrived yesterday from Olympia, but brought no later news.

A SERIOUS CASE.—William Goldworthy was charged yesterday in the Police Court with cutting and wounding a man named Destrail. There being no evidence before the bench he was remanded for further enquiry. So far as we could learn the accused and his brother Richard were together at the Queen's Saloon, Johnson street, when Destrail renewed some old difference that existed between Richard Goldworthy and himself relative to some debt incurred in California, and it is said made an attempt to gouge the former's eyes out. Seeing his brother thus assailed, William Goldworthy rushed at Destrail with a knife and out and stabbed him. Thus goes the story; but as neither of the wounded men has yet appeared to give evidence the facts may have been incorrectly gathered.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Capt. Clark, arrived last evening from Nanaimo with seven passengers. She brought a prisoner sentenced to three months' hard labor, convicted by the magistrate for whiskey-selling. The sloop Hamley was seen off Daroy Island from Burrard's Inlet with lumber. Capt. Clark reports having experienced a heavy gale on the way down yesterday. The Enterprise was met and would not reach New Westminster yesterday. The brig Ben Gairn sailed on Thursday. The steamer Sir James Douglas sails for Comox and way ports on Tuesday next.

ADMITTED.—Hugh Bowsby Willson Aikman, from the firm of Drake & Jackson, solicitors of this city, was yesterday duly admitted to practice as an Attorney and Solicitor in the Courts of this Colony. He was highly complimented by the examiners, Messrs. McCreight, Pearkes and Green, on the efficient manner in which he passed his examination. We congratulate Mr. Aikman, who is highly connected in Canada, and is the first Canadian law student who has taken out his diploma in this colony, upon his advance in life, and from his steady business habits, industry and aptitude we have no doubt he will meet with success in the profession.

SUPREME COURT.—Nicholson vs. Ash.—The Court and Special Jury were occupied all day yesterday with this case. After the evidence for the defendant had been concluded His Lordship sent the case to the jury, who, after half-an-hour's deliberation returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$1,148 and costs, being \$100 less than the amount claimed.

Monday, Jan 29. INQUEST.—The Coroner held an inquest on Saturday on the body of a Frenchman named Raviere, who died suddenly on Friday last at the house of Mr. Dupont on Cadboro Bay Road. It appeared from the evidence adduced that deceased, who was a very temperate man, was seized with vomiting, on Thursday last, and died on the following day. There being some ground for suspecting the existence of some poisonous substance in the stomach, the proceedings were adjourned to admit of a post mortem examination being made.

FROM BURRARD INLET.—The steamer Labouchere returned on Saturday from the Inlet, having towed away the Egeria, Capt. Evans, bound to Cork, with 257 spars from Stamp's mill and 100,000 feet of sawn lumber from Moody & Co's mill, the whole valued at \$59,000.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIAN COUNCIL is actively engaged in the business of the session. Of the new bills to be introduced the most prominent and important is a bill to repeal the obnoxious gold tax, of which the Attorney General gave notice on Thursday. The address in reply to the opening speech of Administrator Birch is a feeble wish washy affair, full of the usual Oriental adulation, and conspicuous more for its sentimentality than many sentiment. Mr. Birch's reply to the address was as terse as the rapid document merited.

COMMERCIAL. FROM THE SOUND.—The ship Countess of Fife arrived last evening at Esquimalt from Puget Sound, lumber laden. THE BRIG Ben Gairn arrived outside the Harbor last evening, from Nanaimo, bound to San Francisco, with loss of sails. THE SHIP EGERIA was towed into Esquimalt on Saturday evening by the steamer Labouchere, from Burrard's Inlet, lumber laden.

VICTORIA MARKETS.

SATURDAY EVENING, JAN. 28. Jobbing rates: FLOUR—Extra, \$9.00 50 lb bbl; Superior, \$8.00 25; Common, \$7.00 50 do. RYE FLOUR—\$15 do. BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—\$7.50 50 lb 100 lbs. CORNMEAL—\$7.50 50 lb 100 lbs. OATMEAL—\$6.00 50 lb 100 lbs. RICE—6 1/2c 50 lb sack. BEANS—White—\$4 1/2 100 lbs; Pink and Red, \$3 50 100 lbs. SUGAR—Raw, 8 1/2c 10c lb; Refined do, 13c 15c 100 lb keg. TEA—4 1/2c 10 lb chest. COFFEE—22c 25c 50 lb sack. CANDLES—\$6.50 50 lb bx. SOAP—2 1/2c 2 1/2c 75c do. YEAST POWDERS—\$4 do. BUTTER—Best Roll, 45c 50c do; Ordinary 42c 47c do; Firkin OILS—25c 27c do; case BACON—Prime—27c lb; Ordinary, 22c do; Lard—Prime—27c do; Ordinary, 20c do, in lots to suit. WHEAT—2 1/2c 3c do; OATS—1 1/2c 2c do; BARLEY—1 1/2c 2c do; RYE—1 1/2c 2c do. MIDDLING—2 1/2c 2 1/2c do. BRAN—1 1/2c 2c do. HAY—1c 1 1/2c do; bale. POTATOES—1c 1 1/2c do; sack. ONIONS—1 1/2c 2c do; sack.

PASSENGERS.

Per str ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound.—Rev G W Whitworth, Mrs Smith, G C Terry and wife, Welch, Smith, Hill, Lloyd, China Jim.

IMPORTS.

Per schr SPRAY, from Port Angeles—500 bus potatoes, 2 1/2 tons hay, 5 hides, 30 hogs—to R. B. ...

Per schr THORNIDKE, from Port Angeles—7 tons soap. Value \$105.

Per schr FLYING MIST, from Port Angeles—80,000 feet rough lumber. Value \$900. To Jackson & Co.

Per str ELIZA ANDERSON, from Puget Sound.—2 rolls leather, 1 horse, 2 hogs, 3 trunks, 108 sheep, 130 cattle. Value, \$5,150.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

ENTERED. Jan. 22—Schr Winged Racer, Peterson, Port Angeles. Slip Thornton, Middleton, Saltspring Island. Slip Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Jan. 23—Str Enterprise, Mout, New Westminster.

Str. Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles. Schr. Industry, Carleton, Sannich. Schr. Flying Mist, Thompson, Port Angeles. Jan 24—Schr Annie, Elvin, San Juan. Schr. Shark, Turner, Sooke. Schr. Alpha, George, Nanaimo. Schr. Indian Maid, do. Jan 25—Str Diana, Wright, Port Angeles. Schr J K Thornidke, Thornton, San Juan. Jan 26—Schr Spray, Crosby, Port Angeles. Str Sir James Douglas, Clarke, Nanaimo.

CLARED. Jan. 23—Str Enterprise, Mout, New Westminster. Schr A J Wester, Mills, Port Angeles. Slip Thornton, Middleton, Saanich. Str Eliza Anderson, Finch, Port Angeles. Jan 24—Str Active, Thorn, Astoria.

Str Labouchere, Lewis, Burrard's Inlet. Slip Lady Franklin, Pritchard, San Juan. Jan 25—Schr Shark, Turner, Sooke. Schr Alpha, George, Nanaimo. Schr Industry, Carleton, Nanaimo. Jan 27—Schr Annie, Elvin, San Juan. Slip J K Thornidke, Thornton, do. Slip Clancey, Robinson, Port Angeles.

MARRIED. In this city, on the 23d inst., by the Rev. A. Browning, Mr. Randall Cesar, to Miss Mary Stewart, both of this city.

DIED. On the 26th inst., Mr. Raviere, aged 56 years, a native of France, at the residence of Mr. Chas. Dupod, Cadboro Bay road. At Astoria, January 23, 1866, of consumption, Clara, wife of Captain Alfred Crosby, aged 40 years, 4 months and 12 days.

LIST OF UNCLAIMED LETTERS REMAINING IN THE POST OFFICE FROM THE 20th TO 27th JANUARY, 1866.

Abney, J C. Bell, J. Bulfinch, J T. Bohn, W. Brown, Miss L. Becker, K T. Brown, W V. Beardsell, J T. Chambers, Mrs. Campbell, F. Curtis, Miss J J. Christensen, J. Cunningham, D. Collins, Jas. Cowan, G. Coragan, Mrs. Coulter, Jas.

Downs, R. Duros, P. Dillion, B. Dodd, W. Dickerson, Dr. 2. Dolon, J. Derham, B. DeVine, E. Domine, F.

Edde, G. Edwards, W E. Ferguson, A, 2. Foster, G F, 2. Galer, G. Greenbaum, Hy. Gyres, M. Goldsmith, J. Gray, J. Harris, A M. Halpeny, J. Hutin, J. Hopkins, H A. Hocking, W P. Hobbs, Mrs. 2. Hollow, M. Hennessey, J. Hosford, W.

Jenkins, D. Jarvis, W T. Jack, J. Kerr, Miss Oscar. Keenan, J. C. King, C. Keenan, J. C. Loewen, J. Lovett, J. Looos, J S. Larman, Mrs.

Mitchell, Mr. McCormick, H. Manson, W. Mayo, G. Marcus, C. Munro, C. E. Moses, W D. McKerrlie, D. McKee, M. McKinon, C. Murray, J R. McWilliam, A. Moore, W B. Mackie, J. McLaughlan, G. McDonnell, Mr. McKenzie, Mrs. Morrison, N. Murray, J. Miller, E.

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THE NEWS.

Our English newspaper dates are up to the 16th December. An important event appeared to be the King of Belgium. The prof had been announced to the effect Napoleon was ready to seize upon so soon as the king had breathed awaiting their fulfillment. We weeks ago that these prognostic merely childish fears—which most ordinary expressions and the usual actions of the French Emperor mysterious menaces against the world. Louis Napoleon, so far from the degrading quality of the Red Riding Hood" takes the of the accession of the Duc de Br throne, under the title of Leop securing the new monarch in the manner of the continuation of his Both the king and country. Now point is dead, we have the usual tributes paid to the memory of a the usual exaggerations are, however, included in for the simple reason that the deceased king was one of the most illustrious men of his day and phrasology exaggerated. "King occupied in Belgium," says the "rather the position of the ideal actual constitutional sovereignty. An impartial moderator or constitution science rather than heart or brain The ideal of that most useful but functionary we take to be a states by birth or a final election above serene, passionless and patient; willing for party, but with deep feeling; able to work with any carrying into varied and even opposite a tradition of national policy tone of moderation, a permanence of classes too low in the to influence the minds of party Such a man we have never, the death of William III., had on the Great Britain, such a man the Consort might have been had he or had his position been public acknowledged, and such a man we believe in respect to foreign politics. A this stamp in England would have in moderating parties, for the moderate already, but he would have to do to remain in successive Cabinet Minister of the unrepresented statesman who never forgot the millions, who never omitted from the field of effort, or overlooked the of papers who seem to millionaires far away and to kings as close as remainder of their subjects. This Belgium was filled by Leopold, a very great place indeed." Earl Russell has been receiving tation of Members of Parliament of religion, embracing Professor cell, M. P., and the Rev. Newman the subject of the Jamaica issue. Nothing, they said, would satisfy the public but the recall of Governor Eyre, the most searching investigation all the particulars connected with insurrection. Strong protestation also urged against the recent measure introduced into the Jamaica Legislature Governor Eyre, one giving the consist the island into the hands of the and a partly nominated Council, and making it a penal offence for any minister to preach without first obtaining license costing £3. Another clause same act provided against the spread of an English paper, summarizing matter, says: "Any negro, therefor