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25

WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST

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AGENTS.

S. D. Levi.....	Nanaimo, V. I.
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Sam'l Harris.....	Oceanside, do
Clarkson & Co.....	New Westminster
Barnards Express.....	Quesnel, B.C.
do.....	Lytton
do.....	Vanwinkle
do.....	Barkerville
do.....	Camerontown
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L. P. Fisher.....	San Joaquin
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While we are disposed to award the meed of praise to the Government for its efforts toward a more economic administration of public affairs, we must not shut our eyes to the fact that the expenditure is still far in excess of what it ought to be, and that formidable reductions are still necessary to enable the country to pull through its financial difficulties. In his speech when bringing the Estimates to the notice of the Council, the Acting Colonial Secretary showed that the Customs receipts for the first three months of 1868 nearly quadrupled the receipts for the corresponding quarter of 1867. This gratifying improvement he attributes to the exhaustion of free-port stocks imported to the island prior to union, and the Secretary confidently looks forward to a surplus at the end of the present year, an expectation we hope will be to the fullest extent realized. But, even with the flattering picture sketched by the Secretary, there is a strong conviction in the minds of the taxpaying public that the government of the country costs too high a figure for the little benefit it confers. \$572,000 is a large sum of money to draw from a community so small, depressed and poor as ours, and the figure appears still larger when we come to compare it with the expenditures of Colonies to the East of us. Look at the province of New Brunswick. It contains a population of nearly 400,000. For the last eleven months of 1867 (prior to the Union act coming into effect) its expenditure was but \$214, or only \$2 per head. Since Union, the Financial Minister has sent down his statement of estimated receipts and expenditures for 1868, from which it appears that \$420,000 only will be required for the public service in 1868. This is at the rate of \$1.05 per head on the entire population of the Province. It would be unfair were we to apply the same rule to this colony, for the reason that our population is scattered over a vast extent of country, and the administration of the Government here requires proportionately a much heavier outlay than would be the case were the same number of people concentrated in larger communities, as is the case with New Brunswick and other provinces. But the Dominion Government which has to govern 400,000 people scattered over thousands of miles of territory only asks \$12,000,000 or \$8 per head. Let us set then, our entire white and Indian population at 40,000, and say that for the purposes of revenue three Indians are equal to one white man. Estimating the white population at 10,000, and the taxpaying Indians at 14,000, we have a population of only 24,000, who contribute just \$28 per capita for the privilege of enjoying our present system of government, which government, candor compels us to say, furnishes us with a very poor return for the investment. But the amount of taxation levied does not trouble the public so much as the objects on which it is expended. If we could see works of utility undertaken by the Government; if we could witness any project on foot to add to the material wealth, prosperity and happiness of the colony; if efforts

were made to improve our external postal arrangements, to encourage immigration, to promote education, to open roads into remote and at present inaccessible portions of the colony, and to maintain in repair the great thoroughfares of travel left as a legacy by Sir James Douglas' administration, the sum asked for would not be begrimed, nor would the burthen be regarded as excessive. But where is there a single public work in progress? Where is there evidence of the first effort being made to advance the colony by the Government? The absence of such a

theatre royal.—This evening the Stone troupe presents us with new and additional attractions. So far, Miss Stone has carried the popular favor completely, all classes readily acknowledging her great and varied merits as an actress. To-night is to be devoted to comedy—"Meg's Diversion" and the "Maid of the Milking Pail," being the pieces selected. We are not fully acquainted with the precise merits of either, but as they will doubtless present Miss Stone especially, and the company generally, in a most harmonious connexion with all classes, we may fairly predict another success. We are happy to acknowledge the improvement in the orchestra, which renders it now all that can

The U. S. S. Saginaw, Lieut.-Commander Mitchell, five days from San Francisco, arrived last evening. The Saginaw is under orders for Alaska, for which territory she will sail after coaling. Following a list of her officers:—Lieut.-Com. Jno. G. Mitchell, Act.-Master and Ex Officer O. C. Barker, Act.-Master J. B. Wood, Act. First Asst. Engr. Theo. McCausland, Asst. Surgeon W. H. Whedon, Asst. Paymaster O. H. Lockwood; Ensigns A. H. Vail, J. K. P. Ragdale; Act. Third Asst. Engrs. A. L. Grow, E. T. Peake, W. F. Faul, H. Hitchfield; Mates Wm. Koulard, Philip Bandell, Jno. Ponte; Captain's Clerk C. L. Hidden.

FOUND DEAD.—An inquest was held on the body found at Metchosin on Wednesday, but no clue was discovered either to the name of the man or the cause of death. Mr. Glade stated he found the body while hunting some cattle a mile and a half from his house. The deceased wore greyish tweed trousers patched with flour sack, two blue miners' shirts, a pair of blucher shoes, and shepherd plaid woolen socks. Near the body was found a sou'-wester hat with plain red lining, an empty coarse flour sack, and an old torn corduroy jacket. A piece of rope also lay across the body. It is supposed the man must have been dead at least three months.

INQUEST.—The Coroner commenced an inquest yesterday, at Esquimalt, on the body found by an Indian last Tuesday in the vicinity of Skinner's farm. It proves to be the body of James Smith, a well-to-do miner, who has been missing since the 9th of February. There appears to be little doubt, from the fractured condition of the skull, that Smith was foully murdered. A check of deposit for \$1200 on the Bank of British Columbia was found on the body, a box of caps, an old meerschaum pipe, eye glass, and a few coins. Inquest postponed until next Tuesday for further inquiries.

THE SINGER SEWING MACHINE.—In another column will be found the advertisement of this article of domestic use. The merits of the Singer Machine are claimed to be numerous. In addition to the hemmer and braider, it has a corder, tucker, quilter, adjustable binder and trimmer, but all these appendages must be specially ordered or they will not be sent. The Singer is strongly recommended by the English and American press. Samples may be seen at Mr. Fawcett's Store, Government street. The prices range from \$60 to \$150, according to embellishment.

NO MAIL.—The U. S. S. Saginaw, which arrived last evening from San Francisco, brought no mail, notwithstanding it arrived the evening previous to the Constitution. Why cannot general directions be given the British Consul at San Francisco to take advantage of such opportunities as the departure of a war-vessel for this port to put the baggage aboard? We hope the telegraph will be set in motion to secure us a mail by the return of the Active.

From a return sent down by the Governor in compliance with Mr. Macdonald's resolution, it appears that \$2008.68 were expended for educational purposes on the mainland during last year, and that arrears amounting to \$270.25 are still due. During the same period only \$3000 was contributed toward the support of Island schools, with 500 scholars in attendance. On the mainland there are less than 100 pupils. Comment is unnecessary.

THE SCHOONER Alert arrived yesterday from Alaska, but from calling at other places has no news subsequent to that already given. She heard nothing of the Growler. She reports, however, the loss of some small vessel at Queen Charlotte Island; a boat and a mast were washed on shore, but they gave no clue to the vessel's name. The Alert brings a quantity of old copper for shipment to San Francisco.

The gentleman who borrowed the "Year Book of Canada" from this office will confer a favor by returning the same.

THE Steamer Active sailed for Portland yesterday morning, with 210 tons of coal, and a small quantity of merchandise. Mr. Watson, Manager and Inspector of the Bank of British Columbia, and Mr. Powell, of the same bank, go as passengers to San Francisco. The Active will return in about eight days.

BOUND TO HAVE ITS OWN WAY.—Government has announced its intention of passing the obnoxious Supreme Court's Bill. Well; all the opponents can do is to lead the Government horses to the water. If they won't drink, it is not the fault of those who want them to.

The non-arrival of the mails has been a great source of annoyance to the public generally, but it is consoling to know that by calling at the Scotch House, Fort street, Mr. McLean can supply them with splendid coverings for "males" of all kinds of material, style and color, at very reasonable prices.

It is stated a petition signed by inhabitants of this city will be presented to the Legislature against the Municipal Council being permitted to borrow money to build a Patent Slip.

We are indebted to Paymaster C. H. Lockwood, of the U. S. S. Saginaw, and Mr. Gus. Keyser, for favors conferred upon the arrival of the Saginaw.

The affray between the Hons. Smith and Robson.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 22d, 1868.

The most extraordinary excitement was created in this City by the intelligence that an assault had been committed by the Hon.

R. T. Smith, on the Hon. J. Robson, while on their way to the City from the Legislative Council, after the adjournment of Monday evening.

Before giving any description of the assault, so far as can be gathered from various sources, it will perhaps be as well to give you some idea of the provocation alleged to have been given by Robson to Smith. It appears the lad has been of long standing and has been frequently aggravated by Robson's attacks on Smith through the columns of the Columbian. Smith seems to have given mortal offence to the constituents of Mr. Robson by voting for the removal of the Capital to Victoria. Robson in consequence of this took exception to the vote of Mr. Smith some four days ago, the fact of which and the subsequent assault on Robson by Smith, have already been made public. Robson, however, continued his attacks through his paper, and on Saturday, in reporting the Council proceedings, caused two hands to be placed one at each end of Smith's name thus [REDACTED] and this seems to have exhausted the patience of Smith entirely. Accordingly he waited the return of Robson from the House on Monday evening, at an unoccupied part of the road, and after some alteration proceeded to chastise him. The attack, however, was put an end to by the appearance of the Hons. Helmcken and Wood on the scene. The whole city was thrown into great commotion, and excited crowds passed to and fro before the Colonial Hotel vowing vengeance on Smith. One worthy citizen offered \$150 to any man who would bring Smith out that he might be thrashed, but no one was found courageous enough to earn the reward. The anger of New Westminister does not seem to be of a very courageous character, as the steam worked off in denunciations, or condensed into the milder form of a subscription for Robson, which was being collected yesterday morning (Tuesday). Robson took out a warrant for Smith, and the case was heard before Hon. Mr. Ball and Capt. Pritchard.

THE TRIAL.

The Court House was closed and filled with the loyal citizens of New Westminster, amongst whom were several members of the Legislative Council. Shortly before one o'clock, the complainant, Hon. J. Robson, appeared, ushered by his physician, Dr. Jones. To an inexperienced observer, the Hon. member's seat of intellect presented a sorry appearance, being swathed in bandages more or less stained; but if he concluded from appearances that the hon. gentleman's intellect was impaired, he would do a decided injustice to the solid construction of the editorial headpiece, which as the reader will perceive from what follows, was in no wise disordered. The Bench being duly occupied by the Hon. Mr. Ball and Captain Pritchard, the case was called, and the Hon. J. Robson stated that in coming from the Legislative Council after the sitting was over he did not leave the vicinity as usual, but having received a copy of the estimates he lay down on the grass to examine them. After doing so for some time, he proceeded along the road, still looking at the estimates, when arriving near the residence of Mr. Bushby, Mr. Smith suddenly appeared behind him and demanded to know what he had against him. He, Robson, said nothing, when Smith knocked him down; and having pulled Robson's stick out of his hand beat him with it over the head. He (Robson) caught the stick and wrenched it from Smith, when the latter continued to beat him with his fists. Dr. Helmcken and Mr. Wood came up, and Smith then desisted. Smith attacked him after he got up, when he (Robson) said,

"Do you mean to kill me, you cowardly brute?" Complainant then called Dr. Helmcken.

This witness stated that in coming up the road from the Legislative Council his

attention was attracted by the unusual appearance of a confused mass of heads, arms and legs, which produced, by a kind of eccentric motion, the appearance of a windmill surrounded by clouds of dust about 150 yards ahead. He hastened to the spot to learn the cause of the extraordinary commotion, when he recognized the complainant and accused. They were then separated. Heard complainant address some such words as "cowardly brute" to accused, when accused replied that he would serve complainant in the same way every time he insulted him. He (witness) believed there was something said about a newspaper, but he would not swear that such was the case. Cross examined by complainant.—Heard Smith say that Robson was a coward, and that if he (Robson) insulted him (Smith) he would treat him in the same way. Robson walked towards home with Wood and himself. Saw them on the ground, a confused mass of heads and tails. They were very close together but could not say which was under-

Dr. Jones testified to the serious character of complainant's injuries.

R. T. Smith for defence stated that he admitted the assault. The provocation commenced as early as 1863 and had continued ever since. (Mr. Ball recommended the accused to confine himself to the case before the Court.) The accused resumed: There was no redress against newspaper editors. What redress could be obtain for having his name printed between two hands. When he met complainant yesterday he asked him why he persisted in abusing him. At first complainant said he had done nothing; then he said he would take it all back. He told Robson he had made up his mind to chastise him, and he then struck Robson, who fell down, but he did not think it was from the force of the blow inflicted by him. He then struck him twice with Robson's stick and afterwards several times with his fists. Told Robson that whenever he insulted him he would treat him in the same way. This was only one instance in which the complainant had insulted him.

Mr. Ball could not see any justification for such a vicious assault. The accused had taken the law into his own hands.

The complainant then, after asking permission from the Bench, proceeded to address the Court in a speech of considerable length, occupying half an hour in delivery, in which he characterized the assault as the blood-thirsty attack of an assassin intent upon taking his life. He trusted the magistrate would see fit to send the case to a higher court for trial, as the infliction of a fine was not a punishment commensurate with the crime. He alluded to a recent assault inflicted upon him by the accused, for which he had sought redress in another channel; but the partisan sympathy shown by the complainant prevented a sufficiently severe punishment being inflicted. Dr. Jones interposed here interrupting the complainant by stating that he, Robson, was making public a matter that he was pledged not to reveal. The hon. complainant delivered his speech with considerable energy. Some disorderly persons attended to applaud him during the delivery, but were promptly checked. The Magistrates having retired for consultation, stated on their return to court that being divided as to the mode of disposing of the case, it would require to be postponed till the following day, Wednesday, when the assistance of a third magistrate would enable them to decide.

Postponed accordingly till 11 o'clock forenoon to-day.

A very interesting discovery is reported by Mr. Brogden, the well-known goldsmith. In trenching some meadow land at Highbury, his gardener has dug up a vase containing nearly 7,000 silver coins, consisting of silver pennies (London, York, Middlesex, Bristol, and Canterbury), groats and half groats, halfpennies, &c. (Irish and Scotch, Venetian and foreign Teutonic), and two gold coins of Edward III.; also an amber rosary. This treasure trove will of course be given up to the Crown. It appears that the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, Jerusalem were in possession of the manor of Highbury, in addition to the capital manor attached to their hospital near Smithfield, which extended from thence to the extremity of this parish. During the insurrection under Wat Tyler, A. D. 1381 a detachment of the rebels who were engaged in burning and destroying the magnificent priory in St. John street, proceeded for a similar purpose to the Prior's house at Highbury. Possibly this vase of coin was buried in a hurry when the demagogue of the fourteenth century sent his ruffians on this errand.

In London it is said that a man may live a year without hearing an alarm of fire. In that vast city of three millions of people, with a closely covered area of ten miles by six, there is a fire brigade of little more than three hundred members. The engines are mostly worked by steam, which is always kept up, and well horsed. Thrice or four times to each machine can do the work, and a fire is drowned out very quickly, unless it is in a theatre, or large warehouse, or manufactory with inflammatory materials. The firemen eat, drink and sleep with their engines. False alarms are not common, but people sometimes see an engine dashing at a bonfire in the suburbs, and it is said that a few years ago they were all out for several hours one night hunting for an aurora borealis.

In order to meet the means of all classes we are requested to state that Mr. Harnett has reduced the price of his Pamphlet on the Colony from \$1 to 50 cents for single copies.

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AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, April 52 1868.

[From the Quebec Chronicle of March 6th.]

We have received a copy of the Victoria (Vancouver Island) Colonist of the 31st Jan., containing a long report of a meeting held in that city to promote a union of the colony with the Dominion. Several meetings with the same object had been held before with the same result—namely, a unanimous resolution in favor of the entry of Vancouver Island into the Canadian Union. The general feeling of the whole country appears to be friendly to this scheme, notwithstanding the attempts of a few American settlers and United States citizens in California and other places to make the world believe our fellow subjects on the Pacific coast were desirous of annexation. The people of the island, as well as the inhabitants of British Columbia, have long been looking forward to a union with Canada, and are now more anxious than ever to cast their lot with the British Province of the East. It is very singular and greatly to be regretted that the Governor of Vancouver Island has, so far, neglected to take the steps recommended by the Legislature or Legislative Council of that colony to secure its admission into our Union. We believe there was a unanimous vote in favor of overtures being made to the Dominion Government and Parliament with this object; but, strange to say, the will of the people in this matter appears to have been, hitherto, completely disregarded by the Governor. What his reasons could have been for conduct which certainly wears the air of unconstitutionality, it is hard to say. But one thing is certain—that he has succeeded in reducing the colony to a state of discontent, and its affairs to a state of disorder which is anything but beneficial to the people and British interests in North America. Enough harm has been done in this direction; let the mischief cease at once. Whatever may be the lukewarmness of the Governor and other influential parties as regards union with Canada—however hostile they may be to the project—it is the duty of the Federal Cabinet and Legislature to do all in their power to gratify the wishes of the Islanders in this matter. There should be no delay either; for it would be both unwise and unbrotherly to keep friends on the Pacific coast too long knocking for admission into the Union. The importance to the Dominion, in a moral and material point of view, of extending its boundaries to the Pacific Ocean through the admission into the Federation of most willing and friendly colonies could scarcely be overestimated. Let us be up and doing in this work, for we have no time to lose. An additional reason for activity is the uneasiness the Californians are exhibiting with reference to the scheme of union with Canada. Those citizens of the Republic are hankering after the Pacific colonies, their State Legislature having agreed to preambles and resolutions a few days ago setting forth the desirability or necessity of the United States adopting measures for the transfer of Vancouver Island and other British territory in the vicinity to the Republic.

Saturday, April 18th.

A NEW SCARE IN WASHINGTON.—Washington would not be Washington if it did not have a sensation for each particular day. For this—St. Patrick's day—it is all agog with rumors of a terrible raid about to be made upon the Capital by Mosby and a thousand men in buckram, and troops have been pouring into town for two or three days, a strong guard has been placed at each end of Long Bridge, while Stanton's body guard around the War Department has been strongly reinforced. The impression begins to gain ground that the Secretary, suspended, reinstated, removed; whatever be his status, is slightly panicky. He has regularly camped in the War Department, and has not left it night or day since *Ad Interim*, Thomas laid seige to him. His solitary confinement seems to have had an effect upon his spirits for he sees an enemy in every bush and stampede at shadow. There is not the slightest evidence visible to the public that his pet terror, Mosby, has the faintest idea of disturbing his peace, while all reports and all the probabilities concur in locating the guerilla chief quietly at his home in Warrenton, intent upon winning some \$200 case in the County Court at which he practices. Shrewd lookers-on express the opinion that the Secretary's alarm is only simulated, that he may have a pretext to introduce a military force into Washington to meet the contingencies of impeachment. He distracts the present mood of the President, and sees plots in the unnatural quiet that he preserves.—*Cor. S. F. Bulletin.*

THEATRE ROYAL.—The efficient company whose expected visit to this town we have already announced, arrived by the Active yesterday afternoon, and make their first appearance on Monday night. The sensational but still beautiful play of Fanchon the Cricket has been wisely we think selected for the opening piece. It is in every respect truly what it has been represented, a pure embodiment of all the loftiest virtues of which our natures are capable, and if Miss Stone only does justice to herself, and perform here as we know personally she has performed elsewhere, we have no doubt of the delight it will give. There is something very charming in Miss Stone's impersonation of Fanchon, and we shall be much surprised if her dancing and singing do not satisfy the fastidious. We can personally vouch for the professional reputation of the San Francisco troupe, and are quite certain those with "local honors" will not be below the standard of theirs. Mr Marsh has certainly never had a company of such general talent at his command before. The box-office will be open to-day at 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. for securing seats.

ARRIVAL OF THE ACTIVE.—The steamship Active, Capt. Floyd, 13 days from San Francisco via Portland, reached here at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. She brought about 80 passengers, moderate freight, and a miserable apology for a mail. It is the intention of the California, Oregon and Mexico Steamship Co. to keep this boat on the route between here and Portland during the summer months, connecting with the San Francisco steamers at Portland.

OPENING OF THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.—Parliament reopened March 12th. Owing to the small number of members present, it sat only fifteen minutes and adjourned until next day. The measures that will engage the attention of the House are most important, including a financial policy, a revision of the tariff, the militia and the intercolonial railway. It is reported that the licences, this session, to American fishermen, will be advanced from \$1 to \$2 per ton.

TREASURE ARRIVED.—\$80,000 in gold coin arrived by the Active yesterday. \$50,000 for the Bank of British Columbia, and \$30,000 for Wells, Fargo & Co.

ARRIVAL OF THE ORIFLAMME.—The splendid steamship Oriflame, Captain Charles Winsor, reached her wharf at Esquimalt at 11 o'clock yesterday morning, in three days and eighteen hours, from San Francisco. She brought 66 passengers and a large freight, a part of which is designed for Forts Tongas and Wrangell in Alaska, at which points the United States Government is about to establish garrisons. The Oriflame will sail for Steilacoom and San Juan to-day, and after taking in the soldiers and munitions of war, will proceed to Tongas and Wrangell. She will be absent from this port about 20 days, and upon her return will proceed to San Francisco via Portland. On Columbia river, on Thursday noon, the Oriflame passed the steamship Active bound for Victoria, and reached her hours ahead of her. Among the passengers are several old Victorians, who have returned to "wander forth no more."

We are glad to perceive the chain-gang, recently employed on the croquet ground at Government House, engaged in cleaning up the public streets, which all must admit were in a very sad condition. We sincerely trust there will be no interruption offered until the work is thoroughly done. We understand the macadamizing of the streets will be commenced immediately.

It is now asserted that the G. S. Wright will run as an opposition boat between this port and Portland, and that Kam m & Tarbell have bought the Antelope at San Francisco with the intention of placing her

The cargo of goods by the Oriflame, according to the manifest, is one of the largest we have ever known to come from San Francisco to this port at one shipment, and must reach at least \$100,000. Comparatively few goods were for ports in Washington Territory the bulk being marked Victoria, New Westminster, Yale and Cariboo. The Active, from Portland, brought a cargo valued at \$25,000.

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WEEKLY COLONIST AND CHRONICLE.

**The Weekly British Colonist,
AND CHRONICLE.**

Saturday, April 25, 1868

The Limitation of Actions' Bill now before the Council seems to have been carefully remodeled in all its principal features, and left in a condition which fails to challenge opposition. The obnoxious provision, reviving and retaining the debts of the unfortunate for a period of six years over him, has been expunged altogether; and the more reasonable one of the limitation law of the country in which the debt was contracted substituted. This is a wise alteration, for there could be no justice or sense in holding a debt over a man in this Colony after its collection was barred by the laws of the country he emigrated from. This provision, as it stood, stultified the bill. The Limitation of Foreign Actions' Act of 1860 is repealed, provided it does not prejudice any rights or privileges hitherto acquired under that act, all such rights are to be held and construed as if no such repeal had taken place. That is, in future, in case of action or suit instituted against any person resident in this Colony the party sued has only to plead the expiration of the Limitation Act of the country in which the debt was contracted as a bar to the suit, and there the matter ends. Evidence, however, of that expiration is demanded, but any authorized printed copy of the foreign enactment is to be taken in our Courts as *prima facie* evidence of that expiration, so that the debtor, if legally liberated from his indebtedness, will have no difficulty in proving the fact. The Bill, as it now stands altered and amended is rational and just; and in its assimilation with all foreign laws of the same character deals out full and perfect justice to all parties who may hereafter be involved in such suits. We presume some action will be taken during the week upon the Investment, Saving and Loan Societies' Bill. The only objection we have yet heard against the necessity or usefulness of this measure is that the community at present is so small—depressed that there is really no one to save, no one to loan, no one to invest. Such an objection, however, is easily disposed of. If these co-operative societies are useful and beneficial in rich and populous communities (and no one can deny that fact) they must of necessity be the same in poor and limited communities. What difference can there be in the benefit derived by the individual, whether he invests to advantage the small savings of a small income or the profuse surplus of a large one—whether the investment is made fifty or five thousand times during the year? The principle is the same throughout the world. It might, perhaps, be stated with propriety that the occasion for such societies is really greater amongst poor and limited than amongst rich and populous communities. In the latter a man enjoys endless opportunities of investing his savings or surplus, which he can only enjoy in the former by means of societies such as we are advocating; because the inducement to save, and invest can be offered by no other means to the same extent. To redeem a home from mortgage, to create a farm for final settlement in life, to obtain furniture to begin housekeeping, to secure a certain provision for old age, are all matters of grave importance in life, and yet they have all been wonderfully aided throughout the whole world during the last thirty years by the means of Mutual Aid Societies. This Colony is precisely the place for their establishment and where their happiest effects would be felt. People unacquainted with the progress of San Francisco of recent years have no idea of the extent to which she is indebted to the Building and Loan Society for the comfortable and beautiful homes possessed by her middle and lower classes. Thousands have been created which could not have existed by any other means, and yet how humble and doubtful was the origin of this corporation, which now owns one of the best buildings in the city and controls a paid up cash capital of \$1,000,000. It was all accomplished in a few years and by the efforts of one man. Had a similar resource been available here in the hour of need during the same period, scores of families, now gone forever, would never have been compelled to leave. There are many things in life we only learn the value

of in adversity. Let it, then, be our duty now not only to retain the population still amongst us, but to provide them, if possible, with the means of rendering the present profitable and the future secure—and that can be done far more extensively than supposed by the establishment of these co-operative and mutual aid societies.

Legislative Council.

WEDNESDAY, April 18, 1868.

The Council met at 3 p.m. Present—Hon. Wood, Cox, Walkem, Smith, Hamley, Robson, Crease, Trutch, Ker, Ball, DeCosmos, Elwyn, Spalding, O'Reilly, Young (Presiding), Helmcken.

Hon. DeCosmos presented a petition from a large number of settlers in North and South Saanich, praying that the Government would grant them \$5000 to build a road from Royal Oak to Saanich Bay, the cost of which was estimated at \$10,000 for construction, the additional \$5000 to be provided by themselves. To be considered to-morrow.

Hon. Wood brought in a petition from the Property-holders and Insurance Companies of Victoria, praying that Coroners may be empowered to hold inquests on fires. The system had been followed in the United States with marked success, and would be equally advantageous to this Colony. Laid over for consideration to-morrow.

Hon. Young gave notice of motion to inquire if the Government intended to introduce amendments in mining laws.

Hon. Young gave notice of motion to be prepared to lay the estimates for 1868 before the Council on Monday next.

Hon. Helmcken moved "that the progress and prosperity of the country would be promoted were a portion of land conveniently situated upon the northern extremity of the North-west Coast marked off, dedicated and devoted to the prosecution of Free Trade in certain articles required by and suited to the nature of the commerce of that section of the Colony. That this Council earnestly recommends the Executive to carry out the spirit and intention of the above resolution in such manner and under such conditions it may deem most advisable or expedient." He regretted there were so few members present to consider a measure having such an important object in view as that of establishing a place about Fort Simpson or elsewhere on the North-west Coast, in order to secure for British subjects the advantage of the free trade in the Russian territory, to which they were entitled. Since the acquisition of that territory by the Americans, and the Union of these Colonies, the duties levied on British goods were so heavy that it was quite impossible to compete with the Americans, the result would be, the entire loss to us of that profitable trade. With a Free Port at a point such as indicated, we should be enabled to barter our goods with the Indians for their wares. If this were not done it would force British subjects to reside in American territory, in order to avail themselves of this trade. It was well-known that the portion of our territory adjacent to the newly-acquired territory of the United States, abounded in the precious metals; our settlement would, therefore, be a point whence exploring parties could start in quest of new discoveries. The American soldiers would have considerable money to spend, and we should, in the event of creating such a port, derive the advantages from its outlay.

Hon. Hamley concurred in the establishment of such a port would only result in benefiting a few traders without conferring any advantage on the Colony at large. It would be literally paying a bounty to a few merchants at the expense of the rest of the community. It would require the proper number of officers to attend to such an establishment, entailing on the Colony an expenditure four times as much as would be gained by the trade. He could not see his way to any practical working of such an affair, and trusted the Council would not consent to the introduction of such a measure.

Hon. DeCosmos had had considerable experience in Free Trade, and had assisted in banishing it from Victoria; but the present was a matter of expediency. It could be established at some rocky point, where there was no agricultural land. In China they created certain small pieces of territory into Free Ports; such a station might be formed on Dundas Island, near Fort Simpson. The Americans would have a long line of coast for fishing stations and the fishermen would draw all their supplies from us. There was also a large quantity of valuable timber, known as white cedar, in that vicinity, which would create for us a lucrative trade in that article. There were valuable seams of copper and silver in British Territory, and the establishment of such a port in the vicinity of New Westminster.

Hon. Helmcken thought the bill would be of great benefit to New Westminster; it had answered in every respects in Vancouver Island Road Act to the districts immediately surrounding New Westminster would be advantageous. He merely brought forward the motion because he thought that it would benefit New Westminster, although it was really the business of the hon. member for that city.

Hon. Robson was delighted with the generous consideration of the hon. member for Victoria, but considered the act wholly inappropriate to New Westminster.

Hon. Helmcken thought the bill would be more than counterbalanced by the expenditure, and hence could not see the advantage of such a station.

Hon. Robson really felt disposed to agree with the hon. Collector of Customs. If arbitrary taxes were exacted such a Free Port would prove a losing concern—expenditure would exceed income three or four times over.

The hon. member for Victoria had let the eat out of the bag; he proposed to commence a smuggling trade at Alaska, which was carrying the matter a little too far. The station in Canada to which the hon. member had referred was given up as much because it was a failure as from the complaints at Washington. In the present case, there could be no advantage, because the Americans would convey their bonding system to Alaska. There was another reason, however, for objecting to the consideration of such a step. The Americans had not paid for the territory and doubted very much if the purchase would be completed.

Hon. Walkem said one of the reasons adduced for the establishment of a Free Port was his principal reason for opposing the motion. It would go forth to the world that this House was prepared to favor smuggling. The only goods that could be disposed of at such a station would be hardware, dry goods and liquors.

Hon. Helmcken presumed that the hon. member preferred that Victoria should be the smuggling port in lieu of the one he suggested, for it would apply as much to Victoria as to the other. But that was beside the question. There was no intention of creating a port for smuggling, the intention was only to allow such goods to be so dealt in as would answer for barter with the Indians. He was much surprised to hear hon. members talking about honor as if they were the only ones practising that virtue. He presumed that virtue was more widely spread than the hon. members supposed. The question was simply, were we going to drive our people to Alaska or were we going, by the establishment of such a Free Port, to secure to this Colony its manifold advantages. He trusted that the Council would not allow a measure involving the material advancement of the Colony to be refused.

The House then divided—against the motion, 12; for the motion, 3; majority, 9.

Hon. Helmcken, in the absence of hon. Macdonald, would ask the hon. Colonial Secretary whether the contract for carrying the mails from New Westminster to the upper country has been given out, and if so, to whom, for what term and on what conditions? It had been publicly stated that the contract was made for three years without tenders having been asked. It was an irregular proceeding for the Executive to take on itself the giving out of such a contract without the sanction of the Council or without asking for competition. He did not say that the mails should not be carried, and be done in a proper manner.

Hon. Young in reply begged to state that tenders had been called for; only one offer had been sent in, in this the party tendering had offered to convey the mails—one year,

\$22,000; for three years, at \$20,000 a year; both these offers were deemed excessive, but an offer was subsequently made for \$18,000 per annum, which was thought so advantageous that the Executive thought itself perfectly justified in at once securing the contract.

Hon. DeCosmos had one constituent who would have put in a tender, but the contractor was required to commence the service the day after signing the contract, which rendered it quite impossible for anyone but the actual contractor to attempt. He would be glad to know on what date the contract was given out.

Hon. Young said that \$24,000 had been paid for carrying the mails the year previous.

He considered ample time had been given for any offers. By the present contract a saving of \$8000 a year was effected.

Hon. Helmcken said the notice was entirely too short for that season of the year, it was quite impossible for anyone to send stock, stages, &c., up country in mid-winter. If the tenders had been asked for during the summer, plenty of time would have been afforded to send up stock, &c.

It appeared to be purposely done to prevent any competitors appearing. It was quite usual for Government to do a little for their friends, and it possibly, in this case, was only intended for one person. The contract was very appropriately signed on the 1st of April.

Hon. Young suspected that some one had been imposing upon the hon. gentleman's credulity. There could be no doubt that the contract was a most advantageous one, and it was perfectly justifiable on the part of the Executive to secure it without delay.

Hon. Crease—The action taken by the Executive was perfectly in order; had the question been referred to Council, it would necessarily have been referred back to the Executive.

The subject then dropped.

Hon. Helmcken then brought forward his motion. That in the opinion of this Council the extension of the Vancouver Island Road Act to the districts immediately surrounding New Westminster would be advantageous.

He merely brought forward the motion because he thought that it would benefit New Westminster, although it was really the business of the hon. member for that city.

Hon. Robson was delighted with the generous consideration of the hon. member for Victoria, but considered the act wholly inappropriate to New Westminster.

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The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, April 25 1868.

By the Estimates for the current year, which have just come to hand, we are gratified to observe a very considerable reduction in the amount asked to defray the expenses of the Government. Where last year, under the "able financial management" of Mr. Birch, \$701,000 were asked and voted, Mr Young this year only requests a trifle over \$572,000, and estimates the probable revenue at \$576,500, showing a surplus of upwards of \$4,000. In the same document it appears that while in 1866 the revenue reached \$437,018, the expenditure exceeded that figure by nearly \$200,000, being in round numbers \$618,700—an alarming deficit. How far the revenue of 1867 fell short of the expenditure is not known, but the deficit will probably reach \$200,000. A feature worthy of notice in the Estimates before us is the fact that where last year \$212,000 were required to meet bonds, interest and sinking fund, the amount asked for now is but \$190,000. The Civil List remains at nearly the same figure as before, while we regret to observe that for Roads, Streets and Bridges only \$50,000, and for Education only \$6,000, are asked. These important interests of the Colony, most requiring the fostering care of the Government, are left in a languishing condition, and at the same time we observe that the brigades of clerks considered indispensable last year are continued in the Estimates before us. We have no time to day for a critical examination of the document, but shall endeavor to do it full justice tomorrow. We would remark, however, that the system which obtains in this Colony of withholding the actual expenditure for the year next preceding the current year is a bad one. In the Eastern Provinces the custom is to submit a statement of the expenditure for at least eight months of the preceding year, as a guide to the members in voting the Estimates. In this Colony the accounts are only brought down to the end of 1866, and, we ask, what intelligent light can a statement of the extraordinary expenditure and sinful waste of 1866 throw upon the probable expenditure of 1868, when wiser counsels and more economic ideas prevail? It is absurd to suppose that the statement can be of the least service to the honorable members. With a large staff of secretaries and clerks, there can be no excuse for not having the financial statement for 1867 ready to lay before the Council simultaneously with the Estimates. No good object can be subserved by withholding them, and we trust the returns asked for by Dr Helmken will be granted us before the work of voting the supplies shall have been commenced.

A Bill Entitled an Ordinance to Assimilate the Laws Affecting the Limitation of Certain Causes of Actions and Suits.

Whereas it is expedient to assimilate the Law affecting the limitation of causes of certain Suits arising abroad, in certain cases; Be it enacted by the Governor of British Columbia, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:

I. "The Limitation of Foreign Actions Act, 1868," is hereby repealed. Providing that the repeal hereinbefore mentioned shall not affect or prejudice any rights or privileges acquired under the Act hereby repealed, or either of them, but the same shall be respectively held and construed as if such repeal had not taken place.

II. In case any Suit or Action shall be instituted in this Colony against any person here resident, in respect of a cause of Action or Suit which has arisen between such person and some other person in a Foreign Country, wherein the person so sued shall have been resident at the time when such cause of Action or Suit shall have first arisen, such Suit or Action shall not be maintained in any Court of Civil Jurisdiction in this Colony, if the remedy thereon in such Foreign Country is barred by any Statute or Enactment for the limitation of Actions existing in such Foreign Country.

III. Any defendant may obtain the benefit of the foregoing Enactment by a plea in the form following:

"And for a (1st, 2nd,) plea to the whole, or any particular count of the declaration or suit, the defendant....., says that the cause of Action, or Suit, is barred by the law of (name of the Country), in which Country the said cause of Action or Suit first arose."

Provided he shall give evidence of the expiration of the period of limitation prescribed by the Foreign Law pleaded.

IV. Any printed copy, purporting to be an authorized copy of any such statute or Enactment, shall be prima facie evidence of the Statute or Enactment of which it purports to be an authorized copy.

V. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Limitation of Actions Ordinance, 1868."

Legislative Council.

FRIDAY, April 17th.
Present—Hons Crease, Wood, Robson, Elwin, Ball, DeCosmos, Helmcken, Trutch, O'Reilly, Ker, Spalding, Hamley, Walkem, Young (President).

Message No 4 from His Excellency the Governor, in relation to local disbursements on the Mainland.

Message No 5 from His Excellency the Governor, in relation to Indian Reserves on the Lower Fraser. Both ordered to be printed.

Hon Robson asked leave to present a petition from a settler in relation to the purchase of land. To be considered on Monday.

Hon Helmcken gave notice that on Monday next he would ask whether it was the intention of the Government to open the Eagle pass road this season.

Hon Crease asked leave to introduce an Ordinance to assimilate the application of the Trustees Relief Act throughout the Colony. After a few remarks from the hon Attorney General the bill was read a first time, and the second reading was fixed for Tuesday.

ORDINANCE RESPECTING BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS.

Hon DeCosmos said the present bill had for its object to merge the two branches of the profession. There was a bill which had passed this House last session, and as it had never been acted upon, the present bill was simply to bring it into operation. The present bill was a very short one, merely embodying the fact of merging the two professions, hence not likely to occupy the Council an unreasonable time.

Hon Crease said the reason that the bill passed last session had not been carried into operation was because the question relating to the jurisdiction of the Courts had not been settled, and this question being of paramount importance had stayed action in relation to the bill referred to.

Hon Walkem said the present bill was almost word for word with the bill passed last session; the distinction at present existing between the two branches of the profession was a crying evil, and the alteration was desired by all classes throughout the Colony, particularly in Vancouver Island, where it had not yet been introduced.

Hon Wood rose to correct certain statements, or rather exaggerations of the hon member for Cariboo. He contended that the absence of the proposed amalgamation of the two branches of the profession was not a crying evil, and that the branches of the legal profession were not desirous to the extent stated by the hon member; that on the contrary, where such amalgamation had been tried in any large community, it had failed. It might be necessary in small communities, but they were rare. In the present case it would be most injurious to the interests of the community in this Colony, as should it be made law it would be most difficult to re-establish the present distinction in the profession when future circumstances require it. The act of last session merely stipulated that the two branches of the profession might act irrespectively, conditionally and provisionally, in fact so that at any future period, they might be reduced to their present status. To attempt an amalgamation of the two branches of the profession would be to reduce those who had acquired a scientific knowledge of the profession to the level of those who merely studied the practical part; as for instance the branch that sought out the evidence with the branch that applied the law. The idea of amalgamating the two branches of the profession originated no doubt in the desire for cheap law, but this was a mistake as every one knows who knows anything about the legal expenses in San Francisco or Washington Territory.

Hon Young would suggest to the hon member that there was no question before the Council.

Hon Wood thought he was perfectly in order in correcting the misstatements of the hon member for Cariboo. Bill read first time. Second reading fixed for Wednesday.

INCORPORATION OF SISTERS OF SAINT ANN'S.

Hon Crease desired to know if the House, going into Committee on the new bill sent up by the select Committee, would exclude the old bill; as should that be the case, he would move that the new bill be rejected. The old bill was the Government bill which he was there to defend, and should be considered in conjunction with the new one.

Hon Helmcken asked if the Government members were at liberty to vote as they please.

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The Weekly British Columbian
AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, April 25 1868.

As it is probable the Estimates will be brought before the Legislative Council to-day, and such reductions made compatible with the effective working of Government and the necessity for retrenchment in public expenditure, the maintenance or abolition of the Assay Office may be one of the questions taking a prominent position. The continuance of the office at New Westminster we have always regarded as of little use; an expensive appendage, indeed, which conferred upon the people no benefit commensurate with its object or its cost. To remove it to Victoria, if such a thing be contemplated, would be still worse; because the Bank of British North America has a very competent and extensive Assay Department connected with their establishment, and as a general principle Government influence should never be brought into competition with private enterprise. All that is required to be done for the people of Cariboo, and of the mines in general, can be done at the same cost and within the same time whether the office be continued at New Westminster or removed to Victoria, and therefore there can be no reason whatever for saddling the country with a useless expense of some \$4,000 per annum, so far as either place is concerned. But these remarks do not cover the whole argument. It often occurs that the miners of Cariboo require an immediate assay, in some cases to determine the real value of their claims where a sale is contemplated, and in other cases, by far the more general, where they desire security in the sale of their dust. In either event, as the matter now stands, they cannot get an assay under six weeks at least, and at a very heavy expense, whether they select the Government Office or the Bank. In that time a purchaser may meet other inducements presenting no delay in the investment of his money, and the miners may lose a large amount, supposing they have not been receiving, at the scale of prices existing, enough per ounce for their dust. Thus so far as the miner is concerned the Bank is no better than the Government, nor the Government worse than the Bank. What then is wanted is a local Assay Office at the mines, where the people can ascertain at once what they want to know; and if the Bank does not intend to establish a branch Office the Government might do so with propriety, especially as the increase of business it would there receive would unquestionably make it self-sustaining. The only argument in favor of a Government Assay Office, without impugning the integrity of the Bank or anyone else entering the business, is that the most important productive element we have should not be left at the mercy of any one man or any one firm. It would certainly be a great convenience and public good if a branch Assay Office were established at Cariboo. On the grounds of public necessity, if not too costly to start, we should be glad to see it done. But to keep it at New Westminster or to remove it to Victoria would be perfect folly. It only accomplishes one good out of the many it ought to accomplish, and that very poorly.

The Legislative Council, last session, passed an act amalgamating the Legal Professions throughout the Colony. The measure placed legal gentlemen on the same footing, so far as the right to practice was concerned. It authorized an Attorney to carry a case through its various stages without consulting a Barrister, and a Barrister to conduct a case without being instructed by an Attorney. But there was one disability under which a Solicitor labored, and of which complaint was made at the time. He was allowed to perform all the duties of a Barrister as well as those of a Solicitor, yet not having been educated for the Bar, could not rise above the rank and file. Once a Solicitor always a Solicitor, so far as the emoluments of office went. No matter how able, successful or

respectable the Solicitor, the Barrister, content to divide with him the profits of both professions, reserved the privilege of advancement for himself. The measure, already in force by a Rule of Court on the Mainland, did not become operative upon the Island because of a vital defect. The bill had just been revived at the present session of the Council with an excellent prospect of success, but whether shorn of the objectionable feature which distinguished it last year we are uninformed. The need of a measure of the kind is urgent. We are opposed to paying two men to do one man's work, and we are unable to see why, if a Solicitor has proved himself well qualified to practice as a Barrister, he should not be entitled to all the privileges of the latter. Two years and a half ago a Colonial Barrister or Attorney could not practice before an Island Court. The professors appeared to imagine that a person born in the Colonies could not by any possibility be as clever as a person born in the old country, and many competent legal gentlemen were elbowed out of Court and out of the Colony by the spirit of selfishness and snobbery which then had full swing here. Happily this great wrong has been righted, and if the measure passed last year, with the disability clause concerning Solicitors stricken out and the defect cured, be passed, there will be another point gained towards liberalizing our institutions and securing cheap law.

Monday, April 20th.

RETURN OF H. M. S. SPARROWHAWK WITH ADMIRAL HASTINGS.—H. M. S. Sparrowhawk, Capt. Porcher, having on board Admiral Hastings and Mrs Hastings, returned from Puget Sound, via the American and English Camps on San Juan Island. The Sparrowhawk visited Port Townsend, Port Gamble, Seattle, Steilacoom and Olympia. The Admiral and Mrs Hastings went ashore at Port Gamble and Seattle, and at Olympia, the Capital of Washington Territory. All the towns were gaily dressed in bunting in honor of the distinguished visitor. At Port Gamble a salute was fired. At Olympia Governor Moore received Admiral Hastings in a truly hospitable manner. The Admiral, accompanied by the Governor, visited Tumwater Harbor and other points of interest. The Admiral returns, we learn, highly pleased with his trip and the cordiality of the reception with which he met. Mr D. Wallace piloted the Sparrowhawk through the intricate navigation of the Puget Sound.

Our cotemporary of the *News* is really as summing as possible proportions. Yesterday he says the Colonist "knocked Mr Waddington's line of road into a cocked hat by deciding the road shall go by Leather Pass" and not by Tete Jaune Pass," &c. Shades of departed trail-makers preserve us! Is our cotemporary, then, so ignorant of the geography of the Colony in which he moulds public opinion as not to know it is through "Leather Pass" Mr Waddington intends his road to cross the Rocky Mountains, that "Tete Jaune Cache" (not Pass, as the *News* has it) is the western terminus of Leather Pass, and that practically, the names are synonymous? Perhaps it would be advisable to send out the news to select a Pass of its own, to be named, in honor of its discoverer, "The Muttonhead Pass."

THE WINTER IN NEW YORK STATE was one of the severest on record. Travel was greatly impeded, and in one locality the railroad company had to cut a canal thirty miles length through snowbanks twelve feet in depth. In New York city on the 3rd day of March, at a time when we were rejoicing at the signs of returning spring, snow lay five feet deep in the streets, and Barnum's Museum was destroyed because the firemen could get no water to throw on the flames—the water in the hydrants being frozen solid. Nineteen days after, on the 22d of the same month, the heaviest fall of snow for thirty years occurred in the same city, and passengers in some of the cars were frozen to death. Who would exchange a residence in this favored locality for a home in such an inhospitable region as the Atlantic seaboard?

MIRAGE.—One of these natural optical illusions, occasionally witnessed in our neighborhood, was very distinct on Saturday morning, reflecting the brig Byzantium and a large schooner as they approached our port. This unequal refraction of the lower strata of atmosphere, by which the mirage is caused, is only to be seen in perfection in Central America, where at times castles, towers and whole cities meet the traveller's eye, with such apparent reality and harmony that it is scarcely possible to believe the beautiful vision has no actual existence.

The Active will sail for Nanaimo at 10 o'clock this morning, and will return and sail hence for Portland in a few days.

OVERSTOCKED.—The labor market in California is overstocked. A railroad company advertised for 500 men at \$25 per month to open a line of road, and received 5,000 applications in a few days. Seven thousand immigrants reach San Francisco by sea each month and all the cities are filled with idle and destitute men. The slightest inducement held out by this Colony for the employment of labor would cause a great "rush" to it.

GOOD SIGN.—From a private letter we find the steamer Onward brought down a quantity of Timothy hay to New Westminster on her last trip, which is to be forwarded to Victoria. This is reversing things entirely, for hay from Victoria was formerly shipped for consumption on the mainland. We ought not to find fault with this, as it shows a happy change in articles of home consumption.

THE FREIGHT OF THE STEAMERS.—The freight brought by the Oriflamme was all landed on Saturday morning at Esquimalt, and brought around to this city on the steamers Fly and Emily Harris. The Active's freight, a large proportion of which was flour was discharged on Brodrick's wharf. Both cargoes are in excellent order.

The bark Zephyr, after parting with her deck-load of 15,000 feet of lumber, got safely off the Spit at Boundary Bay on Friday. It has been erroneously stated that the bark struck on Fraser Sandheads, while the fact is the place where she ran aground is within six miles of Semiahmoo Bay, and on the American side of the line.

The non-arrival of a Cariboo express and mail on Saturday evening, has been the occasion of remark. It is supposed to be detained somewhere on the road. The cause of the detention is matter for conjecture. The "hitch" is a disagreeable one, which we hope will not occur again.

SURVEY.—H. M. S. Beaver leaves this morning for Frasermouth, where soundings and a survey of the sandheads will be made; after performing which service she will proceed up the coast and resume the survey of the various inlets and canals.

FROM NANAIMO.—The ship Shooting Star was towed down from Nanaimo yesterday by the Isabel. She is laden with 1,000 tons of coal for San Francisco, and did not come to anchor in the outer harbor but sailed directly for her destination.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.—A meeting of this body will be held at noon to-day in the Colonist Building to discuss the propriety of resigning in consequence of the hostile attitude of the Government towards Free Secular Education.

SUMMER SIGNS.—The large flocks of cranes flying northward the last day or two, and the beautiful light suits just received by Wm. Wilson are well known signs of the coming summer.

The Oriflamme sailed for Steilacoom on Saturday. She will take aboard the U. S. troops and supplies there, and proceed on to Fort Wrangel and Tonras.

The steamer Enterprise arrived at 5 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, bringing a few passengers. The news from the upper country was anticipated.

The estimates will come down to the Council to-day. At least, they are promised to-day.

A RAFT.—composed of lumber from the wrecked bark Rosalia, has been towed into the harbor below.

The brig Byzantium, laden with lumber from Alberni and consigned to Sproat & Co., arrived on Saturday morning.

H. M. S. RAINBOW sailed yesterday morning for the Sandwich Islands and Tahiti.

The sloop Ocean Queen sails for Sitka to-day.

ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL SUMMARY.

Another of the old London landmarks, so many of which have of late been destroyed to give place to modern improvements, is doomed to immediate demolition. The Saracen's Head Hotel, Skinner street, Snow hill, celebrated in the old carrier and coaching days, was on Monday disposed of by auction by instructions of the Improvement Committee of the City of London.

SIR WILLIAM SHEPHERD.—She died on Wednesday, at a few minutes past 8 o'clock, at his residence in Sussex-place, Hyde-park-gardens. On the 7th inst, he discharged his official duties as one of the Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench, and pronounced judgment in at least one important case. On the following day he was stricken with illness so serious as to greatly alarm his family and friends. Although he rallied a little, such improvement as he manifested was delusive; for his strength gradually ebbed until his death. His name will be memorable on the roll of English Judges as that of the first, in modern times, of the Roman Catholic religion.

SULLIVAN OF THE DUBLIN NATION.—has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment; and Pigot, of the *Irishman*, to twelve months' imprisonment.

There are still thirty-three members of Parliament who held seats in the House of Commons thirty-five years ago in the Parliament after the first reform bill was passed, and twenty of them sit for the same constituencies. Mr Gladstone, Mr Roebuck and several other well known gentlemen are of the number.

MR J. A. BLAKE.—M. P., has published a pamphlet on the Irish fisheries, in which he laments their decline, and says, "the whole capture of fish on the coasts of Ireland (under £550,000 worth a year) would not supply London for one month." In twenty years the Irish coast fisheries have sunk to the extent of 1439 boats and 72,460 men and boys. The "famine years" were the true cause of this; and Mr Blake considers that a sum of £50,000 lent to fishermen on the Irish coast, as the funds of the Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor of Ireland have been lent, would restore the Irish fisheries and train hardy seafarers for the mercantile marine and the Royal Navy.

ONE OF KING THEODORE'S PRISONERS.—The French papers contain an article written by M. Adolph Fargues, who has been given up as dead by his relatives for many years, but who, it appears, has been a prisoner of King Theodore. He wandered into the kingdom, was taken captive and held as a spy. His prison was in a large cavity formed by nature in the top of the mountain, and his keepers consisted of an old man and his daughter. In this cave he was strongly tied, the ropes, however, being sufficiently lengthy to allow him to walk about. He was regularly fed, but no communication was ever made to him by sign or otherwise. His only companions were rats, who attacked him nightly, till his keeper gave him some grease, which, though most offensive, he rubbed upon his body. This drove the rats away and also suggested the idea that led to his escape. When the jailor was absent he induced the daughter to bring him a little grease. This he applied to the ropes, and, after many weary nights, the rats gnawed the ropes sufficiently to enable him to escape. He was astounded, when, only a few hours free, to fall in with the advance guard of the English expedition.

SPHYLLIS AND MERCIERIAL DISEASES.

NEW ORLEANS.—25th August, 1859.

DR. J. C. AYER.—Sir, I cheerfully comply with the request of your agent, and report to you some of the effects real and visible with your Sarsaparilla.

I am induced to do so, in view of the numerous complaints for which it is recommended, and especially in *Female Diseases of the Scrofulous Diathesis*. I have cured many inveterate cases of Leucorrhœa by it, and some where the complaint was caused by *derangement of the uterus*. The ulcerative disease of the scrotum is equally successful for these female complainants.

EDWARD S. MARROW.—of Newbury, Ala., writes:

"A dangerous ovarian tumor on one of the females in my family, which had defied all the remedies we could employ, had been completely cured by your Sarsaparilla."

Dr. J. B. S. Channing of New York City, writes:

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By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

New WESTMINSTER, April 17.—Council met at 3 o'clock. Fourteen members present.

A Message was received from the Governor, or relating to local disbursements; also a message relating to reserves on Lower Fraser. Both were ordered to be printed.

Hon. Hemlocke gave notice that he would ask the Government, whether the Eagle Pass road would be opened this season.

An Ordinance to assimilate the trustees relief act was read the first time, second reading on Tuesday.

Hon DeCosmos asked leave to introduce an ordinance relative to barristers and attorneys, to merge the two professions into one.

Hon Wood strongly opposed the motion; first reading carried, second appointed for Wednesday.

Hon Helmcken introduced an ordinance to incorporate the Sisters of St. Ann. The object was explained in a long speech, and read the first time; second reading was appointed for Monday.

Recommittal of Limitation of Actions bill, Hon O'Reilly in the chair. A long discussion ensued as to the propriety of infringing standing orders. The Bill was reported complete, and afterwards amended, Law sixty-one of Vancouver Island remaining intact.

Council adjourned till 1 o'clock on Monday.

New WESTMINSTER, April 20.—Hon DeCosmos gave notice of an Ordinance respecting drawbacks.

Acting Colonial Secretary presented the estimates, from which it appears the estimated revenue is \$576,000 and the sum asked for \$572,000. The Colonial Secretary thought the Government was quite justified in its estimate of the probable income, as the stocks on Vancouver Island were about exhausted, consequently Customs receipts must increase.

PARIS, April 15.—The *Moniteur* published a recent speech of Barroche, the Minister of Justice at Pembroke, endeavoring to allay the excitement over rumors of impending war. He declares that nothing now threatens to disturb the peace of Europe.

OPENHAGEN, April 14.—It is understood here that the Emperor of Prussia has declined to intercede his good offices as mediator between Denmark and Prussia for the settlement of Schleswig question.

LONDON, April 16.—The British Post Office Department is about to send Anthony Trollope to Washington to re-adjust the details of the postal convention.

Estimates will be considered on Wednesday.

Long discussion ensued on Supreme Courts Bill, the Attorney General desiring to reconsider the old bill. Popular members opposed and ultimately deferred consideration till Wednesday, so that members at Victoria may come up.

Petition of Wm. Herring for sale of leased land, thrown out by ten to three.

Helmekens' motion in favor of opening the Eagle Pass Road was recommended to favorable consideration of the Governor.

Bill to incorporate the Sisters of St. Ann read a 2nd time and committed to-morrow.

Council adjourned till three to-morrow.

Eastern States.

CHICAGO, April 16.—The last five cars of a train on the Erie railroad were precipitated down an embankment, of 75 or 100 feet, rolling over and over upon jagged rocks at the bottom. The last took fire, and 13 persons were burned to death. All the cars thrown over the cliff which borders the Delaware river were passenger cars. It was intensely dark when the train reached the point of the bluff. Two cars were found to be in the river and one was on fire. There were over 200 passengers on the train. Six bodies were recovered last night.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Stanton has written a letter to Senator Cameron, declaring that no consideration can induce him to assume the duties of the Treasury Department or remain in the War Department longer than will be required for the appointment and confirmation of his successor.

CHICAGO, April 16.—The Democratic State Convention yesterday at Springfield nominated John R. Eden for Governor, Wm. H. Van Eps for Lieut. Governor. The resolutions denounce congressional plan of reconstruction, and an impeachment movement favors payment of the national debt in greenbacks, opposes the present tariff system, favors abolishing national banks and replacing their issues with greenbacks, favors taking bonds, and instructs delegates to national convention to vote for Pendleton for President.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 16.—The visible admixture bill has passed both Houses and is now a law; it prohibits persons having any visible mixture of negro blood from voting.

CHICAGO, April 17.—The Tribune's Omaha special says the Union Pacific Railroad crossed the summit of the Rocky Mountains today. The rails on the summit were laid by T. C. Duran, Vice President, Sydney Dillon, Director and Chief Engineer, and other officers of the company.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—When the House fully resumes business the Committee of foreign affairs will report a bill making necessary appropriation for the payment for Alaska Territory.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—In the Senate the Chief Justice announced that the first business in order was the order offered by Conness yesterday, providing that the Court

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 16.—The United States steamer Saginaw is under order to sail for Alaska on Saturday or Monday next. The instructions of Capt. Mitchell are to spend the season in surveying the coast of Alaska and adjacent islands, and making charts of channels, inlets, headlands and rocks, with soundings of the bays and rivers, where masters of vessels may desire to anchor.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—Steamship Constitution with passengers from New York for San Francisco March 21st, telegraphed coming in at 9 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 17.—Legal Tenders, \$71 1/2 @ 72. New York quotations, Gold closed at \$1382.

Flour—\$2 40 @ \$2 45, far, fair to good; Wheat—\$2 40 @ \$2 45, for, fair to good; Oats—nominal; \$2 50 @ \$2 70.

Steamer Pacific will sail for Portland and Victoria next Tuesday.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—Arrived—Str. Nevada, from Panama; bark Glimps, 91 days from Port Discovery; steamer Constitution, 14 days from Panama.

Cleared—U S steamer Saginaw, for Alaska last evening; Str. Annex, Astoria; brig Adm. Port Townsend.

South America.

A Rio letter dated March 9th gives Brazilian accounts of the war operations on February 9th. Six armor plated ships forced the passage to Hamata which was defended by 180 pieces of artillery. Three ships ascended as far as Ascension which was found evacuated. The same day the Marquis de Caxias landed at the point of the bayonet, the redoubt north of Hamata, capturing fifteen cannons. Losses in killed, wounded and prisoners amounted to 1,600.

Canada.

OTTAWA, April 16.—The evidence pointing to Whelan as the assassin of McGee recumbrates. Four other persons have been arrested at Montreal.

MONTREAL, April 17.—All the correspondence which passed between the Fenian lodges of New York and Montreal has been seized by the Government. A grand exodus of Irishmen from Canada has commenced in consequence. Over four hundred persons are implicated in this correspondence.

It is reported that an international case will be made, as the documents discovered tend to show that the murder of McGee was plotted in New York and approved by the committee in Montreal.

The great labor mass meeting was held at St John's Hall. Every portion of the hall was crowded. Earl Russell presided. Addresses were made by Henry Fawcett, Sir John Gray, McGill and others. Resolutions were adopted demanding the disendowment of all religious sects in Ireland; declaring that the Tories are keeping in office after the recent vote of the House of Commons against them and had violated the constitutional usage, and that they should give place to Gladstone and the leaders of the majority in Parliament.

The Fenian General Nagle and six others sailed to-day for America under promise never to return.

The Danish Government has commenced negotiations for the sale of the Island of Santa Cruz to France.

FLORENCE, April 16.—Violent riots broke out in Bologna early this week, in consequence of the strike of workmen. Some injury to property has been done, but no lives were lost. The disturbances have been suppressed, and the city is quiet.

PARIS, April 16.—A duel was fought yesterday between the late Russian Ambassador Leyndooff, and the present Ambassador Baron Budberg. The latter was seriously wounded, and will resign his office.

LONDON, April 17.—Warrants were issued by the Police Magistrate to-day for the arrest of ex-Governor Eyre of Jamaica, on the charge of illegally proclaiming martial law during the disturbance in that Island. It is believed the legality of the act will be finally tested.

DUBLIN, April 17.—The Prince and Princess of Wales were entertained last evening by a banquet given by the Lord Lieutenant and Marchioness, and Abercrombie. Among the invited guests were several prominent Catholic dignitaries.

The Nova Scotian Legislature has been adjourned. Before closing, the Attorney General moved that, as soon as Nova Scotia was released from the bonds of the Confederation, she would be prepared to bear a full share of the expenses of the Intercolonial Railway.

A new paper called the *Blue Nose* was commenced at Digby, N. S., on the 4th of March. It is to be devoted to the advocacy of the union of these provinces to the American republic.

It is reported that Mr Skinner, late Solicitor General, has been appointed Judge of Probate in place of the late Hon. W. B. Kinnear.

Mr George Kerr, M. P., for Northumberland, lies dangerously ill at Fredericton.

At a caucus of the Nova-Scotian members of the Dominion Parliament, held recently in Halifax, it was resolved that they should unitedly return to Ottawa.

The Grafton street Wesleyan Church, in Halifax, was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday evening, just before the hour for evening worship.

The Hon. Mr Wark, Receiver General of New Brunswick, being about to resign, the Government of that province contemplate amalgamating the offices of Receiver and Surveyor Generals.

West Indies.

NEW YORK, April 17.—Havana dates from Hayti are to the 11th. The Cacos have been victorious. Salavina is in a critical condition. His escape was considered impossible.

Canada.

The Guelph Mercury says:—"The jury which was empannelled to investigate the circumstances connected with the death of the woman who poisoned herself a few minutes after her marriage in Artemesia, have

THE GRAND PROMOTERS OF HEALTH.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

The grand secret of attaining happiness is to secure good health without which life is stripped of its pleasure. The first step in every recovery should be checked, and set right by appropriate doses of these purifying Pills, which strengthen the system by thoroughly cleansing the blood from all impurities. This balance disordered action, remove the cause of disease, and restore the natural and natural power to every organ, without inconvenience, pain or any other drawback.

Detrangement of the Bowels, Liver and Stomach Complaints.

This medicine is so well known in every part of the world, and the cures effected by its use are so wonderful that every person who has been ill, and has been removed for billions and billions of complaints and derangements of the stomach and bowels, is no longer a matter of dispute or doubt. In these diseases the beneficial effects of Holloway's Invincible Pills are so permanent and extensive that the whole body is restored to health, the organs strengthened, and full and entire energy promoted, so that both physical and moral energies are increased.

Determination of Blood to the Head.

This is generally occasioned by some irregularity of stomach and bowels, which if not quickly attended to, may become chronic and fatal. A few doses of the famous Pills never fail to restore the circulation to the brain, to the secretion, and purity to the fluids. Vertigo disappears, eyes are entirely disengaged by a course of this admirable medicine.

The Female's Best Friend.

For all debilitating disorders peculiar to the sex and in every sensitive condition to the life of women, youth or old, aged, married or single, there is no better remedy recommended with friendly & warm assurances, will correct all functional derangements to which they are subject.

Scorfules and all Skin Diseases.

For all skin diseases, however intricate these medicines are a sovereign remedy. Holloway's Pills act upon the blood, which they purify, the ointment passes through the pores of the skin, and cleanses every stricture, as water saturates the soil or as salt penetrates the whole physical machinery is thus rendered perfect.

Coughs, Colds and Asthma.

No medicine will cure colds of long duration or such as are settled upon the chest so quickly as these famous Pills. Even in cases where the first stage of asthma has supervened, these pills may be relied on as a certain and safe failing remedy, particularly if the ointment be simultaneously well rubbed into the chest and throat night and morning.

Indigestion, Bilious Headache.

These complaints may sometimes be considered trifling, but it should be borne in mind that by inattention and neglect, they often end most seriously. Give early thought to a deranged stomach take Holloway's Pills, rub the ointment over the pit of the stomach, and you will shortly perceive the result in your digestion, spirits, appetite, strength and energy. The improvement, though it may be gradual will be strong and permanent.

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

Astro- nomy.	Female Irregular- ities	Scrofula King- ring.
Bilious Complaints	Blotches of all kinds	Scrofula Thrush.
Bones.	Blotches on the Pits of the Skin.	Stones and Gravel.
Bowels.	Blotches on the Guts.	Secondary Symp-
Constitution.	Blotches on the Headache.	tonic.
Consumption.	Blotches on the Intestines.	Scrofulous
Diabetes.	Jaundice.	Tumors.
Emphysema.	Liver Complaints.	Ulcers.
Excretions.	Lumbago.	Venereal Affec-
Gastritis.	Rheumatism.	tions.
Gout.	Rheumatism.	Worms of all kinds.
Hysteria.	Retention of Urine.	Wounds.
Inflammation.	whatever cause

Sold at the Establishment of PHARMACEUTICAL HOLLOWAY, Strand (near Temple Bar), London, and by all respect-
able Druggists and Dealers in throughout the civil
ized world, and 3s. each Box.

* There is considerable saving by taking
the pills.

Full directions for the guidance of patients in every disease affixed to each Box.



LEA & PERRINS' CELEBRATED

Worcestershire Sauce.

DECLARED BY CONNOISSEURS
TO BE THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE.

FOR USE IN COOKING, SALADS,
SAUCES, SOUP, ETC.

BY DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.

MADE IN ENGLAND.

BY LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE.

MADE IN

By Electric Telegraph

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 21—Council met at 3 o'clock. Fourteen members present.

Hon Helmcken moved for returns of expenditures for 1867.

Hon DeCosmos postponed Investment Savings Bill till to-morrow. Trustees' Relief Bill passed through committee and reported complete. Third reading fixed for to-morrow.

Acting Colonial Secretary read a message from the Governor showing comparison of duties, and stated that the Government had no intention of altering duties this year.

Incorporation of Sisters of St Ann's Bill was opposed by the Attorney-General. After several long speeches the bill passed through committee; third reading to-morrow.

House adjourned one to-morrow.

A FRACAS.

A fracas, in which Smith, member for Big Bend, assaulted Robson, member for New Westminster, last evening while coming from the House, was tried to-day. Evidence conflicting. Robson made a long speech. The magistrates (two) divided in opinion, and the case was deferred till to-morrow for a full Bench.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 22—Council met at one o'clock. Eighteen members present.

Hon DeCosmos presented a petition from members of the Legal Profession; also a petition from the Mayor and Council of Victoria, for power to erect a patent slip. Leave granted. Read first time; second reading on Friday.

Hon Helmcken asked leave to introduce a bill to confirm titles to land granted by the Hudson Bay Company.

Hon Walkem—That the Governor be requested to appropriate \$5000 for the construction of a trail between William Creek and Mosquito Creek.

Hon DeCosmos moved an address to Her Majesty for Confederation, with conditions thereon, to be printed.

Hon Stamp—to ask if it was the intention of Government to grant relief to sawmills by drawback equal to duties on goods consumed in the manufacture of lumber.

Hon Stamp—to ask the Colonial Secretary what steps have been taken by the Government of the Colony towards the formation of a dry dock at Esquimalt.

The debate on the second reading of the Barrister's bill elicited some good and lengthy speeches. Amended by Hon Wood; lost. Read second time; to be committed on to-morrow.

Hon DeCosmos introduced a bill respecting drawback. Read first time; second reading Friday.

Council then went into Committee of the Whole on the Supreme Court Bill, and strangers retired. After doors were opened, some strong speeches were made. The Government is determined to carry the old bill, and three clauses were passed. Recommital to-morrow.

Council introduced Fire Inquest Ordinance, which was read a first time and second reading fixed for Friday.

Trustees Relief Bill, read third time and passed.

Incorporation of Sisters of St Ann Bill, read a third time and passed.

THE SMITH-ROBSON FRACAS.

Case was heard before Ball, O'Reilly and Pritchard. Evidence much the same as before. Robson in an address imputed political motives, and said "rat-skins" (meaning Hudson Bay Co.) were at the bottom of the assault. As a proof he instanced the readiness with which Helmcken bailed Smith. The Bench fined Smith twenty-five dollars, with twenty dollars doctor's fees.

NEW WESTMINSTER, April 23—Council met at 1 o'clock, p.m. Eighteen present.

In Committee of Supply, the following items passed:—His Excellency the Governor; Legislative Council; Colonial Secretary; Treasurer; Auditor General; Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works; Customs; Registrar General. (This item evoked a long discussion.) Harbor Master; Post Office. (On this item Hon DeCosmos moved recommendation that the Post-master of Victoria be raised to two thousand (\$2000.) Carried.) Supreme Court; Attorney General; High Sheriff; five messages from the Governor, on weights and measures and other unimportant measures received assent.

A petition for compensation to lot-holders of New Westminster was presented. Returns of land sales and pre-emptions.

Civil Lists for 1863 and 1867 ordered to be printed.

Hon Walkem presented a petition from the Cherry Creek Silver Mining Co. with reference to alterations in lease.

Hon Pemberton gave notice that he would

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ask for information with regard to the expenditure and income of the Assay Office.

In answer to Hon. DeCosmos, Hon. Young said that Mr. Birch had not and would not draw his salary from the colony.

Hudson Bay Co.'s land titles bill was read the first time, second reading to-morrow.

Hon Stamp's motion on Saw Mills was recommended to the consideration of the Governor.

Smith Robson fracas—Robson applied that the hon. Smith be put under bonds to keep the peace. The magistrate accepted hon. Smith's own recognizance in the sum of five hundred dollars.

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