

Tuesday, January 1, 1867.

Christmas.

Another revolution in the cycle of human life and we enter on the greatest and most hallowed of Christian festivals. The angelic message proclaiming the birth of the Saviour King may fall listlessly and insensibly on the ears of those whose hearts do not beat responsive to the "glad tidings of great joy" that heralded Christ's advent on earth,—who are strangers to the thrills of love, adoration and reverent gratitude that filled the hearts of the shepherds of Bethlehem, and should animate the Christian on this festive anniversary; but among the diversities of creeds, nationalities and tongues that we find among us, Christmas is always respected, and if it has no holier signification with them is recognized and set apart as a day of rest on which man relaxes from the cares and turmoils of life, suffers the best feelings of his nature to be called into exercise, and joins in swelling the universal hymn of "Peace on earth, good will toward man." In the Anglican Church time-honored observances render the festival of Christmas one of peculiar interest. Apart from the duties of a sacred nature that the occasion imposes upon us, there are a thousand and one associations connected with Christmas that fasten themselves upon the memory and revert to us in after years with redoubled force. It is one of the beneficent provisions of Providence that enables the recollection to cling with greater tenacity to the joys and pleasures than to the troubles of our early life, and Christmas comes home to few of us who cannot cherish the fondest remembrances of the family group collected around the parental hearth, of dotting relatives lavishing their holiday gifts on the cherished young hopefuls fresh from school, of Christmas boxes, and trees, the wake, the carol, the Yule log, magic lanterns, pantomimes, snap-dragons, mistletoe boughs and the innumerable amusements inevitably associated with the season, which brought such infinite delight to our blithe young hearts. "Youth is the season made for joy;" we were young then, and paid little heed perhaps to the empty chair placed in the circle by her whose radiant face was ever and anon tinged with melancholy, as her eye mournfully rested on the blank caused by an absent or lost child. The very nature of the gathering is such that in the ordinary course of events time must ruthlessly disturb. Our grandfathers and parents cannot long be spared to us; one by one the elder branches of the family tree are lopped off, while we in our turn launch into the battle of life, and the once happy circle is known no more. Fresh chains may be riveted and links formed in the next generation in which we may play conspicuous parts, but it takes half a lifetime to efface all traces of the past from the mind, and memory's repose when once it is broken, may waken a pang that has slumbered for years." Thus it is that Christmas day, with most of us, glad-some though we fain would make it, must necessarily be more or less mingled with melancholy thoughts. The young man who has left his home to tread the rough paths of colonial life feels for the nonce his stout heart yielding to the softer influences of his nature, as he pictures the scene then being enacted in his once happy home, and perchance recalls the fair image of some loved one, in whose heart a void is created that his absence only intensifies. And who is there, be he young or old, who has not left ties more or less endearing,—a fond parent, an affectionate brother or sister, a loving wife, or sweet little ones, who will breathe his name in accents of love on this hallowed day? Yet what are his feelings compared with the mental anguish of the widow mourning the death of a devoted husband, the griefed father soothing and caressing his motherless infants, or parents with hearts seared and bowed down by the

severe stroke of affliction? What are his feelings in comparison with the heartrendings of numberless distressed families in the crowded cities of England contemplating the wasting forms of their squalid and ill-clothed offspring, unable to satisfy the cravings of hunger even with the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table? But the "glad tidings" proclaimed 1866 years ago were extended to all the human family; the Star of Bethlehem led to the fountain of life; to him who blessed the poor, who comforted the afflicted, who gave to the hungry the bread of life, and set the weary at rest; who offered us an example of faith, purity, meekness, patience, humility, gentleness, long suffering, endurance, obedience and charity, which enabled him to "endure all things" and to fulfil his glorious mission upon earth. To return to our own little sphere, while our cup may contain some of the ingredients of bitterness, we have really not much to complain of. We have voluntarily exiled ourselves from our homes, in the hope of building up a competency. Fortune has so far smiled only upon a few, but that buoyant hope which "springs eternal in the human breast," points confidently to the future. Our vines are on the eve of a more extensive development, and under the new order of things in this Colony, there is every reason to believe that better and more prosperous times are dawning upon us. Under all circumstances let us banish gloomy forebodings, and resolutely determining to nerve ourselves for the race that we have to run, strive to be charitably disposed toward one another, banishing with the year that is about to close whatever animosities we may bear, whatever grievances we may have conjured up, we shall then be in better mood to participate ourselves, and to enable our neighbors to enjoy with us a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

"RETRENCHMENT!" RETRENCHMENT!"—War has commenced, and the pruning knife has been set to work. The Government messenger was busily engaged last evening serving the different Government officials in the capital with circulars from the Colonial office, in which, we are informed, the recipients are notified that reductions in their several salaries will be made from the first of January. We believe these circulars were pretty generally circulated, and trust that they are not entirely confined to the clerks, who, in many instances, are by no means overpaid, but that the good work has extended, where it ought to have commenced, and that heads of departments have also been favored. We hope to give further particulars in our next.—N. W. Examiner.

COUNTY COURT.—Mr Underwood, connected with the firm of Messrs Evans Bros., the arrest of whom we noticed in our last issue, was brought up before Judges Brew and Pritchard on the charge of aiding and abetting the said firm in defrauding their creditors of a large amount. By a technical point of law, the prosecution was not able to prove that the money belonged to the members of the firm who became bankrupt, and he was released from custody, the court retaining the money, some \$4,000, pending further proceedings. Mr G. A. Walker appeared for the prosecution, and Mr A. R. Robertson for the defence.—Examiner.

OUT AGAIN.—Dunne, the convict who lately escaped from the jail and surrendered himself to Judge Brew, has again gone for a constitutional, leaving the officers in charge of the chain-gang while at work near the Royal Avenue. He managed in some way or other to divest himself of his chains, and although officer MacNamara fired two shots after him, made good his escape for the present.—Examiner.

ELEGANT TIME FOR TELEGRAPHY.—A telegram from Seattle announces that the line is down on Scott Mountain, California, and is buried beneath twenty feet of snow. There has been no communication with San Francisco for five days, but a corps of repairers having been sent out, it is expected that the wires will be in working order to-day.

SEVERE LOSS.—A roll of bills of the Bank of British North America was lost yesterday in or near Davies' Auction Rooms. The loser offers a large reward for the recovery of the roll. If it has fallen into the hands of an honest man, the advertisement will not be in vain.

A NEW FRONT.—Messrs Hicks & Russell's new front enables the firm to display their holiday goods to excellent advantage, and the store is now one of the most attractive in the city.

JOURNALISTIC REMINISCENCES.—From 1858 to the present time there have been no less than thirteen newspapers published on this Island of which number only the COLONIST AND CHRONICLE survives. On the mainland there have been six journals started, three of which only remain in existence. To begin with the Island: The British Colonist (brought into life by Hon. A. DeCromb), Victoria Gazette, and Vancouver Island Gazette, were all started in 1858. The Vancouver Island Gazette only appeared a few times. The Victoria Gazette lived until the fall of 1859, when its proprietors stopped the paper and sold the plant to the Colonist. The New Westminster Times appeared in Victoria in 1859, and, upon the death of the Victoria Gazette, the proprietors of the Times assumed the title of the former for a three-day paper, retaining the name of New Westminster Times in a weekly publication made up with matter from the tri-weekly. In 1858 a French paper, called the Courrier de France, was started by a Comte de Garro. It made its appearance only two or three times and then died. The Comte was killed by the explosion of the boiler of the steamer Cariboo, three years subsequently. In the spring of 1860 the N. W. Times was removed to New Westminster, where it lived about nine months, when the plant was sold and the name of the paper changed to the British Columbian. In February, 1861—the Gazette having died seven months before—the Press was started as a two-bit morning paper in opposition to the Colonist; but it was soon changed into an evening paper, and continued to appear as such until the 19th of October, 1862, when the firm of Higgins & McMillan bought the material and issued a two-bit morning paper called the Victoria Daily Chronicle. This paper continued to appear until the 23d of June last, when Higgins & Long purchased the plant of the British Colonist and united the two journals under the one name of DAILY BRITISH COLONIST AND VICTORIA CHRONICLE. In 1863, the Evening Express was started, and continued to appear until the spring of 1865, when the plant was purchased by the Free Trade Party for Mr Bell, who had previously sent forth an evening paper called the Vancouver Times, and the two journals were united. The Times and Express lasted until August, 1865, when it went down, and was succeeded by the Post. The Post lived until April of this year, when it, too, kicked the bucket. After the amalgamation of the COLONIST AND CHRONICLE, the Telegraph appeared as the organ of a clique in the Legislative Assembly; but after a struggle of less than six months it went under on Sunday last. At New Westminster, a small town on the mainland, there have been, in all, four papers started, two of which now exist, viz.: the British Columbian and Examiner—both said to be doing well. The defunct papers were called the New Westminster Times and the North Pacific Times. At Cariboo the Sentinel appeared in the spring of 1865, under the management of Mr Wallace, who sold it out at the close of the season, and, in the spring of the present year, opened with the Yale Tribune, which was continued until October last, when the plant was removed to New Westminster, and is the same on which the Examiner is now printed. At Nanaimo, a sickly-looking concern, that it would be a gross libel on the profession to call a newspaper, drag out a miserable existence; and, not to mention two Prides Currents and a Mining News (which laid no claim to the title of newspaper)—this completes the long list. The papers now living are the COLONIST AND CHRONICLE at Victoria—for the third time in its history left without a local competitor; the British Columbian and the Examiner at New Westminster; the Sentinel at Cariboo; and the nameless rag at Nanaimo.

THE BORE at Nanaimo is now down 480 feet, and a seam of Newcastle coal, it is hoped, will soon be reached. The bore is a great one.

THE LEVIATHAN reached this port yesterday, looking none the worse for her long rest on the Cowichan mud-flats. Long may she float.

THE FIDELITER will sail for Portland tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. She will connect at Portland with the Oriflamme for San Francisco.

MR McCULLOUGH, manager of the Bank of British Columbia at New Westminster, has been superseded by Mr Jones, who was formerly stationed at that place.

THE cargo of the Nicholas Biddle has been all discharged and the vessel will be laid upon her side on Wednesday.

NO PAPER will be issued from this office tomorrow.

EAST COAST MAIL COMMUNICATION. NANAIMO, 21st December 1866. MESSRS. EDITORS.—Since the steamer Sir James Douglas has been charged with the performance of our mail service, the people of the East Coast, from Cowichan to Comox, have not had much to complain of in respect to mail communication until within the last three months. On the arrival of Governor Seymour the communication, which had been stated and regular, was abruptly interrupted. The steamer on which alone settlers were dependent for an opportunity to convey produce to market, and for a chance of visiting Victoria, was peremptorily ordered to other less important duties, which it was necessary to name. This movement of the Governor at the outset of his administration on this Island, augurs somewhat unfavorably for the future, although I suppose we must not forget to be indulgent and lenient when considering His Excellency's earlier acts. We should not feel disposed now to notice the act above alluded to, (though at the time it occurred His Excellency, I presume, had war vessels at his command, the use of which, for a trip or two to New Westminster, would not incommode the public) were it not that a still greater annoyance, according to a report, is about to be inflicted upon us. The Sir James Douglas is to go alongside the San Francisco mail steamer, take mails, passengers and freight aboard, and carry the whole to New Westminster free of charge. This would be all very well if some other suitable steamer was running regularly up this way, and if New Westminster had no other means of conveyance. But under the circumstances it is, to say the least, unfair and improper to take away a Government vessel from a trade it was intended to perform, and this for no other purpose than to satisfy the crochets and peculiarities of the few inhabitants of Stumptown. Convey passengers and freight free of charge, indeed! Better for the Government to pay the Enterprise, at current rates, to carry freight, &c. for the New Westminster people. The charge then would be considerably less to the Colony than by sending the Sir James Douglas. How is it that passengers and freight cannot be conveyed to Nanaimo free of charge, if the same thing can be done for New Westminster? We cannot imagine that His Excellency is willing to ignore the wants of the people on this side of the Island, and to deprive them of the means of regular trade with Victoria to bolster up even such a "city" as New Westminster, to which place a splendid steamer, to carry the Capital once or twice every week! His Excellency must be aware of the serious inconvenience and loss to the settlers occasioned by the uncertainty in the arrival at the different ports of call of the coast mail steamer. The Douglas is looked upon as a great boon, and to take her off this route, or to supply her place with a less suitable, or less comfortable boat would be throwing a drawback against the now growing trade and importance of the East coast of the Island. We would respectfully urge on His Excellency to see to it that an efficient system of mail communication is kept up in connection with the settlements between Victoria and Comox, that a fitting steamer be engaged, and the Government may be assured that such a circumstance would, as certainly as any other, tend to win the respect and confidence of the people, without which no Government can successfully exist.

TRAVELLER.

MR Southgate is Selected at Nanaimo. MESSRS. EDITORS.—At this particular juncture, when the state of the Colony is such as to demand careful and unremitting attention to its financial affairs, and economy and good management in the administration, I hope it can be said that the electors of Nanaimo have done their duty, both to themselves and to the Colony, in electing Mr Southgate to represent them in the Legislative Council. The "selection" took place to-day (Tuesday) at the Court room. After the electors had been called upon to nominate some gentleman to represent them, Mr A. Hood proposed Mr J. J. Southgate as a fit and proper person. Mr S. Waddington seconded the nomination. A call for "a show of hands" resulted in Mr Southgate being declared unanimously "selected." Mr Robert Dansie, on behalf of Mr Southgate, who was absent, returned thanks to the electors for their support, and said that Mr Southgate had requested him to state that he would endeavor to do his duty to his constituency and to the whole Colony (cheers). Here ended the "performance."

MR Southgate addressed the electors in the Court House, on Saturday last, and stated, among other things that he would aim to carry out a policy that will admit of the importation of such goods, as cannot be produced in the Colony, without being subject to a heavy import duty. The statement was received with applause. Under such a system our miners would be able to live much cheaper than under the present state of affairs. Mr Southgate said in answer to interrogations from electors that he would carry out their behests to the utmost of his power, but he hoped whatever they wished him to do would, be laid before him in

writing, so that he could proceed in a proper manner to labor for what is required, and to represent as far as possible their wishes and views. This was satisfactory. The electors, generally, believe that they have secured, in Mr Southgate a gentleman who is independent, unpretending, upright and firm, and that it is not the gratification of an empty ambition that he seeks, but a desire in his representative capacity, to benefit the Colony at large. It will be a source of consolation to us to see his vote cast, as we think it will be, in a manner that will be serviceable to the country, and if by any means Mr Southgate can obtain a grant of money for the absolute requirements of this town—a School house, Jail, Roads and Bridges—which none of his predecessors have done, he will earn the lasting gratitude of this constituency.

It is to be hoped that the representatives of No 1, No 2 and No 3 districts will be found in unison, and set a worthy example for the emulation of all future Legislators from this Island, by assisting conjointly in the work of improving the "state of the Colony," and those who are in it.

NANAIMO, 18th Dec., 1866. A VOTER.

VIENNA TELEGRAM OF THE 5th says: "The following are the chief points of the proposed reform of the Austrian military organization: Universal liability to military service; the army to be supplied with breech-loaders; simplification of the commissariat regulation; a new audit system, and prompt examination of all military accounts; the improvement of the educational institutions for the army; the formation of officers' schools; strict examination for those aspiring to become officers and staff officers; a new law of promotion; changes in the organization of the general staff; reform of the military penal laws; alleviation of the burdens of the public Treasury by a considerable reduction in the number of officers and the partial cessation of promotions, and special ordinances with regard to furloughs and removal from active service."

From Chamounix we hear of a terrible catastrophe which occurred on Mont Blanc on the 13th inst. Two parties left the Mulets at 5:30; Capt. Arkwright, Simond Michel, and two porters (L. and F. Tournier) roped together. Silven Couttet (who is considered one of Mont Blanc's best guides) and the coachman, roped by themselves, leaving Miss Arkwright and the cook at the Grand Mulets to await their return. The grand plateau was crossed in safety, and the party were passing what is termed the Ancient Passage, when an avalanche overtook them. Silven Couttet and the coachman alone escaped, and the rest were hurled from their feet and dashed to pieces.

A further important series of experiments has taken place upon the Palliser chilled shot and shell and Firth steel, in which both classes surpassed everything accomplished by either on any former occasion. The new warrior target, number twenty-eight, was completely penetrated by them, the fore parts of the shells perfect in form even to their extreme points, coming through some distance to the rear. The results of these experiments may be briefly stated to be that the Palliser shot and shell doing work of the best quality at less than half the cost of steel, are decided upon for the national ammunition.

The London Globe says that Denmark is menaced with extinction; unless wiser counsels and a juster spirit, supported we doubt not by the influence of England and France, prevail at the Court of Berlin, Denmark will soon undergo further dismemberment, and finally disappear as an independent State from the late map of Europe.

The Crown Prince of Prussia will assist at the marriage of the Czarowitz with the Princess Dagmar of Denmark. It is also stated that the Prince of Wales will be present at the same ceremony, and that his Royal Highness will proceed to St. Petersburg with the Queen of Denmark.

At an agricultural dinner, held at Christchurch, Lord Malmesbury was the chief speaker, and he denied the statement recently made by Mr Bright to the effect that if a Reform Bill was passed by the Commons, it would be sure to be rejected by the Lords.

The Duke of Edinburgh has received the freedom of the city of Glasgow. His Royal Highness afterwards, in the midst of heavy rain, inaugurated the statue of the late Prince Consort, and returned to Edinburgh in the evening after dining with the Lord Provost.

There are building, or under orders to be built, twenty-six non-armor plated vessels of war. The estimated expenditure on the hulls of these vessels from April 1st to March 31st next is estimated at £256,632.

The Globe believes that a design is entertained by Prussia and Sweden to absorb Denmark, Prussia taking the mainland, while the islands are annexed to Sweden and Spain.

It is said that the Duke and Duchess of Argyll have adopted the resolution of allowing their second son, Lord Argyll Campbell, to enter as a partner in a large business establishment.

REVOLUTION IN BURMAH.—Rev Dr Stevens, Baptist Missionary at Rangoon, has written home an account of the recent revolution in the Kingdom of Burmah, in which the King has been deposed by two of his sons. Several of the principal officers of State, including the heir apparent, have been put to death; and, it is said, as usual in such cases, many of the young Princes. The King, it appears, was at a country seat when the outbreak occurred, attended by but a few followers. Then, when his rebellious sons approached him, it is said he asked them why they did this. The elder replied in the most respectful terms, that it was not from any enmity toward him, but because they could not endure the severity of the heir apparent. The King then took off his ring and gave it to him, and also the royal sceptre. He is now in confinement and his son reigns. However, we do not suppose the end is yet. The British residents, all the Europeans, with several American families, have left the capital and are on their way down to Rangoon. The missionaries are expecting a more liberal and intelligent government as the result, and hope to be able again to send their men to the ancient capital, and then to extend operations all over the country.

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GREAT MANY SIDE...
The original quality and high character will be sustained under every test. They have already obtained a sale in every part and hamlet among civilized nations. They are a most valuable and reliable article, and because of their purity and strength, they are a most valuable and reliable article, and because of their purity and strength, they are a most valuable and reliable article.

Barne's Magnolia
A toilet delight! The ladies' treasure! The "most elegant thing" in the world. Manufactured from the rich Southern Magnolia, bathing the face and person, to refresh and fresh, to prevent eruptions, to remove the unpleasant odor of profuse perspiration, to cure redness, tan, blotches, &c. It cures nervous headache and allays the heat, cools, softens and adds delicacy to the skin. It yields a subdued and lasting perfume. It cures musquito bites and stings of insects. It contains no material injurious to the skin. It is what every lady should have. Try the Magnolia Water, once and you will be a convert. Perfumery, or Toilet Water.

Over a Million Dollars
GENTLEMEN:—I had a negro man who took cold from a bad hurt in the leg, and over a year. I had used everything without benefit, until I tried the Liniment. It soon effected a permanent cure.
Montgomery, Ala. June 17th, 1866.
"I take pleasure in recommending the Liniment as a valuable and indispensable remedy for Sprains, Sores, Scalds or Galls on the face, and all the ailments of the skin. I have used it for Barne's, Bruises, Sores, and all say it acts like magic."
Foreman for American, Wells Fargo Express.
"The sprain of my daughter's ankle, skating last winter, was entirely cured, she commenced to use your celebrated ment."
Gloucester, Mass. August 1, 1866.
It is an admitted fact that the Mexican ment performs more cures in a shorter space of time than any other discoverer of men and planters should always have. Quick and sure it certainly is. All get well. W. Westbrook, Chemist, and proprietor, Demas Barnes & Co. over the op.
An effort has been made to counterfeit stone plate label. Look closely!

Lyon's Katha
It is a most delightful Hair Dressing. It softens the hair and dandruff. It keeps the head cool and clean. It makes the hair rich, soft and glossy. It prevents hair turning gray and falls. It restores hair upon permanently bald spots. This is just what Lyon's Katha is. It is cheap—durable, it is light—easy to use, and yet its almost incredible, untill then is hardly a does not keep it, or a family that does E. THOMAS LYON

Lyon's Flea
Lyon's Magnetic Insect Powder is Fleas, Ticks, Roaches, and every other pest. It is one of the few articles upon, and for a mere two bits we can bills of these little pests. None is given by E. Lyon, and bearing the private Barnes & Co., New York.

S.T-1860-X

GREAT MANY SIDE HITS ARE... THE PLANTATION BITTERS... A VOTER.

Mail Summary... Chamounix we hear of a terrible... Barne's Magnolia Water.

Over a Million Dollars Saved... J. L. DOWNING... J. W. HEWITT.

Lyon's Kathairon.

It is a most delightful Hair Dressing... LYON'S KATHAIRON... E. THOMAS LYON, Chemist, N. Y.

Lyon's Flea Powder

Lyon's Flea Powder is instant death to Fleas, Ticks, Roaches, and everything of the insect species... LYON'S FLEA POWDER.

Lyon's Extract Ginger... CURES AND COMFORT FOR THE BED-RIDDEN... Holloway's Ointment.

Plantation Bitters, MAGNOLIA WATER, AND ALL ABOVE ARTICLES.

Scrofula, or King's Evil... AYER'S Compound Extract of Sarsaparilla.

Ayer's Cathartic Pills... WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS & C. C. ROSSE & BLACKWELL.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral... Her Majesty's Table.

DR. J. C. AYER & CO., LOWELL, MASS. MOORE & CO., Corner of Yates and Langley streets.

FRENCH MEDICINES IN VOGUE... BY GRIMAUDT & CO., 49 RUE RICHELIEU, PARIS.

NOMORE COD LIVER O... GRIMAUDT'S SYRUP OF IODIZED HORSE RADISH.

No More Consumption... GRIMAUDT'S SYRUP OF HYPOPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

Nervous Headaches and Neuralgias... GRIMAUDT'S BRAZILIAN GUERRANA.

Indigestion & Stomachic Weakness... PEPSEINE.

T. MORSON & SON, 21, 33, and 124, Southampton Row, Russell Square, London.

Dinneford's Fluid Magnesia... GOUT, RHEUMATIC GOUT, GRAVEL and other Complaints of the Bladder, and in cases of FEVER, AND FEVERISH IRRITABILITY OF SKIN.

A Triumph of Science AND THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD... Dr Maggiel's PILLS AND SALVE.

A VERY FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH... An Eternal Spring.

These Famous Remedies... FOR BILIOUS DISORDERS.

Vegetable Compounds... For Cutaneous Disorders.

DR MAGGIEL'S PILLS... Invariably cure the following Diseases.

MAGENTA... DANIEL JUDSON & SON, LONDON.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, & CAMOMILE PILLS... NEW "VICTORIA" DYES.

These Life-giving remedies are now, for the first time, given publicly to the world... Life-Giving Pills!

It was left for this day and hour to realize the dream... These Famous Remedies.

Nothing can be more productive of cure than these Pills... Vegetable Compounds.

And all eruptions of the skin, the SALVE is most invaluable... For Cutaneous Disorders.

And all eruptions of the skin, the SALVE is most invaluable... DANIEL JUDSON & SON, LONDON.

Are undoubtedly the most useful article ever afforded to the public... THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION, & CAMOMILE PILLS.

These Dyes are in FINE POWDER... NEW "VICTORIA" DYES.

The Seat of Government.
The people of Vancouver Island cannot but feel highly gratified at the frank reply of Governor Seymour to the address presented to him on the subject of the removal of the public offices to the mainland, and at the assurance furnished by His Excellency that the fears expressed by the deputation were groundless. His Excellency promises, almost in as many words, that his policy shall be one that will conduce to the happiness, security and prosperity of the people, the advancement of every interest affecting the welfare and growth of the Colony and the increase of popular representation in the Council,—which expression we take to mean that questions of weighty import will be left to the uncontrolled action of the Legislative Council, and that the wishes of the people—as expressed through their representatives—will receive that respect and attention which is their due. If such be the intention of the reply, a few weeks only can elapse ere our most prominent grievances will be removed and the Colony restored to a position of comparative progress. One of the first and most important subjects that will engage the attention of the Council is the location of the Capital of the United Colony. New Westminster—a most unsuitable location for the seat of Government while the mainland was a Colony by itself—has become still more unsuitable since the consummation of Union. Nature never intended the place for a commercial entrepot; and climatic influences, combined with a wretched site and its remoteness from the centres of industry, place it beyond the hope of successful competition with any other town on the mainland when the question comes to a vote of the Council or of the people. We are aware that it has been urged that an Imperial Act located the capital permanently at New Westminster; but this statement is palpably incorrect. The Act merely says that the place formerly known as Queensborough shall be known and designated as New Westminster; and, in order that there may be no misconception as to the place meant, it is alluded to as the "Capital of British Columbia." But there is nothing said about permanently placing the capital at New Westminster, or anywhere else. In addition to its other drawbacks, New Westminster possesses not the first element of permanency. Its very existence hangs by a thread, as it were. It is in the power of the Hudson Bay Company, now that Union has been effected, to run their boats from Victoria to Yale without stopping to ask "how do you do?" of the people at the Capital. How long would the "city" survive after the cold shoulder had been thus turned towards it, even if it remained the seat of Government? Unquestionably, the proper place for the Capital of the Colony is somewhere in the interior, as near the centre of traffic to and from the mines as circumstances will permit. Yale, Lytton, Clinton, Lillooet—and even Quenelmonth—offer inducements for the establishment of the Capital which cannot and will not be overlooked by either Government or people when the proper time arrives to fix upon its permanent resting place. But we have yet to meet with the first intelligent person from either of the towns named who does not acknowledge that until the population has materially increased—until proper roads have been made from several points on the coast whereby the interior may be reached at all seasons of the year without danger to life or limb—and until the Colony is in a state of prosperity that will enable it to erect new and substantial buildings for the accommodation of its officials—the time will not have arrived to establish the seat of Government in the interior. Under a wise system of Government, such as we are promised by Governor Seymour, a few years only can elapse before the Colony will be in the enjoyment of these real advantages; but

until such prosperity shall dawn upon us, but one opinion is expressed as to the proper place for the temporary location of the seat of Government. Outside of the limits of New Westminster, Victoria is the unanimous choice of the people of the mainland. And no wonder. It is the point where the principal business of the Colony is transacted. It represents two-thirds of all the wealth of the country. The money of its merchants has been freely spent in building roads through the interior, in furnishing facilities for the carriage of supplies to the most distant quarters of the mainland. Besides, there is life, and bustle, and energy visible here. The merchant or miner who leaves the upper country on a tour of business or pleasure, instead of finding a place more dismal and dreary than the one he has just left, finds well-kept hotels, handsome dwellings, macadamized streets and roads; he is brought within the humanizing influence of the "church-going bell," and the social amenities of life, which are denied him elsewhere. He has, in short, every blessing, comfort and luxury that can be procured in any city on the coast. And when he wishes to move north, south, east or west, neither fields of ice, nor trackless snowdrifts, nor seas of mud, interpose obstacles in his path. Such are a few of the inducements that Victoria can offer to-day for the temporary establishment of the Seat of Government in her midst, and these inducements, we feel sure, will not be ignored when the question of the Capital shall come before the Council for their decision. In a few days the Council will be at work, and it is the duty of the people in all parts of the Colony to at once hold meetings and to memorialize the Government on the subject. In Cariboo, we are persuaded that not fifty miners will be found who will not cordially endorse all that we have said on this head; and at every town and ranch on the mainland the feeling is unanimous in favor of the change of the Capital. Even at New Westminster, there are many men who, willing to sink their own little local prejudices and interests for the advancement and well-being of the whole country, would gladly sign a memorial praying for the temporary location of the Capital at Victoria. Economy is demanded on all sides. The financial condition of the Colony is not such as will permit of the expenditure of the monies necessary for the erection of new Government buildings. Here, at Victoria, we have them ready-built to our hand. Shall we occupy and turn them to advantage, or shall we abandon them for the bats and owls to hold high carnival within their walls, and expend \$150,000 in the erection of other quarters at New Westminster? It is for the people themselves to answer.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
Friday Dec. 28
NEW RIFLE.—Colonel Berdan, who commanded a regiment of sharpshooters during the war, has invented a new breech-loading rifle, in which the mechanism for loading and firing is more simple than that of any other gun, and is not liable to foul or get out of order. It is comprised in a single piece which can be detached from the barrel of the gun by a single movement of the hand, whenever there is necessity for cleaning it. Only three motions of the hand are required to load and fire, and the breech locks itself so effectually that with the most rapid firing no escape of gas is perceptible. The United States government has ordered these improvements to be adopted in altering muzzle to breech-loaders for our own army, and the agents of France, Austria, Russia, Denmark, Sweden, and several other foreign governments, have countermanded previous orders for guns of other patterns, and have ordered this one instead.—*Am. Paper.*

FATAL ACCIDENT TO MR. LOWE, INVENTOR OF THE SCREW PROPELLER.—One of those melancholy and fatal accidents now so common in London, occurred in the Blackfriars Road, by which James Lowe, the inventor of the screw propeller, lost his life. The unfortunate deceased was on his way home and was standing on the kerb of the footway preparatory to crossing the street, when the horses of a heavy laden wagon, coming at a rapid pace in a direction opposite to the one he was looking, caught him by the arm, swinging him into the roadway under the wheels of the wagon, which passed over his chest, causing instantaneous death.—*English Paper.*

Masonic Ball.
In all countries and places the Masonic fraternity are proverbial for the excellence of their entertainments. No sooner is the approach of a Masonic ball whispered than every miss in her teens and every spinster of "an uncertain age," as Artemus Ward would express it, is seized with an irresistible longing to participate in the festive enjoyment. The consequence is that the Masons usually have more occasion to trouble themselves about who shall not, than who shall be their guests. Last night the members of Victoria and Vancouver Lodges celebrated the anniversary of their patron saint by a grand ball in St. Nicholas Hall, a spacious room on the ground floor of the St. Nicholas Hotel, formerly used as a billiard saloon. This magnificent room probably the largest and best adapted for the purpose in the city, was most beautifully and tastefully decorated under the able supervision of Bro. R. Lewis. At the upper end of the hall hung the Royal Arms, and at the other end the American coat-of-arms. The walls were adorned with the flags of all nations blended in peaceful harmony, and over the fireplace were suspended the traditional red-hot gridiron and poker of the Masonic Order. The convenient arrangement of the cloak and supper rooms left the hall exclusively to the use of the dancers; while matrons, chaperons, and those of "an uncertain age," who did not join the busy throng, were seated on a raised platform extending all round the room, which was the means of protecting them from the sudden assaults frequently committed by rash and impulsive couples losing their equilibrium; and also of relieving them from the uncomfortable process of acting as windmills for the rotary crinolines. At eight o'clock the gay worshippers at the shrine of the festival Goddess began to arrive, and soon after the quadrille band, consisting of Messrs. Haynes, Rhind, Bachel, Wilson and Booth, played the first dance, the room being then tolerably well filled. By ten o'clock there could not have been fewer than 300 persons present, and the scene became most animated and enlivening. After enjoying the giddy whirl for over three hours, supper was announced in the St. Nicholas Restaurant, and full justice was done to the many excellent things here provided. This is to many the most seductive part of a ball, and certain it is that Bacchus can claim more votaries than the laurel-crowned Muse. On returning to the hall the dancers seemed inspired with fresh spirit, and went into the enjoyment with renewed zest. It was not until some nameless hour that the national anthem gave the final warning to depart. In concluding our notice of this highly successful and pleasant gathering, it is but due to the reception committee and stewards to say that they fulfilled their respective duties with the utmost courtesy and bonhomie. The music was excellent, and the general arrangements reflected the highest credit on all parties concerned.

MASONIC.—The following members of Vancouver Lodge, No. 421, F. and A. M., R. S., were yesterday installed officers by R. W. Bro. Dr. Powell, assisted by R. W. Bro. Neustadt:—Right Worshipful Bro. R. H. Adams, R. W. M.; Worshipful Bro. Thomas Lowe, D. M.; Worshipful Bro. J. Robertson Stewart, S. M.; Worshipful Bro. E. C. Holden, S. W.; Worshipful Bro. M. W. Wait, J. W.; Bro. Rev. Thomas Somerville Chaplain; Bro. Fred. Toller, Treasurer; Bro. H. Seelye, Secretary; Bro. S. Duck, S. D.; Bro. S. Harris, J. D.; Bro. H. F. Heisterman and Bro. W. Hoffman, Stewards; Bro. R. B. Powell, I. G.; Bro. P. J. Hall, T.

THE JEWS are the only religious order in Great Britain who entirely provide for their own poor, without casting them upon public charity. This is the more noteworthy from the fact that many poor Jews are shipped there from the Continent to get them out of the way. There is a Jewish school in London, presided over by Miss Miriam Harris, where 1300 Jewish children are instructed, none of whom are over six years of age. This also is a magnificent monument of Jewish charity.

NOT ONE CENT of the amount for which the steamer Transport was insured will be paid. It appears that an agent of the California Company, by which the risk was taken, protested, through Mr. Peakes, Notary Public as long ago as the 20th of October, against the vessel being sent to sea in an unseaworthy condition, competent surveyors having pronounced her as unfit for the voyage. A washbowl or a tub would be about as safe as the Transport in a gale, and the men who entrusted their lives in her were guilty of a deliberate attempt at *folo de se*.

TERIBLE ACCIDENT.—The Los Angeles (Cal.) News of a late date says:—A thoughtless young mother of fifteen years, named Martina, living in the southern part of the city, on Sunday night placed her infant child, six months old, on the back of a colt without bridle or halter, and tied the legs of the infant under the belly of the colt so that it could not fall off, and letting go the colt, it took flight and ran off with the infant, tearing its flesh and breaking its bones until life was extinct, and nothing remained of the poor child but a shapeless mass of flesh.

MASONIC PRESENTATION.—Yesterday, after the installation of the officers elect, Past Master N. I. Neustadt was presented with a handsome Masonic jewel in elegant chased gold, the handiwork of Mr. Watson, of Yates street. The ornament, which represents some of the insignia of the craft, is in the form of a buckle and medal, at the back of the latter being the following inscription: Presented to Bro. N. I. Neustadt, by the members of Vancouver Lodge, No. 421, F. and A. M., Victoria, V. I., December 27th, 1866.

CHRISTMAS IN THE FLEET.—Our gallant tars, we understand, were not behind the civilians in their mode of spending Christmas day, and had a "rye merrie tyme" on board their respective ships, which were gaily ornamented with evergreens, transparencies and devices.

H. M. S. SPARROWHAWK left Esquimalt yesterday at 8 a. m. and went round to Cadboro Bay, where she embarked the Governor and Mrs. Seymour, and proceeded to New Westminster, where His Excellency will remain until the 5th or 6th of January.

LEECH RIVER DITCH.—Work continues on the Leech River ditch, notwithstanding the inclement state of the weather. The lumber for a great portion of the flume is already sawed, and the men were to commence putting it together yesterday.

THE FIDELITY sailed yesterday for Portland with a small freight and 50 passengers. She will return with a full cargo for this port, and may be expected in about seven days.

LANDED.—The submarine cable brought by the brig Ann, from Mauritius, has all been landed in good order, and warehoused in Selleck's store, at Esquimalt.

THE CREW of the Transport have been taken in charge by the U. S. Consul and their wants supplied. They will be sent to San Francisco on the next mail boat.

A GUBERNATORIAL BALL will be given on New Year's day, at New Westminster.

Messrs. T. N. Hibben & Co. have already received neat office calendars for 1867.

Snow fell on Wednesday at North Saanich.

The Meteors the Result of Prophecy.
New York, Nov. 13, 1866.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE WORLD.—Although speculation, scientific and non-scientific, has been a life of late concerning this meteoric display which is certain to take place between the hours of 12 p. m. to-night and 4 a. m. to-morrow, divested of all the theoretical hypothesis, if looked at in its true light, is not one that should excite our curiosity alone. It has a very serious import; one in fact, which should be regarded by all men, now living, and who have been mercifully spared from sudden deaths and calamities that lead to a bad end, as a heavenly admonition that this old world of ours has grown its full growth, and must, like all things human, have an ending. That the meteoric shower, so called, is the simple result of a certain given course of the earth through a certain planetary region, there can be no doubt, but one must look beyond the simple abstract conclusions of savants to find not solely the origin but the absolutely certain consequences that are to shortly follow this great event of the hour. I need not go the Bible to show you how the many prophecies concerning the end of the world prove that the "clashing of spheres" is not far distant, but I will call your attention to one prophecy that is to be heeded. In the year 806, a great Roman savant named Lactantius in the most minute manner described, in a treatise called *De Mundi Collapsu*, the various meteoric displays that were to take place in years future to his time. For each display described he gave a calculated date, and up to the year 1833, these prophecies of Lactantius have all come to pass. The last display that was to be had, according to him, had been waged over almost the entire surface of the earth; and when one great empire would rise in its might and swallow up many surrounding nations; when from one end of the globe men could converse of the disaster that befell them to those who dwell in the other. Can that great empire not be Prussia, and the means of distant intelligence the cable? At that time, says the writer, there will be great commotion in the heavens, "for that will be 1000 years from the present period, when men who scorn to believe will be made to suffer for their unbelief in heavenly admonitions. The commotions may last for several days, not exceeding five unseason by mortal eyes, and these all will be chaos." I need say no more, sir, who knows that you or I, or any man living, may not be involved in the general crash at the end of the "several days, not exceeding five." If all Lactantius's prophecies have been fulfilled what hinders the last one to be equally as well fulfilled? We may not pray that heaven may avert a fixed event, but we may supplicate for mercy and be ready for the dread hour when it cometh.

Yours, sincerely,
REV. JOHN H. BURDET.

A SAD STORY.—A Paris correspondent of the Philadelphia Sunday Dispatch announces the death in that city of the venerable and unhappy Monsieur M., whose sad history he thus briefly recites:—
He was at one time at the head of a large industrial establishment. His reticence was of the severe Roman type, and yet, as some times occurs, his son was immoral and unprincipled in the extreme. At the time I am speaking his wife and daughter were dead, and the unworthy son, then 18 years of age, alone remained to inherit the father's immense wealth. As I have said Monsieur M. was severe in the extreme, and in order to put an end to his son's dissipation, refused to grant him more than the most meagre support.

One evening M.—received at his house a friend, to whom he paid a large sum. His son was present, and the three dined together. At 10 o'clock the visitor retired, and, although he had to traverse the wood of Boulogne to reach his own house, started alone on foot. He confided also in his pistol, which he always carried at night. In the most solitary part of the road his steps were arrested by a man with blackened face, who presented a pistol to his head and demanded in the old fashioned way, the money or the life of the victim. The latter at first resolved to part with neither without a struggle, but a gleam of recognition suddenly flashed upon him. His resolution was quickly made. Without a word he gave the robber his money and, after waiting until the latter disappeared in the woods, pursued his way.

The next morning, at sunrise, he returned to the house of Monsieur M.—and related to him the event of the preceding night.
"The voice of the robber," his figure and manner, notwithstanding his disguise, make me certain that it was your son!"
"My son!" replied the father, with a sickening pang. "Bad as he is, he surely has not fallen so low. But come; we will assure ourselves beyond doubt." And accompanied by his visitor, he softly entered the chamber of his child. The father, with trembling hand, drew the curtain and permitted the sun to fall upon the sleeping face. His boy's clothes were muddy and torn; a towel lay upon the floor, stained with the black that the guilty youth had washed from his visage; while half concealed beneath the pillow, was seen the stolen purse. Seizing the pistol that rested upon the table, the wretched father, before his friend could divine his purpose, discharged its contents at the head of his boy.

Monsieur M.—delivered himself immediately into the hands of justice, and was on trial condemned to life imprisonment. After serving ten years of his sentence he was pardoned and returned to Paris, where until his death he lived in complete isolation from the world.

THE CONTRADICTIONARY COUPLE.—"I do believe," he said, taking his spoon out of his glass and tossing it on the table, "that of all the obstinate, positive, wrong-headed creatures that ever were born, you are the most so, Charlotte."
"Certainly, certainly—have it your own way, pray. You see how much I contradict you," rejoins the lady.
"Of course, you didn't contradict me at dinner, oh, no, not you," says the gentleman.
"Yes, I did," says the lady.
"Oh, you did," cries the gentleman; "you admit that!"
"If you call that contradiction, I do," the lady answers; "and I say again, Edward, that when you are wrong I will contradict you; I am not your slave."
"Not my slave!" repeats the gentleman, bitterly; "and you still mean to say that in this old world of ours has grown its full growth, and must, like all things human, have an ending. That the meteoric shower, so called, is the simple result of a certain given course of the earth through a certain planetary region, there can be no doubt, but one must look beyond the simple abstract conclusions of savants to find not solely the origin but the absolutely certain consequences that are to shortly follow this great event of the hour. I need not go the Bible to show you how the many prophecies concerning the end of the world prove that the 'clashing of spheres' is not far distant, but I will call your attention to one prophecy that is to be heeded. In the year 806, a great Roman savant named Lactantius in the most minute manner described, in a treatise called *De Mundi Collapsu*, the various meteoric displays that were to take place in years future to his time. For each display described he gave a calculated date, and up to the year 1833, these prophecies of Lactantius have all come to pass. The last display that was to be had, according to him, had been waged over almost the entire surface of the earth; and when one great empire would rise in its might and swallow up many surrounding nations; when from one end of the globe men could converse of the disaster that befell them to those who dwell in the other. Can that great empire not be Prussia, and the means of distant intelligence the cable? At that time, says the writer, there will be great commotion in the heavens, 'for that will be 1000 years from the present period, when men who scorn to believe will be made to suffer for their unbelief in heavenly admonitions. The commotions may last for several days, not exceeding five unseason by mortal eyes, and these all will be chaos.' I need say no more, sir, who knows that you or I, or any man living, may not be involved in the general crash at the end of the 'several days, not exceeding five.' If all Lactantius's prophecies have been fulfilled what hinders the last one to be equally as well fulfilled? We may not pray that heaven may avert a fixed event, but we may supplicate for mercy and be ready for the dread hour when it cometh."

"I charge you, ma'am," retorts the gentleman, starting up, "with being a contradiction, monster of aggravation, a—a—Jenkins in a blue coat! What have I done that should be doomed to bear such perpetual torments?"

COST OF HUNTING IN ENGLAND.—An English correspondent says: It is said that the cost of feeding the dogs in Ireland would support all the poor in comfort; but then they would not have the comfort of having the dogs. In Yorkshire there are ten packs of fox hounds of fifty couples each, and five or six for other purposes, fed on horseflesh and oatmeal. A thousand sportsmen keep four horses each for hunters and employ two thousand horses, with an immense expenditure. The yearly cost of dogs and horses in all England employed in field sports, is something difficult to estimate, but enormous. I do not quarrel with the manly sport—the noble pastime; only when I read of the way Englishmen, women and children are housed and fed—or unhoused and starved—cannot help thinking that less time and money spent on dogs and horses would be a decency, and might be humanity,

The News.
After another long respite sends us a small but interesting news item from new world. Barely three passed away since the made to fire the hearts of the American continent. A nation of exciting reports in Ireland and the dawn of struggle for independence patches are said to have effect in New York and the news of the great rebellion. Irishmen believe to believe, that they eye of "startling and terrible excitement had an alarming height," that "and village in Ireland had military and gunboats," committees, who were earnest," had "shaped the a fierce and bloody struggle to meet this formidable British Government had dedered two regiments of a detachment of marines, a boat to the scene of disturbance pointed out the shallowness and dishonesty of the wh the time, it being too palp was nothing more nor less rise on the part of Chief Stephens, and some of followers, to create an and extort money from beguiled countrymen. For sequently, the furore in represented to be increased more troops and ships were have been sent across the The wires have been a couple of weeks, and in beautiful green fields of being deluged with the b nian arms and ammunition into the hands of the author that the "Civil force" is p by the leading journal is sufficient to quell the drear nation. The great nation of several millions of people to crush the galling yoke rant, and plant a glorious on the soil—suppressed by said Irish constabulary! the aspirations of pseudo martyrs, the "best laid mico and men," will, as a bard tells us, "gang aft ag the Empress Charlotte, the spouse of Maximilian of Mevate telegram received in states, is no more. The mission to France in behalf band's tottering Empire, unsuccessful efforts to the Pope, so preyed unhappy woman's mind physical energies rapidly s and this good and virtuous p now passed into the spirit lotta was the only daughter Leopold II. of Belgium, to the present King and the Flanders. Her father was n to Louis Philippe's daug 1832, and the late Empress therefore have attained her This sad event will throw of Belgium and Vienna and of Orleans into mourning.

A declaration from the King that he desires to sustain the independence of the Pope and respect his pontifical territory, passing of a bill by the Prussian Deputies incorporating Schleswig-Holstein with the Kingdom of Denmark; and a fresh tale of woe in Staffordshire mining district, the sum of the European int from California we hear of floods that threaten to overflow the great fertile valley of the Sacramento. A similar disaster in January, 1862, when the Sacramento was under water days, and the whole valley a great sea stretching in elevation as far as the eye could see. Hundreds of farms were discovered with deposits of a depth of from ten to twenty feet. Many lives were lost at

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE

Tuesday, January 1, 1867.

The News.

After another long respite the telegraph sends us a small budget of interesting news items from the old and new world. Barely three weeks have passed away since the attempt was made to fire the hearts of Fenians on the American continent by the publication of exciting reports of a rebellion in Ireland and the dawn of the glorious struggle for independence. The despatches are said to have produced an effect in New York unequalled since the news of the great victories of the rebellion. Irishmen believed, or were told to believe, that they were on the eve of "startling and terrible events," that excitement had "reached an alarming height," that "every town and village in Ireland had its quota of military and gunboats," and that the committees, who were "terribly in earnest," had "shaped their plans for a fierce and bloody struggle"; while to meet this formidable outbreak the British Government had actually ordered two regiments of national troops, a detachment of marines, and one gunboat to the scene of disturbance. We pointed out the shallowness, duplicity and dishonesty of the whole thing at the time, it being too palpable, that it was nothing more nor less than a ruse on the part of Chief Organizer Stephens, and some of his deluded followers, to create an excitement, and extort money from their easily beguiled countrymen. For days subsequently, the furore in Ireland was represented to be increasing, and more troops and ships were said to have been sent across the channel. The wires have been silent for a couple of weeks, and in lieu of the beautiful green fields of Old Erin being deluged with the blood of her martyrs, we now read that all Fenian arms and ammunition are falling into the hands of the authorities, and that the "Civil force" is pronounced, by the leading journal in England, sufficient to quell the dreaded insurrection. The great national uprising of several millions of people—destined to crush the galling yoke of the tyrant, and plant a glorious republic on the soil—suppressed by a few thousand Irish constabulary! Alas! for the aspirations of pseudo patriots and martyrs, the "best laid schemes of mice and men," will, as the Scottish bard tells us, "gang aft aglee."

The Empress Carlotta, the devoted spouse of Maximilian of Mexico, a private telegram received in New York states, is no more. The failure of her mission to France in behalf of her husband's tottering Empire, and her unsuccessful efforts to ingratiate the Pope, so preyed upon the unhappy woman's mind that her physical energies rapidly succumbed, and this good and virtuous princess has now passed into the spirit land. Carlotta was the only daughter of King Leopold II. of Belgium, and sister to the present King and the Count of Flanders. Her father was not married to Louis Philippe's daughter until 1822, and the late Empress could not therefore have attained her 30th year. This sad event will throw the Courts of Belgium and Vienna and the house of Orleans into mourning.

A declaration from the King of Italy that he desires to sustain the independence of the Pope and would respect his pontifical territory; the passing of a bill by the Prussian House of Deputies incorporating Schleswig-Holstein with the Kingdom of Prussia; and a fresh tale of woe from the Staffordshire mining district, completes the sum of the European intelligence.

From California we hear of disastrous floods that threaten to overwhelm the great fertile valley of the Sacramento. A similar disaster occurred in January, 1862, when the city of Sacramento was under water for many days, and the whole valley resembled a great sea stretching in every direction as far as the eye could reach. Hundreds of farms were destroyed or covered with deposits of sand to a depth of from ten to twenty feet. Many lives were lost and cattle

drowned. In the city the usual means of locomotion had to be abandoned, and boats were called into requisition to enable people to pass from one part of the city to the other. The entire valley presented a picture of desolation difficult to paint, and it has hardly recovered from the effects of that inundation before it is again submerged. The city-site of Sacramento has since been considerably raised by means of earth conveyed from the adjoining highlands and deposited on the lots, and the levees along the water-front have been strengthened. The place, it is therefore hoped, is safe from further damage by the floods; but the farmers having no such safeguard provided, must suffer terribly before they can hope for a subsidence of the waters.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday Dec. 29. KOOTENAY.—Mr Wm. Webster left the Kootenay diggings on the 20th of November last and reports C. Oppenheimer & Co., as having got in with all their goods; prices were high, and provisions scarce. About 40 whitemen, and 300 Chinamen remained on the creek. All the claims were being worked the weather having been unusually open and fine. Alarm was felt in consequence of the Indians, who had fallen into the bad habit of robbing the sluice boxes, and had become impudent. Messrs Duncan and Galbraith stood for the Council in Kootenay district; some forty votes were cast for each candidate, which were not sufficient to swamp the majority of Smith at Big Bend. The Deep Shaft boys continued at work, but had not reached the bed-rock; they were confident of success, and had machinery on the spot to aid their operations; three shifts of men are worked in the 24 hours.

TWO GENTLEMEN brought to our office a twig plucked from a blackberry bush, containing some half-ripe berries, which were picked yesterday, near the head of Fort street. The berries are in a perfectly natural state, and appear to only need a day or two of sunshine to render them fit for eating. A few days ago our attention was called to a garden in which stood a young apple-tree in full blossom; and not above six weeks ago a ripe strawberry of the British Queen variety, was picked on the farm of Henley, at Clover Point, with the leaves of the plant as fresh and green as in early spring. The present must be a wonderfully mild season, but we much fear we shall pay for the immunity shortly after the dawn of the New Year.

THE WIRES "TALKING."—After a long silence, the electric tongue began to wag yesterday, and we are in receipt of important despatches, which were brought to Portland by the steamer Oriflamme, from San Francisco, and sent on by wire to this place. The news, which is of a deeply interesting character, is alluded to at length elsewhere. The line remains down south of Portland; and the fact that the connection has not once been broken between that place and Victoria, is irrefutable proof of the energy which characterizes Mr Haines, the Acting Superintendent of the State Company, who has charge of this end of the line.

THE MASONIC BALL.—In speaking of the very agreeable reunion of the Masons, on Thursday night, we neglected to state that Mr Dechant was the contractor for the decoration of the Hall, and received valuable assistance from Mr W. H. Thain and members of the Committee. The supper, under the management of P. Mathiessen, was everything that could be desired; and the admirable manner in which the hats and cloaks were numbered by Anthony, prevented accidental exchanges, and consequent confusion. The hall was lighted with gas chandeliers and jets lent for the occasion by Messrs A. & W. Wilson, of Fort street.

A PROMINENT PHYSICIAN SAYS:—"In my practice I have noticed that those children who become ill and die in the spring and summer have fallen victims to the thoughtlessness of parents, who stuff them with roast and fresh meat at a season when their stomachs require a vegetable diet, especially digested and equally nutritious. I have saved the lives of more children by recommending farinaceous and vegetable food than I ever did dosing them with disagreeable medicines.

A LANDMARK REMOVED.—Workmen were engaged yesterday in tearing down the frame building on the north east corner of Yates and Government streets, originally occupied by Hoffman Bros. as a dry goods store, and latterly by the Gem Saloon. The building was erected in 1858, at a time when material and labor were high and scarce, and the structure was merely thrown together. We learn that Mr Braverman, the tobacconist, intends erecting a new building on the site.

IT IS PROPOSED to call on His Worship Mayor Macdonald to convene a public meeting on some evening of next week for the purpose of considering the Capital question. This proposition should be acted on immediately. There is no time to spare, and delays are dangerous. Who will start a requisition to His Worship?

INSURANCE CALENDARS.—Messrs J. R. Stewart, local agent of the Western Pacific Insurance Company of San Francisco, has placed on our tables handsome calendars for 1867, which bear the signatures of their respective companies.

THE BALL of the Union Hook and Company will come off on Monday next, at St. Nicholas Hall, instead of Volunteer Hall, as previously announced. Great preparations are being made, and the Committee, who are determined to make it the ball of the season. The members have our best wishes for a successful evening.

THE AMATEUR PERFORMANCE for the benefit of the Fire Department has been postponed until Wednesday, the 16th, in consequence of the Presbyterian taking place on the 9th, the day fixed upon by the Dramatic Club.

CHANCES FOR A HOMESTEAD.—The situated and convenient family residence belonging to Mr McCann, opposite Central School, are advertised by Mr Backus for sale on the 4th January.

A SOIREE DANSANTE will give promoters of the Victoria Dancing Academy one of the most respectable and successful social institutions in the city on the 7th of January next.

Varieties.

The past summer has been the warmest since 1776.

Five thousand coolies were sent to the West Indies last year to die like sheep.

A New York daily offered Dickens for a story.

'Weep no more for me,' said the onion to the cook maid.

The Common Council of Philadelphia suspended three fire companies for not having their boats, with twelve men, were lost on Lake Haron, during the nocturnal storm.

At a meeting of the French Academy of Science a young German girl won the title of 'Officer of the Imperial Academy.'

Recently a man in North West about 19 or 20 years, married an old woman aged about 60.

An Arkansas editor was recently in an affray, but his life was preserved by a bundle of unpaid bills in his breast.

Kentucky planters say that the crop of the present season is the best known in that State.

At an agricultural dinner the toast was given:—"The game of Shuffle the cards as you will, spades always win."

A cotemporary says that death terrors in these days, on account of inability to be caught by some spiritual and made to talk nonsense post mortem.

An eastern packet ship arrived at Hampton, England, recently, with a silk and precious stones valued at \$400,000.

After Queen Emma had visited the cemetery, she remarked, "Your people so fast I wonder they find time to be dead so superbly."

'My native city has treated me very badly, it has drunk me ragabond, but I still, 'Probably,' replied a gentleman, 'still is all you do love.'

'Isn't there an awful strong smell in the air?' asked Smith of Jones. 'That's because the wind is from the sow-west.'

An editor complimented a brother. 'Mr Brown is a clear thinker, a vigorous writer, and a first-rate footballer.'

An old offender was introduced to Justice as John Simmons, alias Joe Smith. "I'll try the two women first," said the Judge; "bring in Alice Jones."

'I bequeath,' said an Irishman, 'to my beloved wife all my property, and to my eldest son, and to my youngest, the rest. If anything is left, I may go to Terrance McCarty.'

A cow exhibited at a recent agricultural Fair gave, during the month of June last, a yield of mashing twenty-nine quarts daily, and cream thirteen pounds of butter weekly, distancing all competitors in milk and butter trade. She took 25¢ premium.

The total loss of insurance companies in the Quebec fire exceeds three millions. The Quebec company loses \$250,000; the London and Globe, \$47,000; the London and Lancashire, \$24,000; and the American, \$60,000.

A Canadian paper makes the following appeal: "To those indebted to us, our appeal for assistance. Job's turd, a millionaire compared with our debtors. To-day, if the price of our two cents a barrelful, we could not afford to pickle a jay-bird."

O'Connell, in addressing a jury, has exhausted every ordinary epithet of stopped for a word, and then added "sausage ruffian," when after a moment he did not know, but he thought it sounded well.

A man in Richmond, Va., has a pet snake. The reptile is docile in its toward its master, though on the arm of a stranger, it instantly rears its crest, springs its rattle—which means mischief. It is eleven years old, as indicated by the number of rattles, and keeps in good health and spirits without food or drink.

THE SMALLEST STEAMER THAT EVER ATTEMPTED TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC.—News has been received at Liverpool that the little screw steamer Augusta, of 5 tons, which sailed from that port about three weeks ago for the Brazil, with a master, mate and a boy on board, had put into Berhaven in a sinking condition. The vessel had no bulwarks, and it was thought her decks would often be awash.

EVOLUTION OF POPULATION IN THE SOUTH.—A full illustration of the destruction of life by war is afforded in some scanty statistics of a census lately made, but not yet fully reported, in Mississippi. In 44 counties, whose population is given, 17 have had their white population 10,906, and their colored population 17,705. Net decrease in 18 counties 6,799. In 13 counties there was an increase of 7,709 blacks, and in 11 counties a decrease of 53,374 blacks. Increase in 44 counties 45,575. The per cent of white decrease is 2 1/2 per cent; of the blacks 13 per cent. Sixteen counties, from which we have no returns, had a white population of 74,702, and a black population of 85,532. If the same population should be similar in other counties, the number of negroes in the State would be reduced, in round numbers, from 437,000 in 1860, to 380,000; and the white population from 353,000 to 345,000, a total estimated decrease of population in the State, during the last six years, of 8,000 whites and 57,000 blacks. The disproportion here exhibited between the decrease of whites and the decrease of blacks, cannot fail to attract the attention of the whites. The white males were reduced to the hazards of war, and the perils of the sea. The negroes were exempt from war, and subject only to the afflictions, and discomforts of a state of war. The blacks exhibit a decrease six times as great as the whites. The natural increase within 8,000 of atoning for the destruction of war; in the case of the whites, while 57,000 of compensating for that loss in the case of the blacks.—St Louis Dispatch. "Are you a moderate drinker?" said the

am." "How long have you drank in moderation?" "Twenty years." "And were never intoxicated?" "Never." "Well," said the Judge, scanning his sublimely from head to foot, "your's is a large case, yet it is easily accounted for, reminded by it of a little story: A man with a loaf of bread and a flask of whisky, sat down to dine by the bank of a stream. In breaking bread some of the crumbs dropped into the water. These were seized and eaten by the fish. That instance suggested to the darky the idea of dipping the bread in the whisky and feeding it to them. He tried it. It worked well. The fish ate it, became drunk, and was helpless on the water. In this way he caught a great number. But in the stream a large fish unlike the rest. It partook of the bread and whisky, but with no palpable effect. It was shy of every effort of the darky to take it. He resolved to have all hazards, that he might learn its nature. He procured a net, and with much effort, caught it. His opinion of the fish was then altered. 'Sambo, I understand your case. Dat fish is a mullet-head; he got any brains!' In other words," said the Judge, "alcohol effects only the stomach, and of course, those having none may without injury."

A burst of laughter that followed drove the moderate drinker suddenly from the scene.

FORCE MADE EASY.—Mrs D., at the last of the Common Pleas Court, obtained a divorce from her husband, and 11 days thereafter was married to a second husband. The present term of court Mrs P., the wife of the aforesaid lady, also applied for a divorce from her husband. The day following Mr S. obtained a divorce from his wife, and three days thereafter the old lady, Mrs P., was married by Justice Sullivan. The gentleman who effected a marriage with the daughter of a failing mother, he hastened to himself to the mother. The nuptials were delayed by the unfortunate fact that the wife was married. As soon as this liability could be removed they were—Indianapolis Journal.

WING.—One day during the hard winter of 1863, a Mrs Arnold applied to General for a permit to forage her cow, whose she was the chief support of the family. "You loyal?" asked the General. "Yes," replied. "He began to write the permit to the United States or Confederate States?" "To the Confederacy, of course," she replied. "Then I shall give you no permit. Infamous rebellion must be crushed," said she, "if you can crush it by using old John Arnold's cow, go it."

IN.—said a fierce lawyer, "do you, on solemn oath, declare that this is not hand-writing?" "I reckon not," was the reply. "Does it resemble your handwriting?" "Yes, sir, I think it don't." "Do swear that it don't resemble your handwriting?" "Well, I do, old head." "You take solemn oath that this writing does not resemble yours in a single letter?" "Yes," "Now, how do you know?" "Cause it write."

IT GO.—"Let go the jib, there!—quick!" shouted the Captain of an Eastern steamer to a raw hand as a sudden squall came up. "What's all that yelling about? Don't touch your jib!" honestly retorted the man.

AN IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENT IN CHURCH ARCHITECTURE.—The provincial Parliament of Canada has passed an act which, if executed, would afford security to life and limb against the most terrible of dangers, where an assembly, struck with alarm by fire or accident, rushes against the doors of egress, closes them by its pressure against the inability of being opened. The act proposes, that congregations and others owning churches, and individuals, corporations and societies owning halls, theatres, or other buildings used for the purpose of holding public meetings, or places of public resort or amusement, shall within twelve months from the passage of the act, be required to have the doors of such churches, theatres, halls or other buildings so hinged as to open freely outwards. All the doors are to be so hinged, and if the gates of outer fences do not open fastenings during the time such buildings are publicly used, to facilitate the egress of people in case of alarm from fire or other cause. A fine of \$50 is imposed for every violation of the act, to which is added a further penalty of \$5 for every week after the complaint is made till the necessary changes are effected.

AT WESLEYAN CHAPEL, to-night, the usual interesting watch services will be conducted by Rev. Mr. Browning.

NEW MUSIC.—Mr Maguire offers some very pretty pianoforte music in manuscript. See advertisement.

FROM CARIBBOO we learn that Eden has challenged Wilson to fight him.

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE

Tuesday, January 1, 1867

The Public Offices.

During the past few days the public mind has been much perturbed through mischievous reports in circulation regarding the removal of certain public offices to New Westminster. At the instigation of the city members, a meeting of citizens was convened last week, and an influential deputation appointed to present an address to His Excellency with a view to eliciting from him an expression of his views that might serve to dissipate the misgivings of the people. The deputation waited upon His Excellency yesterday and presented an address (which together with the reply will be found in another column) of the gentlemen who formed that deputation must have felt after hearing His Excellency's frank and unequivocal answer, how utterly chimerical were the grounds of alarm. Can it be a great merit in an officer holding a position of high trust and extraordinary administrative powers, and on no occasion, reticent though he may appear, have the people or any section of the people approached His Excellency for information on public questions without obtaining a straightforward reply, conveying all the information that it was in his power to supply, and evidencing his strong desire to administer the affairs of the government with impartiality and justice to all. Although the meeting of Thursday last, so far as the prevailing cause of alarm was concerned, is proved to have rested on the "baseless fabric of a vision," still, it will be productive of some good. It will only serve to calm present apprehensions, but will aid in bringing about a unity between the ruler and the ruled. It is to be regretted that the distrust which has prevailed in all quarters since the Government assumed the reins of government has no foundation in fact; and that it moves every well disposed citizen to strengthen rather than to embarrass His Excellency's hands in directing the state.

Christmas Day.

Without the usual concomitants of frost and snow, and the other familiar accompaniments of the season; notwithstanding, too, the prevailing air of dull times, Victoria spent a right hearty Christmas. Never was there so bountiful a supply of good cheer exhibited in this city, and never was it more cheerily enjoyed by all classes. The town wore a complete holiday aspect; every place of business was closed, and the citizens turned out in their Sunday best. The religious observances commenced at St. Andrew's Cathedral with the usual midnight mass, which lasted some hours and attracted an immense concourse of persons, many being unable to obtain admission. At Christ Church Cathedral and St. John's Church the morning and afternoon services were very well attended. Both churches, particularly the latter, were beautifully decorated for the occasion by members of the respective congregations.

GENEROUSITY.—Two fine musical boxes, valued at \$150, were raffled on Christmas eve, for the benefit of Mrs. Cary, and were won by Messrs. Buckley and Lichtenstein, who in a commendable spirit of generosity at once presented the instruments to the distressed woman.

OF THE STEAMER TRANSPORT. ALL HANDS SAVED.

The schooner Alert, Captain Francis, arrived in port yesterday afternoon, having on board Captain Sands, First Officer, and ten seamen, lately belonging to the steamer Transport, which left this port on the 27th inst., in tow of the steamer Isabel, bound for San Francisco. The Isabel cast off from the pier on the morning of the 23rd, about six miles south-east of Cape Flattery, and transport seems to have drifted before a south-east gale for two days, and to have struck on rocks near Raffal at the entrance of Clayoquot Sound, where she now lies abandoned. The men in a boat, and lived on mussels and for two days, suffering a great deal, cold having no means at hand with which to build a fire. On the third day they were enabled to reach the village of a tribe of Indians, by whom they were most kindly treated. The schooner Alert, Captain Francis, on a trading voyage, subsequently sailed into the Sound, and Captain Francis, with customary kindness of heart, a heavy pecuniary sacrifice, consented to go on his trip and return to Victoria with the distressed mariners. The Transport was at one of the mills on the Sound, and intended for a Sacramento river freighter. Altogether she was one of the most comfortable looking boats to put to sea in at this time that we have ever seen. She had on board her machinery, which it was designed to be in working order upon the arrival of the vessel at San Francisco, and 108,000 lbs of lumber. The trip which has ended so disastrously was her second attempt to reach San Francisco, she having put into port in distress some three months since, undergoing very rough handling outside. She was insured for \$17,000, and was worth, in cargo and machinery, about \$25,000. The vessel should never have gone to sea; the men on board literally took their lives in their hands when they made an attempt which common sense must have taught them could not end disastrously. That the vessel did not founder with all on board, is due to Divine Providence to the ability of the Captain, his officers, and crew. We were below an intelligent and interesting report of Captain Sands, from a perusal of which it will be perceived that the shipwrecked men owe much to the Captain of the Alert, and to the Indians of the Opitsat, and most of the rigging. Dec. 9.—About 9 a. m. the schooner Alert, Capt. Francis, arrived, bound on a trading voyage; but he very kindly agreed to return to Victoria and break up his voyage, and consequently he had to sell a lot of potatoes which he had on board for trade at prices greatly below the usual rates. On the morning of the 10th, we started in the schooner for the wreck, to see what we could secure, and, if possible, trade for what the Indians had. We staid down at the wreck the 11th, 12th and 13th; went back to Clayoquot and took on board all the crew. We were detained at Clayoquot by adverse weather until Sunday, the 16th, when we started. Monday, 17th.—Arrived at Esqueleut, where we were wind bound until Friday, Dec. 21st, when we made another start, and got as far as Dodger's cove, Barclay Sound. Started away from Barclay Sound on Saturday, about 11 p. m., got to Port San Juan on the 24th, about 7 p. m., and left again the same night, Wednesday, 26th; anchored for a few hours in Fidler Bay to repair damages done to the sails, and arrived in Victoria at 2:30 o'clock, p. m.

CAPT. SANDS' LOG.

Nov. 27th.—About 1 p. m., the Transport started from Victoria in tow of the Isabel; weather, light south-westerly winds. After continued fine, with light variable winds, until about 10 o'clock, when the wind veered S.E. and freshened. 28th.—At 4:15 o'clock, the steamer cast up near Cape Flattery, light distant about 8 miles, bearing at E. by N.; from the time of steamer leaving us the wind and sea increased rapidly, doing serious damage to the vessel; about 8 o'clock had the misfortune to split the mainsail all to pieces; at 10 o'clock, having washed the chain cable overboard, washed away the binnacle and stove of the boats, besides carrying away the lee board, lifting the guards and starting the after-part of the decks, ship making great deal of water, thought it most advisable to head for the land. Finding we did not fetch into Fuca Straits, bore up for relay Sound; gale increasing with thick rather. At 4 p. m., being too thick to make a land, bore too, under the peak of the mainsail, and let go from the bow an anchor of 40 fathoms hawser, to keep her head to sea. At 11 o'clock, carried away the upper head and started the upper gudgeon. At midnight, the wind moderated and became light westerly. 29th.—At daylight, found ourselves abreast Clayoquot Sound, and tried to get to relay Sound, but the wind commencing to blow heavily from the S.E. again kept away Clayoquot Sound. At 12 o'clock, noon, the ship perfectly unmanageable, tried to get to the Sound by the north channel. At 3 o'clock, p. m., the foremast gave way, and we were entirely at the mercy of the winds and sea, and no possibility of keeping her off the rocks. At 9 o'clock, dropped both anchors and paid out the whole length of a warp to hold the vessel till we launched the remaining boat and abandoned the vessel, she being one-third full of water, and the cargo shifting about, all hands in the boat leaving nearly everything behind; the only provisions saved were 1 box of bread and a bit of rice. Landed on Bartlett's Island, all hands being entirely exhausted, having been at work from the time of leaving Victoria. It being dark when we landed, we could find no dry wood to make a fire, or any shelter, so we passed a most miserable night in the rain. The steamer drove on shore during the night, inside of Point Raffal. 30th.—Still blowing a heavy gale from

A DEERKATOR DESTROYED.—Corporal Jones, of the American garrison on San Juan Island, writes to inform us of the shooting by Mr. Welch, on Sunday last, of a huge panther, while in the act of carrying off a living lamb. The fellow had destroyed several sheep before he was himself destroyed. MR. LEONARD McCLEURE, late member of the Assembly and editor of the Evening Telegraph, takes his departure this morning on the Fidelity for Portland, en route to San Francisco and the East.

THE SIR JAMES DOUGLAS WILL PROCEED TO RACE ROCKS TOMORROW TO FETTER AWAY THE HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS OF MRS. DAVIS, WIFE OF THE LATE LIGHT-KEEPER. THE STEAMER WILL NOT RETURN TO THE EAST COAST UNTIL TUESDAY NEXT.

This delay is too bad. Why is not the steamer allowed to make regular trips, or withdrawn to make room for another boat that will faithfully perform the service? Government first runs off all opposition steamers, and then neglects to fulfill the obligation that it is under to make weekly trips up the coast. Mrs. Davis' effects might just as well be brought up on the Leviathan, and the Sir James Douglas permitted to go about her business.

EFFECTS OF A SPREE.—A man named Reynolds was charged yesterday in the Police Court with causing damage to the extent of \$100 at the premises of Mary Sheldon.

A colored man stated that he saw the accused burst open the front door and break the panel. Mr. Bishop, who appeared for the accused, said that Reynolds had been in the habit of frequenting the place and was unfortunately on the spree on Christmas day. He pleaded guilty to breaking the front door, but could not pay such extravagant damages. The Magistrate, after ascertaining the character of the occupants of the house, fined Reynolds \$20 for the offense against society, leaving the owner to recover damages by civil recourse.

THE WIRES WERE UP YESTERDAY TO SCOTT MOUNTAIN, IN CALIFORNIA, BUT OWING TO THE ACCUMULATION OF SNOW ON THAT "PROTBURANCE," COMMUNICATION WITH SAN FRANCISCO HAS NOT BEEN OPENED.

FROM THE SOUND.—The steamers Eliza Anderson and Josie McNear arrived on Christmas morning from Puget Sound. The Oregon news was anticipated by the arrival of the Fidelity.

A SON OF THE HON. HENRY MILES, OF OLYMPIA, WAS KILLED ON COWLITZ MOUNTAIN WHILE ON HIS WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL, BY A FALLING TREE. HE WAS A YOUNG MAN OF GREAT PROMISE.

IT IS REPORTED THAT THE MAIL CONTRACTORS ON PUGET SOUND HAVE PURCHASED THE STEAMER NEW WORLD FOR \$40,000 AND THE JOSIE MCNEAR. THE NEW WORLD IS A SPLENDID BOAT.

DR. G. K. WILLARD, OF OLYMPIA, A PROMINENT MASON, DIED ON THE 19TH INST., AGED 53 YEARS.

A MAN NAMED FOWLER HAD ALL THE FINGERS OF HIS LEFT HAND SAWED OFF AT THE SEABECK MILLS ONE DAY LAST WEEK.

DAILY, OUR SKEDADDLING TOWN-OR-IER, IS AT PORTLAND, EARNING HIS DAILY BREAD BY BLACKING BOOTS AND CLEANING SOOTY CHIMNEYS.

THE GOVERNOR AND MRS. SEYMOUR WILL PROCEED TO NEW WESTMINSTER IN THE SPARROW-HAWK TO-DAY.

THE PEOPLE'S FRIEND. PERRY DAVIS' VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER.

The Greatest Family Medicine of the Age. Taken internally, it cures sudden colds, coughs, etc., weak stomach, general debility, nervous sore mouth, oyster, liver complaint, dyspepsia or indigestion, cramp and pain in the stomach, bowel complaint, painters' colic, Asiatic cholera, diarrhoea, and dysentery. APPLIED EXTERNALLY, cures felons, boils and old sores, severe burns and scalds, cuts, bruises and sprains, swollen joints, ringworm and tetter, broken breasts, frosted feet and chilblains, toothache, pain in the face, neuralgia and rheumatism. IT IS A SURE REMEDY FOR AGUE AND CHILLS AND FEVER. MOORE & CO., Agents.

A New and Grand Epoch in Medicine.—Dr. MAGGILL'S PILLS.

Dr. MAGGILL'S PILLS.—The founder of a new Medical System! The Quinarians, whose vast internal doses enfeeble the stomach and paralyze the bowels, must give precedence to the man who restores health and appetite, with whom one to two of his extraordinary pills, and cures the most violent sores with a box or so of his wonderful and all-healing Salve. These two great specifics of the Doctor are fast superseding all the stereotyped nostrums of the day. Extraordinary cures by Maggill's Pills and Salve have opened the eyes of the public to the inefficiency of the (so-called) remedies of others, and upon which people have so long blindly depended. Maggill's Pills are not of the class that are swallowed by the dozen, and of which every box full taken creates an absolute necessity for another. One or two of Maggill's Pills suffice to place the bowels in perfect order, tone the stomach, create an appetite, and render the spirits light and buoyant. There is no griping, and no reaction in the form of constipation. If the liver is affected, its functions are restored and the nervous system is tonic, it is invigorated. This last quality makes the medicines very desirable for the wants of delicate females, Uterous and eruptive diseases are literally extinguished by the disintegrating power of Maggill's Salve. In fact, it is here announced that Maggill's Pills, Dyspeptic and Diarrhoeic Pills cure where all others fail. While for Burns, Scalds, Chilblains, Cuts, and all abrasions of the skin, Maggill's Salve is invaluable. Sold by J. MAGGILL, 11 Pine street, New York, and all Druggists, at 25 cents per box.

HOMICIDE.—A man named William Taylor was arrested yesterday upon a charge of having caused the death of a Bella Bella Indian by hurling him from the balcony of a two-story house on Cormorant street to the ground, thereby inflicting such injuries as to cause his death within an hour after.

The homicide occurred on Christmas day, about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Pemberton summoned a jury yesterday and held an inquest over the remains. In the evidence of Dr. Davie, et al., it was shown that deceased died from compression of the brain, caused by the fall, which was fourteen feet. An Indian girl testified that she saw the prisoner knock deceased down on the balcony, kick him on the head and then raise him in his arms and throw him to the ground. Other witnesses were examined, from whose evidence it appears that Taylor had been in the chaingang on a conviction of selling whiskey to Indians, and that he had been heard to declare that deceased's evidence was the means of his being convicted. The inquest stands adjourned until Friday.

THE MASONIC BALL will be held to-night.

Preparations are on foot to make the ball the most successful of the season. The fine billiard hall of the St. Nicholas Hotel having been cleared of tables, &c., is now the largest in the colony, and the entire space will be devoted to dancing. The ladies' dressing room will be the apartment lately used as a ladies' dining-room; and the gentlemen's cloak room, in the small room formerly used as a cigar stand. The ball will undoubtedly be a brilliant, but not overcrowded affair—the number of tickets having been limited to 150.

PARIS GOSSIP.

Correspondence of the New York. PARIS, October 12th.—While Napoleon, under the action of ing air of Biarritz, is renewing like the eagles which are cogged up while the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Mexico, self to Italy; while "all the Re-finished paying compliments States, are going wild over their future Carina Dagmar; while, ex-princelings and ex-commerable are taking up their arms, and the Emperor of Mexico, over-anxious Emperor of Mexico, from attacks of nervous excitement threaten her reason; while Rothschild, of this city, and his group of money kings, whose fair to-outlast so many others, up with a maul that has already one eye and the other is being M. N.—C., a well known talent and education, of cool temperament, and about thirty has become, most unexpectedly, the hero of a fine day fit of w the part of the Parisians. From his hair, black and unusually, I been whitened in a single night impression of a dream.

"We should not give space to this singular adventure of the editor of the Pays, in whose incident was originally mentioned that M. C. is personally as a truthful and honorable himself furnished us with the publish, affirming on oath the actness of every detail herein given. From the account thus given it appears that M. C., who certain mineral tracts in Britta one night at a little roadside in-dred yards distant from a mine never seen, but which he party next day. Having walked many course of the day, M. C., on inn, fell very tired. He accordingly very early, fell asleep a dreamed, he asserts, the follow He thought that he had just be to the management of the mine, and he was busy in superintending of the miners, when the owner of appeared on the ground. This and ill-bred, addressed the ne rudely, reproaching him with his adding:

"Instead of standing there, arms folded, seeing other men would do better to go down into and draw the plan of it, as you do."

"I will go down and begin to at once," replied the young en, and stood annoyed at the manner ployer.

Placing himself forthwith in the ordered the man at the windlass down into the mine. This was basket re-acted the bottom; and morning a couple of the workmen him with their lamps, he explored galleries of the mine, and, hav plan of the workings, returned to of the shaft, got into the basket, a signal for the ascent. As he pla in the basket he remarked the gre of the rope which served to hoist culated that the mine being un the ascent could scarcely be acco less than a quarter of an hour.

He had been ascending three three minutes, when, changing t eyes, he espied what seemed to h abrasion of the rope by which he drawn up. Startled by this app fixed his eyes on the portion of which had attracted his attention distinctly that the rope was cut above his head, just out of reach o His terror at this discovery was e nearly fainting. Rousing himself, will from the stop of apprehen had so nearly overcome him, he himself to calmness, and set him examine the rope. Perhaps he w he would look again. But, no; h mistaken. The rope had rubbe some projection of the rocky w hoar him in, and its strands we being slowly but visibly, in the thickness of the massive cab ready reduced to less than an inch.

The unfortunate man felt that the sealed; the conviction of the utter ness of his position chilled him to marrow of his bones. He tried to but his tongue seemed frozen. M felt that, even if he could mak heard, which was totally impos was now all well up, he could reach him. Looking upwards he the daylight at the mouth of the s but distant, like a star. Gazing d over the edge of the basket, at it made him dizzy and sick to loo he could see, like so many glow-l lanterns of the miners. And the time, mounted higher and high instant, the rope cracking audibly increasing strain of the ascent. Un- fortunate engineer saw clearly that the possibility of escaping the horrible ing him, and could almost count the that would elapse ere the break rope must precipitate him into void below. Such was the inten anguish that he was tempted to duration by throwing himself dow instead of waiting any longer the instant. As he hesitated, longing to take the fatal leap, the basket re- mouth of the shaft. He was sav a loud cry he leaped from the baske as he felt once more the solid earth his feet.

The horrible adventure was only but Mr C. was trembling, e bathed in perspiration, and in making a movement or uttering After a time he recovered his self. So far as to be able to ring for people of the inn, hastened to obey mons, but could do so at first, recog customer of the preceding event, luxurious raven hair had become gray. And stranger than even his evidence of the violence of the en had undergone during his troubled

THE BEST REMEDY FOR PURIFYING THE BLOOD, strengthening the Nerves, Restoring the Lost Appetite, FRESH, HARDING TEA.

It is the best preservative against almost any sickness, used timely. Composed of herbs only, it can be given safely to infants. Full directions in English, French, Spanish, and German, with every package. TRY IT! For sale at all the wholesale and retail drug stores and groceries.

EMIL FRESS, Wholesale Druggist, Sole Agent, 410 Clay Street, San Francisco, Cal.

Paris Gossip.

Correspondence of the New York Times.

Sir James Douglas will proceed to... effects of Mrs Davis, wife of the... The steamer will not re-... East Coast until Tuesday next...

ors of a SPREE.—A man named Rey-... was charged yesterday in the Police... with causing damage to the extent of... the premises of Mary Sheldon...

WIRES were up yesterday to Scott... in California, but owing to the... of snow on that "protuberance,"... with San Francisco has not been...

THE SOUND.—The steamers Eliza... and Josie McNear arrived on... morning from Puget Sound. The... news was anticipated by the arrival... of the vessel.

son of the Hon. Henry Miles, of Olym-... was killed on Cowitz Mountain while... way home from school, by a falling... He was a young man of great promise.

REPORTED that the mail contractors... of Sound have purchased the steamer... for \$40,000 and the Josie McNear... new World is a splendid boat.

G. K. WILLARD, of Olympia, a prom-... fession, died on the 19th inst., aged 58... years.

Tax named Fowler had all the fingers... of hand sawed off at the Seabeck lum-... mill one day last week.

our skeddadding town-orrier, is at... work, earning his daily bread by blacking... and cleaning sooty chimneys.

GOVERNOR and Mrs Seymour will... to New Westminster in the Sparrow-... to-day.

THE PEOPLE'S FRIEND.

PERRY DAVIS' GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.

Best Family Medicine of the Age... internally, it cures sudden colds... weak stomach, general debility... sore mouth, cankers, liver complaint... pain or indigestion, cramp and pain in... stomach, bowel complaint, painters' colic... cholera, diarrhoea, and dysentery...

MOORE & CO., Agents.

ew and Grand Epoch in Medicine.

Dr. J. C. H. is the founder of a new Medical Science... in medicine, whose vast internal doses enable the... to reach the seat of the disease, and give... to the patient, who restores health and appetite, with firm... of his extraordinary Pills, and cures the most... cases with a box or so of his wonderful and... Pills. These two great specimens of the Doctor's... are superseding all the stereotyped nostrums of the... of the extraordinary cures by Maggell's Pills and Salve... of the eyes of the patient to the inefficiency of... (sealed) remedies of others, and upon which... so long blindly depended. Maggell's Pills are... the cases that are swallowed by the dozen, and of... every box full taken creates an absolute necessity... other. One or two of Maggell's Pills suffices to... the bowels in perfect order, tone the stomach, cre-... appetite, and render the spirits light and buoyant... and no reaction in the form of cost.

Dr. J. C. H.'s Ointment and Pills.—Consumption prevents... lungs, colds and fever are ever prevailing in our... climate. Though easily cured at first, when... they frequently induce serious disease, of... the chief and most fatal is consumption. If Hol-... Pills are resorted to on the first appearance of... these diseases, and if the symptoms be very urgent... ment also be well rubbed twice a day on the back... they will cease to cause alarm, and all con-... tendency will certainly be banished, and the... from all impurities will be left in a healthier... than it was before the illness. The Pills being free... ingredients of any kind, the most delicate... may harmlessly take them.

The best Remedy for Purifying the Blood... the Nerves, Restoring the Lost Appetite...

FRERE'S HARKING SEA... best preservative against almost any sickness... Composed of herbs only, it can be given... to infants. Full directions in English, French, and... and German, with every package. TRY IT... at all the wholesale and retail drug stores and...

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Union of the Pacific Colonies.

(From the Toronto Globe.)

While the British Colonies on the Atlantic... are completing the work of Confederation... actual union has been consummated by... those on the Pacific coast. British Colum-... and Vancouver Island, hitherto separate... and distinct Colonies, now form but one... under the name of British Columbia. The... important island which has so long borne the... proud name of Vancouver, now, bride-like... merges her name in that of the other party to... the union, and henceforth we shall only hear... of British Columbia, unless the force of habit... render it impossible at once to observe the... directions of the Act of Union. By our files... from the Pacific, received yesterday, we find... that considerable feeling prevails on the... subject. It might be assumed that the most... kindly sentiments would follow a union... which had been sought by both the parties... to it; but this does not appear to be the... case. At the last moment, there appears to... have been some mismanagement, and the... Act of Union is not what the Vancouver... people expected it to be. There is nothing... serious in the discontent, however, and it is... reasonable to expect that a short time will... allay the present acrimony.

The Act of Union, though assented to by... Her Majesty on the 6th August, was only... received in the Colonies concerned on the 1st... of October, and only then was it known what... the precise terms of Union were. The... provisions of the Act may be briefly stated... as follows:—On the proclamation of the... Act by the Governor of British Columbia... Vancouver Island ceases to exist as a... separate Colony, and becomes merged into... the British Columbia. It is to be allotted... eight representatives in the "Legislative Council" of... British Columbia, which has hitherto... been composed of fifteen members, and which... will henceforth, therefore, have twenty-three... The laws continue in the respective colonies... as they were at the time of Union, until... amended by the United Legislature, excepting... the customs laws, as to which it is... provided that those of British Columbia apply... to the Island as well. The Governor is... vested with the powers of a Commissioner of... Customs. Nothing in the Act is to inter-... fere with exercise of any power that would... have been exercisable by Her Majesty in... Council, if the Act had not been passed. Such... is substance, is the Imperial enactment by... which our sister colonies in the far West... have become united.

As far as we can learn, the grounds of... complaint are but two, and they are urged... by people—certainly not the whole nor the... majority of the people—in Vancouver Island. In... the first place, it is said that the provision... empowering the Governor of British Colum-... bia to put the Act in force by his simple... proclamation is contrary to the well-under-... stood wishes of the people of that Island;... and, in the second place, the abolition of the... free port of Victoria—which must follow... upon the enforcement of the customs laws... of British Columbia—is also against their... wishes. As to both, the answer is conclusive... that the Legislature of the Island last winter... memorialized the Imperial authorities to... consummate the Union on any terms they... pleased. Union was wanted at all hazards... and without setting forth a single condition. Having thus given the Home Government... carte blanche, the complaints cannot now... pretend to be wrong because they were... taken at their word. About two years ago... when the first memorial was sent home, we... believe there was an expression of their... desire to have the port of Victoria left free... and that it was stipulated that Vancouver's... Island should have the option of declining... union on the terms offered; but the subse-... quent action of the Colonial Legislature... swept away these conditions. At a public... meeting held in Victoria, when the terms of... the union became known, great indignation... was expressed; but, strange enough, the... men who grumbled the loudest were the... very men who had been instrumental in... passing the memorial praying for unconditional... union. Whoever may complain, it... certainly does not lie with them to do so now. In... his whimsicalness one of the members of the... meeting—formerly a member of the local... Legislature—went so far as to talk about an... objection, and was very properly biased... down. The extreme to which he and others... went in their harangues damaged the cause... of the complainants, and a meeting which... otherwise might have passed a strong protest... broke up in confusion—the good loyal people... present refusing to allow any opposition they... might have to the union to be utilised by... disaffected men in pressing their personal... objections.

The Victoria journals, while not satisfied... with the terms of union, adopt, on the whole... a very proper tone. They counsel hearty... acquiescence in the new arrangement, and... urge the people to set themselves vigorously to... work it out to the best advantage, and ex-... press the hope that the result will prove... satisfactory. The condition of the Island be-... fore union was about as bad as it could be... and almost any change was desirable. Union... with British Columbia must prove eminently... advantageous, and we rejoice that it has... been effected. Consolidation is the order of the... day, and when our Confederation scheme has... been carried out, Great Britain will have... to deal with but two colonial governments... on this continent, instead of seven, as heret-... ofore. It is too soon to look forward to the... time when the vast interior territory of the... Red River and Saskatchewan will be... opened up and peopled; when a regular sys-... tem of government will be established there;... and when a still grander Confederation will... loom up, spanning the whole breadth of the... continent?

THE FIDELITY will leave for Portland at... 8 1/2 o'clock this morning, rain or shine.

A GRAND BALL was announced to come... off at Port Townsend last evening.

They have got a hog at New Westmin-... ster that weighs 500 pounds. The capital... was always noted for its porcine proclivities.

BRISTOL'S Sarsaparilla

IN LARGE BOTTLES. THE GREAT PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD!

Is particularly recommended for use during SPRING AND SUMMER.

when the blood is thick, the circulation clogged and the humours of the body rendered unwholesome by the gross and greasy secretions of the winter months. This good and powerful, detergent cleanses every portion of the system, and should be used daily.

LANDIET DRINK! by all who are sick, or who wish to prevent sickness, this is the only genuine and original preparation for...

THE PERMANENT CURE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS AND CONFIRMED CASES OF Scrofula or King's Evil, Old Sores, Boils, Tumors, Abscesses, Ulcers,

And every kind of Scrofulous and Scabulous eruptions. It is also a sure and reliable remedy for Salt Rheum, Ring Worm, Tetter, Scald Head, Scoury, White Swellings and Neuralgic Affections, Nervous and General Debility of the System, Loss of Appetite, Leucorrhoea, Disinfection, and all Affections of the Liver, Fever and Ague, Bilious Fevers, Chills and Fever, Dumb Ague and Jaundice.

It is guaranteed to be the PUREST AND MOST POWERFUL PREPARATION OF GENUINE HONDURAS SARSAPARILLA

And is the only TRADE AND RELIABLE CURE FOR SYPHILIS Even in its worst forms.

It is the very best medicine for the cure of all diseases arising from a vitiated or impure state of the blood. The afflicted may rest assured that there is not any other more powerful medicine, or any other more reliable remedy, than this. It is perfectly harmless and may be administered to persons in the very weakest stages of sickness, or to the most helpless infants, without doing the least injury.

Full directions how to take this most valuable medicine will be found around each bottle; and to guard against counterfeits, see that the written signature of LANMAN & KEMP is upon the blue label.

FOR SALE EVERYWHERE. Hostetter, Smith & an Agents, San Francisco

THE LEADING PERFUME OF THE AGE! From Fresh Culled Flowers.

MURRAY & LANMAN'S CELEBRATED Florida Water.

This exquisite Perfume is prepared direct from Blooming Tropical Flowers, of surpassing fragrance. Its aroma is almost inexhaustible; while its influence on the KIN is most refreshing, imparting a Delightful buoyancy to the overtaxed Body and Mind, particularly when mixed with the water of the Bath.

Fainting Turns, Nervousness, Headache, Debility, and Hysteria.

Its sure speedy relief is every where known. It is used by all other perfumes, throughout the West Indies, Cuba, Mexico and Central and South America, and is so generally commended as an article which, for its delicacy of flavor, richness of bouquet, and permanency, has no equal. It will remove from the skin

Roughness, Blisters, Sun Burn, Freckles, and Pimples.

Its deliciousness the Otto of Roses, and tends fresh and with water it makes the best dentifrice. Imparting a peculiar beauty to the teeth, it also removes all smarting or pain after shaving.

COUNTERFEITS! Beware of imitations. Look for the name of MURRAY & LANMAN on the bottle. Wholesale and Retail Prepared only by LANMAN & KEMP, Wholesale Druggists, 71 & 73 Water Street, New York.

AND FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS. Wholesale and Retail, Hostetter, Smith & Dean.

Marine Insurance.

THE UNION INSURANCE COMPANY of San Francisco.

INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY, CAPITAL Stock, \$750,000.

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THE LANCASHIRE Insurance Company.

CAPITAL, TWO MILLIONS STERLING

Manchester.....Exchange Street. London.....10 Cornhill. Liverpool.....7 Water Street. Glasgow.....4 South Hanover Street. Birmingham.....The Exchange. Bristol.....50 Broad Street.

HAVING BEEN APPOINTED AGENTS FOR the above Company, we are now prepared to take risks at rates as moderate as those of any other responsible Company.

WEISSENBURGER & SCHLOSSER, Agents, Vancouver Island Agency.

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The security offered to the public by the Phoenix Office is unlimited, comprising in addition to the large invested capital of the Company the whole fortunes of numerous merchants and others in the United Kingdom. Annual and short time insurances are effected upon all kinds of property in Vancouver Island and British Columbia on the most favorable terms.

Rates and Particulars of Insurance may be had on application to the Agents at their office corner of Wharf and Fort streets.

T. C. NUTTALL & Co. Agents for Vancouver Island and British Columbia. D. LENEVEU, Wharf Street.

The British and Foreign MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

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JANION, GREEN & RHODES, Agents.

Northern Assurance Co. FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE.

ESTABLISHED 1836. INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT. CAPITAL, \$10,000,000.

Fully subscribed by upwards of 700 Shareholders, whose personal liability is unlimited.

INVESTED FUNDS, \$3,000,000.

FIRE DEPARTMENT. This Company grants Insurances against Fire on every description of property.

LIFE DEPARTMENT. This Institution accepts proposals at the rates of premium applicable to Europe, which on examination will be found more advantageous than those charged by other Offices having Agencies here. It unites all the advantages of a Mutual Association with the security of a Profitable Company. The Participation Branch is open to 10 per cent. of the premiums, without any other deduction whatever. Thus the assured enjoy the profit without the liability of the Mutual System.

The Participation in profits has been most liberal. Should claims arise before the next investigation, a prospective bonus of nearly 1 1/2 per cent. is allotted.

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MUTUAL Life Insurance Co.

OF NEW YORK.

Assets, all Cash, - - - \$15,000,000

Dividends for 1865, over 70 per cent.

This Company is purely Mutual, all the Profits being divided among the

J. W. POWELL, M. D., Medical Adviser. F. TARBELL, Agent for Vancouver Island, British Columbia and Washington Territory.

VICTORIA OFFICE—Corner Bastion and Wharf Streets. de24 3m

IMPERIAL Fire Insurance Company

1 OLD BROAD STREET AND 16 PALL MALL, LONDON.

INSTITUTED 1808.

For Insuring Houses and other Buildings, Goods, Ware, Merchandise, Manufacturing and Farming Stock, Ships in Port, Harbor, or Dock, and the Cargoes of such Ships; also Ship Building and Repairing; Barges and other Vessels on navigable River and Canals, and Goods on board such Vessels, FROM LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE.

INVESTED CAPITAL, £1,600,000.

For Rates of Insurance and every information will be supplied at the Agent's office.

J. ROBERTSON STEWART, Agent, Wharf Street, Victoria, V. I. ja12-ly

To Sheep Farmers, Cattle Dealers, &c

TO LEASE, AT A LOW RENTAL, 800 acres of fenced Pasture Land, distant from Victoria 1 1/2 miles

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CAPITAL.....TEN MILLION DOLLARS RESERVE TO MEET LOSSES FIVE MILLION DOLLARS!

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The undersigned, Agents for Vancouver Island and British Columbia, return their particular thanks to the public for their patronage of the Royal since the opening of the agency, and also to the Victoria Fire Companies for their valuable services.

The Fire Branch. Of this agency in 1864, was nearly double that of 1863—the risks in Victoria alone amounted to \$1,100,000. The business of the

Life Branch. Has also largely increased since the Directors reduced the rate to the English standard.

SPROAT & CO. Store street. Agents for Vancouver Island and British Columbia

North British and Mercantile Insurance Company ESTABLISHED 1809

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament. ACCUMULATED AND INVESTED FUNDS, £2,449,484 Sterling

Annual Revenue exceeds £500,000.

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This Company will ever distinguish itself by promptitude and liberality in the settlement of claims. Insurances against Fire effected upon—Buildings and their contents, Timber and Coal, Ships in harbor, with or without cargoes on board; Ships under repair, or in course of construction.

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Established 1838. Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.

Subscribed Capital.....\$3,000,000 Annual Revenue.....560,000 Subsisting Assurances.....4,415,000

THIS COMPANY OFFERS TO THE PUBLIC THE MOST liberal advantages of Perfect Security, Moderate Premiums, Liberal Participation in Profits, and great freedom in respect of foreign residence and travel, and has powers under special Act of Parliament which simplify discharge of claims in event of assured dying abroad.

Prospectuses and every information can be obtained on application to the undersigned, who has power to accept risks.

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THE FAMILY WASHING may be speedily accomplished, to the great delight of the Housewife, by using Harper's 'Wetters'

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Prepared and sold in Boxes, Tins, and Bottles of various sizes, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, No. 78, St. Paul's Churchyard London. Sold by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the world. 71 8m

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JUDGED BY THE IMMENSE DEMAND, THE UNIVERSAL REMEDY now stands the first in public favor and confidence; this result has been attained by the test of fifty years' experience. These Lozenges may be found on sale in every British Colony, throughout India, and China, they have been highly esteemed wherever introduced. For Cough, Asthma, and all other affections of the Throat and Chest, they are the most agreeable and efficacious remedy.

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