





By Electric Telegraph

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

Europe.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Earl Mayo asked leave to bring in a bill to suspend the operation of the writ of habeas corpus for a short period from and after March 1st.

FLORENCE, Feb. 14.—Yesterday evening Admiral Farragut attended a state dinner, in compliance with an invitation of the King.

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LONDON, Feb. 17.—Earl Mayo made an explanation with regard to the arrest of George Francis Train.

DUBLIN, Feb. 17.—The jury found a verdict of guilty against Sullivan, editor of the Dublin Nation, for publishing seditious libels.

FLORENCE, Feb. 17.—The public honors to Farragut closed with a dinner given by Minister March.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—The French Legislature is still discussing the bill relating to the press.

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Speaker laid before the House to-day a copy of the correspondence between General Grant and General Hancock, relative to the organization of the City Council of New Orleans.

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When the arms and ammunition were selected, put into the sack and removed, the leader, addressing Mr. Thomas Alport (who, and not his father, as it was first erroneously stated, formed the third person attending the shop at the moment) said, "Now, Sir, we intend to act fairly by you. We have put the revolvers in the sack indiscriminately and without counting, but on the first opportunity I promise you I shall send you a statement of the number of revolvers we have taken."

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AYER'S Sarsaparilla

FOR PURIFYING THE BLOOD, And for the speedy cure of the following complaints:

Scrofula and Scrofulous Affections, such as Tumors, Ulcers, Sores, Eruptions, Eczema, Pimples, Itch, Ringworms, Boils, Blains, and all Skin Diseases.

AKLAND, Ind., 8th June, 1850. J. C. Ayer & Co. Gentl: I feel it my duty to acknowledge what Sarsaparilla has done for me.

Having inherited a Scrofulous infection, I have suffered from it in various ways for years. Sometimes it burst out in Ulcers on my hands and arms; sometimes it turned inward and distressed me at the stomach.

Two years ago it broke out on my head and covered my scalp with one sore which was painful and loathsome beyond description.

I tried many medicines and several physicians, but without much relief from anything. In fact, the disease grew worse. At length I was rejoiced to read in the Gospel Messenger that you had prepared an effective Sarsaparilla; for I knew from your reputation that anything you made must be good.

I sent to Cincinnati and got it, and used it till it cured me. I took it, as you advise, in small doses, a teaspoonful over a month, and almost three bottles. New and healthy skin soon began to form under the scab, which after a while fell off. My skin is now clear, and I know by my feelings that the disease has gone from my system.

You can well believe that I feel what I am saying when I tell you, that I hold you to be one of the apostles of the age, and remain ever gratefully, Yours, ALFRED B. TALLEY.

St. Anthony's Fire, Head or Eruptions, Ringworms, Skin Diseases, etc.

Dr. Robert M. Frolic writes from Salem, N. Y., 21st Sept., 1850, that he has cured an obstinate case of Dropsy, which threatened to terminate fatally, by the persevering use of your Sarsaparilla, and also a dangerous Measles Eruption by large doses of the same; says he cures the common Eruptions by its constantly.

Bronchitis, Cough or Swelled Neck, Zoster, etc.

Three bottles of your Sarsaparilla cured me from a Cough—a hideous swelling on the neck, which I had suffered from over two years.

Uterine Ulceration, Female Diseases, etc.

Dr. J. B. Channing of New York City, writes: "I most cheerfully comply with the request of your agent, in that I have found your Sarsaparilla a most excellent alterative in the numerous complaints for which we employ such a remedy, especially in Female Diseases of the Scrofulous diathesis. I have cured many inveterate cases of Leucorrhoea by it, and some where the complaint was caused by ulceration of the uterus. The Sarsaparilla itself was soon cured. Nothing within my knowledge equals for these female derangements."

Edward S. Marrow, of Newbury, Ala., writes: "A dangerous ovarian tumor on one of the ovaries in my family which had defied all the remedies was cured by your Sarsaparilla. The tumor was removed, and the patient is now perfectly cured."

Dr. J. C. Ayer writes: "I have found your Sarsaparilla a most excellent alterative in the numerous complaints for which we employ such a remedy, especially in Female Diseases of the Scrofulous diathesis. I have cured many inveterate cases of Leucorrhoea by it, and some where the complaint was caused by ulceration of the uterus. The Sarsaparilla itself was soon cured. Nothing within my knowledge equals for these female derangements."

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THE GRAND PROMOTERS OF HEALTH. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

The grand secret of attaining happiness is to secure good health, without which life is stripped of its pleasure. The first irregularity of any function should be checked and set right by appropriate doses of these purifying Pills, which strengthen the system by thoroughly cleansing the blood from all impurities.

These pills are so well known in every part of the world, and the cures effected by its use are so wonderful as to astonish every one. Its pre-eminence as a remedy for all ailments is so generally admitted, that it is the only medicine which will strengthen the system by thoroughly cleansing the blood from all impurities.

Determination of Blood to the Head. This is generally occasioned by some irregularity of the stomach and bowels, which, if not quickly attended to, may become a serious complaint. The first irregularity of any function should be checked and set right by appropriate doses of these purifying Pills, which strengthen the system by thoroughly cleansing the blood from all impurities.

Female's Best Friend. Female debility, nervousness, irregularity of the system, and all ailments arising from the female system, are cured by these pills. They are so well known in every part of the world, and the cures effected by its use are so wonderful as to astonish every one.

Coughs, Colds, and Asthma. No medicine will cure coughs of long duration or such as are attended with spitting of blood, or any other serious complaint. The first irregularity of any function should be checked

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE. Tuesday, March 3, 1868.

The "signs of the times" point to the early abolishment of the Irish Church Establishment and the substitution of a system entirely free from Governmental endowment. The Established Church of Ireland is the most prominent and serious grievance that country now labors under.

They demand that every sect shall rise or fall upon its own merits; and whatever may be urged against the policy of the Catholics in other countries, they have chosen a very proper position in Ireland. An Irish Reform Bill, based on the abolition of Church Rates, was never more necessary than at the present time.

Supreme Court. (Before His Lordship Chief Justice Neidham, J. C. P. February 28th, 1868. Tronca v. Strachan—Mr King moved the Court that the award on the submission to arbitration in this action be made a Rule of Court, absolute in the first instance.

acquaintance of Miss Matilda Ruff, an opera singer of the Linz theatre. Another report says that this acquaintance was formed at Rome, where he had served in the Papal army during the Italian war of 1859. Certain it is that the Count engaged himself to marry Miss Ruff, and did marry her without the consent and even against the wishes of an aristocratic family.

Brunn had remained a few days longer. The judicial authorities at Munich at once telegraphed to Vienna the circumstances of the fearful crime, and suspicion very soon was directed against Baroness Julie Ebegeny, daughter of a rich Hungarian nobleman, who was known to be on very intimate, if not improper, relations with Count Chorsinsky.

The Weekly British AND CHRONICLE. Tuesday, March 3, 1868.

The plot thickens! The possible conflict between Johnson and his contumacious progress is assuming a more alarming shape. The President to recognize Stanton as Secretary of War, has appointed Thomas temporarily to perform the duties; but Stanton has been ordered by the Senate not to hold the office until otherwise advised by the Senate.

The Weekly British Colonist AND CHRONICLE.

Tuesday, March 3 1868.

'The plot thickens!' The irrepressible conflict between President Johnson and his contumacious Congress is assuming a more serious and alarming shape.

At the morning of had already returned to his room, when a messenger remained quiet for some time from Munich declare, were necessary, embarrassed.

the landlady of the murder-lord of the hotel, had arrived in a carriage, and recognized the prisoner as visited the Countess.

the Only Remedy! All manner of ailments attributed to the scalled and Confedera were stigmatized as an, as suspicious, or inadaptable.

Did any of our lady friends ever go through this terrible agony? A lady says the first time she was kissed she felt like a tub of roses swimming in honey.

MIZNER'S ANNEXATION RESOLUTIONS.

Here are the preamble and resolutions introduced by Mr Mizner, of the California Legislature, of which brief mention was made by the telegraph.

Resolved, by the Assembly, the Senate concurring, That it is of the greatest importance to the interest and welfare of the Pacific States, as well as of the whole Union, that British Columbia be annexed to the United States.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress are hereby instructed and requested to earnestly urge upon the Government at Washington to use all fair and honorable means to acquire said territory.

Resolved, That the Governor be instructed to communicate these resolutions, by telegraph, to the President of the United States and to the members of the Senate and House of Representatives from California and the other Pacific States.

A "Kingly Empire" is good; but a "Queenly Empire" would have sounded better.

CONUNDRUMS.—Readers are reminded that the evening for the award of prizes for the best original conundrums is drawing near.

What is the largest room in the world? The room for improvement.

What class of women are most apt to give tone to society? The belles.

Why is the Mediterranean the dirtiest of seas? Because it is the least tidy.

Why is an old bureau sold at auction, like an errand boy? Because it'll go for what it'll fetch.

And now, why is Benjamin Disraeli like a red Indian, fond of toys? Why, because he's B.D. (Beady).

What is next to man? His shirt, of course.

When is a man not a man? When he's abed, when he's awake, when he's a blow in the nose, when he's a comb in his hair, when he's a pear in his nails, when he's a pick in his teeth, when he's a wink in his eye, when he's a button in his clothes, when he's a swallow in his bush, when he's a scratch in his ear, and last, but not least, when he's a bolt in the door.

THE MARMORA.—This fine bark commenced to discharge cargo yesterday at Dickson, Campbell & Co's wharf.

ARRIVAL OF H.M.S. REINDER.—H.M.S. Reinder, Commander E. Nares, arrived yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, from Panama, having left that port on the 14th of January.

Commander—E. Nares. Lieutenant—H. C. St. Clair; Albert J. Roke.

Master—Charles Watton. Surgeon—James C. Eastcott; Assistant Surgeon—Edward Dan.

Paymaster—Charles Barrs. Sub-Lieutenant—Edward J. Wingfield; Alleyne P. Pascoe; Count Fredk. C. Mexa.

Engineers—Mr T. Scott; J. Lesson; Assistant Engineer—E. Tricha. Midshipman—C. W. Last.

Navigation Midshipman—T. F. Thomas. Clerk—A. F. Claydon.

THE ERA OF CHEAP FARE.—Passengers who arrived here by the Golden City were brought from New York at the following rates in Greenbacks: First cabin, outside staterooms, \$125; first cabin, inside, \$100; second cabin, \$80; steerage, \$40.

INTERNAL REVENUE.—Charley, a Fort Rupert Indian, was arrested yesterday \$10 for having taken the liberty of assaulting Jenny, a Hydah, and tearing her clothes.

DEPARTURES.—The Reinder brought dispatches from the Colonial Office to the Governor, which were put aboard at Panama, and H. M. S. Sparrowhawk will carry them to New Westminster to-day.

The Enterprise, with passengers and freight, sailed for Fraser river yesterday morning at 9.

The Fideliter will start for Portland to-day.

The Russian bark Menschikov sailed yesterday morning for Sitka. She is coal-laden.

The Virgin Islands.

[From the N. Y. Tribune of January 29th.]

BEY ISLAND, Nov. 30.—When I wrote you by the last mail and told you all about the dreadful hurricane of the 29th of October, little did I think that by this mail I would have to tell you of another fearful affliction.

On Monday last, the 18th, we experienced the most awful series of earthquakes ever known in this or any other part of the world, so far as the number and duration went.

I was down in the creek with some people, cutting wood to make a lime-kiln; the weather was extremely hot and very oppressive till about two o'clock.

I left, and was on my way home. Just as I got by the great gate I heard a tremendous report as if a heavy cannon had been fired some distance off; then came a loud rumbling noise like a number of iron carriages drawn over a rough road by hundreds of wild horses.

I stopped my horse, for I well knew what was coming, when the shock came. I never shall forget it, I had never seen or felt anything half so dreadful in all my life.

The hurricane was bad enough, but the earthquake was ten times worse. It was a very long shock, and I thought the land would sink under me. I did not dismount; but as soon as it ceased I started off, expecting to see my home, already shattered by the hurricane, in a heap of ruins; but, thank God, there it was, apparently uninjured.

I saw every one about the place hurrying down the hill. By the time I reached where they were, then commenced the most trying time of all. Earthquake after earthquake for nearly an hour; and such dreadful shocks. It makes me nervous to think of them.

By and by, we heard a great noise, and I left them, and went up the hill a little. When I got up high enough to see the sea, what a sight! The sea had approached, and the noise we heard was from the power of the water running back again. It continued to run off until the rocks and reef were all dry, and it seemed to suck away the water out of the bay and leave everything dry—(this was on the Bluff side.)

My attention was roused by a similar noise on the other side of "Taylor's Bay," and there, too, the same thing was going on.

As soon as the water would come in on the south side, it would go off on the north; and so it continued for a length of time. During the whole time we had earthquakes after earthquakes.

Three hours had now elapsed since the first shock, and night coming on—what a night had we before us to be sure. Not an eye was closed. We were all frightened half to death, and expected momentarily to be swallowed up. It was a truly awful night, and never to be forgotten. We must have had over two hundred shocks during the night, and some hours there were over twenty.

Daylight came at last, and never was it more welcomed by miserable creatures; we were completely worn out. Of course the day before our dinner was forgotten, so we wanted food, sleep, and everything else to make us comfortable. They had just made bread at the house where the first shock came, and there it lay all the next day, and it finally became rotten. When I found the shocks continued, I got some boat sails and made a tent, but a little distance from the house, for the walls were cracked and we were afraid to remain in the house, not knowing at what moment a shock more severe might come and bring it down.

Since last Tuesday morning we have lived in the tent. Fortunately for us there has not been much rain. Severe and frequent shocks continued up to Friday; they are now subsiding, but even now and then we hear the reports, but very little vibration. We have had a week of earthquakes. For eight days I have not had my clothes off. Of course we have to do down prepared to get up at any moment's warning, but where to go, that is the question. In a hurricane you can hide in the cellar, if the house is blown away; but the cellar is the last place thought of in a case like this.

I sent to Pleasant Valley on Wednesday. Road Town was completely inundated, but the houses being in ruins already from the hurricane, the only damage done was the loss of the lumber which the poor people had gathered to rebuild their houses.

Just fancy, large fish, snappers and other fish, were left on the road to Little Mountain; the sea brought them up, and when going off left them entangled in the grass and bushes. This I saw first opposite the creek. Must it not have been something dreadful to do this. I cannot tell you half what we saw and suffered. Some of the boys are clean gone, the sea running on the sandy bay 30 to 40 feet wide. Everything looks changed. Such a hurricane, and such earthquakes, all within three weeks! Hundreds of poor unfortunate sent to their last home, and hundreds more have lost their all. Since last

How to Take a Whipping.

The Western Morning Sun, an English journal, has the following fresh version of an old story:

Mr Dickens in one of his books on American journalism, represents them as turning every incident into a point with a sensation header, so that when the editor got thrashed for personalities, he at once brought out a special edition with the flaming announcement: 'The Editor Cowhided again.' It is not, I think, generally known that Mr Dickens was referring to an actual case, which is tolerably notorious in America and is told with great glee by the person most deeply interested.

That person is no other than the notorious James Gordon Bennett, of the New York Herald, and it is thus he tells the story to his friends. The Herald had for some time violently attacked a certain actress. One day the lady's husband, himself an actor, came to the Herald office, walked into Mr Bennett's room, and said, 'Are you Mr Bennett? I am,' was the reply, 'take a seat.' No, sir, I will not take a seat; you have insulted my wife!

'Who is your wife?' Name mentioned. 'Never heard of her.' But your dramatic critic has insulted her. 'This is his affair.' But I hold you responsible. And thereupon the angry husband took the proprietor of the Herald from off his chair and flung him on the floor and kicked him in the rear, rolling him over and over, and kicked him again, clutched hold of his throat and left the office.

What did the victim do? He called upon one of his employees, wrote out an account of the affair, caused sensation cards to be struck off—Fourth Edition—Atrocious Assault upon the Editor: Fifth Edition—Further Particulars of the Cowardly Assault upon the Editor—and soon all New York was buying the Herald. 'But,' said Bennett, 'I added a little garnish which was not strictly true. I said, We would have pardoned this unmanly, cowardly assault upon an unarmed man, but for one circumstance. This despicable wretch, not content with ferocious violence, had the unspeakable meanness to take up a quarter piece which was lying on the table and pocket it.'

The next day when the actor appeared upon the stage, he was greeted with cries of 'Who stole Bennett's quarter?' and whenever he appeared the same cry greeted him until he and his wife were driven off the stage and raised. 'That,' adds Bennett, 'was my revenge.'

Smuggling as a Fine Art.

HOW IT IS PRACTICED IN NEW YORK.—SOME INTERESTING INCIDENTS.

The New York Tribune publishes an extended report of frauds on the customs at that port, and specifies some instances which have occurred within a few weeks.

A foreign steamer arrives and the baggage of the passengers is all on the wharf, the following scenes usually take place:—The inspectors detailed for the vessel while in port take charge, and seal the hatches. The passengers descend to the pier, and the inspection begins.

Each passenger, before the examination, fills out a blank form, in which he enumerates the contents of his trunk. If there is nothing but his own wearing apparel, he certifies that there are no new or dutiable articles within. They are requested to unlock their trunks. They are requested to unlock their trunks, and produce a good effect, convincing the officer that they have travelled, and therefore un-derstand the form. He gently passes his hand down the inner side and under a few articles of clothing, shuts the lid, and exalts himself. O.K. But you must not fancy yourself safe. Keen grey eyes are watching you from a distance, and noting if there is any expression of exultation. If one is nervous or irritable, he goes through another ordeal. He is suspected. His trunk is measured inside and out, the sides and the top sounded, and a general manipulation takes place. If anything dutiable or new is found, it is immediately confiscated, and becomes the property of Uncle Samuel.

In the meantime the Deputy Surveyor and his aids are taking a general survey of the scene of operations. One of the aids has his eye on a large, heavy looking man, who is wrapped up in a great coat. He walks like an invalid, and is attended by a friend who has met him on the pier. The aid thinks his garments fit the pier. The aid takes the Inspector him too 'mucky'; he takes the Inspector aside and informs him that after he (the officer) has examined his baggage he will stumble over his valise or bag. Of course the large man with so much clothing on will stoop to pick up his baggage, which has been so suddenly and clumsily misplaced, at which time the Inspector must watch his back.

The ruse succeeds; the back of his coat appears as if it covered a pan full of biscuits. Trembling with fear the passenger is taken inside the small office and from under his coat is drawn a well padded vest containing fifty gold watches. He is now subjected to a thorough examination; his boot legs and heels do not escape their scrutiny. The heel of one boot is found to be hollow—off it goes and inside is found snugly encoined in cotton two brilliant worth \$2,000.

When entirely stripped of his superfluous garments he appears like a second 'Calvin Keldon.'

Another victim has been selected and he is called aside for corporeal examination. He is very portly and tries to be jolly. He laughs boisterously, and informs the officers that he supposes he must do his duty. Underneath

DAMASCUS THE ETERNAL.

DAMASCUS dates back anterior to the days of Abraham, and is the oldest city in the world. It was founded by Uz, the grandson of Noah. The early history of Damascus is shrouded in the hoary mists of antiquity. Leave the matters written of in the first eleven chapters of the Old Testament out, and no recorded event has occurred in the world but Damascus was in existence to receive it. Go back as far as you will into the vague Past, there was always a Damascus. In the writings of every century for more than four thousand years, its name has been mentioned, and its praises sung. To Damascus, years are only moments, decades are only flitting trifles of time. She measures time, not by days and months and years, but by the empires she has seen rise, and prosper, and grumble to ruin. She is a type of immortality. She saw the foundations of Baalbec, and Thebes, and Ephesus laid; she saw them grow into mighty cities, and smaze the world with their grandeur—and she has lived to see them desolate, deserted, and given over to the owls and the bats. She saw the Israelitish empire exalted, and she saw it annihilated. She saw Greece rise and flourish two thousand years, and die. In her old age she saw Rome built; she saw it overshadow the world with its power; she saw it perish. The few hundreds of years of Genoese and Venetian might and splendor were, to grave old Damascus, only a trifling scintillation hardly worth remembering. Damascus has seen all that has ever occurred on earth, and still she lives. She has looked upon the dry bones of a thousand empires, and will see the tombs of a thousand more before she dies. Though another claims the name, old Damascus is by right the Eternal City.

ANECDOTE OF CHOATE.

In 1841 Mr. Choate was engaged in a divorce suit on the part of the husband to procure a bill of separation from his wife; The principal witness for his client was a woman named Abigail Bell. On the cross-examination Mr. Sumner, the opposing counsel, asked her:

'Are you married?' 'No, I am not.' 'Have you children?' 'No, I have none.' 'Have you a child?' 'No, I have not.'

'Then there was a long and distressing pause.' At last the monosyllabic 'Yes,' was feebly uttered by the witness. Instantly the counsel ceased the cross-examination. Of course her evidence, where there was a conflict of testimony, was immensely damaged in the eyes of the jury by this fact confessed by the maiden mother. Choate did not ask any question in reply or explanation, and she stepped down from the witness stand, a blackened woman.

When he came, in the course of his argument, to reply to that part of his case which rested on her evidence, he took her character in hand. The Court-room hushed the moment he said, 'Abigail Bell's evidence, gentlemen, is before you. Raising himself up with firmness, he went on: 'I solemnly assert there is not the dream of a shadow of a shade of doubt or of suspicion on that evidence, or on her character.'

'Everybody looked stupefied with astonishment at these words. He then proceeded: 'What, though, in an unguarded moment, she may have trusted too far to the young man to whom she was to have been wedded on the next Lord's day, and who was suddenly struck dead at her feet by a shock of lightning out of the heavens!'

Then he made another of his tremendous pauses, snuffing the air, and his strange, dark eyes lowered over the jury while they took in this romantic and extraordinary explanation. The whole Court-room felt its force, and lighted up as if a feeling of relief had been experienced by every one present. There was a buzz, a stir, a universal sensation, and then again Choate rolled along under full headway. He won his case, and the tragic story, to save the character of the fair witness, was the off-pring of his fertile fancy.—Bench and Bar.

NAVAL SUPPLIES.

In a few days Messrs. Wilson & Co. will open the premises at Esquimaux, lately occupied by Mr S. Nesbit, as a depot and bread and biscuit bakery for the supply of Navy Messes, Merchant Shipping and residents generally, at Victoria prices.

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

Tuesday, March 3 1868.

We invite the careful attention of the reader to the letter of Mr Alfred Waddington addressed by that gentleman to the Liverpool Journal of Commerce and published in that journal on the 1st of January last. The letter is a graphic description of the condition of this country under one of the most inefficient bodies of incapables that has ever been entrusted with the Government of a British Colony; and points out the necessity for an immediate opening up of a line of communication across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans through British territory—a line which would secure the Mother Country speedy communication with her Eastern possessions, and place her in direct competition for the carrying trade with the Northern Pacific Railway through American territory; besides opening up the magnificent country on either side of the proposed line and strengthening the bonds which are destined to unite the whole of British North America under one Government. Mr Waddington shows the advantages that would result from the attainment of so desirable an end, and points out a fact heretofore almost unknown, sage to actual travelers through the country, that "out of 3,046 miles across the continent—from Collingwood, the terminus of the Canadian railways, on Georgian Bay, to the Pacific—twenty-five hundred miles consist of steamboat navigation, out of which twelve hundred and forty-nine miles is in one unbroken stretch." This statement, which is supported by facts and figures introduced during the recent debate in the Dominional Parliament upon the motion to annex the Northwest Territory, is sufficient in itself to show the comparatively small expense at which communication between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans may be secured and maintained for at least seven months in each year. Private enterprise would put suitable craft on the waters capable of steam navigation immediately, and the few hundred miles of road necessary to complete the work could be rapidly and cheaply made. If the reader will but take any good map of the country, he will at once be struck with the force of Mr Waddington's statements and the comparative ease with which a line of communication may be opened from ocean to ocean. The writer alludes eloquently to the political disabilities under which we labor, and the real need there is for a radical change. He depicts in terms none too strong the effects of the abolition of our representative Government and the substitution of the present galling one-man system with a "hostile Governor," changes which have entailed much misery upon the Colony and plunged it deeply into debt. Mr Waddington also refers to the Annexation feeling which existed here when he sailed for England. He does not wonder at the discontent and dissatisfaction expressed towards a system of government so "unsuitable as ours; nor do we. The people have exhibited a remarkable and commendable degree of patience under the infliction of a series of wrongs that would be impossible in any other country peopled by Britons. But it is the "last feather that breaks the camel's back." Mr Waddington forgets to add that, while Victoria refused to support an Annexation organ, the town of New Westminster—to build up which the Government has placed the whole Colony under tribute, and upon which has been wasted the proceeds of taxation levied on the country at large—continues to support the only journal on the mainland that has dared to advocate the handing over of the Island to the United States; and that the self-same journal is now the cherished organ of the imbeciles who compose the Government. We do not share Mr Waddington's alarm lest the Americans should possess themselves of this fine country; but we do fear, except steps be taken to improve our political condition and give us a liberal and economical form of Government, such as Union with

the Eastern Provinces would secure that the Colony will not progress. We look for no reformation on the part of this Government—we look for no display of vitality or manliness from that quarter. The hope we once entertained of its return to efficiency has long since fled. We have got a Government that costs us an immense sum annually to support and yet does nothing. Not the slightest interest appears to be taken in anything connected with the advancement of the Colony or in improving the condition of the colonists. We are told by some that we get "protection" in return for the taxes we pay. This we deny. The Imperial Government, to which we pay no taxes, gives us all the protection we require through the Admiral. If we depended on the local Government for "protection," we should lean upon a rotten stick that would give way beneath our weight. We are glad Mr Waddington has gone to England; and we rejoice that having gone there he does not mince his words when referring to the state of affairs here and the causes that have conspired to bring it about. We trust he will carry the statement of our grievances to the Colonial Office.

Thursday, Feb 27.

THE HALE AND NORCROSS AFFAIR.—The excitement over the Hale & Norcross matter is the greatest ever seen in San Francisco, considering how few persons are directly interested. In the Hale & Norcross mine there are only four hundred feet, and there has been some rivalry between two cliques of shareholders to get hold of the management of the mine. In their skirmishing a new feature has shown itself, which has given the struggle an interest far beyond anything that could have grown out of a question which custom mill should have the trade. It appears that one crowd, who generally work together, claim to have stock amounting to 203 feet looked up in a safe somewhere in California street. The other party, headed by a well known capitalist, claim to have stock equal to 193 feet on hand, and 9 feet more to come in "seller 30," deliverable before expiration on the 15th inst. If all the shares were to come in the capitalist and his friends would hold 203 feet and the other crowd 203 feet. This is five feet more than there is in the mine, and if both parties speak the truth he shorts cannot come in, and somebody must burst in paying the margins. Three of the shares came in from New York this morning and they were taken at \$7,100. The price may be looked upon as low, compared with what stock may fetch yet. If the struggle should turn on one foot or two, and no more feet had been sold than can be delivered, the prices at the last might touch tens of thousands of dollars a foot. If more have been sold than can be delivered, some respectable brokers and dealers may have to sacrifice their fortunes to get out of their engagements. The deaconment will be looked for with great interest. S F Bulletin. [The telegraph announces that Hale & Norcross has advanced to \$16,000 per foot.—Ed. Colonist.]

BREACH OF PROMISE.—We learn with regret that an old and respectable bachelor resident of this city is threatened with an action for alleged breach of promise of marriage. The heartbroken fair one is a "vidder," "lat fair" and on the shady side of "forty." She alleges that she visited Victoria some months ago and was introduced to the gentleman who afterwards proved the destroyer of her peace of mind; that she was instinctively drawn towards him by his superior personal attractions and soon fell violently in love with him; that he was frequently in her company—attended her to theatres, balls, etc., which fact deterred other gentlemen, who might have popped the question, from doing so; that he indulged her in ice creams at Piper's, oysters at Levy's, hot lunches at Driard's and horses at Bowman's, on divers and sundry occasions, always performing the part of a "gay gallant" and "true lover" towards her; that, finally, he sent her a valentine with two little cupids in one corner, a heart transfixed with an arrow in another, and his initials at the bottom; that his attentions were continued for some weeks; but that suddenly his passion seemed to cool, his visits became less frequent and finally ceased altogether, notwithstanding every inducement and persuasion on her part—greatly to her grief, and blasting her cherished hopes of conjugal bliss. Damages are laid at the enormous sum of \$12,000. A pretty round sum to pay for a heart, when they can be had at the butcher's for four bits apiece.

The fame of Barrard Inlet lumber has reached the San Franciscans, and a cargo of 200,000 feet has been ordered from Captain Stamp. It is believed that the excellence of the Barrard Inlet article will justify the payment of duty and allow a handsome margin for profit, as it commands a higher price than any other lumber imported.

THE STEAMSHIP COMPETITION.—Of the sharp competition between the steamship lines on this and the Atlantic coast, a New York correspondent says:—"At the bottom of all, lies a great stock jobbing operation. A little more than a year ago, Pacific Mail stock was selling in the market at 230 and upwards—now it is down to 110, and some of the supposed knowing ones declare it will go to par; some even predict it will tumble to 80. At these figures, the owners and projectors of the North American Steamship Company may become very quiet, but very large, purchasers of Pacific Mail stock; steamers of their line may suddenly be withdrawn to run upon other routes; and rapidly, like an inflated balloon, away up among the '240's' may leap Pacific Mail stock. \$100,000 sunk and lost in running each steamer of the new line, for a few months, would be a bagatelle to \$3,000,000 or \$5,000,000 made on the rise in Pacific Mail. But now look how the steamship line will be benefited by this competition. 'Ill blows the wind that profits nobody.'"

ARRIVAL OF THE ALASKA.—A SLENDID REX.—The new American schooner "Alaska," Capt R Calhoun, arrived last evening, after a splendid run of nine days from San Francisco, bringing 200 tons of freight. The Alaska left San Francisco four days after the bark Orient and has preceded her to this port. She also overhauled and passed a bark that left San Francisco for Puget Sound two days before the schooner sailed. The Alaska was brought alongside the H. B. Co's wharf in fine style, and with less difficulty than is sometimes experienced in bringing a steamer to the wharf. Capt Calhoun says he has only one fault to find with his boat, which is that when she gets going she never wants to stop. A pardonable fault. The Alaska was built at Port Townsend recently, and her sailing qualities, as developed during the recent voyage to San Francisco and back, entitle her to be classed among the fastest vessels afloat on the coast.

ASADLY.—George Francis and W D Lits, two rival coachmen, appeared before the Stipendiary Magistrate yesterday to conclude the settlement of a quarrel commenced on Saturday last at Esquimalt. It appeared upon investigation that some angry words had passed between the litigants on the morning of the day of the fight, and Lits forbade Francis, on pain of a thrashing, speaking to him again. Francis, not caring to heed the warning thus given, at the next time of meeting at Esquimalt, did address himself to Lits, who again forbade him speaking to him. Francis persisted, until angry words culminated in a fight, in which Francis seems to have got what he desired, and probably deserved. Lits proving to be the first who transgressed the letter of the law, was fined ten dollars.

CURIOUS ACCIDENT.—Last week, an old man from Hilo applied at the Queen's Hospital for treatment of one of his eyes. The eye had evidently met with an accident. The old man explained, in answer to the question of the physician, that some six weeks since he was hunting seals in Hilo Bay; that being under the water he was searching about, and had his open, staring eyes close to an seal hole, when the seal darted out and, deeming, possibly, the bright, glaring eye was something good to eat, the seal bit through both eyelids and into the corner of the eye, destroying the power of vision completely. Hawaiian Gazette.

PEACE OFFENDERS.—Two dusky sons of the forest, bearing respectively the common name of Johnny, appeared at the Police Court yesterday upon a charge of fighting. The only evidence produced was that given by the combatants, who each swore the other to be the offender and himself the innocent participator in the fight; whereupon the Court, in order to do justice to the unimpeachable character of the evidence, fined the "defenders" \$10 each, a judgment which they seemed cordially to accept, and the chickensman was pollockted forthwith.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—At the annual meeting of the Victoria Chamber of Commerce, the following officers were elected:—President, Henry Rhodes; Vice President, Gustave Suto; Treasurer and Secretary, A F Main; Arbitration Committee, G J Findlay, Edgar Marvin, Emil Sutor, John Wilkie, F Weissenburger, E Graciani.

EARTHQUAKE.—Last night, at precisely 27 minutes to 9 o'clock, two slight shocks of an earthquake were experienced in this city. The movement was from east to west. Each shock lasted about three seconds, with an interval of about five seconds between them. The shocks were accompanied by a rumbling noise.

GOVERNOR HENRY MANFIELD, a passenger on board of the Eliza Anderson on Monday evening last, was seriously gored by a bull. The injured man was taken to the Royal Hospital on Tuesday, and it is thought the accident may not prove more serious than to cause a few weeks' confinement.

OBITUARY.—The friends of Mr Benjamin Dean were yesterday called upon to mourn his demise. Deceased was the resident partner of the firm of Hostetter, Smith & Dean, of this city, distinguished for his promptness and integrity in business transactions, and for his urbanity and kindness in social life, whereby he gained the esteem of all who were acquainted with him.—S F Call.

THE SUIT AGAINST THE BRITISH BARK ADJ, brought to recover damages for alleged bad stowage of cargo, will come off to-day week at Port Townsend, where the vessel was libelled on account of Victoria suits.

ARRIVAL.—The brig Commodore, ten days from San Francisco, arrived on Tuesday night. The brig is consigned to Capt Stamp, at whose mills she will load with lumber for San Francisco.

SEVERAL SHIPS are expected to arrive shortly from San Francisco to take in cargoes of Nanaimo coal.

THE WIRE went down yesterday—as in duty bound, where important news is expected.

It is estimated that 25,000 tons of produce at Portland await shipment for San Francisco.

By the arrival of the schooner Alaska we have two days' later, San Francisco papers.

British Columbia and Vancouver Island.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, Sir.—I arrived here on Saturday by the China, my place of departure being Vancouver Island. I have considerable interests there and in British Columbia, and on landing in my native country my first wish is naturally to make my countrymen and the commercial world here acquainted with certain startling facts in connection with that colony; for they are of such magnitude that they may ultimately affect the entire interests of the whole nation as regards the commerce with the East.

At present England has no direct or postal communication with the Pacific save via New York and San Francisco; and in case of war with the United States, the only possible direct postal line would be through her own territory across the Rocky Mountains.

The Central Pacific Railroad, from New York to San Francisco (which has now become a national enterprise), is rapidly progressing in spite of many drawbacks, and will in all probability, be opened in 1876. Whether this line of railroad (3,800 miles in length) will be able to carry goods across the American continent at such rates as would produce any very great disturbance in the present channels of commerce may be questioned; but certainly passengers and mails, precious metals, and the lighter and costlier kind of goods will pass over it; it will be fed by the "way" traffic east of the American Desert, which will be immense, and the commercial correspondence of one-half of the globe will pass over it.

It is calculated to divert a great part of the trade to China and Japan, from the Old to the New World; and if we do not soon awake we shall bitterly regret the lost opportunity, and an important trade which might so easily be made to pass through British North America and belong to us.

Now, the key of such a communication on the Pacific is through British Columbia, and if we do not mind, England will lose at colony also before long, as I shall presently show. But before entering upon any detail on that important subject, I will first explain how the above communication can be established, at least during the summer months.

A railway from Ottawa city to the Pacific is too magnificent a project to be entertained for the present, but nature has gifted this portion of British territory with water communications of the very first order, which only require a few connecting links to make them available, and which will then offer a quick and easy mode of conveyance for mails and passengers during seven to eight months in the year, and at prices for goods at about one-fourth of the prices by railway carriage, and what is of still further importance, through a temperate climate.

Unlike the barren wilderness of the American "Desert," inhabited by fierce and hostile Indians, this line would pass over one of the richest, most beautiful, and fertile regions of the world, viz, the Plain of the Saskatchewan, extending from near the Lake of the Woods, to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, containing from 60,000 to 100,000 square miles, or say between forty and sixty millions of acres lying directly between the two colonies of Canada and British Columbia, and possessing every possible qualification for agricultural purposes.

Further westward the line would pass through the Rocky Mountains at the Yellow or "Leather Head" Pass, the lowest and easiest break in the whole range, thence down the Fraser, by the Cariboo gold mines, and over the Chilcooten Plain, the only one of any extent in British Columbia (120 miles wide, by 300 in length), and through the Cascade or Coast range by a level valley to Bute Inlet, on the Gulf of Georgia, from

whence there is easy inland navigation to Victoria, Vancouver Island.

The details of this whole line of road, which were, so far, entirely unknown to the public, have been carefully collected by the writer, and those relative to British Columbia explored at his own expense; they were communicated by him to the members of the House of Commons and the Senate in Ottawa, at a meeting held at their request in the Government buildings, three weeks ago, in consequence of the debates concerning the annexation of the Northwest, or Saskatchewan territory and the surprise of these gentlemen was unbounded when they learnt, for the first time, that out of 3,046 miles across the continent—from Collingwood, the terminus of the Canadian railways on the Georgian Bay, to the Pacific—3,400 miles consist of steamboat navigation, out of which 1,249 miles is in one unbroken stretch. The cost of opening this splendid line of communication would be trifling, and the whole would be easily effected in two years; especially with the co-operation of the Canadian Government which can now be reckoned on, and the hope of a liberal grant of land from the Home Government for the portion through British Columbia.

England, instead of running the risk, as at the present, of losing the trade of the East, would, without disbursing a shilling—and pending the construction of a railroad which must soon follow—have an immediate high road of its own, with two of the finest harbors in the world and abundance of coal at the termini; and which, when completed, will be the shortest and most direct possible route to China and Japan, and perhaps, even (for who can foresee future events?) in India.

And this is the more urgent on account of the present state of disaffection in British Columbia, and more particularly in Vancouver Island. In spite of its natural disadvantages, owing to its distance from the home country, the cost of emigration, and its being hemmed in by the United States, this island was in the first place separated by the Home Government from the colony on the mainland, and two distinct governors appointed, each over a population of some ten thousand souls. Nothing could have been more absurd; and the system of commercial aggression and general hostility towards Vancouver Island which was adopted by the Government of the mainland, brought things to such a state of aggravation, that, in a fit of despair, the House of Assembly in Victoria petitioned the Home Government for the reunion of the two colonies; and, fondly trusting to the liberality of the mother country, offered to accept whatever institutions she might think fit to grant.

The governor of the mainland, who was then in England on leave of absence, was shortly after united by Act of Parliament without a dissentient voice in either House. The representative Government of Vancouver Island was abolished, the free port of Victoria done away with, and the hostile governor of the mainland, re-appointed over the united colonies, with a legislative council consisting of 21 members, of whom one-third only were for the island, 14 being appointed by the governor and the seven others elected subject his approval—a strange anomaly when compared with the free institutions of Canada.

The discontent which followed may well be imagined; Vancouver Island was more neglected and oppressed than ever; the trade of Victoria fell off—everybody who could left the place, and some who remain are now calling out "annexation" more from despair than from any real disloyalty.

But British Columbia is the key of the North Pacific. Without her and the Saskatchewan territory the very existence of Canada as a British dependency would be compromised, and before long at an end. The United States are already knocking at the door, and if the whole of British North America is not speedily connected by an overland communication or by railroad, England may bid adieu to her north, not only to Canada, but to a great portion of her trade with the East.

I am, sir, your obedient servant, ALFRED WADDINGTON, Liverpool, 31st December, 1867.

N. B.—The following is an extract from the speech of the Hon. A. T. Galt, the eminent Finance Minister of Canada, confirming my views.

When we know that British Columbia is at this moment seeking admission into our Government, we shall be waiting in our duty to ourselves, waiting in our duty as subjects of the British Crown, if we refused to let that country in. The great lines of settlement, the great sources of power, seem on this continent to stretch from east towards the west. "From the Atlantic to the Pacific" must be the cry in British America as much as it has ever been in the United States. A. H. W.

An old bachelor, who had become melancholy and peevish, wrote some verses for the village paper in which he expressed the hope that the time would soon come when he should "retire calmly within a shawl, With a weeping widow by my side."

The Weekly British AND CHRONICLE

Tuesday, March 3 1868.

A number of absurd rumours afloat yesterday concerning the Fenian raid, not one of us were happy to say, in our stated yesterday, every has been taken by Admirals and the Police authorities, of which he must be a fool who would attempt an ousting of a band of men in and that an emissary was us to feel the ground. Fin ever, that his coming was and that he was watched himself "scarce," and has seen since the sailing of the derson on Thursday morning. This is the whole story. not the slightest foundation ridiculous rumors in about town, and whatever there may have been ago, the admirable measures taken have removed the range of possibility to a hostile movement. But a peace it is the "correct" thing pare for war, too great a not be displayed in the measures calculated to de characters from ever entertain an idea the invasion of Island.

Yesterday we alluded to per manner in which Government acted in its dealings with Sound Copper Mining Company another evidence of which the efforts of capital clogged has come to our the last session of the Legislature a bonus of \$2500 was voted first quartz mill put into operation in the Colony. received the approval of the and, acting upon its faith, a who has an interest in the quartz lode on Hixon Creek, decided to San Francisco and enlisted the support of capitalists of that construction of the machinery to be sent to Cariboo. adopted and everything for the successful carrying enterprise, when it was deemed to secure from our here some sort of pledge, the mill should be erected would be paid. As a matter therefore, the gentleman Government at New West stating that in case the given he would be enabled the machinery for a quartz him, and submit to a satisfaction the quartz on Hixon Creek Governor, who had just a staff an "Under Secretary" of \$2000 per annum, answer regretting the inability of the Colony promised bonus in construction financial distress; and in astonished prospect and below that the "Customs duty is ten per cent." The objection knocked the ash head. The San Francisco at once from the enterprise gentleman has returned to completely and thoroughly at the way in which the of the Colony are trifled Government, which aimed to do nothing itself any one else to do anything the country ahead.

The Zealous, yesterday morning outside and anchored in Royal the afternoon there was divided with great guns firing at a m the ship's company was called without powder. This evening will weigh and proceed under tonal exercise; great guns firing at a target whilst the To-night, quarters with powder gun will be fired at the evening.

DEPARTURE.—We understand performance by the Victoria Athletic Club will take place 11th of March, and will be a

The Weekly British Colonist and Chronicle.

Tuesday, March 3, 1868

A number of absurd rumors were afloat yesterday concerning an anticipated Fenian raid, not one of which, we are happy to say, is correct. As we stated yesterday, every precaution has been taken by Admiral Hastings and the Police authorities, in the face of which he must be a fool or madman who would attempt an outrage. No doubt it is entertained, however, by the authorities that a raid was contemplated by a band of men in California, and that an emissary was sent among us to feel the ground. Finding, however, that his coming was heralded and that he was watched, he made himself "scarce" and has not been seen since the sailing of the Eliza Anderson on Thursday morning last. This is the whole story. There is not the slightest foundation for the ridiculous rumors in circulation about town, and whatever danger there may have been a week ago, the admirable defensive measures taken have removed beyond the range of possibility the success of a hostile movement. But as in time of peace it is the "correct thing" to prepare for war, too great energy cannot be displayed in the adoption of measures calculated to deter lawless characters from even entertaining such an idea the invasion of Vancouver Island.

Yesterday we alluded to the improper manner in which Government had acted in its dealings with the Howe Sound Copper Mining Company. Today another evidence of the way in which the efforts of capitalists are clogged has come to our notice. At the last session of the Legislative Council a bonus of \$2500 was voted for the first quartz mill put into successful operation in the Colony. The vote received the approval of the Governor, and, acting upon its faith, a gentleman who has an interest in the Washburne quartz lode on Hixon Creek, proceeded to San Francisco some months ago and enlisted the support of a number of capitalists of that city in the construction of the machinery for a mill to be sent to Cariboo. Plans were adopted and everything was in train for the successful carrying out of the enterprise, when it was deemed advisable to secure from our Government here some sort of a pledge that, in case the mill should be erected the bonus would be paid. As a matter of form, therefore, the gentleman wrote to the Government at New Westminster, stating that in case the pledge was given he would be enabled to bring up the machinery for a quartz mill with him, and submit to a satisfactory test the quartz on Hixon Creek. But the Governor, who had just added to his staff an Under Secretary at a salary of \$2000 per annum, returned an answer regretting the financial inability of the Colony to pay the promised bonus in consequence of financial distress; and informed the astonished prospector and his friends below that the "Customs duty on machinery is ten per cent." This communication knocked the scheme on the head. The San Franciscans withdrew at once from the enterprise, and the gentleman has returned to the Colony completely and thoroughly disgusted at the way in which the best interests of the Colony are trifled with by the Government, which appears determined to do nothing itself, nor allow any one else to do anything to push the country ahead.

The Zealous, yesterday morning, steamed outside and anchored in Royal Roads. In the afternoon there was divisional exercise with great guns firing at a mark. At night the ship's company was called on quarters, without powder. This evening the big ship will weigh and proceed under steam; divisional exercise; great guns and small arms firing at a target whilst steaming round it. To-night, quarters with powder. The Evening Gun will be fired at the usual hour this evening.

DRAMATIC.—We understand that the next performance by the Victoria Amateur Dramatic Club will take place on or about the 11th of March.

HONOR-TAKING.—Mr Bartholomew gave his second, and, as he announced at the conclusion, the last exhibition of the kind he intends giving in this town. Although dealing with very different material Mr B was again perfectly successful. We have already described the process and result of the system, by which such sovereign control is at once obtained over an unbroken animal. There was no difference on the two occasions except in the character of the horses, and in proportion to that difference is the credit due to Mr B yesterday. It is all very well to talk of love, fear and conquest, the three great principles of the system, and which it so obviously suggests; but there must be something more than common in the man who can thus quickly impress an unbroken horse with that perfect sense of love, fear and obedience, as was done in these separate cases. It is a repetition of the old adage of lovers after a severe quarrel, when the eyes or the soul say: "Now, what's the best for us to do? Why, you love me and I'll love you!" But getting the young folks into that happy frame of mind which dictates so sensible an arrangement is precisely the point where the difficulty lies. So the first part of the exhibition, in which the understanding is established, although perhaps tedious to some, philosophically speaking, is really the most instructive. We thought it might be interesting to take the time of the taming yesterday: It is as follows: Commenced at 2:35 by the clock; had hand on neck, 3:25; bridle on, 4:10; knee-strap on, 4:24; single on, 4:28; thrown down, 4:34; let up again, 4:39; thrown second time and mounted, 4:45; saddled, 4:57; ridden with umbrella and drum, 5:10.

THE GOLD PRODUCT OF AUSTRALIA.—The approximate gold product of Australia for the last ten years is shown by the following data, furnished by the London Mining Journal. This is the export exhibit, but it fairly represents the average gain or loss in production for the term noted: 1858.....£9,064,783 say \$43,000,000 1859..... 8,624,566 " 42,000,000 1860..... 6,719,000 " 32,500,000 1861..... 6,331,225 " 31,000,000 1862..... 5,704,753 " 28,500,000 1863..... 5,995,568 " 29,000,000 1864..... 2,656,971 " 13,700,000 1865..... 5,051,270 " 24,000,000 1866..... 6,839,764 " 33,000,000 1867..... 5,600,000 " 27,000,000

It appears from these figures that there was a falling off last year, as compared with 1866, but a gain over the two previous years. The gold product of Australia is evidently on the decline, while the agricultural interests are steadily growing from year to year.

BRAVE CAPTURE OF A FINNIAN.—A veritable Finnian was captured in the outer harbor yesterday. It is supposed he arrived off the Race Rocks during Sunday night, in the morning; but the fortunate appearance of the Zealous in Royal Roads, and the sound of her great guns, apparently confused him, and he attempted to escape towards the American side. His movements were observed, however, by a patrol-boat from this city, which had gone out early in the morning in search of just such characters. Chase was given, and after a pull of some miles the Finnian was captured after a stout resistance by the brave fellows in the boat and conveyed to town, where he was ascertained to weigh 122 pounds. He was cut up into halibut steaks and retailed at one bit per pound by his captors.

MECHANIC'S INSTITUTE PRIZES.—Now that the time is fast approaching for this affair to come off we hear that considerable activity prevails with regard to it and that before the week is over a large number of contributions will be sent in to the Institute. Those addressed to the Secretary may be left in the hands of the Librarian (Mr Coleman) or in his absence put in the box at the top of the landing. We hope to find that the ladies have been contending for some of the honors, and more particularly upon the subject of Poetry; and if that should be so we should not be at all surprised to find the laurels encircling the brows of some of the fair sex. As to conundrums—any quantity may be expected, many of which, doubtless, will be the embodiment of the wit, humor and quaint conceits of the community.

A DENIAL FOG.—A man traveling through the interior of California a few days ago in a dense fog heard a flock of wild geese cackling. Unable to see more than a foot or two in any direction, the man fired in the direction of the noise; but he soon discovered that the lead had only penetrated a few feet, and subsequently found the charge of shot sticking in the fog. The same man, in the same day, in the same fog, coming to what he believed to be a lake, launched a boat and rowed about for several hours. Finally he came in contact with a fence, and upon inquiry discovered that he had been sailing in a fog bank.

It is asserted that the recent discoveries of gold deposits at Cariboo will cause a rash of men from the lumber mills on Puget Sound, as soon as the season shall have opened letters of a highly cheering character having been received there from our mines.

ACTIVITY.—Parties from the other side represent an improved state of business, at all the mills. Extensive orders for lumber from abroad are being filled and ships are arriving daily to take cargoes. At Burrard Inlet, in this Colony, the orders have largely increased of late, and the secrecy of lumber and spars in the China, Australia and South American markets point to a prosperous season during the present year.

ABOUT \$2000 OF THE \$3000 NECESSARY for the purchase of a steam fire engine have been subscribed. The latest contribution received is from the Builders' Fire Insurance Company, of San Francisco, which subscribes through its agent in this city, Mr Adams, \$100. We hope the response of property-holders to this appeal will be prompt and generous, the object being a laudable and necessary one.

FROM BURKARD INLET.—The steamer Isabella, arriving in tow the British ship Dorsetshire, arrived from Burrard Inlet yesterday morning. The Dorsetshire is laden with 200,000 feet of lumber for Chile. The bark Rosalind is loading at Moody's mills, for Hawaii, and the schooner L Stephens, for Australia, at Stamp's mills.

In the suit of Marvin vs the Bank of British Columbia, the Chief Justice yesterday granted a rule nisi and argument on the motion and affidavits for a new trial will be heard on Friday.

The steamer Fidelity, Capt. Erskine, arrived from Portland last evening at 6 1/2 o'clock. She brings fifteen passengers and a large freight. We are indebted to Captain Erskine for the customary favors.

ON THE BERTH.—The ship Spirit of the Age was loading at London Docks, at last advice. She would sail about Feb. 15th, with a full cargo, a portion of which was Government stores.

TOWED IN.—The brig Robert Cowan was towed to Junion, Ropes & Co's wharf yesterday afternoon by the steamer Fly. She will commence to discharge to-day.

The Marmora has been chartered by Mr J Robertson Stewart, to load with lumber at Stamp's mills, for Chile.

The steam tug Emma has been chartered to tow logs in Burrard Inlet for Moody & Co.

"Mark Twain" Asks for Information.—[From the New York Tribune, January 22.]

To the Editor of Tribune, Sir.—If you can, I wish you would give me some information of a man by the name of George Francis Train. It is for an uncle of mine that I want it. My uncle has had a pretty hard time of it, and if any man does deserve sympathy, and if any man would appreciate that sympathy, it is he. He is in the decline of life and wants to be quiet; but you know he tried Wall Street, and the bears mauled him; and then he tried St. Thomas, and the caribou ousted him; and so he hung up his fiddle, so to speak, and concluded he would wait and look around awhile, till Government bought some more property. And, while he was waiting, somebody recommended him to hunt up this gentleman, Mr Train. They said Mr Train was a slow, quiet sort of a body, and had no airs or curious notions about him; and that he was going over to the old country to buy Ireland for those persons they call the Fenians. They said he was very popular with the English Government, and that if the English Government would sell to anybody, they would to Mr Train. They said that if Mr Train concluded to take it, my uncle would have an excellent chance to buy into a quiet locality in Cork, or Tipperary, or one of those calm, religious regions there, by speaking to him early.

So my uncle went after Mr Train, but he was building a couple of railroads out West, somewhere, and before my uncle got there he had finished those railroads and was making Democratic speeches in the East. It was a considerable disappointment, but my uncle always had a great idea of doing business with a slow, quiet man, and so he came East. But he came the last part of the journey in a canal-boat (it being his nature to prefer quiet and safety to speed) and so he missed that man again. Mr Train had got the Democratic party reorganized and all straight, and was out in the middle of the Rocky Mountains clearing off a place and driving away the buffaloes; so that he could build a metropolis there. But my uncle went in an ox wagon, and he missed that man again. Mr Train had finished that metropolis and paved it with the Nicholson pavement, and started a couple of daily newspapers, and was gone East again with another lady to lecture on local suffrage.

It was a little discouraging, but my relative rested about a week and started after him again. He caught him this time, because Mr Train had sprained his ankle, and was obliged to remain quiet until he could get the leg removed and a reliable patent wooden one put on in its place that could not sprain. So he mentioned his business to Mr Train, and he replied: "You are all right, sir. Put your trust in me. I'll buy Ireland, and you shall have as good a chance as any man. I am going to sail right away. You will hear about me as soon as I touch the Emerald shores. I shall get out some advertisements and make my presence known. I make no pretensions, but you will see pretty soon that I shall be heartily welcomed there and promptly cared for."

Since that time my uncle has not heard of Mr Train. He has confidence in him, but he thinks that maybe he is too quiet a man to make much of a stir, and has not been heard of on that account. But have you heard anything of Mr Train? Do you know if he got out any advertisements? And do

you know if they received him heartily there and more especially if they took care of him? This last is the main thing with my relative. If they took care of Mr Train it is all his business. He has said to me repeatedly that all that he is afraid of is that he has been neglected and not taken care of. If he were to hear that Mr Train is there, in a strange land, without any place to stay, it would nearly break his heart. If you could only inform us that Mr Train is safe, and has been received hospitably and has a good tranquil place to board in, suitable to a quiet man like him; it would be a great comfort to the old man. MARK TWAIN.

"Mad as a March Hare." (Cable Telegram to the Revolution.)

BRITISH JAIL, Monday, 12 M.—My first gun is fired, Lord Derby quails—Revolution—Kuczowski—Ireland for the Irish—American citizens' rights in Europe—Alabama—or war—galvanize Johnson and Seward—are they Americans?—Adams's British Toady.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN. The last words of George Francis Train on board the Scotia, just before it sailed on that voyage which is destined for a niche in the temple of history, were: "God bless old Ireland—God bless her martyrs, her noble boys! Stephen J. Meany and Captain Warren I will see, Lord Derby dare not refuse me. There is a great destiny in store for me—I feel it. This voyage will be historical—every noble God-given thought nerves my very soul for America's and American rights. Europe, her rights and nothing more; America, her rights and nothing less. I shall be President of the United States—the people's President. I shall pin the Derby Government to the ground, time-serving Seward to the American flag before I am forty-eight hours on British soil."

"Allah Kerim! Good-bye—be true to America and liberty of thought and expression—no marring of God's divine image in the soul of humanity." Again, "good-bye, old fellow, stick to cold water, Kuczowski and 44 Bond street—the birds are flying, it is time to shoot—times are coming for cool heads, steady hands, hard muscle, pluck and the Revolution, with Miss Anthony's noble band of American women. The bell is ringing, be off. Allah il Allah! Allah Belut!"

Shocking Death in the River.—[From the London (C. W.) Free Press.]

It is our painful duty this morning to record the death of a young girl named Adelaide Corps, which took place yesterday forenoon, under the following very melancholy circumstances:—She resided with her parents in the village of Petersville, and had been engaged by a Mrs. Meyer, of Westminster, to go to her house to sew all day. She left home, therefore, at about eight o'clock in the morning, and thought to make a short cut by crossing the ice at a point about half a mile below "The Forks." But she had not advanced more than twenty yards out, when the treacherous ice gave way beneath her, and she fell through in about four or five feet of water. The current being strong at that side of the river, the ice was not so firm as in other parts, being not more than half an inch in thickness. Every effort therefore, to recover herself only widened the breach first made, the ice crumbling in pieces around her. Still she kept her head above water, and shrieked for assistance; but the obscurity of the place—a vacant flat on one side, and a hill abutting on the view of the other—rendering her cries for help for more than an hour unheard. Not a soul appeared on either side. At length a young lad, hearing her screams, went to the brow of the hill, and seeing her struggling in the water, at once gave the alarm, and soon some men were on the spot. "One of them procuring some fence rails, before he could reach her, he also broke through, and was with difficulty rescued. Several other attempts were made, but each failed, and then at half past ten o'clock a messenger went to the Chief of Police, and asked for aid and a boat. Several persons at once left for the scene, and on reaching it, found three soldiers of the 53rd regiment engaged in making a raft with boards; but on seeing some men approaching on the other side, bearing a small canoe, the soldiers abandoned the work. The boatmen were too late; the blighting hand of death had already seized its victim and the poor girl, her voice growing fainter and fainter, so that at last it could scarcely be distinguished by those on shore, after two or three despairing wails, which pierced the hearts of those who heard them; dropped her head and yielded up the spirit. The fearful struggle against death had been of three hours' duration, through all of which time her head and neck had remained above water? She was therefore not drowned, in the proper meaning of the word, not suffocated by complete immersion; but her whole system had become thoroughly chilled and benumbed, and the vital spark quenched forever, by the intense cold to which she was so long exposed. Miss Corps' death ought to be a warning to the young men who, watching her agonies for more than an hundred minutes, confessed themselves unable to devise a means of reaching her a helping hand. Where had their manhood fled? where the daring pluck of which men were wont to boast that they stood so long with gaping mouths and benevolent inclinations, and permitted a fellow creature to die before their eyes, daring not to wet their selfish trousers? The men who brought the boat arrived just twenty minutes too late; but tying a piece of rope to her, launched her out with Mr John McKay on board. When he grasped the clothing of the body, those on shore pulled all in together; and the body for some time rested on the river bank, until Mr J E Jacobs procured a

wagon and removed it to the house of the deceased's friends. The event has cast quite a gloom over the whole neighbourhood, the family being very much respected.

The New British Minister to Washington.

The following letter, the origin of which is explained, appeared in the London Daily News of the 4th of January: To the Editors Sirs.—The Times has renewed its attack on the appointment of Mr Thornton as Minister at Washington, and recommends the substitution of a Parliamentary lord, mentioning several of eminence. Mr Thornton has been appointed as the ablest man in the diplomatic service at Lord Stanley's disposal, and the question thus raised by the Times is the important one, whether diplomacy ought to be governed by the ordinary rules of promotion subject to fitness, or whether it ought to be open to Parliamentary ambition. Before this question is decided adversely to Mr Thornton's mission to Washington, let us recollect that diplomacy as a service to government has given us Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, at Constantinople; Sir H Hamilton at St Petersburg; Sir James Hudson at Florence and Torino; Lord Cowley at Paris; Sir Henry Bulwer and Lord Lyons at Washington; and Lord Clarendon himself at Madrid. Contrast these men at those posts with what Parliamentary appointments have done in Lord Normanby at Paris and Florence, in Lord Ashburton and his "capitulation" at Washington, in Mr Shiel in Italy. The balance, I submit, is largely in favor of adhering to diplomacy as a service, and against reviving Parliamentary appointments to diplomatic positions. But we don't know, it is said, Mr Thornton. Of course a man compelled to pass his life in the service of the State in distant countries can't be, as well known as a man who occupies a prominent position in party and parliamentary life at home. But when we see a man, without influence and unconnected with great families, steadily promoted in his profession by a succession of Foreign Ministers, as opportunities arise; when we see that man esteemed and appreciated in the countries in which he has resided, both by natives and English; when we see that his reputation has travelled before him to the country to which he is now accredited; we may be tolerably certain that he owes his promotion in his profession to his own merits and capacity; and that he is a competent man.

A FRIGHTFUL OCCURRENCE IN FRANCE.—French law enacts that a corpse shall be buried within four and twenty hours of death. Based on excellent motives, an observance of this rule has been the cause more than once of tragedy. All remember the electrifying disclosures made by Cardinal Ruffini, when he described in the Senate how narrowly he had escaped burial while in a trance; how he heard the last services, the lamentations of his friends, the orders for his funeral, and how he managed to give signs of life just in time to prevent his interment. A young lady, residing in the commune of Plougven, has not been so fortunate. Within an hour of her supposed death, the preparations for her funeral began. At midnight she seemed to be dead; at five o'clock the next day she was placed in her grave; but when the sexton's helper began to throw in the earth he was started by noise in the coffin. Terrified at the "prodigy," he cleared over the grave, and he saw to the terror, who told him first to get witnesses and then to seek a medical man. Five hours elapsed, before the summons reached M. Rouger, a practitioner. On his arrival the coffin was heaved up and opened. It was light, and the lantern threw an uncertain gleam over the grave, yet no sooner was the coffin opened than the truth became apparent. The poor girl was even then warm and alive, but alas, beyond the hope of resuscitation. She had struggled fiercely in her dreadful prison; the graveclothes were disordered, the feet contracted, with signs of violent movement, and the body still warm. Plainly Philomene Jonet had been buried alive. Although this vigorous effort to restore vitality failed, M. Rouger forbade a second burial until death should be beyond a doubt. It is really wonderful that a clear sighted people like the French do not repudiate a law which renders possible a fate so dreadful as that of the poor Breton girl.

BAD BOYS.—Many years ago in a country town in Massachusetts a teacher saw a boy come into his school whom he knew to be one of the worst boys in town. He determined, if he could, to make a good boy of him. So he spoke kindly to him, and he behaved well that day. The next morning the Prudential Committee (as he was called) came in and said: "Mr Towne, I hear that that bad fellow, Bill Marcy, has come to your school. Turn him out at once. He will spoil the rest of the boys." "No, sir," replied the teacher, "I will leave the school if you say so, but cannot expel a boy so long as he behaves well." So he kept him and encouraged him, confided in him; till Bill Marcy became one of the best boys in school. And afterwards, whenever William Marcy came from Washington, he took pains to go and see his old teacher, Salem Towne, and thank him for having been the means of saving him and making him the man he was.

A FRAGRANT COSMETIC. To preserve the soft, clear color of the skin, even to an advanced age, take of the genuine MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER one part, of pure water three parts; mix, and bathe the face, neck and arms five or six times a day. To prevent disappointment, buyers should always ask for the Florida Water prepared by the sole proprietors, Lanman & Kemp, New York.

Plain Truths. Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills cure scrofula and old sores. Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills cure tumors and ulcers. Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills cure cancerous diseases. Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills cure all skin diseases. Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills cure bad blood and humors.

