

The Weekly British Colonist, Wednesday, December 14 1870. Another Anniversary.

With the present edition commences the thirteenth volume of this journal. Twelve years ago today the first number of the third newspaper published on the British Pacific was issued, and now the BRITISH COLONIST is a recognized power, a felt commercial and domestic necessity, a recognized institution in the land.

The following very sensible remarks are from the Hamilton Spectator, one of the most influential newspapers published in Ontario: British Columbia, like ourselves, seems to be furnished with politicians of a peculiar kind, and as there is legitimately very little for them to do there under present circumstances, they have dropped into mischief, as it is the law of their being to do.

tends to want a stipulation that the terminus of the Pacific Railway shall be at Esquimaux on Vancouver Island, at which place no doubt he and his friends have some very eligible corner lots. Now the place indicated may be the very best in the world for the terminus, but if so the premature advocacy of its claims is quite unnecessary; but however that may be it is obviously unreasonable to ask the Dominion Government to pledge itself to a particular spot for the terminus before the necessary surveys for the road have been made.

FROM THE NORTH WEST COAST.—The Otter arrived from the North on Saturday afternoon having visited all the Hudson Bay Co's stations on the coast. There had been some trouble among the Indians at Fort Simpson, and a white man named Spencer had been shot in the foot, but everything was quiet when the Otter left. The schooner Naimo Packet and sloop Native started from Fort Simpson for Victoria about the 30th Nov. The steamer California arrived at Tongass on the way to Sitka on the 27th. The Otter brought down thirteen miners from the Skeena. They had come through from Germansen creek and report very favorably of the prospects there.

AUTUMN AND WINTER.—The study of the seasons is ever interesting and amply repays the student who now learns that A B Gray, Government agent, has just received a large stock of Fall Goods, comprising Winceys, Serges, Plaids, French Merinos, Waterprooed Tweeds, Astrachan Cloths, Alpaca, Flannels, Blankets, Sheetings, Ladies' and Children's Jackets, Shawls, Hosiery, Silk Umbrellas, Hats, Feathers, Flowers, Ribbons, &c, &c, together with a choice selection of Fancy Small Wares suitable for the present season.—GOVERNMENT STREET, December, 1870.

SPORTSMEN, ATTENTION.—Peter Calvert at the 4-mile House, Craigflower Road, will hold the first shooting match for fat geese, turkeys, and sucking pigs on Saturday next, 17th inst. Shooting will commence at 2 o'clock, flat, and a free lunch will be provided by Peter, whose generosity is as unbounded as his larder.

ANOTHER NIAGARA SUICIDE.—A lady, registering herself Mrs Hill put up at the Spencer House, Niagara Falls, on the 19th of November. On the following morning she got up to take breakfast, and inquiring the way to the Falls, walked out. Going on to Goat Island Bridge, within about 50 yards of the edge of the American Falls, she climbed up the railing of the bridge and jumped in. Her correct name was afterwards ascertained to be Mrs T M Avery, belonging to one of the best families in Chicago. No cause was assigned for the rash act.

THE PRICE OF BUTTER IN CANADA.—The retail price of fresh butter at Montreal is quoted at 33 to 35 cents a pound, and in explanation of the high price which has prevailed for some time back it is stated that Canada exports annually into the United States \$500,000 worth of butter and \$9,000,000 worth of cheese. The nine millions tell the story. The milk that goes into the cheese for export is taken away from the production of butter. In Boston fresh butter retails at 50 and 58 cts a pound.

DEATH OF A WILSON—BRITISH COLUMBIAN.—The Ottawa Times mentions the death of Mr. Frank Macdougall, a younger brother of the Hon. William Macdougall, O. P., late member of the Dominion Cabinet. British Columbia, being for some time employed at Messrs Moody, Davis & Nelson's mills, Burrard Inlet, where he was much respected.

HIS FIRST LOVE.—The Ingersoll Chronicle states that Sir Francis Hicks will be a candidate at the next election in South Oxford. Sir Francis sat for South Oxford during the many years of his active political life in Canada, and it is quite natural that he should now return to his 'first love,' where he will doubtless meet with a hearty welcome.

GERMANSEN CREEK GOLD.—About \$8000 in Germansen creek gold was brought down on the Otter yesterday. Capt Wm Moore and son, well known on the Fraser, Mr Germansen and a number of others were among the arrivals. About \$70,000 had been taken out by all hands down to October 26th.

THE GALS.—The furious gale of Friday night prostrated a number of fences and reduced to 'ambareens' a large barn belonging to W P Farron and standing upon one of his lots on Pandora street. Damage to shipping is feared.

OUR NEW EL DorADO. ALL ABOUT GERMANSEN CREEK, FROM ITS DISCOVERER.

Mr James Germansen, the discoverer of the new diggings on the creek named after him, is an American, a native of St Paul, Minnesota. He started for British Columbia by way of Fort Garry and Saskatchewan river in the spring of 1866, in company with Dancing Bill, Black Jack and Robt Lamont. They wintered at Saskatchewan, and in the spring of 1867 a party was organized who came through by way of Jasper House. They prospected the head waters of Athabasca river and found gold, but not in paying quantities. They followed the Eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains by way of Skopky, Porcupine and Labish rivers, tributaries of Peace river, arriving at Peace river—Fort Danvers—on the 7th September, 1867, where they wintered. Having brought home through the party here alighted them and substituted on the meat; but for eight months they were without flour. They passed the winter trapping, meeting with poor success. In the spring of 1868 they reached the main Peace river and made about \$500 apiece at mining. Falling short of provisions, they came south to Quesnel-mouth, where they wintered. In the spring of 1869 the party separated, and Mr Germansen worked on a ranch at Deep creek. In the spring of 1870 he joined the rush for Peace river and reached Vitale creek on the 28th May. The ground on the creek was mostly located and many miners were leaving disgusted, Mr Germansen at once began to prospect the surrounding hills and creeks, and on the 13th day of July he reached a large creek, tributary of Omicomee river, 72 miles from Vitale creek in an easterly direction. Here he got 25 cents to the pan, but an old miner, who made one of the party, declared there were no diggings there that would pay. The party then went back to Vitale creek, where Germansen got Jim May, Duncan McMartin and Peace River Smith to return to the creek. They got there on the 1st of August, and in the same hole in which Germansen got 25 cents to the pan, two dollars and a half to the pan were obtained. The gold was coarse. They then located their ground and named the creek after the discoverer. On the 14th August two of the party went back to Vitale and reported their good luck. An intense excitement sprang up at once—some men leaving the same night with lighted candles in broken bottles to pick their way over the trail. The next morning there were only four men left in the camp. At Omicomee one of the party built rafts and floated down 60 miles to Germansen creek and took up claims. All was at once life and bustle at the new diggings. Nearly every man who went to work made money immediately. They waded lumber the creek and whipsawed lumber for sluices. The average yield was from half an ounce to \$100 a day to the man, and soon men whose week before had not a cent possessed heavy swags. Only about eighty miners went to work Small lumps of silver are frequently found in the sluice-boxes. The largest piece found is worth \$300. Cold weather set in on the 24th of October, freezing the creek and retarding mining operations. Germansen, Davis, Smith, Hamilton, Simmons, Willisart, Black Jack, White, Madder, Brown, Holliday and Reed came in company from Fatih Lake, down the Skeena to Woodcock's store, where they stopped eight days and then went to Fort Simpson and awaited the arrival of the Otter. There was snow in places on the banks of the Skeena, but no ice. On the Babine Summit there were only about 8 inches of snow, and at the forks of Skeena there was no snow.

Mr Germansen gives it as his opinion that 200 men will find diggings there next year that will pay from 1/2 an ounce to 3 ounces a day to the man. The benches of Germansen creek have been prospected and show well. The appearance of the country is good. Mr Germansen has been on several creeks in the vicinity and got gold on all. The country is not very heavily timbered with black pine. On Vitale creek two Frenchmen struck the lead on the bank and make 2 ounces per day to the hand. They will introduce hydraulics in the Spring. Several bars on Omicomee river will pay from \$10 to an ounce per day, and a miner named Johnson says he has had good prospects on the Omicomee, a large tributary of the Omicomee. On a small branch of Findlay branch prospects of from 3 to 6 cents were found on the bar.

THE TELEGRAPH.—Superintendent Lamb sailed yesterday in the schooner Winged Racer for the broken cable, which will be taken up and repaired, meanwhile dispatches for the press and private parties, will be received at San Juan and ferried across the Channel, which is seven miles wide, and then transmitted by wire to Victoria.

NEW LEGAL FIRM.—Mr George Peakes and Mr Edwin Johnson have formed a co-partnership as Attorneys-at-Law, Solicitors, Conveyancers and Notaries Public. Offices, Masonic Building. The new firm are worthy of public confidence.

THE HON GEORGE BROWN.—It is rumored in Canada that this distinguished politician is about to return to active public life and will contest South Brant, at present represented by Treasurer Wood, of Ontario.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY lunatics, with attendants, arrived at Toronto, Ontario, from Orillia, on the 18th Nov, en route to London, to be placed in the new Provincial asylum.

THE REAL ESTATE TAX.—His Excellency the Governor will meet a deputation of property holders at Government Buildings on Tuesday next at 11 1/2 o'clock a.m., with respect to the proposed enforced sale of real estate for taxes.

DAKARBORN.—The cover of a well on Humboldt street, lot 112, has caved and is now a dangerous mantrap.

Our French Letter. REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "COLONIST." AMIENS, Nov 12.

Paris is determined not to allow the world to turn aside its gaze from her. It is all she asks in her misery, not to be forgotten in her adversity as she was ever remembered in her joy. Metz may surrender by famine or by treason—Verdon which in the bloody days of Vionville and Gravelotte was a name to conjure with—falls after nearly a two months siege, and the telegraphic account is even too long, so a barbidi is every one about Paris. Thionville and Montmedy, as full of provisions as an egg's of meat, must fall in due time falling external relief. No interest can be attracted there, no more than to Victor Emmanuel's entering Rome, or Castelar's prediction, that the paving stones in the streets of Madrid will shout Vive la Republique in case the Duc d'Acosta enters as King. Even Exeter Hall forgets His Holiness and Dr Cumming's vials. The universe is absorbed by Paris.

And what is Paris doing? Rapidly approaching to the times of 1793, and it is not surprising to find that the price of a passage in a balloon has risen fifty per cent, despite the chances of being hunted by the Uhlans, and, if caught, sent before a Court-martial for aerially breaking the blockade. In expiating Paris would remain politically calm, her friends were but whistling before they were out of the wood. She has had a 'day,' and a serious one, and since it is only the first step which costs, those who know the capital best, could not predict that no more internal struggles will occur. Putting aside suburban defects, the disaster and the misunderstanding armistice, the burning question in the city is that of the Commune. The friends of order justly oppose it, the speculators of disorder advocate it. This institution had its origin in 1793, and was composed of delegates elected from the several quarters or wards of Paris. Instead of being a municipal body it became a political one, and controlled the affairs of the nation. It was the freest of parliaments. All were equal and brothers. There was no president, every member was sacred; the voting was free, but no one dared put his bulletin in the urn, without first publicly exhibiting it. If Trochu, Jules Favre, &c, conceded the establishment of such a body, they would be its first victims. Rochefort was the only advocate of the measure. The Committee of Defence would allow the election of Ward Mayors, and their adjoints, but nothing more. Floreus, Bianque, Eyat & Co, seized the recent occasion when the people were excited about Metz and the armistice to carry the commune question, calculating upon audacity to be successful. The National Guards they commanded marched on the Hotel de Ville where the Government was deliberating and held the members of it prisoners. Followed by a mob, a new Government was named. Tribunal was objected to because he was Italian but was retained to represent the 'universal Republic.' Rochefort endeavored to speak; he was insulted, told to be off, and finally was rescued by the reporters. He 'was a child of the people,' 'no you are an aristocrat.' He is a count by birth. When he alluded to the mission of Tuiers, it was unanimously resolved to hang that statesman, Doria, Minister of Public Safety, was proposed as President but it was objected to have any president—such equality the holy principles of revolution. Victor Hugo, who desires no office, was as unpopular as Rochefort. The crowd subsequently made its way to the Council chamber, and burst upon the Cabinet like a mountain wave. Trochu sat pale and unmoved, Favre indignant and resolute. They refused to resign to force. The popular General Thiers addressed the voters as 'my children,' but the children gave him 'figs.' On resolving to send him at once before a Court-martial Gardier-Page faints, and to revive him it was proposed to throw him out of the window. Floreus arrived—dressed in the highest style of theatrical military art—smelling of musk and incense. He is wealthy—thanks to his mother. He mounted on the Council table and harangued the mob, and called on Trochu to resign. In drawing up his list of the new cabinet the name of Gambon was included. This is a small farmer had who some time last spring refused to pay taxes, he better to overthrow Napoleon; his only cow was seized by the tax gatherers, and since then he and his cow, to use the expression of a journal—'are model patriots.' Picard, a member of the government, escaped in the row, and to his energy Paris—France, has been rescued from anarchy. He at once had the National Guards called under arms—protected the telegraph office, printing establishments, &c. One of the proposed members of the new cabinet called on Picard and demanded at once fifteen millions of money, as the country was in danger. He was invited to enter a room, and with his request and while doing so was quietly locked in and the gas turned off. Trochu and his colleagues were kept in their chairs by riles levelled at their heads. Ultimately some Mobiles and National Guards arrived; liberated Trochu, on condition of the rioters being let off with fire. The Governor of Paris at large, order was secured.

After such an outrage nothing was left to wipe it out; but to take a vote of confidence

among the citizens as to the government holding on. Rochefort disgusted with his reception by the Sovereign People would have no more to do with them or the Committee of National Defence. He has disappeared and the most active searches cannot discover his whereabouts. Thus the popular idols of yesterday are commencing to be smashed. The confidence vote gave Favre, Trochu etc, one. But the minority mustered 62,000—a very ominous total—representing the forces of the Socialists—the future Reds, who can calculate upon the recruits from the cordons of the capital, the young men under 21, the market women, etc.—the two latter classes being the terrorists of every revolution. The Byzantine fight has commenced—will the Prussians be entitled to enter and put it down? This may account for the delay in the bombardment.

Among my letters just received by balloon post I have three posted in the early days of September last and marked presse (immediate). Apart from the attempt at revolution Trochu should do something with his great army, before it has to take to short commons. He feels the national guard is not yet ripe for the field, undoubtedly the officers still play at soldiering a good deal. Besides, when he makes a sortie with 100,000 men the carnage must be fearful, and when dead and wounded husbands, brothers and sons are brought into Paris, it is uncertain how the excitement may be worked upon. I would not like to be in Gen Trochu's shoes. The reopening of the theatres, under difficulties, has not succeeded in killing the ennui which is gnawing Parisian life. It is very curious that a fashion has set in to go to church, admire the music, and sit out patriotic sermons. The making of collections in the sacred edifices by the pretty popular actresses, who have ceased to be cantonnieres, may go a little in the way of explanation. The Courts of Law have been daily opened, but not 20 barristers put in an appearance, and not even a Jarjedye v Jarjedye case came down for hearing. Favre is expected to hold out till January. The supply of fresh meat has been increased by the free permission granted to hunt the swarms of rats in the city sewers, and these Chinese delicacies may be observed in shops hanging up in bunches like pheasants or squirrels. Dogs and cats contribute to ward off starvation, and one of the sights of Paris is a butcher's shop on the Boulevard Rochechouart, where the pigs are 'laid out,' in all the loveliness of death, shrouded in scolloped paper or smothered in garlands of flowers and greenery. The tenants of the Zoological Gardens are contributing to the new gastronomic notes of the time, and the bears, fox, which results fresh meat daily, are to be slaughtered. Sic transit gloria mundi.

Yesterday a balloon started from Rouen with a mail for Paris. Amiens has the celebrated one in which Gambetta escaped, which is to set out for the same destination, but the continuous snow shows that the present departure. In the meantime the Tours Government undertake to send—but not to the west—dispatches for Paris for five francs the letter, by 'pigeon express.' The dispatches are first printed on a large sheet of paper and then reduced by photographic agencies, tied to the pigeon and magnified etc, on arrival. The heavy weather now existing is not favorable to ballooning and since the Prussians intend to deal harshly with any aeronauts they catch, they have seven already—the balloon mails will be fewer for the future. It is better to remain in Paris than in a German fortress.

The military situation is not cheering. The armies that France has unquestionably some where, ought by this to put in an appearance if they are to 'work in' with Trochu. Discipline is being severely carried out and the slightest insubordination in the ranks is punished with death. A great many military excursions have already taken place, and the war goes on fiercely. The people, while desiring peace, are becoming sulkily towards the invaders, reckless by the exactions of the enemy, and the demands by their own Government. The *teece en masse* has brought heads of families what the war has done. Up to forty years of age all men must serve. Rome has this made desolate and the sources of livelihood destroyed. Rumor states that men beyond 40, and between 17 and 20 may be also wanted. The country is beginning to have a wild look, and people to ask, when and how is all this to end? The farmers have to bring their horses into stabled towns for the authorities to select such as are suited for artillery and cavalry purposes—of course the ones taken are paid for. The note of preparation for France, and the Garibaldi republicans away for France, and the Universal Republic in the east. But the Germans do not stand in awe of the eccentric Italian, and Von Moltke ignores him.

Baxaine has failed to clear himself of the charge of treason launched against him by Gambetta. The evidence is clear and decisive that he sacrificed the army under his command to further political intrigues. He would have the lions share of the spoils. If he enters France, that made him great, and which he betrayed, he knows his fate now. His own officers, from generals to lieutenants, has furnished the damning proofs to his guilt. Amiens is again in a terrible state, expecting Manteuffel and his detachments from Metz. The people are still in the fighting mood, and will give back blow for blow, unless the terms of surrender accepted by the town of Dijon become fashionable, viz depositing a few millions as a security for good behavior, and to surrender all warlike weapons until peace arrives. The Society here for issuing boues against shells at extra risks have not lowered its rate of premium—a bad sign for peace.

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By Electric Telegraph. SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

Europe. LONDON, Dec 4—Granville's reply to Gortchakoff was sent on the 29th of Nov. He says he has nothing to add to his interpretation of international law already made. He is aware that suggestions to Congress to settle other eastern questions may not be adopted if Russia has formed her opinion about/ou intend acting without consulting other powers. The controversy is entirely closed and Russia's invitation to hold a conference is accepted without a foregone conclusion as to the result.

BRISTOL, Dec 3—The bombardment began on Saturday night. The French before Mconnes were reinforced on Friday and fought Treskov's division. They took 9 guns and 1500 prisoners, including one General and 2 officers.

Tours Dec 4—The Prussians have recaptured Normandy, Willonville and Neuvilville. It is reported that there was heavy fighting yesterday. The Pontifical Zouaves lost three-fourths of a battalion.

LYONS, Dec 4—There was fighting all Saturday between Arian and Army-le-Duet. General Cremer is actively pursuing the enemy. LONDON, Dec 3—The Saxon losses from the 30th Nov to the 21 Dec, is about 1,800. Four regiments No. 104, 106, 108, 115 lost 15 officers killed and 63 wounded. The number of French prisoners taken amounts to 3,000.

A despatch from before Paris dated Sunday night says that there has been no further attempt to attack the Prussian lines. LONDON, Dec 2—The Duke of Mecklenburg makes the following report: Yesterday morning a battle commenced near Bierschles Hantes. After a hot fight the 15th army corps was defeated and driven back to Arthenay. The 16th French army corps was driven beyond Soigny. Several hundred prisoners and 11 guns were taken. The enemy's loss was considerable—only comparatively light.

LONDON, Dec 4—The fighting at Briou on Friday was very severe. The Germans were exposed to a terrific fire from the French toris, but at 3 p m the French retired, leaving behind many prisoners. Origny, although abandoned by the French, has not been occupied by the Prussians. The Germans generally are losing much of their confidence in consequence of recent military events.

The Prince of Saxony telegraphs the King of Saxony that Briou and Champigny have been recaptured, although the French had thrown heavy masses into action. He admits that the Saxon troops suffered grievously.

The movement of the army of the Loire continues, and there are continually engagements all along the line of advance without marked advantage on either side. In one of these affairs Gen Souzy was wounded and taken prisoner. The 17th corps still holds its position, but is momentarily expected to advance. The morale of the troops is excellent and the French are confident of success.

A second attack was made on Autun by the Prussians, but they were repulsed with heavy loss. The enemy continue their retreat from the North.

Tours, Dec 4—The Government makes the following announcement: The army of the Loire has discontinued its forward movement owing to the resistance of the enemy, who have concentrated large masses of troops between Pithiviers, Artheus and Argenteuil. The army occupy strongly entrenched positions, in which they will remain until a present, postponing their advance until a better opportunity offers. Meanwhile Ducret with the army which will be able to act Paris, is disengaged and will be able to act more freely, not finding before him the masses of the enemy it was supposed he was engaged with. Signed—Gambetta.

FLORENCE, Dec 3—The deputation of the Spanish Government and Cortes to tender the crown of Spain to the Duke D'Acosta, arrived here to-day and was received with warm demonstration of welcome.

Tours, Dec 4—The passage of troops of their way to the front through Tours is incessant. The weather is intensely cold. Director Dupue has been appointed Director of the Engineering Bureau. The Generals in Algeria have been ordered to the Southern frontier of the colony to prevent incursions from the native tribes. The bombardment of Besfort has commenced. Nothing new has been received from Briou. The military situation of the army of the Loire is deemed critical by the best informed circles. Manteuffel has been ordered to march Paris.

It is stated on good authority that Bismarck insists that he must and will retreat from office unless the convention with the South German States is adopted unaltered. LONDON, Dec 4—In the southern front Paris the first shell was fired into the city yesterday. It was from the Bazarian battery and was fired accidentally. The Creter Price has ordered that no more guns be used for the present as such a range, if the Fretry any more sorties there will probably be sharp attack on the outlying defenses of the city. A correspondent telegraphs from Berlin Sunday that the Queen had received a telegram from King William. No fighting is reported today at Paris. The French are massing troops from Vincennes. During the night the French lost 1800 prisoners, including general and 20 superior officers, besides guns. A correspondent at St Petersburg, graphing on Sunday evening, says: Gortchakoff's reply to Gortchakoff's second vial was delivered yesterday. It insists that Gortchakoff admits by his answer the position is wrong in law. It contends that conference only on the understanding Russia withdraws the original circular. All pretensions to the right of sep

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A correspondent telegraphs from Berlin on Sunday that the Queen had received a telegram from King William: No fighting telegram today at Paris. The French are massing troops from Vincennes. During the night the French lost 1,800 prisoners, including 1 general and 20 superior officers, besides 7 guns.

A correspondent at St. Petersburg, telegraphing on Sunday evening, says: Granville's reply to Gortzchakoff's second note was delivered yesterday. It insists that Gortzchakoff admits by his answer that his position is wrong in law. It contends to a conference only on the understanding that Russia withdraws the original circular and all pretensions to the right of separate

action, and brings the question in a pacific form before the conference.

New York, Dec 5.—A correspondent telegraphs from Versailles on Dec 2nd that the battle of Nov 30 was as hard as any fought during the war. In the sortie between the Seine and Marne the French employed overwhelming force. No efforts could wholly drive them back.

A special, dated Tours, Dec 5th, says the result of the fighting before Orleans and Tours and at Chappell near Orleans on Saturday evening, had not been ascertained.

Paris, Dec 4.—The position of Austria and Russia gives assurance that all stipulations of the Paris treaty concerning the freedom of the Danube will be maintained and the discussion at the London Conference will be confined to the neutrality of the Euxine.

HAYRE, Dec 6.—All communication with the interior of France is severed. A Tribune correspondent, writing from Versailles on the 1st, says that the German loss in the sortie at Tours was considerable.

At Epernay the French made a rush at 3 p.m. and surprised a battalion of the 71st regiment. Under a heavy fire from Brie the French simultaneously burst out from Fort St Denis, and by the aid of a gubcoat coming down stream swept the banks clear of the German forces and then landed a force at Epernay, occupying the houses near the river and west of the village. The French were in overwhelming force. The Prussians fell back fighting, and evacuated the village. The French have barricaded Epernay.

Reinforcements are arriving near St. Germain. The Germans sent the whole of the 15th brigade, and the 71st and 31st regiments, six battalions in all, to take the villages. This force advanced rapidly and the French were driven out in two hours.

Eastern States.

WASHINGTON, Dec 6.—The opening of the 2nd session of the 42nd Congress was witnessed by a great number of residents and visitors who crowded the galleries and corridors. The House was called to order by Speaker Blaine, and the proceedings were opened with prayer by the Chaplain. On the roll being called, 173 members answered to their names. The President's message was read by the clerk and received with applause. The Treasury report was presented and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The Senate was called to order at noon by the Vice-President. Several bills were introduced, amongst them one by Cole and Cassery for the immediate repeal of the collection of some tax law forbidding the collection of some tax law maturing after the 1st January.

Waahburse of Wis has received a letter from his brother, Minister Parls have provisions enough to hold out till January 1st.

R Butler of Tenn will appear in the House to-day and make a personal explanation during which he will refer to damaging charges which have been made against him in connection with the pension frauds, and demand an investigation.

The election of General Logan as U S Senator from Illinois in place of Yates is regarded as certain.

Senator Sumner states the effect of his bill, introduced yesterday, will be to prevent the further providing of U S currency in place of worn out notes. He believes this course will gradually contract the currency and bring about specie payment. It will also provide for a funding loan by including 5 per cent. bonds from \$200,000,000 to \$500,000,000.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury says the financial condition of the country has improved during the past year. The average sale of gold for the year 1869 as shown by the weekly sales, was 329 per cent. premium, and for the first eleven months of the year 1870 was 152 per cent. premium—and bearing in mind the improvement in value—paper currency, about 17 per cent.

The total reduction of the public debt from March 1st, 1869 to Dec 1st, 1870 was \$181,154,785. The consequent reduction of interest is at the rate of over \$10,000,000 per annum. The total estimated receipts in 1870 are \$320,915,000. The surplus applicable to the payment of the principal of the public debt in addition to that at present made on that account through the sinking fund, is \$10,776,680 returned into the Treasury. It may be reasonably anticipated that the total reduction in the public debt during the next fiscal year, including payments on account of the sinking fund, will be about \$50,000,000. The Secretary says the prosperous condition of the country is largely due to the revenue system inaugurated during the war, and that policy cannot now be rashly abandoned or suddenly and radically changed without great injury to business and labor, and consequent losses to the revenue.

Excluding deposits, the amount of gold and silver deposited at the U S Mint and its branches during the last fiscal year was \$30,443,758. The coinage for the year was \$24,630,000. The value of gold and silver bars stamped was \$9,748,851.

Cuba.

HAVANA, Dec 5.—A French war vessel is cruising off the Cuban coast for the purpose of intercepting German steamers from New Orleans.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec 5.—There is not now a single vessel en route to San Francisco from any German port.

Crawford & Co have bought the schooner J D Sandborn. They will repair her and place her in the Mexican and Central American trade.

It is still raining at intervals, with no signs of clearing up. The rainfall to day has been unusually heavy. Wind S W. The Ring in the Board of Supervisors was completely smashed this evening. The committees, with one or two exceptions, have two anti-Ring to one Ring member.

The whaling schooner Ohio, dismantled off the Oregon coast, arrived here to-day in tow of the U S steamer Wyanda. Flour—\$5 25 @ 50. Wheat—\$1 85 @ 20. Barley—\$1 25 @ 35. Oats—\$1 25 @ 55. STOCKTON, Dec 5.—It commenced raining about 8 o'clock this morning and continued

till 4 p.m. This is the first rain of the season and has been of incalculable benefit, having moistened the ground sufficiently to enable the farmers to plough in all sections of the valley.

Advices from Paradise and vicinity state that the rain has moistened the ground nine inches below the surface.

DELAYED DISPATCHES.

(From the Seattle Intelligencer.)

Oregon.

PORTLAND, Dec 7.—The sailing of the stmr Oriflamme has been postponed until Saturday, the 10th. The Wright is advertised for Sitka and way ports on Tuesday, the 13th, and the California is advertised for Sound ports on Thursday the 15th.

Eastern States.

WASHINGTON, Dec 5.—The President's message to Senate and House opened by announcing that a year of peace and prosperity had passed since last assembling of Congress. It is a comparatively brief document, written in a clear, business-like way, which presents at a glance a review of public affairs for the past year, and the present situation of the country. The main facts stated are already familiar to the public through the papers.

In reference to the Alabama question the President says: I regret that no conclusions have been reached for adjustment of claims against Great Britain growing out of that Government's course during the rebellion. The Cabinet of London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not appear to be willing to concede that Her Majesty's Government was guilty of neglect, or did any act during the war by which the United States had just cause for complaint. Our firm and unshaken convictions are just the reverse. I therefore recommend to Congress to authorize the appointment of Commissioners to take proof of amounts and ownership of vessels and their claims, and that authority be given for a settlement of those claims by the U. S., so the Government shall have ownership of those private claims as well as responsible control of all demands against Great Britain.

Whenever Her Majesty's Government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims, the United States will enter upon their consideration, with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the honor and dignity of both Nations. [Here the line ceased working.]

Electoneering Tour of a Defeated Candidate.

WRITTEN FOR THE BRITISH COLONIST.

Having a few weeks of leisure time on his hands the writer concluded, about the latter part of September last, to take a trip to Big Bend and Kootenay, for the three-fold purpose of benefiting his health, seeing the country, getting acquainted with some of its capabilities and resources and ascertaining a few of the requirements of the settlers along the route, and soliciting the suffrages of the electors of that extensive, though thinly peopled district as their representative for the Legislative Council of British Columbia.

The trip far as the junction of Savana's Ferry road with the trunk road of British Columbia was expeditiously made via New Westminster and Yale, and thence by the stage to Cache Creek on the Bonaparte. The stage to Cache Creek is so well equipped with travelling public as so well acquainted that the grandly sublime scenery along that marvellous route from Yale to Nicola, that more need be said here, therefore, than that diversified and magnificent views of nature from the Orient to the Occident.

The agricultural resources of the section of country from Cache Creek to Savana's Ferry are only limited by the supply of water for irrigating purposes, and so far as water is concerned this remark is applicable to the entire valleys of the Thompson and Okanagan. Of course an unlimited supply could be obtained from the river and lake by means of machinery and flumes over and above what is used at present from the creeks, but the time has not yet arrived for such an expenditure of capital. Excepting such an expenditure of capital, the one on the Thompson, with limited demand from Big Bend on the other, the cultivation of the soil is only attended to merely for supplying the ranchmen and their families with bread-stuffs and vegetables. The agricultural products of the Thompson River Valley, which is now particularly under consideration, might, there is no doubt, very easily be increased a thousand fold and yet leave the grazing capabilities and inexhaustible. The farmers and ranchmen, at present thinly scattered along the Big Bend route to the foot of Shuswap Lake, are not only prospering, but wherever characterized by a reasonable amount of industry, are on the high road to immense wealth. Their cattle, rapidly increasing in numbers, are but little troubled and no expense. The astonishingly nutritious bunch grass keeps them in splendid condition the year round; and if offered an unusually severe winter should necessitate a few days' or two or three weeks' lodging, the meadows and marshes supply plenty of hay which may be had for the asking.

In passing Kamloops, situated as it is in the midst of a most magnificent farming and grazing district, a person is naturally inclined to ask—how is it that the fine steamer Marten lies rotting on the beach when there is 110 miles of navigable water, and one-half of it through such a highly favored section of the colony? In almost any other country such an excitement as that of Big Bend in '66 would have been the means of settling up all the available agricultural and grazing lands along the route; but in British Columbia the rush of hardy gold-seekers went through and returned, like many others of the same description, leaving scarcely a settler along its path. Thus it is that in one of the most fertile farming districts of the colony, with a high protective tariff, there is not enough

traffic to warrant even weekly trips of the abovementioned steamer for a few months in the year. The Hudson Bay Company has a large sum of money locked up in the Marten; but with the admission of British Columbia into the Dominion will come a change that will again set in motion her rousing machinery and this 'thing of beauty' on these inland waters will once more awake the echoes of the surrounding hills.

At the foot of Lake Shuswap the aspect of the country partakes more of a mountainous character. The flats at the water-side and the foot hills are covered with splendid timber which will some day become a source of wealth to the Colony. At the head of the lake stands the now deserted town of Seymour. The site is a good one, and had the Big Bend mines realized expectations would have something of a business place worth being sprung up for a time at least, till a more practicable route should have been opened over the Eagle Pass to the Columbia. The trail over the Seymour mountain is certainly one of the greatest blunders of our blundering government. A few miles east probably not more than 40, at the head of another arm of the lake the Eagle river, navigable for several miles at high water, when freed from drift wood, empties itself. Along this stream lies the 'Eagle Pass,' the highest elevation of which does not exceed 400 feet, while the summit of the existing trail probably attains more than 4,000. The distance also to the Columbia is several miles less than by the route the Government Surveyors saw fit to adopt. The Government trail, originally well made, was utterly neglected till very late last fall when by dint of continued perseverance on the part of J. A. Mara, E. G. of French creek, the part of \$150 was appropriated for the purpose of clearing out fallen timber. This money was expended after every pound of the Big Bend supplies had passed over the mountain. Mr B McDonald, who was employed to perform the work, has certainly earned every dollar of his money, but at such a season of the year it was all but wasted, as the storms of winter will again make the trail impassable. A moderate outlay in early summer would by some benefit; and it is clearly the duty of the Government, after having made the road, to keep it open for the two or three months in the year that packtrains can pass over. It may be said that at the time the Big Bend route was opened the Eagle pass was not known. Even then, however, its existence was surmised and the fact of its practicability could very easily have been tested. A great outlay would thus have been saved and an available route to the Columbia river open for at least eight months in the year. Those best acquainted with that part of the country are fully of the opinion that the Eagle pass will be the one used by the Canadian Pacific from the Columbia river to the valley of the Thompson.

The landing place of the steamer '49, once the flourishing town of La Porte, is now only a desolate spot. The old gentleman named inhabited by an old gentleman, some 12 or 14 in number, and who is so fully impressed with the idea that the railway will cross the Columbia at that point that he persists in staying, although for weeks and even months at a time during the winter season he never sees the face of a fellow creature. The trail east of the Columbia to Goldstream 16 miles, is in a very good condition having been cleared by Mr J. Peterson, a packer. The town on McCulloch's Creek, is a melancholy instance of mining decadence. About 14 substantial buildings, some of them with furniture scattered about the premises, reminds the traveller of former prosperous mining operations. Thus far the forest fires have spared them, but in all probability before many summers pass over this once flourishing town will be among the things that were.

The Ferry House on Goldstream is also abandoned, and pack trains and travellers now cross as best they can. French Creek, four miles further, although a short of its former glory, is still occupied by some 13 or 20 sober and industrious miners who fully believe in the richness of the country, but are unable for want of means to prospect extensively, or test deep diggings on McCulloch's Creek or elsewhere.

The residents on French Creek were surprised, and very agreeably so, to find that, although neglected and forgotten by the Government they were of sufficient importance to bring a visitor from Victoria on a political mission. They had almost abandoned the idea of again exercising the privileges of the franchise as British subjects. Although numbering one-half of the electoral vote of the entire district, yet since '66 they had, to all intents and purposes, been entirely disfranchised. It was expected that a new era in the view of Confederation was dawning upon them, and the opportunity of throwing in their lot with the universal verdict of the Colony in favor of that great scheme, coupled with Responsible and Representative institutions and the adoption of the Canadian Tariff, was hailed with the greatest possible satisfaction. So high an opinion was entertained of Governor Musgrave's sense of justice, that they did not for a moment doubt but that their rights and privileges as British subjects would be respected, and that they would have their proper share in bringing about a political change so ardently desired by the whole community. In these expectations, however, they were again disappointed, when the writ for the election was dispatched to Kootenay, knew full well that the returning officer would not remain long enough officer to poll the French Creek votes, unless he had special instructions to that effect. Surely the returning officer ought to have been so instructed; or, if the Executive considered such a mode of proceeding impracticable on account of the lateness of the season; the exigencies of the case demanded that the difficulty should be overcome by sending a supplementary writ from Victoria by the regular Big Bend express-man, and leaving the final declaration till all the poll books were in the hands of the Government. Thus it has again occurred that the mining camp is deprived of its inalienable rights, that for sobriety, respectability, intelligence, industry and devotedness to British institutions and rule, is equal, if not superior, to any other mining camp in the Colony—and numbering, as has been said about one-half of the legally constituted electors in the district; The people of Big Bend are justly indignant at being deprived of a representative in the late Council by governmental chicanery, and the fact that they have been again debarred the privilege of recording their votes will

not tend to allay that indignation. Such a protest will undoubtedly be sent down from that part of the district as will convince "the powers that be" that the rights of British subjects cannot, with impunity, be so trifled with time after time.

[To be continued.]

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The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, December 14, 1870

Things Deserving of Consideration

It appears to be now pretty generally understood that British Columbia will be formally admitted into the great family circle of British North America on the 1st day of July next, the same being 'Dominion Day'—that is, the anniversary of the day in 1867 upon which the federation of the four Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia was formally completed and proclaimed. That day will inaugurate very great changes in British Columbia; and not the least of these changes will be the enlarged share the people shall be invited to take in the management of the local affairs of the country. Assuming that this colony will, upon entering the Dominion, take as full political rights as are enjoyed in the sister Provinces, the people of British Columbia will at once be called upon to elect from amongst themselves six members to represent them in the House of Commons, at Ottawa, and, say, twenty members to constitute the local Legislature and manage the affairs of this colony. Of course the reader will understand that the three Senators which this colony is entitled to send to the Upper House at Ottawa will be appointed by the Crown. To be suddenly called upon to elect twenty-six representatives, instead of nine, as now, will, indeed, be a great change. The qualification of a Senator is as follows: A natural-born or naturalized male British subject, of the full age of thirty years, possessed of real and personal property worth four thousand dollars, over and above all debts and liabilities, and a resident of the Province for which he is appointed. The qualification for members of the House of Commons appears to vary in the different Provinces, and is not fixed by any general regulation. For instance, in Ontario and Quebec a real estate qualification of £500 (meeting is imposed); in New Brunswick the qualification is the possession for six months previous to the writ of election of \$1200 of real estate; in Nova Scotia a legal or equitable freehold estate in possession, of the clear yearly value of eight dollars, or the candidate must be qualified to be an elector. In every instance, the candidate must be a male British subject, of the full age of 21 years, and must be free from the usual legal disqualifications. The Senators are appointed for life; the members of the House of Commons are elected for a term of five years, should Parliament not sooner be dissolved. In each case the qualifications of members of the Provincial Legislatures are the same as those for the House of Commons. The qualifications of electors are as follows:—In Ontario and Quebec, every male subject of the age of twenty-one years, being the owner or occupier or tenant of real property of the assessed value of \$300 or more, or the yearly value of \$80, if within cities or towns, or of the assessed value of \$200, or the yearly value of \$20, if not so situated. In New Brunswick, every male subject of the age of twenty-one years, not disqualified by law, assessed for the year for which the register is made up in respect of real estate to the value of \$100, or of personal property or personal and real amounting together to \$400, or \$400 annual income. In Nova Scotia, all male subjects of the age of twenty-one years, not disqualified by law, assessed for the year for which the register is made up in respect of real estate to the value of \$150, or in respect of personal estate or real and personal together, of the value of \$300. In every case we believe the four Provinces have retained the qualifications for members and electors, as existing previous to union. During last session of the Dominion Parliament an attempt was made to establish by enactment a uniform qualification for members and electors throughout the Dominion; but the Bill evoked so much hostility that it was not pressed to a reading. The chief hostility came from New Brunswick, the only Province where voting is by ballot, and the chief ground of objection was understood to be that the measure proposed doing away with the ballot-box. We learn from our recent Canadian exchanges that another effort is likely to be made in the next session of the Dominion Parliament to pass a Bill establishing uniformity of franchise throughout the Dominion, and there is reason to believe that it will differ from its predecessor in this respect that it will leave to each Province the choice between open voting and the ballot-box. Amongst other important matters devolving upon the new Council of British Columbia will be the establishment of an electoral franchise and of a qualification for members both of the local Legislature and the Dominion Parliament, and the matter deserves additional importance from the consideration that whatever franchise and qualification this colony may enter the Dominion with are quite likely to remain undisturbed for some time after union. And it will not be denied that there is urgent need for legislation upon the subject; for the present condition of things in this respect is scarcely creditable to the colony. As the matter now stands, a pauper may vote and a pauper may sit in Parliament. Any man who has been three months in the country and is a British subject, or whether or not he has been three months in the country and is a subject, if possessed of a sufficiently elastic conscience—for that constitutes the sole check at present—is eligible to either position. Such looseness in the

franchise is bad enough now; but it would be worse after union, when property and permanent interests would be completely at the mercy of a nomadic element. It occurs to us that universal suffrage would be open to greater objection here than in older and more settled communities where the permanent element would always so much outnumber the more transient element as to control the elections. If Responsible Government is to be worked out now in British Columbia, it would appear to be of the utmost importance that a sound, safe and somewhat conservative franchise shall prevail, as upon that the successful working of full representative institutions most greatly depend.

Thursday, Dec 8.

ST CLAIR, AGAIN.—Z M Smith, *alias* St Clair (don't the Smiths always select high-sounding cognomens when they change their patronymic?), is travelling through California with two pretty young women lecturers, having thrown aside Miss Blearly, who did the singing business when the party were here. A short time ago St Clair visited San Jose and whilst one of his daughters was 'speaking her piece,' Miss Blearly broke in upon the scene and made a frantic appeal to the audience, stating that she had been swindled by him. The audience sympathized with the woman, seized St Clair and forced from him all the money he had on hand—some \$25. He gave a note for the balance, but during the night he and his daughters 'folded their tent like the Arab and silently stole away.' Miss Blearly followed upon the war path the next day.

BRANCH OF FRATERNITY.—Councillor Carey appears to have committed a very grave 'breach of privilege.' His fellow-councillors have unanimously condemned his wanton attack upon the Mayor, and really appear to be in the humor to purge themselves of his presence at the Council Board. Such, however, would be an extreme measure, which we should not like to see resorted to in the present instance. To feel and to know that one is an object of public censure is punishment sufficient for even a graver offence than Mr Carey has committed. Besides, we don't blame him half as much as we do the Standard-bearer of revolt, who is never so happy as when he is making mischief and setting people by the ears. Let the matter drop.

TO FORT GARRY.—Mr Cumberland and Capt Diek have submitted to the Dominion Government a scheme for establishing a route from Lake Superior to Fort Garry. They offer to make the Dawson route available by constructing tramways at the portages, and placing eight iron steamers on the lakes and rivers between Shebandowan and the Northwest angle. The capital required would be half a million of dollars. The matter is to be considered by the Government.

A GRAND IDEA.—The London Spectator thinks it has discovered the right kind of material in the Marquis of Lorne and his Royal consort—that is to be for the establishment at Ottawa of a fitting Court for the British Empire of North America. The leading Canadian papers fall in with the idea, and we heartily re-echo the proposition on the shores of the Pacific. By all means let the Queen's Scotch son-in-law be appointed Vice-Roy of the Dominion of Canada.

STEALING.—Charley, the Indian who some weeks ago was arrested and convicted for stealing three barrels from Messrs Stuart & Co, was yesterday required to furnish security in the sum of \$50 to be of good behaviour for six months, or to suffer imprisonment for three months.

THE REAL ESTATE TAX.—A deputation of property-holders will wait upon His Excellency the Governor in the course of a few days to represent the injustice and hardship of the demand made for certain arrears of taxes on realty.

MASONIC BALL.—The Masonic Lodge will give a ball on the 27th inst. This we have upon undoubted authority. The disappointment felt by the devotees of Terpiashore at our announcement yesterday that there would be no ball, will therefore be allayed.

TEA MEETING.—The Wesleyan Methodist will hold a tea meeting this evening at St Nicholas Hall. Tea will be served at 7 o'clock, and during the evening there will be addresses and singing.

DEAD.—Capt Joseph Williams, who formerly commanded the steamships California and Active running between Victoria and San Francisco, died recently at San Francisco.

THE MAINLAND TELEGRAPH.—It has now been reconstructed to Quesnelmouth and will, it is thought, be finished to Cariboo early in the Spring.

STONE STREET, from a point north of the foundry to Johnson street, has been gravelled and will soon present a smooth surface for wheels.

SPECIAL SESSIONS.—This Court will sit, on the 27th inst, at 12 noon, for the purpose of granting licenses.

WEDDING.—At 11 o'clock this morning, at Christ Church Cathedral, John Trutch, Esq, will be married to Miss Zoe Musgrave, by the Very Rev. Dean Griggs.

DEATH.—The hon. member for Cariboo has suffered a bereavement in the death of his father, James Carrall, Esq, Sheriff of Oxford County, Ontario, who expired on the 8th ult.

A VOCAL and instrumental concert in aid of the funds of the Mechanics' Literary Institute will be held at the Theatre on the 19th inst.

QUICK TIME.—A telegram sent from the Victoria office, a few days ago, reached Hamburg in eleven hours.

Supreme Court.

(Before Chief Justice Begbie and Mr Justice Crease.)

TUESDAY, Dec 2, 1870.

TOLMIE vs SMITH.—This was an action commenced in the County Court to recover damages for the alleged detention of a cow. Notice had been given by the plaintiff that the case would be tried before a Judge of the Supreme Court, pursuant to the County Court Amendment Ordinance, 1870.

The Attorney General, instructed by Mr Drake, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr McCreight, instructed by Mr Johnson, for the defendant. On objections raised by Mr McCreight the Court held that the provisions of the Ordinance had not been complied with, and adjourned the hearing for a week.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.—The Debating Class will resume the discussion of 'Responsible Government' this evening.

THE BLUE POST has been leased by Mr Thos Chadwick, of the Garrick's Head, who will soon open a first-class house.

THE ALBION Foundry whistles is now blown at ¼ to 8, 12, ¼ to 1, 1, and 4 ½ o'clock each day.

The gunboat Boxer, from San Juan Island with the telegraph scow in tow, returned yesterday afternoon.

THE ENTERPRISE sailed at 8 yesterday morning for New Westminster. She carried 20 passengers and a small freight.

'DOWS, DREY, DOWN.'—The wires were prostrated by the gale of Tuesday night and didn't get up yesterday; but look out for a 7000-word report to-day.

The repair of Golden's building has commenced. Mr Storey has the contract.

THE PELICAN will be due to-morrow.

The Overland Road to Portland.

PORTLAND, Nov 30th.

EDITOR COLONIST:—Please permit me through your columns to inform my friends in Victoria and British Columbia of the dangers of an overland trip from Olympia to Portland. There were a party of nine of us—six men and three ladies—left Olympia at 3 o'clock on the 24th. Nothing unusual occurring until we left Pompreys on the following morning, at 3 o'clock, in charge of a drunken driver, who took every opportunity to quarrel with the passengers until he was brought to terms by a well directed six-shooter. Even the ladies had to walk rather than take the chances in the stage, so that I would advise any person wishing to go to San Francisco to remain a month in Victoria before that travel over the worst road in America and be subjected to the abuse of drunken drivers. Yours truly, ALEX. SHARP.

Real Estate Tax.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—The public will no doubt feel indebted to you for calling attention in your able leader of Dec 1st and 2nd to the Extraordinary Gazette recently issued from the Government press, and will fully agree with you that the illegal and irregular application of the Real Estate Tax Act of 1860, during a period of 10 years, reveals a dark chapter of official dereliction. The fault cannot be said to rest with the Act itself which is, plain, practicable and concise, but, even if it did, backed by an official majority in the Council, Government had the remedy in its own hands.

I have never been very sanguine as to the immediate application of Responsible Government to this colony, but am really to admit that to my mind, the dark chapter forms an argument almost irresistible in favor of its adoption. How has the present Government met the difficulty? By presenting the Public with 30 folio pages of names and figures in a shape which would have been obtained, if infected by the marvellous success of the Mercantile Library Lottery, Government had crowded the names of all who have dabbled with Real Estate since '68 into one wheel and numbers representing all the property on the island into another. The wheels revolve, names and numbers are drawn, and the volume before us is the result of the usual blindfolded operation, but it beats the great Lottery hollow, inasmuch as all the prizes are to go to the Government, in the proportion of 100 of prizes to 1 of debt,—to the public at large.

In your issue of the 2nd you claim for the Government every possible assistance from the Tax payers, by studying evidence and searching for papers, to extricate the Government from what you very properly term a 'disagreeable mess' and you believe in the Government obtaining a 'ready response' to this application. To a certain extent this may be all very well, but on the other hand, who created the mess? Answer, The Government, not the taxpayers. Surely it is one of the first duties of all governments to levy taxes equitably and to keep accurate records of the proceedings. Under these circumstances, it is reasonable that the time of every one in place is to be taken up by a professional investigation of a mass of type about as intelligible as a Nautical Almanac. If Government officers of acknowledged ability cannot solve the mystery is it fair that the public should be required under penalty of confiscation to do so? Besides, remember that while in this matter the Government extends one hand for your charitable sympathy, behind its back it holds a bludgeon in the other as expressed in the words 'to be entered upon by the Crown,'—the estimated value of the property to be assessed on the 1st of February next being about Five Millions of dollars to satisfy a doubtful claim of Nine Thousand—claim that would not only exist if the Government had done its duty and distributed at the legally appointed times.

But I would not weary your readers with the repetition of a grievance, the very familiarity with which suggests a yawn, if I did not believe that a few simple considerations might be proposed which if assented to would settle the question equitably between the Government and the taxpayers.

First, Government cannot waive the claim as a whole since the document contains the names of many persons who may

be justly indebted; but it also contains the names of many who have departed for another continent and of not a few for another world. Government has itself to blame for not having collected by distraint or otherwise from the latter before their death or departure. During ten years of mismanagement or inaction, many properties may have changed hands once or ten times. A venditor is invariably required to guarantee a clear title and therefore retains his tax receipt. This he does for the additional reason that a single receipt usually includes taxes paid on all the property owned by the vendor in any particular year. I would therefore propose to eliminate the names of the dead and departed with the penalties attached from the Lists. All the properties enumerated are now owned or claimed by somebody; and it would not be at all unreasonable to require all resident owners, or if absent their agents, to prove payment of taxes during the several periods of existing ownership, although for the reasons assigned it might be impossible for them to produce receipts of former owners. A short Act of the Legislature might be required to enforce returns, to revive distraint or falling this to enable the Government to sell a portion of the property equivalent to the debt. On such a plan a equitable solution of the difficulty might be arrived at.

With regard to '60-'61. The amount outstanding is not much, and Government would act wisely in throwing a veil over that particular period. If it can be shown—as it can—that during that time money was obtained for taxes and the usual official receipts detached from the counterfoils withheld, a legal process would be necessary to fill in a second revised almost singular in its nature and creditable to the Colony at large. For, however culpable the remissness, however lofty the negligence which has led to this confusion, all will admit that during the decade in question to the present moment the official staff have well maintained the status of this Colony as regards the usual British characteristic personal integrity. J D FARRINGTON.

Dominion Mail Summary.

Dates to 17th November:—

The following persons are said to compose the Canal Commission: Mr O S Gowshi and Mr G Laidlaw of Toronto, Mr Calvert of Kingston, Mr Hugh Allan of Montreal, Mr Garneau Mayor of Quebec, A Jardine of St John N B, Mr Starns of Halifax, and Samuel Keefe of Brockville secretary. They were to meet at Ottawa on the 24th and it was understood that their attention would be chiefly directed to the following works:—The enlargement of the Welland Canal. The deepening of the St Lawrence rapids. The deepening of the St Lawrence River between Montreal and Quebec. The improvement of the Rideau Canal, and the development of trade through it. The construction of the Sault Ste Marie Canal between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. The construction of the Caughnawaga Canal between the St Lawrence and Lake Champlain. The improvement of the Richelieu and Lake Champlain line of Canals. The completion of the Montreal and Lake Huron system of navigation via Ottawa and French River. The construction of the Georgian Bay Canal, connecting Lakes Huron and Ontario. The construction of a Canal crossing the neck of land between the Bay of Quinte and Lake Ontario. The construction of the Bay Verte Canal across the Isthmus dividing the Bay of Fundy from the Gulf of St Lawrence.

In recognition of his services, as commander of the Red River expedition, Col Wolmer was made a Knight of St Michael and St George.

It was understood in well-informed circles at Ottawa that Mr Spencer of Hamilton, would be appointed Collector of Customs at Manitoba.

Col Cumberland's scheme for the establishment of a direct line of communication with Fort Garry, through the lake region, will probably be adopted on a modified and less expensive scale.

At the Kingston Assize, which closed on the 12th, James Deacon and Daniel Mann, both convicted of murder, were sentenced by the Chief Justice, each to be hung on the 14th of December next. They strongly protested their innocence.

The report of the progress of the geological survey from 1866 to 1869 is printed, but not ready for distribution, owing to the maps that are to accompany it not being ready.

Sir John A Macdonald, Hon John Hilliard Cameron and Colonel Gray are spoken of for the Supreme Court Bench.

It is said the Government is seriously considering the question of constructing a wagon road from Nepegon Lake to Lake Winnipeg.

The splendid new organ has been placed in St Andrew's Church, Montreal, and the new minister, Rev Mr Lang, has arrived. The church was to be opened on the 20th.

Another Palmar car has been placed on the Grand Trunk Railway.

According to the Treasurer's exhibit, the finances of the Province of Quebec are in a healthy condition. The total income for the year, including a balance from last account of \$239,209.11, is \$2,228,828.48. Last year the receipts were only \$1,895,112.60—making a difference in favor of the present, of \$333,715.87. The expenditure at the time has been \$1,592,822.90—leaving a very handsome balance indeed to be carried to next account.

Thirty precious lives and nine vessels, valued with their cargoes at \$175,000, have during the past ten years been lost near Salmon Point on Lake Ontario. It is proposed by Government to construct a Harbor of Refuge there.

The Minister of Education for Quebec intends establishing two schools of civil engineering at Quebec and Montreal, in connection with the Normal schools.

There are several matters of great importance occupying the attention of the Quebec Legislature; amongst others, a Homestead law, the North Shore Railway, and a scheme for devoting grants of land for colonization purposes. The Government are also asked to reduce the price of Clergy Reserve lands to 60 cents an acre.

There is said to be a growing desire in the province of Quebec to abolish the Legislative Council, retaining only the Assembly, as in Ontario.

The Colchester (N.S.) election resulted in the return of Pearson over Chambers by a majority of 1304 votes. Chambers is an Anabaptist.

Edward Harby, of the Geological survey, died at Halifax, on the 11th of November.

heavier than has hitherto been known. The Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba has issued orders for the arrest of Riel, O'Donoghue and Lepine, if they enter the Province again, and further instructs that they be shot in their tracks if they resist.

Special to the Telegraph.—Fort Carleton, Oct, 21st via St Cloud, Nov 3rd. With reference to the fearful devastations by small-pox among the Saskatchewan Indians, Rev G McDougall, Wesleyan missionary, thus writes to Rev. Mr Young, of Fort Garry:—

Small-pox has cut off hundreds of people. At Carleton, on my way, we met the plague at Fort Pitt. One hundred had already died.

Many of our best men are carried away, and among them a faithful Indian local preacher, whose death was most peaceful. The Blackfeet have suffered greatly, dying at the rate of fifteen a day. They committed robberies here during the summer, scattered their infected clothing, and left their dead unburied in the woods.

Mr Hardesty, writing from Carleton, on the 25th inst, says that the small-pox is bad all over, and is in the Fort. Mr McDonald is dead, and others are dangerously sick.

The Hon William Macdougall has returned to the practice of law in Ontario. This free case was against a young man for seduction, and he secured \$500 damages for his fair but frail client.

Assisted Immigration.

OFFICE OF IMMIGRATION BOARD.

Victoria, British Columbia, 12th August, 1870.

NOTICE is hereby given that a scheme of Assisted Immigration, on an extended scale, being completed by the Government, applications will be received by the Secretary of the Board, from persons bona fide settled in the Colony who may be desirous of participating in the scheme, upon the following terms and conditions:—

1. The applicant will be required to give security, or actually deposit the sum of Seventy-five Dollars (\$75) towards the Passage Money of each Adult, and the sum of (\$25) towards the Passage Money of each Child, not exceeding Twelve Years of age, and not being a Child in arms, and a further sum of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25) towards the Outfit of each Adult, or one-half that amount for each Child not exceeding Twelve Years of age, no being a child in arms.
2. The Government will contribute the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) towards the Passage Money of each Adult, and the sum of Twenty-five Dollars towards the Passage Money of each Child under Twelve Years of age, excepting only children in arms.
3. Applicants desirous of getting out whole Families, will deposit or find security for a sum proportionate to the above amounts for each Adult or Child in such Family.
4. The Outfit of each person will be subject to the approval, as to quantity and quality, of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Emigration or other the Agent or Agent appointed by the Governor of British Columbia.
5. In cases where her above-mentioned Outfit is not required, the amount deposited on account of the same will be returned to the applicant so making the deposit.
6. The intending Emigrant will be required to report himself or herself at some Port of Embarkation in England to be hereafter notified.
7. Settlers desirous of obtaining Farms or Bona Tenements under this scheme, will be required to produce written character of such Settlers, which character will be subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Emigration, or other the Agent or Agents appointed by the Governor in his behalf.
8. Such Farm or Domestic Servants will be required to sign an agreement, binding them to serve their Employers in the Colony for a term of years, at a stated yearly Salary.
9. Upon the arrival of the Emigrants in this Colony the Employer or Friends of the Emigrants will be required to take charge of them immediately, and notice beforehand will be given of the time the vessel is due.
10. Any Emigrant not so immediately taken away will be lodged and boarded at the expense of his or her Employer or Friend.
11. Applicants will be required to fill up Forms, copies of which may be obtained from the Magistrate of the District, or from the Secretary of the Board in Victoria from whom respectively any further information may be obtained. By Order of the Board, B. W. PEARSE, Deputy Chairman. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Columbia, Chairman. B. W. Pearse, Assistant Surveyor General, Deputy Chairman. Hon. John Robson, William John Macdonald, Esq, Henry S. Mason, Esq, Secretary. cc14 2nd & w

WM DALBY.
HARNESS LEASER THE

Rock Bay Tannery
From Mr WEBSTER, and purchased THE STOCK it is now on hand

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
HARNESS, SOLE, ROUSSET, BRIDLE
APARAJO, CALF, KIP
And other kinds of
LEATHER
He has on hand the Best and Largest Assortment
**TEAM, FURLEAND SINGLE BUGGY
CART, DRAY AND TEAM**
HARNESS
And has received
EX CORSAIR, FROM LONDON
Ladies' and Gent's
**RIDING SADDLES,
BRIDLES
AND WHIPS**
All of which will be sold
CHEAP FOR CASH,
To make room for new Goods
A general assortment of Ladies' and Gentlemen's
**TRUNKS
and Valises.**
SOLE LEATHER TRUNKS & VALISES
Made in Order.
MANUFACTORY and SALESROOM,
at Nicholas Building, Government Street.
**The highest Cash Prices paid for
Hides, Calf and Sheep Skins.**
cc20 3rd & w

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, December 14 1870

The Closing Season.

Another active season has come and gone. The snow creeps lower and lower still down the mountain sides. The leaping, laughing streamlet is dried up or hushed into stillness, or gives forth a muffled murmur, as it pursues its sultry and meandering course towards the waiting boom of Old Neptuneus. It is natural at such a moment to take a retrospective glance at the closing season, and see what it has done for us; or, rather, what we have done with it. Confining observation to material progress and development, it cannot be said that the record is altogether a blank. Commencing with the most important, though, perhaps not the most attractive department of colonial industry, it will be found that the agricultural interests have made marked progress, during the past season. Lands already occupied and under tillage have yielded a bountiful return for the labors of the husbandman, notwithstanding that there is still great room for improvement in the science of agriculture. The area of tilled lands has greatly extended; and a larger amount of land has been alienated or put in process of alienation from the Crown, than during any previous season. Faith in the agricultural capacity of the country has been strengthened and increased, and confidence in the enlarged prosperity of the immediate future has been established. The natural result of all this is observable in the greatly increasing disposition to take up lands and create permanent homesteads. This disposition it will have been observed, has manifested itself as far north as Omicoca. Passing on to consider the mineral resources, they will be found to exhibit light and shade, success and failure, confidence and doubt,—the former happily, however, predominating. True, the Southern goldfields, inspiring so much hope at one period, have apparently dwindled down to an unimportant mining camp, yet that circumstance would appear to be less owing to the absence of rich deposits than on account of the want of sufficient capital with which to reach these deep deposits. True, famous old Cariboo has yielded up its rich treasures more grudgingly than in former years; yet of the great extent of its dormant wealth few persons entertain a doubt. And, while William Creek has fallen off in its yield, it will have been observed that Lightning Creek presumes to dispute the palm for richness, thus strengthening the impression that the great beds of Cariboo wealth lie still undisturbed. But the most important feature of the closing season, at least in so far as Cariboo is concerned, is the inauguration of a scheme for developing that section of 'The Meadows.' The formation of a company of California capitalists and the introduction of the powerful and complete machinery now lying upon our wharves for that purpose, may be regarded as marking the dawn of a new era in the history of British Columbia. Hitherto the great drawback has been the want of that capital and enterprise essential to a successful working of these deeper and more expensive mines which set at defiance mere individual effort. The development of The Meadows constitutes, of itself, a gigantic work, one which cannot fail to make itself felt during the next and succeeding seasons. But it is when viewed as the first of our mining enterprises carried on by foreign capital—the pioneer effort in a new and most important class of mining operations, that its real significance must appear. Should it prove successful, of which those best acquainted with the subject entertain the least doubt, it will simply mark a new era in the mining history of the country; for there will no longer be any difficulty experienced in obtaining all the foreign capital necessary to the development of the vast dormant mineral wealth of British Columbia. Not the least encouraging incident of the past season has been the full and undoubted confirmation of rich diggings in the Omicoca country, where there is every reason to believe another Cariboo will be developed. These new mines, so long the object of doubt and conjecture, reports, are certain to claim their full share of attention next season, and with the prospect of great improved facilities for reaching them, it will not be unreasonable to expect that they will exert no little influence upon the general prosperity of the country. There is also another interest to which we would allude—that of whale fishing. The season will be remarkable as the first, really successful in so far as whale fishing is concerned. It is a source of marine wealth, perhaps, a little understood. It is one, in all probability, at no distant period, to contribute in no small degree towards the country's prosperity, and it is peculiarly gratifying to be able to congratulate our enterprising low citizens who have recently embarked the business upon the success which has crowned their efforts during the past season. Viewing the season now closing,

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The Critical Period.

British Columbia may not unfrequently be regarded as having reached that transitionary state which marks its passage from the helpless condition of a Crown Colony to that of a self-reliant, self-governing people. It is about to lay aside the shackles of serfdom, to shake off the fetters and red-tape of the Colonial Office and assume the rights and responsibilities of political maturity. Such may, indeed, be regarded as the critical period in the history of a colony, one during which those entrusted with the direction of its affairs cannot be too careful. There are, in the case of British Columbia, circumstances calculated to relieve the colonists to some extent of that anxious care which must otherwise press somewhat heavily upon a community so small and, in some respects, so crude. The change will not be from a Crown Colony to a separate and self-sustaining Colony, charged with all the affairs of State. The position to be taken by British Columbia, as a member of the confederated family of British North America, is one which happily relieves its people of those larger and more complex questions which may, perhaps, find a more congenial and healthy atmosphere in the enlarged arena of the Dominion Parliament. It is, therefore, for the management of that class of our affairs which may be denominated provincial in their character, that the political machinery of the Colony should be adapted. Next to the acceptance of Confederation, the most important work which must devolve upon the Legislature so soon to be convened will be the construction of the necessary machinery with which to carry on the Provincial Government. A new constitution will have to be framed; for it cannot be believed that there is really a serious intention to take a position as the Pacific Province of the Dominion upon a six-by-nine constitution. Even if there were no practical objections, considerations of prestige and self-respect would forbid our accepting such a position. The people of the other Provinces would accustom themselves to think of us as a sort of infero race; the half-breeds of Winnipeg would laugh at us. British Columbians might endure ridicule; but they cannot any longer afford to endure political disability. Having had their local affairs managed and so deplorably managed from Downing-street, the people have no notion of trying the doubtful experiment of having them managed from Ottawa. If there is one point more than another in respect of which public sentiment is thoroughly matured and has pronounced an irrevocable verdict it is that of the right of the people of British Columbia to have full control of their own local affairs, under Confederation, as is enjoyed by the people of the other Provinces of the Dominion. The intensity of the desire for full Responsible Government may experience a momentary check from passing events; but the conviction remains unshaken, the verdict unannulled. It may not be beyond the bounds of possibility that an effort will be made during next session to postpone the inauguration of Responsible Government; upon some constitutional quibble, leaving that form of Government to be sought for under the British North America Act after union; but even should such an effort prove successful for the moment, it cannot stifle the desire of the people. It would but add intensity to that desire,—fuel to the flame, and those in authority would be compelled to listen. In the construction of a new constitution provision will be made for a greatly enlarged representation of the people in the local Legislature. Some difference of opinion has cropped out regarding the precise number of representatives necessary to constitute the new House, under a system of Responsible Government, and various numbers have been suggested, ranging as low as fifteen and as high as forty. The number of twenty has been mentioned in these columns, as at once affording sufficiently full representation, and presenting ample material from which to construct a simple and cheap government. Without any disposition to be dogmatical or to quarrel about mere counts of noses, we confess that our opinion upon this point has not been the least altered by anything which has been advanced in opposition to it. It will not be denied that there are grounds upon which it may not appear altogether undesirable to have greater numbers in the Legislature. It has been intimated by very high authority that in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom; and one can easily realize that there would be some advantages in having the larger number to select from when Cabinets have to be constructed and positions filled. But, then, there is the stern logic of necessity on the other side. Can the Colony afford it? It must be clear that a Legislature of forty members would involve a much greater expense to the country than one of half that number. But it is also clear, that in order to induce forty good men and true, to leave their homes and avocations for, say, two months in every year to attend to the public

business, it would be necessary to present greater money inducement than might bring twenty to the capital; and that two evils would threaten the country: The management of its affairs would involve an amount of expenditure disproportionate to its circumstances and requirements; or the management of its affairs would be in danger of falling into the hands of a class of needy professional politicians who would be attracted by the amount of pay attached to the position of legislator. Of these two evils we are disposed to regard the latter as the greater; but it were better to avoid both as far as possible. But we do not hesitate to maintain that, taking into account the whole population of the Colony and the natural division of that population into communities, twenty would constitute ample representation, for the present at any rate. Suppose we particularise a little: Victoria City 3 members, Victoria District as at present constituted 4 members, Nanaimo-Coomox District 2 members, New Westminster District 2 members, Yale-Lytton District 2, Lillooet District 2, Cariboo District 2, Kootenay-Big Bend District 2, Okanogan District 1. Here we have twenty, and will it be seriously argued that the number is not ample, in so far as localities and population are concerned? To give more would be to overload the Colony, to fly from one extreme to another. Undoubtedly the present representation is too low — but, then, there is a great difference between nine and twenty. For the purposes of legislation and Colonization-making, we cannot but think that the number suggested would also be found adequate, for some time to come. For our own part, we earnestly trust the Colony may, during its earlier efforts at self-government, enjoy immunity from those fierce party strifes which some persons seem desirous of having inaugurated simultaneously with free institutions. It must, indeed, be the wish of all thoughtful and good colonists, that the administration of the affairs of British Columbia shall, in the first instance at least, be as free from party as may be consistent with the working out of Responsible Government.

Friday, Dec 9

THE CHARGE OF ASSAULT.—James Grahamslaw, the well-known builder, appeared on remand before the Police Magistrate yesterday to answer a charge of assault on Henry Davies, son of J P Davies. The evidence of W G Lange, who saw the assault, was taken and went to show that the prisoner pushed Davies' head through the window of Dr Rasmussen's office. The sudden departure of Dr Rasmussen had attracted the boy's attention and he saw that the injuries sustained were not of the serious character represented by Rasmussen in his evidence before the Police Court on the 1st inst. Dr Trimble deposed that the boy's left eye was blacked and that there were several small punctures on his face. The skin was broken in several places on the cheek, but not seriously. There was a cut over the left eye about two inches long, and there was a tumor on the outer angle of the same eye. The tumor was caused by extravasated blood. The wound was a common cut and was not in a dangerous place, being two inches or more from the temporal artery; neither was the left eye endangered nor was there any danger of erysipelas. The defense offered no evidence. The Magistrate said he would commit the prisoner for trial but would accept bail for his appearance—himself in £100, and two sureties in £50 each. The bail was promptly forthcoming and the prisoner was liberated.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—As much of President Grant's Message as the war of elements permitted to pass over the wires will be found under the proper head. The allusion to the Alabama question is couched in language which, separated from the concluding words, might almost be regarded as threatening. Viewing the subject in the light of the approaching Presidential election, there would appear to be no cause for uneasiness, although there are those who think that the next Presidential election ticket will be "Pay or fight." By far the most important feature of the case, however, is the very sensible proposition for the United States Government to pay off and assume all individual claims; for whether or not the British Government may be justly liable, it would appear to be perfectly clear that the subject is settled to indemnification by that Government which exists for the express purpose of protecting life and property. Without regard, therefore, to any opposition which against Great Britain, the recommendation of President Grant is eminently just and proper.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The proprietors of the celebrated Tilt Cove Copper Mine have a large quantity of ore used at Swansea, and an immense mass of No 2 and No 3 ore at the mouth of the mine awaiting the process of dressing; consequently mining enterprise languishes. An exploring party, searching for copper, north of Tilt Cove, lighted upon quartz veins and leads which are pronounced equal to the gold-bearing quartz formations of Nova Scotia. The leader of the party, who is one of the best mineralogists in Canada, is very sanguine regarding the value of the discovery, and steps will be at once taken to test it. The failure of the firm of Ridley & Sons, will entail widespread suffering. It was the largest firm on the island, and had a branch establishment in almost every district. Hundreds of men will be thrown out of employment, and upwards of 25,000 fishermen, who looked to them for supplies for the winter, will be left in a destitute condition.

PORT SOUND IRONS.—(Condensed from the Seattle Intelligencer of yesterday.)—The Maxwell railway survey is progressing favorably. Messrs Maxwell and Murray had instructions to repair to Seattle to meet the Railway Committee who are on a tour of inspection along the Sound. One of the Maxwell surveying staff states that he had made a most successful test of the Seattle coal and is satisfied that it is well calculated to produce a first rate article of gas for illuminating purposes. The business exigencies of Port Townsend are now considered to be such as would justify the extension of telegraphic communication to that place. During last month dispatches costing over \$500 were sent from that place to the different places on the Sound for transmission.

Marriage at St. John's Church.

Yesterday morning, shortly before twelve o'clock, the nuptial of John Trutch, Esq, and Miss Zoe Musgrave were solemnized at St John's Church. Long before the time fixed for the ceremony had arrived, the sacred edifice was densely crowded by an interested congregation largely composed of ladies. The choristers of St John's were nearly all present. The party advanced to the altar at 10 minutes to 12 o'clock and were received by the Very Rev Dean Cridge, by whom the ceremony was performed. The bride was accompanied by His Excellency Governor Musgrave, Mrs Musgrave and Miss Musgrave. The bridegroom was supported by A Musgrave, jr, Esq. There were neither bridesmaids nor groomsmen. Among the wedding party we observed Mrs Trutch (mother of the bridegroom) the Hon Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Mrs Trutch and Mrs O'Bielly. The ladies composing the party were elegantly dressed. The bride wore a corset white silk dress, long tulle veil and orange-blossoms exquisitely wrought into wreaths. His Excellency wore the full Civil Service uniform. The bridegroom was attired in an ordinary English morning suit. As the party entered and left the church little girls strewed flowers in their path. The choir having sung the hymn, commencing—

"Now let your notes of praise arise," the beautiful Marriage Service of the Church of England was performed. At the close of the ceremony the Dean gave out the 212th hymn—

"The voice that breathed of Eden,
That earliest wedding day,
The primal marriage blessing,
It hath not passed away."

Miss Pitts, the organist of St John's, played a Wedding March as the party passed out and regained their carriages, the bells of Christ Church Cathedral and St John's Church, meanwhile, sounding merry peals. The party were driven to Government House where a large number of guests were entertained last evening by His Excellency the Governor and Mrs Musgrave.

THE TELEGRAPH.—The dispatches we publish this morning were received at Seattle. No dispatches have come through the cable to this place since Tuesday, and it is feared the long seven-mile cable between San Juan and Sydney Islands is defective. We shall know the best or the worst to-day.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Sir James Douglas, Capt Clarke, arrived from Nanaimo yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock, bringing 25 passengers, a yoke of oxen, a number of hogs, chickens, etc, and a quantity of butter. The gale of Tuesday night regred with unexampled fury along the East Coast, but no serious damage is reported to shipping. The bark Shooting Star arrived at Nanaimo on Tuesday night from San Francisco.

MERCHANTS' SALE.—The sale of Messrs Lowe Bros' stock by Mr Franklin, on Wednesday, was most successful. The goods offered comprised a general assortment of groceries, wines and liquors, for all of which excellent prices were obtained. The sale was distinguished by the presence of a large number of mercantile buyers.

SATISFACTORY.—The promptitude with which His Excellency acceded to the prayer of the Nanaimo petition, in respecting Jim, in order to admit of further enquiry into Quinman's connection with the Hamilton murder, gave great satisfaction in that community. It is to be hoped the grand object will be attained.

THE ALHAMBRA MINSTRELS.—Those who wish to see the Alhambra Minstrels had better improve the present opportunity, as the troupe will leave by the next steamer for California. It is a pity that this troupe of artists and the worthy proprietor do not meet with the encouragement their enterprise entitles them to.

THE N. P. R. R. TERMINUS.—It is now said that at Birch Bay, which lies between Bellingham and Semiahmoo Bays, will be the terminus of the North Pacific Railroad. This is scarcely possible, Birch Bay being an open roadstead. If report made Semiahmoo the ultimate terminus we should be inclined to believe it.

DISOBEDIENCE.—James Ward, a seaman on board the bark Ada was yesterday, on complaint of Capt Fallshaw, brought before the Police Court on a charge of being drunk and disobeying orders. The accused was convicted and sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment with hard labor.

WHAT'S THE OBJECT?—Councillor McMillan has given notice of his intention to strike out the words in the 28th Rule, requiring the presence of four members of the Council to be present for the transaction of business. What is the object?

Two of the Misses Mills are now in goal under a charge of larceny. We have received from one of the ladies a letter for publication of so strange a character that, had we before entertained doubts as to her insanity, it would have entirely dispelled them.

L. O. or O. F.—Preparations have been made by the Odd Fellows' Lodges to receive Grand Master Fox, should he arrive on the Pelican to-day. Columbia Lodge will meet to-night at Omicron Hall.

BROKEN UP.—Sawward's logging camp at Chemainus has been broken up for the season, and the men came down on the Sir James Douglas yesterday.

SNOW AT NANAIMO.—There was a slight fall of snow at Nanaimo on Saturday last. It did not, however, remain long on the ground.

Wesleyan Methodist Tea-Meeting.

There was a large and sociable gathering at St Nicholas Hall last evening, the occasion being the annual tea-meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The long tables were covered with edibles and were presided over by the ladies of the congregation, who, with other members of the Church, exerted themselves to make the affair agreeable to the guests. During the evening several fine pieces of sacred music were sung by the choir, which was led by Mr Thomas Wilson. Among the pieces were 'Make a Joyful Noise,' 'See, the Chariot at Hand,' 'Jerusalem, my Glorious Home,' and 'Come, Follow Me,' all of which were rendered very effectively. Addresses were made by Rev Mr McGregor, Hon Dr Helmcken and Rev Mr Russ. At 10 o'clock the articles remaining upon the tables were sold at auction by Mr C T Millard, who secured large prices for everything he offered, and carried much amusement by sales of wit.

The steamer Sir James Douglas will go to Sooke at 8 o'clock this morning. She tried to make the trip twice last week, but was driven back by gales.

REMANDED AGAIN.—Thomas Smith, the prisoner charged with the murder of Baker, was yesterday remanded for another week.



PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS & CO.

(Free from Adulteration.)
Manufactured by
GROSSE & BLACKWELL
PURVEYORS TO HER MAJESTY,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON

GROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
Well known Manufactures are obtainable from every respectable Provision Dealer in the World.

Purchasers should see that they are supplied with G. & B.'s genuine goods, and that inferior articles are not substituted for them.

HER MAJESTY'S TABLE.
G. & B. are Agents for LEA & PERKINS' ORLEANS WORSTEDS, and are Manufacturers of every description of Oilsmen's Stores of the highest quality.



DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA

Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations and Bilious Affections;

IT IS THE PHYSICIAN'S CURE FOR GOUT, RHEUMATIC GOUT, GRAVEL, and all other complaints of the Bladder.

And as a safe and gentle medicine: Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and for the sickness of Pregnancy, Dinneford's Magnesia is indispensable.

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

THE ROYAL CARTRIDGES
For Snider Enfield of .57 bore, and for the Henry, and Martini-Henry Rifle of .440 bore, adopted by Her Majesty's War Department, also of .500 bore for Military Rifles.

THE ABOVE CARTRIDGE CASES (empty) of all sizes, and of the different systems of breech loading Rifles can be had with or without the suitable Bullets and Machines for loading the Cartridges.

BOXER CARTRIDGES of .450 bore for revolving Pistols used in Her Majesty's Navy.

Copper Rim-Fire Cartridges of all sizes, for Smith and Wesson's, Tranter's, and other Pocket Revolvers.

Pin-Cartridges for Leitch's Revolvers of 12m, 9, 5, and 7m bore.

Central-Fire and Pin-Fire Cartridges for all sizes and systems of Guns, Rifles and Revolvers.

Double Waterproof and E.P. Caps, Patent W.C. Rifles, Felt Gun Wadings for Breech and Muzzle Loaders, and every description of Sporting and Military Ammunition.

ELEY BROTHERS, GEAUX'S LN ROAD, LONDON.

Labels for all sizes of Cartridges, and for all sizes of Guns, Rifles and Revolvers.

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT
And on the 30th of the same month, he was sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment.

SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES
Warning Labels in imitation of Messrs GROSSE & BLACKWELL'S, SHAKA BACHOO was sentenced, by the Shubrun Magistrate at Sealdah, to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT
CAUTION—Anyone selling SPURIOUS OILMEN'S STORES, under Grosse & Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will be vigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine all goods carefully before taking delivery of them. The GENUINE manufacturers of Messrs Grosse & Blackwell may be had from SEVERY & CO., LONDON, or VANCOUVER.

TO PHYSICIANS.

New York August 16th, 1868.
Allow me to call your attention to my PREPARATION OF COMPOUND EXTRACT BUCHU. My component parts are, BUCHU, LONG LEAF, CUBEBES, JUNIPER BERRIES, MOSE OF PARAPARAU—Buchu, in vacuo, under Berries, by distillation, to form a fine gin. Extracted by displacement with spirits obtained from Juniper Berries; very little sugar is used and a small proportion of spirit. It is more palatable than any now in use.
Buchu as prepared by Druggists, is of a dark color. It is a plant that emits its fragrance; the action of a flame destroys this (its active principle), leaving a dark and glutinous decoction. Mine is the color of ingredients. The Buchu in my preparation predominates. The smallest quantity of the other ingredients are added, to prevent fermentation; upon inspection it will be found not to be a Tincture, as made in Pharmacopoeia, nor is it a Symplicium and therefore can be used in cases where fever or inflammation exists. In this you have the knowledge of the ingredients and the mode of preparation.
Hoping that you will favor it with a trial, and that upon inspection it will meet with your approbation.
With a feeling of profound confidence,
I am, very respectfully,
H. T. HELMBOLD
Chemist and Druggist of 19 year's experience

(From the largest Manufacturing Chemists in the World.)
I am acquainted with Mr. H. T. Helmbold, a 1864 the Drug Store opposite my residence, and was successful in conducting the business where others had not been equally so before him. I have been favorably impressed with his character and enterprise.

WILLIAM WRIGHTMAN,
Firm of Powers and Wagon Man, Manufacturing Chemist, Ninth and Birch trees, Philadelphia.

HELMBOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU!

For weakness arising from Indiscretion. The exhausted powers of Nature which are accompanied by so many alarming symptoms, among which will be found, Indisposition to Excitement, Loss of Memory, Wakefulness, Horrors of Dreams, or forbidding of Evil; in fact, Universal Lassitude, Prostration, and inability to enter into the enjoyment of society.

THE CONSTITUTION

Occasional use with Organic Weakness, requires the aid of Medicine to strengthen and invigorate system, which HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU, variably does, if no treatment is submitted to, Co. a m p n or insanity ensues.

Helmhold's Fluid Extract of Buchu
In affections peculiar to Females, it is unequalled by any other preparation, and all complaints, incidental to the sex, or the decline or change.

Helmhold's Fluid Extract Buchu
AND
IMPROVED ROSE WASH

Will radically exterminate from the system diseases arising from habits of dissipation, at little expense, little or no change of diet, no inconvenience or exposure, completely superseding those unpleasant and dangerous remedies, Opium and Mercury, in all these diseases.

USE

Helmhold's Fluid Extract Buchu
In all diseases of these organs, whether existing in male or female, from whatever cause originating, and so matter of how long standing. It is pleasant in taste and odor, "Stimulant" in action, and more strengthening than any of the preparations of Bark or Iron.

Those suffering from broken down or delicate constitutions, procure the remedy at once.

The reader must be aware that, however slight may be the attack of the above diseases, it is certain to affect the bodily health and mental powers.

All the above diseases require the aid of a Diuretic. HELMBOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU is the great Diuretic.

Sold by Druggists everywhere. Price \$1.25 per bottle, or 6 Bottles for \$6.50. Delivered to any address. Describe the symptoms in all communications.

H. T. HELMBOLD,

Drug and Chemical Warehouse,
594 BROADWAY, NEW YORK,

NONE ARE GENUINE unless done up in steel engraved wrapper with fac-simile of my Chemical Warehouse, and signed

H. T. HELMBOLD.

The Weekly British Colonist

Wednesday, December 14, 1870

The World's Highway.

In a late Puget Sound paper we find a news paragraph, the full importance of which may not appear at first sight. In it the information is conveyed that Capt Gebson, of the bark Galatea, recently arrived at Puget Sound in twenty-eight days from Nicolaivsky, at the mouth of the Amoor River, that he brought letters, drafts, and government dispatches, all of which he mailed at Port Townsend, for St Petersburg, duplicates having been sent overland, via Moscow. It is added that communication between Nicolaivsky and St. Petersburg by this route can be had in sixty days, even now with a sailing vessel and over eight hundred miles of stage travel, while overland via Moscow, it would occupy ninety days; and it is very properly remarked:—"When the Northern Pacific Railroad is built, and steamers run between the Amoor and Puget Sound, not only will all mail matter come this way, but an immense trade which is now dormant will be developed and add its influence to swell the revenue of the road as well as the resources of the country." The conclusions arrived at by our contemporary would appear to be altogether justified, viewing the subject from his standpoint, Russia in Asia has an area of 239,556 geographical miles, or nearly three times as large as Russia in Europe, and its dormant resources are doubtless immense. Neither can there be much doubt that, with railway communication complete between Puget Sound and New York, and steam communication between the former place and the Amoor, the trade of Asiatic Russia would be for the most part attracted over that route. But, glancing only two or three years farther into the future, we discover a condition of things greatly calculated to modify the ardor of our contemporary's expectations respecting the advantages likely to accrue to his route from the trade of Asiatic Russia. With the Canadian Pacific Railway open, and with its Eastern terminus at Halifax, or peradventure, better still, at St. John's, within one hundred hours' steam of Liverpool, with its shorter, better, safer, cheaper route across the Continent, and with its western terminus at the magnificent harbor at Esquimaux, one hundred and forty miles nearer the open sea and so much nearer to the Amoor, it is scarcely conceivable that the trade of Asiatic Russia, or for the matter of that, the trade of any other Asiatic country, will continue to pass by to Puget Sound. Trade is apt to fall, sooner or later, into natural channels, and it would, indeed, be strange if it should go a distance of even one hundred and forty miles past the coal-stores of the North Pacific, past the True Northwest Passage, only to find a longer and less facile way across the continent, with a much longer sea voyage awaiting it on the Atlantic. The circumstance of Asiatic Russia now looking for a more ready means of communication through North America goes towards strengthening the position long maintained in this journal, viz, that the Canadian Pacific Railway cannot fail to command the trade between Europe and Asia, between the Orient and the Occident.

Saturday, Dec. 10.
THE REVIEWS.—Messrs Hibben & Co have laid on our table the Edinburgh and London Quarterly. The former contains the usual amount of sterling reading. To the masses the "Campaign" of August, 1870 will be amongst the most popular papers in the present number, while the theologian will doubtless turn to "Dr Newman's Grammar of Assent," "Germany, France and England" is also a most able and instructive contribution. Turning to the London Quarterly, its well-stored pages will be found unusually attractive. Amongst the most interesting amongst its papers may be mentioned "The War between France and Germany," "The French and German Armies and the Campaign in France," "Prevoist-Paradol and Napoleon III," "Terms of Peace," "Inefficiency of the British Army," "Mismanagement of the British Navy" and "Sir Henry Bulwer's Life of Lord Palmerston." As will be suggested by the foregoing the present number of the London Quarterly possesses far more than average interest.

LOWER FRASER TREES.—The yield of grain crops on the Lower Fraser has been very large this season. As an instance, it is mentioned that the McCleery Brothers, on the North Arm, had an average of 42 bushels of wheat to the acre. The steamers Onward and Reliance went into winter quarters on Saturday. The now celebrated Dr. Rheum arrived at Burrard Inlet and crossed over to New Westminster on Tuesday. During Wednesday he was taken round town by Dr. Black, and shown through the various public institutions. We understand that he even inspected the gaol, with the internal arrangements of which he is said to have expressed himself greatly pleased. In the evening, on the arrival of the Enterprise, the doctor eagerly rushed to the newspaper depot and purchased a file of the British Colonist, after which he mysteriously disappeared and had not been subsequently seen.

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Later from Kootenay.

Mr. J. Johnston, Kootenay Expressman, arrived last evening. He left Wild Horse creek on the 17th November with the mail, express and election returns, and arrived in Hope on the 6th. via Spokane and Colville. The weather was quite cold at Kootenay and the snow on Perry creek was a foot deep. There were, however, several companies at work on both creeks who were making good wages, especially those on Perry creek. Times were rather lively owing to the elections, both candidates.—Mr Jessop and Mr Skinner—addressing the electors on the political topics of the day. The best of good feeling prevailed and everything terminated quietly. A party went off again to Fiddley creek, intending to sink a shaft this winter and also wind a part of the creek—having obtained good prospects there early in the season. A rich gold-bearing quartz ledge has also been discovered, but in what locality is not yet known.

The Rook Creek Flume Co had ceased work after washing up \$3000. The company are sanguine as to next year's work—the ground prospecting better than heretofore. The weather was very cold in the Similkameen valley and also on the Hope mountains, a snow storm having set in two days previous to Mr Johnston's crossing. About 75 white men and 150 Chinamen will winter in the District of Kootenay. Goods are abundant at low figures. Beef is selling at from 10 to 12 1/2 cents per pound.

LADY LISGAR, the wife of the Governor-General of Canada, has been on a visit to Washington and New York, and has been thus complimented by Frank Leslie: "Lady Young, wife of Sir John Young, Governor-General of Canada, is one of the most beautiful and cultivated ladies in society. Her graceful and unaffected manners charm all who have the pleasure of meeting her. Since her sojourn in New York city, Lady Young has been handsomely entertained by many of our leading fashionables."

MORE WHALES.—A letter received by the last steamer announces that the Dawson whaling party had caught four more whales, two of which, however, were subsequently lost owing to the hardness of the weather. The two which were saved; it is stated, were equal in size and value to any four previously taken. It is added that for number and size the whales now deporting themselves on the station exceed anything ever seen by the party on the whole coast. This is encouraging, and we sincerely wish the company every success.

QUEEN ARTICLES sometimes fall beneath an auctioneer's hammer, and Mr. Lumley Franklin, on Monday, will have the honor of offering a live cougar and cage. The animal is a magnificent fellow—being nearly three feet high and about nine feet long. He is thoroughly domesticated and might in time with a little trouble and kindness become a household pet—an object of endearment to the younger members of a family—or he would prove a valuable addition to a menagerie. As for food, he may be kept upon table scraps or upon butcher's meat at a cost of 50 cents per week. The cage is substantially built and the animal may be exhibited immediately.

MANITOBA.—Mr Robertson, Superintendent of the Northwestern Telegraph Company, has written to Governor Archibald of Manitoba, requesting to be informed as to the most practical and economical plan for obtaining the requisite number of suitable telegraph poles for the line between Pembina and Fort Garry. Cedar is much preferred, and the dimensions are 2 1/2 feet long and 4 inches in diameter at the top. Mr Robertson thinks twenty poles to the mile will do all the railway is completed.

ARRIVAL OF THE LULU.—The barkentine Lulu, Capt. Konwies, arrived in the outer harbor last evening, eleven days from San Francisco, with a cargo of merchandise and nine passengers. Heavy winds, principally from the south, were experienced. Among the passengers were Mr. Peter Steele, Mr. Rhodes and Baldwin. The Lulu is consigned to Millard & Bagg, and will go to Queen Charlotte Island to load with coal for San Francisco.

NEW MUSIC.—Quite a batch of new music, published by M. Gray, Clay street, San Francisco, has been placed on our table. Amongst them are "D. saw Thou of Me, Darling," "Children's Voices," "Where the Shining Spirits Are," "Flowers, Fresh Flowers," "Love's Sweetest Messengers," and "They Shall Not Have It, the Free, the German Rhine." Mr. Gray's music is got up in excellent style and can be had fresh by every steamer at T. N. Hibben & Co's.

LATER FROM OMINOIA.—By arrivals on the Enterprise we have later news from Omineca which fully confirms previous reports respecting the richness of that country. It is now the general impression that a rich gold-bearing country extends far north of Germanese creek, which will supply good placer diggings for many years to come. Certain it is that great excitement prevails in well-informed circles and a very general determination to go to Omineca next season is manifesting itself. May many go and grow rich.

AN UNFORTUNATE PARAGRAPHER.—Sir Henry Stokes was defeated at the Colchester election, by a majority of 600. A London contemporary thus accounts for that result: "Sir H Stokes is a warm advocate of the Contagious Diseases Act, and a letter was produced from him in which he said that the Government must recognize prostitution as a necessity. He probably meant 'as an inevitability' like sin, death, or hell; but the sentence rained him in Colchester, a garri-son town, where the Act has been put in force."

ARRIVAL OF THE PELICAN.—The N. P. T. Co's steamer Pelican, Capt Stothard, arrived at 9 o'clock yesterday morning from San Francisco. She had southerly winds to the Cape and made the run in 3 days and 22 hours. She brings 30 passengers and 110 tons of freight. Amongst the passengers were Mrs H. W. B. Aikman and child, Mr and Mrs Williamson and family, J. Bullen, J. S. McMillan and Wm. Lohse.

FROM THE RIVER.—The steamer Enterprise arrived from New Westminster yesterday at 4 o'clock p.m. She brought fifteen passengers but neither Mail nor Express from the Upper Country, the river steamers having gone into winter quarters. Following is the passenger list: Capt Irving, Mrs Irving, Miss Shaver, Captain Insley, Misses Insley, Mrs Hogan, A. McKenzie, W. R. Cuthbert, F. Eichoff, Clarke, J. Johnston, O Major, Nelson, McMillan, F. Gralley.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MILLS SYSTEM.—Mr Charles Kent, who so kindly collected the sum of \$110 from charitably disposed persons for the relief of the Mills Mills, has lodged the amount in the Bank of British Columbia subject to the order of any committee that may be hereafter organized to provide them with comfortable quarters and proper keep.

KNOW YOURSELF.—Mr Charles Westley, stencil-plate cutter and engraver, has arrived in town. Mr Westley is the possessor of a plate and indelible ink for marking clothes, which will be found invaluable in a country like this where so much of one's "washes" finds its way into the hands of "Yellow Pagans." Mr Westley will receive orders at the Oriental Hotel.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE CABLES? The English cable of 1865 is defective; the English cable of 1867 is defective; the French cable of 1869 can only send messages one way; the cable between Falmouth Gibraltar and Malta won't transmit a word, and the 7-mile cable between San Juan and Sydney Islands is broken.

THE DOMINION CENSUS.—The Dominion Government is about to take the usual decennial census. The Canadian papers are already discussing the probable result and think that a population of about 4,300,000 will be shown. The census of 1861 returned 3,091,681 inhabitants.

THE TYNE CREW have received a challenge to row a four-oar, pair of sculls and single scull race, in Australian waters. The inducements offered by the Australians are £500 stg for expenses and £300 stg stakes for each side.

ROUGH WEATHER.—The steamer Enterprise experienced very rough weather on her trip down from New Westminster yesterday. Nearly all the passengers had a touch of sea-sickness, and no dinner was served.

THE SHALLOTT not having arrived on her regular semi-weekly trip from the Sound, it is conjectured that the Alida has been laid up one trip for repairs.

MORE EVIDENCE.—Sergeant McMillan brought down on the Enterprise yesterday two Indians from Plumper Pass who, it is thought, may throw more light on the Clark murder.

THE brig Byzantium, Capt Calhoun, has sailed from Honolulu for Tahiti, and is expected to return to this port about the middle of March.

DIRECT communication between China and New York via the Suez Canal, has been established by the arrival of the steamer Kagdale with a cargo of tea. She was 75 days in making the trip.

INSANE.—A Mrs Stewart, who arrived at San Francisco from Ireland, quite recently en route to join her husband in British Columbia, is confined in San Francisco on suspicion of insanity. Who is she?

THANKS.—We are greatly indebted to Mr Vimont, purser of the steamer Pelican, and Mr Pickney, of Wells, Fargo & Co's Express, for important favors.

HEAVY ON LAGER.—It is estimated that the daily consumption of lager beer in the city of New York amounts to 40,000 casks.

MURDERS have become so frequent at San Francisco that one of the papers heads its daily record "The Fall Shooting."

THERE are a trifle short of 3000 empty houses in San Francisco.

POLLER COURT.—The records yesterday showed a blank sheet.

THE PELICAN will sail for San Francisco on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock.

European Mail Summary.

We have dates to the 17th Npr. Lord Mayo, Viceroy of India, it appears is not dead. Lord Robert Montagu, M. P. for Huntingdonshire, having become a Roman Catholic, a portion of his constituents have called upon him to resign. The stone-masons of Edinburgh are on a strike. Count Bismarck has sent for hawks to kill the carrier-pigeons. Paris has begun to eat the beasts in the Zoological Gardens. The loss of the Captain has caused great anxiety respecting the sparrowshires of our ironclads, and experiments are being made to test their stability, the results of which in some instances have not been satisfactory. Baron Chancell and Justice Keating and Leah are the Judges to hear election petitions this year. The Times suggests that as several Peers have lately become bankrupt, it is expedient that the same rule be applied to them as to insolvent members of the House of Commons, and that they should be deprived of their privilege to sit in Parliament. The telegraph cable connecting the Channel Islands with England has been successfully

said. M. Regnier, the M. or N. of the "Strange Story," has published the history of that intrigue in a pamphlet. It appears certain from this statement, if we accept it as true, that Bazaine did offer to capitulate on condition that he should be allowed to march into France, proclaim the Empress-Regent, and sign a peace ceding Alsace and Lorraine; that Bismarck half accepted this proposal, though he shrank from it afterwards, and that it was overthrown by the Empress on the distinct ground that she would not sacrifice France to a dynastic interest. Nothing could move her, says M. Regnier, for who is an ardent republican? The Spectator says the Empress will yet be styled, like the Duchess d'Angouleme, the man of the family? It is curious that M. Regnier, who is evidently a sort of amateur Bismarck, though only a man of business in London, thinks M. Rouher the Empress' most trusted adviser.

Letter from San Francisco.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "COLONIST." SAN FRANCISCO, Dec 4th 1870.

Since the great Mercantile Library Lottery has made gambling respectable everybody has suddenly acquired an inordinate desire to turn to the fickle Goddess Fortune, in the delusive hope of winning a stray smile from her. Lotteries to pay off school debts, lotteries to introduce water pipes into towns, lotteries to build railroads, big lotteries, little lotteries, all sorts of lotteries and the mania is still spreading like a devastating financial epidemic. In one way, however, these lotteries answer a good purpose, as they give us something to talk about and in the unwarantable negligence of somebody to commit the usual horrible murder they are nearly the only topic of local interest.

AN EXPIRING CHINESE LIGHT.

One of the great lights of our Chinese population is flickering very low in its socket and if the opinion of the outside barbarian who has been called in to attend the case can be relied on, San Francisco will soon lose a prominent and noted individual.

DR. LIPO TAI,

the light referred to, was fearfully burnt a few days ago by an explosion of gas and is now lying at the point of death. This Celestial physician has amassed a larger fortune than any other doctor in the city. He came here from Canton in '58, and with the exception of a short visit home has been practicing in San Francisco ever since. A few years ago some shrewd speculators offered him \$80,000 and expenses if he would go to New York for four years. They tendered him good security in advance for the payment of the money semi-annually, at the rate of \$20,000 per annum, but he declined the proposition on the grounds that he could do better by remaining here. His death will be a serious loss to the Celestial ports as he is an inveterate gambler, having been known to lose \$7,000 at a sitting.

People often wonder at the financial success of our Chinese physicians but it is no doubt owing as much as any thing to their quick perception of the advantages resulting from advertising. They have always been and are now as liberal patrons of printers' ink as any other class of business men in the community.

DR. JIM,

who has almost as large an income as Li Po Tai, spends thousands of dollars in making himself known, is quite an adept in the art of puffing and is as fully versed in all the essentials of quackery as any of the medical cure-all humbugs who periodically make this city their temporary headquarters. Like his Caucasian contemporaries he calls in the aid of poetry to exalt his fame and he even had a villainous wood cut executed for the purpose of transferring Dr. Jim's features to paper in order that an admiring public may become familiar with his Mongolian countenance. This Dr. Jim is a genuine in his way. He dresses in American store clothes, wears a Shoo Fly necktie, parts his hair on one side, discards the traditional pig tail and speaks excellent English. He has a cut throat countenance, but that is, perhaps, an inherited misfortune for in consultation he is as mild a mannered man as ever poisoned a patient or pocketed a fee. His published record of cures effected completely discounts Ayres' and Holloway's highest flights of fancy, and is probably quite as true.

Our regular physicians complain bitterly of the folly of people for patronizing Chinese doctors, and they are going to make an effort at the next session of the Legislature to rattle them out by law. But their chances of obtaining a monopoly of the healing custom are not brilliant, as we are prone to physic, and take it willingly from anyone who prescribes without asking irrelevant questions about competency and experience.

A NEW EDEN.

I believe I mentioned in a former letter that an expedition had left this city for the purpose of colonizing Lower California. The company under whose auspices the adventurers sailed purports to be the owners of a grant from the Mexican government embracing in its extent several degrees of latitude, or about 47,008 square miles of territory: It also claims to be the owner of the greater part of the Jesca contract for the survey of the State of Sonora, in consideration of which it is to receive one-third of the public lands of the state, calculated at 40,000 square miles additional. It also claims other large grants in Sinaloa, and Veruac and various isolated properties in other parts of the Mexican States. To represent these franchises and territories the capital of the company has been fixed at the nominal sum of \$35,000,000, most of which has been divided up amongst the lobbyists, editors and politicians who usually fatten on such schemes. The list of Directors comprises the names of the principal public men in the Union, and if it truly represents the strength and power of the country, the undertaking contemplates something more than a peaceful settlement.

But it was not so much about the Company itself or the political results that must follow the establishment of a prosperous American colony in that portion of Mexico that I intended to write, as of the reports that have reached here from the expedition about the soil, cli-

mates and productions of the country. Lower California has hitherto been considered a peninsular of alternate rock and desert, possessing no fertility and few natural resources. To this supposition must be ascribed the apathy that has always existed in reference to its acquisition. But if the letters received from the expedition are to be relied on, instead of the country being a barren wilderness, it is a new Eden, an earthly paradise almost equaling the first residence of our first ancestors. Verdant plains over which troop herds of wild cattle, horses, deer and antelope, placid bays from which a sweep of the seine will draw a boat load of turbot, mackerel, mackerel and sardines, corn a foot high two weeks from planting, a climate equal and delicious whether too hot nor too cold, wheat sown in January reaped in June, red wax and again reaped in January, tomatoes, oranges, lemons, dates, figs, bananas, olives, almonds and many other varieties of trees growing profusely, make up the glowing picture painted by these first settlers of their new home. Under such favorable circumstances—if the accounts have not been exaggerated—has the new company entered into its practical career, and it may be that this small beginning in the shade and of the inevitable wedge that must, sooner or later, be driven in to split all the northern states of the Mexican Republic from the rule of Spanish superstition, and bring them under the enlightened influence of Anglo-Saxon energy.

AN APPROACHING CHINESE FESTIVAL.

The "Heathen Chinese" are making preparations for the celebration of the most important festival that has occurred in their calendar for ten centuries. Next February will be according to Chinese reckoning, the commencement of another thousand years, and the rejoicing will surpass anything of the kind we have ever witnessed in the Celestial Isle. The festivities will continue for two weeks, during which not a solitary John however poor or dependent will lift his head to work. In order to keep up the old rites at home, but of the wealthiest Celestials sailed yesterday on the steamer for the Flowery Kingdom, and several hundred more will leave on the first of January.

A MUNICIPAL REQUEST.

The first interest on record in California history of any of our wealthy men donating a portion of their riches to the public good, has been the endowment during the past month, by Horace Hanes of an institution for the prevention of want and the promotion of useful industry. A block of land of the present value of \$150,000, but the accumulated value of which will by the close of the present century reach \$5,000,000, has been donated for this purpose, and although several years will elapse before any practical measures are taken for carrying out the purpose of the bequest, it eventually becomes an institution of national scope and world-wide celebrity.

OUR OPENING AUSTRALIAN TRADE.

Our merchants took advantage of the establishment of the Australian line to send samples of all kinds of American goods, likely and unlikely to the Colonies, and the result has been that every direct mail brings orders for American wares, products and manufactures. Experimental shipments of canned salmon, brought back an order for a thousand cases, and consignment of a few dozen hams procured an order for 100,000 of them. There are but instances of what has been done, and I mention them for the purpose of suggesting that similar enterprise in your own Colony would not be without pecuniary reward. We import thousands of gallons of cranberries from the Eastern States every year. Why cannot British Columbia furnish them? We send to Holland for our dried herrings. Why should not your bladders supplant them? They would do if they were properly pushed by a good agent. Your salmon is far superior to the article canned here for the Colonies. Why not make a venture with a few barrels of it to Australia? It is only by trying that success or failure can be actually demonstrated, but our merchants tried—and almost in the dark—for they had no idea of the goods they likely to sell, and they have virtually opened a new market for their wares by the mere risk of a few dollars. The small and uncommensurate steamers now running to Sydney will be supplanted about the beginning of the New Year by Webb's line of first class vessels, and with their inauguration there can be no doubt that the passenger traffic between Europe and Australia via this port will greatly increase. It is believed that the Australian trade will eventually become of more importance to this city than that of China; and nothing is being left undone by our merchants to produce a favorable impression in their new customers. Two Australian bishops have been here the last week or two, and they are the recipients of numerous courtesies, and through passengers from England find themselves equally sought after. This is good policy if commendable for nothing else, and will not be thrown away upon our visitors.

PERSONAL.

Judge & R Cox lately of your Colony has had on view during the past fortnight a copy on sketch of a tiger's head, finished from life, the subject being the tiger at Woodland's Gardens. The press commented on it as one of the best pictures ever shown here, and the artist is in receipt of numerous orders for similar productions. Ex-Colonist.

JUDSON'S Simple Dyes for... Anyone can Use them... DANIEL JUDSON & SON... SEE THAT YOU GET JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES

CLANS. August 16th, 1868. my PREPARATION he component parts JUNIPER BERRIES: vacuo. nalper Ber- extract) obtained from Juniper and a small proportion any now n use. is of a dark color. It the action of a flame leaving a dark and color of ingredients, omistes he smallest e added, to prevent ll be found not to be a, nor is it a Syrup- e where fever or in- the knowledge of the ration with a trial, and that ur approbation, nderce. ily, LMBOLD 19 year's experience chemists in the World.) NOVEMBER 4 1864 Helmbold; he occupied and was successful others had not been favorably impressed HAN WRIGHTMAN, manufacturing Chemist, Philadelphia. OLD'S TRACT HU! tion. The exhauste panned by so many will be found, Indus- tory, Wakefulness, Hor- ill; in fact, Universal ity to enter into the TUTION e, requires the aid of ate system, which variably does, if no mpti n or insanity ract of Buchu s unequalled by any ists, incidental to the Extract Buchu SE WASH the system diseases at little expense, little lence or exposure, com- ant and dangerous rem- all these diseases. E Extract Buchu whether existing in male originating, and so nat- pleasant in taste and it more strengthening ark or Iron, or delicate constitu- however slight may be is certain to affect the the aid of a Diuretic. is the great Diuretic. here. Price \$1.25 \$8.50. Delivered symptoms in all com- BOLD, Warehouse, NEW YORK, GUINE UNRAVED wraps of my Chemi signed LMBOLD.

