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RETIREMENT OF SIR JAMES DOUGLAS.

The Banquet of Thursday evening may be said to have been the close of Sir James Douglas' official connection with this colony, in as much as we shall not in all probability have another opportunity of meeting him in public as the Governor of this colony; although until the new Governor actually arrives Sir James nominally retains his position virtually he has retired from public life in this colony. For the last five years the Governor has exercised a great influence amongst us, an influence greater than any future Governor will be called upon to exert. We have now settled forms of government with which in 1858 we were not familiar except from our experience of their working at home, and consequently much was left for the personal direction of Her Majesty's Representative in this colony, which for the future will be regulated by the local legislature. It must be admitted by all impartial judges now that the whole of the administration of the present Governor can be reviewed that his way has not been successful. There was a time when Mr. Douglas was not so popular with the general public as he now is, but there are few Governors who have not during their terms of office experienced great changes in the popular view taken of their administration.

... thoroughly the Governor performed his duty towards the Crown and the public of this colony when the interests of the Hudson Bay Company came in conflict with those of the colonists. Many held the opinion, previously to the publication of these despatches, that the Governor had leaned towards the Hudson Bay Company more than his position as Governor justified him in doing. Human nature is weak, and those who were so ready to accuse Sir James of unparliamentary conduct, in all probability judged him by their own standard of morality, and did not give him credit for that zeal for the interests of the country, which it has since been proved that he warmly exerted upon this most trying and important occasion. We are now able to judge of the past actions of the Governor, by the results, and in sincerity and truth are able to accord him that meed of praise which is so much more gratifying to offer, than are reflections upon shortcomings. His Excellency has lived amongst us long enough to gain the respect of all whose respect is worth having. Whilst Sir James Douglas has held the reins of Government we have at times differed from him in opinion as to what was expedient for the interests of the country, and have felt it our duty to oppose his administration of affairs; but whilst differing from him in politics, we have ever been ready to acknowledge and recognize his many good qualities; we give him full credit for honesty of purpose in all his actions, and are free to acknowledge in looking back upon his past career, that some of those public acts which at the time did not appear to us to have been conceived with a view to the interests of the people, and which at the time we opposed, now that we have a clue to the motives, and are able to judge them by their results, have turned out better than we anticipated. We do not intend to say that we look upon Sir James Douglas as a model Governor; such praise would be but fulsome flattery, which is by no means acceptable to a straight-forward English gentleman. We do, however, say that our retiring Governor will bear comparison with any Colonial Governor of the present day. So far as the press of Victoria is concerned, during his rule in Vancouver Island, as it has spoken out freely and boldly against him as occasion arose, so now on his ceasing to occupy the highest position in the colony we can honestly and faithfully say that our respect and best wishes will accompany Sir James Douglas in his retirement.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

By the arrival, on Thursday, of the bark Architect, the statement previously made of a proposed armistice by England in the affairs of Schleswig-Holstein, has been confirmed. That proposition takes for its basis, the evacuation of Schleswig, except Olesen, or more properly speaking Aalen, by the Danes, and is supported by France, Russia and Sweden. Austria, it is said, assents to the armistice, but Prussia refuses. In the meantime, the Germans, with large reinforcements, are preparing to attack the very island which England stipulates should be retained, during the armistice, by Denmark. Aalen lies within a mile or so of the main land, and stands at the entrance of the Little Belt. Should the Danes persist in their present determination to fight for it, their assailants will have something to do before they gain possession of this important point. With the evidence, which the late news gives us, of the determined spirit of aggression on the part of the Germanic powers, there is little ground to hope for a peaceful issue, and we may in all probability, through Prussia's folly, have a European war, as devastating in its effects as that which now rages on the American continent. The cause of the Schleswig-Holstein imbroglio will be speedily swallowed up by greater interests, and the conflagration which has been lighted by the vanity and ambition of a few petty princes, will in all likelihood assume such dimensions as have not been witnessed since the first Napoleonic period. It is by no means strange this should be so. Wrongs have been accumulating in almost every part of Europe, which, like that great outrage that cried for redress on the American continent, only need the opportunity of the noise and smoke of battle to right themselves by the *dernier ressort*.

It matters little on what pretence the torch is lighted. When Beauregard attacked Fort Sumter it was only the evacuation of a few unarmed Federal soldiers; but the far-seeing observed in this almost trivial incident, the death-blow of slavery on the American continent. The present war in the North of Europe has commenced on pretences just as wide from the real issue as those which first urged South Carolina to take the aggressive step, and will in all probability advance towards a grave result. In both cases good faith was broken by the aggressors. The treaty of London has been as grossly violated by Austria and Prussia as was the constitution of the United States by South Carolina.

and which the principal European powers have guaranteed her, under certain conditions, by treaty. Whether the Danes have broken their stipulations, as the Germans allege, is a question for the Powers to consider; at all events Austria and Prussia have violated their engagements, and assisted the hussars of Prince Augustenburg in carrying out a forcible ejection. In the meantime affairs are not by any means in the best of order in other parts of Europe. When we look at the still active insurrection in Poland; at the aspect of Hungary, with Kossuth again in activity; at the unsatisfactory state of affairs at Rome; at Garibaldi on the *quai vive*, and the Italian question still an unfinished problem; who can say where war is likely to terminate, if once beyond the boundaries of the disputed Duchies?

Had England, as a free country, exerted herself more in the cause of the suffering and struggling nationalities, she would not today have been so nervously anxious at every indication of disturbance in Europe. We are sorry to say, however, through Court influence, dynasties, and not peoples, have benefited by our policy. Hungary and Poland might have been now greater conservers of peace and more effective preservers of the much-talked-of balance of power than that Germanic Kingdom, which we have always felt so deeply interested in having preserved intact. The advantages of our quasi-alliance with this race may be summed up in complications and pension lists—ending at length in our being placed in the present most awkward and serious dilemma. For if we allow Denmark to be overpowered by Germany, we forfeit every claim to honor and courage, and become the quiescent spectator of an outrageous violation of good faith, in which the victim is our closest foreign relation. While on the other hand, if we take up arms in the cause of Denmark, we give to Louis Napoleon that most coveted opportunity of enlarging his territory at the expense of Germany. Looking at these alternatives, however grave the latter may be, what British subject does not rather wish to risk it than see these powerful bulwarks of the German Principalities—these men, who have, with their Prussian and Austrian confederates, submitted at home to political degradations that would not have been borne by the subjects of the Emperor of China—conquer a race that has preserved

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, March 10, 1864.
House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present—Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Franklin, Foster, Dennis.
TELEGRAPH REGULATION BILL.
Mr. Young asked leave to introduce a bill for the regulation of Telegraph Lines in the colony. Granted.
The House went into committee on the TELEGRAPH BILL.
Mr. Dennis in the chair.
Clause 8 provides that if the company shall fail for six months to keep the same or some other line in order, they shall forfeit their exclusive privileges.
Mr. Franklin moved an amendment striking out the words "six months" and inserting a provision against the effects of public war or any other unforeseen event. Amendment carried.
Clause 9 provides that the charge between this colony and the first cable for Washington Territory shall not exceed \$1 for each ten words, and that any other messages shall not be charged higher rates than the lowest uniform rates on any of the company's lines. Passed.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.
FRIDAY, March 11, 1864.
House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present—Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Tolmie, Trimble, Street, Bayley, Dennis.
ADDRESS TO SIR JAMES DOUGLAS.
Dr. Trimble considered it a duty of this House, on the approaching departure of His Excellency, to testify, in respect and esteem for him by presenting him with an Address from the Legislative Assembly. He would therefore move that such an address be presented.
Dr. Tolmie seconded.
A committee of the major and second major was appointed to draw up the address.
RECEPTION OF THE RESOLUTION.
A communication from the Reception Com-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

mittee was laid before the House, inviting the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly to take part in the reception of Governor Kennedy. The House took no action on the invitation.
MOUNT DOUGLAS RESERVE.
The Speaker read a Message from His Excellency in reference to the above Reserve, stating that His Excellency had set aside the Mount Douglas Park expressly for the use of the citizens of Victoria, and had caused its boundaries to be distinctly marked on the official map, a copy of which he now sent down to be placed among the records of the House.
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.
The Speaker laid before the House the following communication, accompanying the Supplementary Estimates:
VICTORIA, 11th March, 1864.
To the Honorable the Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,
GENTLEMEN,
I have the honor to forward to you herewith Supplementary Estimates of sums that will be required to carry out certain services on Roads, proposed to be undertaken during the present year; and also for certain miscellaneous services not included in the estimates already submitted to the House.
The further expenditure contemplated under the Head of Education is designed to provide for the construction of a new School House with play ground, &c. on the School Reserve in Victoria District and to make a small grant towards the establishment of a School at Cowichan.
An additional sum in aid of the Royal Hospital at Victoria has been placed upon the estimate at the earnest request of the Committee of Management, who represent that this valuable institution is still in debt to the amount stated.
In consequence of the want of Municipal Revenue the Fire Companies have ceased for some months to receive aid from the city. I would therefore submit to you the propriety of enabling the Executive to grant relief to the extent named in the estimates to meet the present requirements of that efficient organization, upon the understanding, if desirable, that the amount be repaid by the city as soon as sufficient revenue is collected.
I have the honor to be, gentlemen, Your obedient servant,
JAMES DOUGLAS.

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE.
To provide for Works, &c. proposed to be undertaken during the year 1864:
For Roads.....\$14,000
TO BE APPLIED AS FOLLOWS:
Sanich Road.....\$5,000
St. John's Road.....2,000
Metochin Road.....3,000
From Metochin to Albert Head.....1,000
To open Wagon Road to Gold Street.....600
McKenzie's to Naval Hospital.....1,000
McKenzie's to John Burns' road, crossing Colah's road.....500
Mount Tolmie Cross Road.....500
General Reserve.....500
Total.....\$14,000
Education.....85,000
Royal Hospital.....2,500
Fire Department.....2,000
Mail Communication along the Coast.....2,000
Miscellaneous services, refund of taxes overpaid, &c.....500
Total.....\$98,000

INCORPORATION ACT.
The House went into committee on the bill to regulate the incorporation act, Mr. Bayley in the chair.
The bill was taken up at the qualification section, 2nd clause, which enacts that the qualification shall be, having been rated on the municipal assessment roll for three months before election, in respect of real estate to the value of \$500, or leasehold of \$1,000.
Mr. DeCosmos said he thought the qualification too low; the object should be to secure men who had some stake in the country.
Mr. Dennis moved that the clause be expunged. He thought we were all well enough known here, and it did not require a property qualification to make a man a good councillor.
The amendment was rejected, and the clause passed as read.
DISQUALIFICATIONS.—Being a minister of any religious denomination.
Mr. DeCosmos was opposed to preventing any gentleman whom the citizens may please to appoint from being elected.
Mr. Street and Mr. Young were opposed to political persons. Clause passed.
Being a Sheriff or Sheriff's Officer. Passed.
Being a member of the Legislative Council or Assembly. Passed.
Being a bankrupt, insolvent, debtor, felon or outlaw. Passed.
Having taken an oath of allegiance to any foreign State, unless he shall have subsequently taken the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty six months before election. Passed.
Having directly or indirectly any contract with the Corporation. Passed.
Being a naval or military officer, or the Judge of any Civil or Criminal Court, or being in the receipt of any allowance from the Corporation.
On motion of Mr. Young the words "on full pay" were added after officer; and the clause was passed as amended.

Clause 19 was amended by the introduction of the clause from the old Act in reference to the election of Mayor.
Clause 11, limiting the number of councillors to two in each ward, was passed.
Clause 12, providing that the councillors in each ward receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected. Passed.
Clause 13, fixing the qualification of voters was amended in consonance with the clause in the old Act, and passed.
DURATION OF OFFICE.—Clause 14, providing that the councillors go out by rotation was amended by the introduction of the similar clause from the old Act, and passed.

PLACEMENT OF VOTING.

The clause providing that the outgoing council of the sheriff shall give seven days notice in the public journals of the days of nomination and polling, was passed.
The clause, from the old act, that the vote for mayor shall be taken in Yates street ward, and no other, was passed.
The clause for the appointment of returning officers was amended by the words, and shall give public notice thereof previous to the election, was passed.
The clause providing for the nomination in Yates street ward of the candidates for councillors and passed.
The clause providing that any candidate or voter on his behalf may demand a poll, was passed.
The clause providing that in case of equality of votes the sheriff shall have the casting vote, was passed; also the clause providing that the candidates shall bear equal proportion the expenses of the election, said expenses in any ward not to exceed \$100. Passed.
QUALIFICATION OF VOTERS.—The qualification of being a male British subject, of full age, and having resided in the colony for three months before the election, was passed.
The committee here rose and reported progress.

THE ADDRESS.
The committee laid before the House the following address to His Excellency, which they had prepared for the adoption of the House:
To His Excellency,
Sir James Douglas, K.C.B.,
Governor of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies, &c., &c.
We, the loyal and faithful subjects of her Majesty, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies, in Parliament assembled, desire on the occasion of your Excellency's retirement from office, most respectfully to express our high appreciation of the great administrative qualities and the uniform urbanity shown by your Excellency during the many years you have filled the responsible position of Governor of the Colony.
We consider the great prosperity of this portion of her Majesty's dominions during the past few years as mainly ascribable to the wise policy which your Excellency inaugurated, and we trust that the continued advancement of this colony may be equal to your Excellency's good wishes in its behalf. Whilst sincerely regretting your departure, we earnestly hope that your Excellency may be permitted to visit us again, and we trust that health, happiness, and prosperity may attend you for many years to come.
Address adopted unanimously, and the members to meet to-day (Saturday) at 2 o'clock, to present it to His Excellency.
House adjourned till Monday.

GOLDSTREAM.—The news of the richness of the Parmiter Quartz vein has caused quite an excitement in the community, and sent out a large number of prospectors to Gold Stream, to locate new lodes, and to revive the claims to those formerly taken up, and neglected for a time. We have been shown by one of these prospectors, a large lump of fine-looking quartz, taken by him from a vein he discovered close to the Parmiter location. The vein is three feet wide at the top, and shows itself down the face of a bluff, widening as it descends; should it prove as rich as the Parmiter has done, it will be a most valuable location. There are 7 claims at work now at the mines. The Douglas Company have got their errands almost ready, and expect to go to work in a day or two. The Britannia Company have a new and comfortable house built for men at work, and a large quantity of rock blasted out; they intend to begin erecting their errands to-day. Our informant distinctly saw gold in the castings or walls of slate surrounding the quartz in this claim.
The Parmiter Company have two men in possession, awaiting the decision of the meeting of shareholders to-night, as to getting up a machine from San Francisco.
The Canadian Company were out in force yesterday to re-suscitate their claims, which they had suffered to lie in abeyance for a while; they intended to go to work immediately and got out rock. Miller, the indefatigable prospector, has got the best horse on Gold Stream; he has got out a good deal of fine looking quartz, and has burnt a quantity of it; he has made several assays getting gold each time. His company, the Washoe, intend going to work vigorously. The Muir Company are doing nothing at present. Several other companies are at work, the American and others, but our informant did not visit them. Smallbones is hard at work digging an immense ditch to turn the stream from its bed, and is confident that he can make \$5 to \$6 per day, if grub does not fail him before his task is completed. He complains bitterly that the people of Victoria do not support him in his efforts for the public weal. Mr. Thomas has substituted a good comfortable log house for his old seat. The roads are frightful in some places, being flooded with water. The people at the diggings are full of hope and sanguine of great results.

its individual rights as determined by ourselves. We can have no sympathy with these Bismarcks and their slaves; and if the dream of German unity in the probable approaching general conflict, becomes forever dissipated, and the Rhine forms the boundary of ambitious France, German vanity and bad faith will have to charge themselves with the result.
No doubt we have to thank Lord John Russell for this prospective general European war. It is his serious and laudable policy that has encouraged the Austrian and Prussian to become suddenly so belligerent. Not content with turning our expensive Crimean war into the most prodigious account, not satisfied with assuring the Russians that no breach of treaty, no inhuman cruelty on their part to an oppressed race could induce England to declare war; this specimen of aristocratic statesmanship now as before attempts to bring the country into the greatest humiliations. If, however, the Germans, as appearances indicate, and as we might expect from powers who have been so frequently beaten in war, are determined to push their temporary advantages against a weaker nation, no British Cabinet could hold together one week that would desert the Danish cause. The next news will, therefore, decide the matter. In the meantime Louis Napoleon has a quiet laugh at our predicament, biding his own good time to turn his neighbors' misfortunes to his own profit.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, March 15, 1864.

Arrival of the "Eliza Anderson."

EASTERN DATES TO FEBY. 25th.

Indications of Another Battle at Bull Run.

POLK OUT-GENERALLED BY SHERMAN.

The Expedition to Florida.

TUNNEL HILL CAPTURED.

AFFAIRS AT KNOXVILLE, TENN.

Wreck of the "Bohemian," and Loss of Life.

THE "TUSCALOOSA" SEIZED BY THE BRITISH.

The steamer Eliza Anderson arrived Tuesday from Olympia, W. T., and was ported by favor of Capt. Finch we are in possession of files of the Portland Oregonian and Olympia papers, from which we will follow intelligence, received by Overland Telegraph despatches to the Oregonian:

New York, Feb. 18.—The World's Nashville letter says:—The army of Chattanooga is well stored with munitions of war. The roads in Georgia are improving. The writer thinks Gen. Logan, with the Fifteenth Army Corps, which moved from Huntsville, would strike for Rome (Georgia) to operate on Johnson's flank. Assuming that to be Logan's destination, Grant will march against Johnson with 40,000 men.

It is whispered among military men that there would soon be a raid into Ohio, that the pontoons referred to would be drawn overland to either New or Kanawha rivers, and would be floated down the Ohio, and that river crossed at two points—two columns going by way of Barbours and Glendeth. It is rumored and expected that troops would arrive for concentration from both Eastern and Western rebel armies.

In regard to the above report, a correspondent says that rumors have been in circulation for some time past, of mysterious movements on the line of the Virginia and Tennessee railroad.

New York, Feb. 19.—The Atlantic, from Hilton Head, Feb. 17th, has arrived.

The Florida expedition met with complete success. Several ports besides Jacksonville were recovered. No particulars of the expedition have been received. The following has been received at head-quarters:

BALDWIN, (Fla.) 9th Feb. To GEN. HALLECK, I have the honor to report that a portion of my command, under Gen. Seymour, covered by the gun-boat Northwich, secured the St. John's river on the 7th, and landed at Jacksonville on the same day. The advance, consisting of two regiments and one battery, pushed forward into the interior. On the 8th they passed by the enemy drawn up in line of battle at Camp Vinegar, seven miles from Jacksonville, and surprised and captured a battery three miles in their rear; killed about midnight and reached their camp about sunrise. At our approach the enemy absconded, after scuttling the steamer St. Mary, and burning 270 bales of cotton. We have taken, without the loss of a man, about one hundred prisoners, nine pieces of artillery, in servicable condition, and other valuable property to a large amount. GILMON.

New York, Feb. 19.—By the Roanoke we learn that an official named Preston, claiming the rank of Major-General in the Confederate army, arrived at Havana, via Nassau. It is said that he bears a commission to Mexico of great importance. He left for Vera Cruz on the 2nd of February.

The Herald's special Washington despatch says:—Something of a sensation was created in the Senate to-day by the statement of Comcess that the authorities have positive information that several rebel war steamers have left Asia for the Pacific coast, and they fear San Francisco will be menaced before protection can be afforded.

In the House Mr. Garfield stated that there would be \$74,000,000 in the Treasury by July 1st, according to the present rates of increase.

New York, Feb. 19.—The Creole, from New Orleans Feb. 11th has arrived. Admiral Farragut, with the greater portion of his fleet, had left New Orleans.

There is nothing of interest from Texas; not even a skirmish is reported. Nearly a mile of the levee at Point Coupes recently fell into the Mississippi. The levees at Baton Rouge are sadly out of repair, and overflows are apprehended.

The Herald's Key West correspondent mentions the capture of the steamer Cumberland. Her cargo cost £70,000 in England. It includes 1000 barrels of gunpowder and a large quantity of English rifles, army clothes, boots and shoes.

Several hundred copies of the Amnesty Proclamation have been sent to Lee's army within a week, and the effect is already perceptible in the increased number of deserters.

CAIRO, Feb. 19.—It is ascertained that 14 lives were lost by the sinking of the steamer Orient—mostly deck hands and firemen.

HEADQUARTERS DEPT. OF THE WAR, Feb. 19.—From reports of deserters and refugees, it is evident the rebels are making extensive preparations along the line of the Tennessee and Virginia railroad, either apprehending an advance from us or preparing for an offensive move themselves.

Capt. Fiske, of the northern overland expedition, reports that fifteen millions of gold dust are at Idaho awaiting transportation to New York. Over 12,000 miners are on the ground, mostly old Californians. Captain Fiske has a nugget valued at \$250, as a present from a miner to President Lincoln. Fiske estimates the emigration to Idaho this summer at a hundred thousand.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—A Chattanooga telegram says Sherman's troops destroyed the

bridge on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, severing the connection between Polk's forces and Mobile. Great consternation exists in consequence.

The Senate, in Executive Session, confirmed Chas. Hutchins, of Oregon, as Indian Agent for the Territory of Idaho, and G. H. Moore, Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Territory of Washington, in place of Sparks.

Comcess, of California, introduced a joint resolution which was passed, authorizing the President to transfer persons from the land to the naval service. He explained that the resolution was to give discretionary power to the President to transfer seamen enlisted in the army to the navy, and to make up crews for ships of war to be sent to the Pacific Coast.

He said the Navy Department was ready to send ships to that coast for its protection, but by reason of the great bounties paid to soldiers the Navy Department could not get sailors, and this resolution would meet the difficulty and enable the Government to send such a fleet to the Pacific as would give that coast ample protection against attack.

CAIRO, Feb. 19.—Helena, Arkansas, letters report that the guerrillas are very active in that vicinity. Gen. N. B. Buford's cavalry were equally active in attending to them.

From Memphis letters the rebel force, when last heard from, was at Panola, Miss. His command, numbering 8,000, was scattered over the northern part of that state in small detachments, engaged in consorting and pillaging.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Gen. Harney is seriously ill in this city.

CHATTANOOGA, Feb. 19.—Adj. Gen. Thomas and staff arrived yesterday from Knoxville. Longstreet had retreated beyond French Broad river, to avoid a contest with our greatly superior forces. The bridges at London will be completed within a week, and railroad communication between Nashville and Knoxville will then be perfect.

Johnson has concentrated his forces at Dalton, Ga., and advanced his picket lines to Ringold. Fearful of an attack, he cannot spare reinforcements for Polk.

The Mobile News says Polk has been shamefully outgeneraled by Sherman, who had advanced beyond Meridian, and got between him and Montgomery.

The Marietta Rebel has rumors of a hard fight in Mississippi on the 13th. No particulars.

Rebel papers contain the following: The Yankees at Morris Island have engaged in repairing injuries to their batteries caused by our shelling.

MOBILE, Feb. 10.—Wirt Adams attacked a Federal train near Meridian yesterday, destroying 50 wagons, and capturing the mules and drivers. Reinforcements coming up he was compelled to retreat. He managed, however, to carry off some prisoners. Our loss was six killed and wounded.

The Montgomery, Ala., Mail curses Polk for permitting Gen. Sherman to proceed thus far without attacking him.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21st.—Prominent citizens of Virginia, recently arrived from Richmond, say the rebels are preparing to attempt to drive the army of the Potomac back on Washington by demonstrations along the Blue Ridge and if possible to force a battle at Bull Run.

The rebels have almost entirely suspended work on their iron-clad. Three are completed at Charleston and one is in process of construction. There is only one iron-clad in James river. One at Richmond is nearly completed but the guns have been removed to the fortifications of Charleston.

Rebel deserters state that Fitz Hugh Lee's cavalry has been disbanded until the 17th March, in consequence of the scarcity of forage. Rebel cavalry are scattered through the country in Lee's rear to procure forage until spring.

New York, Feb. 22.—Washington dispatches say there were eleven blockade runners on the lot Potomac with a large amount of goods and a rebel mail.

The Herald's Texas letter says: Deserter report Magruder's forces at 20,000. Craney Creek has been occupied and 5,000 men can be concentrated there in two days.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 21.—Official information from General Dodge was received at General Logan's head-quarters to day, to the effect that the rebels, supposed to be Ruddy's command, attempted to cross the Tennessee river at three different points, but were driven back by Dodge's troops. Our loss is slight.

The court-martial in the case of Crittenden and McCook will adjourn tomorrow. Outsiders say both Generals will be vindicated.

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—A Knoxville telegram says: The rebels are in force at Strawberry Plains. They completed a poston bridge there and two brigades of infantry crossed; also some cavalry, which had a skirmish yesterday with our cavalry six miles from here, and were driven back to the river. General Haskell with a regiment of infantry and a battalion of cavalry encountered the rebel forces two miles out, killing seven and capturing nine. It is reported that reinforcements under Buckner have arrived, but this is discredited at head-quarters.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Several lady refugees have arrived from Richmond via Fredericksburg. There is a report that the rebel authorities within the last month have seized all the meat in Richmond markets and forwarded it to Longstreet's army.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Richmond papers have official despatches to the War Department, dated the 18th, announcing that Sherman had arrived at Quitman on the Ohio and Mobile Railroad without opposition, but that he won't take Mobile without a desperate battle. His advance is with out exception the boldest movement of the war. He has from twenty-five to thirty thousand men, and moves along, evidently meditating no stop backwards.

Major General Scammon and Staff had arrived at Richmond and were lodged in Libby's warehouse. Fifty captured Yankee officers have been returned to Libby's prison.

The Enquirer of the 17th has the following despatches: MOBILE, Feb. 15.—Meridian was evacuated yesterday—Government property saved.

MOBILE, Feb. 16.—Governor Watts issued

a proclamation to citizens this morning, stating that Mobile would soon be attacked, and exhorting non-combatants to leave.

Within a few weeks the Secretary of the Navy has decided to add another fleet to the Navy. Preparations have been made to construct the new vessels entirely of iron. They are not intended to participate in actual battles.

FORTRESS MORRIS, Feb. 22.—Despatches announce the arrival of six more prisoners. Richmond papers say forty-eight men were recaptured, leaving eleven still out.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Newbern letter of Feb. 18th says rebels are said to be at King's ton. Force estimated at 25,000.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Washington letter says: From near Charleston, advices report 15,000 troops had been sent by railroad to Columbia, and a detachment of one of our forces on that place. Part of those troops it is said, have been sent from Georgia and Beauregard's army.

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—A special dispatch to the Herald, dated Knoxville, Feb. 17th, says: Affairs at Knoxville for four days past have been threatening, but the enemy who appeared in force, has retreated. He has crossed the river owing to freshets in the Holston. The enemy are now reported moving towards Georgia with their cavalry on the Marshville road and their infantry are passing near Smoky Mountain. There is no anticipation of an attack which may be made, however, after the river falls.

PORTLAND, MEINE, Feb. 24.—The Bohemian, from Liverpool, struck a rock four miles outside Cape Elizabeth last evening, and sank two miles from shore. All the cabin passengers saved. About 200 stowage passengers were on board. Boat swamped within five minutes. The vessel's value was \$1,000,000. The cargo is mostly Canadian. Among names of stowage passengers was that of Martin, wife and children, of California. It is not known if any of them are saved or not.

Three mail bags saved; one of them for California. It is thought but few passengers were lost, except those in boats. Some of them perished.

BOSTON, Feb. 23.—Vessels arrived bringing news from Capetown, Africa, Dec. 26th. They state that the privateer Tuscaloosa was seized by British authorities, for violation of neutrality laws in landing portions of her cargo on the coast.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—The Court at St. John, New Brunswick, has committed the Chesapeake pirates to prison to await a requisition from the United States.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Gov. Johnson and the Tennessee delegation had a long interview with the President relative to the restoration of Tennessee to the Union. It is understood that while they do not favor the plan of the President, they are in favor of the compromise. They say Tennessee will soon be formally restored with a civil government.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 25.—The Freedom Convention adjourned on Tuesday. A resolution was passed declaring slavery to be the strength of the rebellion; that they saw no hopes of peace until the principles of freedom and equal rights were secured. The Convention adjourned on Tuesday.

ALABAMA, Feb. 25.—The Alabama, which was captured by the Union, is now being used as a hospital for rebel prisoners. It is reported that the Alabama is now being used as a hospital for rebel prisoners.

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the immediate vicinity of the town of Tunnel Hill. As soon as the infantry in sufficient numbers to support the cavalry had arrived, a column of the latter advanced along the road in plain view of the hill on which the rebel cannon were planted the day before.

The rebel battery to the right of Tunnel Hill immediately opened, throwing a number of shells with great accuracy into our ranks. Part of our artillery coming up opened on the enemy with some effect, lessened somewhat by the apparent imperfection of the shells, very few of which exploded. Two pieces of the Ninth and Tenth Indiana Battery afterwards were placed in position to the left of the road and materially assisted in dislodging the rebel battery.

The infantry now advanced, taking the rebels on the right flank, and boldly marched along the crest of Tunnel Hill, completely turning the enemy's position. The left being also threatened by a portion of our forces they fled, and our whole line moving forward, occupied without further contest the ridge of Tunnel Hill. The rebel works along the crest were of a tolerably formidable character.

At four in the afternoon the rebels were retreating along the Dalton road, and our troops pursued within three miles of Dalton, where the rebels were found very strongly posted in Georgia, through the high, precipitous range of mountains called Rocky Fall. Our advance was met by a sharp musketry fire, which was vigorously replied to, and the first rebel line was driven back on the second. The enemy immediately opened a furious fire of shot and shell from six pieces, compelling our skirmishers to retire. The fire was kept up till sundown. McCook's and Morgan's brigades taking up a position at the mouth of the gorge, may have heavy fighting to-morrow, unless they can turn the enemy's position, which now seems scarcely practicable.

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Vicksburg letters mention the arrival of a courier with news of the capture of Selma, Alabama. "It is possible, but I do not vouch for it," says the correspondent.

News of February 26. NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Washington special despatches say that Lee's army had deserted and arrived at Washington. The strength of Lee's army is now 25,000. He expects our army to be ready for operations by the middle of March, at which time he has ordered all his men to be back. Stuart's cavalry had set up all the forage, and the horses had been sent South for forage. Lee expects by March or April to have 60,000 men to check any advance of our army or drive it back on Washington and invade Pennsylvania.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—Gold, \$157 3/4. NEWS OF FEBRUARY 27th. NEW YORK, Feb. 27th.—The U. S. corvette Housatonic was destroyed, in Charleston harbor, on the 17th, by a rebel torpedo. Her loss was 150 to 200. The Prussian loss was 250 to 300—some accounts say much greater.

NEWS OF FEBRUARY 28th. NEW YORK, Feb. 28th.—The U. S. corvette Housatonic was destroyed, in Charleston harbor, on the 17th, by a rebel torpedo. Her loss was 150 to 200. The Prussian loss was 250 to 300—some accounts say much greater.

NEWS OF FEBRUARY 29th. NEW YORK, Feb. 29th.—The U. S. corvette Housatonic was destroyed, in Charleston harbor, on the 17th, by a rebel torpedo. Her loss was 150 to 200. The Prussian loss was 250 to 300—some accounts say much greater.

NEWS OF FEBRUARY 30th. NEW YORK, Feb. 30th.—The U. S. corvette Housatonic was destroyed, in Charleston harbor, on the 17th, by a rebel torpedo. Her loss was 150 to 200. The Prussian loss was 250 to 300—some accounts say much greater.

patch to the Bulletin, last evening, from Chattanooga, says: Tunnel Hill commenced on Monday. A strong column of infantry preceded by the cavalry, moved out from Chattanooga near the old battle field of Chickamauga, and took the direct road from Tunnel Hill to Dalton. A party of rebel cavalry were driven in confusion across the Chickamauga, through Ringgold Gap and Taylor's Ridge, by the advance under Col. Harrison, which rested that night at Ringgold. The next morning the cavalry in advance had several lively skirmishes with the First Tennessee, but were, however, continually pushed back until four in the afternoon, when our force arrived in sight of Tunnel Hill. Here a good deal of fighting was done, but with but little loss on either side. Colonel Harrison finding that the enemy outnumbered him, fell back to his infantry support, and again pressed forward and drove the enemy out of the town of Tunnel Hill. The enemy had an entire brigade of cavalry under Wheeler, with four pieces of artillery, and opening with them, checked the further progress of our forces. As soon as our artillery arrived, its fire was directed at Boone's (rebel) cavalry, who had advanced upon Col. Harrison's right. At dark our forces retired about four miles, to await supplies. In the meantime Stanley's command advanced from the vicinity of Cleveland, preceded by cavalry, under Colonel Long of the Fourth Ohio Cavalry. The latter is said to have penetrated to within three miles of Dalton to-day.

A despatch from Buzzard Roost, Ga., the 25th, 9:30 p.m., says General Craft is in the valley beyond Rocky Face, where he found the enemy in heavy force, and awaits reinforcements. Morgan and McCook are feeling the enemy at Buzzard's Roost, and skirmishing lively.

Important from Europe.

HOSTILITIES COMMENCED IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

An Armistice Proposed.

RUMORED DIVISION IN THE ENGLISH CABINET.

SANDY HOOK, Feb. 19.—The City of Manchester, from Liverpool Feb. 3rd, and Queenstown Feb. 4th, has arrived. The news is highly important.

An engagement of six hours' duration had taken place between the Danes and Germans at Husum. The Danish outposts were driven in by the Germans, but the Danes repulsed their assault on the place.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 4.—There has been a general attack on Husum by the Germans. Their loss was 150 to 200. The Prussian loss was 250 to 300—some accounts say much greater.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—The Austrians attacked Bustorf yesterday. The Danes held their own. An attack on the whole Danish line, from Hugin to Agel, is expected to take place to-day.

It is asserted that England has offered to guarantee all that Austria and Prussia have demanded of Denmark.

The Alabams was on the watch for vessels 150 miles south of Bangon, on the 5th January. The ship Martha, formerly an American, and the bark Texan Star, had been destroyed by her.

The Morning Times has the following telegram dated Schleswig, Feb. 3: "At 3 p.m. today, the Austrians attacked the position of Bustorf, one English mile south of Schleswig. The Danes held their ground, with sharp fighting, until dark. The Danes lost one field-piece. The wounded are being brought in."

The Times seems inclined to cast upon Parliament the task of deciding the policy of the Cabinet. It says the future course of British policy rests with the House of Commons. All that a neutral State may do, no doubt, be sanctioned by Parliament and public opinion. There is great anxiety in England for the meeting of Parliament, to learn the policy of the Government on the Danish question.

The Herald says the Government will do nothing for Denmark. The Peace Society has memorialized Lord Russell against intervention.

It was rumored that Disraeli and Derby will make an effort to prevent Lord Russell, and that the Cabinet might support Russell and Gladstone, and prepare to support Denmark.

The Times says: The question whether a state of war on the part of Austria and Prussia against Denmark, now definitely existing, is such as to imperil the ports of this country, if they should put to sea and meet Danish cruisers, has been the subject of anxious discussion.

Field-Marshal Wrangel, in a proclamation to the Schleswigers, says he is there to protect their rights and civil privileges.

Austria and Prussia will assume the administration of the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein.

It is asserted that Napoleon was more resolved than ever to take no active part in the Danish question, but to leave the difficulties of the settlement to England.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The following is a summary of the Virginia's news, which left Liverpool 2nd:

Marshal Wrangel, on the 31st January, commanded the Danes to evacuate Schleswig forthwith. General Demetz refused, whereupon the Prussians passed the frontier, and shots were exchanged without effect. The Danes retreated after blowing up a large bridge. The Prussians, on the 1st of February, advanced to Gettorf and Eckinforde, establishing their head-quarters at Gettorf. The Danish ships at Eckinforde, after exchanging shots with the Prussians, sailed away. The entire Austro-Prussian cavalry entered Schleswig through Rendsburg on the 1st, and large masses of troops were pressing forward.

The London Morning Post thinks the difficulty looks threatening, but believes that German powers profess to enter Schleswig not with the intention of dismembering Denmark, but only to secure a material guarantee for the performance of engagements. The Post says England is in honor bound to furnish material support to Denmark.

PORTLAND, February 25.—The Hibernian, from Liverpool on the 11th, and Londonderry

the 12th reports Conzola at 91. portance from Schleswig.

The Post says, England has an armistice preliminary to a sue supported by Russia, France & Prussia. In Parliament Derby attacked Lord Palmerston in regard to the armistice, and insisted that the armistice should be moved for the production of the treaty there.

Lord Russell defended the government, and declined to produce the papers enquired.

SCHLESWIG, February 12.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

LONDON, February 12.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

DATES TO FEBRUARY. NEW YORK, February 24th, with dates from Liverpool to the Queenstown to the 10th, has arrived.

The Parliamentary news is in Holstein, affairs are under the German Diet. Prussia has declared that she would respect Denmark.

It is fully confirmed that the Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

Several severe engagements have with considerable loss on both sides. The Danes secured great booty and prisoners. According to the Danish authorities, the Danes possessive has ended. It is thought that the Danes will be supported by the anxiety existed at Copenhagen Danish retreat.

It was reported at Paris that had broken out at Copenhagen doubt unfounded. The English journals continue anti-German. The Conservative Earl Russell is responsible for verses.

LIVERPOOL, February 10.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

NEW YORK, February 24.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

Earl Russell and Lord Palm both made explanations relative to the question, denying the right of Prussia to abrogate the treaty of 1814.

Both Houses of the Danes adopted resolutions exhorting tranquility and order, and pled the energetic defence of the address to the King was voted.

The Austrian head-quarters were at Tarrap, and the Prussians at Döbberstedt.

The Germans had decided siege of Dennewerk. It was rumored that the Danes at Dussel, and lost 4,000 men in great numbers.

DUKE Frederick had proclaimed a European Congress Schleswig.

The London Times says the Danes have lost everything in Schleswig. The Post says the formal (and urge) a suspended. It says the time has arrived for arrangements to be discussed contents that if Austria and Prussia the treaty of London, a hardy be avoided.

Other Continental news is in London, Feb. 11.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

The Danish Rigsraad have voted the army in favor of a vigorous march into Schleswig.

Marshall Wrangel has issued declaring the authority of Döbberstedt in Schleswig.

The Vienna Baths says by its interior conduct and army has abolished all treaties.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

HALIFAX, Feb. 16.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 4th.—The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt. The Danes have evacuated Döbberstedt.

from the 12th reports Conols at 91. Nothing im- portant from Schleswig.

The Post says, England has proposed an armistice preliminary to a conference. It is supported by Russia, France and Sweden.

In parliament Derby attacked the govern- ment policy in regard to the Alabama and Laird's rams, and insinuated that the latter were seized under American menace. He gave reasons for the production of the papers re- lative thereto.

Lord Russell defended the government, and declined to produce the papers pending legal enquiries.

SCHLESWIG, February 12.—It is stated that the Danes have evacuated Dussel, and em- barked their stores to Olen Island.

LONDON, February 12.—The Morning Post says that the basis of England's proposition for an armistice is the evacuation, by the Danes, of Schleswig, except Olen Island.

Dates to February 12th.

New York, February 24th.—The Hecla, with dates from Liverpool to the 9th, and from Queenstown to the 10th, has arrived.

The parliamentary news is unimportant.

In Holstein, affairs are under the control of the German Diet. Prussia has positively de- clared that she would respect the integrity of Denmark.

It is fully confirmed that the Danes had re- treated from Schleswig, evacuated Daners- work, and blown up their works at Missunde, the Germans followed the Danes to Flies- burg, when the latter retreated to Dussel.

Several severe engagements had taken place, with considerable loss on both sides. The Germans secured great booty, and a large number of prisoners. According to some au- thorities, the Danish possession of Schleswig has ended. It is thought that the Danes will make a formidable stand at Dussel, where they will be supported by the fleet. Great anxiety existed at Copenhagen, caused by the Danish retreat.

It was reported at Paris that a revolution had broken out at Copenhagen, but it is no doubt unfounded.

The English journals continue to be very anti-German. The Conservatives hold that Earl Russell is responsible for the Danish re- treat.

LIVERPOOL, February 10.—The Prussians have occupied Fliesburg. The Austrian losses there were 1,100.

Earl Russell stated in the House of Lords that Minister Adams had thought it prudent to withhold Mr. Seward's offensive despatch. Earl Derby was indignant that it never had been presented. Mr. Laird said that Amer- ica had not made any demand for indemnity for the Alabama's doings.

New York, February 24.—The steamer City of Washington, with one day's later news, had arrived.

Earl Russell and Lord Palmerston had both made explanations relative to the Danish question, denying the right of Austria and Prussia to abrogate the treaty of 1852.

Both Houses of the [Danish] Rigsdag adopted resolutions exhorting the people to tranquility and order, and pledging itself to the energetic defence of the country. An address to the King was voted.

The Austrian head-quarters on the 9th were at Tarrap, and the Prussian at Flies- burg.

The Germans had decided to raise [the siege of] Dennewerk.

It was rumored that the Prussians attacked the Danes at Dussel, and lost 500 men. The Danes in great numbers had arrived at Alser.

Duke Frederik had proclaimed at Flies- burg that it was reported that Denmark had proposed an European Congress relative to Schleswig.

The London Times says that the Danes have lost everything in Schleswig except honor. The Post says the situation is in- formal [and urges a] suspension of hostilities. It says the time has arrived for the basis of arrangements to be discussed. The Herald contends that if Austria and Prussia repudiate the treaty of London, a general war can hardly be avoided.

Other Continental news is unimportant.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—The Florida left Brest on the night of the 9th. It is supposed the Kearse would pursue her.

The Danish Rigsdag have voted an address to the army in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Marshal Wrangle has issued a proclamation declaring the authority of Denmark suspended in Schleswig.

The Vienna Balthford says that Denmark, by its anterior conduct and armed resistance, has abolished all treaties. The treaty of London no longer exists. Austria and Prussia are masters of the policy towards Denmark.

HALIFAX, Feb. 16.—The Africa, with Liverpool dates to the 6th, has arrived.

QUEBEC, Feb. 4th.—The Danes have evacuated Schleswig, and Dennewik is falling back to Fliesburg. The Germans are pursu- ing.

In the House of Commons Mr. Cobden contended that the Queen's Speech should have made some reference to American af- fairs. He complained of silence on this and other important subjects. Palmerston re- plied that the government could have repeated what had often been said, but could see no occasion for doing so.

In the House of Lords Earl Derby re- peated the idea of British responsibility for damages by the Alabama. He treated the Ministry had given such an answer to the claims of the Federal Government as would put as and to such monstrous demands.

The Paris correspondence of the London Times says: At a ball on the 3d February, the Emperor said to his Grand Marshal, "General they have begun the exchange of cannon and cannon shot at the North; let them go on; it is no affair of ours; our policy is non-intervention." Those whom he ad- dressed seemed to agree with him.

Addresses in reply to the Queen's Speech were adopted in both Houses without amend- ments.

In the course of debate in the House of Lords Earl Derby reviewed at length the foreign policy of the government, contending that it was injurious and humiliating to England. The rejection of the Emperor Napoleon's proposal for a European Con- gress, and the invitation to recognize the Government of the Confederate States, to- gether with fruitless negotiations with Rus- sia regarding Poland, and interfering in Dan- ish difficulties were severally referred to, and

although he did not oppose the Address, he severely censured Russell's foreign policy.

The Queen's Speech is said to have caused disappointment in Denmark.

Lord Manners expressed the hope that the government would lose no opportunity in giving friendly advice to American belligerents with a view of drawing the contest to a close.

CALIFORNIA NEWS.

[FROM THE OREGONIAN.]

SAN FRANCISCO, February 20.—Gold was quoted in New York yesterday at 168 a 159; currency bills, 50 a 54.

The steamer California, from Panama, arriv- ed to-day, with bulk freight only.

The Golden Age will sail for Panama on the 22nd.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—The steamer Senator, from the south, has arrived, bringing a large amount of gold from the Colorado country.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 22.—R. P. Moore, and child, were overthrown on the New Ocean Road to-day. The wife was severely injured.

The Golden Age sailed to-day, with forty passengers and \$340,000 treasure.

In the review to-day, 1,800 soldiers paraded.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—Private despatches quote gold in New York yesterday at 149.

The Russian clipper ship Czarowitz, has arrived from Sitka, with a cargo of general merchandises.

The steamer Panama, from Crescent City, arrived this evening.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24.—The Eastern line being out of order east of Fort Kearney this morning, we have go later Eastern in- telligence.

A courtesan named Mary B. Smith, was this morning found dead in her bed with her throat cut from ear to ear. Jealousy is sup- posed to be the cause of the suicide. She was aged 32 years, and is a native of Massa- chusetts.

The War Department has directed General Wright to take military possession of the is- land of Santa Catalina, for government pur- poses. This action will require the immediate removal of all persons now on the island.

Upward of forty-five thousand jars of China wine have been seized and labelled by the revenue authorities for being in quantities less than fifteen gallons. The owners will contest the legality of the seizure.

DICHORON OF CAPTAIN BLAKE.—Some time since we noticed the arrest of Captain Onias Blake, of the bark W. B. Scanton, on the charge of setting ashore a seaman from that vessel on the uninhabited coast of Washington Territory. Judge Hoffman, on Saturday last, made a final order for the discharge of Captain Blake on the ground that there was doubt of the jurisdiction of the Court in the case, and that the statute under which the complaint was drawn was intended to apply to the landing of men on foreign shores, not upon those of our own territory.

LATER

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25.—Dr. Sheldon, to-day, removed an eye of the murdered courtesan, Mrs. Smith, and after dissecting it obtained a photograph of the retina. The result is a man's whiskers, nose and legs are discernable, but the picture is not sufficient for a clue to the murderer. There was evi- dently little or no light in the room at the time of the murder. Dr. Sheldon will now remove the sclerotic, exposing the surface of the retina. He expects to get a better pic- ture to-morrow, and it is probable that a re- cognizable picture may be obtained. In the meanwhile the detective police force will pursue their investigations. They have ob- tained some clue, the nature of which cannot be divulged.

James Grant, a pioneer and in early days County Recorder of San Francisco, died to- day of erysipelas.

A telegram to Lieut.—announces that Captain J. Sewell Reed, of the "California Hundred," was killed while leading his men against a body of guerrillas on the 22d February.

Turpin's scarce at \$3.20.

Miles Willoughby and Andrew Olecan are arrested for obtaining money under false pretences, and William Manning for in- sanity.

Brig—arrived 54 days from Toobeah, with letters to Mackinac & Co. No later news about the Alabama.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 26.—Brig Glencoe arrived to-day, 39 days from Kanagawa, and also the ship Henry Brigham, 49 days from Shanghai via Japan dates to the 27th January. The Captain reports that the mail from Shanghai had just arrived at Kanagawa when the Brigham sailed, but he was unable to procure any late China papers. Letters from Shanghai up to the 19th January were received on board and are now in San Francisco. The following is from the memoranda: the Mail had arrived a week previous to the sailing of the Glencoe. Up to that time there was no confirmation of the capture of the Alabama. The following is from a correspondence dated Kanagawa, Jan. 15th: We regret to say that the news as to the capture of the Alabama was not confirmed. It is believed, however, that she is blockaded by the Wyoming at or near Saigon and not in dock at Amoy as re- ported.

From the Mexican Coast.

The steamer Illinois from Aspinwall the 17th has arrived. She left in port the Champ- ion awaiting the California mails and passen- gers.

The French flagship Pallas left Panama for Acapulco, to enforce the blockade. The U. S. frigate Lancaster was at Acapulco, watch- ing the movements of the French.

San Domingo.

San Domingo advices state that the Span- ish troops had taken possession of the towns of Nora and Barahona, aided by two war steamers. The towns were in ashes when the troops entered.

From China.

Later news from China make no mention of the Alabama, being blockaded in the port of Amoy.

PORTLAND NEWS.

[FROM THE OREGONIAN.]

Is it Possible?—The telegraph gets off the following improbable yarn. We say so im- probable, because vessels have crossed and recrossed the Columbia river bar, with slight interruptions, all the time since 1776: San Francisco, Feb. 19th.—The bark Iwan- owa sailed hence for Columbia river Dec. 17th, returned to-day for supplies, having laid off the bar 34 days, unable to cross, on ac- count of rough weather.

NARROW ESCAPE.—On Saturday, while the steamer Onward was receiving flour at Fair- field, Mr. Church, who passed the boat, was precipitated about twenty-five feet down the bluff and escaped death almost miraculously. The cargo is transferred to the boat at that place by means of a shute, some one hundred feet in length, very steep, alongside of which is a path for pedestrians. Mr. Church was proceeding up the path when a sack of flour bounded over the shute, and striking him violently upon the shoulder, threw him back- wards, with a summersault a distance of 25 feet, and then continued its bounding course into the river. Mr. Church was slightly hurt but was soon enabled to attend to his duties.

Capt. Johnson and officers of the Sierra Nevada were presented with a highly gratify- ing address by the passengers on the voyage from Victoria to Portland.

The Williams Theatre, after undergoing repairs, was re-opened by Mr. Ward's com- pany.

Mr. Thayer, the actor, was married to Miss Sallie Goodrich the actress. The bride and bridegroom appeared on the boards shortly after they were made one.

The missing man Smyth had "turned up" in charge of Recorder Reynolds. He had been fraudulently passing away from shavings for gold dust.

DEPARTURE OF THE CALIFORNIA STEAMER.—The Sierra Nevada left port Saturday evening, having on board 6,000 boxes of apples, 20 cases of cider, and an assortment of other freight, amounting in all to a full round cargo. She carried away in treasure, the sum of \$104,000.

BURNED TO DEATH.—Mrs. Connor, wife of the notorious Connor who was shot at Caterville, Boise, last summer, came to her death by bur- ning, in a house at Pierce City on New Year's day. It was supposed that she had got drunk as usual, and accidentally set her bed clothes on fire. The house was entirely consumed. Deceased was formerly a resident of this city, then the wife of Edward Meen at that time proprietor of the Western Hotel.

IMPORTANT SUBJECT FOR PORTLANDERS.—The steamship Scientia, which has two hun- dred tons of freight in Victoria, that could not bring consignments for this city. A. B. Richardson being the principal consignee. So a "hatful" of invoices were about all our merchants re- ceived from Victoria. This was unavoidable, of course, the steamship brought all she could carry. But the circumstances being such, we are glad here- tofore, that our facilities for transportation should be owned and controlled at home, here in Portland. Victoria being a free port, offers us great inducements in the way of trade, and her people are beginning to feel the importance of re- quiring our custom. We have passed over the days when a single vessel each month could supply our wants, and the present facilities are cor- respondingly inadequate. A letter from a Victoria firm to one of our merchants, speaks of chartering a conveyance for sending the freight left by the steamship, and adds that there is a strong feeling in favor of some arrangement for running a regu- lar line of steamers between that port and here. We should like to see some action taken upon this subject by Portland capitalists.

The Light House, at the mouth of the Umpqua river fell about three weeks ago, from being usually undermined by the action of the water upon its sandy foundation. The lamps, lenses &c., had been previously removed.—Statesman.

CANADA.

Our Canadian exchanges are for January 15th.

The Manitoulin Indians have sent a protest to the government against the survey of their lands on the island, signed by 175 names. They had also warned the surveyor not to proceed with his survey.

The man Greenwood who was tried lately in Toronto for the murder of a woman named Walsh, and the setting on fire of her body, has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

The imports of free goods at Detroit for the quarter ending Dec. 1863, were: Bibles, 35,000; household effects and baggage, \$522,196.

The government have appointed a day for the inspection of the volunteer forces of the country, by officers selected from the regular army. \$5000 will be distributed in prizes on the occasion.

A man named Jerry O'Leary was frozen to death in Toronto on January 14th.

Dr. Daniel Wilson has been lecturing to crowded and gratified audiences in the Lowell Institute, Boston.

A grand Draught Tournament had been held in Toronto, resulting as follows: First prize, Wm. Patterson, Galt; second do, Lott Dean, Toronto; third do, R. Fleming, Scarborough; fourth do, James Albert, Galt.

The Montreal Gazette says: We regret to learn that Hon. J. B. Clay, late Senator from Ken- tucky to the United States Congress, son of Henry Clay, America's greatest statesman, now an exile for opinion's sake from his divided country and desolate home, is lying in this city at the point of death.

A Canadian named Angus Walker had been murdered in Detroit.

The English Government has recalled His Ex- cellency, Gov. Dundas, from Prince Edward Island. The reasons have not been made public, but the probability is suggested that his course in ordering a Federal war vessel away from Charlottown, when there was no necessity of doing so, has given umbrage to the Imperial Govern- ment.

EUROPEAN SUMMARY.

[DATES TO JANUARY 15th.]

The news by this mail is not of such an exciting character as that received by tele- graphic items, published in the Californian papers, which announce that war has com- menced in Europe, arising out of the Schles- wig-Holstein difficulties. The Germans and Danes had commenced hostilities, and it seemed to be expected that the disturbances would extend further than the north of Europe. The feeling in England seems to be in favor of giving some material assistance to Denmark. The Cabinet, it is stated, are divided on the subject. Lord Russell and Mr. Gladstone, who represent a very strong section of the liberal party, being strongly in- creased to any interference, while the re- mainder of the Cabinet support Lord Pal- merston's views, which are more in accord- ance with those of the Conservative party, and a strong attack was expected from the Conservative leaders in both Houses of Par- liament, aimed against the peace section of the government. In the meantime, excite- ment is great on the European Continent.

Garibaldi is resigning his seat in the Turin

Parliament, closes his address in the following words:

It is not only the affection which I owe to my country, but the thought that they have wounded in her the right and the honor in compromising the safety of all Italy, which has led me to take this resolution. There is, however, nothing in this which will prevent me from finding myself with the people in arms on the road to Rome and Venice.

Adieu.—Yours G. GARIBALDI.

Kosuth had issued a proclamation which is published in the *Alleanza* of Milan, in which he calls upon his Hungarian compatri- ots to shake off the detested yoke of Ger- man domination. The sensation in Vienna at this publication is intense, and coupled with Garibaldi's hints that he is in readiness to point at some combination of action which augurs ill for the success of the Germans in the struggle upon which they are entering.

The following are some of the latest items from the English papers on the Denmark question:

Lord Robert Cecil has addressed a letter to the *Times* correcting more apparent inaccura- cies in its special information from Ham- burg. It is obvious from the tone he adop- ts that the section of the Tories which he re- presents—Tories who distrust Mr. Disraeli—in- tend to support the Danish side. The mass of the middle classes seem on the whole, to be of the same opinion, which is also Lord Pal- merston's. The Court—the Prince of Wales excepted—entertain a different view, as does that considerable section of politicians which holds that Germany is in all cases the natu- ral ally of Great Britain, the only real defence against the ascendancy of the Western and Eastern military monarchies.

The *Times* of the 2nd January has the fol- lowing on this subject:—

No reprobation can be too strong for the conduct of the Princes who have placed themselves at the head of this intemperate movement in Germany. Their office was one of conciliation and restraint, and they have chosen the place of popular incendiaries.— There is a time at which these movements get beyond the control of Princes, or Parli- aments, or any other power. But until they have reached that stage it is nearly always possible for Sovereigns to arrest the danger by the conciliation the Emperor speaks of. It is certainly not too late in the other dif- ficulties which harass Europe, and we earnest- ly trust it may not be so in this senseless Schleswig-Holstein dispute.

The New Year opens with threatening gloom on all sides. There is not a quar- ter of the world free from war or the im- minent danger of war, and the sole hope of pre- serving or restoring peace rests in the hands of the different rulers and ministers. If they will, however, act in the conciliatory spirit ascribed to them by the Emperor of France, there is no difficulty that may not be settled without war. The speech of the Em- peror discloses the only ray of hope amid the madness of nationalities, and the recklessness of theorists. May he be true to his own words!

Saturday Evening, January 16th.

The Paris correspondent of the San points out the importance of Thursday's debate in the Legislative Body, a *resume* of which are at daggers drawn, and the former, it seems, takes no pains to conceal its "formidable an- tagonism." Under these circumstances it is not to be wondered at that the policy of the government as to its future action is much speculated upon.

The King of Denmark, on Thursday, gave a dinner to the members of the Rigsdag, during which the King and the people's re- spectable and announced his determination to maintain the independence of Denmark against the attacks of Germany. A telegram from Fliesburg states that cannonading has been heard in the direction of Rendsburg. We do not, however, think that any aggres- sive attempt on Schleswig is likely to be made by the German troops now stationed on the Elber without the authority of the Federal Diet; and Saxony declared at the last meet- ing of that body that the troops of Prussia and Austria should not pass through Hol- stein, to occupy Schleswig, without the consent of the Diet.

An attempt has been made upon the life of Louis Napoleon. Mazzini having been im- plicated in the conspiracy, has written the following denial to the English press:—

Sir.—Accusations of every description have been, since the arrest of four Italians at Paris charged with an attempt against Louis Napoleon, heaped upon me by the organs of the French Government and repeated by the English press.

It has always been my known habit not to discuss accusations put forth against me by avowed enemies, and I feel a special dislike to do so when the accusations come from the organ of a man who, as far as in him lies, is by more brutal force depriving my country of the unity which she claims, and making of Rome the basis of operation of the brig- andage infesting the south of Italy.

Yielding, however, to solicitations of dear English friends, I do declare:—

That I never did investigate anybody to kill Louis Napoleon;

That I never did give to any man bombs, air-guns, revolvers or daggers for that pur- pose;

That Trabucco, Imperatori, and Gaglio are entirely unknown to me.

That therefore, the meeting summoned at Lugano, the absurd place of under-lieutenant given to Imperatori in a brigade of four men, and the giving of photographs to the men, are absolute falsehoods;

That my photographs, with my autograph at the bottom, are sold for the Venice Em- mancipation Fund at the office of the *Unita Italiana* and elsewhere;

That no letter, with or without money, has ever been addressed by me to Greco in Paris.

Greco I know. Hundreds, I may say thousands, of young men belonging to our national party of action are known to me. Greco is an enthusiastic patriot, who took an active part in the enterprises of 1860 and 1861 in the South of Italy, and he has had, as such, contact with me. Any note of mine in his possession, if there is any, must, however, belong to at least nine or ten months ago.

Enough in reply to accusations hither- to merely grounded on French police reports.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

JAN. 14. JOSEPH MAZZINI.

Liverpool was the scene of a terrible ex- plosion on the night of the 15th January. A

vessel, of about 120 tons burden, lying in the Mersey, and about to sail for Africa, with ten tons of gunpowder on board, caught fire.

The crew consisted of fourteen men; but they knowing the nature of the cargo, appear to have quitted the ship at the first alarm, and the vessel was left to her fate. The fire reached the gunpowder about half-past seven in the evening, when the windows of the buildings in the town were shattered in all directions, the gas lamps put out, and several people thrown down by the violence of the shock, but happily no lives were lost. It will be seen by the latest reports that the damage ex- tended to an immense distance, which is not at all surprising seeing that there were be- tween 11 and 12 tons of powder on board.

The following further particulars are given in the papers of the 16th Jan:—

LIVERPOOL, Friday Night.

This afternoon the *Lottie Sleigh*, 120 tons, lying in the Mersey, outward bound for Africa, with a crew of 14 men, and several tons of gunpowder on board, caught fire. The crew were taken off, and at half-past seven the vessel blew up with a fearful report. Thousands of windows in shops, public buildings, offices, &c., were shattered; all the street gas lamps were put out and illumined church clocks were extinguished. Several people were blown down, but no fatalities or serious accidents are as yet reported.

LIVERPOOL, Friday, 12 p.m.

No serious disasters to life or person have as yet been reported in connection with the gunpowder explosion on the river; the destruction to property, however, on both sides of the Mersey is immense. The quantity of gunpowder on board the *Lottie-Sleigh* was 340½ kegs, or 11 1/2 tons. The ship was blown to atoms, and portions of the iron work scattered over both sides of the Mer- sey. Several persons were thrown down in the Post-office, and several others were slightly hurt by falling glass. The excite- ment in the streets is intense.

Another telegram says:—

"Great damage was occasioned on the Cheshire side also. As yet the damage to shipping in the river, as well as the loss of life, are unknown. In Birkenhead and the neighborhood the damage has been still more extensive than in Liverpool, most of the houses in all the public buildings having all their windows broken. The covered way from the stage at Woodside Ferry, which was only glazed a short time back, has lost every pane of its glass. No loss of life or other accidents have been reported, although there were several narrow escapes from the bolts, which were thrown a considerable distance."

Another despatch says:—

"The vessel belonged to Hatton and Cookson, and only left dock this afternoon. The steward was trimming a paraffin oil- lamp, when it exploded, and the con- taining the oil fell into the lazarette stor- room in the cabin. The flames caught the captain's clothes and bedding, and spread rapidly. The pilot signalled to a passing ferry steamer, which took all hands on board and landed them at Liverpool. The vessel was burning for nearly two hours before blowing up at 7.23, but no one dare approach. Vessels in the Sloyne and other parts of the river received damage from the flying mate- rials. Great damage was also done to the buildings on the Birkenhead side of the river."

The following are the latest European telegrams forwarded by our London corre- spondent, whose letter will appear in to- morrow's issue.

RUSSIA'S TELEGRAMS.—THE BADEN ARMY.

The Ministry have determined that pre- parations shall be made for placing the army upon a war footing. The Ministers at Vienna and Berlin have been instructed to make representations to the respective gov- ernments relative to the intended occupation of Schleswig.

SPAIN. MADRID, Jan. 16.

The debate on the Constitutional question closed to-day in the Senate.

The government motion that the Bill on the Constitutional reform should be voted article by article, has been thrown out by 93 against 53 votes.

The final vote will take place to-morrow. Rumors of a ministerial crisis are again current.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 16.

Among the Bills submitted to the Rigsdag is one for the introduction in Denmark of trial by jury on the English system.

THE EXECUTION IN HOLSTEIN.

KEEL, Jan. 16.

Duke Frederik received a deputation of Holstein Clergymen to-day.

The Danes are reported to be busily engaged in breaking up the ice upon the Schlei. The order for the evacuation of the castle of Gostorp has been revoked.

TAKEN FOR A PIRATE.—Capt. Pearce, of the rakish looking little iron craft the *Fideliter*, informs us that on several occasions during the voyage from England he hoisted the English ensign and endeavored to exchange signals with other ships, but they invariably showed him their stern, and made off with all speed. It became evident that the appearance and rig of his vessel caused him to be taken at a distance for one of the noted Confederate cruisers. The *Fideliter* is rigged as a three-masted schooner; her dimensions are as follows: length, 121 feet, beam, 18½ feet; depth of hold, 8½ feet; gross tonnage, 141 58-100, deducting 45 31-100 for propelling power; registered car- rying tonnage, 96 22-100. Capt. Pearce describes her as a fast sailer, and a good sea boat. She has her boilers and engines ready fixed on board, and can be fitted up for steam propulsion in a few days. She will however require cleaning, as she is very foul after a voyage of so long duration. The *Fideliter* is owned exclusively by the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, Limited.

VALPARAISO.—Capt. Pearce, of the *Fideli- ter*, visited Valparaiso just after the frightful calamity which occasioned so great sacrifice of life at Santiago. He says that the popu- lace were almost in a state of tumult, and an outbreak was considered not improbable. The sad event caused intense excitement at Valparaiso.

The Weekly Colonist.
Tuesday, March 15, 1864.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]
LONDON, January 16th, 1864.

THE BIRTH OF THE PRINCE.

The accomplishment of the Princess of Wales on the 8th instant, and the birth of a young prince, heir presumptive to the throne, has caused a universal feeling of joy and gladness to pervade all classes of Her Majesty's subjects on this, as it will also on your side of the Atlantic. Although the happy event took place at least two months earlier than was expected, and the prince child is what is termed a seven months' child, yet he is thriving, and is both healthy and strong. It was reported that the visit of the Princess with her husband and a large party of friends to Virginia Water, where a game of hockey was played upon the ice by the gentlemen, and the princess herself was propelled several times along the frozen lake in a sledge, was the immediate cause of bringing about her confinement; but medical authority denies this. It is stated, and asserts that symptoms of labor had manifested themselves on the morning of the 8th, but were not deemed sufficient to prognosticate of so early an accompaniment as actually took place. The account of the hasty-ekury at Frogmore is very amusing, where no preparation had been made for the arrival of the little illustrious stranger; but the maternal care of the Duchess of Gloucester-supplied all the necessary articles of clothing, and rendered the arrival of "the workings" that had been prepared, of no great moment. Up to the time of my writing, "another child and child are doing well," the terms of the latest bulletin being that "H. R. H. continues to make an uninterrupted recovery, and the infant Prince is quite well." No other Bulletin will be issued until to-morrow, which it is expected will be the last.

THE CRAWLEY COURT-MARTIAL.

The Crawley court-martial has been again brought up by the publication of the sentence by authority of the Commander-in-Chief, with Her Majesty's sanction. The Colonel comes off scot free, as you will see (since I enclose the letter itself), whilst the officers who gave the prima facie evidence against him are severely censured. Sir R. Peel, Major Swinley and Dr. Turnbull's cases, this course may not be too strong, inasmuch as they certainly, to use a common saying, "parted with the hare and ran with the hounds," but Lieut. Fitzsimon is most hardly used, for his evidence was given with straight-forward candor, and the manner in which he endured the bullying cross-examination of Col. Crawley was most commendable. He was, however, another victim to might "overcoming right," since, although the Colonel has been acquitted, it is clear that the court-martial never touched the main features of the case. Of course Colonel Crawley returns to his regiment, but that he will long remain in it is not very probable. Even supposing that he can get rid of the officers with whom he disagrees, he cannot send the rank and file to the right about, and he will not find that he has made for himself amongst them "a bed of roses."

THE ALEXANDRA CASE.

The Alexandra case gives another instance of the blessed uncertainty of the law. It came on for judgment on the 11th, when, on the question of granting a new trial, as insisted upon by the Attorney-General (Sir R. Peel), the Court of Exchequer was equally divided in opinion, the Chief Baron Pollock and Baron Bramwell being opposed to, and Barons Chandler and Pigott in favor of a new trial of the entire case. This was to refuse a new trial, but as this was deemed to be inequitable, the judge, Baron Pigott, gave another trial was refused, and the finding of the jury on the original trial—that the vessel was illegally detained, is allowed to stand. This result having given the right of appeal, the Attorney-General intimated his intention of immediately taking proceedings in that direction. An appeal will necessarily be a re-hearing of the entire case in the Exchequer Chamber, and doubtless a final reference to the House of Lords, so that many months must elapse before anything like a settlement of so vexed a question is obtained.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT, AND GOSSIP ABOUT MINISTERS, ILLNESS OF LORD PALMERSTON AND THE DEUCE OF NEWCASTLE.

Parliament is to meet on the 4th February, but nothing of any special moment is likely to transpire before Easter. The Conservatives cannot agree amongst themselves upon any immediate course of action, but the younger scions of the party show strong symptoms of being disinclined to submit to the continued leadership of Mr. Disraeli in the House of Commons. Lord Derby, however, is not likely to forsake his lieutenant, and thus, if there are any chances of upsetting the government, there will in all probability be a compromise. Both sections of the House of Commons, the Ministerialists and the Opposition, if such these may be called who are seated on the left hand of the Speaker's chair here, it appears, made up their minds to require no aid from the kindly offices of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and other small "following." The Pope's brass band, as the Roman Catholic Irish members are called, are as usual open to the highest bids from those either in or out of office, who will lend the most willing ear to the demands for increased patronage for the members of their church; but the government can scarcely count upon a majority upon any important subject. Whilst Lord Palmerston lasts, however, there is not much prospect of any change of government. A dissolution at the end of the session should the Premier last till then, (he has been very ill again, and quite confined to his room by gout) will make a strange alteration in ministerial affairs.

A MINISTERIAL CHANGE AT THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

A ministerial change at the Colonial Office is expected, as the Duke of Newcastle is not likely to get permanently better. Mr. Cardwell and Lord Woodhouse are named as likely to succeed to the seals of this office.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN AFFAIRS.

The Schleswig-Holstein dispute is not at all nearer a solution than it was when the last

files from this side reached you. The Prince Augustenburg has taken up his residence in a private house at Kiel, whither hosts of dissatisfied Germans meet to pay him homage; but he makes no move at present showing that he intends to resort to arms. In the meanwhile the determination of the Danish king is growing stronger not to yield, and preparations are made to cut the banks of the Elber if hostilities are commenced.

The German confederation now sitting at Frankfurt continued to debate the question, and the vehemence of most of the paltry states is on the increase, but Austria and Prussia have not definitely spoken, and it is thought to be most improbable for those who profess to be best informed, that they will venture to declare against England who by the mouth and pen of Earl Russell expresses a determination to adhere to the Treaty which settled the possession of the Duchies several years ago. Earl Russell, although he peremptorily refused to have anything to do with the Congress proposed by Louis Napoleon, has been induced to suggest a conference of the Great Powers in order to bring about a settlement of a matter, which shows positive signs of bringing about a continental war; but the *on dit* runs, that the wary occupant of the Tuilleries has turned the tables upon the "indiscreet letter writer," and without saying that he will have or will not have anything to do with the Congress, by asking to be permitted to see the programme before he decides. My next communication will tell you something more definite, but as to the present aspect of all parties, it may be represented by one single word of command—"as you were!"

FRANCE.

Things do not look very pleasant in France. M. N. Thiers, Jules Favre, and a few other members of the opposition in the Legislative Chamber are giving Louis Napoleon some uneasiness. In a recent debate a greater amount of liberty than Frenchmen enjoy was claimed by these acute spirits, and the ministerialists, although at first strong enough to defeat any motion intended to hamper and impede the government, made but a sorry attempt to defeat the plans and arguments put forward. That the tendency to demand larger freedom of discussion has troubled Louis Napoleon very nearly to the last from his leaving broken up and unusual facilities. On the occasion, two days ago, of a cardinal's hat being conferred on M. Bonnehose, Archbishop of Rouen, "the man of marble" could not refrain from letting it appear how deeply M. N. Thiers and others had wounded his honor, and how resolved he is to exterminate every "finching resistance" to "advancing opinions." As the address he delivered is too long for insertion in this communication I send it as extracted from the London journals of this morning. The reference to the men of the Orleans period is so marked that there is no mistaking the meaning. "That Louis Napoleon is in a cleft stick and knows himself to be so, is the general impression here as in France, where freedom of opinion is at last beginning to try to make itself heard. In the midst, however, of all this entanglement, which would dishearten many a man of a more timid temper, there is one man, who, which Louis Napoleon possesses, he goes about in public almost unattended, and shows no symptom of fear, although if the French police are to be believed he has had another narrow escape from assassination. Four Italians were tracked to Paris by the police, after a telegraphic communication had been transmitted to Lapeur whence they were preparing to start, to the effect that they might be permitted to leave. On their arrival in Paris these men were watched night and day, and at last when the pair "seemed ripe" enough they were arrested with sufficient promptness to indicate that there could be no mistake about their purpose. Very little has been allowed to transpire about these four men; but enough has oozed out to let it appear that a most carefully laid plan was prepared to strike a blow against the life of Louis Napoleon. Not only were bombs of a new construction, found in the prisoner's apartments, but several air-canes and poniards, seeming to have been poisoned, were also discovered. Upon the supposed conspirator, a Chief Greco, a cipher is reported to have been found in the letters from Mazzini, as also a portrait of that vehement Red Republican Greco, which disclosed the whole plot at once and accords Mazzini as having been the instigator of the proposed murder, and of having supplied him and his associates with funds to carry it out. Great indignation has naturally enough been expressed against Mazzini in this country, and several of the morning papers have gone so far as to insist upon his either being sent away from England or brought to trial, as Barnard was, for conspiracy. This has moved Mazzini to deny all knowledge or complicity in the plot, and to forward his letter—published in yesterday's issue—Ed. Col.) There the matter rests for the moment, but it cannot do so long, inasmuch as unless Mazzini can bring strong evidence to confirm his assertions, his mere ipse dixit will go for much. Probably very little more will be heard of the affair before the four mercenaries be brought to trial. In the meanwhile Mazzini cannot do better than show cause of his never having been at Symondale, and of not having written to Greco for several months, he being the only one of the number of whom he admits any knowledge.

POLAND.

From Poland there is little news favorable to the cause of the insurgents to hand, yet the insurrection is very far from being crushed, although the popular leaders continue to fall, either in fair fight or after being captured, by the halter or the bullet.

RUSSIA.

Prussian affairs do not go on a bit more swimmingly than they did when your last despatches were forwarded. The Minister Bismarck is as obstinate as ever, and has witnessed another defeat, the Committee of Commerce still persisting in the refusal to furnish the funds which the King requires for the fulfillment of his purposes. Of the King himself but little has recently been reported, but it is currently said that the Great Prince has thrown himself heart and soul into the Prince of Augustenburg's claims, which, should it turn out to be true, must greatly complicate affairs.

THE LATE MURDERS—PROMISE OF TOWNLEY AND THE EXECUTION OF WRIGHT.

The reprieve of the murderer Townley and

the execution of Wright on the morning of the 12th instant, continue to be the theme of general discussion. Indeed, the public mind is greatly stirred by the penalty of the law being carried out in the one case, whilst pardon was so readily accorded in the other; and, on what arguments the friends of Sir George Grey may to justify his decision in each instance, the impression, especially among the working classes, grows that there is one law for the rich, and another for the poor. The two cases are far from being identical. If ever there was a cold-blooded deliberate murder done, that of Townley's unhappy victim must be pronounced to be so. Not only do the entire public reprobate the sparing of the life of this man, but the Magistrates of the Courts where the crime was perpetrated (Derbyshire) but an overwhelming majority have signified their disapprobation of the Home Secretary's conduct. The excuse put forward to exonerate that functionary is, that an act or bill was passed a few years ago determining that "it should be lawful for the Home Secretary to reprieve a criminal sentenced to death, if it could be certified by two medical men and two Justices of the Peace that he had become insane." Sir George Grey made up his mind to interpret these words in the strictest sense of official routine, and maintain that neither the Sovereign herself nor he, as her adviser, could not otherwise than have done so. He insists that in the case of Wright he can only determine that the sentence of the law should take its course because the Judge who tried the prisoner, Mr. Justice Blackburn, had informed him that had not the wretched man pleaded guilty a jury would not have done their duty had they not found him so—a prejudgment of the case which neither finds favor with the public nor in legal circles. The unhappy man was taken red-handed, and immediately his case has been settled at the Police Court, and the Coroner's inquest had ended, he was arraigned at the General Criminal Court, in spite of the interests of Mr. Campbell Bleigh, the counsel for the prosecution, that the trial should be postponed, to which the judge would not listen. The man pleaded guilty, and very little effort was made by the judge to induce him to retract that plea. He was then sentenced of some consequence much hurry and dispatch indeed, that the case was remarked upon as the most summary that was ever remembered in our courts. The depositions were most meagre, and so far from the judge being right, there is every reason to believe, had the man been allowed to stand upon his feet, he would have been only convicted of manslaughter, which has, however, been sent to his account; when Parliament meets the Home Secretary must give a better reason for his stubborn obstinacy in listening to no appeal; and the government of which he is a member, will be held to account for passing an act that prevents either the minister or his officials in future too easily to humanitaria pressure, or a hard doctrinaire from turning aside the true course of nature.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEDNESDAY, March 9.

A DEAD LOCK IN COURT.—An amusing scene occurred in the Supreme Court yesterday. During an elaborate and lengthy display of forensic eloquence by one of the learned counsel in the case before the Court it was suddenly discovered that the gentleman was "wasting his sweetness on the desert air," as there was no jury. Two of the "specials" doubtless finding the address rather dry, quietly slipped out, and started for the adjoining brewery to quench their thirst in a glass of "Cooper and Perkins' best." The proceedings, of course, were at once arrested, and the Sheriff and the Attorneys on the case were dispatched in quest of the recusants, who were speedily brought in, looking mightily refreshed after their libations.

ANOTHER "BULL."—Yesterday morning a number of cattle were being landed from the Kliza Anderson, a wild bull, infuriated by the barking of several curs around him, charged furiously along the wharf, making directly at a bystander who happened to be in his way. The man endeavored to escape but "fauna" was too quick for him, and catching him a posterior, threw him with violence some distance ahead. Not content with this, the vicious brute attacked the prostrate man in the most furious manner, and had not been driven off by the presence of a heavy club in the hands of a courageous individual the poor man might have been seriously injured, as it was, he fortunately escaped without further damage than the utter ruin of a pair of "inexpresables."

SUPREME COURT.—Holbrook v. Bushell.

This was an action brought before a special jury for £170, principal and interest on note and for goods sold. Cary for plaintiff, instructed by Drake, Ring and McCreight for defendant, instructed by Bishop. The dispute arose in respect of goods shipped to the Crimea, during the war. Witnesses were examined for plaintiff to prove handwriting, and defendant was examined for three hours, when, on account of the arrival of the mail steamer, His Honor adjourned the case till Thursday.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS.—This Association will present to-day, through one of the city members, a numerous signed petition, praying the legislature to reduce the present burdensome spirit license. At the meeting held on Monday evening it was determined to invest a portion of the funds of the Association in mortgages on real estate. Large things have small beginnings.

THE FIREMEN'S BALL.—The second ball given by the Deluge Co. No. 1, took place last night in the Lyceum Hall, and as we anticipated, passed off brilliantly. The attendance was very large, and dancing was maintained with the greatest spirit until the small hours.

FRIDAY, March 11.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.—We were yesterday favored with a visit by two Indian chiefs from British Columbia, named "Tsoluhushu" chief of the Lafontaine tribe, about 7 miles above Lillooet, and "Omo," chief of the Port Fernberth tribe. These illustrious personages were introduced to us by the Right Rev. Bishop Demers, who explained to them the manner in which the work was carried on in the typographical department. The two visitors were much astounded at what they saw, and the Power Press in particular seemed to excite their wonder and admiration. "Tsoluhushu" is a fine muscular man, with broad shoulders and expanded chest, stands very erect, and has a pleasing and intelligent face. Both of the chiefs, in intelligence, manner and bearing, appear to be many degrees in advance of their brother red-skins on the sea coast.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.—The first Lodge of Odd Fellows in this city was instituted last evening under the sanction of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of the State of California. Bro. A. H. Guild, was duly commissioned by the R. W. Grand Master as Deputy Grand Master for Vancouver Island, with power to institute Victoria Lodge No. 1, I. O. O. F. The following gentlemen were duly elected and installed as officers of said Lodge: J. S. Drummond, N. G., Sam. Goldstone, V. G., N. Koshand, Sec., Alex. Phillips, Treas., M. Sporborg, P. G.

ACCIDENT TO THE RELIANCE.—This favorite steamer broke her rock-shaft during her last up trip to Yale, but managed to reach her destination. Capt. Irving is now in the city procuring the necessary castings to repair the damage.

SATURDAY, March 12.

A MUSICAL BOX.—Fabian Mitchell appeared yesterday in the Police Court to answer a charge of being feloniously possessed of a musical box of the value of \$14—the property of Charles Ryan a "Tampsean" Indian. Mr. Bishop appeared for the accused. The Rev. D. Cunningham, of Melakahla, and several other witnesses were examined, but the evidence did not amount to a satisfactory solution of guilty intent on the part of the accused, and the Magistrate remanded the case for one day to enable the parties to settle the case amicably. Mr. Bishop stated that he was not only prepared to show the falsity of the charge, but should bring a counter charge against the Indian.

INDIAN TROUBLES AT SALT SPRING.—Capt. Hollins of the sloop Alamo, whose father is located on the above Island, reports that a large number of the Cowichan Indians have taken up their abode at Salt Spring Island, and have become very troublesome to the settlers by their thieving propensities. Mr. Hollins had his whole crop of turnips cleared out by them in one night.

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THE FIREMEN'S BALL.—The second ball given by the Deluge Co. No. 1, took place last night in the Lyceum Hall, and as we anticipated, passed off brilliantly. The attendance was very large, and dancing was maintained with the greatest spirit until the small hours.

FRIDAY, March 11.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.—We were yesterday favored with a visit by two Indian chiefs from British Columbia, named "Tsoluhushu" chief of the Lafontaine tribe, about 7 miles above Lillooet, and "Omo," chief of the Port Fernberth tribe. These illustrious personages were introduced to us by the Right Rev. Bishop Demers, who explained to them the manner in which the work was carried on in the typographical department. The two visitors were much astounded at what they saw, and the Power Press in particular seemed to excite their wonder and admiration. "Tsoluhushu" is a fine muscular man, with broad shoulders and expanded chest, stands very erect, and has a pleasing and intelligent face. Both of the chiefs, in intelligence, manner and bearing, appear to be many degrees in advance of their brother red-skins on the sea coast.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.—The first Lodge of Odd Fellows in this city was instituted last evening under the sanction of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of the State of California. Bro. A. H. Guild, was duly commissioned by the R. W. Grand Master as Deputy Grand Master for Vancouver Island, with power to institute Victoria Lodge No. 1, I. O. O. F. The following gentlemen were duly elected and installed as officers of said Lodge: J. S. Drummond, N. G., Sam. Goldstone, V. G., N. Koshand, Sec., Alex. Phillips, Treas., M. Sporborg, P. G.

ACCIDENT TO THE RELIANCE.—This favorite steamer broke her rock-shaft during her last up trip to Yale, but managed to reach her destination. Capt. Irving is now in the city procuring the necessary castings to repair the damage.

SATURDAY, March 12.

A MUSICAL BOX.—Fabian Mitchell appeared yesterday in the Police Court to answer a charge of being feloniously possessed of a musical box of the value of \$14—the property of Charles Ryan a "Tampsean" Indian. Mr. Bishop appeared for the accused. The Rev. D. Cunningham, of Melakahla, and several other witnesses were examined, but the evidence did not amount to a satisfactory solution of guilty intent on the part of the accused, and the Magistrate remanded the case for one day to enable the parties to settle the case amicably. Mr. Bishop stated that he was not only prepared to show the falsity of the charge, but should bring a counter charge against the Indian.

INDIAN TROUBLES AT SALT SPRING.—Capt. Hollins of the sloop Alamo, whose father is located on the above Island, reports that a large number of the Cowichan Indians have taken up their abode at Salt Spring Island, and have become very troublesome to the settlers by their thieving propensities. Mr. Hollins had his whole crop of turnips cleared out by them in one night.

HIDAH PATLACH.—Yesterday, a "Cultus Patlach" took place at the Hydah Camp. The Indians seated themselves in a circle, while some of the elders harangued the assemblage, and various kinds of "muckamuck," with ardent liquors to wash the same down, were freely dispensed. Large boxes full of biscuits and other edibles were thus disposed. While the number of "marines" lying around, and the excited state of the participants was a proof of the facility with which the liquor laws, as applied to the natives, are evaded.

REPAIRED.—H.M.S. Beaver, having completed her repairs, steamed out of the harbor yesterday morning to try her engines.

MONDAY, March 14.

THE "FIDELITER."—This handsome little iron propeller having towed the Lockett out from Esquimalt on Saturday, returned to this harbor and moored alongside of Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co.'s wharf. It certainly reflects great credit on all concerned that within six days from her arrival after a lengthy passage the Fideliter has had her shaft fixed, and her machinery placed in sufficiently good working order to enable her to tow a large vessel heavily laden out to sea. The Fideliter is a strongly built vessel, steams well, and from all accounts is an excellent sea boat. She will now be fitted up for passengers' accommodation, and we doubt not so soon as she commences making regular trips to Nanaimo and other ports she will be well patronized and become a favorite with the travelling public.

THE TELEGRAPH BILL PASSED.—On Sat;

day His Excellency gave his assent to the Telegraph Bill lately passed through both Houses, and it is now the law of the land. It is to be hoped that the construction of the telegraph line will be commenced and carried on with a like commendable despatch, and that we may before the close of the present year be enabled to have exchange greetings with our Eastern neighbors, and perhaps even with the old folks at home.

PILOT ACT.—This Bill has received His Excellency's assent, and is placed among the statutes of the colony. It is to be hoped that our pilots will lose no time in placing a proper boat on the crating ground, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

NANAIMO PORT OF ENTRY.—The public will be pleased to observe that Nanaimo has been at length created a port of entry. This is an act of justice long looked for, and both in that light and as an enlightened act of commercial policy it deserves the approbation of the entire community.

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS'S DEPARTURE.—We have it on official authority that His Excellency will leave for New Westminster by the Enterprise to-day at noon.

FROM CARIBOO.

We have received a letter from Williams Creek dated February 24th, containing intelligence of a startling nature, but inasmuch as the information conveyed is at variance with letters from our special correspondent and the reports of miners and others who have recently returned from Cariboo, we do not feel ourselves justified, until confirmation shall have been received, in making the announcement as it contains public. When we state that among other items of news it is asserted as an indubitable fact that one of the companies now working on the Creek had on that day, February 24th, taken out a piece of quartz weighing 38 pounds which contained 22 pounds weight of gold! (about \$6,400), the public will, we feel satisfied, coincide in the wisdom of avoiding any undue excitement by withholding further particulars for the present.

ADDRESS OF THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The following is a copy of the Address presented on Friday, to His Excellency Sir James Douglas, K.C.B., by the St. Andrew's Society, of this city, on the occasion of his retirement from the government of the colony.

Governor Sir James Douglas, K.C.B., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY. In anticipation of your approaching retirement from the high trust so long and efficiently sustained by you in the colony as representative of Her most gracious Majesty, we the officers and members of the St. Andrew's Society in this city, in connexion with all other fellow subjects who have shared the advantages of your Excellency's government, beg to tender you our heartfelt congratulations on the signal prosperity which has distinguished the country during the period of your administration, and to record the warm esteem we cherish for the illustrious virtues of your Excellency's personal character; and while contemplating amidst an honorable seclusion and repose, the rapid progress made by the colony in wealth and enterprise, we trust that not the least gratifying reminiscence of your official connexion with Vancouver Island may be that so large a measure of success has attended the benevolent exertions of the national association we represent, under the direction of your Excellency, as its first Honorary President.

While deeply regretting the termination of your functions as Governor, already extended much beyond the usual term prescribed by the Imperial Government, we venture to indulge the hope that your residence among us may be continued as a private citizen, and that this colony, planted chiefly through your agency, and hitherto developed under your care, may receive as formerly the benefit of your local experience and valuable counsel.

May you be long spared to enjoy the honors with which the labors of your public life have been rewarded by an approving Sovereign, and may your future be crowned with tranquility and happiness.

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FIREMEN'S DEMONSTRATION.

The Victoria Fire Department presented a farewell address to His Excellency Sir James Douglas, on his leaving the colony to-day. The demonstration was held at the Esquimalt house formed at the Hook and Lighthouse, at 12-30 p. m., and around by Wharf and Yates streets by their fine brass band, and under the leadership of Mr. Maguire, the along government street to the buildings, where the firemen's circle in front of the main entrance. His Excellency having made his bow to the platform, the band greeted "God Save the Queen." A deputation of Messrs. J. C. Keen, G. G. S. B. Abbott, Assistant Secretary, and J. N. Thain, forward from the ranks, and a leader of Mr. Maguire, the along government street to the buildings, where the firemen's circle in front of the main entrance. His Excellency having made his bow to the platform, the band greeted "God Save the Queen." A deputation of Messrs. J. C. Keen, G. G. S. B. Abbott, Assistant Secretary, and J. N. 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As soon as the table was cleared, the chairman proposed the "Queen" and "the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family," which toasts were received with unbounded demonstrations of loyalty. Mr. Waddington proposed in a humorous and happy speech the toast of "His Excellency the Governor, the guest of the evening." Dr. Evans, in presenting the address spoke in a very felicitous manner, alluding to his position as a clergyman and saying that he was happy to know that he was not precluded from entering heartily into the demonstration they were now engaged in.

The reading of the address was received with hearty cheers, the band striking up "The Star Spangled Banner." His Excellency would beg to thank the company most cordially for their sincere expression of their good will. It was highly gratifying to him to see so hearty a demonstration of approval of the policy of his government, and to know that the community approved of his course during the long term of his protracted administration. This document is associated with the most gratifying recollections; it assured him of their sincere regard, and of their earnest wish to do honor to Her Gracious Majesty, whom he had the honor to represent. It assured him in language more eloquent than words that the community was prepared to support those great principles of free trade, of mining enterprise, and of the settlement of the country which his administration had endeavored to bring about. It assured him that they would ever support those great principles of progress, and that they felt they were in the right course, and by persevering in that course, they would ultimately arrive at the summit of our wishes (applause). He felt that the community were disposed to place a higher value on his services than they deserved (loud cries of No, no). The progress was due rather to the efforts of their highly patriotic Legislature (applause). In closing his relations with this colony, he would ever retain a grateful recollection of this day's proceedings, and of the high honor conferred upon him, and in whatever part of the world he should spend the remainder of his days, he would ever rejoice to hear of the welfare and progress and prosperity of this colony. (Tremendous cheering.)

The Chairman briefly proposed the toast of "The Army and Navy." Capt. Hardinge replied for the Navy, in a few humorous remarks. The Navy had ever found Vancouver Island the best station, but here would be to encourage female immigration (great laughter). Loud calls being made for Lieut. Pender, that gentleman rose and briefly thanked the company for the honor they had done the services. Col. Foster, M.P., responded for the army in a few well-timed remarks, which were received with much applause.

The Legislative Council, was proposed by D. B. Ring, Esq. The toast, said the proposer, embraced the civilized nations of Europe and America. (Great applause.) The presence of so many foreigners here to-night was the best tribute to their appreciation of the government and policy of our present respected Governor. [Applause.] National prejudices were disappearing fast before the progress of civilization, and the world was rapidly progressing, freed from their retarding influence. He proposed with a proud pleasure "The Foreign Residents of Victoria." (Great applause.)

on either side of the procession were cartoons of the American Arms; the dress-circle was also chastely festooned, and decorated overhead with flags of various nations. His Excellency entered the room a few minutes after the hour named, and shortly before seven, at a signal from the chair, at least 200 persons took their seats. The chair was filled by Alfred Waddington, Esq., on whose right sat Sir James Douglas, His Honor Chief-Justice Begbie, B. O., Captain Hardinge, R. N., Hon. W. A. G. Young, Colonial Secretary, &c., and on the left, Thomas Harris, Esq., Mayor, His Honor Chief-Justice Cameron, Dr. Helmecken, Speaker of the House of Assembly, &c.

Grace having been said, the dinner was served, and lasted until about 9 o'clock. During the repast, the dress-circle and boxes were filled with ladies, and the proceedings were enlivened by the admirable performances of an excellent band, under the skillful direction of Messrs. Palmer, Sandrie and Allen. As soon as the table was cleared, the chairman proposed the "Queen" and "the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family," which toasts were received with unbounded demonstrations of loyalty. Mr. Waddington proposed in a humorous and happy speech the toast of "His Excellency the Governor, the guest of the evening."

The bark Architect, Capt. Hoeg, arrived Thursday morning from San Francisco, after a fine run of nine days. She brings several passengers and a large and valuable cargo of merchandise, particulars of which are furnished in our commercial column. We are indebted to Capt. Hoeg for copies of San Francisco papers of the 29th February, containing the following later despatches from the East: The steamer Golden City left Panama on the 15th for San Francisco. The New York Times says the steamer Fulton, which was wrecked on the coast of Florida, was brought in by the British gunboat, and the names of her crew were given by the British gunboat. We are unable to give details it says, because after the Fulton went out into the bay she was boarded by the Provost Marshal with orders from Gen. Gilmore to deprive passengers of all private letters in their possession. From passengers by the Fulton we are indebted for the following main facts of the battle on the afternoon of the 20th. Our troops, under Seymour, met the enemy 15,000 strong, fifteen miles beyond Jacksonville, and eight miles beyond Sanderson, on the line of the Jacksonville and Tallahassee Railroad. The battle was desperately fought during three hours, and at sunset our forces, overpowered by numbers, retired to Sanderson, taking with them the greater part of their wounded. Col. Frisby, of the Eighth United States, was left dead on the field. Col. Reed, a Hungarian officer, was mortally wounded. All the officers of Hamilton's battery were wounded. The Cosmopolitan arrived at Beaufort on Monday evening, with 240 wounded, Col. Reed being among them, who was living when the Fulton left on Wednesday. The enemy's loss is not known. They captured five guns. It is supposed that the troops were from Bragg's army. General Hardee himself was on the field, having come to Florida on a visit to his family. Our loss is variously estimated at from 500 to 1500.

The grand Banquet given by the citizens of Victoria to His Excellency Sir James Douglas, K. C. B., on the occasion of his retiring from the government of the colony, took place Thursday in the Theatre, and was a glorious and brilliant affair. The Theatre was most elegantly decorated by Mons. Driard of the Colonial Hotel who had the entire management of all the arrangements under the supervision of the Committee, and it is but due to that excellent purveyor to say that nothing was wanting to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of the guests. The entire building was boarded level with the stage, and a hessian table spread the whole length. At the end of the stage, behind the chairman, was a large cartoon of the Royal Arms, supported by two smaller cartoons, and national flags. Overhead were festoons of evergreens and artificial flowers;

country, and they deserve the commendation of us all (applause). Music by the band—"The Cameronian March." The Hon. Chief Justice Cameron responded. He felt grateful for the kind manner in which his friend Dr. Tolmie had alluded to him. He was honored in responding to the toast of the Bench—the Bar, he would leave to younger men. The gentleman alluded to the early period in which he had been called to the Bench in this colony, and to the arduous duties he had performed, representing half a dozen judges in one (great applause) how he had done it he would leave to the public to say. [Immense applause.] Mr. Cary responded for the Bar. He would say that he was despised by one half of Victoria, and feared by the other, (great laughter). For three years he had used his utmost endeavors to forward the interests of the colony; and he was sure that all would join him in the wish that should His Excellency return to this colony, he would see that it progressed as fast as his heart could wish. He could only say that he would never wish to serve a kinder master than Sir James Douglas, (great applause.)

Loud calls being made for Mr. Ring, that gentleman rose and said, although unprepared for any remarks, he would bear testimony to the ability and unwearied courage which had marked the administration of His Excellency Sir James Douglas. Gentlemen, what more do you want from me?—(great laughter.) "The Mayor of Victoria," by Dr. Dickson. He had great pleasure in bearing testimony to the earnest and honest manner in which the Mayor had filled the civic chair, (hear, hear.) Although the Corporation was in that state which physicians call "atrophy," a new act would soon set them right he could not expect the maturity of manhood in so young a child (laughter). The Corporation was only a child eight months old (great laughter) and he must not expect too much from it. The Dr. sketched the rapid growth of the colony in an elaborate manner, amid uproarious mirth.

Mr. Selim Franklin was called on to propose the toast of "Our Sister Colony." He said that the connection of His Excellency with British Columbia would reflect even more honor on him than his connection with this colony. That colony was a wilderness six years ago, what some had called a howling wilderness, [laughter] and under the government of His Excellency we had seen the rivers traversed by steamers, and the wilds pierced with roads, and for this they had to thank his Excellency, and for his his name should echo through the mountains and over the valleys of the whole colony [applause]. He would propose "Our Sister Colony," coupling it with the name of His Honor Judge Begbie—Toast drunk with great applause.

The Hon. Chief Justice Cameron, President of the Council, responded. "The Legislative Assembly," was proposed by J. J. Southgate, Esq., coupling the toast with the name of Dr. Helmecken, the honorable Speaker of the House. These gentlemen had been selected by their fellow citizens to legislate for them; and although all their efforts may not have met with their approbation, they deserve the cordial approbation of the community for devoting their time and trouble to the duties of their position. [applause.] Music by the band—"Cheer, boys, cheer!" Dr. Helmecken responded in his usual lively manner. He would simply say that the House of Assembly had been engaged in a most important matter—they had been looking after their money for them, [hear, hear] They had also been looking after the Telegraph Bill (hear hear) He could recollect the time when the only means of mail communication we had with England was by a canoe across Puget Sound, and that only 12 short years ago. How much of the present progress was owing to the exertions of the Legislative Assembly was not for him to say, but he attributed in great measure the rapid progress of the colony to His Excellency. (Great applause.) It was His Excellency who instituted the policy which governed the country. (Hear, Hear.) Having been connected many years with the Legislative Assembly, he could always testify to the courtesy and urbanity of His Excellency. It was to his constant care, watchfulness and attention that the colony was in a position to pass the telegraph bill. (Great applause.)

he was sorry he could not say much yet, but as soon as we had roads through the colony, our farmers would find an ample market in Victoria for all they could produce. The hon. gentleman closed with a hearty tribute to our foreign residents, who had ever been ready to join in all enterprises to develop the country. Mr. J. D. Walker responded, and alluded to the commercial progress this colony had made by the wise policy pursued by His Excellency the Governor. He referred to the benefits of the free port system, and that taking San Francisco as a stand point, Victoria would soon have ceased to exist, had it not been for her free port. Mr. Walker adverted briefly to the commercial position of the colony, and concluded by saying that as he had only a third of the toast to answer for, he would leave the rest in the hands of the gentlemen who were to follow.

Mr. G. J. Sheppard proposed the toast of "The Press." He alluded to the great power for good or for evil wielded by the press, and dilated at some length upon the state of the Press in Victoria. We regret however, that the speaker was not sufficiently audible to be understood. Band—"Good St. Anthony." Mr. Harris, of the Colonist, and Mr. Bell, of the Chronicle, replied. Mr. Crickchank, in a neat speech, proposed the health of the ladies in the course of which he quoted Scott's well-known lines: "Oh, woman, in our hours of ease, Uncertain, coy and hard to please, By the light quivering aspen made; When pain and anguish wring the brow, A ministering angel thou!"

Arrival of the Architect. The bark Architect, Capt. Hoeg, arrived Thursday morning from San Francisco, after a fine run of nine days. She brings several passengers and a large and valuable cargo of merchandise, particulars of which are furnished in our commercial column. We are indebted to Capt. Hoeg for copies of San Francisco papers of the 29th February, containing the following later despatches from the East: The steamer Golden City left Panama on the 15th for San Francisco. The New York Times says the steamer Fulton, which was wrecked on the coast of Florida, was brought in by the British gunboat, and the names of her crew were given by the British gunboat. We are unable to give details it says, because after the Fulton went out into the bay she was boarded by the Provost Marshal with orders from Gen. Gilmore to deprive passengers of all private letters in their possession. From passengers by the Fulton we are indebted for the following main facts of the battle on the afternoon of the 20th. Our troops, under Seymour, met the enemy 15,000 strong, fifteen miles beyond Jacksonville, and eight miles beyond Sanderson, on the line of the Jacksonville and Tallahassee Railroad. The battle was desperately fought during three hours, and at sunset our forces, overpowered by numbers, retired to Sanderson, taking with them the greater part of their wounded. Col. Frisby, of the Eighth United States, was left dead on the field. Col. Reed, a Hungarian officer, was mortally wounded. All the officers of Hamilton's battery were wounded. The Cosmopolitan arrived at Beaufort on Monday evening, with 240 wounded, Col. Reed being among them, who was living when the Fulton left on Wednesday. The enemy's loss is not known. They captured five guns. It is supposed that the troops were from Bragg's army. General Hardee himself was on the field, having come to Florida on a visit to his family. Our loss is variously estimated at from 500 to 1500.

The grand Banquet given by the citizens of Victoria to His Excellency Sir James Douglas, K. C. B., on the occasion of his retiring from the government of the colony, took place Thursday in the Theatre, and was a glorious and brilliant affair. The Theatre was most elegantly decorated by Mons. Driard of the Colonial Hotel who had the entire management of all the arrangements under the supervision of the Committee, and it is but due to that excellent purveyor to say that nothing was wanting to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of the guests. The entire building was boarded level with the stage, and a hessian table spread the whole length. At the end of the stage, behind the chairman, was a large cartoon of the Royal Arms, supported by two smaller cartoons, and national flags. Overhead were festoons of evergreens and artificial flowers;

road descends into the valley. At eleven in the morning, Colonel Gross' brigade was ordered to charge the rebels on this hill, which they did in gallant style, driving the rebels before them. With his Indiana battery he immediately followed to the top of the hill, whence he carried on a fierce artillery fire for the remainder of the day. The infantry skirmishing continued until half past one when Turbin's brigade, of Baird's command, was ordered to drive the rebels from the hill nearly opposite that occupied by Gross. The order was obeyed with a will, the brigade charging the enemy from the foot of the hill, and driving them across the summit, but when they reached the top they were met by the enemy with a destructive fire from a superior force, posted half way down the other side, which compelled them to withdraw. The enemy did not attempt to follow. This was the severest conflict of the day. Heavy skirmishing continued until night, when our troops began to retire, and to-day we are no further advanced than Tunnel Hill. As a reconnaissance affair, it has been entirely successful. No further doubt remains of the enemy's presence at Dalton in strong force; at least there are four divisions there. The country around Dalton is a succession of narrow valleys and rocky ridges, exceedingly available for defensive purposes. A party of Clayborne's division, sent to reinforce Folk returned in time to take part in the fight. Our whole loss will not exceed three hundred men. The rebels are in great numbers. The Committee of Conference on the Lieutenant-General bill, agreed to the Senate's amendment inserting the clause recommending Gen. Grant. The report was accepted, and the bill passed the Senate, and was signed by the President, who immediately issued a commission to General Grant. Gold quiet at 158 1/2 to 158 3/4.

CALIFORNIA ITEMS. THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE COW COUNTIES. Passengers by the Overland Stages from Los Angeles report that the earthquake which gave San Francisco such a shaking up on Friday morning last, was felt strongly as far south at least as San Luis Obispo, and it was probably felt in a less degree of force as far down the coast as Santa Barbara. DEAD STOCK.—So great a number of cattle are dying in the lower part of this State, that the cowboys and cowboys are about as fatly fattening themselves to death. They will not eat anything now which has been dead over three hours, and go in for nothing but the choicest tit-bits at that. A gentleman who has just passed over the route between Los Angeles and this city, says that he counted one hundred dead animals by the roadside, in a single hour's travel, near San Luis Obispo. BOAT RACE.—A very large number of people congregated at the foot of Vallejo street yesterday noon to witness the boat race around Yerba Buena Island, between Thomas Kirby and H. C. Hoyt, for \$2500 each, or the round sum of \$5000. Hoyt won the race in 55 minutes and 30 seconds, beating Kirby by seven minutes.

A DESPERATE ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.—Last evening, about half-past five o'clock, officer Brant, while walking along Vallejo street, found a Frenchman who had opened the main blood-vessel in his left wrist with a surgical bistouri, causing a wound from which blood was flowing in a stream which had already run along the sidewalk a distance of twelve feet or more. Syncope was fast approaching, and in a few minutes more the assistance would have been too late. The man was unknown to the police, but a paper found on his person gave his address, and unmistakably indicates his intention to commit suicide: "D'OT GRANIER, Vallejo, No. 434. Je ne puis register plus long temps a mes souffrances.—Fr. GRANIER." The import of the above is substantially this: "I am no longer enduing my sufferings. The officers attending the unfortunate man in the County hospital, and in spite of the great loss of blood which had occurred before the discovery of his attempt at self-destruction, his life is not considered in any serious danger."

QUARTZ CRUSHER.—Yesterday we paid a visit to Messrs. Spratt and Kriemler's foundry, to take a look at the quartz-mill, which that enterprising firm have just completed. It will be seen by advertisement these gentlemen are now prepared to crush any quantity of quartz, and extract the gold contained therein, for a moderate compensation. They have all the apparatus required for the operation, and through their aid we will soon be able to ascertain the real value of the quartz mines of Goldstream. There is now in the mill, crushed ready for amalgamation, about three tons of quartz, from various companies; the ton being from the Maple Bay Co., Cowichan, half ton from the American Company, and a half ton from Williams Creek. The Maple Bay quartz is now in process of amalgamation, and the American and Williams Creek is ready for the process—the latter being intended for the Assay Office, New Westminster. The apparatus of the crushing mill is complete, from the stampers to the retort for separating the gold from the quicksand, and we may soon hope to hear favorable results from its operations. In passing through the Foundry we observed the cylinders for the steamer Alexandra being finished. They are the largest of the kind yet manufactured on the Pacific Coast, being 21 inches in diameter, and 4,200 lbs each in weight. The Foundry is capable of turning out castings of 5,000 lbs weight, and with the boring tools now in operation, Mr. Spratt tells us he can turn out any cylinders in the fleet which may require the operation. The whole establishment is a credit to the colony, and deserves the liberal patronage of the community.

NAVAL.—Capt. Jones, R. N. who arrived by the Brother Jonathan, has assumed command of H. M. S. Camelion. H. M. S. ships Topaze and Heate, had both reached England in safety, and Captain Richards of the latter ship was comfortably installed in the Hydrographic Department. H. M. S. Tribune was hourly expected at Panama on February 2, and after remaining there a few days would sail for Victoria. There is no probability of her bringing the new Governor.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, March 15, 1864.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, March 7, 1864.

The House met at 3:15 p. m. Members present: Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Franklin, Powell, Tolmie, Trimble, Street, Carswell, Bayley, and Dennis.

THIRD READINGS.

The Indemnity Bill, and the Chief Justice Pension Bill passed their third readings.

INCORPORATION ACT.

The House went into committee on the bill to regulate the Incorporation Act, 1862, Mr. Bayley in the chair.

Dr. Trimble moved that after the word "repealed," all the rest of the clause be erased, making the clause read "That the Victoria Incorporation Act, 1862, and all by-laws therein enacted, be and are hereby repealed."

Mr. DeCosmos objected to the amendment of the hon. member for Victoria District. We were now called upon to deliberate on a subject which if not treated with sound judgment and discretion, may do an incalculable injury to Victoria.

The hon. member for Victoria District's amendment proposes not only to repeal the Act, but also all the by-laws. The city is now in debt to the amount of \$20,130. On looking at another department, the total taxes received by the Trades License by-law is \$15,000. If we annul all these by-laws, all parties who have paid taxes under this law can compel the Corporation to refund this amount.

By this means every tax payer may be held liable for this \$15,000, which has been already expended. Then, looking at the real estate tax, an amount of \$7,000 has been collected; if these taxes have to be refunded, we will thus create a debt on the city of \$42,000, if we repeal the by-laws, whereas, if we collect these back taxes, there will be sufficient money to pay the city's indebtedness. If the House does not enable the Council to collect the Real Estate and Trades License taxes, they must pay back all the money collected, and thus increase the city's indebtedness to the amount already stated.

Mr. DeCosmos was still in favor of bringing in his amendment as first proposed, but he was willing to harmonize it so far as possible with the views of his hon. colleagues and other hon. members.

Mr. Powell had also been waiting for some argument from the hon. member for Victoria District, but was sorry to say he had not heard any. This was simply a question of whether we shall have an incorporation or not. He (Dr. Powell) was in favor of the amendment of his hon. colleague, although he thought it would be better to come in as a second clause.

Mr. DeCosmos said in favor of facilitating business he would propose to withdraw his amendment, and bring it in a distinct clause.

Mr. Dennis said he would certainly support the amendment of the hon. member for Victoria District.

Dr. Trimble said he was not opposed to municipal institutions, but there were so many objections to the Act of 1862, that he wished to throw it out and introduce a fresh bill de novo.

Mr. DeCosmos said the hon. member was opposed to any incorporation, a fact which his amendment showed; the hon. member knew well that if this bill were thrown out, we could introduce no new bill in this session, and the city would be left unincorporated.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the word "born" be struck out. This was an attempt to perpetuate political and sectional animosity in the colony. It was taking a direct step backward in the policy of the country.

Dr. Powell supported the amendment as calculated to diminish national prejudices and ill-feeling.

Mr. Franklin said he was surprised to see the word "born" introduced into the bill before the House; when he was before his constituency the question was brought up as to aliens sitting in this House, and he was elected by a party opposed to that policy.

Mr. DeCosmos said the hon. gentleman had made a most remarkable speech. He had this day opposed a principle which he had at one time supported. Not one year ago the hon. gentleman had stood on the floor of this House and advocated the admission of naturalized subjects to full rights

and privileges after one year's residence, and now the hon. gentleman opposed this very principle. He (Mr. DeC.) said his sole object in striking out this word, was to make the people one; to prevent them from arraying themselves under party banners, and organizing party factions. This clause did not affect aliens, but all affected naturalized citizens, men who had all their interests in the colony, and why should the House inflict such an injury on a good class of citizens by preventing them from occupying positions in the civic government.

Mr. Franklin said there was a class of aliens, or naturalized subjects, who did not exercise their privileges as British subjects should do. They had endeavored to control and dictate to the rest of the community. Mr. DeCosmos said he had only one remark to make to the hon. gentleman's statement. He would call to the hon. gentleman's recollection a time not long ago, when some 30 or 40 of this very class were brought to the polls by the hon. gentleman's friends and supporters, and by their votes a seat was obtained in the House of Assembly (laughter).

The amendment was not put and Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Powell and Helmecken, voting for it; Messrs. Foster, Trimble, Franklin, Jackson, Street, and Dennis against it. The clause then passed as read, and the committee rose and reported progress.

ANOTHER INCORPORATION ACT. Mr. Trimble said he wished to give notice that he would to-morrow ask leave to bring in a bill to incorporate the city of Victoria, (laughter).

WATER BILL. Mr. Powell asked leave to read a petition from John Coe and Thos. Marlin, asking leave to have the exclusive supplying of the city of Victoria with water, (petition read) and moved that the petition be referred to the committee on Standing Orders. Carried.

TELEGRAPHIC REGULATIONS. Mr. Young gave notice that on Thursday next he would move to introduce a bill to regulate Electric Telegraphs in the colony, and to ensure secrecy and fidelity in the transmission of messages.

Wednesday, March 10, 1864. House met at 3:15 p. m. Members present, Messrs. Young, DeCosmos, Franklin, Trimble, Street, Duncan, Carswell, Bayley, Dennis.

Mr. Dennis asked leave to lay before the House a petition from Henry Otto Tiedeman, praying to be heard against the petition of Coe and Martin. Referred to the committee on standing orders.

REDUCTION OF LICENCES. Mr. DeCosmos laid before the House a petition from the Licensed Victuallers Association, praying for a reduction in the licences. Ordered to be laid on the table.

POSTAL MONEY ORDERS. Mr. Duncan moved for an address to His Excellency on the urgent necessity for an extension to this colony of postal money orders, a book postage system, and also that the British consuls at Panama be authorized to remit from that place letters or newspapers from the South American Republics for this colony, the same being now detained by the non-payment of the American postage.

STATUTE LABOR NOTES. Mr. Duncan moved for returns of the amounts collected for statute labor and other road purposes, showing the mode of expenditure of said moneys.

TELEGRAPH BILL. This bill came up for a second reading. Mr. DeCosmos said that he had been authorized by the President of the Company to state that should the bill be passed, the city of Victoria would be placed in connection with the East in eight months. The advantages offered by the bill were so great that it required no argument.

Mr. Young had much pleasure in seconding the second reading of the bill. Second reading passed, and bill ordered to be committed.

INCORPORATION ACT. Mr. Trimble said he would now ask leave to introduce a bill to incorporate the city of Victoria. The hon. member proceeded to dilate on his bill, but the hon. Speaker intimated that it was not quite in order to speak on the bill at this stage.

Mr. DeCosmos opposed the granting of leave to the honorable member's bill on the ground of the great delay caused to the business of the country.

Mr. Dennis supported the motion for a new bill. Although he had voted for the bill now before the House, he believed an second thoughts he was wrong (laughter).

Mr. Street moved that the bill be printed. The Speaker said it was a private bill; no notice of it had been given and the honorable member must have intimated himself (laughter).

TELEGRAPH BILL. The House went into committee on the Telegraph Bill, Mr. Bayley in the chair. Clause 1.—Mr. DeCosmos moved that after the words "Vancouver Island" the words "and its dependencies" be added. Carried.

Mr. DeCosmos moved that the term of 50 years for which the company ask the right to use their line be cut down to 25 years.

Dr. Helmecken said by granting the company a term of 50 years we would prevent the Government from granting a monopoly to any other company, should such need arise. He could readily see why this company should make so liberal an offer. If they get their line into operation, it will have the effect of preventing the construction of the British overland line. He did not know the bill would be any serious objection. We would, by granting this line be probably granting an advantage to Americans to the detriment of Britain, but he had not the slightest objection to that; we benefited by the enterprise and energy of our neighbors, and he did not see why we should not look after our own interests.

Mr. Carswell said it was all right to allow the telegraph to be carried along the streets and highways, but he thought even the hon. Speaker himself would not like it brought through his house. Besides he did not approve of giving them fifty years; it was

giving them too good a show. Although he believed in the Americans, as they were two to one on the British, still he thought they should not have the exclusive privilege of talking over the line.

Dr. Helmecken said he would not have the slightest objection to the telegraph line going through his house provided, they would give him an office; it would be a great advantage. As to the use of the line in time of war, he did not see why we should look after the interests of Britain in this matter, they had done nothing for us in regard to mails or telegraphs of any kind.

Mr. Street did not like to hear so much said about American enterprise; when Victoria was as large and wealthy as San Francisco we might hear something about Victorian enterprise. (Hear, hear.)

Amendment carried and clause passed. Clause 2.—provides for the carrying of the line across any private land by the consent of the owners.

Dr. Helmecken said his opinion was that the company should have the right to carry their line over private land, whether the owners was willing or not; (hear, hear.) By a private property owner refusing to allow the line to pass over their ground, there might have to be a break in the line. However, as they did not ask for this he supposed the clause might stand as read.—Clause passed.

Clause 3, passed. Clause 4, provides that the Company must commence the work within five months after the passage of the Act, and that in thirteen further months the line must be completed; otherwise the Act shall be null and void.

Mr. DeCosmos said the President of the Company had told him that they expected to finish the line in eight months from the passage of the Act, but if the legislature insisted on the work being completed in eight or nine months, the company would wish a proviso to provide for accidents.

Dr. Helmecken said he thought the time of 18 months quite short enough; it was certainly shorter than we might have expected. The clause was passed with the addition of the words "of North America," after the words "British provinces."

Clause 5, provides that upon completion of the line, the Company shall have the exclusive privilege for twenty years of telegraphing between this colony and the United States west of the Rocky Mountains, but not to interfere with the construction of the projected line across the continent through British Columbia and the Canadas; provided that no other company shall have the right to telegraph between this colony and the said United States, so as to impair the aforesaid rights.

Mr. Young moved that instead of "the projected line," etc., the words "any line through British territory" be inserted.—Amendment carried, and clause passed.

Clause 6, provides that the Governor of Vancouver Island may terminate the exclusive privilege of the Company at the expiry of twelve years, by giving six months' notice. Clause passed.

Clause 7, provides that the telegraph line shall be run from the City of Victoria to some point on the limits of the colony between Nanaimo and Sooke. Passed.

Clause 8, provides that if the Company shall fail for six months to keep the line in working order, unless in case of war, they shall forfeit their exclusive privilege. The committee here rose and reported progress, to sit again to-morrow.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. Wednesday, March 9, 1864. The Council met at 2:30 p. m.—Members present:—Hon. Chief Justice Cameron; President of the Council, Hon. Alexander Watson Colonial Treasurer, and Hon. Roderick Finlayson.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE PENSION BILL and the Governor's Indemnity Bill, as passed by the House of Assembly, were laid before the Council.

BOUNDARIES OF THE COLONY. The Clerk of the Council read a communication from His Excellency, sending down a map of the boundaries of the colony, to be placed in the records of the Council.

RECEPTION OF THE NEW GOVERNOR. The Clerk read a communication from the Secretary of the Reception Committee inviting the President and members of the Council to take part in the reception of the new Governor.

The President said he supposed the Council would take part in the reception in their official capacity.

Hon. Mr. Watson moved that a reply be sent to the Reception Committee, accepting their invitation.—Carried.

PILOT BILL. The President said the amendments to the Pilot Bill as sent back by the House of Assembly, had been agreed to, and the Bill had been sent up to the Governor to receive his assent.

APPROPRIATION ACT. The bill providing the supplies for the year 1864, was read a first time.

NEW BILLS. The President introduced a bill to amend the Land Registry Act. This bill was necessary to remedy some defects in the present act. Also a bill to enable parties who have through the ignorance of conveyancers received defective titles, to have their titles confirmed.

BANK NOTE BILL. This bill, on motion of Hon. Mr. Watson, was ordered to be taken up in committee.

BARRISTERS' AND ATTORNEYS' BILL. The discussion on this bill was postponed to enable the Attorney-General to bring in some proposed amendments.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.—The contracts for the construction of a screw steam tug and a mud steam dredger vessel with four mud punts, to which we have previously alluded, have been let by the Government, the former to Mr. Robt Ewing and the latter to Mr. Trahey, both practical ship builders. The following are the dimensions and particulars upon which the contracts were based: Screw steamer of 40 nominal horse power, length between perpendiculars, 110 feet; length of hull for tonnage 99.9 ft.; breadth extreme, 19 ft.; breadth for tonnage, 18.10 ft; depth moulded, 10.6 ft.; tonnage o. m., 153 39.94. Double steam dredger vessel of 25 nominal

horse power; length, 100 ft.; breadth, 22.1 ft.; depth, 10 ft. Four mud punts—length, 70 ft.; breadth, 19 ft.; depth, 6.9 ft.; two hoppers in each, to contain 150 tons of mud, or 50 tons in each hopper. Engines and machinery by Messrs. J. & A. Blyth, Lime House, London.

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GOVERNOR KENNEDY

Before this reaches the eye of Governor Kennedy will have passed, and will in due course receive from the inhabitants. If we erect like the citizens of Rome at Cosa "put on our best attire, call out and strew flowers in his way," the Roman citizens, to pander to a conqueror, but to show a mark to the representative of Her Majesty, and to offer a reception to a man of whom much is expected, have had our season of grumblings; but with the dawn of a future, we have buried the hated scepter of the calumet. We have given well demonstrated to the retiring and now, in the same spirit of extended a warm and genuine welcome. Governor Kennedy is the most important phase of our existing transforming period of youth to maturity. After the boisterous weather of a March, we are gradually gliding into a season, the summer of our prosperity.

An auspicious period is opening, and an opportunity is afforded to become one of the number of governors. He commences his career with a *tabula rasa*—pages of his official book are cleared—no prejudicial connections, his policy, no injurious interests, no two-horned and the people's well acquainted with the working of free in the Australian dependencies, but with a proper conception of what a political sense, to the enterprising of a British colony. Had we a governor from England, destitute of experience, we should, in all probability, have had a man wedded inseparably to customs unadvised to the exigencies of more progressive communities of countries. As it is, however, we are to be gratified at obtaining a gentleman who has seen something of the world, comes to us free from that obstinate sufficiency which usually accompanies experience.

As a people, we are too prone to the Executive some mysterious power, and expect from it the Hercules. So soon as Governor enters Yates street he is told to "resources;" when he might with reason be asked to "build our 'till our soil.'" The fable of Jupp Waggoner is always in requisition, are afraid that unless we have the self-reliance and intelligence to do our own natural resources we shall be poor chance of the labor being performed by the representative of Her Majesty in the political affairs of the colony, and encourage the inhabitant laudable enterprise—to endeavor, where the population is large, to social reunions the ascerbic of life—to give a tone to that society should be the ornament and the look after the constitutionality of the Legislature, are really the taining to his office. In our form, a little wider latitude is, of course, to the Governor than in occupying the full measure of responsibility owing to the deficiency of intelligence in our Legislature hitherto, executive has been allowed, in its stance, to supersede the function