

MAGISTERIAL FREAKS.

Since the time of the renowned Dogberry magistrates have come in for their share of caricature. What with vanity on one hand, ignorance on another, and overstraining severity in a third, justice is sometimes subjected to rather scurvy treatment in the magisterial court, and satirists afforded only too frequent opportunities of levelling their shafts at a position that should be above ridicule if not indeed above censure.

THE BIG BEND MINES.

The second official report forwarded by Mr. Moberly to the Surveyor-General of British Columbia on his recent explorations on and in the vicinity of the Columbia River appears in the New Westminster Government Gazette, and is a highly interesting document.

It may perhaps be superfluous for me to say anything with regard to the mines of the Big Bend after all that has been said and written on this subject, but as I have had the opportunity of seeing a larger section of the country this season in their immediate vicinity than anybody else, it may not be amiss for me to state that it is my firm conviction they will prove not only very rich but will also be found to extend over a large extent of country, and that gold-bearing quartz will be found in the slate range, which is most unquestionably the gold one.

My observations, as well as what I gather from Messrs. Turnbull and Green, this range crosses Gold Creek a short distance from its mouth, then touches the Columbia River at the mouth of Cairne's Creek, and thence bears away in a south-easterly direction crossing the Ille-cille-wat River some 44 miles from its mouth, and the Ille-comahulx River (which falls into the head of Upper Arrow Lake), as well as the stream which falls into the bend of Kootenay Lake, and I think most probably continues on in the direction of Wild Horse Creek.

This being the case, I fully anticipate that rich gold fields will be discovered on the head waters of all these streams and rivers, as well as those of the different streams that fall into the Columbia on its easterly side.

As the reports of the yield of gold since I left the Columbia River have much exceeded what was the case then, a statement of the yield by me when gold was only beginning to be found in quantities, might give a wrong impression of what now is most probably the fact—as high as \$50 to the pan (see Mr. Green's report) had been taken out on French Creek; reports were also current at the time that a single pan of dirt had yielded \$100.

On Cairne's Creek, at the same date, from \$30 to \$50 per day to the hand was not an uncommon yield with sluices.

One great advantage these diggings have over others in the colony is that they are not deep, and may so far as yet substantially known, be considered as surface or "poor men's" diggings.

Now that the trail from the head of Shuwap Lake to the Columbia River is opened it is a very easy matter to reach the mines at present known, and not expensive. This trail strikes the Columbia twelve miles above Cairne and twenty and a half miles below Gold Creek.

It is most important that the work of opening trails from the terminus of this one spring, so as to connect it with French and Cairne's creeks, and also with the head of steamboat, payigation at the foot of the little Dalles.

The trail to French Creek I should have opened this autumn, as I considered my instructions were sufficient to justify such an outlay as would have been required to make it passable, but when it became at all certain that the diggings were really good, or in fact at any time after my first arrival on the Columbia in August, it was impossible to get the necessary supplies at any price to carry on the work, and the season was so far advanced that before they could have been provided the winter would have set in and stopped all further work.

The truth is had it not been for the persevering energy and enterprise displayed by Messrs. Smith and Ladner in forwarding supplies when the mines were uncertain and the modes of conveyance most difficult, I doubt if a single miner could have remained at the diggings after the middle of September.

It appears to me that one of the most important works for the Government to undertake, would be the opening of a good trail from the Upper Columbia through the Rocky Mountains to the extensive open country which, from the best information I have been able to gather from various sources, extends along the easterly slope of that great dividing range.

There is now a very large population spread over the country south of the boundary line, and it is rapidly increasing. With the mines of the Big Bend as an attraction, and a good trail by which animals could get over to the vicinity of those mines, large numbers of people would be certain to

find their way into this colony, in fact I am convinced that in the direction we have to look for the large immigration into the colony, and the opening of the sea.

As Mr. Green's report of his return will give a description of the Shuwap River which he has discovered, and which he has not at present had time to explore, but will forward a report together with my own observations on his return journey.

In the event of the exploration I had in hand this year being successful, it is my impression that a good supply should be forwarded from the Columbia to be in readiness for the parties that should commence exploring in an easterly direction from the head of the Kootenay Lake and the mouth of the Ille-cille-wat to the Upper Columbia, so that when they arrive at it, our party could arrange to explore the country on one bank while the other is similarly engaged on the other bank.

Canoes should also be provided and the explorations carried on down stream, as this method will save much time and therefore expense. It is quite out of the question to pack supplies for any lengthened trip across the Rocky Mountains without a trail.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The steamer Enterprise arrived on Thursday from New Westminster with 63 passengers and Dick & Nelson's five express.

The telegraph wires were down and no Eastern despatches had been received. The editor of the Columbian was recuperating his mental faculties, and had taken French leave of his subscribers for a week or ten days. We shall, therefore, be without our Columbian exchanges until some time in January next.

There was very little news from up above. Judge Elliott and wife, Mrs. Basigalupi, Mr. Greenbaum and about forty others, principally road laborers, came down yesterday morning on the Hope. The steamer stuck in the ice about two miles above New Westminster and had to be cut out. The passengers were four days from Lillooet. Messrs. Elsas and others came in a canoe on Douglas. Mr. ... the good fortune to fall through ... himself.

The schooner Gebera, Harney was loading with lumber. The latest news received from Williams Creek is unimportant. The snow is very deep, our informant experiencing great difficulty in sleighing, having frequently to get out and walk. No new strikes had been made. The messenger of the Bank of British Columbia was met going in with six horses, conveying a safe for the use of the establishment in Cariboo.

THE NANAIMO ELECTION.—The Gazette in an article congratulating the electors on issue of the recent political contest, says:—We do not think a representative should be a mere mouthpiece in the House of Assembly for those who send him there, and only deliberate or vote as by them bidden.

Contrariwise we hope and believe that Mr. Cunningham, while in no way disregarding our local interests, will go into the House an honest and independent member. He has been chosen mainly because, being a resident, he is considered best fitted to express the views and maintain the rights and public interests of this constituency.

He is in a position to know what these are—and because his opinions, for the most part, are coincident with those of the gentlemen who supported him. We believe Mr. Cunningham will seek the good of the country in the promotion of every measure calculated to benefit its inhabitants, and pursue a line of policy consistent with the demands of the country.

Follow no particular side—if two sides there are—in our Legislature; become the protegee of neither person nor party that does not uphold and carry out, in a proper spirit, the well understood wishes of those of the people most concerned in the prosperity of the whole colony.

We must say, in justice to Mr. Ring, the unsuccessful candidate, that if he did not tell the electors what he does not believe in, his expressions of opinion as to what he does believe in were sufficiently and unmistakably pronounced to injure what little prospects he had of success.

The bold declaration of a firm belief in the maintenance of the free port would not take at Nanaimo. It was a very little said disparagingly of Mr. Ring.

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Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases: Dropsy, Jaundice, Secondary Syphilis, Liver Complaint, Rheumatism, Female Irregularities, Lumbago, Neuralgia, Headache, Stomachic Disorders, Bowel Complaints, Fevers of all kinds, Regeneration of the Hair, Scalding of the Head, Sore Throat, Consumption, Indigestion, Stone and Gravel, Debility, Gout, Rheumatism, and all other ailments.

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Caution. Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce.

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Worcestershire Sauce. L. & P. have discovered that several of the Foreign Markets have been supplied with spurious imitations, the labels closely resemble those of the genuine Sauce, and in one or more instances the names of L. & P. prominently appear on the wrapper.

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The enormous demands made in the rates for 1865 threw the colony very rarely into a feeling of consternation. I all very well to say we wanted this and required that, but every one felt the country could not afford the numerous rates as well as the expensive necessities which the Executive called upon it to pay. The estimates for 1866 are not of the magnitude of those for 1865, but the nevertheless far beyond the country's capacity—more especially when it is intimate the amounts sent down to the House day last do not complete the Executive demands. The question which arises in the mind of every one is, how can an analysis of the financial statement merely lower can the country convey pay the total amount, but are the offered worth the sums placed opposite names. We can well understand the colony will reap the benefit of the \$13,000,000 expended on education; but what we say of \$56,453 for police, gaols, and administration of justice? In looking our criminal calendar one must be struck the almost total absence of serious and the very small number of minor offences. Glancing at the estimates, however, would the idea that we had a murder every day and burglaries every day. The assertion not be put forward that the absence of is due to the expensive character of the for we have had experience to the contrary. There is indeed not a man who knows thing about the habits and customs population but feels convinced that the safety could be equally as well looked for half the amount. We said the estimate for 1866 were smaller than the estimate 1865; but we must confess it is only public works that the decrease is only departments to which we have just all the police, gaols, and administration justice—show an excess of expenditure \$8602 over that voted for 1865. In 1866 at least twenty per cent. more than we have at present; during that expense of salaried establishments \$57,647; now, however, we are called to pay the enormous sum of \$93,371 what ground does the Executive mean unprejudiced an increase? It is the additional amount of work; for that the sum expended on roads, bridges, works, and buildings, in 1865 was \$53,000. It is not, however, under the head of salaries, that the exorbitance of the estimates, as well as the preposterous character estimates, is shown. Deducting the works, education, charities, rents, mail conveyance, miscellaneous services, draughts, immigration, Indentures and pensions, which come to us find that the real expense of the Government offices comes to \$113,000—of three-fifths of the entire expenditure, no part of the civilized world can such a condition of affairs as this?

We have said that the only efforts trenchment have been made in public—in those things, that if the country is great at all we must have. Fancy chant under a reverse of fortune come a reduction in his expenses by laying vessels, but retaining the captains' crews; by closing up his stores, continuing to pay his clerks and employes. Would we not think him deluded? And yet this is just what the Victorian Government is doing. Ever able undertaking—every productive ditire is stopped; but the officials is still retained unimpaired education we have \$14,500; for works \$8,300; for immigration we have an enormous sum of \$1,000, and for contracts of mail \$17,200—making in all but to be expended on services which are not the settlement of the country, tension of commerce, and the intelligence of the people. If this is all that can be to absolute necessities, on what ground we asked for the other \$150,000? really afraid the Executive has less thing since the advent of the previous Government. We are afraid that the duties of Government are still as much beyond its ken as in January of the present year. It would it be possible for it to ask to pay so enormous a salary list, for significant public services? Our rule have to learn that Governments are commercial speculations—that they thing more than boards of directors stock companies, and that they are to make the undertaking with what are identified return something like able dividends. The Executive calls to in rest \$192,000 in the Government and the people are assured by way of estimate that no practical result is expected that the country will have the maintaining in almost useless employment the largest staff of officials, in proportion the number of inhabitants, that can in any part of the globe. The estimate

The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, January 2, 1866.

THE ESTIMATES.

The enormous demands made in the estimates for 1866 threw the colony very naturally into a feeling of consternation. It was all very well to say we wanted this thing and required that, but every one felt that the country could not afford the numerous luxuries as well as the expensive necessities which the Executive called upon it to provide.

The estimates for 1866 are not of the immense magnitude of those for 1865, but they are nevertheless far beyond the country's capacity—more especially when it is intimated that the amounts sent down to the House on Friday last do not complete the Executive's demands. The question which arises after an analysis of the financial statement is not merely how can the country conveniently pay the total amount, but are the services offered worth the sums placed opposite their names.

We can well understand that the colony will reap the benefit of the \$14,500 to be expended on education; but what shall we say of \$56,453 for police, gaols and the administration of justice? In looking over our criminal calendar one must be struck at the almost total absence of serious crimes, and the very small number of minor offences.

Glancing at the estimates, however, would give us the idea that we had a murder every week and burglaries every day. The assertion cannot be put forward that the absence of crime is due to the expensive character of the police, for we have had experience to the contrary. There is indeed not a man who knows anything about the habits and customs of our population but feels convinced that the public safety could be equally as well looked after for half the amount.

We said the estimates for 1866 were smaller than the estimates for 1865; but we must confess it is only in the public works that the decrease is seen. The departments to which we have just alluded—the police, gaols, and administration of justice—show an excess of expenditures of \$8602 over that voted for 1865. In 1864 we had at least twenty per cent. more people than we have at present; during that year the expense of salaried establishments was \$57,647; now, however, we are called upon to pay the enormous sum of \$93,375.

On what ground does the Executive make so unprecedented an increase? It cannot be the additional amount of work; for we find that the sum expended on roads, streets, bridges, works, and buildings, in 1864, was \$140,000, while that proposed to be expended in 1866 is \$8,000! The amount voted last year for public works, independent of the Governor's house, was \$53,000. It is not, however, merely under the head of salaried establishments that the exorbitance of the demand, as well as the preposterous character of the estimates, is shown. Deducing the public works, education, charities, rents, transport, mail conveyance, miscellaneous services, interest, drawbacks, immigration, Indian expenses and pensions, which come to \$70,000, we find that the real expense of the Government offices comes to \$113,000—or about three-fifths of the entire expenditure. Surely no part of the civilized world can produce such a condition of affairs as this?

We have said that the only efforts at retrenchment have been made in public works—in those things, that if the country is to progress at all we must have. Fancy a merchant under a reverse of fortune commencing a reduction in his expenses by laying up his vessels, but retaining the captains and the crews; by closing up his stores, but continuing to pay his clerks and employees generally. Would we not think him deranged? And yet this is just what the Vancouver Island Government is doing.

indeed "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare," and none the less when we consider that, with other necessary demands, we have twenty or thirty thousand dollars not included in the financial statement to be expended on steam communication with San Francisco.

THE LEECH RIVER DITCH.—A Leech River correspondent writing under date Dec. 18th informs us that the men engaged on the Leech River ditch had held a meeting to take into consideration the rate of wages, and the manner of paying those employed on that work, and judged it advisable to make the result of their proceedings public, in order that the shareholders, and the people of Victoria might be fully aware of the reasons which have led to their present course of action. The following were the resolutions framed by those empowered to draw up the same and sent to us for publication: First, that the sum of one dollar per day in cash is too small a proportion of money to the amount of scarp, as it is almost impossible for a man to eave and clothe himself at the rate of six dollars a week, especially in this severe weather; and we think it cannot be done for less than one dollar and a-half each.

Secondly—As we find it very difficult to get any cash whatever, most of us having hitherto not seen a cent since the ditch commenced, and we have therefore to be content with flour or beans straight, or whatever our paymaster has in his store, and to do without venison, beef, or anything which he may not have, inasmuch as we possess no money to buy any, and the hunters will not at present take scrip at any figure, we should prefer the money portion of our wages to be placed in the hands of our foreman, Mr. Fisher Joyce, to be paid by him in cash every week. Thirdly—That until an answer to these propositions be returned by the shareholders no more work shall be done on the ditch. A report of these proceedings having been read to the Leech River treasurer of the Ditch Co. (Mr. Mara), and he having informed us that it was not in his power to do anything for us, and that he had no money at present, the matter is to be left to the consideration of the shareholders; and we trust the COLONIST will kindly assist us in bringing it to their notice.

THE RUSSIAN TELEGRAPH ENTERPRISE.—From the Telegrapher, a neat little paper, got up by an association of operators and published in New York, we clip the following about the Russian Overland Telegraph enterprise. The fleet of four vessels, under the command of Col. Chas. S. Bulkeley, lately arrived in our harbor, have completed their summer's work as far as vessels are concerned: "Minister Clay has transmitted to the State Department an official copy of the conditions stipulated between the Russian Telegraph Department and Hiram Sibley for the establishment of telegraphic communication between Russia and America, by which the exclusive right is granted to the latter Plenipotentiary of the American Western Union Telegraph Company for thirty-three years from the day the line shall be opened, the Russian government to grant a further term as it may judge convenient. In order to encourage the undertaking the Government grants to the Company an allowance of forty per cent on the cost of the line, and of ten per cent on the cost of the telegraph apparatus transmitted by it over the line, and from America; and in order to contribute as much as possible to the success of the undertaking the Minister of Public Utility will adopt the measures necessary for securing the Company's telegraph from being maliciously injured by the local population, but at the same time the Government refuses to take upon itself any responsibility for such injuries, of any nature whatsoever. The Company is allowed to import materials free of duty. In the southwest corner of the building in which the American Institute is holding its Fair in this city, may be seen a sample of the instruments that are to be used by the Collins Russian Telegraph Line, seventy-five sets of which have been manufactured in this city by the Messrs. Chester. The instruments are fixed in a box, which is quickly converted into a table by screwing on the legs at the corners. For transportation two of the boxes are fastened together in one package; and when these reach the station the operator has merely to screw on the legs and connect the proper wires with the air and ground lines, when he is ready to receive and transmit messages. The manufacturers expect orders for an additional supply of these instruments, as two or three hundred will be required for the whole line."—S. F. Alta.

A FUNERAL OFFERING.—An English paper states that at the funeral of Lord Palmerston in Westminster Abbey, London, when the officiating Dean pronounced the words "dust to dust, ashes to ashes," over the grave, the chief mourner, as a last precious offering to the dead, threw into the grave several diamonds and gold rings. The vault was so constructed that it would not permit of the throwing in of any earth at the most solemn portion of the funeral service. To some it appeared that the traditional solemnity of the grave suffered when the dead words "ashes to ashes, and dust to dust," were not accompanied by the usual symbolic sprinkling of earth on the coffin, and the chief mourner responded by casting the rings into the grave.

THE POPULATION OF THE WORLD.—At the present time the population of the world is estimated to amount to 1,000,000,000 of persons, speaking 3,064 languages, and professing 1100 forms of religion. The average duration of human life is estimated at 33 years and six months. A quarter of the children born die before their seventh year, and one-half before their seventeenth. Out of the 1,000,000,000 living, 33,000,000 die each year, 91,000 each day, 3,780 each hour, 60 each minute, and consequently one every second. These 33,000,000 deaths are counterbalanced by 41,500,000 births—the excess being the annual increase of the human race. It has been remarked that births and deaths are more frequent in the night than during the day. Calculating one marriage for every 120 persons of both sexes and of all ages, 82,000,000 are celebrated annually.

AN IMPOLITICAL JOUBNAURY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST, Sir.—I beg leave to draw the attention of those whom it may concern to a kind of policy which has proved most mischievous, and in the long run calculated to retard, if not ruin altogether, the prospects of the colonists: I mean the tax of 2s which is imposed on every head of cattle imported into this colony. Were this impost levied on beef cattle alone it would be all well enough, but bona fide settlers who import live stock for the purpose of breeding should be by all means exempt.

Political as well as domestic economy requires that the rulers of a country should do all in their power to encourage by all possible means everything which tends in any way to increase the commonwealth. I am of opinion that nothing is better calculated to further this end than the raising and increasing of good stock. Instead of throwing in the way piousish foolish restrictions, we ought rather to award premiums, as they do in better administered countries, to parties engaged in the laudable task of stock raising. Were we to adopt such a wise policy and remove at once all the impediments which are now obstructing the way, the lapse of many years our farmers would be enabled to supply our markets with fresh meats at cheaper rates than those we have to pay now, and the large sums of money which go annually to enrich a foreign country for beef cattle, could be made available to develop our internal resources.

I am told by a farmer of Spanish that he is deterred from importing a herd of cattle on to his ranch owing to this heavy tax and other governmental restrictions. One of the obvious restrictions to which some of our farmers are at present subjected—those, for instance, who live at Comox or other rural districts with which there is no land communication, is the necessitating every vessel loaded with live stock to touch at Victoria. This entails useless expenditure on the parties who ship cattle at Olympia, Steilacoom, &c., for the island settlements. I am well aware that our finances are in such a dilapidated condition that it would not be a wise policy to do away, all at once, with the burdensome taxes under which our colonists are groaning. But there are some political measures gnawing at the vitals of the country which ought to be removed without delay, and there is none I conceive of more momentous importance than the one I speak of.

Another party I am informed, who owns a ranch at Comox and has mined unsuccessfully in Cariboo three or four years, worked all last season in the service of the Telegraph Co., and managed to save \$300; he would like to invest his little capital in cows but is deterred from doing so for the cause above stated, and speaks of selling out and leaving for more favorable shores. Owing to this unwise policy we lose another great source of revenue. The most part of our farmers, after having thrashed their oats and barley, throw away the straw, having no cattle to feed on it. At this moment the settlers in the Saanich districts are in the habit of putting up a water power grist mill, and I am told, or I am sure, if the mill is followed, ere long we shall have a number of grist mills for the island settlements. It is an undertaking which is not to be undertaken until the restrictions which have been placed on the developing of our agricultural resources and stock raising, are removed. B. D.

Our correspondent could not have read the cattle tax act very attentively, otherwise he would have been aware that young cattle for breeding purposes are admitted on the nominal payment of fifty cents. The \$4 a head on older cattle, although levied for the purpose of revenue, affords rather an inducement than otherwise to the raising of Island stock—just as the permits on potatoes and vegetables generally has caused the production on the Island of much larger quantities of produce than formerly.—Ed. Col.]

ENGLISH CAPITAL IN THE STATES.—It is reported that Sir Morton Peto and friends, while in this country, took a perpetual lease of the Morris and Essex Railroad in New Jersey, with the purpose in view of completing direct chain of railroads from this and the West, thus reducing the distance to St. Louis about 140 miles. The Morris road, when completed, will extend entirely across New Jersey, from Hoboken to the Delaware.—Cor. S. F. Paper.

A RACE AT SEA.—The new steamship Santiago, of the P.M.S. Company's line, and the opposition steamer Baltic, left New York simultaneously, and for five days kept side by side, creating considerable excitement on board of both vessels.

FROZEN.—In consequence of the quantity of ice either in the Willamette or Columbia rivers, or in both, navigation was temporarily impeded, and the last mail from Portland failed to reach Olympia before the Anderson left.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

DECLARED PURPOSE OF EMPEROR NAPOLEON. In relation to the position of the French in Mexico, we extract the following from the Missouri Democrat, of November 21st: "WASHINGTON, November 19th.—As much importance is attached to the statement of the Independence Belge that the evacuation of Mexico by the French troops may be looked upon as a thing decided on in principle, it will not be uninteresting to recur to the fact that about two years ago M. Drouyn de L'Huys said to Minister Dayton that the dangers of the government of Maximilian would come principally from the United States, and the sooner we showed ourselves satisfied and manifested a willingness to enter into peaceful relations with that Government, the sooner would France be ready to leave Mexico; and the new Government to take care of themselves, which France would in any event do as soon as it with propriety could, but it would not leave or tempt the Arohduke into difficulty and then desert him before his Government was settled. He added that France could not do that, and that she would rather see Mr. Dayton's reply to this narration of Mr. Dayton, instructed him to inform the French Government that in the opinion of the United States the permanent establishment of a foreign and Monarchical Government in Mexico would be found neither easy nor desirable. The United States, consistent only with their principles, can do no otherwise than leave the destinies of Mexico in the keeping of her own people, and recognize their sovereignty and independence in whatever form they themselves shall choose. That this sovereignty and independence shall be manifested."

It was previously declared by M. Drouyn de L'Huys that as to Mexico the purpose of the French Government was to give order to the condition of things there; to repay themselves for debts and expenses, etc., and then leave the country. The contract of the Convention concluded between France and Mexico regulates the conditions of the stay of the French troops in Mexico, for the purpose of establishing order, and consolidating the new empire, done in the Castle of Miramor, the tenth of April, 1864, provides that the French troops at present in Mexico shall be reduced as soon as possible to a corps of twenty-five thousand men, including the foreign legion. This corps, in order to safely guard the interests which led to the intervention, shall remain temporarily in Mexico on conditions—among them that the French troops shall evacuate Mexico in proportion as the Emperor of Mexico shall be able to organize the troops necessary to replace them. The foreign legion in the service of France, composed of 8000 men, shall nevertheless remain in Mexico six years after all the other French troops shall have been recalled. From that moment the legion shall pass into the service and pay of the Mexican Government, which reserves to itself the right of abridging the detention and employment of the foreign legion in Mexico.

It was further stipulated that the expenses of the French expedition to Mexico was to be paid by the Mexican Government, at the sum of \$270,000,000, for the whole duration of the expedition down to the 1st of July, 1864, the sum to bear interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum from the 1st of July. All the expenses of the Mexican army shall be at the charge of Mexico. The above is given merely to show what was the originally declared purpose of Napoleon in establishing a monarchy in Mexico, and the conditions in fact, upon which he furnished material and assistance.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES. Where the Limited Liabilities Act Requires Amendment. To the EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST, Sir.—It must be apparent to the most casual observer how injurious is the working of the Joint Stock Companies Act in this colony in preventing the formation of companies to prosecute any discovery or to carry out any enterprise. Under the present system registration fees are charged on the principle of a sliding scale, instead of being fixed and uniform, merely sufficient to pay for the trouble of registration. It often happens that not a tithe of the nominal stock required to be called in carrying out an undertaking, and it certainly seems to me that the system as it exists at present, has an undoubted tendency to prevent capital from being employed in developing the resources of the colony. Suppose a good coal seam were discovered by a poor man (and such mines have been discovered lately on the north coast) and it is necessary to form a joint stock company to work it, and provided the nominal capital was placed at \$100,000—although it may not take a quarter of that amount to open it, yet before this company with its nominal capital can be organized the poor man has to fork over to the Attorney General the sum of \$800 as a registration fee. Can there be any thing in the colony more calculated to suppress the circulation of capital in public enterprises than the exaction of so large a sum for registration? no revenue should in my opinion be derived from such a source. A uniform fee sufficient to cover the trouble and time of registration, say \$10 is all that should be required by the company big or little, for by doing anything else the colony will kill the goose that may lay the golden egg. J. B.

LIFE OF LINCOLN.—We are glad to learn that the Rev. Mr. Bellknap has met with great success in canvassing for subscribers to the biography of the late President of the United States. The author, Hon. H. J. Raymond, who has edited the New York Times for upwards of fifteen years, and who was characterized by Lincoln as his "Lieutenant General" in politics, enjoyed unusual opportunities of collecting authentic data for such a work. It will be a valuable contribution to contemporary history, and will doubtless be perused with great interest by all classes of readers.

UNRIGHTEOUS GAIN HAS DESTROYED MILLIONS, but has never made one man prosperous and happy.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

The steamer Sacramento brought no later news from Chile than that Peru. The new Government is now organized so far as the more important members of the administration are concerned, such as Ministers, Prefects of the Departments, and the higher judiciary officials. The Cabinet now consists of Francisco J. Mariategui, Premier and Interior; J. M. La Puenta, Foreign Relations; Colonel J. Balta, War; T. Vivanco, Treasury; J. L. Quiñones, Justice. It seems that the temporary President Canseco, has made up his mind to change the personnel of the late administration.

From private sources the Panama Star learns that the Spanish Minister had requested General Canseco to state his intentions in regard to the treaties lately concluded between Peru and Spain; that Canseco had stated his intention not to ratify them; that in consequence thereof the Spanish Minister had embarked on board the iron clad Numancia; and that this vessel had steam up when the Peruvian Lima and Callao papers, with dates to the 20th, say not a word about this, and by good authority we are informed that the above statement is not correct. A ratification of the treaty could not be demanded from Canseco, as it had been ratified already; and no communication on the subject had been made by the new President. The Spanish Minister, Mr. Arbizu, furthermore, had been on board the Numancia for some time previous, ever since the discovery of a conspiracy of some Chileans to assassinate him in Lima.

The real touchstone of Sr. Canseco's personal character and political ability is the Spanish question. Not only will the popularity of his cause suffer immensely, if he does not assist Chile in her struggle with Spain, but his coldness may even cause Gamio, who is independent master of Arica, to rebel against Canseco, for the cause of Chile, of which he is a most ardent champion. But what is of still more importance to judge the new Government by, and to calculate their chances of remaining in power, is the position they will take in regard to the treaties between Peru and Spain. Canseco, it is said on good authority, is willing to recognise as valid all negotiations concluded before the month of May. But if such is the case his war-cry at raising the banner of rebellion was a lie, and his accusation of Pezet a calumny. If, on the other hand, he overthrows the solemn treaties and agreements between Peru and Spain, the latter will have the most just cause in the world for waging war once more.

BOLIVIA. The fighting between Melgarejo and Arguedas is still continuing with varying results. At last accounts Arguedas' star was slightly in the ascendant. He had sent down from La Paz some troops to occupy the province of Atacama. These took Cobija by storm on the 7th, killing the commander of the place. The friends of Arguedas were in hopes that from Atacama they might send reinforcements of men, arms and ammunition to the other forces of Arguedas in the South, where Melgarejo with 1500 men, was occupying Potosi.

NEW GRENADA. Attempts to overthrow the governments of several of the interior States have been quelled, or are in a fair way to be suppressed. A disease, similar in type to the much dreaded cholera, has made its appearance at Baassterre, and over twenty-five deaths within three or four days have taken place from the disease.

AMONGST THE ARRIVALS FROM ENGLAND by the Tyne we notice the name of Col. St. John Neal, recently appointed Charge d'Affaires of Her Britannic Majesty at Quito vice Geo. Fagan, Esq.

THE LEECH RIVER DITCH. We have been desired by Mr. Fisher Joyce, Foreman of the Ditch Company's working party; to correct a misapprehension which may have arisen through the statement forwarded to us for publication by a Leech River correspondent. The miners have not struck, but were still continuing with the work, and have already completed 1,500 feet of the ditch. About 2,000 feet have been graded. We have not hitherto noticed the able report upon this undertaking presented to the promoters by Mr. Robert Homfray, C. E., and a synopsis of that gentleman's views in regard to it may not prove uninteresting to many of our readers. After describing the route of the ditch, as adapted to engineering purposes, he thus sums up the indications of wealth in the locality: "The distance from the dam to the cabin is under two miles, and it was supposed by the miners to be impossible to get the water so high without going five miles up the river. Having made an extensive examination joined to reliable information from the miners in this district, and having been personally engaged in placer diggings five or six years, I am fully satisfied of the extent and probable richness of the gravel ranges; especially when occurring in a slate range, being similar in appearance to those in California which proved so rich, and the only reason that they have not been fully tested is there is no water to enable them to do so. One company has put down several shafts from forty to fifty feet deep, without being able to reach the channel. They are now about running a tunnel into the bench, having got several prospects of coarse lump gold below in the river, and should they strike rich pay dirt it will also be found in all the benches on both sides the river. Along the top of these benches are several large quartz veins with gold in them. And not only on Leech River, but also on Sooke River and Wolfe Creek, these gravel ranges occur sufficient in extent to give employment to a large number of miners, as soon as the fact of their richness shall have been established."

CONTRACT.—Messrs. Hutchinson & Co have obtained the contract for supplying the Light-houses and the Colonial Government with beef, vegetables, &c. The contract prices for the latter are ten and four cents per pound.

Advertisement for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, including text about various ailments like indigestion, nervousness, and general weakness, and a list of agents for the product.

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The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, January 2, 1866.

THE NEWS.

Our telegraphic dates from the Eastern States are up to the 19th inst. There is nothing of very great importance. President Johnson has addressed a letter to the Senate on the condition of the country, maintaining that the state of affairs is much more satisfactory than circumstances led him to warrant. Systems were developing themselves gradually, he said, which would give to the freedmen every protection. A report from General Grant was enclosed in the President's communication, which took a little less sanguine view of matters, but still considered that order and liberty would gradually be restored. The hero of Richmond had been sent through various parts of the South on a tour of inspection. He did not believe it advisable to withdraw the military from the South until "labor had returned to its proper channel and civil authority was fully established"—which means that the process of reconstruction will have to depend on something more potent than clemency and good intentions. The President's letter was rather roughly received by Sumner, who is one of the foremost of the radical party in the Senate. An important measure, being nothing more nor less than another constitutional amendment, was introduced in the House by Mr. Jenks, of Rhode Island, to the effect that in all elections for President, Vice-President, and members of the House of Representatives, male colored citizens of 21 years of age, who can read and write, and who shall have resided one year in the State and six months in the electoral district, shall be entitled to vote. The amendment will most likely pass; for it is a compromise between the views held by the radical republicans and the extreme democrats. Mr. Colfax, we see by a recent speech, holds similar views to Mr. Jenks, and considers that the work of reconstruction must go gradually on, not precipitately. The emancipated blacks must be secured and protected "in their rights of person and property, and these free men must have the right to sue in courts of justice for all just claims, and to testify also, so as to have security against outrage and wrong." It is evident, from the tone of the members so far, that President Johnson's scheme will be considerably amended, and that the Southern States will not be represented in Congress until the fullest guarantees shall have been given that the emancipated slaves will not only have every protection but every justice. The full details of the Jamaica insurrection are now before us, but the origin, although more clearly given than before, is still in considerable mystery. It appears that the cause of the outbreak, so far as can be gleaned, was the non-attention of the Colonial as well as the Imperial authorities to certain supposed or real grievances of the poorer class of the population of Jamaica. A Dr. Underhill, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, became the advocate of the parties wronged, or supposed to be wronged, and letters were forwarded by him to Mr. Cardwell denouncing the action of the Colonial authorities; Mr. Cardwell referred these complaints back again to the Governor, and here the matter rested until a disturbance took place one day before the Court-house at Morant Bay, while the Petty Sessions were going on. One man was arrested, but immediately rescued; and from this moment the spirit of insurrection increased, until at length it had spread over several districts, horrifying the peaceable inhabitants everywhere. The atrocities we have already heard of, and the suppression of the revolt with the execution of the two to four thousand rebels has also been mentioned in our previous telegrams; but the true origin of the outbreak, with all its particulars, we shall not know until the matter is fully inquired into in England—which we see by recent telegrams is about to be done. That there has been some characteristic colonial mismanagement is more than probable, and that there has been some fearful straining of the punishing power in hanging from two to four thousand men looks almost beyond a doubt; we hope, therefore, that the fiendish atrocities perpetrated by the insurgents will not blind the eyes of the Imperial authorities to the stern justice which should be meted out to all alike—to the Governor as well as to the rebel.

WISE LIBERALITY.—Mr. Spring of Port San Juan, took a lot of presents up from U. S. Consul Francis to the Morichat Indians, consisting of molasses, pipes, tobacco, &c., as a reward for their services in rescuing the crew of the ship Tonawanda about a year ago. The Indians expressed themselves very thankful to Mr. Francis, and assured the captain of the Surprise that if any American vessel should be wrecked up there again they should take better care of them, and not make them cut wood and draw water; in fact, not make slaves of them, as they had done formerly.

FROM PANAMA.—Our exchanges of the Star and Herald are to the 30th, but they contain nothing new from Chile. Other items of news have been anticipated by California papers.

SHIPWRECK ON THE WEST COAST. ALL HANDS SAVED.

The schooner Surprise, Captain Francis, arrived from the West Coast last night, bringing the officers and crew of the American ship William Tell, of Boston, which was totally lost on Saturday morning last about three miles west of Port San Juan. On the morning of the 26th Mr. Spring, who resides at Port San Juan, noticed portions of a wreck on the beach, and on looking towards the mouth of the harbor he saw a smoke rising over the rocks. He at once manned a large canoe with Indians and proceeded to the spot, where he saw five men crawling about over the rocks. He picked them up, and found they belonged to the wrecked vessel, and on hearing that more of the crew were near by he despatched other canoes for them and speedily conveyed them to his house where they were comfortably cared for. From Captain Jones, of the wrecked vessel, we learn that the ship William Tell sailed from Cardiff to Simon's Town, Cape of Good Hope, on February 8th, with coals for the British Government, off Pernambuco about the middle of March, the captain, French, was murdered by one of the crew while lying in his hammock; the second mate was dangerously wounded at the same time, but eventually recovered. His ship put in to Pernambuco and communicated with the American Consul, who took out the suspected parties and put Captain Jones in charge. The William Tell then sailed on May 8th for Simon's Town, where she arrived June 22d. After discharging cargo she sailed August 15th for Puget Sound; nothing of importance occurred on the passage. On December 13th land was made to westward of Nootka Sound; on the 16th entered the Straits; on the 19th, Dungeness Light-house east-nor-east, distant about six miles; at 3 p.m., 20th, it fell calm with light snow; at 5 p.m. commenced blowing fresh from north-east, thick and snowing, the tide being ebb; when the weather cleared the ship drifted to westward of Race Rocks Light; tried to anchor in Freshwater Bay, but wind blowing fresh from the eastward could not fetch it; beat about in the Straits till Friday afternoon, when it began to blow very strong from east-south-east, weather being thick and rainy; at 6 a.m. on Saturday morning the ship suddenly struck on a reef of rocks, about three miles to the westward of Port San Juan, it being about low water at the time. The shore was about 100 fathoms off, and every exertion was made to get a line on shore, which was at last managed by one of the crew. A chain was then attached to the line, and the crew, twenty-two all told, including the stewardess of the ship, were safely landed. Before leaving the ship the mainmast was cut away to enable the crew to get on to the reef, but it broke short off and was of no service. The last man to leave the ship was Mr. Bolles, the first mate, who came off about 12 o'clock. By this time a tremendous sea had got up, and at 1 o'clock the ship broke up into ten thousand pieces. Not a thing was saved by the crew except the clothes they stood in,—nothing papers, register, chronometer, nor anything to say that the good ship William Tell ever existed. A small quantity of provisions were picked up, on which the crew subsisted till they were rescued. On Monday morning five of the crew left the reef and started to look for assistance. On Tuesday the rest of the crew, under the captain and officers, set out to look for the settlement at the head of San Juan harbor laid down on the chart, when they were picked up by Mr. Spring as before described. Captain Jones desires us to say that he cannot express the gratitude they all feel towards Mr. Spring for the kindness heaped upon them. Everything that could possibly be done for their comfort was at once attended to.

The William Tell was a ship of 1500 tons, and was almost a new vessel, having been rebuilt in 1862. She was owned by N. Y. French, Walpole, Mass., and was worth about \$40,000. She was in ballast, and had orders for spars for the French Government.

MR. DUNCAN'S VICTIMS.—We have never heard a louder or more general expression of indignation than was uttered yesterday after perusing the published account of Mr. Justice Duncan's recent magisterial burlesque on the North-west coast, and the feeling appears to have been shared by the officers and crew of the ship that was made instrumental in carrying out the farce, if we may judge from the fact that the Band of H.M.S. Olio, after the Dugberrian Court on the alleged whiskey sellers was adjourned, struck up the well-known air of "John Brown's body," in which the crew joined, the only being who was to be suspended to the stout apple tree, and on his taking his departure from the vessel changing the tune to the "Rogue's March." We have received a full account of the proceedings from one of the victims which we shall publish in our next, in the meantime we may state that merchants and others in this city are taking the matter up warmly, and will furnish the convicted men with funds and counsel to conduct their appeal.

FINE GOLD.—The Bank of British Columbia received by the Enterprise on Thursday evening from the New Westminster Assay office a beautiful bar of gold valued at nearly \$7,000, and melted from Big Bend dust, which is pronounced to be 911 fine, about 40 finer than Cariboo gold.

WILLAMETTE THEATRE.—Mrs. Fanny Morgan Phelps, A. R. Phelps, Mrs. McDonald and others of Mr. Ward's company, were playing to good houses in Portland.

LOADING IN ENGLAND.—The Mobawk Capt Davies, was loading at latest dates at London; and the Duke of Rothsay and Eastern Chief, Captain Fraser, at Liverpool.

CONFEDERATION.—Newfoundland has at length gone in favor of the great Confederation scheme.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

EMBEZZLEMENT.—Donald Mathieson, arrested by a witness, was charged at the Police Court yesterday with unlawfully embezzling the sum of \$77 and upwards, the property of C.B. Young. The information of C. B. Young stated that he was chairman of the Sansum Mining Company, and that he had employed the accused to receive and collect several sums due to the Company, and that the accused had received a cheque from Messrs. Drake & Jackson, for \$77, which he had cashed at the Bank, and had never accounted for. Mr. Young produced the cheque. Mr. Bishop and Mr. Courtney appeared for the defence. Mr. Bishop said his client wanted time to refute the charge brought against him, and that the books of the Company should be produced. His client had received instructions from the Directors of the Company as to how to apply the moneys he had collected, and he would ask for a remand for one day, as his client had been arrested on a warrant without any intimation of such a charge being brought against him. Mr. Pemberton said that as there was no charge of embezzlement, he should remain in custody until Tuesday next, Monday being a holiday.

ARRIVAL OF THE ACTIVE.—This steamer put in a welcome appearance yesterday at noon, bringing 23 passengers and freight as per list elsewhere. She was detained for four days in Baker's Bay from stress of weather, and went over the bar in company with the Pacific through a boiling surf, though the water was deep. The Active experienced some difficulty in getting through the ice in the Willamette. The Oregonian thus alludes to it:—The steamer Active, which sails this morning at 7 o'clock from Victoria, was yesterday prepared for cutting her way through the ice to Astoria, by a very simple process, being that of riveting two large sheets of iron together at one end, fitting the stem of the bow at water-line, and projecting about four inches in a sharp point. The sheets hang loosely on each side and spring as the occasion may require. The engineer of the Active, Mr. Bulger, who has been in these waters before in winter, had the above constructed according to his own plan, and if it works as well as is expected, will be worth patterning after, being cheap and readily constructed.

A SERIOUS ACCIDENT occurred yesterday, to two men in the chain-gang employed at the Governor's residence. It appears that in blasting out rock, a blast was put in last night, which did not fire, owing to some fault in the fuse, and Martin, a white man, and Layzar, an Indian, were employed in drilling out the charge, when, through the charge not being kept sufficient, the work with rock, and severely bruising Layzar; Martin received a blow on the forehead. Both were taken to the hospital, and attended by Dr. ...

ARRIVAL OF TREASURES.—The Bank of British Columbia received \$25,000 in treasure by the Active.

TREASURE SHIPMENT.—The Bank of British Columbia will ship per Active \$32,000.

Monday, Jan. 1.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.—The Sheriff gives notice that qualified voters for the different electoral districts whose names are not in the list of voters, or voters whose qualifications are different from those for which they appear on such list, are required to deliver at his office, on or before the 14th inst., the usual claim in writing, and, on payment of the dollar fee, their names will be duly recorded.

HOLIDAY.—To-day, being the first of the new born year of 1866, will be observed as a general holiday by all classes of the community, and according to a good old fashioned custom, much observed on this coast, friendly visits will be exchanged.

A FIRE occurred on Saturday in a Chinaman's restaurant on Johnson street; it was speedily extinguished by Willis Boud and another person who happened to be near at the time.

COAL.—The schooner Indian Maid arrived yesterday from Nanaimo with sixty tons of coal to R. B. Brick.

FOR MEXICO.—The bark Metropolis, Capt. Howard, left yesterday morning for Mazatlan.

FROM NANAIMO.—The steamer Diana arrived from Northern ports on Saturday.

H. M. S. Olio returned on Sunday morning from Nanaimo.

THE steamer Active left for Portland yesterday morning at 8 o'clock.

POSTAL CHANGES.—The Postmaster-General has issued to-day, November 8th, a notice of an alteration in the postal charges, and upon the principle that we ought to be thankful for small mercies, I gladly send you the particulars. Letters to your colonies, via St. Thomas and Panama will in future be charged 1s 6d per half-ounce, 3s per ounce, &c. Naval officers' letters will be charged 9d per half-ounce, via New York, and 1s 6d per half-ounce, via London and Cor. Post.

The Yelverton morris case is likely to come before the public again on the meeting of Parliament—an appeal to the House of Lords having been duly lodged on behalf of Mrs. Yelverton against the late judgment of the majority of the Court of Sessions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The cholera is dying out on the Continent. Little is said of it in the Paris journals, to be sure, but it is clearly abating. We hear of a few cases here and there in England, but nothing to create alarm. Southampton, where the pestilence first manifested itself, seems to be now free of it. Two well authenticated cases have occurred in Barnsley. In one case the patient recovered. The patient was a man of regular and temperate habits, though it is said the district he lived in was ill provided with sewage.

It seems to be conceded now that the French army in Mexico will be withdrawn by instalments, and that by August or September next year the whole will have returned to France. This resolution is said to be adopted, not only from a desire to afford no reasonable ground of complaint to the United States, but also on economical grounds. The Austrian Gazette denies that any convention has been made with Mexico in virtue of which Austria has engaged herself to furnish 2,000 men yearly to Maximilian.

The news of the insurrection in Jamaica somewhat startled the Government, who ordered immediate naval and military reinforcements.

It is rumored in Paris that Sir Henry Bulwer intends to reside permanently in Constantinople, and that he is a convert to Mahometanism, and thinks of taking office under the Sultan.

The Brothers Davenport performed before the Emperor and Empress at St. Cloud, on the 25th. On the following day Robert Hoodin, their scientific rival, was likewise summoned to the palace. He initiated the court into the mysterious manoeuvres of his predecessor with such perfect success that both their Imperial Majesties, it is said, thanked him for having with so much adroitness unveiled this piece of charlatanism.

The discussion about Calcraft, the public hangman, who, it was said, had two sons in the Indian civil service, has been settled. It now turns out that Calcraft's two sons have both been employed in this country for some years, one as a cooper and the other as a laborer in a vinegar manufactory. They are both married men, with young children.

A Brighton correspondent states that at the storm last week thousands of people went down to the beach to witness a vessel in distress, and the number of cabs and carriages conveying the nobility and gentry to the sight was as numerous as on a race day.

The Garden of Acclimatization, Paris, has just received a hen ostrich fifteen months old, bred at Grenoble, and four chickens hatched in Algeria. The ostriches in domestic life are quite farmyard birds; they lay, sit, and bring up their young like ordinary fowls.

A few days since a seal entered the house of John Henan, of Ballykiler, much to the astonishment of the inmates, who, however, succeeded in capturing the animal, which measured eight feet in length and four feet in girth at the broadest part.

Lord Dudley has made a concession of some importance to his tenantry in Worcester-shire. He has intimated to them that they are at liberty to kill the game on their farms. They are not, however, to sell the game which they may bag.

NOTICE.

Real Estate Assessment.
ALL PERSONS, OWNERS OF REAL ESTATE in any Electoral District, are requested to make a statement in writing, according to the Form A, hereto annexed, of what Real Estate they hold, and where situated; to describe such Real Estate, giving the admeasurements thereof; and to deliver such statement at the Office of the Assessor of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies on or before the first day of February next.
CHARLES G. WILLY, Assessor.
Victoria, V. I., January 1st, 1866.

SCHEDULE A.

Owner's Name	Place of Residence	Description of Property and where situated.	No. of Block or Section	No. of Lot	Admeasurements
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The Annual Registration of Voters' Act, 1860.

HEREBY GIVE NOTICE THAT ALL persons entitled to vote for the Election of Members to serve in the House of Assembly, in electoral districts of property or other qualification within the Electoral Districts of:
City of Victoria,
Victoria County,
Esquimalt and Metchosin County,
Lake,
Sanibel,
Salter's Bay, including the Settlement of Chemainus,
Nanaimo,
ooke,
Whose names are not in the list of Voters now in force for such District or whose qualifications are different from those for which they appear on such list, are hereby required to deliver or transmit to the Sheriff's Office, Victoria, on or before the Fourteenth day of January, A.D. 1866, a claim in writing containing their Christian name and surname at full length, their place of abode, the nature of their qualification, the name of the street, town, or other like place, wherein the property in respect of which they claim to vote is situated; and each of such persons must at the same time pay to me the sum of four shillings and two pence, and all such persons omitting so to deliver or transmit their claim, or make such payment will be excluded from the list of Voters for said Electoral District.
W. M. B. NAYLOR, Sheriff of Vancouver Island.
Sheriff's Office, Victoria, 30th December, 1865.

The Most Popular Book

PIANOFORTE INSTRUCTION,
—IS—
Richardson's New Method.
Having a regular sale of Twenty-five Thousand Copies a Year it is superior in excellence to all other methods. NEEDS for the acquisition of a thorough knowledge of Pianoforte playing, it is adapted to ALL GRADES OF PUPILS, from the Rudimentary Studies of the Youngest, to the Studies and Exercises of Advanced Pupils. Two Editions are published, one adopting American, the other Foreign Fingering. When the work is ordered, if no preference is designated, the edition with American Fingering will be sent.
Be sure that in ordering it you are particular in specifying the "New Method." Price \$2 75, Mail, post-paid.

OLIVER, DITSON & Co., PUBLISHERS,
277 Washington Street, Boston.
FOR SALE AT HIBBEN & CARSWELL'S and WILLY'S Book-tore. se21

REMOVAL.

CLOTHES CLEANING AND RENOVATING!
A. BULER
HAS REMOVED HIS STORE FOR Clothes Cleaning and Renovating, to the building next to the Enterprise' Saloon on Government street, and nearly opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel. de13

Engines, Boilers, &c.,
Complete, for a Stern-wheel Boat, 16 feet beam by 80 to 90 feet long,
FOR SALE VERY CHEAP.
ALSO,
Stationary Engines and Boilers of all kinds and sizes.
E. T. STEEN, NOVELTY IRON WORKS, 11011 Cor. Mission and Fremont streets, San Francisco.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING leased the premises lately occupied by the late Messrs. Thomas Patrick & Co., Corner of Government and Johnson streets, **WILL RE-OPEN** The above establishment **On Saturday, the 30th instant,** And hopes by the usual attention to business, will merit the liberal patronage which has usually been bestowed.
JAMES R. ROBERTSON, Late Manager of the late Thomas Patrick & Co. de27

MONS. B. DEFFIS, GRADUATE of the

Academy of Paris, Professor of Languages has opened Classes in French and Spanish. Mons. Deffis has had a good deal of experience in teaching; his mode of tuition being easy and effective, will be found to give satisfaction. Having lived in various parts of Mexico, including the Metropolis, Mazatlan, &c., and being in a speciality a Professor of the Spanish Language, he is enabled to instruct in a very short time persons intending to proceed to Mexico, in the Spanish Language, by which they will be enabled to speak it fluently. Address—Langley street, next door to the Courthouse Office. Victoria, V. I., December 5, 1865. de6

TOYS! TOYS!!

S. ZINN

TAKES PLEASURE IN INFORMING the inhabitants of Victoria, British Columbia and Washington Territory, that he has just received direct from Europe, a very large assortment of **Toys & Fancy Goods,** Consisting of **OVER 2,000** WAX, PATENT CHINA, DOLLS AND HEAD SEWING MACHINES!
From \$4 50 to \$5 00.

Violins, Guitars, Hobby Horses, Chair and Cradle Horses, Carriages, Fancy Work Boxes, Candy Boxes—a very large assortment; Portfolios, Ladies' Companions, China Vases and Fancy Ornaments, patent Negro Dancers, and a large assortment of Cosmoramas, with views of all the principal Cities in Europe; also Accordions, Parlor and Ice Skates and Sleighs, and a great variety of other goods, too numerous to mention; all of which will be sold at **Greatly Reduced Prices.**

Note the address, **S. ZINN, GOVERNMENT STREET** (Opposite Trousse Alley.) de6

REMOVAL.

RANDALL CÆSAR, HAS REMOVED HIS **Hair Dressing Saloon AND BARBER SHOP,** From Government to Yates street, Next door to Hibben & Carswell's, where he will serve his numerous customers in the most scientific and finished style. Call and inspect his new and comfortable Establishment. de 3

TELEGRAPHIC

Address of the President.
The following message from the Senate of the United States I have the honor to state that the lion waged by a portion of the against the properly constituted ties of the Government of the States, has been suppressed, an United States is in possession of State in which insurrection existed that so far as could be done, the the United States had been re- Postoffice re-established, and steps to put into effective operation the laws of the country. As the result measures instituted by the Executive with a view to inducing the resumption of the functions of States, comprehensive the inquiry of the Senate, the pe North Carolina, South Carolina, G Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, sas and Tennessee, have recognis their respective State Governmen yielding obedience to the law Government of the United State more willingness and greater prom than under the circumstances, reasonably be anticipated. The proposed amendment to the constitution providing for the abolition of forever, within the limits of the by each one of the States except sippi, from which no official info has been received. In nearly all of measures have been taken and a (or are now pending) to confer freedmen the privileges which ar trial to their comfort, protectio security. In Florida and Texas the peo making commendable progress Governments. No doubt is ent but that they will at an early perio a condition to renew all practical with the Federal Government. In that portion of the Union rebellion, the aspect of affairs promising than in view of all the stances could well be expected true that in some States the deus effects of the war are to be se casual disorders, but these are character and rapidly disappear the authority of the civil power is ed and sustained, perplexing q were naturally to be expected great and sudden change in between the races, but sysca gradually developing themselv which the freedman will receive the to which he is justly entit by means of his labor will mak a useful and independent mem commonwealth in which he has The people throughout the ent evidence a lawful desire to renew t deviance to the Government, and r devastation of the war by a pe cheerful return to peaceful pursu abiding faith is entertained t actions will conform to their pr and that in acknowledging the st of the Constitution and laws of the States their loyalty will be un given to the government, whose they cannot fail to appreciate, a fostering care will soon restore t condition of prosperity. From all information in my p and from that which was recent from reliable authorities, I am i cherish the belief that personal is surely and rapidly merging i a spirit of nationality, and that tation connected with a proper system of taxation, will be the ions restoration of the relati States to the National Union. of Carl Schurz is herewith tran requested by the Senate. No r Hon John Covode has been re the President. The attention of the Senate to the accompanying report, Gen Grant, who recently made inspection through several Sta the inhabitants participated in ion. (Signed) ANDREW J. Sumner said the message of Johnson was like the white-wa sage of Brigadier-General Pierce Johnson denied that there w statement of the facts. Sum an intention of charging the with falsehood, but said there question before the House, wh the remark and statement ab washing. He referred only to ment which was read, and policy of the President. He de he had ever in public or in p rioned the honesty and patriot President. The South to be Garrison Gen. Grant in the report ac ing the President's message s satisfied that the mass of the men of the South accept the p which in good faith. The which hitherto divided the peo two sections, slavery and state the right of a State to secede Union, they regard as settled f the highest tribunal of arms; th

THE ESTIMATES.

We drew in a very cursory manner in our yesterday's issue a comparison between the public expenditure of 1864 and the proposed outlay of 1866. We showed that while the official expenses in the former year, when the population was much larger than it is at present, were \$37,000; the amount put down for the ensuing year is \$93,000—or \$36,000 additional. In order that our readers may have a more comprehensive view of the past in relation with the present, we shall make a further comparison and introduce the year 1863. During that year the population was still larger than during 1864, and money a great deal more plentiful than it has been since. It was, in fact, on the heels of the mining successes of 1862 that the estimates of 1863 were introduced; yet with a glowing future and high hopes, with trade brisk, money plentiful, and a population willing to pay any reasonable demand upon them, what do we find? Why, that the sum total expended was \$157,000. Out of this there was \$50,600 for roads, &c., and \$7,700 for works and buildings—making over \$58,000 expended on public works. Now let us contrast the present with the past. Our population is much smaller, trade is dull, money is scarce and disasters have been widespread. Reason would therefore point out to us a sweeping reduction in the expenses of Government. Reason, however, and the administration of our public affairs have evidently long since been divorced, if indeed they were ever united, and we have, instead of a reduction, an immense increase. The police and other departments for public protection cost in 1863 \$33,870; to-day with two or three thousand less people we are asked to contribute for the same service \$56,000.

In 1863 the departments of the Treasurer, Auditor, Surveyor-General, Registrar General, Assessor, Harbourmaster and Postmaster, cost \$15,954; the present estimates for the same offices show the increased sum of \$37,109. In every other official department we have a similar addition. Now, we cannot undertake Governor Kennedy's perception to believe for a moment that he is unaware of this preposterous contrast, nor can we believe that he seriously entertains the idea that the country will carry out his financial programme. We have no means of course of knowing what little play is going on behind the scenes; but we think that no time could be worse chosen than the present for making game of the financial condition of the country. What we want is the greatest amount of work with the least possible expense. Instead of this however we have the very opposite proposition—the smallest amount of work at the greatest possible cost. We see this in every department. For roads, streets and bridges we have the sum of \$4050 to be expended; and for overseeing this great amount of public work, we give the Inspector of Roads \$1500. This is simply placing the gentleman who fills the office in the most uncomfortable position. The same remark, however, may be applied to nearly every other official; for the works of utility have been cut down to so insignificant a figure that the time of one-half the officials will be spent the ensuing year in no more profitable occupation than sucking their thumbs. The whole business of the country, as things go just now, could be well performed by less than one-half the staff. It is as well Governor Kennedy should be told this, whatever may be his ideas. He should know that no population after having spent \$58,000 on public works in 1863, \$140,000 in 1864, and \$108,000 in 1865, are going to content themselves with \$8000 in 1866. We must have public roads, we must have steam communication, and we must have schoolhouses and other public buildings. These are investments from which we may reasonably expect a profitable return. Let the Assembly, therefore, reverse the Executive's programme, and instead of providing work on unproductive employments in the Government buildings, see that the revenue of the country is spent on affording employment to the needy, in opening up the country to settlement, and in bringing us into more speedy and more regular connection with the outer world. This is really the great aim—the other schemes of Government are merely subsidiary ones, and should be inexpensive in the extreme. Our votes this year must be based, as we have said before, on the requirements of the country, as well as on the capacity of the people; and in carrying out this programme we shall have to crush our estimated expenditure into a very small compass, and repeal several of those acts which were passed last session for the purpose of revenue. It is no use to make retrenchment while we still leave the machinery in the hands of the Executive to grind an undue proportion of taxes out of the overburdened people.

The Hill Digging at Lesage—So much confidence is felt in the existence of good diggings in the hills at Leech River that the Mountain Rose Company have determined to run a tunnel into the hill from their claim.

FATAL ACCIDENT.
LOSS OF FIVE LIVES.

A gloom has been cast over the holiday week by the occurrence of one of those calamities which startle the community to a sense of the awful uncertainty of human life. It appears that on Christmas morning a Mr. Warner, well known in this city, and a brother in law of Mr. Davis, the light-house keeper, started with his wife and a man of the name of Linton, a tailor, in a whitehall boat for Race Rocks, intending to make a family party to commemorate the season. The boat was stocked with provisions, a portion of the usual supplies, which from some inadvertency had not been forwarded in due time. Upon passing Esquimaux, the sea being very rough, they pulled into the harbor and obtained the assistance of two men, Bill Saunders and Fred Simmons. They had nearly reached their destination when the boat was caught in a tide rip and capsized, precipitating the unfortunate occupants into the water. The loud cries for help immediately attracted attention at the light-house, and the residents were horror-struck at the scene they were doomed to witness without the power to render the slightest aid. Warner rose twice to the surface, throwing up his arms, with agonizing appeals to his relations on the rocks. The hopeless shrieks of the drowning resounded through the air, and yet there was no available means of rescue at hand to snatch the victims from a watery grave. At Race Rocks there human lives may be in peril at any hour of the day or night, complacent officialdom with an ostentatious affectation of retrenchment, decides there shall be no boat, not even a canoe, in the event of an emergency. Saunders in a fit of desperation clammers on the boat, now bottom upwards, and clings to it, to use the words of an eye-witness, "like a bear," and drifts seawards. For a few moments the waves float him within twenty yards of land, but alas, no rope can be thrown to him, and it transpires that the authorities have provided no life buoy as a provision against such a catastrophe. From a few minutes past one o'clock until half-past three the boat with its hapless freight remains in sight and then disappears. From all we can learn there would have been no loss of life if the keepers of the light-house had been granted a boat in response to their reiterated representations to the official authorities. The life-boat originally used was withdrawn by the Surveyor-General for some reason and never replaced. The fate of Saunders is uncertain, but scarcely any hope is entertained that he can survive. The ubiquitous Costello, better known by his alias, of course turned up, having by some magical foresight come to the conclusion that something wrong had happened. He went out in his boat and upon arriving at the light-house gleaned the details of the affair and returned to town with Mrs. Davis, who subsequently waited upon the Colonial Secretary with a report of the tragedy. It is only due to the public that some investigation should be instituted with reference to the gross negligence of those concerned in not providing for such a disastrous contingency.

STORM ON THE LAKES
Serious Disasters to Shipping.
Many Vessels Driven Ashore.

LOSS OF LIFE.
[From the Toronto Leader, Nov. 10th.]
A furious storm arose on Lake Ontario on Saturday night and continued with more or less violence throughout Sunday and Monday. The wind swept with great force over the waters, and was occasionally accompanied by blinding drifts of snow. Unfortunately there was a considerable number of vessels on the lakes when the storm arose, and as they were unable in time to make a secure harbor many disasters occurred amongst them. In one case, we regret to say, there was a melancholy loss of life. The effects of the gale in this port and vicinity are referred to in our marine intelligence.
On the upper lakes the storm was probably as severe as on Lake Ontario, but no account of the effects of it has yet come to hand.
We have received the following special telegrams from lake ports:
[From the Toronto Leader, Nov. 10th.]
"A violent storm raged here all yesterday and to-day, and has caused considerable damage to shipping. Many vessels were driven ashore along the coast, and it is feared that several lives have been lost. The sea runs very high, and until it becomes calmer it is impossible to render any assistance from the shore."
"The schooner Maude is ashore at Wellington, loaded with 15,000 bushels of peas."
"The Maggie, of Montreal, with a cargo of 8,000 bushels of barley from Wellington Square at Oswego, sprang a leak during the gale and went ashore at Gull Point. All hands were saved. The water washes completely over the deck of the vessel."
"The Morning Star, with lumber from Belleville, is ashore three miles west of Oswego."
[From Kingston, Nov. 6, 1865.]
"The schooner Phebe Catharine, with a cargo of salt from Oswego, is ashore at Wellington."
"A vessel, name unknown, is ashore below Point Pelee lighthouse, laden with wheat. She lay on the beach yesterday morning, but drifted off last night and sank in deep water."
"The schooner British Queen, which was ashore at Wellington, was towed into this port yesterday."
"The schooner Anna Maude, with a cargo of peas, is also ashore at Wellington, and is expected to be a total loss."
"A large American vessel, name unknown, totally dismantled her masts and bulwarks, has gone ashore at Salem Point, and all hands are supposed to have been lost. She had a white flag flying from a pole when the steamer Grecian passed yesterday."
"The schooner Maggie is ashore at Gull Point, loaded with barley."

DISLOYALTY IN CANADA.
A New York correspondent of the S. F. Alta, under date Nov. 17th, endeavors to foment the Fenian movement with the following piece of nonsense respecting the French Canadians, whose loyalty was put to the test during the Trent difficulty and not found wanting:

There are indications in certain recent movements in this State that the French Canadians are preparing themselves to lend the Fenians a helping hand when the time comes for striking the threatened blow at Johnny Bull through the Canadas. Two meetings of this class of residents among us were held last week at Elmira, at which speeches were made and resolutions adopted of a most inflammatory character. At one of these meetings Dr. Cadieux alluded in impassioned language to the insults and persecutions which his countrymen had long endured and were still enduring at the hands of the provincial Tories—insults and persecutions which had become more marked and violent since the French Canadians had shown their love of liberty by fighting by thousands under the flag of the American Union against the Southern rebels. He also denounced Mr. Cartier, the Canadian Premier, as a traitor and coward, who had joined hands with the Tories in persecuting his countrymen, and whose deepest sorrow seemed to be that he was not an Englishman. The doctor counsels his friends to watch the progress of events, and at the first rallying cry to give their support to their compatriots in the provinces struggling to break from their shackles. A similar spirit is breathed by sundry resolutions passed at this meeting, one of which bade their suffering compatriots in Canada to take courage, for there were tens of thousands of French Canadians in free America who stood ready to give them support—money, hands and hearts—whenever they wished it. "The hour of deliverance for Canada, like that of Ireland, will soon strike."

Just evening a Convention of French Canadian residents in this country was held at the St. Charles Hotel in this city. There was a large number present and the proceedings were of a highly exciting nature. Frederick Boucher, President of the Charitable Society of St. Jean Baptiste, was Chairman of the meeting. The proceedings were conducted in the French language, which seems to have given great offence to several English Canadians present, who frequently interrupted the meeting by demanding that the English language should be used. The Chairman explained that the call for the meeting had been published in French and that it was addressed exclusively to French Canadians, who had come there to express their opinions under the aegis of that flag (pointing to the stars and stripes) under which 11,000 of their compatriots had laid down their lives in the battle for the Union. This remark was received with tremendous applause by the French element, while it seemed only to exasperate the Englishmen, one of whom exclaimed that he would not disgrace himself by standing under the American flag. Much excitement followed this foolish remark, the upshot of it being that the Englishmen, finding the Frenchmen were not to be intimidated, left the meeting in a body.

The speeches at this meeting were similar in tone to those made at Syracuse and that of Mr. Perrault delivered recently in Canada, and also were the resolutions adopted. One of the resolutions strongly urged upon the Canadian residents in this city the duty of joining the Society of St. Jean Baptiste, which I suspect is something more than a mere benevolent institution—and suggested the formation of similar organizations in other cities. There were present at the meeting delegates from Albany, Elmira, Oswego, Newark, Philadelphia and other places.
It would seem from the tone of the two meetings at Elmira, as well as the present action between the French Canadian residents in this country, while the speech of Mr. Perrault in Canada, already alluded to, indicates that their compatriots at home are well aware of the fact, and are awaiting the march of events. These movements and these violent harangues mean revolution in Canada when opportunity offers, just as the movements of the Fenians mean revolution in Ireland, when the hour of England's tribulation has come. Verily John Bull is in a "perilous state"—in danger of being gored both front and rear—while under the modern application of the neutrality law, his loving American cousin, however desirous he might be to succor him in his hour of danger, could only stand by, with fettered hands, a silent spectator of his distress. A pretty sort of neutrality law, to be sure, but to such a complexion has it come through the latest interpretation of the English experts.

[Mr. Perrault has since contradicted this statement and given a different interpretation to his speech.—Ed.]

CANADA.
[From the Toronto Leader of Nov. 10.]

OTTAWA, November 6, 1865—A destructive fire occurred here last night. It broke out about 8 o'clock in a block of stores on Sussex street, and by the exertions of the firemen and others seemed to be extinguished shortly afterwards. About midnight, however, the flames again burst out and destroyed the remainder of the block, which was situated between Murray and St. Patrick street. Among the buildings destroyed was the Stage Hotel. The loss has not yet been ascertained.

The weather was exceedingly cold last night, and to-day it is snowing hard.
MONTREAL, Nov. 6, 1865—This morning the kidnappers of Mr. G. N. Sanders were brought before Judge Monk on a writ of habeas corpus.
Mr. Devlin spoke for an hour and a half for their admission to bail.
Mr. Ramsay for the Crown opposed, and the case was taken *en deliberata*. The judgment is looked for with some anxiety.
We have had a heavy snow storm, but the absence of all frost in the ground and the mild state of the atmosphere lead to belief that the present fall will soon melt away. This is much to be wished for. The bulk of the business done in the lumbering districts can only be carried on by the small rivers being full of water, and by heavy frosts before any serious fall of snow, so as to render the ice firm on not only the rivers but also on the swamps. Otherwise the water roads would be dangerous, and our lumbering operations rendered very precarious, especially as regards the getting out of heavy timber.

MONTREAL, Nov. 7, 1865.
We have had a pretty severe snow storm, but the weather is now mild and the snow is not likely to remain.
A grand promenade concert on behalf of the poor took place to-night in the Crystal Palace. The receipts were large.
Judge Monk will probably give his decision in the matter of taking bail for the Sanders' kidnappers on Thursday. The dilemma in which he is placed is singular and serious one. If he decides that the prisoners shall be bailed in the face of Judge Mondelet's order, the latter will have to sustain his authority and the dignity of his court by attaching the sheriff for contempt in releasing the prisoners, but the belief is that Judge Monk will not allow bail.
A special meeting of the City Council is called for Friday next to elect one out of the many candidates who have presented themselves for the vacant city treasurer'ship.
The ministers are all in town, and a cabinet meeting was held to-day. After a protracted session the Council adjourned till tomorrow. The deliberations had reference to three important points—first, a decision on Judge Coursol's case; second, the appointment of a collector of customs at Montreal; and third, the Fenian movement. No decision has yet been promulgated on any of these subjects.

WYOMING, 8th Nov.
There is great excitement at Petrolia in consequence of recent oil developments. The Hartford Star company struck a flowing well a few days since which yielded at the rate of thirty barrels per day. Yesterday the Ames well owned by Messrs. Patson Bros. and Thomas Lally of Toledo commenced flowing at the rate of fifty barrels per day. Other wells in the neighborhood now going down show splendid indications of success.

LEASED—Mr. James E. Robertson, well known as manager to the late firm of Thos. Patrick & Co., has leased the premises at the corner of Government and Johnson streets, and will re-open the establishment on Saturday next.

FROM THE NORTH.
CRUISE OF THE CLIO.

Capture of Whiskey Sellers and Murderers.
INDIAN RANCH DESTROYED.

From a passenger who arrived Thursday by the schooner Sweepstakes, having left Nanaimo on the 27th, and Comox on the 23d, we learn the following:
H.M.S. Clio reached Comox on Christmas morning from Metlakahla and Fort Rupert, having on board six white men charged with whiskey selling, among whom are Captain Knight and two men, one white man and an Indian belonging to the sloop Eagle taken at Claman City, in the Russian possessions, by one of the Clio boats, and brought to Metlakahla. Another schooner, the Nonpareil, having arrived at Fort Simpson at the same time, a boat was despatched to seize her, and she was also conveyed to the Missionary Station. The Clio then proceeded to Kitimat, below Fort Simpson, and arrested an Italian named Frank, trading there for Mr. Malowanski. They searched the premises but found no liquor. Sebastopol, the well-known prospector who was wintering at Fort Simpson was also taken. The whole of the parties were tried on board the Clio before Mr. Duncan, J.P., of Metlakahla. Captain Knight was fined £600 or six years' imprisonment. His mate and cook were fined £100 each or one year's imprisonment. Captain Stevens was ordered to pay £300 or to suffer eight years' imprisonment. His mate, Michael Costello, £200 or two years. These punishments, being awarded for previous offences alleged by Indians to have been committed nine months before. Frank was fined £600 or six years; also, on a previous offence proved by Indians, who were strangers to him. Sebastopol was fined £100 or £200 also upon Indian evidence. He entirely repudiated the charge, alleging that liquor had been supplied by some other person to his Kloochoom.
At Fort Rupert the Clio demanded the surrender of some culprits charged with Indian murder, which was declined; and a party was sent ashore to take them. The Indians said they would only give up three *cuties* Indians for two whitemen, and offered resistance. The party had no orders to fire and returned to the ship. Captain Tarrour gave the Indians two hours to consider, but they still refused, and a shell was fired over the village. The Indians only laughed and shouted, and orders were given to destroy the ranch, which was accordingly set on fire and every house burned. All the canoes except three were also destroyed. The Indians, who had decamped in the meantime, hoisted a flag of truce, and the principal chiefs with the murderers and several hundred gallons of liquor were given up to the man-of-war.

The Clio has on board as prisoners some of the cannibals who killed and ate the child of the *Providence*. The prisoners were sent yesterday to convey the white prisoners to New Westminster. We understand they have all appealed from Mr. Duncan's sentences.
The Clio will take on board 300 tons of coal, and then return to Esquimaux to provision before leaving for the coast of Chile. All was quiet at Comox.

THE NANAIMO MAILS—The *Gazette* of Monday last, in a sensible article on the necessity for better mail communication with that rising town, makes the following just remarks: "We have a duty to perform, both to ourselves and to the too patient public, and we should sadly fail in the performance thereof were we to pass unnoticed the (we had nearly said irregularly, but that word is *mal-a-propos*, seeing that it scarcely ever comes) shameful neglect in regard to the mails. We pen our papers of disappointment in anything but a gentle or generous mood, and think that both 'shameful' and 'disgraceful' are altogether too weak expressions for such postal neglect. But faulty as the foregoing adjectives are to express our indignation, we will refrain from applying the terms 'monstrous' or 'iniquitous' to the indifference manifested by those who have the power of correcting the abuse. Nearly three weeks have elapsed—an English mail lying two weeks of that time in Victoria—without the arrival of a mail bag in Nanaimo. The equanimity of Heaven itself would be disturbed by such tantalizing treatment. We have spoken of this matter time and again; but alas! as Nanaimo is ostracised in regard to communication, we have never heard whether our grumblings have gained for us even the minutest modicum of an effort at amendment—at all events no approach to regularity has yet been effected. How long are we to suffer such neglect? What period of probation will prove us a sufficiently commendable community to be again embraced in the body postal? We cannot conceive of any drawback more detrimental, disastrous, and damaging to the prosperity and progress of a people than to withhold from them the feasibility and facility of fostering commerce."

LEECH RIVER—We are informed upon reliable authority that gold has been discovered all along the ditch that is being cut. Wherever it has been prospected gold has been found in more or less quantities. It is stated that it is exceptional to take out a pan of dirt without decided indications of the auriferous metal.

THE REV. C. G. BELKNAP, from Washington Territory, has shown us a specimen copy of a new book about to be issued, entitled the Life and Public Services of Abraham Lincoln, by Hon. H. J. Raymond, collected from State Papers and other authentic papers. As far as we can judge from a hasty glance, it is compiled with scholarly care, but when it is complete we shall be better enabled to estimate the literary merits of the work.

THE COWICHAN TRAGEDY—The verdict returned by the jury, "by the figure of the body of Mr. Cooper, who was killed at Cowichan, was as follows: "The feeling prevalent among the that Caldwell acted purely in self-interest."

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Wednesday, Dec. 28.
THE COWICHAN TRAGEDY—A *Duff* Version of the Story—From gentlemen arrived yesterday from Cowichan we further particulars of the affray which occurred there last week, putting quite a phase on the affair. On Thursday after last Mr. Charles Caldwell and Mr. W. Cooper were shipping goods from the at Harris' place into a canoe when the carelessly threw a bag of flour into the craft and split it. High words ensued Cooper called Caldwell a liar and used abusive language, whereupon the latter knocked him down. Later in the evening parties were together in Harris' hotel renewed the dispute. While Caldwell's back turned Cooper seized a gun being to some strangers that was resting on the fire-place to dry and fired. The powder being damp the shot fortunately missed but had sufficient force to send Caldwell shot through Caldwell's clothes into his shoulder. Cooper cocked the second while the intention of firing again, Caldwell wrenched the gun from his hand and struck Cooper over the head with a butt end, breaking the stock by the and the hammer penetrated Cooper's head above the nose. He lived until Saturday night and doubts are entertained whether death did not result more from cerebral causes than the effects of the shot. Before his death Cooper admitted he fired the gun. A Coroner's inquest was held upon the body yesterday by Anderson, J.P., and Morley, J.P.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES—There seems to be no lack of enthusiasm in celebrating the season. On Christmas Eve the Vol Band turned out and serenaded His Excellency the Governor, Captain Lang Lieutenant Pearce, where they partook refreshments. Several private parties formed a number of glees, which were very pleasantly through their first rising slumbers from their first slumbering them of the approaching Christmas. The Chief Engineer of the Fire Dept. the ex-Mayor, and others were serene.

FROM PORT SOUND—The steamer Anderson, Capt. Finch, arrived yesterday 1 p.m. from Olympia and way port passengers and freight as per lists else. She visited Bellingham Bay after this port last week and experienced weather.

H.M.S. CLIO was expected from the before the departure of Admiral D and as no tidings whatever of her movements have been since received some uneasiness is felt concerning her. The supposition is that a succession of may have caused her to seek shelter where on the coast.

FOR NANAIMO—The Sir James I. Captain Clark, sails for Nanaimo tomorrow, at 6:30, to take in coal; from she proceeds to Burrard's Inlet to light-ship to the sandheads. She returns to Nanaimo, and on her voyage to Victoria calls at all the way ports.

POLICE COURT.
Jim, a Thompson river Indian, was on remand from the 8th, with as Jimmy, an Indian boy, with into him grievous bodily harm.
Jimmy, who has been in the Royal since the assault, appeared in Court weak state, evidently suffering from wounds received; his deposition, the Magistrate at the hospital, which stated that he had been drink George, the prisoner, and Charley, who was murdered, on the night of and had left the house on Johnson's George, and went to another house George left him, and the prisoner and cut him over the eyes head with a knife. Several other witnesses examined to prove that the shirt, covered with blood, belonged to the Indian, George, who is charged with the murder of Charley, except that oper was drunk, but the statement did not seem to be altogether truth. The prisoner was remanded for one testimony of the Chinaman to a prisoner took his shirt to be washed.

MASONIC—The following gentlemen elected officers of the Vancouver city: Messrs. N. J. Neustadt, M. W. Waitt, D.M.; J. W. Key, John Wright, S.W.; R. H. Adair, Thomas Lowe, Treasurer; H. F. H. Secretary; E. C. Holden, S.D.; J.D.; Rev. Thomas Somerville, Geo. Creighton, Tyler, Yester, St. John's Day, a ball took place in evening, which was attended by many leading citizens and their families, was maintained until a late or rather hour, with undiminished spirit. Arrangements reflected great credit committee of management.

THE COWICHAN TRAGEDY—The verdict returned by the jury, "by the figure of the body of Mr. Cooper, who was killed at Cowichan, was as follows: "The feeling prevalent among the that Caldwell acted purely in self-interest."

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The Weekly British Colonist.

Tuesday, January 2, 1866.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Wednesday, Dec. 27.

THE COWICHAN TRAGEDY—A Different Version of the Story.—From gentlemen who arrived yesterday from Cowichan we have further particulars of the affray which occurred there last week, putting quite another phase on the affair. On Thursday afternoon last Mr. Charles Caldwell and Mr. William Cooper were shipping goods from the wharf at Harris' place into a canoe when the latter carelessly threw a bag of flour into the frail craft and split it. High words ensued, and Cooper called Caldwell a liar and used other abusive language, whereupon the latter knocked him down. Later in the evening the parties were together in Harris' hotel and renewed the dispute. While Caldwell was in his back turned Cooper seized a gun belonging to some stranger that was resting near the fire-place to dry and fired. The powder being damp the shot fortunately hung fire, but had sufficient force to send some buck-shot through Caldwell's clothes into his left shoulder. Cooper cocked the second barrel with the intention of firing again, when Caldwell wrenched the gun from his hands and struck Cooper over the head with the butt end, breaking the stock by the blow, and the hammer penetrated Cooper's forehead above the nose. He lived until late on Saturday night and doubts are entertained whether death did not result more from natural causes than the effects of the blow. Before his death Cooper admitted having fired the gun. A Coroner's inquest was to be held upon the body yesterday by Messrs. Anderson, J.P., and Morley, J.P.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.—There seems to be no lack of enthusiasm in celebrating the season. On Christmas Eve the Volunteer Band turned out and serenaded His Excellency the Governor, Captain Lang, and Lieutenant Pearce, where they partook of refreshments. Several private parties performed a number of glee, which sounded very pleasantly through the midnight air, rousing slumberers from their first sleep, and reminding them of the approaching festival. The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, the ex-Mayor, and others were serenaded.

FROM PUGET SOUND.—The steamer Eliza Anderson, Capt. Finch, arrived yesterday at 1 p.m. from Olympia and way ports with passengers and freight as per lists elsewhere. She visited Bellingham Bay after leaving this port last week and experienced rough weather.

H.M.S. CLIO was expected from the North before the departure of Admiral Denman, and as no tidings whatever of her movements have been since received considerable uneasiness is felt concerning her. The presumption is that a succession of storms may have caused her to seek shelter somewhere on the coast.

FOR NANAIMO.—The Sir James Douglas, Captain Clark, sails for Nanaimo to-morrow morning, at 6:30, to take in coal; from thence she proceeds to Burrard's Inlet to tow the light-ship to the sandheads. She then returns to Nanaimo, and on her voyage back to Victoria calls at all the way ports.

Thursday, Dec. 28.

POLICE COURT.

Jim, a Thompson river Indian, was charged on remand from the 8th, with assaulting Jimmy, an Indian boy, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.

Jimmy, who has been in the Royal Hospital since the assault, appeared in Court in a very weak state, evidently suffering from the wounds received; his deposition, taken by the Magistrate at the hospital, was read, which stated that he had been drinking with George, the prisoner, and Charley, the Indian who was murdered, on the night of the 7th and had left the house on Johnson street with George, and went to another house where George left him, and the prisoner came in and cut him over the eyes head and neck with a knife. Several other witnesses were examined to prove that the shirt, pants, etc., covered with blood, belonged to the prisoner. The Indian, George, who is charged as an accomplice, gave a rambling statement of the night's transactions, but gave no motive for the murder of Charley, except that the prisoner was drunk, but the statement of George did not seem to be altogether truthful. The prisoner was remanded for one day for the testimony of the Chinaman to whom the prisoner took his shirt to be washed.

MASONIC.—The following gentlemen were elected officers of the Vancouver Lodge in this city: Messrs. N. J. Neustadt, R.W.M.; M. W. Waitt, D.M.; J. W. Keyser, S.M.; John Wright, S.W.; R. H. Adams, J.W.; Thomas Lowe, Treasurer; H. F. Heisterman, Secretary; E. C. Holden, S.D.; J. Hunt, J.D.; Rev. Thomas Somerville, Chaplain; Geo. Creighton, Tyler. Yesterday being St. John's Day, a ball took place in the evening, which was attended by many of our leading citizens and their families. Dancing was maintained until a late or rather early hour with undiminished spirit. The arrangements reflected great credit upon the committee of management.

THE COWICHAN TRAGEDY.—The verdict returned by the jury, at the inquest held on the body of Mr. Cooper, who was recently killed at Cowichan, was as follows: "Died from the effects of a blow, but how the blow was caused there is no evidence to show." The feeling prevalent among the settlers is that Caldwell acted purely in self-defence.

AMATEUR PUFFING.—A couple of bellicose individuals, with more valor than sober discretion, pummeled each other yesterday morning in Johnson street to the intense admiration of a crowd of idlers more intent upon sensational amusement than the preservation of public order.

GUN PRACTICE.—The gunboat Forward was out in the Straits yesterday exercising her men in gunnery. She leaves for Nanaimo to-day.

COAL.—The schooner Alpha arrived from Nanaimo on Tuesday with 70 tons of coal to R. Brodriek.

THE STEAMER ENTERPRISE left for New Westminster yesterday morning.

THE NARAMISSIC anchored inside the harbor yesterday.

H.M.S. CLIO has been heard from at Nanaimo.

Friday, Dec. 29.

THE T. LEE bound to San Francisco, was towed out of the harbor yesterday by the Otter, and will remain outside for two or three days to refit. She has on board 816 1/2 bbls gunpowder, shipped by Messrs. Lawrence, Clark & Joyce; and 150 tons of canal and blacksmith coal, shipped by R. Brodriek, and 140 tons of miscellaneous cargo, consisting of furs, iron, steel, cranberries, &c. The movements of the vessel were somewhat hastened owing to complaints lodged at the Harbor Master's office of the too close proximity of an uncomfortable quantity of explosive material.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—The bark Emily Banning, Captain Wells, arrived in the harbor yesterday afternoon, having sailed from San Francisco on the 19th and reached Royal Roads on Wednesday evening, thus making a smart run of eight days. Particulars of her cargo have already been published. She experienced heavy gales from southward as far as Flattery rocks, where she was on noon of the 25th; there took heavy westerly gales and was obliged to stand to southward again to keep off the coast; forty miles S.W. Flattery rocks saw large quantities of drift timber.

FALSE REPORT.—A rumor has been in circulation for the last day or two that the steamer Active passed Cape Flattery on Sunday afternoon last on her way to this port. The report emanated from two men who arrived in this city from the Straits of Foca stating that they saw a steamer pass on that day. The vessel was immediately set down by thoughtless persons as the Active instead of H.M.S. Sparrowhawk, which did pass the Cape at the time stated and reached Esquimalt the same night.

FROM NANAIMO.—By the schooner Sweepstakes, which arrived yesterday evening from Nanaimo, we have the Gazette of Monday last. Its local columns are entirely occupied with reports of the election proceedings, a detailed account of which has already appeared in the COLONIST. H.M.S. CLIO was coaling, and the gunboat Forward was passed on her way up.

POLICE.—Mr. Pemberton was yesterday called upon to settle some differences between two members of the New Idea Company. The aggressor pleaded the festivities of the season as his excuse, and expressed his regret for what had occurred, and the matter was settled by his entering into his own recognizance to keep the peace.

OVERBOARD.—A man belonging to the schooner Industry, while passing yesterday from the T. Lee to his vessel, missed his footing and fell head foremost into the water. He was fortunately rescued unhurt from a somewhat perilous position by a drayman and another person who chanced to be near and saw the mishap.

AUTHOR AND ACTOR.—A London theatrical sheet says a word for dramatic authors: "There have been some speeches made lately as to the relations between manager and author, especially at the inauguration of the Central Hall of the Dramatic College at Maybury. We must confess that we did not exactly understand what that question had to do with any ceremony connected with almshouses for actors. Had it been an inauguration of almshouses for authors, the matter might have been very different. It was not so, however, and the irrelevancy of the matter was passed over in the natural excitement which prevails on such occasions. The simple fact is—and we have called attention to this matter before—that British dramatic authors are underpaid because British audiences are satisfied with poor rehashes of French pieces, and because British managers are not only content to supply such ware upon cheap terms to the public; but form a kind of combination against the admission of any but a close borough of translators or adapters into their theatres. Doubtless they find that this plan is not unprofitable; but we doubt very much whether it is beneficial in the end. Under the present system the theatres are not filled half the year, and during the remainder they have to resort to the miserable and unsatisfactory system of papers or 'orders.' Under the present system, £40 is considered a handsome price for a farce and £100 is a noble price for a three-act comedy."

A couple whose united ages reached no less than 164 years were married at St. John's Church, Pembroke Dock, on the 4th instant. The bride was Mrs. Elizabeth Powell, aged eighty-four, who has been married four times before; and the bridegroom was Mr. T. Wade, who is, we believe, only four years younger than his wife.

A NIGHT OF HORROR ON THE AMAZON.

The mighty Amazon—the great equatorial river of South America—flowing through an immense region of country, a part of which is a dense wilderness—a tangled labyrinth of vines and creepers, sweet flowering shrubs and gigantic forest trees, the latter of which have withstood the fierce tropical tornadoes for centuries. The hideous wilderness inhabited by savage beasts and enormous boas, besides myriads of reptiles of every imaginable species, render it exceedingly dangerous for man to penetrate the solitude of the dismal wilds.

A U.S. government expedition was dispatched to the Amazon in the year 1858, under the command of Lieuts. Herndon and Gibbon, for the purpose of giving it an exploration. They encountered many difficulties and had some remarkable and thrilling adventures, some of which have never been related. The following adventures by a private in Lieut. Gibbon's company, named Crosby, is so coupled with horror that the mind can scarcely form a just conception of the misery he had to endure one night while separated from his companions.

Late in the afternoon of a day in September, Crosby accidentally got separated from his companions and before he was aware of his awkward situation had penetrated some distance in a contrary direction into the dense forest that here lined the banks of the mighty river. He found himself alone, and every effort to extricate himself from the tangled labyrinth proved fruitless. The solitude of the wilderness was only awakened by the chirping troops of monkeys sporting among the branches, the bellowing of alligators, and the hissing of enormous serpents that crossed his path.

He soon became conscious of his alarming situation, and redoubled his efforts to regain the open ground and rejoin his companions. But he seemed to penetrate the farther, and the dreadful reality at once flashed upon his mind that he was lost—and a doomed man. The idea of having to remain alone during the night in this condition, surrounded by wild animals and hideous serpents, was horrible, and drove him almost to despair. But there seemed to be no other alternative; night was rapidly approaching; he was bewildered and lost; what could he do? Unfortunately he had left his rifle in the boat, and the only weapon of defense in his possession was a large bowie knife. The shades of a tropical night were fast settling around him. The sound of thunder was distinctly heard in the distance, and it was evident that a storm was approaching. It soon became intensely dark, sharp flashes of lightning shot athwart the sky, the artillery of Heaven commenced to play in its awful majesty; the monkeys howled, and the cougar fiercely roared in his den, the alligators belched and the slimy serpents hissed fearfully. Horrors of horrors! The terrific gale came on; the vaulted dome of heaven was illuminated by the vivid lightning, while the roar of thunder and the crashing of huge trees as they were torn up by the fierce hurricane, was appalling in the extreme, and calculated to cause the stoutest heart to quail with fear.

But the hurricane passed over him and he escaped, to encounter more terrific danger. It was now so dark that he could scarcely perceive anything, and while groping along not knowing what to do, a huge oak dashed out of a tree overhead and quickly encircled him in its powerful folds. He felt each convolution of the serpent to grow tighter, and he knew that in a few moments his body would be crushed into a shapeless mass. But he was man of Herculean strength and stern resolve, and instantly grasping his knife he commenced cutting the folds of the hideous serpent which hissed fearfully in his face. Every strike separated a coil. At this juncture some wild animal—probably a cougar—sprang upon him, but luckily seized that portion of the body containing the head and carried it off instead of our hero. What a deliverance was this! Crosby was so terribly excited that he swooned away, and lay in a state of unconsciousness, he knew not how long.

As soon as his consciousness was partially restored, he was aroused by a peculiar sensation of indescribable horror, and found himself encircled by a number of small snakes. He sprang to his feet, and with the ferocity of a madman, commenced tearing the slimy reptiles that had coiled around him. He threw them from him right and left, and soon relieved himself of such hideous companions. They hissed and writhed fearfully, but he escaped without being bitten.

This was a terrible situation to be placed in, and his escape was truly miraculous. He was now so overcome by fear and excitement that he was almost helpless, and knew not what he was doing. In the morning he was found by his companions wandering about, wildly staring and furiously throwing his arms into the air.

His appearance is represented to have been pitiful in the extreme, and it was with some difficulty that they succeeded in getting him back to camp. It was several days before he recovered fairly, when he related the horrible suffering, as detailed above, that night.

In a few weeks he was taken with a violent fever, and soon became completely deranged, and in his ravings talked about serpents, and wildly threw his arms around him. He continued raving in this way for several days, when he expired in the most horrible convulsions. So ended Crosby's adventures on the Amazon.

ODDS AND ENDS.

The Modern Essential Oil.—Petroleum. When is a cat like a teapot? When you're teasin' it [tea's in it].

All lawyers may be said to belong to the Fee-nian brotherhood.

What did Lot do when his wife was turned into a pillar of salt? Took a fresh one, of course.

Povvly is a bully if you are afraid of it, but is good natured enough if you meet it like a man.

Why is a marriage certificate like an article the public could do without? Because it is a loose paper.

An old Yorkshireman being informed, by a betting acquaintance, that "his friend the captain" would obligingly hold the stakes, the canny northerner replied, "Ay, ay, that's all very well, but who's t' haul t' captain?"

EUROPEAN ITEMS.

(From English and other papers.)

The Fenian excitement is dying away. The government continues to make arrests, but the arrested parties are nearly all of the class of laborers, mechanics, shopmen, publicans, and so on, not a man of consequence seeming to be engaged in the movement. There are no leaders of any importance whatever in this business, apparently, and the whole conspiracy is a disjointed, turbulent, confused sort of popular ebullition. The priests in Ireland do not favor this disturbance, and all the respectable middle men prefer the existing order of things. Still Ireland is certainly a discontented country, and its people are disaffected, not to say, as a mass, inclined to sedition. This shows us that Ireland needs enlightened legislation. She has chronic maladies which an armed occupation will never cure. She labors under disorders which nothing but judicious and generous treatment will eradicate. Irish landlordism has cost us, in fact, the good will of the Irish people. We have tried it long enough. We must try another plan, and a plan of pacification.

International exhibitions seem to find favor and to be supported wherever established. Portugal was about the last country where we might expect one to rise up, but as we lately mentioned, the one recently opened in Oporto has been a decided success. Why should not Spain enter on the same course of competitive ambition? The site of the new Parisian exhibition will not be, like the former ones, on the Champs Elysee, but on the Champ de Mars. The building will be opened on an ominous day—the first of April 1867—and will be finally closed on the 31st of October following. All the world is invited to send in products of arts and industries.

A singular thing occurred in Limerick last Tuesday. A Mr. F. meeting a friend out late at night invited him to a bed at his house. Arriving there they found the man servant in charge, out broke a pane of glass, opened a window and got in. F. then went out for water, and while he was gone the servant returned, and finding F's friend lying on the sofa, supposed he was a burglar. He commenced his work by dealing the gentleman a blow on the skull and fracturing it. To make sure, he struck him several times on the back and arms, one of which he shattered very much, together with two fingers on one of his hands. On the return of Mr. F. he found his friend almost dead. Medical assistance was soon procured, and he has been progressing rapidly.

At Birmingham, a charwoman engaged in cleaning some attic windows, forty feet from the pavement, became giddy and fell. A respectably dressed man was passing along under the window, and she came with all her weight upon him. He was knocked to the ground, but she fell upon her feet, and was found uninjured. The man, however, was taken to the General Hospital. He had received a very severe concussion of the brain.

Where are we safe? Even in France it seems a person is not quite sure he will not be kidnapped. A Marseilles lady, Madame E., was only this week released from two months' captivity in an asylum whither she had been consigned on an order of Senator de Massas, prefect of Bouches de Rhone. She applied to the Conseil d'Etat for authorisation to prosecute that functionary, but met with the statement that responsibility falls on the physicians who certified to her insanity. These latter practitioners plead privilege, and redress is found in no quarter.

SAVINGS AND DOINGS.

King Victor Emmanuel has conferred an annual allowance of 4500. on the son of Giugliani, the tenor, to facilitate his admission into a naval school.

A perpetual motion machine has been patented by a mechanic of Turin.

The Pneumatic Railway, between Holborn and the Euston-square station of the London and North-Western Railway, is complete, and was opened by the passage of two trucks, which ran the distance—about a couple of miles—in five minutes.

The Lords of the Admiralty have decided upon issuing to all Her Majesty's ships on foreign stations, for the use of the crews, a certain number of weekly papers and monthly publications.

Hawick has been visited by a plague of flies. For two days so dense was the cloud of insects that passengers could only prevent their mouths and eyes from being filled by keeping up a constant process of fanning.

Mr. Kenneth MacLay, R.S.A., was at Balmoral, painting the Queen's granddaughters, Princesses of Victoria and Elizabeth of Hesse, for Her Majesty. Prince Louis of Hesse is also sitting to Mr. MacLay for his portrait. Her Majesty has expressed to the artist her approval of the pictures of the Highlanders of Deeside and Strathdon, painted by Mr. MacLay, during the summer and autumn, by command.

The Lunatic Asylum at Warsaw, a Government institution, of course—has recently been visited by the police. On this occasion some fifty out of the 144 patients were discovered by the police officers, who had fled for refuge to the abode of madness, and spent already a couple of years within its terrible walls. The physicians have been arrested, together with the delinquents.

The Vatican has been in great commotion in consequence of a complaint made by Mr. Severn, the English Consul, against two Zouaves accused of having insulted a lady with whom he was walking at the Villa Torlonia, in Frascati. It appears too, that a packet of despatches addressed to the Consul was lately taken possession of by the Roman police, who obtained them from a railway official intrusted with their delivery at Frascati.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Jaundice Disordered Liver. A good flow of bile is absolutely necessary for digestion; when this secretion is interrupted or depraved, disease immediately sets in, and sallowiness or jaundice marks the onset to be in the liver. This important organ, so liable to disorder, can always be regulated by Holloway's Ointment and Pills. The former, rubbed on the right side, over the region of the liver, upon which it exercises the most salutary influence, without harassing the stomach or the bowels—a matter frequently of vital importance—confers on this remedy an advantage over every other form of medicine in the pharmacopoeia: when assisted by the Pills, every disease is speedily subjected and effectually banished.

The City of Glasgow LIFE ASSURANCE Company.

Established 1838. Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.
Subscribed Capital, - - - \$3,000,000
Annual Revenue, - - - 560,000
Subsisting Assurances, - - 14,415,000
JANUARY, 1866.

THIS COMPANY OFFERS TO the Public the combined advantages of Perfect Security, Moderate Premiums, Liberal participation in Profits, and great freedom in respect of foreign residence and travel, and has powers under special act of Parliament which simplify discharge of claims in event of assured dying abroad.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

DIVISION OF PROFITS.

Assurances effected on or before the 30th January, 1866, participate as of four years standing at the division of profits in January, 1869.

Prospectuses and every information can be obtained on application to the undersigned, who has power to accept risks in any part of the world.
J. ROBERTSON STEWART,
7, WHARF STREET, VICTORIA, V.I.
Agent for British Columbia and Vancouver Island &c.

Any One can use Them.

A basin of water is all that is required to produce the most brilliant and fashionable colours on Silks, Woolens, Cottons, Ribbons, &c., in ten minutes, by the use of

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From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D., Hon. F.R.C.S., England, formerly Lecturer upon Anatomy and Physiology at St. George's School of Medicine:—"I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhoea and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

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