

city) "cannot tear the structure down over the heads of our own tenants."

Councilman Rich was right there, loaded and primed. He had evidently been on a still hunt for information about the old factory, to which hangs a tale of colonization for "Liberal" voting purposes at the last municipal election. Mr. Rich stated that if Mr. Evans' motion was insisted upon he (Mr. Rich) would also do a little insisting in the shape of a demand for an investigation and open explanation as to the process of renting the old factory by Chief Stanton, on behalf of the city, and the object of the proceeding.

This silk factory business was a "Liberal" Fourth precinct political peg. Then Councilman Rich made his broad insinuation and expressed his unchangeable intention under certain circumstances, the silence of Mayor Baskin was eloquent, and the celerity with which the question was relegated to the committee on public streets and grounds was quite striking.

THE SHEEP BILL.

WE think the Governor's return of the sheep bill to the House and his recommendations are proper. In the shape in which the bill passed the Legislature it really looked as though there was a desire to drive all the sheep herds from the Territory. The object in view—to protect streams from pollution, was good. The petitions from the people for relief ought not to have been denied or ignored. But the measure proposed was, in our opinion, too radical and unmindful of the interests of a large number of our citizens engaged in an industry that is profitable to the whole Territory.

It appears to us that the changes proposed to the bill by the Governor will obviate the chief difficulties. They are in line with suggestions we made when the controversy was in progress between the sheep men and the settlers on streams. We hope the Legislature will duly consider them.

During the last days of a session the Assembly is apt to become hurried and irritable. Members are tired, work crowds upon them, they dispose of measures so as to get rid of them, and are liable to make mistakes in either killing a good bill or rushing through a bad bill, without due thought and deliberation. This ought not to be the case with this measure. The settlers need protection, the sheep industry must not be destroyed. If the Governor's suggestions will preserve both they ought to be adopted. We look for rational and careful action on this matter.

PREVENTION AND CURE.

THE *Golden News* is the name of a New York paper, just started. The first number is at hand. It seems to be principally devoted to the interests of temperance and the reformation of drunkards. In the latter line it booms the Keeley cure, and has several columns of correspondence from the various institutes scattered over the

country. Included among the communications is one from Secretary McCartney, of the Salt Lake branch of the Keeley Institute.

In a leading article of the paper referred to the following occurs:

"The moral and physical destruction of men and women by indulging in exciting stimulants has long ceased to be a question for argument. Whether the indulgence is in alcohol, opium, morphine, cocaine or nicotine, to a greater or less degree the tendency is just the same—moral and physical destruction of mankind. The almshouses, workhouses, penitentiaries and lunatic asylums are as full today from these terrible sources as when George Cruikshank shocked the world with his startlingly touching and truthful picture stories of rum's degrading and destructive power. Dishonesty, immortality, suicide, murder, misery and death are the pitfalls in the path of the drunkard."

THE MODUS VIVENDI.

THAT *modus vivendi* in the Bering Sea matter begins to assume a significance foreign to the etymological meaning of the phrase. Strictly speaking it means a method of living, but according to developments during the past few days it promises to become a method of killing. It has come up in the British House of Commons in connection with the question of harbor defenses in British Columbia. The discussion evoked on the occasion was, to say the least, suggestive. In Washington our authorities are conferring with the Naval Department as to what is best to be done. Unusual excitement and activity also prevails in the navy yards on the Pacific coast. It is reported that President Harrison is awaiting a reply from Lord Salisbury to the demand made for a renewal of the *modus vivendi*. In the event of a refusal it is thought that decisive action will be taken by the United States.

The *modus vivendi* referred to, is an agreement entered into last June, between the British government and ours, in relation to seal fishing in Bering sea. Article 1 of that agreement binds Great Britain to prohibit seal killing in Bering sea until May, on the part of British subjects and vessels. Article 2 binds the United States to a like course of action on the part of American vessels and citizens, but for certain specified reasons a limited number of seal might be killed by Americans. Article 3 provides for the capture of poachers irrespective of nationality by any of the high contracting parties but subject to being "handed over as soon as practicable to the authorities of the nation to which they respectively belong, who shall alone have jurisdiction to try the offender and impose the penalties for the same."

In the meantime provisions were made with a view of effecting a permanent settlement of the question. Under these a joint high commission was appointed to investigate the seal problem both from a natural history and territorial point of view. The members of that commission visited Bering sea last fall and made a close study of the habits and conditions of the seal. Though these members all agreed

that the extinction of the animal was assured unless protective measures were adopted, yet they did not agree as to these measures. The reports of this commission were intended for the Arbitration Board, to which the settlement of the whole matter would be submitted. The case was progressing favorably until report came that Lord Salisbury had positively refused to renew last year's agreement. As there is no possibility that a settlement can be arrived at before many months, the refusal to renew gave the question a serious aspect. There are now some fifty vessels or more flying the British flag ready to enter Bering sea. How many Americans are ready to enter it is difficult to say. Before the agreement went into effect last year, it is estimated that 100 vessels, with an average crew to each of 20 souls, were engaged in poaching. With unlimited authority to spear, shoot or trap the animal, regardless of sex, age or condition, the work of these 2000 men meant in a short time the complete extermination of the seal. Unless the agreement is renewed the same condition will prevail this year, and the seal would be destroyed before the settlement could be accomplished.

The British Columbians are growing very belligerent about this matter. They are demanding damages for their vessel owners who were shut out last year. Altogether the case as it stands is a complicated one.

MECHANICAL RESOLUTIONS.

THOSE who contemplate the assured fact that there is many times more power in the movement of the seas along our shores in one hour than in all the mechanism of mankind in operation throughout the world in a day, doubtless sometimes ask themselves why the one so expensive and in some cases so inadequate holds away while the other, costless and greater, is measurably unused. This self-questioning is, it seems, to be answered fully and satisfactorily before the present century expires; already in France the power with which to operate a marble quarry is being borrowed from the "mad sea waves," with the latter not one whit the loser through the performance, and this leads us to conclude that if such vast results from so comparatively gentle a source can be obtained, how would it be were the power generated and expended aimlessly in some of our fords and inlets utilized? In places the tide rises at regular times, corresponding with the movements of the moon through the arch above us, to a height of eight or ten, and even twelve feet; and as its majestic swell beats upon the shore, no man nor set of men could measure its force, because it is irresistible. Nor can it be chained, harnessed or confined, yet it can be used as satisfactorily and adjusted as nicely as the needs of man require. What a sublime thought! Nature herself, without being despoiled of any fraction of her power, contributing to us the needed energy for all the mechanical appliances in the land!

Niagara Falls are also ceasing to be exclusively a colossal phenomenon, and