

NANAIMO



FREE PRESS

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"SILVER WEDDING" ON GABRIOLA

Editor FREE PRESS -

The celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Shaw's "Silver Wedding" took place on Saturday evening, the 9th instant, and was so numerously attended and so nicely got up as to deserve a few remarks - both Mr. Shaw's residence and the school room being taxed to their utmost capacity.

Dinner at four o'clock. Dinner, did I say? Well, let it pass, but this old name seems altogether too mild for such a thing as this, and yet it was got over. But how, that is the question. Oh! if one could have but measured the gastronomic susceptibilities of the assembled guests en masse, what a bulk of yearning fancy coupled to sympathetic stomach could have been here evolved. Even the epicurean imagination, struggling to mount and free itself, could only (like the too adventurous fly in the treacle jug) sink the deeper and get the more inextricably involved amongst the mazy mass of dainties wherewith the table "groaned."

But what astonished me most was to see that each one could actually get up from the table and move about. This affair ever ends act the 1st.

Act II - Unlimited dancing. The dizzy whirl being performed upon the lightest sort of fantastic too imaginable, led by the violin and accordion. In which, after a while to the observer, becomes conspicuous for the nimbleness and dexterity wherewith he handles himself, and the applause he elicited by his refined skipper perambulations "to and fro" -- circumambulations cut in such restrained and chaste style, yet somehow embellished and inwove with various flourishes and intricate crotchets, even such as to take the beholders mind fairly by storm. Cheer after cheer was launched at him, so that it was plain [Mr. Chapple](#) had immortalized himself in that dance. No

The outburst of applause which greeted the termination of this famous ancient dance (and which seemed to be directed principally to the Lady) was simply deafening.

Then the gates of mid-night swung open and the baby morn, reclining on the shroud of the dying day, was ushered into existence and the Silver Era, with all its rejoicings and festivities, became a thing of the past, and now the golden period, like the uncertain twinkle of a distant star, stands away out in the perspective.

COM.
Gabriola Island, January 11th, 1886.

ACCIDENT AT THE COAL MINES

Yesterday, about 9 a.m., two men lost their lives by an accident at the mine on Coal Creek. The coal cars are lowered into the mine over an incline of 45 degrees, and as two empty cars go down two full ones are drawn up. These cars are fastened to a carriage, and it seems that one of the cars on the descending carriage broke from its fastenings and went tearing down the incline. Two men were ascending on the other carriage, and, not having an opportunity to escape from the slope, they were caught by the escaped car and literally crushed to pieces. The men were David Morgan and W.J. Lewis.

POST INTELLIGENCER

[The deceased W.J. Lewis is a brother to Mr. James Lewis, of Gabriola Island, and whose death was alluded to in our last issue. - Ed.]

disparagements meant here to any of the other performers, for all acquitted themselves in splendid style. But, it is just something like this, that however bright our ordinary lights may shine, just bring the electric light amongst them and they seem to disappear.

After another while, more tea-drinking, more stuffing, more pampering of the "inner man." Oh, thou mazy, dance, whirliegig, what a mighty dissolver and dispenser of solids art thou?

After this the song became interspersed with the dance. Some fine old heart-touching songs, principally by [Mr. J. Martin](#), and grand soul-stirring melodies with piano accompaniments, mostly by Miss Shaw.

And now it is near 12 o'clock and a hush of expectancy seems to enter the hall. The hitherto "nimble-footed" are crowded upon the benches in the attitude of would-be spectators. Something must be about to take place. The floor is silently and glaringly empty and silence reigns supreme, when suddenly from the silence emerges Mrs. Shaw led by [Mr. Mclay](#) and halts in the middle of the arena as if it was their "native heath" and now the "cat is oot the bag," the fiddler strikes up, and the two in company is going it heel and toe, &c., with various pantomimic trips and break-neck twists, and still the rattling, clattering and fiddling seemed merged in one. It was the "Highland Fling."

CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works has laid his report for the year 1886[?] before the House of Assembly. Following are the remarks referring to this district:...

Gabriola Island School.- The school house has been enclosed with rustic, painted, and furnished with desks and seats.

...

Gabriola Island (South End), [Thos. McGuffie](#), Foreman.- Forest cleared 650 yards, 15 feet wide; graded 400 yards, 11 feet cut out of rocky side hill. Graded 260 yards, 12 feet wide, on level ground. Constructed a trail to H. Peterson's, 1 1/4 miles long.

Gabriola Island roads (North End), W. Pemberthy, Foreman. Cleared out and repaired sleigh road from the landing 2100 yards, 8 feet wide.

JUST RECEIVED

Per steamer "Empire" an assortment of HEATING AND PARLOUR STOVES for sale at prices to suit the times. The balance of English muzzle loading shot guns will be sold at a reduced rate to clear them off.

J.H. PLEACE



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