

manded—one hundred dollars. The Council retorted with legal proceedings, and the "refreshment" house keepers were brought before the mayor and fined \$100 each, and costs. Then all parties adjourned to Regina upon a writ of *certiorari*, and the fines were upheld by the Court in banc, with costs, amounting to a little over \$200, against the defendants.

This is of course a complete victory for the Council. I hear, however, that the Civic Fathers intend to "temper justice with mercy," and will accept the amount of the fines in payment of the license for the present year, although I believe if they stood upon their strict legal rights they are in a position to exact fine and costs *and license money as well*.

I must say I cannot altogether sympathize with the saloon-keepers, under the circumstances. When I speak of saloon-keepers I do not mean to include the proprietors of low "dives," who should be blotted out without mercy. In my opinion, the bona fide saloon-keeper should recognize the fact that the Council has authority to collect this license money, and that he has got to pay it and say nothing. If the parties aggrieved by the passing of a by-law such as the present, wish to have it rescinded, let them run their own candidates for the new council. In the meantime, each saloon-keeper must pay a license of \$100 annually.

I would, however, suggest to the Council the advisability of granting some indulgence to those persons who have been engaged in the liquor traffic for a less period than a year. It does not seem fair to compel a man, who has been in business for only three or six months, to pay the same amount as a man who has had a whole year in which to make money.

Altogether, I think our liquor laws in the Northwest are a disgrace to humanity, and require the immediate attention of the legislature. They were framed at a time when there were very few white men in the Territories, and now that the country is being settled up every day, they have become utterly unsuitable to the requirement of the people: What we really want in the Northwest is a license system at such a rate as to make the opportunities for drinking fewer and the quality of the drink better.

WHAT are the Calgary bachelors doing? When is this ball coming off? A "Terpsichorean assembly" or something else of a polysyllabic character was held early this year, but now give us a genuine bachelors' ball.

If our bachelors (and there are lots of them, and real good fellows, too) will only wake up, get good music, a good floor, a decent supper, and ask everybody, they can earn the gratitude of the fair sex and give their many friends a good time.

THOUGH we are now in the middle of December, I have not heard yet of any probable starters for the

Calgary Municipal Stakes of 1891. I shall keep my ear open during the coming week, and keep my readers fully informed as to what is going on. The outgoing Council has, by its perseverance and attention, done good work for Calgary during its year of office, and has earned the gratitude of the citizens. "Local legislating" is a very thankless job at the best of times, but I think I should not overlook the practical outcome of the work of the Council. I hope to return to the subject next week.

OH, FI, Mr. Artist! where did you learn to spell "field"? I shall go on strike if this kind of thing occurs again. I don't mind you making pictures, but if you could manage to do it on the "songs without words" principle, you would not expose your "transposing" powers to the public. Why don't you ask, John? I hope you field disgusted. See?

DURING the November sittings of the Supreme Court, the Calgary Bar entertained Mr. Justice Wetmore to a dinner, at the judge's chambers, in the new Court House. The only regrettable feature of the occasion was the unavoidable absence of Mr. Justice Rouleau, owing to pressure of business at Regina.

MADAME ROULEAU'S long promised entertainment came off Friday night, in the form of a "gentlemen's card party," to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. Justice Rouleau. The most conspicuous feature of the entertainment was the absence of the court element, not a single member of the legal profession having been invited.

CAN any of my readers trace the relationship of "cause and effect," therein?

TATLER'S WEATHER REPORT

Toronto—Snow knee deep; sleighing excellent.

Calgary—"Haying" completed; no deaths from sunstroke this week; a quantity of second-hand "Chinooks" to be sold, *cheap*.

TATLER.

A Fishy Husband

"But, Tom dear, where is the big trout you said you caught?"

"Oh, that one! Why—yes, of course—well, I took that trout, and it looked so good I cooked it and ate it on the spot. And, speaking of eating, Maude, I wish you'd hurry up that dinner. I haven't had a mouthful all day." And then Maude, for the first time, doubted her husband's veracity.

WE LEARN that the country around Calgary is more badly burnt this year than it has been for years past. This side of the Elbow and south of the Bow to Jumping Pond is burnt completely, up to within a few miles of town; some of the bottom on the Elbow, where there are settlers, has been saved. On the north of the Bow, between the C. & E. railway and Big Hill creek, fire has done considerable damage. The Rosebud country has also been burnt over.