

USE,
S,
STREET.

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

Devoted to Social, Political, Literary, Musical and Dramatic Gossip.

VOL. III., No. 9.

VICTORIA, B. C., DECEMBER 9, 1893.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM

TALES OF THE TOWN.

"I must have liberty,
Withal as large a charter as the wind—
To blow on whom I please."

THE love of gew gaws and trinkets is not confined to women alone, as is so often stated by members of the other sex, but appears now and then in the most plain appearing men. I noticed in a case the recently that would have been laughable had it not been pitiful in some respects. He was a man well past his prime, with long, grey whiskers, unshaven and untrimmed, and with his apparel so little cared for that one would never imagine that he cared for any kind of ornament. The night was dark and cold, and everybody was only too willing to keep on his gloves and bury his hands in his pockets as well. But he held his gloves in one grimy hand and ostentatiously flourished the other which bore on the third finger a wide, new ring of gold, on which was emblazoned some secret order design. The hand was rough, dirty and misshapen by toil, and the ring with its glitter and its newness only served to call attention to its roughness. But in that man's face you could see the pride of possession, as he waved his hand in needless gestures, and cast covert glances at the incongruous bauble. That man, if he has a family, probably limits the household expenses to the smallest possible amount, and denies his wife or daughter every request for any little articles of feminine adornment, and yet he probably bought that ring to indulge his own pitiful and unnatural love of finery. When you think of it, it was pitiful, and more a subject for moralizing than of laughter.

I see that some of the citizens are beginning to take an interest in the coming municipal elections, with a view to introducing better material into our City Council. I wish them all success in their efforts and trust that they may be successful next January in completely snowing under that set of windbags and general bunglers known as the Mayor and aldermen of the city of Victoria, for 1893.

Barring the aldermen from the North Ward, there is no greater clog to the municipal machinery of this city than Mayor Beaven. I have found no one in the city to disagree with this sentiment, and yet such is the apathy of the citizens in municipal matters that it is just possible that Honorable Robert Beaven will have the pleasure of drawing another \$2,000 from the city treasury. As a Mayor Mr. Beaven is a dismal failure. In civic matters he has one object in view, and one only. His mind does not seem capacious enough to contain more than one idea at a time. His hobby is to have a cash balance on hand at the end of the year. This, it will be admitted, is a noble purpose on the part of any mayor, but should be combined with others, none of which does Mr. Beaven possess.

Whilst Mr. Beaven is not qualified to be mayor, still nature has endowed him with abilities which, if directed in their proper channel, might attain distinction for that great gentleman, and at the same time confer lasting benefits on his fellow citizens. If the present incumbent cannot be otherwise provided for, I would respectfully suggest that the Hon.

Robert Beaven be tendered the position of auditor. That he would make a capital auditor there can be no doubt; that he would accept the situation I see no reason to doubt—there is a salary attached to it.

Amongst the nine aldermen who have assisted the Mayor to transact the business of the city during the present year, Alderman Belyea seems to be the only one that has been a particular success, and unfortunately he has been absent from the city a considerable portion of the year. Of the other eight I shall only say that four of them have displayed but indifferent ability, whilst the remaining four are about as *cultus* as they make them on the Canadian side of the international boundary line.

Perhaps I may be pardoned for giving the citizens who are moving in the direction of municipal reform a few pointers. First, organize thoroughly; second, draw up a platform broad and comprehensive enough to allow of something like unanimity; third, select and support good, substantial business men for the several civic chairs.

In the carrying out of my third suggestion it is essential that men be chosen who are willing to allow professional men (civil engineers, lawyers, surveyors, etc.) to know their own business, and for that reason, and considering past experience, the contracting element should be carefully avoided.

I feel obliged to return again to the conference between the Government and the representatives of organized labor, and be it

SIZES AND COLORS.

and prices are

5.

AND CALL AT

Glas Street,
rt St.

Store.

GREETINGS.

"PHOTOS
DOZEN.

eting
l wide,
ght "sunbeams."
stide.

e Visites \$2.00 per doz.
all cards. K. Forbes
94 Government St.

BETTER PER.

you can obtain
ARGUMENTS of the
ORTER TIME with
ISH and at LESS
ding away your
larged elsewhere.
al Art Studio, 76
ure yourself of the

ES, Proprietor.

BAKER,

IST.

Teeth a Specialty

CE:

Douglas Streets

g store.

H CURE is specially

r children when suf-

cough and croup. It

Atwood & Co., sol

uglas street.