

that I could give him a lively time. It is not necessary for him to be an Englishman to accomplish his desire; although *en passant* it may be remarked that Irishmen have been known to so far forget themselves in this country as to ape the English chappie that flourishes so plentifully here.

Now a word more to R. J. M., and I'm done with this individual with the impenetrable cranium. He asks is THE HOME JOURNAL read in the home nursery (where is the foreign nursery?) THE HOME JOURNAL is read everywhere and by everyone; it even reaches obscure individuals like R. J. M., whose domicile must be in the nursery, judging from the choppy character of his composition and the elementariness of the matter he makes such a twaddley attempt at handling. Perhaps mamma helped him, so I won't be too hard on him for having done his best. Most likely, poor boy, it is his first attempt.

In the twilight here I ponder,
Wrapped in strange surmise and wonder,
All my chums have left the city
And without me—more's the pity—
Climb the hills and splash the blue.
Yet of them I'm thinking never,
For I'm powerless to sever
Those strong cords you wove around me,
While your smiles, like giants, bound me
Years ago—why did you, Sue?

In the smoke my pipe's emitting
I behold you idly sitting
In the hammock—you remember
My arrival that September?
How we met, how friendship grew,
How we talked and walked and rambled,
How o'er mountain peaks we scrambled,
How my fancies you respected,
And your grace by art affected
Won my heart—why did you, Sue?

Then that evening by the ocean—
We three stirred in deep commotion—
You were sighs and smiles and calmest,
I poured out my soul and promised—
I forget—I never knew.
Then our letters, long, endearing,
Yours were coy, a welcome fearing.
Yet you drew from me a thousand
Senseless, idiotic vows and
Words of love—why did you, Sue.

Still you're dear to me, sweet fury—
Just how dear rests with the jury;
But your face would win creation,
And I'll pay for my flirtation.
I was fooling. Why weren't you?
Why swear now my oaths were solemn
And freeze stiff my spinal column
When I'm repentant here, distracted
By the heartless way you've acted?
Hang it! Sue, why did you sue?

The following is Mr. Rithet's speech on the Address in Reply, last Monday, as reported by the *Colonist*. It is carefully prepared, and will surprise those who have only given Mr. Rithet credit for being a shrewd man of business:

Mr. Rithet rose amidst applause, to move that a humble address be presented in reply to the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. He was glad, he said, to be able to congratulate the government upon the confidence which has

been shown in them by the electors of the country in again returning them to power with such a large following; and he congratulated also the country on the fact that the government are to be aided, as they no doubt will be, by the able, experienced and patriotic gentlemen on the opposite side of the house. Most of these honorable gentlemen have been known to him for a number of years, but he had not before had the pleasure of meeting them as their colleague in this Legislative Assembly. While he had to regret that they are on the opposite side of politics (laughter), he held them in the highest esteem, both personally and politically. (Applause) When the interests of the country are before the house, he was convinced that not only those on the government side but those on the opposition side as well will sink all party feeling, and strive which can do most to further those interests. Thus directed, under just and liberal laws, he had confidence that the Province will continue to advance. The depression referred to in His Honor's address no doubt increases considerably the care and responsibilities of both the government and the legislature, and until the conditions outside the Province are improved, we can hardly look for any rapid improvement in many of our most important local industries. Nevertheless, every encouragement should be and no doubt will be given to the investment of capital, which is the first and great essential in this connection. The large losses by floods in the early part of the present year caused much distress to many worthy settlers, and the action of the government in rendering such prompt and needed help will, he felt sure, meet with the hearty approval of every member of the house, as will also any steps which may be proposed with the view of guarding against a recurrence of such a calamity, even if it should be necessary to ask substantial financial assistance. But, in the opinion of many, this responsibility falls more properly upon the Dominion government, and he had no doubt that this view will be urged with all force possible by this government and legislature upon that government. The action taken by His Honor and the government to correct the wrong reports which were circulated as to the loss of life, he thought all would agree was highly commendable. He considered it most fitting that the loss to the Province of the late Chief Justice, Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie, should have been mentioned in the speech of His Honor. He was sure that there can be but one opinion as to the services rendered to this Province by that most worthy official. Perhaps to him more than to any other man in this Province it is indebted for its reputation the world over as a law-fearing and law-abiding country, because of his fearless but just administration of the laws in the earlier days of its settlement. He felt sure all would be pleased to learn that there is a healthy reaction setting in in nearly all our principal productive industries, which for some years have suffered so much from the depression which has prevailed in the markets of the world. To this country, the gold, coal, lumber, salmon, quartz and sealing industries have been all important, and any improvement, either in the demand or prices, cannot fail in being beneficial to the citizens generally. The deep sea fishing will, he hoped, be added to the list of

successful industries before the next meeting of the legislature. The encouragement given to the development of quartz mining in the Kootenay country by the building of the Nakusp & Slocan railway, he hoped, would satisfy the house of the prudence of their action in giving the guarantee which secured the construction of that line, and would induce further steps in the same direction, when and where required. It will take another year to give the house returns showing the likely results of operating this railway, but it seems more than probable that the hopeful anticipations will be realized, and that the charge, if any, is not likely to be a large one upon the resources of our country. (Applause.) The maintenance of friendly relationship with the Dominion government upon all matters of common interest being most desirable, he thought personal interviews by the ministers the most effective way to a harmonious and satisfactory settlement, and was confident that the matters named as having been dealt with by the Attorney General on his late visit, would be noted with satisfaction when they are placed before the house so as to enable them to form a ready and intelligent conclusion. One of the great questions which he thought must occupy attention at the present session, and which must commend itself to every member of the house, is that of the settlement of this province by industrious and desirable settlers, accustomed to agriculture, experienced in and not afraid of the hardships attendant upon an early settler's life. (Hear, hear.) Such he took the colony of Norwegians to be which the government have been instrumental in placing on the Northern Coast. All will watch with more than usual interest the progress of this pioneer colony, and accord hearty support to any assistance required to make it a success. The recent visit of His Excellency the Governor-General and the Countess of Aberdeen has, he felt sure all would agree with him in saying it, been a pleasure to everyone in British Columbia, for the hearty enthusiasm which greeted their welcome throughout the province affords ample proof of this. It is particularly gratifying, he felt sure, to every member of the Legislature to see that the subject of further railway extension, for the development of the province and its resources, is one to which attention has been called. (Hear, hear.) So great in extent and varied in its resources as it is, the province can only be opened up by large expenditure. To be satisfied we are warranted in making it is a pre-requisite of this. As a firm believer in our country, and from an intimate knowledge of its varied resources, he did not hesitate to say that it is well worthy the investment of the capital necessary for its development, and can well afford to bear the outlay required without unnecessarily burdening the people. In proof of this it is only necessary to point to the fact that in whatever direction our province has been made accessible, whether by rail, water, or wagon road, development has followed, and as these facilities are increased and improved, so will development and prosperity follow in an increased ratio year by year. All know that the greater portion of the province, although known to be rich in natural resources, remains for want of proper facilities practically