

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL,
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1893.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

THE fact that Daniel Lamont is a cousin of Al. Lindsay, with Dunsmuir & Co., will go a long way towards inspiring Canadians with confidence in the peaceable intentions of Cleveland's new war secretary.

A NEW YORK crank has made a wager that he can go to sea for forty days in a dry goods box, with nothing but a dog and a spirit lamp to sustain him. The navigator may be allowed his own way, but the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals should give the dog a show.

No sooner have European aeronauts improved their balloons almost to the point of perfection for military uses than along comes a Russian scientist with an apparatus which captures the rays of the sun and employs them to burn the balloons, somewhat on the principle by which Archimedes planned to destroy entire navies. We have not seen a detailed explanation of the *modus operandi*, but a Russian paper states that the balloons can be burned when at a distance of five kilometres from the person handling the apparatus.

A BATH (Me.) man has invented and patented a burglar proof safe, which banking men already pronounce a capital thing. It is worked by electricity, through the agency of a dry cell battery inside the safe and out of the way of the uninitiated. When the safe is shut, the current is turned on, only to be turned off by the man who has it in charge. The alarm is connected with the police stations, so that when anyone attempts to open the safe the number of the bank is sent to the station. But, besides this, the man molesting this machine when it is loaded will be held there till called for.

THAT obsolete fable of American rights to Behring's Sea, transmitted from the Russians, has again cropped up in the instructions to the American representatives in Paris. Disavowed at last, and buried by its putative father, J. G. Blaine, it has been resurrected to do duty at the conference of intellectual men selected to decide on a question, at the first blush too simple to have caused any misunderstanding between really honorable governments. Great as was his ability, patriotic his motives, and untiring his energies, the late

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W. J. JEFFREE.

J. G. Blaine, backed up by the notable Harrison, had unusual gifts in stirring up ill-blood between Great Britain and her lusty progeny of the States. However, peace to him, and let us hail with delight the temperate and thoughtful article which appeared in *Harper's Weekly* respecting Hawaii, and much more worthy of the true greatness of the American people.

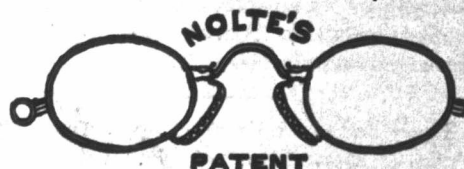
TO ALL appearances the numbering and properly placarding the names of the streets of the city is either a matter of small consequence or has been neglected by those whose duty it should be to attend to such matters because their neglect when once manifested was not complained of. It is one of the hardest things imaginable for even the best posted Victorians to find out the residences of individuals even when they are duly recorded in the directory, and, as for numbers, owing to the wretched street lighting, it is the most difficult thing to distinguish one from another. Here is something that should be attended to at once in the interests of our citizens to think of no one else. But when one imagines the case of strangers, the situation is ten times worse as when information which everyone should have is so far from easy to obtain it is ten times more awkward for those not resident here to find their way to the locations they seek. *Commercial Journal.*

NO SMALLPOX.

To the Editor of THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.
I have, upon many occasions, heard the old story of pot calling the kettle black, and have also noticed the idea being carried out in ordinary life. Of course it makes no difference when the individuals immediately concerned are alone affected. But, sir, I observe that certain rival auctioneers, for the purpose of injuring one another's business, have striven to paste over their rivals' shingles the significant and terrible words "small pox!" and, at the same time, they have placarded their own establishments with the "assuring" information "no small pox here!" Now, sir, this action on their part is nothing short of criminal; but, as it does not come under the provisions of the penal code, it is to be hoped that the public whose interests and the reputation of their city have been and are injured, will practically condemn their action in that effective manner which it is in their power to do. Such direct denunciations and innuendoes as theirs are cowardly as concerns their rivals and cannot be too strongly deprecated generally.

Yours, etc., CITIZEN.

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It is stated that stockings decorated with gilt and silk embroideries in Russian blue, terra cotta, red, yellow, purple and green, are worn in Paris. They are done in geometric patterns, have patterns and flower designs, and the more striking the contrast between black borders and gay uppers the better pleased the ultra-fashionable wearers will be.