

of the lacrosse team, that the Victoria cricketers be gotten together and a representative team be sent east to meet the exponents of the English national game in Eastern Canada. The idea is a good one, for no doubt there are some good players here, men fit to meet those of Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal. As a general rule, the members of the cricket clubs are in better circumstances than the lacrosse boys, and there is no reason why a tour should not be arranged, so far as money is concerned.

By the time these lines are published, "our boys" will have returned from their victorious tour, and be in receipt of the congratulations and welcomings of their friends, of whom this paper is and has ever been a faithful one. The team is one that any city may well be proud of, as the birthplace of lacrosse has discovered; they have given Victoria a tremendous advertisement; have done more to dispel the muddle in eastern minds between Victoria and Vancouver, and have made a name for the province of British Columbia that no amount of literature could accomplish. Therefore, are the boys welcome home, with three times three and as many tigers.

Chief Sheppard has entered on a purifying crusade of another character, now. The last time it was the houses of disrepute; now it is lotteries and such other matters of chance, the first to become a victim being Mr. Morris, the Government street tobacconist, whose Saturday night "drawings" had become a feature of interest, and which seemed perfectly harmless on the surface. I don't think it was anything more than a bit of business enterprise. Perhaps, now that the good work has commenced, the police will find out the Chinese lotteries which are conducted just as openly as Mr. Morris' drawings were, and are manifestly more illegal. I know young girls and young men, very respectably connected, who spend

their pocket money at these lotteries. There are also the faro and black jack games going every night of the week, which might be found out with a little vigilance, and put a stop to. They are much more harmful than either the drawing or the lottery. If the police cannot locate these little amusements, I can do so for them. This show at being good is all very well, but strike the real evil.

When Mr. Macleod has his new church finally and fully started, he would do well to put over the door "save me from my friends," for his friends, so-called, have proved to be his bitterest enemies. The men whom he, so to speak, fed and clothed and gave shelter to have turned round and bitten him, like the proverbial snake that one takes to one's bosom. Ingratitude, the bitterest of inflictions has been Mr. Macleod's lot. But he is conquering all enemies, and that, too, in an open, honorable fight. Not once has he stooped to the mean lying and cowardly insinuations that have been hurled against him. He was deposed because he had the misfortune to be a little too able a man for the clique who wished to run St. Andrew's; he nailed his colors to the mast and stuck manfully by them. Now, when his brother Christian ministers begin to see that he has the sympathy of the majority, outside of packed meetings, they wish to compromise the matter by sending him over to James Bay. Whether or not his supporters will advise Mr. Macleod to do so, is a matter for them to say, but the very proposition is a victory. It was thought that Mr. Macleod would leave Victoria in indignation at the treatment he received, but his persecutors mistook the man.

There is talk of a movement to unite the Independents and Opposition of the Local Legislature into a regular opposition, and, perhaps, this would have been the proper

course in the beginning. Rumor does not say what is to be done with Mr. Beaven, or what will be his superannuation allowance if he should be retired. In any case, there is a lot of moss on the backs of both the Opposition and the Independents, or the new opposition as the combination will be called, for while they are rusticating at home, Mr. Davie and his colleagues are out making the acquaintance of the people, and every one must admit that the man who fires the first shot always has the best chance. In the Legislature, as in the Victoria City Council, an improvement might be made. Had there been an able energetic leader, there might have been a more healthy opposition, and, consequently, a more enlightened and intelligent legislation in place of some of the bungling enactments that have been passed, causing a considerable portion of each session to be devoted to repealing the mistakes of the previous year. Where opposition is weak in a deliberative body like a legislature, criticism, honest, sober-minded and intelligent criticism, which is the very life of wise legislation, is painfully absent. It is to be hoped that the next election will bring out the best men; men of brains and ability; men who have the country's and not their own paltry interests at heart, and men who will be capable of giving expression to their ideas in intelligible language.

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