

## DIARY OF OUR MAN ABROAD.

Sep 28.—All aboard for the Island; the splendid-up-to-cabin steel-built-twin-screw steamer "Islander" is waiting to perform the contract of taking us—and any others—across the Strait. "Beautiful trip," they tell us—calm as a mill-pond all the way, and magnificent scenery wherever you look! We have been so highly favored in this way, however, that the Clerk of the Weather orders a slight change, lest we should become proud. It rains so that we can't see anything outside, and the latter portion of our journey is through a sea (iron-celly called Pacific) with all things movable, stomachs of most of the passengers. It gives for it. We dredging rain to one of the charming or cities out of Toronto.

\* Sep. 29.—Still raining; but it matters not. We are in the comfortable "Clarence", kept by your braw Scotchman, Willie Anderson, a pleasant place to be whether it rains or shines out-door. It is Sunday, and a little wetness shall not keep us in the house, when we can do our selves the pleasure of hearing the noted pulpit orator, Rev. J. E. Starr. We close morning and evening. The crowd at night is as great as that which waits upon the prophesying of our Dr. Wild. Starr is a splendid fellow both in and out of the pulpit, and even St. Methodius may well rejoice in the prospect of seeing him next May. There is a Chinese funeral today, and all Chinatown seems to be reeling. At least there is a marked absence of tears among the crowding rattle-pat-Cemetery, and general mongolian population of some 4000 or 5000. We pay a visit to the Rescue Home, where we find a lot of bright young girls, who have been snatched from slavery through the efforts of W. J. E. Gardner (a young gentleman who speaks Chinese better than any Chinaman in town, and is in all respects a jewel) and the aforementioned ministerial master, Starr.

Sep 30. Oh!

what Victoria is doing & a fine day like this with the rain and frost," says every citizen you talk to. We return to our Chinese studies, and we learn that amongst the hillside uncouth defects of Chinamen is an abnormal sense of gratitude and an excess of kindness. For see this: all Chinamen are "Boys". There were all grown men.

"Grip" Among the Chinamen.

Mr. J. W. Bengough yesterday afternoon paid a visit to the Chinese boys' school, where he delighted the scholars by making pictures for them. In return for the entertainment given them, the boys when the funny man was leaving presented him with a collection of Chinese articles, —shawls, a sword, a couple of fans, and many little pieces of bric-a-brac. When Bengough comes to Victoria again, as everybody hopes he will soon, he will find that even the Chinese here are his friends. —*Colonist*

Oct 1.—The visitor who comes up Victoria before he has taken in its famous drives to the Gorge, to Esquimalt, around Beacon Hill Park etc., does the city a gross injustice, pleasant and attractive as the town itself undoubtedly is. At Esquimalt, which we reach after a lovely drive along the river bank, we find the graving dock and the Squadron. Out of respect for the flag that bravely flies, we go aboard the flag-ship "Swiftsure", where we are shown all the sights, excepting the Joseph Banks. We don't see him. He is never visible to mere mortal eyes, or American sailors. Space forbids any adequate description of the points of interest in and about Victoria, but mention must be made of Honest John Robson, Premier of the I.N.S., Mr. Godacre, the local Piper, with his Zoo, Bulletin Corner Campbell and Chief Justice Sir Matthew Begbie. Also the chief justice's Pipe. Moreover the Chief Justice his Dog. Mr. Amor de Cosmos, X.M.P. still lives, while Shakespeare has gone out of the tragedy & comedy business at Ottawa and is now performing the modest but useful role of Postmaster. Mr. E. Crow Baker has resigned his seat at Ottawa. John A. is the crow which he feels like baking. Tomorrow we go to Naramata to see the Coal fields etc. etc.

W.B.