

# THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

VOL. II., No. 33.

VICTORIA, B. C., MAY 27, 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 observation of the anniversary of the 74th birthday of Our Sovereign Lady the Queen, in Victoria, was creditable to all concerned. Even the behavior of the elements was above reproach, which, I am told, in the Queen city is not an unusual thing on occasions of this kind. The sports were most enjoyable, and Victoria muscle asserted itself in nearly every contest. The home team won the baseball match, and, in lacrosse, with the assistance of THE HOME JOURNAL champion player, the Victoria club covered itself with honors. The aquatic sports were a source of much enjoyment and pleasure. The illumination Wednesday evening intoxicated the senses with its Oriental grandeur. Altogether, the day was one which will long be remembered, not alone by the residents of the city, but by the visitors as well.

George Russell, the tonsorial artist, has incurred the displeasure of a number of his brother barbers who decided to combine for the purpose of compelling the patrons of barber shops to have their Sunday shave on Saturday night. This was a very unkind move; but George frustrated their design by holding out and declaring that his patrons should have their Sunday shave after all. The consequence has been that George has been called some very hard names. I am informed that the men employed in the various shops are anything but unanimous on the question of a close Sunday. They say, the majority of them, that if a satisfactory equivalent is given them, they are willing to work Sunday morning, as at present. Now, in George Russell's establishment the hours are so arranged that a man is compensated for working the half day Sunday; in the other shops the system varies, but in none of them, with the exception of that mentioned is the custom such that the men are enabled to make up fully for the Sunday work. Perhaps this is the cause of complaint that requires remedying, and is one very easily adjusted.

But let us consider the Sunday shave question as it affects the public. It is more important to the latter than the Sunday closers perhaps imagine. Here is a man working hard during the week, with only a chance or two to get a hurried shave. Saturday comes, and he contemplates having a clean up of surplus whiskers, with all the comfort which attends the operation at the hands of a skilled knight of the razor, but something occurs to detain him, he has to work late, or has to go somewhere, and is either too tired or

too late to attend the barber's. He has not a razor, or is unable to shave himself. I would ask the Sunday closers is that man to carry his two or three days' growth of beard through the streets to church or elsewhere on Sunday, and, when Monday comes, he, perhaps, has not the time to get shaved? But there is another example—the traveller who arrives in a city Saturday evening tired, dusty and smeared with travel. Not feeling disposed to attend the barber's, he has a dip at the hotel and retires with the intention of having a shave and shampoo the following morning. What will his impression be of a town where he is unable to get a shave on Sunday morning? He will think he has struck some backwoods town where the country editor is mayor and council, sheriff, policeman, magistrate, general storekeeper, postman and barber, and that this individual of many professions has gone out for the day. Aside from this, however, the Sunday shave is a public convenience for whose abolition there is no reason whatever. There are many hundreds of men who cannot possibly get shaved on Saturday, and there are as many others who, though they may be shaved on Saturday, also need and like to have another clean up on Sunday. It is refreshing to the latter, and a necessity to the former; and while there is a barber open on Sunday, he will be patronized.

There is another point though in this difference of opinion among the barbers, and it is a point that calls, perhaps, for censure. I refer to the action of that portion who invoked the aid of the City Council in coercing a man to close his establishment. This was a step something of the nature of a man crossing a river and destroying the bridge, never thinking that he might want to cross back again. These men have a perfect right to close their shops if they wish, but it looks to me suspiciously like interfering with individual rights to compel another man to follow your wishes when he is perfectly honest in his desire not to.

The flock that has been running wild for so many months up at the hill has now got a shepherd in whom, I think, they will find a man of strong personal character, and who, whatever his religious propensities may be, will not brook any nonsensical vagaries from those under his immediate control. This was amply shown in more than one little event which did not escape my attention during the proceedings of receiving and welcoming the new bishop. His reply to the address of welcome was refreshing. The address was short, but it had enough condensed servility and fawning flattery in it to turn a multitude sick. It spoke of Dr. Perrin's self denial and other self sacrificing acts

in consenting to minister in this benighted west, but the reverend gentleman's frank, manly and ingenuous disavowal of any martyrdom on his part was a severe rebuke to this piece of religious hypocrisy. I am too patriotic a British Columbian and Canadian to think that any man is paying us a compliment by coming here under any circumstances, and more especially when he is getting a handsome salary and a good position in the community by doing so, and I think these people who, in welcoming such a man as Bishop Perrin, speak of self denial and other such rot, are nothing more than the rankest hypocrites. These, too, are the men who thought Canada had not a man good enough to manage the affairs of the church in this Province, but who will accept the people's money as good enough for their salaries. I hope they appreciate the first snub the new bishop gave them.

The Montreal Shareholder offers a suggestion to those who, to avoid heat and enjoy rural life, will soon remove their household goods to resorts near the water, where boating and bathing can be freely indulged in. As the Shareholder says there is a fascination for the young people about boating which frequently leads them to attempt too much. This is sometimes attended with fatal results. Apart from these causes drowning accidents frequently occur, but no matter what the cause, the cases of resuscitation of the victims of drowning accidents are not as numerous as they might be. This results from want of a proper knowledge of the treatment of the bodies of the drowned when recovered, as they sometimes are within a reasonable time after their disappearance. Every one should be intimately acquainted with the treatment to be adopted and the rules to be followed in such a case. A knowledge of these would be of incalculable advantage.

In order that these rules, which are simple and easily understood by any person of ordinary intelligence, may be available to every one, it is suggested that printed copies be procured and posted up where they could be read, studied and learned by heart by every one coming in contact with them. The cost would be trifling, but the advantage might be great. If, perchance, it should be the means of restoring to life but one single victim it would confer a benefit in excess of the cost of printing. Last summer was one noted for the number of deaths by drowning, and this summer will no doubt have its quota of accidents. What a cause of rejoicing would it be to any one enabled to apply the treatment referred to and bring back to life a fellow being! The time lost in sending for a physician might make restoration im-

y, B. C.

T.

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