

from this desire to make the best possible appearance, and they will scheme, plot, and plan for months together in order to become possessed of a piece of broken window-pane in order to make a looking-glass. While out in the exercise-yard a convict will rapidly scan the ground in the hope of coming across a piece of glass. Once possessed of it, she will run the risk of solitary confinement on a bread-and-water diet in order to get it into her cell. A piece of black cloth at the back of the piece of glass makes an excellent mirror. Here it will be hidden in all conceivable places, and many a violent woman, ill-favored by nature, has been known to become subdued after being able to admire her features by means of the mirror. Women convicts have been known to break the windows of their cells, and hide the largest piece in the bed, thus running the risk of losing marks or a visit from friends. If discovered, and the looking-glass taken away, many of them become most violent, and the strait-jacket has to be brought into use. It is nothing uncommon to find a convict, when she writes to her women friends, asking to be informed about the latest fashions, and one invariable request that the prisoner makes to her friends is that, when they come to pay her a visit, they will arrange their hair and dress in the latest style. One convict will start a particular fashion of wearing the bonnet, the hair, or the cap, and, if it meets with approval, will be immediately copied by the other convicts. Providing the women are well behaved, no notice is taken of the alterations, and many a violent, half-witted woman has been rendered tractable by permitting her to copy some little innovation then making itself fashionable within the prison walls.

I am pleased to hear that the work of the Young Men's Christian Association is to be pushed forward with renewed vigor this year. Mr. George Carter, of Seattle, a well known and successful secretary, has been called to take charge of the work. An active canvass is now being made for funds to carry on the work for the next year, and it is hoped the necessary subscriptions will be secured and the Association placed on a good financial footing. A forecast of the winter programme is as follows: Public reading room; members' private reading room, supplied with the best magazines; chess and checker parlor; reference library; amusement room, fitted with parlor croquet, crokinole, etc.; gymnasium; baths and lavatories; and finely-fitted parlor, with piano, for social intercourse. On each Saturday evening, there will be a popular entertainment under the management of one of Victoria's most popular leaders. These meetings will be open to

the public at an admittance fee of ten cents. Educational classes in penmanship, book-keeping and other branches, mutual improvement society for debates, readings, essays, declamations, etc., gospel services for men and workers training class for the development of Christian workers will form part of the programme. These and other attractions ought to make the Association rooms one of the most popular resorts in the city for young men. The Association closed its year free of debt. THE HOME JOURNAL wishes the it success.

He was a passenger by the Empress of India from the Orient. He thought it would be a happy idea to celebrate his return to British soil by going on a good old "toot." In the small hours, he came reeling along Government street with his hands in his pockets, having a most glorious tangle-leg. A couple of times he had fallen amuck in the damp earth, thrown up from the sewer excavations, and piled in a long line along the thoroughfare. He was evidently puzzled over something, and kept mumbling and grumbling about some grievance. As he neared the Adelphi, he again fell into the bank of slimy sub-soil. Some passers-by pulled him out. As he staggered away, he put his collar up, and attempted to button his coat, and was heard to mutter: "Wehizh! ifsh Ish known eesh wash sho cold, Ish brought mysh over-coat." The poor fellow had taken the muddy piles along the street for snow.

According to the latest returns of the Board of Agriculture there are in the United Kingdom 2,460,086 cows, or one for every six of the population. By the census of 1891 there were in Canada 1,857,112 cows, or one for every 2.60 of the population. In proportion to population, therefore, Canadians have almost four-times as many cows as have the people of Great Britain. In the number of cattle of all kinds, also, the Canadians are ahead, having 4,120,584 animals to 6,347,113 owned by the immensely greater number of people in Great Britain. From the above it would appear that Canadian farmers are much wealthier in the matter of herds than Great Britain.

Unreliability in the seasons seems to direct its way westward with the course of empire. The "oldest" inhabitant will still allege that when he was young England had a summer and a winter that could be depended upon. In Ontario the early settlers regarded the seasons as being honest as the sun. They are not now so esteeme'. A Winnipeg paper, speaking for the climate of Manitoba, says: "Of late years the seasons have been variable and erratic, so different

from what the old-timers were accustomed to before the days of extensive settlement, when there was a fair degree of regularity in the seasons humidity, dryness and cold, that the term 'exceptional weather' has not been misapplied when referring to conditions prevailing at certain months." There has also been a marked change in British Columbia weather.

A meeting for the organization of a Liberal Conservative Association was held last evening in Adelphi Hall. Although the notice calling the meeting was out only for a few days there was a large number present, thus demonstrating that those of the true old faith are ready to do battle when the appointed time comes against those of the new and untried doctrines. The preliminary arrangements are almost completed, and the work of getting names on the voters' lists is the next order of business. This is an important matter, and it merits the attention of those who are still partakers in the benefits conferred on the Canadian people by the late lamented Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald. Let the good the work go on, until the light penetrates Cimmerian darkness which encompasses the followers of the high priest of Gritism, Mr. Wilfred Laurier.

A most important Provincial Act will come into force next Monday, 1st October. It is the Fire Escape Act, and requires the owner, lessee or proprietor of every "hotel or public building, exceeding two stories in height, to erect at least one permanent outside stairway or ladder, from all the landings or floors above the ground floor of such hotel, or public building, and extending to at least eight feet of the ground or sidewalk thereunder, such stairway or ladder to be built of iron and to be firmly attached to the wall of the building and to be supplied with a hand-rail on either side." It is also to be of sufficient strength to sustain the weight of at least six full grown persons at the same time. There are also provisions for the keeping of rope fire-escapes in the rooms of buildings over two stories in height, with certain other requirements. This is a very necessary piece of legislation, and is something to which the chief of the Victoria fire brigade has more than once directed attention.

The other Act refers to the registration of partnerships with the registrar of the County Court of the county in which the business is conducted. In the case of partnerships existing at the time of the passage of said Act the registration was to be made within three months of that time, which consequently expired on July 11th inst.