

things being equal, is the correct one, and hence best calculated to equalize liabilities.

One peculiarity in connection with the American Legion of Honor is its social feature, which is altogether novel, and therefore exceptional in its character. It has been a custom heretofore with many kindred associations to exclude the better half of humanity from a full participation in their rights, privileges and benefits and thus ignoring the true position of the wife and mother in her relation to society. The institutors of the American Legion of Honor, however, recognizing the equality of the sexes, and the great importance of woman as a social, intellectual and friendly element, wisely decreed that she should be eligible to membership on the same terms, upon an equal platform and alike with man entitled to all the benefits of the order. To this wise provision, this grateful step from the dark night of ignorance and exclusiveness into the brilliant light of love, justice and equality which is beaming up and elevating mankind in this the nineteenth century, may possibly be traced the unprecedented growth and prosperity attending its career from an humble but noble birth scarcely five years ago, to its present comely and majestic attitude, having not less than 50,000 men and women adherents on the American continent. If man were not a social and sympathetic being, these friendly and beneficial societies would not be desirable, and the march of progress and civilization would be slow indeed. Fortunately for mankind, however, these sublime virtues are inherent and therefore deeply rooted in the mind; hence the struggle that is continually going on in an effort to better our condition and provide for those who are to follow is quite natural, being born of instinct. And if it were not so, the world would not to-day be in possession of the many wonderful inventions and discoveries which contribute so much to the ease and happiness of our race.

One of the strongest incentives to action is the natural desire on the part of man to provide for those dependent upon him in case of death. Few people live for themselves alone, disregarding entirely the wants and feelings of others, and those who do generally bring up in the penitentiary, or end their days in misery, debauchery and crime. Who is there that has stood by the death-bed and heard the last words of the father or mother that has not been witness to expressions like the following: "If my family were provided for I should die happy." "What will become of baby?" "Will anyone care for the dear little ones and protect them from the pangs of hunger when I am gone?" "Oh! why did I neglect to join some beneficial society?" etc. These are solemn questions to all, and in this speculative age, when unscrupulous capitalists are permitted to manipulate corners on the common necessities of life, and there is no law to bring them to justice, or punish their crimes, it becomes doubly important to the working man and woman who have families dependent upon them to make suitable provision for their children in case of death. This can be done by joining the Legion of Honor, and no one who is sober, industrious and economical, need entertain the slightest apprehension in regard to their ability to meet all necessary expenses arising from their connection with the Order.

A subordinate Council was established in Victoria, on the 9th of May, 1882, and has a membership at this time of sixty persons, some of whom are ladies.

Application for beneficial membership must be accompanied with \$13 00, and in addition one assessment according to age and Degree applied for.

The initiation fee for honorary members including one quarters' dues in advance, is \$5 00. W. H. Dorman is the present secretary to whom intending applicants may apply for further information.

SEPTEMBER

Is a month fruitful in events important to the English-speaking races. The use of the plural term seems still necessary, for although humane and wise accord is on the increase throughout, yet speakers of the tongue of Shakespeare in communities are so scattered over the globe, that their differentiating in non-essentials seems to be a natural process.

September 3rd, is the date in the 17th century, of Oliver Cromwell's two great victories, "the crowning mercies," as he termed them, of Dunbar and Worcester. It is also the date of the death of the "Great Commoner" of his era—his victory over the ills and ailments of this life. On the same day of the month, a century ago, at the British Minister's apartments in Paris, was signed that immortal treaty of peace by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay and the Minister of Great Britain, David Hartley. We quote the words of a man of, in Massachusetts, the historical name of Winthrop, who, recently, in an eloquent address to the Bunker's Hill Monument Association, suggests that from this—the centennial year of independence—onward, all battle commemorations should cease. European nations may wisely take note. On the 3rd September, 1883, was to have been opened in Boston, under the auspices of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association, an exposition of the choicest products of art and industry from the leading nations of the world.

We omit for the present, other memorable days of the month just past, to come to the 29th, 'Michaelmas' or St. Michael's Day. It, (last Saturday,) will be remembered in this Province, as the day on which, by the action of Joseph Hunter Esq., C. E., was commenced an important link towards the completion of the British Canadian Railway, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. We deem the S. E. end of Vancouver with its invaluable geographical position for commerce, its abundant and excellent coal, etc., and its large area, in various directions, of excellent harborage, as one of the most important of the resources of British Columbia.

NATIONAL MUSEUM, OTTAWA.

As promotive of the general weal, we beg to recommend to all our readers that associations of men and individuals, possessed of specimens of metallic ores, etc., should mail fair samples of the same to the National Museum at Ottawa, where they can be seen by many. This museum is under the management of Alfred R. C. Selwyn, LL D., F.R.S., and, as well as Dr. Selwyn's office, is on Sussex street, Ottawa.

MORE COAL.

From an authentic source we learn that quite extensive coal bearing districts have been found in the Rocky Mountains west of the main watershed, and consequently within the jurisdiction of British Columbia.