

THE VICTORIA  
HOME JOURNAL.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1894.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

FIVE crematories are to be erected in Chicago. One was considered enough for Sodom and Gomorrah.

GOOD wine in France sells as low as ten cents a quart; but then France is a long distance from Victoria.

A RUSSIAN daily prints its edition on cigarette paper, thereby increasing its circulation among cigarette smokers. Here is a pointer for the *Times* and *Colonist*.

ACTING on the suggestion of THE HOME JOURNAL, a thorough reorganization in one of the departments under the municipal council is likely to take place at an early date.

WE violate no confidence when we state that the D. W. Higgins who, in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, claims the distinction of being an authority on September foals, is not the honored Speaker of the Legislature, who goes no further than May.

As an evidence of liberality which now prevails among all religious denominations, we direct attention to the item in the *Colonist*, to the effect that the Rev. A. Brown, the Hebrew rabbi, lectured in the Emmanuel Baptist church, Victoria, Friday evening.

THE ARION CLUB.

When the Arion Club entertains, one may be sure of a pleasant evening and, usually, a surprise. This order was not disturbed on Saturday, when, through the courtesy of a member, I was present at its first Symposium of the season. The chairman of the evening, having welcomed the guests, called upon members to rise in their places and sing the club's Latin motto, which I shall freely translate as  
How sweet and pleasant 'tis to see  
Brethren dwell in unitee.  
After which, amid much tobacco smoke, and cheered by a little of the wine of the country, we started on our journey along a pleasant path strewn with part songs, jokes and other amusing and instructive pieces. The part songs were rendered every time by a different set of members, so that each at one time or another had the unwonted pleasure of hearing instead of singing the music in which the club has won its reputation. Not only were the singers changed, but so were the conduc-

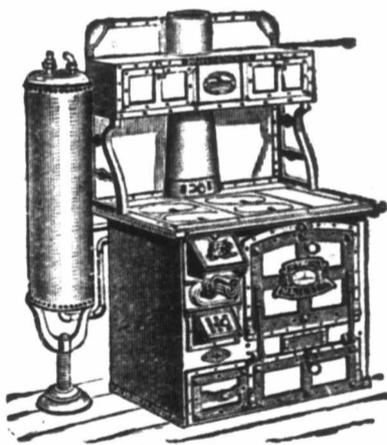
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tors, and, during the evening, no less than four wielded the baton, while the audience, not to be behind hand, assisted, and most harmoniously too, in one of the choruses. The surprise came in the shape of a poem, full of local allusions and besprinkled with doubtful puns, in which the versatile conductor made fun of himself and his men. Some of them were pretty hard hit, but, pleasant to say, seemed to enjoy the joke quite as much as the audience. Much merriment was caused by the performance of a burlesque overture, supposed to be by the conductor, and performed by a military band. They were habited in uniforms which much reminded me of those of the "Alphabetical Brigade," and were led by a gentleman who bore a striking resemblance to ex-Mayor Grant. The solos were all so good that comparisons would be odious, and I may say the same of the concerted numbers, of which "The Long Day Closes" was, in particular, sung by only ten of the members with a fineness that is not often reached. The musical part of the programme was thoughtfully varied by some neat club swinging, and all was brought to an end at a seasonable hour with a pithy speech of thanks from "our own gallant Colonel."

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