

try to another (she has travelled a good deal in England and Scotland, but especially in Scotland) was hearing the appreciative terms in which her husband was spoken of wherever she went. She found that there was a knowledge of him and his work such as we have little idea of here; it had reached to all parts of the country, and she said that for his sake she received kindnesses and considerations which she could not have expected to be shown to any person when travelling. In his lifetime Sir John Macdonald might have accepted a peerage, but he felt that it was his duty to remain and work where he could do the most good. Consequently he put aside all personal considerations, and continued to do his duty in that sphere where he could be most useful."

From the reports in the papers it would appear as if more interest than heretofore would be manifested in the municipal elections in the cities in this Province. Vancouver is moving in this direction, as are also New Westminster and Nanaimo. Here in Victoria we have the Civic Improvement Association, the object of which is to overturn the existing order of things completely. It is understood that Victoria, always in the lead in matters of this character, will have another association which will run independent candidates of its own. The movers in this new association contend that the Civic Improvement organization is not by any means a representative combination, and that its object is not altogether a desire to improve. The Board of Trade is certainly a representative body and should it, even at this late day, undertake to perform something of real lasting benefit, why should it not be encouraged? It will occur to many that Victoria cannot have too many "improvement" associations, and THE HOME JOURNAL, as in the case of the Civic Improvement Associ-

ations, hopes to be able to tender its congratulations to the new organization at the earliest possible day. Let the good work proceed.

In these dull times it does not take much to cause a little agitation. The *Colonist* of Sunday last was, perhaps inadvertently, the means of illustrating this fact. On the hypothesis that "there is seldom fire without smoke," the editor of the great morning daily undertook to erect a big chimney, in his imagination, and invited the public to behold its imperfections, pointing out that it is "so low that the smoke will be a nuisance to those living in the vicinity." This imaginary chimney was that of the new electric works, and that classic locality known as Turret Rock was on last Sabbath visited by scores of people who had never before set foot on the historic spot. The attraction was, of course, the chimney. But, alas! there was no chimney to be seen, because there was no chimney there. Very many of the visitors felt sadly disappointed, whilst others took it all as a good joke, and resolved to make capital out of it. The general greeting for the rest of the day was: "Did you see the chimney?" "What chimney?" "Why, the chimney at the new power house. Its so low that you can't see the building through the smoke from it. You ought to go down and see it." And away would go another to see that awful chimney—and become profane. According to the *Colonist* "the chimney is not properly built." That's a fact, as everyone who inspected it on Sunday will testify.

Unfortunately there are not many of our city thoroughfares adorned by trees. To my mind there is nothing so pleasing at any season of the year along the streets of a city, and more especially in residential quarters. In other cities the greatest care is taken of

these "things of beauty," and so stringent are the laws for their preservation enforced, that a branch dare not be removed except with the consent of the official whose duty it is to see that the trees are properly attended to. I happened to take a stroll along Pandora Avenue the other day, and was positively grieved to find that a number of those beautiful horse chestnuts which used to adorn the place had been removed. I should like to know at whose instigation this piece of sacrilege was perpetrated. Were those shade trees public or private property? Public property I should imagine, seeing that they grew on the public domain. And yet I have not heard a single protest raised against their removal. "What is everybody's business, is nobody's business," and on this principle, I suppose, the axe was plied. How often have I admired those once beautiful trees, budding in the spring, blooming in the summer, or tinged in the varied hues of autumn. What a pity they should have been removed. Nothing is now left of them but some dozen stumps peering several inches above ground—stunted monuments to the bad taste of those at whose instigation the avenue has been robbed of what contributed to its name and beauty.

Now that His Excellency the Governor General and his amiable lady have left this fair province of ours, we revert to the usual humdrum of everyday life, and even cease to observe the first rule of the ordinary mutual-admiration society. I am rather inclined to bless my stars that I am not a governor-general, for I could never bear the load of public sentiment and storm of congratulations which would be heaped upon me. Addresses innumerable were presented from public bodies, private bodies, friendly societies, unfriendly societies, unions and disunions, school children and school teachers. What a wonderful language