

The Colonist.

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Recitation... Fourth Division... Linnet Choir... Recitation... Third Division... Brightest and Best... Recitation... Village Pastor... Recitation... First Division... Hiawatha... Recitation... Second Division... Nymph of the Ocean Spray... Recitation... Fourth Division... Xmas Greeting... Recitation... Third Division... Life Boat... Recitation... The Merry Watching... Recitation... Morning Hymn... Recitation... First Division... In the Starlight... Recitation... Excelsior... Song... First Division... The Holidays... Song... God Save the Queen.

So excellent was every item that to partition it would be a pity. However, if there were any pieces better than others, these were "Hiawatha" and "The Life Boat". They were given in a novel style, the girls, in turn, reciting a few lines each, and their joining in chorus. The pronunciation and price lists were read as follows:

FIRST DIVISION—HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE. Annie E. Kelly, Agnes Peck, Nora Denton, Marie E. Isabella, Margaret McGee, Elizabeth Northcott, Kate C. Wolfenden, Elizabeth Harrell, Lizzie M. Watkins, Grace Eaton, Nellie M. Taylor, A. Russell, Martha Pauline Wolfe, Edith Louise Byrn, Ann Murray, Isabelle, and others.

From II. to I. Division, (Teacher, Mrs. Caldwell)—Bertha M. Myers, Maud Schwenger, Elizabeth Moore, Elizabeth Hill, Margaret Hill, Mary Fletcher, Charlotte Thomas, Blanche Moore, Elizabeth Hill, Margaret Hill, Elizabeth Rogers, Elizabeth Rogers, Mary Dunne, Edith Roberts, Klara Keeler, Mary Woolley, Mary Son, Elizabeth Peck, Grace Eaton, Rose Jackson, Annie Cathcart, Maggie Blackbourn, Eva Shrapnell.

From III. to II. Division, (Teacher, Miss Williams)—Agnes Bloomfield, Agnes Robinson, Vera Turner, Vera McGregor, Cora Leck, Edna Turner, Maud Bone and Leontine Denton, Edna Turner, Vera McGregor, Cora Leck, Edna Turner, Maud Bone and Leontine Denton, Edna Turner, Vera McGregor, Cora Leck, Edna Turner, Maud Bone and Leontine Denton.

From IV. to III. Division, (Teacher, Miss Fraser)—Katie Wood, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Kate McKinnon, Marian Wood and Ada Sims, equal; Alice Finlayson, Edith Sherrin, Winifred Hopper, Mary Moffatt, Lulu Sherrin, Edith Wood, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Kate McKinnon, Marian Wood and Ada Sims, equal.

From V. to IV. Division, (Teacher, Miss Russell)—Charlotte Crab, Olive Strain and the McCroskeys, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Ruth Chalmers, Irene Hitchcock, Mary Shotbolt and Alice Nicholson, equal; Alice Phillips, Mary George, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little.

From VI. to V. Division, (Teacher, Miss Russell)—Charlotte Crab, Olive Strain and the McCroskeys, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Ruth Chalmers, Irene Hitchcock, Mary Shotbolt and Alice Nicholson, equal; Alice Phillips, Mary George, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little.

From VII. to VI. Division, (Teacher, Miss Russell)—Charlotte Crab, Olive Strain and the McCroskeys, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Ruth Chalmers, Irene Hitchcock, Mary Shotbolt and Alice Nicholson, equal; Alice Phillips, Mary George, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little.

From VIII. to VII. Division, (Teacher, Miss Russell)—Charlotte Crab, Olive Strain and the McCroskeys, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Ruth Chalmers, Irene Hitchcock, Mary Shotbolt and Alice Nicholson, equal; Alice Phillips, Mary George, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little.

From IX. to VIII. Division, (Teacher, Miss Russell)—Charlotte Crab, Olive Strain and the McCroskeys, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Ruth Chalmers, Irene Hitchcock, Mary Shotbolt and Alice Nicholson, equal; Alice Phillips, Mary George, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little.

From X. to IX. Division, (Teacher, Miss Russell)—Charlotte Crab, Olive Strain and the McCroskeys, Mable Whitton, Annie Fraser, Ruth Chalmers, Irene Hitchcock, Mary Shotbolt and Alice Nicholson, equal; Alice Phillips, Mary George, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little, Agnes Dier, Mabel Clark, Millie Little.

FIJIAN BELLES. Endowed with Rare Grace and Symmetry and a Full Knowledge of Their Charms. Coming from the restraints and conventionalities of civilization, a correspondent at Suva, Fiji, writes to the New York Times, one almost envies the freedom and naturalness of life which prevail in Fiji. The Fijian women are distinguished for their chastity and devotion to their families. Many of them are exceedingly pretty, and although like the women of most countries which have an exclusive vegetable diet, they incline to corpulency as they approach middle life, they are in youth very graceful and symmetrical, and by their lively and cheerful manners make a most agreeable impression upon the visitor.

The young girls are all of fun, and their looking among the trees and the quietness as they are produced in Paris, London or New York.

It needs no education to make a woman understand that she is attractive above her fellows, so here in Fiji I have seen many young ladies who showed as many airs in a garb consisting simply of a belt with a thick fringe of dyed coconuts as in a dress of the latest fashion. Her shapely brow, her legs were laced in one of Worth's latest dresses. One of these, attended by an ancient duenna, came aboard the steamer the other day at Leontia. It was Sunday, and to keep abreast of the male population, who were peculiarly attracted in the white shirts which the mission had recently had them to assume on the first day of the week, she had put over her petticoat of native cloth a loose, sleeveless chemise of thin blue cotton. Her hair, black as a crow's wing and in enormous lustrous masses, was coiled upon the top of her shapely head and adorned with a flower of the tropics. Her shapely brow, her legs were laced in one of Worth's latest dresses. One of these, attended by an ancient duenna, came aboard the steamer the other day at Leontia.

Everybody on the ship turned to the side to look at her and certain of the young men among the passengers, cordially addressing her as "Mary" and "Susan," invited her to come aboard. She seemed as unconscious of the admiration her charms had excited as if she were a statue of the coldest marble, but nevertheless was seen to smile at all in from the corner of her eye and to continue the cause of it by animated conversation with her duenna, by turning about so that she might be seen from all sides, and by certain sly looks which addressed the friends of the duenna, who were as she passed them, as if she were a statue of the coldest marble.

She accepted an invitation to the hands all her own when they were young to get a suitable price, the young man surrounded her and intimated a desire that she should honor the ship with her company back to Melbourne. She at once took alarm and began to cry like a little child, and her duenna indignantly bore her away and off the vessel. Mr. Hunter, who had been invited to the party, was extremely powerful in leading to instant and determined action.

Mr. A. J. McClellan opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. Crossley sang "Come, O Lord, Redeem Us." Mr. Hunter read Matt. vi. as the lesson. In the course of his remarks he said we should be careful how we judge each other. There is only one person whom we have the right to judge, and that is self. Some people judge others by a single action. If these same people were judged that way they would be in the penitentiary. We are to do as we would be done by. We are to go to God, may seemingly delay in giving, but delays are not denials.

There are many hindrances to prayer. The head, heart, purpose or life may be wrong. The body may be unclean, and the spirit hindered. No man can see the Lord's Prayer who doesn't forgive. Some people bring the hatchet with the handle sticking out, so that they can get hold of it easily again. Working hindrances; these are going, dancing, etc. Want of specific aims; hindrances; some people when they pray seem reaching out for the "Amen," and can't get hold of it. Help to pray for faith, humility, patience, perseverance. Ripen fruit and a true Christian are alike, each is beautifully tender, sweet, fit for use.

Mr. Hunter read seventeen requests for prayer. Mr. Crossley took his text from Gen. vi. 3. These words should spur the uncovered to immediate action and the Christian to immediate effort. The text suggests that God's spirit does strive. He strives in many ways, by the Christian's words, by His providence, by the remembrance of a mother's prayers, etc. Some people are waiting for the Spirit to come down. It is not necessary. God draws mildly, but firmly.

We possess the power to resist or to yield. Some people say, "I can't be a Christian." This means, "I will not be a Christian." Resist by prayer, by refusing to follow him. Backsliders resist, moralists resist, relying on self-righteousness; young people resist by trifling, skeptics resist by skeptical questions. Those who procrastinate are resisting.

The results of resisting are, spiritual blindness, spiritual deafness, stubbornness of will, hardness of heart, and they will resist the Spirit with words. If the Spirit has left there is no concern or desire toward Christian life, no fear or alarm. Christian people lose interest in the person. If the Spirit is resisting there is a desire for Christian life, but the little ones have an interest in the person. If the Spirit leaves a man his doom is sealed. The Spirit is not arbitrary. God will not leave so long as there is any young man, Christian life is a thing that we ought not to do; resist not, grieve not, quench not the Spirit.

As usual a considerable number of people found their way to the inquiry room.

PLAYED "STRIPPERS" ON HIM. A Card Sharpener Suffers for Trying an Old Trick on a New York Drummer. "No, sir," exclaimed my friend "Buck," who is a traveling salesman for a large Broadway importing house, says a writer in the New York Herald, "you don't often catch an old drummer asleep. We're wide-awake to the tricks of most all trades, I can tell you."

"The last time a sharper tried to down me was at Cleveland, O., a few weeks ago. He tried to work the 'stripper' racket on me. I was seated in my room early one evening, when a little fellow ran in through the open door and began sniffing about. Pretty soon a well-dressed young fellow appeared at the door, and, apologizing for the intrusion, asked if I had seen a stray dog anywhere around."

"Ah! there you are," said he, eyeing the canine, "always running away from me into other people's rooms," he explained. As might be expected, one word led to another, and very soon we were engaged in a general conversation. The talk drifted to cards and then the stranger produced a pack. He had just learned a new trick which he would show me.

"Now take a card and look at it," said he. I did as directed, selecting the ace of spades. He then asked me to hand him the pack. He then requested me to shuffle the cards well, which I did. He then took the pack. "There is your card," he said at once, producing the ace of clubs. "Very good," said I, "but I don't think you could do it again." I then called his attention to a picture in a picture. "No," said I, "I don't think you could do it again; not for twenty dollars."

"I'll see you," said he, producing the money. "All right," said I, and the bet was made. I then selected a card—the ace of spades. He henceforth in the pack, requesting me to replace the card and shuffle them as usual. I placed the card in the pack, and he shuffled them myself; while I was shuffling I just fixed the cards on the sharper so that he couldn't tell one card from another. "There," said I, handing him the pack, "where's my card?"

"He took the pack with a smile of confidence and began to run his fingers over the edges. Then he began to look at a trifling nervous. 'Come,' said I, 'produce the card or I take your money.' 'Well, sir, after he had fumbled over the pack for a few minutes I just pocketed his twenty dollars. 'Now, see here,' I said to him, 'you've been trying to play 'strippers' on me, haven't you?' 'Yes,' never said a word for about ten minutes, but I was sure to leave the room. 'Say,' said he as he was about to leave, 'you're a New York drummer for another twenty.' 'I'm not making any more bets,' said I. 'I knew it,' he remarked as he left the room."

"Strippers" Why, that's a pack of cards made slightly narrower on one side than the other. An almost imperceptible difference, yet enough to be distinguished by the touch. When you select a card the sharper hands you the pack so that you replace it upside down, the broad end among the narrow ones—see? He can then 'snipe' it out without any trouble. It's a neat trick and hard to detect unless you have been in."

"Of course I knew what he was up to when he handed me the pack. I put the card in as he wanted it, and then while I was shuffling I quietly turned it around so that the ends were all alike. "Did it cost me anything to learn that trick?" Well, I'm not giving my card away. I got twenty dollars out of it back as any rate."

VESTAL VIRGINS. Maidenhood Who Were Keepers of the Sacred Fire of Rome. Ovid tells us that the first temple of Vesta at Rome was constructed of wattle and daub, and that the primitive huts of the inhabitants. It was little other than a circular, covered fireplace, says the Cornhill Magazine, and was tended by the unmarried girls of the infant community. It served as the public hearth of Rome, and on it glowed, unextinguished, the sacred fire which, it was said, had been brought from Troy, and the continuance of which was thought to be linked with the fortunes of the city.

The name Vesta is believed to be derived from the same root as the Sanskrit word, which means "to dwell." In the goddess of home, and home had the hearth as its focus. A town, a state, is but a large family, and what the domestic hearth was to the house, that the temple of the perpetual fire became to the city. Every town had its Vesta or common hearth, and the colonies that should a vestal maiden allow the sacred fire to become extinguished she was beaten by the grand pontiff till her blood flowed, and the new fire was solemnly rekindled by rubbing together of dry wood, or by focusing of the sun's rays through a crystal lens, and so forth.

The life of a submarine telegraph cable is from ten to twelve years. If a cable breaks in deep water after it is ten years old it cannot be lifted for repairs, as it will break of its own weight. On this account the cable companies are prepared to put aside a large reserve fund in order to be prepared to replace their cables every ten years. The action of the sea is the great enemy of the submarine cable; it eats the iron away so completely as to turn the outside coating to rust or sediment, while the core is still intact. The breakage of an ocean cable is a very costly affair, and it is difficult to be encountered in repairing it. It often becomes necessary in case of a break to charter a ship at five hundred dollars per day for several days in succession trying to fix upon the location where the cable has parted. One breaker in the Direct Cable Company's line from New York to London was replaced in a few years ago cost that syndicate one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

SIXTY days after date I intend making application to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 20 acres, more or less, beginning at a point in the north-west corner of the North Island, and extending south 20 chains, west 20 chains, to a point in the north-west corner of the North Island, and extending south 20 chains, west 20 chains, to a point in the north-west corner of the North Island.

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NOTICE is hereby given that 60 days after date I intend applying to the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described lands situated on the north side of the head of the North Island, beginning at a point in the north-west corner of the North Island, and extending south 20 chains, west 20 chains, to a point in the north-west corner of the North Island.

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USE IT FOR Difficulty of Breathing, Tightness of the Chest, Wasting Away of Flesh, Throat Troubles, Consumption, Bronchitis, Weak Lungs, Asthma, Coughs, Catarrh, Colds.

BOTTLE DR. T. A. SLOCUM'S Oxygenized Emulsion of Pure

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Vancouver Route: Victoria to Vancouver—Daily, except Monday at 2 o'clock, a.m. Vancouver to Victoria—Daily, except Monday at 12 o'clock or arrival of C.P.R. No. 1 going east Monday.

New Westminster Route: Leave Victoria for New Westminster—Daily, except Monday at 10 o'clock, a.m. Leave New Westminster for Victoria—Daily, except Monday at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Barclay Sound Route: Steamer MAUDE leaves Victoria for Alberni and Sound ports at regular intervals between Vancouver and Victoria, every Tuesday and Friday at 7 o'clock.

Head Office, - VANCOUVER, B. C. VANCOUVER-NANAIMO ROUTE—S.S. CUTCH leaves Vancouver daily at 10 p.m. arriving at Nanaimo at 6 p.m. Leaves NANAIMO at 7 a.m. arriving at VANCOUVER at 10 a.m.

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PENNYROYAL WAFERS. Prescription of a physician who has had a life long experience in the use of this medicine. It is used monthly with perfect success in all cases of Catarrh of the Bladder, Gonorrhoea, etc.

THIRTY-FIVE MERCIER'S DI... L'Electeur Lundy... the Course of the... wards the Admin...

Strong Probability T... Resist and Refu... Supercede

Dec. 17.—L... al organ of ex-Pr... a strong article, th... Mercier's dismissal... gers. It says: "Th... on we call Lieute... mpling under foot... orders from his... has dismissed the... ple of the province... upset all constitu... and substituted the tyrann...

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