

## SWEETHEARTS.

I found to-night, my darling,  
In the pages of an old, old book—  
A tiny faded violet  
That grew by a rippling brook,  
Once, long ago, my darling,  
When you and I were young,  
Ere the light from your eyes had faded,  
Ere your sweet life song was done.

Ah, me! this flower, my darling,  
It carries me back again  
To the sunlight athwart the meadow,  
When never a hint of rain  
Clouded our sky, my darling,  
When our life was one sweet love song,  
But it ended so soon, so sadly,  
And the years have been very long.

So long since then, my darling,  
And under the daisies white  
Your face has long been hidden,  
Though it seems to me to-night  
I can hear your voice, my darling,  
As I heard it long ago,  
Ere they laid you beneath the flowers  
Where the evening breezes blow.

MARION LESLIE, in Saturday Night.

## PILOTAGE.

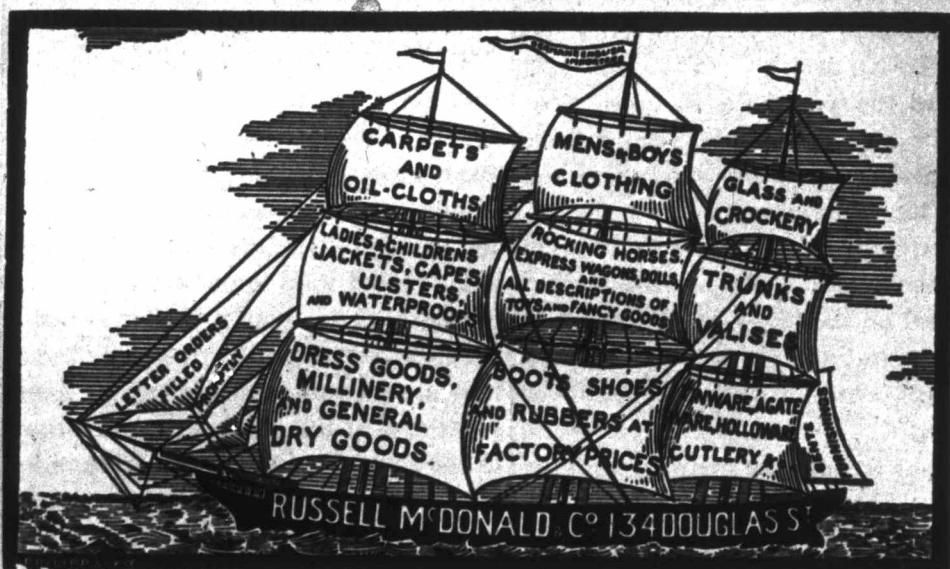
When Mr. Robert Ward undertakes anything, either in his own interest or that of the public, he always performs his duties not only intelligently but thoroughly, being ever ready to give a reason for following any particular course. In connection with the investigation into the loss of the SS. San Pedro, in the vicinity of the port of Victoria, into which he was appointed to inquire in conjunction with Captains Lewis and Gaudin, Mr. Ward has transmitted his report to the Board of Trade. Not only did the Board of Inquiry decide where the responsibility for the catastrophe lay, but they indicated that in no way was the approach to the harbor of Victoria dangerous, the accident having been caused by miscalculation and neglect on the part of Pilot Christensen, the captain of the steamer, to a certain extent, being entitled to blame. Mr. Ward has gone further than his associates in his special return to the Board of Trade, having undertaken to deal with the pilotage system of the province.

He showed that the system of licensing pilots was not what it ought to be, pointing out that although Captain Christensen held a license for British Columbia, he was at the time of the accident acting under a Nanaimo license, and, in consequence, the Victoria pilotage commissioners had no authority over him although the accident occurred in their district. Moreover, it was demonstrated that although the pilots are well paid for their services, they have no such thing as a schooner or sloop with which to reach vessels who may be in need of their services, masters being compelled to call off Victoria to take on a pilot from shore or to discharge one there. Vessel owners carrying and merchants trading with this port will be well satisfied that the British Columbia Board of Trade adopted Mr. Ward's report, which, moreover, recommended that the government be requested to look into the entire pilotage question, with a view to the adoption of an effective system applicable to all British Columbia waters.—*B. C. Commercial Journal.*

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