

pating that if the Chinese visitors were permitted to run at large the consequences might be serious, and so, as soon as they were landed at this port, they, with their baggage, were transferred to the suspect station, when their clothing and baggage were fumigated and the Celestials themselves treated to a disinfecting bath, and then set at liberty. But even with all these precautions some of the suspects may yet contain the germs of the disease, as the period of incubation of smallpox after exposure (fourteen days) had not elapsed. This action on the part of the city health authorities is to be commended.

Now, the question arises, should the city be put to this expense every time a ship arrives from the Orient? According to the Act of Confederation quarantine matters are under the exclusive control of the Dominion Government, and hence, in consistency with the law, it is the duty of the Dominion Government to take preventative measures against the introduction of contagious or infectious disease. It is plainly evident that they recognize this fact, else why did they put the Dominion of Canada to a heavy expense in erecting a thoroughly equipped quarantine station at Williams Head? and in doing so they only performed a part of their duty; they should go still further, and authorize the quarantine officer at Williams Head, Dr. Jones, to disinfect all ships hailing from ports where smallpox is believed to be epidemic, even if on inspection he finds that there is no disease aboard. What greater proof of the necessity of such vigilance could be advanced than the circumstance referred to in connection with the last voyage of the *Empress of India*?

The feeling on this matter is very high in Victoria, and if the Government continue to neglect what is conceived to be their bounden duty, the citizens, not only of Victoria, but of the other coast cities of British Columbia as well, will undoubtedly express themselves through the voice of the people in meeting assembled. This is no trifling matter, involving as it does the life and death of our citizens, as well as a repetition in the stagnation of business that prevailed two years ago. The sooner the Government realize the enormity of the interests at stake the better it will be for all concerned. Let them consider that all the trouble could be avoided by the detention of the vessel for two hours at Williams Head.

Victoria business men have many things to complain of, but there is one consolation—matters might be worse. On the American side of the line there is scarcely one city that has not already, or will in the future contribute a certain proportion of their unemployed to swell

Coxey's great army, which is now marching on to Washington. And while the greatest social problem which the Americans were ever called upon to solve now confronts them, it is pleasing to note that in the business centres of British Columbia, and the whole of Canada for that matter, there are not nearly so many complaints of dull times as there were. In fact there seems to be an awakening in all lines, though the volume of business is by no means as large as usual at this time of year. However, preparations are made along a fairly liberal scale, all things considered, for an active spring trade. This is especially true of the dry goods and the men's furnishings trade. The season is later than usual with all, or, rather, stocks not quite as early as usual. The grocery business shows little change, save that the advent of more green stuff increases the number of sales, without materially increasing the volume of business as to values. It is a gratifying sign to notice that there has been considerable furbishing up of the retail stores in many lines. A country like ours with resources unexampled on earth in their richness, variety and availability, cannot possibly remain long in a depressed condition.

The divorce judges of the United States are being daily confronted with new points of law. The latest, and what is regarded as the most singular, is the one recently raised by the lawyer for John B. Russell, who sues his wife for divorce, and amongst other reasons he offers for the dissolution of the marriage tie is that "bleached or artificially colored hair is easily distinguished as such, and does not appear natural nor does it deceive any person, but it is perfectly patent and noticeably conspicuous. It is regarded by the majority of right-thinking persons as an indication of a loose, dissolute and wanton disposition, and is regarded as, and commonly held to be, a practice never affected by modest, pure, and respectable women." Further on he says: "Mrs. Russell is a brunette naturally. Her hair is of a chestnut-brown color, which, in its normal state, is modest and becoming, and harmonizes with the natural color of her skin and eyes. Since we married she has, against my wishes and protests, and with intent to vex, annoy, exasperate, and shame me, dyed her hair and changed its shade to a conspicuous and showy straw or canary color. As a consequence of this artificial coloring, she has been obliged to paint her face to secure an artificial complexion in keeping with the artificial color of her hair. The combination has given her a giddy, fast, and sporty appearance." This, it will occur to many, is an attempt

to stretch the already lax divorce laws of the United States a little too far. Even the plea of incompatibility of temperament, on which so many divorces have been granted, was far more reasonable than the one set up by the plaintiff in the above case. However, they have queer ways of doing things in "the land of the free and the home of the brave," and when Mrs. Russell files her defence, no doubt it will make interesting reading. She may be able to say as did Mrs. Frank Leslie, who in the course of an interview regarding the late marriage of Willie Wilde, from whom she was divorced last year, remarked: "I have dropped that person out of my life altogether, and only look back at my experience with him as on a hideous nightmare. I do not say that he still loves me; if he did I would feel very uncomfortable with such love and tender kindness as he could bestow."

According to *Scribner's Magazine* a Bohemian may be defined as the only kind of gentleman permanently in temporary difficulties who is neither a sponge nor a cheat. He is a type that has existed in all ages and always will exist. He is a man who lacks certain elements necessary to success in this world, and who manages to keep fairly even with the world by dint of ingenious shift and expedient, never fully succeeding, never wholly failing. He is a man, in fact, who can't swim, but can tread water. But he never, never, never calls himself a Bohemian—at least, in a somewhat wide experience, I have known only two that ever did, and one of these was a baronet. As a rule, if you overhear a man approach his acquaintance with the formula, "As one Bohemian to another," you may make up your mind that that man means an assault upon the other man's pocketbook, and that if the assault is successful the damages will never be repaired. That man is not a Bohemian; he is a beat. Your true Bohemian always calls himself by some euphemistic name. He is always a gentleman at odds with fortune, who rolled in wealth yesterday and will tomorrow, but who at present is willing to do any work that he is sure will make him immortal and that he thinks may get him the price of a supper. And very often he lends more largely than he borrows.

A Bill to reduce the number of grand jurors required to find a true bill, from 12 to 7, is before Parliament. This is regarded by many as a most objectionable proposal. The grand jury has one of the most important duties to perform which devolves upon any body of men. They stand between the rash, and, at