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STARTLING HYPNOTIC TEST.

Prof. Tyndall, Well Known in Victoria, Creates a Great Sensation in St. Louis.

He Puts a Condemned Murderer Under the Influence and Declares Him Innocent.

Many Victorians will recall the fact that during the summer of 1891, this city was visited by an eccentric mind reader, Prof. Alexander J. McIvor Tyndall, who, hailing from England, where he had been a medical student, was then travelling through Canada giving exhibitions of his marvellous power. While here he dropped out of sight for quite a while, and grave fears were entertained that he was dead, but after some weeks it was learned that he was a patient at the Jubilee Hospital, where he was sent ill with typhoid fever. After his recovery he went down the Sound, and visited also Portland and San Francisco. Everywhere his mind reading feats astonished the public, but Tyndall can never keep a "manager," and as a result he has never been able to accumulate any money. He is now in St. Louis, Mo., en route to Chicago. At the latter place he is to be buried alive for thirty days, at the end of which time all that is left of him is to be resurrected. The professor claims he will be just as hearty after his "grave experience" as before, and the boldness of the test amply proves his belief in his ability to carry out the plan.

While in St. Louis a week ago Saturday, Prof. Tyndall performed an experiment the result of which has interested the whole South, and is being talked about wherever the details are known. Accompanied by a reporter of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Tyndall went to the Missouri State penitentiary, where, in a section of the building known as "murderers' row," a number of condemned men and women are awaiting their awful doom. The object of the visit was explained to them, one after the other, and Warden Kramer told the prisoners they were perfectly free to submit to the test or not, just as they chose. Tyndall's proposition was to hypnotize a prisoner and, after the man was under the influence, ask him questions concerning the crime for which he was to be punished. Each of the prisoners to whom the proposition was made were warned that when hypnotized he would have to tell the truth, and that no matter how much he might try, it would be impossible for him to tell a lie.

One after the other of the condemned men refused to submit to the test. Finally the party came to a cell occupied by Jacob Henze, found guilty of the murder of a St. Louis stock broker named E. E. Brown. Henze, after consideration, declared that as he was an innocent man and had nothing to conceal, he was not afraid of the test. It took but a few minutes to place him under the influence. When he began to talk, he thought the Globe Democrat reporter was a brother of his own who had been with him the night Brown was murdered, but who had since died, and to him he related the whole story of what he had done on the night of the awful crime, every now and then when leading questions would be put to him, to draw him out, saying, "No, you know, Billy, that is not so. You know you were with me and that I had nothing to do with killing Brown."

The reporter and the jail warden, who were both fully conversant with the details of the murder which had filled all St. Louis with horror, closely questioned and cross-questioned the man, but were unable to swerve him in a single instance from the story he had told. Finally, Prof. Tyndall removed the spell, and then Henze refused to believe he had said anything to anyone during his sleep, and more especially, knew nothing about having seen and conversed with his dead brother. Prof. Tyndall says of the case:

"That man is innocent if ever one lived. He has told nothing but the truth. I'll stake my reputation, though I know nothing whatever of the case, that he can prove everything he has said by the witnesses he has named. He is as innocent of Brown's murder as I am."

Now there is an outcry for a new trial which will probably be granted, and should the case again come before the courts, it may become one of the most interesting and sensational of the year.

TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

Lines in Which Business Can Readily be Done—Implements—Salmon, Bottled Fruits.

Return Cargoes—Oranges, Mutton, etc.—Superiority of the Canadian Steamship Service.

(From the COLONIST's Special Correspondent.)

SYDNEY, N.S.W., July 18.—Canada already does business with the Australian colonies in agricultural implements, a Toronto house keeping a representative here and apparently finding trade profitable. In carriages and carriage materials, the latter especially, the United States has done considerable, and there seems little doubt that Canada could do well in this line. There would at times be a demand for Portland cement, but this trade would be uncertain, as prices vary to a great extent, owing to the fact that dement, being heavy and easily handled, is very largely brought from the United Kingdom as ballast in sailing ships, and is thus landed here without cost of freight. In canned fish a large trade is now done with San Francisco in Columbia river and Skeena salmon and the Canadian product comes also, indirectly. To those who know the relative merits of the two articles, it is unnecessary to say that the Canadian canned salmon has only to be pushed upon the market to find a ready and profitable sale. As to bottled fruits, jams and jellies, and preserves generally, there are several firms engaged in canning here, but for some reason their product does not find the same favor as that given to the article imported from the United States, and there appears to be a good opening for the preserved fruit of the British Columbia industries. Australia is an exporter of ingot tin, and in the past considerable quantities have been sent to San Francisco for the use of the canners there. The market price here is said to be generally about £2 per ton less than the London quotation on day of sale. In furniture a very profitable field is open for exploitation by any firm who will put a first-class Canadian article on the market. The modern furniture to be seen in every office, hotel, store or private residence in Canada is altogether absent here, and it seems almost a certainty that if shown in competition with the old style furniture and furnishings generally now sold, it would be purchased at sight. Musical instruments are altogether imported. Germany is

A FORMIDABLE COMPETITOR

for this trade, but the excellence of Canadian pianos and organs, both in musical tone and the finish of their cases which makes them so highly ornamental, would commend them to those to whom price is not a first consideration. All the paper in use here is imported, coming mostly in sailing ships from the United Kingdom. Here is a possible field for Canadian enterprise. In railway plant a large business ought to be done by anyone having enterprise enough to put some modern vehicles on the lines here as samples. Luxurious railway travelling so common in Canada and the United States, is altogether unknown here. The cars are of the commonest appearance possible, and little attention is given to providing comforts for passengers, especially those travelling long distances—a very considerable number. If roofing slates such as are in use in British Columbia could be delivered here at a reasonable cost, they would find a ready sale, so should British Columbia shingles. These ought to replace to a large extent the unsightly galvanized iron and tiles so generally seen. The above are but a few of the branches in which it appears that trade could be immediately opened up. An examination of the list of

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS

already given, will suggest others to those in the business.

The following are the imports by the Alameda, arrived from San Francisco today: For Sydney—Two cases, thirty barrels beer, 100 bales broom corn, 30,600 feet timber, 4,000 pounds malt, 100 flasks quicksilver, 2,000 gallons whale oil. For Melbourne—Five packages agricultural implements, 6,700 pounds coffee.

The Monowai, the last boat hence for San Francisco, took the following to that port: 2,984 cases fruit, 13 drums glycerine, 44 cases meal, 5 sacks rice, 35 pieces sprinklers, 33 packages harness, 114 hides, 29 bags pelts, 7 packages exhibits, 1 case watches, 9 bales skins and sundries. For Honolulu: 50 carcases mutton, 23 cases wine, and sundries.

The cargo of the Miowera will be made up mainly of fruits and frozen meat. The fruit consists of oranges and lemons, nearly all consigned by the associated fruit growers for sale to the best advantage. There is practically no limit to the quantity of oranges and lemons which may be shipped from here to Canada. Lemons are obtainable all the year round. The preferred season for shipping oranges will probably be from May to September; they, too, can be sent all the year round, but are higher in price for the rest of the year than for the months named. In the plentiful months they can be delivered at the steamer here at from 4s 6d per case upwards, if bought on the trees, the best way to buy. A considerable portion of the present shipment is packed, as requested by the Canadian dealers, in cases of American pattern, the fruit being wrapped in tissue paper and the number contained marked upon each case. The main item in the cost of the fruit is the

LABOR OF PACKING.

Very large quantities of oranges are allowed to rot in the groves for want of a market. Mutton is about in the same position, the sheep being obtainable at a nominal cost, and the heaviest item of expense being the freezing preparatory to being placed on shipboard. The mutton is shipped in bags, and on shipboard can be packed in the cold storage chamber as closely almost as so many bags of salt, there being no waste of space. The Canadian duty of three cents per lb. will deter trade to a certain extent, but notwithstanding this, prime mutton of better quality than that usually obtainable in British Columbia can be laid down all the year round at lower than the average cost of the native or imported article at present in use. A few live sheep have been consigned by the Miowera as an experiment, but it is not thought that this will be a profitable trade. They are in charge of Mr. Fader, who will dispose of them to the best advantage; he is also taking a quantity of frozen mutton of prime quality, the best obtainable in fact. The Graziers Packing and Export Co., of Queensland, have appointed Fader & Co. their sole agents for British Columbia, and have consigned to them a large assortment of preserved canned meats, of quality said to be superior to any packed in America. Mr. Fader takes a lot of pineapples, oranges, lemons, cheese, honey, syrup, corn and canned beef in barrels. If his enterprise in making the trip is not rewarded by decided profit, it will not be for lack of variety of the goods he will handle, which are all very attractive.

The greatest satisfaction is expressed here at the nature of the Canadian service, which far surpasses that hitherto running to San Francisco. The managers of the latter ere giving prominence to the announcement that

NEW AND FAST BOATS

are to be built at once for their use, but it does not appear that the contract for the boats has yet been awarded. The announcement is no doubt intended for use in connection with the renewal of the mail subsidy, the present contract expiring in November. One most significant fact is the attitude of the San Francisco press, which so far from belittling the new line to Canada, fully realizes its importance, as witness the following paragraph from the San Francisco Chronicle, recently to hand: "The establishment of a steamer line between Vancouver and Australia, in connection with the Canadian Pacific, is a blow which this port has been apprehending for a long time. The reduction of rates by the new line will probably cause the Oceanic company to take a similar course. Whether this will mean a loss or not is an open question. There is one ground for hope; the new tariff, with wool on the free list, will mean an immediate increase in our Australian trade, and in the nature of things this increase will belong to San Francisco and cannot be trespassed upon by Vancouver. Our people are likely to find that the result of last year's election was the salvation of the American mail route to the colonies."

PREPARED FOR THE INVASION.

Victoria is Ready to be Taken by the Delegates to This Week's Christian Convention.

Upwards of One Hundred Earnest Workers—A Few of the Noted Names.

The tenth annual convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the Pacific Northwest, to be composed of delegates from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Idaho, is to be held in Victoria, commencing next Thursday, August 17, and closing the following Sunday evening.

Upwards of 150 delegates are expected to attend, and measures of deep importance concerning the affairs of the Y.M.C.A. are to be considered. A number of men prominent in Y. M. C. A. circles will come, among them Clarence J. Hicks, of New York city, who, for the past three years, has been working among railroad men as International railroad secretary; also Prof. W. H. Williams, of the University of Wisconsin, a prominent educator and a noted Bible teacher.

Preparations are being made to receive the delegates in a cordial manner befitting to Victoria, and everything is indicative of the convention being one of great interest and benefit.

Yesterday the friends of the Y.M.C.A. completed the important work of billeting the one hundred or more delegates who will be here for the convention, giving an average of two guests to each family throwing open its doors. The work of decorating the rooms was merrily proceeded with yesterday, and to-night the vanguard of the invaders will be upon the city, although the convention does not open until Thursday.

The ladies of the various churches have made preparations for serving luncheon at the rooms each day—one day by the Methodists, the next the Presbyterians, etc.,—and in this connection the ladies of the Metropolitan, Centennial and James Bay churches will meet at Association hall at 3 o'clock this afternoon, Friday being the Methodist day of entertainment. On Sunday next all the city churches, or at least a majority of the Protestant temples, will be supplied with preachers from among the association workers who will that day conclude their visit in British Columbia's capital.

Frederick B. Pratt, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a member of the international committee and head of the Pratt Institute of Brooklyn, has been invited to deliver an address on educational work. Frank W. Ober is the popular and efficient secretary of the Omaha, Neb., association, and is said to be a whole convention in himself. John H. Elliott, of Minneapolis, Minn., is known among association workers of the country as the "Helpful Bible teacher." His services during the summer season at Chautauqua gatherings are in great demand, and it will be a rare treat to hear him. Besides these experienced workers from the East, Rev. Dean Richmond Babbitt, D.D., of Tacoma, Mr. Frost, of Portland, and other prominent association men from this part of the country will be here.

At the present time there are 14,039 associations in existence, reporting an aggregate membership of 245,809, almost a quarter of a million. Property is owned valued at over fourteen and three-quarter millions, with nearly a half million put into libraries alone. There are 284 associations owning buildings and provided with gymnasiums, and 499 associations furnish gymnasium privileges; 316 associations have evening educational classes, which have been attended by 20,526 students during the past year.

Another practical part of the work is seen in the fact that 12,304 situations were secured for young men. Organized work for boys is reported by 266 Associations, with a membership of 17,941; 488 Associations report 15,469 Bible class sessions; 468 report 12,844 Bible training class sessions, and 18,933 Associations report religious meetings for young men exclusively. Five years ago only sixty associations employed physical directors, now nearly two hundred employ them. Particular attention has been given within the past two or three years to the work of evening educational classes.

THE LATE HENRI HEBERT.

TO THE EDITOR:—Seeing an account of the death of the late Henri Hebert misconstrued Harry Herbert, in your issue of the 4th ult. (I suppose owing to a mistake of your Kootenay correspondent), allow me to make a correction. The poor lad, was proved by witnesses at the coroner's inquest, which was held in this town, to have been perfectly sober. He had attended to his duties all day, as the captain of the boat testified to the jury, which also brought in a verdict to that effect. I having known him for many years, and thinking that such a report might cause sorrow to his friends if they saw it, I should feel much obliged if you would publish this.

W. G. MACFARLANE.

THE CONTRACTS STAND.

The City Council Refuse to Make Any Change in Their Action Re Drains.

Prospect of Increased Fire Insurance Rates—The Victoria-Sidney Railway.

Four aldermen only were present last evening when Mayor Beaven took the chair at the regular meeting of the City Council. They were Ald. McKillican, Styles, Bragg, and Baker. While the minutes of various meetings held during the past week were being read, Ald. Henderson came in, closely followed by Ald. Miller, and when Ald. Munn arrived, a few minutes later, the Board was complete, except for the aldermen out of town.

Before the minutes were adopted

ALD. BAKER drew attention to the fact that, for three months past, or more, the minutes of meeting had not been read, and why, he asked, should they be read to-night? He did not think this was a correct way of proceeding.

THE MAYOR—The practice of the Board has been to have the minutes adopted without being read, but to-night I wanted them read for a special object, and asked the Clerk to read them, as I had a perfect right to do. He then drew attention to an omission of mention of a by-law when he had recommended to the Council to repeal some twenty-five by-laws.

On motion, the minutes were amended to meet the Mayor's views, and then ensued a long wrangle, lasting until 9 o'clock, as to what the City Engineer had stated at the last meeting as to the surface drains contracts, the result being that the minutes were adopted as read. Then the Council began its business.

The Finance committee recommended the payment of accounts amounting to $1,015. Also the sum of $890 for repairing streets and sidewalks. These reports were adopted.

A special committee, appointed in connection with the Victoria & Sydney railway, reported that the City Engineer, after a careful examination of the roadbed, should pass the work in accordance with the contract, but recommended the withholding of 10 per cent. until the completion and equipment of the road.

ALD. STYLES wanted to know if the committee had any information to give the Council as to the selling out of the charter, etc., by the original company.

ALD. MCKILLICAN replied that the original shareholders were still on the books, and the committee could not go beyond this.

In reply to a question from Ald. Henderson,

ALD. MUNN explained that the City Engineer's estimate of the last of the work was some $296,000, while the contract for the building of the railway had already been let at a little over $200,000. All that the Council could do was to see that the road was properly built before the money was paid over.

ALD. MILLER was loudly applauded by the visitors in the lobby when he made a little "kick" about the way business was brought before the Council. Whatever business there was, he said, came up before the Council in just whatever shape the Mayor chose to bring it, and though the aldermen might sometimes make wry faces, they invariably swallowed the dose. The Mayor might be a little slow in his method of doing business, but he got there just the same, as the saying was.

The Sewerage committee recommended that surface drains be constructed on Oswego, St. James, Niagara, Michigan and San Juan streets to the sea, out of moneys raised under the Surface Drains By-law, and that the work be carried on by day labor.

THE MAYOR was doubtful if the by-law was broad enough to include these streets, which were not already specifically mentioned.

The report was finally adopted.

A letter dated July 27 was received from Hon. J. H. Turner, Thomas Earle, M.P., and John Teague, formerly Sewerage Commissioners, in which attention was called to the fact that no attention had been paid to a previous communication. The letter said:

"On the 28th ult. we addressed a letter to you with reference to statements made by certain of your honorable body containing serious allegations against the Sanitary Engineer and ourselves, to which we have received no reply. The statements referred to in our previous letter were made in open council on more than one occasion. As a matter of simple justice, we must ask whether your silence implies the adoption of these accusations by the Council, or whether in the opinion of your honorable body they are unfounded. In the former case the public interests demand the investigation for which we applied; in the latter we fail to see how the Council can decline to retract publicly the unwarrantable accusations which have been circulated by some of its members. We are quite sure that your honorable body must see that one course or the other is imperative in justice to the public, the corporation, the engineer and ourselves."

ALD. MCKILLICAN moved that the communication be referred to the Special Sewerage committee to report. He did not approve of the plan which had been adopted in reference to the previous communication, which had been received and filed. These gentlemen were citizens and honorable men, and should be treated with respect rather than with neglect and discourtesy.

ALD. MILLER moved, seconded by Ald. Munn, that the City Clerk correspond with the late Sewerage Commissioners and ask them to state specifically the language complained of. This was carried without a division.

George Gaegen, secretary of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, invited the Council to attend the Labor Day celebration at Vancouver, and the invitation was accepted with thanks.

Mr. J. E. Elliott, secretary of the B. C. Fire Underwriters, forwarded a copy of a requisition received from the head office in Montreal, relative to the Municipal tax on Fire Insurance companies. The requisition was signed by the following companies, viz.: London Assurance, Guardian Assurance, Alliance Insurance, Phœnix Insurance of Hartford, Imperial Fire Insurance, United Fire Insurance, North British and Mercantile, Caledonian Insurance Co., Eastern Assurance Co., Atlas Assurance, National Assurance, Western Assurance, British America Assurance, Sun Insurance, Manchester Fire Insurance and Lancaster Insurance Co. The requisition asked the local board to make such respectful representations to the civic authorities as would lead to the repeal of the $300 tax on Insurance companies, and should this not be a success, it was recommended that insurance rates in Victoria should be advanced 25 per cent., and the increase kept up until the tax be abolished.

The matter was discussed at some length, various views being expressed.

ALD. MCKILLICAN—We don't want to repeal that by-law.

ALD. STYLES—The standard insurance companies can afford to pay the tax.

ALD. MILLER—Our insurance rates are too high.

ALD. HENDERSON—Let us have fewer agencies and more business done by them. Then they can afford to pay the tax.

ALD. HENDERSON—They won't leave Victoria. They are charging us high rates and have a right to pay the tax.

ALD. MUNN—We ought to treat these companies civilly at least, and perhaps they will not insist.

The matter was finally referred to a special committee consisting of Ald. Henderson and Miller, to confer with the agents and report to the Council.

Ald. Styles moved, seconded by Ald. McKillican, "That the following resolution, passed at a meeting of the Council held on the 9th inst., be rescinded, viz.: Moved by Ald. Baker, seconded by Ald. Munn, that No. 1 James Bay contract be awarded to Coughlan & Mayo at $9,147.30, and that Spring Ridge contract be awarded to Macdonald & Co. at $9,784.09."

ALD. BRAGG wanted the resolution of which he had given notice read first, as it was first on the motion board. He objected to the Mayor acting like this.

THE MAYOR—If you consider the matter a moment you will understand that motion of yours is almost an exact copy of one now on the books—

ALD. BRAGG—You want to side track mine.

THE MAYOR—I will not sit here and be insulted. You must take that language back.

ALD. BRAGG—I put up that motion of mine first and I want it read first.

THE MAYOR—The other one is now before the Board, I wish Ald. Bragg you would keep order.

ALD. BRAGG—I am not going to sit here and see you prostitute your position as Mayor.

THE MAYOR—If you don't keep order, Ald. Bragg, I will find a way to make you.

ALD. BRAGG—Will you keep order yourself.

THE MAYOR—Don't you talk to me that way.

ALD. BRAGG—I am going to have my say and you can't shut me up.

THE MAYOR—This motion of Ald. Styles is now before the Board. I will thank you Ald. Bragg, when you address me as Mayor of this city, to give me the respect due me.

ALD. BRAGG—I will thank you to give me the rights belonging to me as a member of this Council.

There was a lull for a few moments and then Ald. Styles acted as peacemaker by rising to explain why he had made his motion. After he had concluded Ald. Bragg again got the floor and, declaring that the Council had taken the right course, announced that he, for one, was opposed to any change. There had been something very peculiar about the actions of the contractors who were now working so hard to have their tenders accepted; but, for his part, he wanted to see the tenders put in fair and square, and without any humbug business.

ALD. BAKER, in a half-hour speech against Coughlan & Mayo's tender, accused the City Engineer of wrong doing and declared that he should be discharged forthwith. His idea was that already Coughlan & Mayo had got too much and the work should be taken from both this firm and H. A. McDonald, and the drains should be constructed by day labor.

ALD. MILLER—My vote shall stand the way I cast it for all time, unless the Council shall see fit to table this motion and conclude to do the work by day labor.

ALD. MCKILLICAN defended the City Engineer, who, he said, had acted fairly and honorably, and should have been censured if he had not acted as he did.

ALD. HENDERSON—My whole objection is to the form in which that tender was made out. If we had treated it the way we ought to, we would not have entertained it at all. When a tender is sent in to be considered, it should be so intelligibly made out that any common sense man can understand it. If it was not for the injustice we would do McDonald, I would rather see the whole of the work done by day labor.

ALD. MUNN—If we have made a mistake, we should manfully own up and reconsider our action, but if it is the fault of the contractor, then it is a question what we should do. Apart from this matter, there is a question whether all the tenders have had a square deal. I believe Mr. Wilmot would not do any wrong intentionally, but it is a question whether or not the other tenders received the same attentions that Coughlan & Mayo did. He moved that the discussion of the matter be deferred until the Council should consider whether or not it would not be well to do the work by day labor.

ALD. STYLES contended that Coughlan & Mayo's tender was not a complicated one. The City Engineer had reported that on the James Bay and Spring Ridge tenders Coughlan & Mayo were $1,825 lower than the next higher.

The motion was defeated by the following vote:

Ayes—Ald. Styles, McKillican and Munn—3.

Nays—Ald. Bragg, Miller, Henderson and Baker—4.

On motion of Ald. Bragg, seconded by Ald. Miller, the City Clerk was authorized to affix the corporate seal to the contracts between the city and Coughlan & Mayo and H. A. McDonald & Co.

The Council adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

MARINE MOVEMENTS.

The "Eritria" Less Damaged Than Anticipated—Steamer Boscowitz Down From the North.

There were 250 boxes of salmon for Nanaimo and 500 boxes for Vancouver brought down from the Skeena river by the steamer Barbara Boscowitz which arrived here on Sunday evening. The steamer also brought down 5,000 cases of empty boxes for the Fraser river canneries but as they are not required there owing to the recent decrease in the run, she will be obliged to carry them back north where they can be utilized next season. As passengers the steamer carried all she could accommodate, the majority being fishermen whose season's work in the north is finished. Among the passengers, however, were Rev. Mr. Gurd and family of Metlakathla, who are on their way to England; Mrs. Few, of Alert Bay; J. McGuild, of the Aberdeen cannery and F. Dalby.

TO BE TOWED TO TOWNSEND.

Captains Grant, Sawyer and Biondi, constituting the board of survey on the wrecked bark Eritrea, have presented their report. The examination shows the vessel to be less damaged than was at first reported, and the report advises that the bark be towed off at once and removed to Port Townsend for repair. Definite action will not be taken until the orders of the owners are received by cable from Valparaiso.

SYMPATHY CRAVERS.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX THINKS THEY ARE INTOLERABLE.

Fatal to the Vital Forces to Have Sympathy Forever on Tap—Happiness Needs No Apology—Misery Worn as a Royal Badge.

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THE most wearing and intolerable being on earth is the person who constantly demands sympathy, who is never happy unless you are feeling sorry for her. I say "her" because we seldom find a man troubled with this mania, while the disease seems to be spreading among women.

Men often crave sympathy from those nearest them, but they have a pride of sex which forbids them from demanding it and impels them rather to cloak the feeling under a brave or light manner. But when a woman craves sympathy you rarely find her hiding the fact, for her happiness lies in being pitied. I knew a woman of this sort who had every blessing earth could offer to render her happy, but nothing made her more indignant than to be congratulated on her good fortune, and nothing pleased her so much as to be commiserated.

With wealth, position and an interesting family she enjoyed only being considered a heartbroken woman who concealed hopeless sorrows under silk and velvet coverings. The few faults of an excellent husband were magnified by her diseased imagination into crimes against her peace, and her children, which the world regarded as ornaments to her home, were represented by her as thorns in her flesh. To each friend at first, and gradually to each acquaintance, she confided more and more of her domestic woes until every one who knew her name grew to speak of her as "poor Mrs. A——." And in time "poor Mrs. A——," by constantly thinking herself an object of sympathy, set thought currents in motion which brought all the disaster into her life which she could have desired in her wildest imaginings. I shall always believe these misfortunes were produced by her mania for sympathy, for which we might coin a name since it is growing more and more prevalent and call sympathmania.

I know another little wife and mother today who is following in the same path and will bring up at the same goal without doubt if we give her time enough.

I complimented her on her pretty daughter and fine son one day, and her face fell, and she confided to me that her son was a great anxiety, her daughter a great cause of worry and her husband, while a good man, one who imposed upon her all the care of bringing up the children. "My life is really a burdened one," she sighed, "and few of my friends who see me going about with a smiling face realize how far from happy I am."

But I discovered ere long that it must be through mere accident if any of her friends, acquaintances or neighbors were unaware of her sad and hardened lot, for to each and all had she made her demand for sympathy. One of the most brilliant girls I have ever met was affected by the mania. Her life had known some severe trials, but they were followed by unusual successes and blessings. Whenever she was congratulated upon these successes or envied for her blessings her face assumed a melodramatic expression, and if the speaker was a friend or near acquaintance she dropped some remark about the cruelty of fate which grants what you do not desire and withholds what you need, or which bestows its gifts too late, until the listener ceased to congratulate and began to condole. From her nearest friends she was constantly making a demand for sympathy, which was exhausting beyond the power of words to explain. Their compliments and praises roused only her sorrow or her resentment, for she wished to be regarded as a target for fate's most cruel arrows. The people who would not be sorry for her constantly she considered devoid of deep feeling and incapable of true friendship.

Though such a person may be a paragon of goodness and a prodigy of talent, she would become unbearable as a close friend in a very brief time.

To have our sympathies forever on tap is as fatal to the vital forces as a leaking blood vessel would be. But the sympathmania friend never seems to think of this. If you will only weep with her, sigh with her, press her hand in sorrow and tell her how you pity her, she will continue to sap your strength, even if you should die before her eyes. This peculiar mania no doubt has its origin in early neglect or a lack of proper appreciation in childhood. A girl whose sensitive nature is misunderstood or ignored by friends and teachers grows morbid on the subject and shrinks more and more within herself.

By and by she finds a friend who sympathizes with her, and the ecstasy of the experience intoxicates her. She grows to revel in the indifference and coldness of her family in order to more fully taste the sweets of sympathy from her friend. When she marries, she is sure to find herself more or less misunderstood, and it becomes an easy thing for her to descend to that most undignified and almost disgraceful role of a wife who discusses her husband's shortcomings with her friends and acquaintances in order to arouse their sympathy for her own hard lot.

But friends and acquaintances ought to realize that a wife who will so forget herself as to do this is not worthy of their sympathy, no matter how hard may be her crosses.

Of course it is human to appreciate a near and tried friend to whom we may at times appeal for compassion and condolence, but we should make these occasions rare indeed both for our own sake and the sake of our friend.

It is a dangerous habit to ask a money loan of our dearest friend every week in the month or every month in the year. While we might with safety make the request once or twice on rare occasions, its constant repetition would jeopardize agreeable relations and tax the resources of our best friend. So in the same degree does the constant demand for sympathy endanger friendship and tax the vital forces of our associates, while it weakens our own self reliance and pride.

It seems an odd fact to me that the generality of people consider it an impropriety to be happy. They are always apologizing for even the appearance of happiness and hasten to assure observers that trouble has walked with them and care has supped at their board. Men and women alike seem, as a rule, to be proud of the sorrows and trials which they at the same time bemoan. Happiness is regarded as commonplace, and misery is worn as a sort of royal badge. Our novelists are in a great degree responsible for this sort of nonsense. We seldom, if ever, find a happy hero or heroine in fiction. In olden times happiness was allowed to come to them in the closing chapter, but the latter day novel does not permit even that.

The romance absorbing feminine mind takes its cue from the miserable heroine and acts its role accordingly. I wish our novelists and our fashion mongers would make it the mode to be happy, or as least to appear so, and set the seal of disapproval upon the sympathy sapper, who ought to be suppressed.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

Short Beach, Conn.

SOMETHING ABOUT LOTTA.

Kate Jordan Says She Is Breezy, Bright and Brainy.

Lotta is a woman's woman. Sorosis wouldn't have her, but this was due to the sudden narrow decision of a small majority to exclude members of her profession. There was nothing against herself.

And how could there be? Such a breezy, bright, sympathetic little creature—such a brainy, aggressive, warm hearted champion of every movement that is to help her sex! Warped indeed must the nature be that does not respond to Lotta's. One sees her and likes her, talks to her and loves her.

Her failure to become a member of Sorosis only endeared her to the army of women not belonging to that heavy and august sisterhood. She was elected by acclamation an honorary member of the Twelfth Night club and of the Woman's Professional league.

When she came to a tea given in her honor at the former place, the pretty apartment was crowded, and every one wanted to shake hands with Lotta. At the reception of the Woman's league held at the Hotel Brunswick they cheered her until she made a speech.

As an actress she is also a woman's woman. The women who have flocked to see her play and waited in crowds for her at stage entrances have been the prime builders of the large fortune she now enjoys.

Lotta is what we style "a good dresser." She knows her needs. If she lives to be 100, she will remain kittenish and will dress as she does now in a dainty, coquettish style. When I saw her last, she wore a pretty gown of palest gray made with a belt waist and a tiny, beaded Spanish jacket. A shadowy poke of gray with tiny, nodding tips sat jauntily upon her masses of copper brown hair, and from behind a white dotted veil her singularly bright brown eyes twinkled and flashed in a most alluring way.

Lotta is not young if we accept the proof of the almanac. She is young if we rely on the evidence of our senses. Her age is—well, no matter just what, but when close by her in broad daylight and without a veil she looks not quite 30.

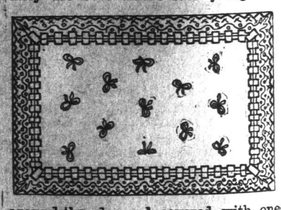
"How does she do it?" asked a young, pretty, but anxious browed woman, who gazed at her with a mixture of admiration and despair.

We have heard of the fountain of youth, but none has seen it. I think there is a very good imitation of it bubbling in Lotta's heart. There is sunshine in her smile, something merry and birdlike in every movement of her small head. She possesses the secret of sympathy. She breathes the joy of life.

KATE JORDAN.

Trunk Sachet.

This sachet, which is a pretty gift for a friend going on a journey, should be exactly the right size to lie flat inside the trunk, over the garments it contains. It is made of two sheets of wadding with sachet powder sprinkled between them. They are overhanded loosely together



around the edge and covered with one thickness of cheesecloth, and this again with thin silk of any desired color. It is trimmed with a border of white lace laid on flat, the edge of the lace even with the edge of the silk. This is headed by plaited ribbon the color of the silk. The sachet is tacked together here and there with tiny flat bows of No. 1 ribbon.

ISABELLA PROCTOR.

Health and Humanity, a magazine devoted to the promotion of all kinds of health, but which makes good food a specialty, is owned, edited and managed entirely by women.