

double their endeavors to further the interests of not only the Capital city, but of the Province at large. Victoria was never more in need of substantial friends than she is at the present moment. Her prosperity is menaced by the actions of some of her own people, and unfortunately a great many on the Mainland seem to be animated with a desire to work us injury. I do not mean to say this feeling is general on the Mainland, but that it prevails to a great degree, is strongly in evidence. In many constituencies, the majority appreciate the desire of the Government to treat all sections of the Province with universal fairness, and, in these, supporters of the Davie Government will, most assuredly, be returned. At this time, it is essential that Mr. Davie should have a good working majority, and Victorians will be placing their seal of approbation on good government by voting the straight ticket to-day. Remember that there never was a time in which the position "He that is not with us is against us" was so apparent as now.

It is understood that Capt. Mills' lacrosse champions are so highly elated with their victory over the commission men that they are willing to take a trip east to meet the great lacrosse teams, providing the citizens subscribe the money. In this connection, it might also be remarked that there is a rumor to the effect that the commission men will import men to assist them in the next contest with the legalites.

The best method of preventing the destruction of the salmon fishing industry of the Pacific Coast, which must surely give way under the present methods employed in securing fish for the canneries, is attracting the attention of the United States Government. Dr. H. M. Smith, of the U. S. fish commission, is now investigating the situation on the Columbia river, with the purpose in view of gaining information relative to the proposed plan of maintaining the supply by artificial propagation. A government hatchery of large proportions will undoubtedly be located at some point on the Columbia in the near future, and it is probable that about 50,000,000 of small fry will be annually turned into the stream to make good the depletion by fishermen. To a reporter Mr. Smith gave the following information regarding the progress of fish propagation on this coast: "Shad were first introduced into the waters of this coast in 1871, when 12,000 young fish were deposited in the Sacramento, under the auspices of the California fish commission. Between that time and 1886, 609,000 young shad were placed in the Sacramento; 600,000

in the Willamette; 300,000 in the Columbia, and 10,000 in the Snake river. The aggregate cost of these plants amounted to less than \$4,000, while the shad fisheries established as the result of these meager deposits have already yielded the fishermen over \$200,000."

Because Milton in a sonnet spoke of Demosthenes as "that old man eloquent," an exchange remarks, every venerable gentleman, more or less, with the gift of oratory, has been dubbed with the same title. And because someone speaking to his constituents called Gladstone "that grand old man," every political leader on this continent who has lost his hair or the color of it in the legislative service of his country has found some original thinker to call him a grand old man. And yet we have nothing about the "old man prosy," although there are so many more of him, and the title "picayune old chap" has yet to be applied in any public oration.

The subject of sanitation is becoming more and more a matter of interest and study and rightly so. The insidious character of bad air, noxious gases, and impure infection, especially in our crowded towns and cities, where the sewerage is likely to be imperfect, causes not only the medical profession, but the people generally, to demand that municipalities and owners of buildings should adopt the best known expedients for remedying the situation. More stringent laws are yearly being enacted for this purpose and the leading plumbers are in active sympathy with the movement. So says a contemporary. The trouble is that, plumbers do not show their faith, or sympathy, by their works. Bad plumbing is the cause of a great deal of sickness, and of many deaths.

Electrical carriages will soon be seen on our streets, other than street cars. In London, England, parcel vans are run by this power; in Chicago carriages are running which are a pronounced success; the power is under perfect control, as well as the direction of the vehicle; in other cities busses are being run of this class, so that there is a certainty now of far fewer horses being seen on the streets.

The spectacle of a newly-elected papa-in-law, with more money than sense, filling two columns of a daily paper with vilifications of the character of a young man, because he had sufficient appreciation of his daughter's charms to marry her without waiting for the hard-headed old capitalist to give the parental blessing, created a sensation in Tacoma last week. The "old man," who isn't one of the contracting parties at all, refers to his son-in-law, who has resided

in Tacoma for five years, holds a responsible position in a leading bank, is prominent in church and society, a hypocritical, half-breed Cherokee Indian who left a bad record on the reservation and is enamored with prospective dollars rather than his charming bride. Now if the young man could get papa to get up about \$25,000 for defamation of character, it would be appreciated by almost every one acquainted with the case, and would give the bridal pair a good start in life.

The Emperor of China, on receiving a letter from the plague stricken Canton immediately consulted Mr. Yeng Kin Sue, who, it is said, lives in the day as other men and in the night communes with the devil. This august personage said that the plague would not stop till next year upon which the Emperor formulated the most ingenious scheme. He said, "It is plain that the plague must be stopped once, it is equally plain that it will not be stopped until the year is over, therefore the only way out of the difficulty is to stop the year." His Majesty has given orders to celebrate the New Year at Canton early in July, after which, so says Mr. Yeng Kin Sue, the Black Death will cease. Evidently the Emperor has been a close observer of the methods adopted by ex-Mayor Beaven to stamp out smallpox in Victoria two years ago.

Early last week, the *Colonist* published the will of the late Chief Justice Beggs and it was read with much interest. People were curious to know what disposition Sir Matthew had made of his property, and when I say that they provoked a smile from more than one person, I mean no disrespect to the deceased. Sir Francis Johnson, the late Chief Justice of Quebec, who died about the same time as the Chief Justice of British Columbia, left the following peculiar will, which was addressed in the shape of a letter to his son, Charles Johnson, of Montreal:

JUDGES' CHAMBERS,  
Oct. 17, 1892

"MY DEAR CHARLIE—It may seem ridiculous for me, a pauper, to make a will. Nevertheless, there are certain things that ought to be done as soon as I die, therefore this, though in the form of a letter, is intended to be and is my will and testament, and you are hereby appointed the sole executor of it. Let me be buried as plainly and cheaply (sic) as possible. A plain deal coffin—nothing more; no hearse or vulgar show whatever. Mr. Wood has promised to read the burial service over my body. I leave my wife whatever monies I may be possessed of, to be used at her discretion for the benefit of herself and of my