

hearts of their great audience, and thoroughly deserved the warm encore accorded to them. The young ladies who appeared were: Misses C. Cameron, L. Nicholson, L. Spring, L. Styles, A. Brown, E. Spring, E. E. Sehl and D. Sehl.

A pleasant feature of the evening was Miss Styles' selection on that beautiful instrument, the harp, which was something of a novelty to Victorians. Her solo piece was "Nei Cor Piu" (Egan) which was deservedly encored. She played with a gracefulness and expression not often seen in an amateur, and with a sense of the meaning of the music that is only too often wholly ignored by both professional and amateur. A pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment was the jaunting car episode, when Mr. White recited "Pat at Sea." On this particular evening, so far as pleasing the audience was concerned, Pat was not at sea.

An instructive commentary upon the spirit of American institutions is furnished by the fact that the man who, a thirteen months ago, was the chief executive of 65,000,000 people is to-day a schoolmaster in California. That is to say, Benjamin Harrison, who vacated the office of President of the United States early in March, 1893, is at the Stanford University, California, delivering a course of law lectures to the students and to the public. It is recorded of George Washington, that after having served two terms in the Presidency of the United States, his rural neighbors at Alexandria, Virginia, conferred the honor upon him of electing him roadmaster of the district, in which office, it is recorded, he served honestly, faithfully and with such distinction as the nature of the position permitted.

It should interest the female readers of THE HOME JOURNAL, and the manager informs me that they are numbered by four figures, that those very interesting papers, the Dundee (Scotland) Courier, and the Weekly News, are sending two lady commissioners round the world on a mission that will be at once interesting and instructive. These two young ladies, Miss F. Marie Imandt and Miss Bessie Maxwell, left Dundee the other day on a tour round the globe. They will collect facts on all matters of interest to the fair sex and bearing on the status of women. Female labor will also come within the scope of their enquiries. Besides European countries, Egypt, Arabia, India, China, Japan, Canada and the United States will be visited, the journey covering a distance little short of 26,000 miles. The proprietors of the newspapers named last year sent 12 artisan delegates to Canada and the States to report on industries and the conditions of labor there.

The first shot in the campaign for Legislative honors was fired last Wednesday evening at Institute Hall, when Messrs. Turner, Rithet, Helmcken and Braden were nominated as candidates to contest the city in the Government interest. The Government party claim that they have a strong ticket, and certainly it must be admitted that there are good grounds for their contention. Mr. Turner is an old

and trusted servant of the people. Since his entrance into the political arena he has proved himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him. Mr. Rithet probably deserves more from the citizens of Victoria than any other man in it. In every movement calculated to benefit the city he has been found the leading spirit. Mr. Helmcken is a young man, but that he has the confidence of his fellow citizens was demonstrated by the large vote which he received for the nomination. Mr. Braden has grown grown up with the city and to a certain extent will prove that the Government is anxious to recognize the interests of the workingman. Altogether, the ticket is a strong one, and could not have failed to be such, no matter who was chosen from the six candidates presented to the meeting. Personally, THE HOME JOURNAL favored the candidature of Mr. Ellis, inasmuch as that gentleman would have added materially to the strength of the Government, combining two elements of the community who will make themselves felt during the forthcoming campaign; but the meeting by a trifling majority decided otherwise. Capt. Irving had many friends in the convention. They worked hard for their man; but when defeat came they took it like men, as did the friends of Mr. Ellis.

"Perplexed Horticulturist" writes me: "Which do you consider the greater pest in British Columbia the 'Woolley-aphis' or the 'Woolley-phillips'?" The Horticultural editor informs me that of the two pests he considers the Woolley-aphis the greater, as when when the Woolley-phillips is once snowed (on) it becomes harmless.

I observe that Mr. James L. Huddart, the promoter of the new Canadian steamship line has arrived in England. Immediately upon his arrival, accompanied by Sir Charles Tupper, Canada's high commissioner, Sir Thomas McIlwraith, premier of New South Wales, and Hon. Robt. Reid, ex-minister of defence of Victoria; he waited on the Imperial Government and asked for an annual subsidy of \$75,000 for the Atlantic and Pacific steamship schemes. It is learned that the Colonial party in the House of Commons has joined the movement, and its members are also urging the Imperial Government to cooperate with Canada and Australia in their efforts to establish an all British Pacific cable.

Tea-drinking among men has all at once excited discussion. But it does not appear to be known that nearly all men of literary habits, who exhaust nerve force, take to tea-drinking. Edwin Booth used to have a pot of tea simmering in his stage dressing room. Preachers, orators and lawyers find a cup of strong tea the gentlest and most harmless of brain bracers, and it has no reaction. The reason why young men affect to despise tea-drinking is that they associate it with declining power and old women. But the truth is that tea, if of a pure kind and properly "drawn," is about as innocuous and pleasant a stimulant as a young man can resort to after a long worry or a drain of emotional or intellectual force. If it

could be made to take the place of champagne and absinthe the race would be better off. Some of our restaurants have taken to furnishing the extra tea that is served *à la Russe*—that is, without milk, but with the addition of a slice of lemon.

There is a point in the following story which I trust will not require elucidation: A few days ago an unmarried gentleman cut into a pound of butter which he had purchased at a grocery whose proprietor does not advertise, and found therein a small tin box, which contained a piece of paper bearing the following, written in a neat feminine hand: "I am a girl 18 years old, good-looking, and an excellent housekeeper. Should this be found by some unmarried Christian gentleman, will he write to the following address," etc. The finder, being a bachelor, decided to unravel the affair, and succeeded, only to destroy the romance. The girl who had written the note had died many years ago, leaving an aged husband and a grown family.

The *Colonist* sneers at Hon. Joseph Royal, the gentleman who recently wrote the pamphlet dealing with the possibility and probability of Canadian independence. For the information of the *Colonist*, I would say that Mr. Royal is a very clever gentleman, and even as high an authority as the *Toronto Empire* admits that he writes fluently and has evidently given his subject time and study. The same authority, commenting on Mr. Royal's pamphlet, says: "Looking out over the situation—Canada's advances in commercial ventures, her trade routes by land and sea, her stability during a time of worldwide trial, the confidence and respect for her daily being intensified in the Mother Country—one is forced to the conclusion that the time is not far distant when this Dominion will emulate and equal the great achievements of the grand old Motherland; be to the parent state a potent right hand of loyalty and affection; uphold the traditions and dignity and strength of British institutions; create on the hardest and richest half of this continent a state under the British flag which will live on forever in increasing usefulness and power."

The report of the large increase in Canada's exports to Great Britain, received by cable despatch, is most gratifying, showing that our trade with the Mother Country during January and February was almost double that of the corresponding period of last year; amounting in the two months to \$530,000. This rapid increase of business is a plain indication that Canada is recovering from the effects of the McKinley Bill which damaged our trade so seriously for a time; until shippers had had time to recover from the first shock of it and look further afield for an outlet and a market for the products of the country. The trade which has been established over the water should be maintained and vigorously extended, until at last Great Britain will look entirely to Canada for the supply of food products which she has for so long purchased principally from the United States.

PERE GRINATOR.