

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY AT VICTORIA, B. C.

SUBSCRIPTION - - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertising Rates on Application.

Address all communications to
THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL,
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1892.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

Now for Christmas. When that holiday and the New Year are passed, we can begin to enjoy life again.

THE Prince of Wales, who draws \$200,000, is kicking for an increase of wages. Let the Prince strike and draw on his union for support.

HENRY M. STANLEY, Rudyard Kipling and the Asiatic cholera will revisit America in the spring, unless quarantine restrictions are rigidly enforced.

DON QUIXOTE THEODORE has returned from the East, whither he went in search of adventures and to redress grievances, which is properly the employment of knights.

AN eastern medical man asserts that cholera will visit this country next summer. If it comes to Victoria, we trust that there will be no clash between the local Health Board and the Provincial authorities in carrying out preventive measures, which was so pleasant a feature of last summer's experience.

A VICTORIA "JOURNALIST."

SEVERAL things lately have conspired to make me very weary. I will detail a few. There is some individual on the staff of the evening paper who is either a would-be critic, or a confirmed dyspeptic. If the latter, I pity him; but, if the former, he is a miserable failure, even as an aspirant to the position of critic. This individual has evidently been brought up in or near some old country town, and has read at some time or another the dull, todish "society" paper, which is either fulsomely flattering or abominably abusive. This kind of literature, coupled with the poor diet of that northern part of the Old Country in question, is not conducive to liberal-mindedness; but when such a person reaches the land of plenty, his stomach is ruined and the little mind he ever had is utterly gone. I'm afraid that is what has happened this poor fellow referred to. He can see good in nothing; he reads the extravagant praise or nauseous abuse in the pedantic "society" paper, and steers his course accordingly. The stuff he gets off though is of a very third class quality on the original. He memorises all the Latin and French expressions, or picks them out of the end of the dictionary, and when he gets a chance fires them at the head of the unfortunate every-day newspaper reader. It looks big, and learned, he no doubt

thinks; the average reader looks upon it as about as graceful as that bird, the elephant, trying to waltz. As a rule, they are an awful misfit in a sentence. Of course this person is a journalist; he is not an ordinary, every day reporter who will rustle up news. Such an avocation is beneath him. But he will write column after column of "guff," as the live reporter calls it, and which no one but the writer and the unfortunate proof reader will read. He will get off moral tirades, and write abuse, but such a thing as stating a plain fact in simple language is out of the question.

The other thing that I am weary over is the weekly effusion of a person signing himself "P. Grigg" in the *Vancouver World*. This makes me very sad at times, but now and again I am amused by the sweet inconsistency of the poor fellow. In his remarks on the recent concert, he speaks of stares of "envy, admiration, snobbery, flunkeyism, or what you please," being directed at the box of the Dunsmuirs. His must have been that of flunkeyism, because he plunges into the most disgusting flunkeyism, to such an extent that the unfortunate young ladies must think themselves either the target for a fool's ravings, or the subjects of a coward's covert sneer. I rather incline to the belief that the poor girls were the victims of the former, a literary monkey making a poor attempt at copying its master. The poor thing speaks of the relative ease of certain men wearing evening dress. That statement is now about as old as the evening dress itself, and I shall be glad when there are no more "fresh ones" who get it off as original. (I was going to use a French expression here for "fresh ones," but I won't.) I think it is a twin sister of that other statement of the young reporter's description of a ball, "the gay uniforms of the military and brilliant costumes of the ladies contrasting with the sombre evening dress of the private gentlemen, all tended to make up a picture of," and so on. "P. Grigg," I put down as a flunkey, and a mighty poor flunkey. He attacks "William Greig" for having an opinion of his own on the question of vaccination; William Greig has brains to have an opinion, and whether it be right or wrong, he has facts to back up that opinion. The thing signing himself "P. Grigg," who rails at him, has not even the brains to get up a fact to refute one of "W. Greig's" statements.

I will only trouble you this week with one more source of my uneasiness, and that is a letter signed by a person calling himself "Weather gauge" in the *Glasgow Herald* I think it was. As both the daily papers gave this fellow the lie direct for villifying the province in the manner he did, I will not go further into the matter.

I will put these three points together and deduce one. Comparing the sentiments, style and general expression of the would be critic first referred to, "P. Grigg" and "Weather gauge," I am led to believe that they must be brothers, possibly triplets, a sort of trinity of that class, if not closer.

JUNUIS.

WHAT MRS. GRUNDY SAYS

That people who can but won't pay bills should be made to settle.

That a pure heart and a cheerful disposition are better than a pretty face.

That the "speedy girl" never is first in the race for the matrimonial stake.

That Victorians will not forever tolerate gross indecency on the theatrical stage.

That the girl of the period has much to learn about the appropriateness of dress.

That the best dressed men are not always on cordial terms with their city tailors.

That too many people in this world become alleged reformers simply for notoriety.

That there never was a time when inducements to take life insurance were so great.

That it is a mistake to think that all physicians can keep a secret better than a woman.

That there is always a sensation in society when a "real love match" is announced.

That it would be interesting to know how many who live beyond their means are stealing.

THE MISSING LINK.

To the Editor of the VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

SIR: I was somewhat astonished on reading the comments in THE HOME JOURNAL on the suit of McDonald against the Methodist Church Trustees, to find the following remarks:

"Now it was proved in evidence that the specification from which the page was torn had been in the architect's office for several months. That in itself does not prove that the architect destroyed the missing page."

Now the writer of the above must have been exceedingly ill-informed on the subject, or the words were penned with the intent and design of doing the architect a grievous wrong. The language used is certainly calculated to lead a disinterested party to the presumption that the architect tampered with the document. Nay; it insinuates that there is *prima facie* evidence of his guilt.

I am a disinterested party in the suit but I happened to be present in court when the plaintiff's case collapsed, and I would like to ask the writer why he did not state the facts that the altered document was not brought forward in evidence by the defendants, but by the plaintiffs, and it was produced for the very purpose of destroying the architect's evidence and credibility. The architect did not know what had become of this document until it reappears in court in the possession of his opponents and is held up in its mutilated form to contradict his sworn testimony. As to who would be most likely to alter the document—the architect or the parties who had it in their possession last and produced it in court to destroy the architect's evidence—I will leave it to people to draw their own conclusions.

I am a constant reader of your paper and admire many of its productions, but I could not allow such a misleading statement to go unchallenged, and still continue to respect the utterances of your journal.

SUBSCRIBER.

Pre
and th
ment
ernme
antinc
not th
questi
compe
answe
done y
also,
havin
for th
Sound
quara
officer
toria,
Domh
Davie
in th
Canad
cordir
the m
ernme
pared
exten
capita
to bui
have
the R
as it v
of the
Provin

A g
about
aband
with
cities
the la
choly
neatly
and
displa
showy
stock
expec
disap
invest
Frequ
tures
trade
the h
m ne
Score
yearl
Still
Some
at on
repea
cessor
The
trade
who
nate
hund
launc
chan
busin
speci
have
and l
inevi
shre
ampl
Th