

of the opinion that a little of the money spent in evangelizing the Chinamen would be placed to far better advantage in emancipating this noble animal from a cruel bondage that is both an insult to its faithful nature and our own sense of what we owe to the dumb creation.

Our boys will be numerically well represented at Vancouver on the Dominion's birthday anniversary, and I hope, as I believe, they will be a credit to us. Of the lacrosse team little need be said: they are a set of boys that we may well be proud of, and we can trust them to take care of the Queen City's honor on the field. To be sure, a bad weed springs up among the crop now and then, but the promptness with which he is picked out shows that he has no chance of spoiling the harvest. As to the other branch, the military, that will be at Vancouver on the first, there is also no reason for apprehension. In this connection a complaint was published recently that the boys did not turn out to drill as regularly as they should, and punishment was threatened for the defaulters. Now I have been quietly going the rounds of the boys in this regard, and I find it is not by any means a one-sided story. It will be remembered that sometime ago, considerable censure was passed on an officer for swearing his orders at the men, and I understand that one of the men left the ranks in consequence of this officer's profanity. This should have been sufficient rebuke to any gentleman, but I am given to understand such is not the case, that the practice not only goes on but has increased if anything, and a number of the boys are contemplating either a little picnic some evening at drill, or leaving the ranks in a body. I should recommend the latter as the more dignified and manly procedure. Swearing is unbecoming an officer, especially in militia, where as a rule many men in the ranks are vastly the superiors socially of the men in charge.

It is universally admitted that a city of the pretensions of Victoria should do something to have the hacks removed from Government street. Apart from the rural aspect of the matter, there are other good reasons for their removal. A few evenings ago, a gentleman was crossing from the post office to the opposite side of Government street. Hacks were stationed on both sides of the crossing, which obscured a rapidly approaching tramcar. Had it not been that the motorneer observed the pedestrian and stopped the car, a serious accident would have resulted. This is only one of numerous instances of the kind that have come under my observation. Then, again, I can well imagine the disgust of tourists when they behold the principal street of our city turned into a stable. Filth has accumulated so much that it is positively offensive. The overflow finds its way to the wood drain along the street, and a medical friend of mine who has made a study of sanitary matters, informs me that if something is not done, and that soon, to abate this nuisance, we will have a cholera epidemic on our own account. It is to the interests also of Government street

merchants to have the hackstand removed. I have heard of one or two instances where ladies have refused to shop along that thoroughfare because their olfactory nerves cannot repel the horrible stench.

There seems to be something radically wrong in the management of the Victoria post office. During the last three or four weeks complaints have been numerous as to the neglectful manner in which the mail is handled. Many of the subscribers to THE HOME JOURNAL did not receive their papers last week until Monday, although the paper had been posted at its usual hour. I have not heard yet who is to blame for this neglect, but I shall make inquiries with the hope of tracing the matter to its fountain head.

PERE GRINATOR.

FROM THE POLAR GAZETTE.

NORTH POLE, June 22.—There are only 22 feet of ice on the ground now, and summer has started in with a rush. The firm of Esquimaux & Polarbear has started an ice cream saloon. John Jones laid a walrus on our desk this morning that weighed a ton. Call again John. The ice crop has been a success this year. The pole is now the largest primary ice market in the world, notwithstanding the bombastic claims of our loathed contemporary, the *Antarctic Hooter*. While fishing through a hole in the ice yesterday in the Arctic basin, Frank Smith, aged 7, hooked a seal weighing 123 pounds. Call at Eskimo's Blubber Delicatessen for some of the finest blubber in the North.—(f) We understand that Lieut. Peary and Col. Nansen are coming this way next season. Peter X. was executed yesterday for old age. The pole has been given a fresh coat of paint, and locks very neat and shiny this summer. Furs are getting to be a burden. We boast the finest climate in the world. Moss and lichens will be ripe by July 1 this year.

FROM THE ANTARTIC HOOTER.

SOUTH POLE, June, 23.—Our blubber-witted contemporary, the *Polar Gazette*, attempts in his weak way to slander the climate of the Antarctic region. We have a climate here that speaks for itself. Winter sets in here fully two weeks earlier than it does up north. The ice here is now 42 feet thick and it is mid summer. We see by the columns of our low contemporary that the North Pole is being painted! Think of that! Painted!! The Antarctic parliament has ordered the South Pole gilded!—The price of blubber has fallen two sealskins a ton, due to the financial stringency. Icebergs are quoted cheaper; the market is flooded with improperly frozen bergs, many of which are condemned and sent to the dump.—Martin Mafferty, of Australia, visited us this week via the South Pole Cold Air Line. He considers that the man who sold him the lot backing up on Polar alley with 40 feet of ice on it rang in a cold deck on him. The board of trade has ordered the alley cleaned out to avoid cholera, yellow fever and other hot weather diseases. Walruses are flying high this year. Look out for winter by July 31 or Aug. 3 at the latest.

FLOWER WREATHS.

Russell & McDonald, of 134 Douglas street, is the cheapest place in Canada for artificial flowers of all kinds.

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DAY AND NIGHT SCHOOLS.

REMOVAL.

The Chicago Candy Factory has removed to No. 30 Government Street, three doors below C. E. Jones' Drug Store.

G. A. McCULLOCH.