

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA HOME JOURNAL.

Devoted to Social, Political, Literary, Musical and Dramatic Gossip.

VOL. IV., No. 4.

VICTORIA, B. C., NOVEMBER 3, 1894.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA HOME JOURNAL is published every Saturday morning at 77 Johnson street, Victoria. Subscription, \$1.00, invariably in advance.

CORRESPONDENTS—THE HOME JOURNAL is desirous of securing a reliable correspondent in every town in British Columbia—one whose letters will present a complete and accurate record of the social happenings in his or her locality.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—Subscribers ordering address of their papers changed must always give their former as well as present address.

CONTINUED—All papers are continued until an explicit order for discontinuance is received.

Advertising Rates on Application.

Address all communications to
THE BRITISH COLUMBIA HOME JOURNAL,
Office: 77 Johnson street,
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3, 1894.

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

*"I must have liberty,
Withal as large a charter as the wind—
To blow on whom I please."*

"CONVINCE a man against his will, he's of the same opinion still" is a remark which we think will apply equally well to the "foreigner" who seeks to explain "economic truths" in the columns of the *Times* and the editorial writer on the *Colonist*, with whom he tries to get up a controversy. In fact, it is surprising that the fellow with a fearful and wonderful name should not be governed by the conclusion at which he has confessedly arrived, that it is "simply a waste of time." It appears to many, that were the author of the communications other than an outsider who could realize that, however palatable quail might be occasionally, it was calculated to pall on the appetite, if served day in and day out, he would give the columns of the evening paper a rest, thereby enabling it to supply a change of diet. In fact, it is remarked that the mere sight of certain classes of articles in the one or other of the papers causes some of their readers to pass on to another subject. They are tired of so many diatribes on political morality and political economy, since in regard to the first, neither party possesses an over large amount of the public confidence, and with respect to the other one of the factions whose local organ is sought to be made a medium for the exposition of economic truths scarcely knows

how it stands, if the declarations of its leader mean anything. It might also commend to the attention of the scribe, to whose communications I refer, the subjoined extract from the editorial columns of the paper in which his communications have appeared: "No man can see what possible chance there is for the minister making gain by his letter writing. He can hardly be so stupid as to hope that he will thus convert the canners to his way of thinking, and if he has any idea that he can arouse a prejudice against the canners among the remainder of the population, he is making a woful mistake."

In this case, all that is required to establish the parallel is to substitute for the Minister of Marine the name of the writer of the communications, for it will be held that in both cases the subjects at issue are "economic truths."

"Vilipending"—ah! that's a fine word! Would not the respective editors of the *Colonist* and *Times* be much more profitably employed in the public interest, were they, instead of continually vilipending one another, to respectively pursue a course of ordinary courteous treatment. How excellent an example they would in that event set to their respective readers!

While there has been a fair volume of general trade during the week, it has not shown the increase that was hoped for and was generally expected, either in the wholesale or retail branch. There is a certain class of trade that is good, and that is for various commodities of high class, and the demand comes apparently from parties who have not been seriously affected by the prevailing depression in trade, but there is comparatively little of this, and the bulk of the demand is for the medium and lower qualities of goods, which can be bought for less money than they were worth a year ago, and so, while bills for goods purchased are about as numerous as ever they are so much smaller in value that the aggregate is far from satisfactory. Probably for this reason there is comparatively a moderate borrowing demand for money to be used in commercial channels. It was hoped and expected that by this time in the year trade would be on a sound and encouraging basis, and

in fact so it is in some restricted lines, but there are as yet no indications that it is becoming so much better as to be indicative of a general prosperity in the future, and that is what every business man and manufacturer presumed he had a right to expect, but the depression has been so long and severe that it will require more recovery in many things to lift it upon a plane of prosperity again.

It is useless to deny, that at the present time things, and by things I mean passing events, are remarkably dull in Victoria. Business is fairly good, but a lethargy seems to have crept over this usually energetic town, and even where an effort is made to raise some excitement it seems but half-hearted. The Jockey club meeting was not a success, the Agricultural Exhibition had its earlier days blighted by the most adverse climatic influences, and now owing to the ill-feeling that prevails between the Mainland and Island, lacrosse has received a set-back from which it will take long to recover. The Victoria Lacrosse Association, thanks to the zeal of their president, Mr. W. H. Ellis, strained every nerve to bring to the game the popularity which is its due, and it is most disheartening to them to have to feel that the result has satisfied neither themselves nor the public. The Victoria Cricket club have set a good example to the other athletic organizations by making a munificent offer to the All-England team at present in Australia, for a visit to British Columbia, and I hope that it will be accepted. The Bicycle club, knowing that a racing track is indispensable if they wish to hold their own with foreign riders, have after strenuous efforts managed to secure two alternative propositions, either of which would be acceptable, and I hear that it is by no means impossible that the Jockey club may give a lease of the Driving Park to a sporting syndicate of this city, who will undertake to give two big race meetings each year. Any English speaking city where the sport-loving public is not catered to, is in a moral decline, and it speaks well for the future of Victoria, that such efforts are being made in the right direction.

Dr. George Duncan's report to the City