

NELSON,
Kootenay District.

J. P. DAVIES & CO.
AUCTIONEERS.

Will sell at salesroom, Wharf street
Victoria.

Tuesday, Feb. 16,

At noon a number of town
lots in

SUBDIVISIONS

58 A & 182, Group 1,

Of the net proceeds, Ten Thousand
Dollars will be expended in im-
provement on this property.

NELSON,

The distributing point for the
great SILVER KING and other
valuable mines on TOAD MOUN-
TAIN. Distant only EIGHT
MILES by wagon road. The Ter-
minus and Headquarters of the
COLUMBIA KOOTENAY RAIL-
WAY, connecting NELSON with
the COLUMBIA RIVER. The
NATURAL DISTRIBUTING
point for any road connecting with
the American system of railways
to the South. The COMMER-
CIAL CENTRE of the GREAT
KOOTENAY DISTRICT. The
Bank of Montreal has now estab-
lished an agency at Nelson. The
Bank of British Columbia has an-
nounced that it will open a branch
early in the Spring. A most com-
prehensive map of the Kootenay
country, containing full particu-
lars, will be ready on February 1,
1892, for free distribution.

TERMS LIBERAL.

Joshua Davies,

AUCTIONEER.

TALES OF THE TOWN.



I DROPPED across a copy of Black-
wood's Magazine, in one of our libra-
ries the other day, and my attention was
directed to an article, the title of which
was "The Egyptians and the Occupa-
tion." The writer closes his view of the
situation with a severe arraignment of
Mr. Gladstone. Referring to Mr.
Gladstone's speech in which he "ex-
tends his patronage to Lord Salisbury's
policy," he says: "A statesman who
can compress so many malicious state-
ments into the compass of a single
sentence shows no decline of these
peculiar arts that have raised him to
eminence. 'Age cannot wither him,
nor custom stale his infinite variety.'"

In the whole range of history, says
the writer, there is probably no greater
contrast than that between ancient and
modern Egypt. To the traveller in the
Nile Valley, to the student of history,
and to the reader of the ancient Bible
Egypt is a synonym for majesty and
grandeur. Pharaoh, in Dean Stanley's
words, was not, like Saul, greater than
his fellows from his shoulders and up-
ward, but from his ankles and upward.
"Say unto Pharaoh, whom art thou
like in thy greatness?" "I am Pha-
raoh." "By the life of Pharaoh."

Homer knew of Thebes as the City
of the Hundred Gates. It is still
called "Il Luxor," or "The Palaces."
The Sphinx, the Pyramids, the won-
ders of Memphis, the tombs of Beni
Hasan, the paintings of Abydos, the
giant wrecks of Thebes, the courts of
Dendera, Esna and Edfu, the graceful
columns of Philæ, the sculptures of Bet-
el-Wali, the majestic Colossi at Ipsam-

boul, and the countless other imperish-
able works in the valley of the Nile,
surpass all the other antiquities of a
corresponding age in the rest of the
whole world. The mind is bewildered
by trying to understand that long past
or greatness, glory and conquest. One
never wearies of seeing and re-seeing
those mighty ruins.

The monuments and hieroglyphics
picture the ancient Egyptians in a very
favorable light. You may survey
scores of monuments and myriads of
figures, and yet see no indelicacy till
you come to Greek and Roman times.
There is a dignity about the people
which is very impressive. Their archi-
tecture may be called heavy as com-
pared with the Greek, but they had to
use a soft sandstone or a stubborn gran-
ite, while the Greeks had marble. So
excellent is the work that an eminent
American engineer offered a very con-
siderable sum of money to any engineer
of modern days who would quarry gran-
ite blocks of the size of those of the
temple of the Sphinx—a temple of the
very greatest antiquity—and place the
columns as truly vertical, the lintels as
truly horizontal, and in as truly a straight
line, without the aid of any mortar, so
that a knife-edge could not be inserted
into any joint and a large transit theo-
dolite could not detect any deflection
from the true north.

The ancient Egyptian has undoubted-
ly been seen in the most unfavorable
light. The religion of ancient Egypt
was idolatrous, but their idea of God,
of judgment, of justice, and indeed of a
future life was almost Christian. The
religion of ancient Egypt can no more
be held responsible for the acts of a
tyrant like Rameses than can the reli-
gion of Christ be held responsible for
the acts of a tyrant like the Czar of
Russia. The high position held by
women in ancient Egypt and the sacred-
ness of home-life remind one of our
own modern civilization. The early
Greek travellers speak with astonish-
ment of the respect paid to women in
Egypt, and of the freedom they en-
joyed—a respect and freedom unknown
to the Grecian women of those days.
The Egyptians were then, as they still
are to-day, one of the most religious
peoples in the world. Employing that
boundless wealth which their victorious
armies poured into their country