

THE CITY.

The Islanders.
Held one of their regular dances at Harmon hall last evening, the attendance being large and the pleasure unalloyed.

For Robbing a Companion.
In the Speedy Trial Court, yesterday, Wm. Gordon, for robbing a companion of \$50, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment in the Provincial jail.

Postponed.
The regular monthly meeting of the Sons of Erin, which was to have taken place last evening, was postponed until Wednesday, the 15th inst., on account of the elections.

Entered the High School.
At the high school entrance examination held at Barkerville recently, Miss Mollie Nelson and Miss Berrie Nason, of Victoria, were successful in securing admission to high school.

A Chinese Suit.
A suit in the Supreme court in which both plaintiff and defendant are Celestials will come up for trial on the 19th of this month before a judge, without a jury. The plaintiff is Lai Hop and the defendant is Ma Now.

Postponed.
The entertainment fixed for next Saturday in the Market hall has been postponed for a week to give the contestants more time to perfect arrangements, particularly the choruses, who have been challenged by "C" Battery.

Sunday School Scholars Entertained.
The children of the James Bay Methodist church Sunday school were entertained at a children's party at the residence of Mrs. David Spencer, Bridge Street, last evening. The enjoyment was such as did greatly please the juveniles, who were well served when the evening's sport ended.

A Little Treasure.
In Miss Mayo, aged nine, the Calhoun Opera Co. have a little artist of whom they may well be proud, and of whom they should have particular notice. Her sailor's bonnet with her brother Tuesday evening and her skirt dance last night were not the least attractive features of the two performances.

Over the Garden Wall.
Building Inspector Northcott had another peep over the garden wall at the Royal Jubilee Hotel yesterday, his object being to see how work on the removal of the smallpox sheds is getting on. He did not venture inside the fence. From his vantage point he declares himself of opinion that all is going on well.

A Juvenile Drunk.
A seventeen-year-old lad, named Thomas Doherty, was in the police court yesterday to answer to the charge of drunkenness. Though young in years, Tom appears to be old in iniquity. He is no stranger to the cells. The Police Magistrate fined him \$10, and informed him that if he were again brought into court he would be sent to jail.

Exhibits Returned Free.
The secretary of the Trolley and Dog Show has received word from the C.P.N. Co. and E. & N. Railway Co. that they will return exhibits free of charge. A slight error crept into the price list in regard to the time of closing entries. Entries may be made up to Saturday and exhibits are to be at the Public market by 9 a. m. of Tuesday, the 17th inst.

The Official Notification.
The Attorney-General was yesterday notified by wire from the Secretary of State at Ottawa, that the Executive would not interfere in the case of Taramello, the Italian sentenced at the last Nainaimo session to hang for murder. The execution will accordingly take place on Monday next at Nainaimo. The Chinese murderer now under death sentence will be hanged at the same time.

Will Represent British Columbia.
All the Provincial Governments in the Dominion having been requested to have their representatives to the World's Fair meet at Ottawa during the coming week, the British Columbia Government has appointed Mr. C. F. Law to represent them. Mr. Law is now on his way to Ottawa from Chicago, where he went on business connected with the placing of the mineral exhibits in the British Columbia building.

The Medical Examinations.
The medical examiners concluded their work last evening. Dr. Holden, of Donald, and Dr. Maclean, of Revelstoke, passing a successful examination and being admitted to register as practitioners for the province. A resolution was passed giving expression of regret by the members of the board at the illness of the president, Dr. W. De Wolfe Smith, of West Vancouver, who was unable to attend the meeting of the council.

Dominy-Hickman.
W. Dominy, a well known British Columbia, was united in matrimony to Miss Julia Hickman at St. John's, Newfoundland, on the 11th ult. The wedding, according to a newspaper published there, was "one of the gayest ever given in that place." The parties were married by Rev. Mr. Durrant in the Wesleyan church, and when the bride and wedding party were proceeding to the church they were honored by the firing off of guns, the flying of flags, etc.

For Trial on Monday.
The case of Fox v. Stevenson, is set for trial in the Supreme Court on Monday before a judge without a jury. The action is the outcome of a footrace last summer on Beacon Hill Park. The plaintiff made a bet of \$500, the stakes being placed in the hands of Mr. Stevenson, the defendant, who went to the defendant and asked to withdraw the money. He was not allowed to do so, and the suit was brought to prevent him in the first place from paying over the money, and in the second place to compel him to pay it back to plaintiff.

The Rifle Association Meeting.
The members of New Westminster at a meeting recently held appointed Messrs. Huston and Cornish a delegation to represent them at the annual business meeting of the R. C. T. A. to be held here on Friday evening. A great deal of interest is taken in shooting matters at Westminster, and the coming season is likely to be a brisk one. With a view to increasing the attendance from the Mainland, a proposition will be made to have the annual meeting in two days in place of three as formerly. The programme to be correspondingly reduced. There being many old-time riflemen in Vancouver, and military corps there, and in the other cities there are many

who cannot join the artillery, a motion will be made to have all the matches opened to all members of the association, only reserving for the military the places on the team for Ottawa. Several other matters of general interest may be brought up, and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance at the meeting to-morrow evening.

Entertain Their Friends.
The annual supper given by the Ladies' Aid Society to the managers, choir, Bible class and Y.P.S.C.E. of the First Presbyterian church took place at the Sunday school room of the church last evening. Although there were no others present except the members of the said societies, still there were sufficient guests to occupy all the seats around two large and long tables, tastefully arranged in the room. When this part of the programme, which commenced at a little past six o'clock, was concluded, the remainder of the evening was spent in listening to some vocal and instrumental music, etc., furnished principally by the members of the choir.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

The Work Done During the Past Year by Victoria's Board of Aldermen.
What Heads of Departments Have to Say On Subjects of Importance.

The annual report of the Mayor and Corporation of the city will be in the hands of the printer in the course of a few days, and the following summary of its contents will prove of interest.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.
The annual report of the Chief of Police shows his staff to consist of three sergeants and eighteen constables, all in good health. Crimes of a serious nature were of rare occurrence, while drunkenness is also on the decrease, owing to the Sunday closing of saloons. The Superintendent again draws attention to the inadequacy of the accommodation in the city lock-up, and suggests that some provision be made for the temporary custody of lunatics, and also for boys of tender years, who occasionally are brought to the place. During the year 1,280 cases had been dealt with in Police court, 161 of which were Chinese, 155 Indians, and 944 of other nationalities.

CITY WATER WORKS.
The Water Works committee report the mains between the lake and the city in good working order. During the year 9,033 lineal feet of four-inch main had been laid, 2,750 feet of six-inch, and 3,120 feet of 12-inch, besides over three miles of two-inch pipe. There had been no bursts in the mains during the year, and the total number of repairs for damages of all kinds was but 988. Twenty-five T valves and cesses have been placed in position within the 12 months, 12 new hydrants and 34 meters. On the subject of fire protection the committee recommended the necessary improvements be made. On November 17, when the sewers were being flushed, the pressure indicated at the City Hall was but 23 lbs. The quantity of water used during the year was 459,000,000 gallons, or at the rate of about 918,000,000 gallons per year—that is to say, the demand was at the rate of 91,000,000 gallons per year greater than the supply, provided the whole of the water derivable from the gathering grounds was stored, which, under existing circumstances, is not the case.

The accounts of the department for the year are thus summarized:

EXPENDITURE.	
Maintenance, including salaries.....	\$164,471.49
Construction.....	14,651.65
Cost of pipe on hand.....	\$31,123.08
.....	19,380.00
.....	\$30,653.08
Services.....	\$3,107.00
Water rates and rents.....	\$1,678.86
.....	\$4,786.86

BY-LAWS PASSED.
During the year 30 by-laws were passed, namely: Nos. 154 to No. 183. The principal ones were: The Poor House By-Law, passed May 8, "Victoria & Sidney Railway By-Law," July 8, "Local Improvement By-Law," September 9, and the "Plumber's By-Law," December 12.

STREET COMMISSIONER REPORT.
The annual report of the Street committee shows the following totals:
Stone crossings laid by contract..... \$1,393.00
Box drains laid, 24,537 ft..... 3,639.55
Total..... \$5,032.55
New sidewalks laid by contract..... 1,380.00
South Ward, 5,712 ft..... 800.89
North Ward, 8,112 ft..... 1,155.34
Centre Ward, 621 ft..... 155.34
Total, 19,160 ft..... \$4,131.16
Road broken by hand, 1,787 yds..... \$2,185.50
Road taken out by steam drill, 3,435 yds..... 1,575.00
Road broken by steam drill, 6,200 yds..... 1,382.46

Gorge Road bridge: Made safe by putting in two new bents. Ross Bay bridge: Covered anew with 3 inch plank. James Bay bridge: Made safe by putting in new floor beams replaced and whole of the plank renewed; posts placed under trestle approach. Humboldt street, from Government to Park road; Boyd street and Sandhill road from Hillside avenue to city boundary: Macadamized. Sidewalks repaired by city carpenter, 32,639 feet. Eighty-four streets repaired with broken rock where most required.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT.
The Building Inspector's report shows that 350 frame buildings have been erected, at a cost of \$257,350, and 29 brick buildings, costing \$372,350; general repairs, \$105,900; making a total of \$1,045,500.

ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.
Condition much the same, plus a year's wear and tear. Refer the Board to last year's report.

CEMETERY REPORT.
Burials in Ross Bay cemetery—Male, 237; female, 117; total, 354; being an increase of 2 males and 6 females over the burials of the year before.

Doctors: Pahaw; Take BERNHARDT'S PRIN-

SINGLE OR DOUBLE?

THE JOYS OF CELIBACY AND MATRIMONY CONTRASTED.

Mrs. Frank Leslie Says Sensible Marriages Lead to Atrophy, Romantic Marriages to Murder and Suicide, Single Blessedness to Melancholy Madness.
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DO YOU WANT what he hasn't got is the normal condition of man.

Probably it is a good thing for the world that this is so, for unsatisfied desire is the spring of exertion, and we all know that the man who can lie all day under his banana trees and eat their luscious fruit without even the labor of plucking it will not be likely to tell all day in the sun to raise a crop of corn.

Similarly a man who does not wish to marry and is deaf to the voice of the charmer, who is perfectly satisfied with his home in a boarding house and the family covered by his own hat, will not labor and plan and push for money and place as will he who ardently desires to take himself a wife, to provide for that wife a fitting home, and to see that home filled with his own children.

Of course the exertion he makes for his own selfish end redounds to the benefit of the world at large. His work provides work for other people, and the results of his labor enrich society in one way or another. Nature has planned deep in the constitution of either sex an impulse toward the other. Around this impulse, which nature simply bestows as part of her economy of self preservation, we have thrown a great deal of romantic drapery and pretty sentiment; have buried it in thickets of roses and lilies; have drowned its voice in songs of nightingales and tinkle of lutes and mandolins; have called upon the stars to witness to its loftiness and the moon to admire its purity—in fact, we have deified ourselves and our natural desires into some sort of impossible creation, quite unfit for this mundane sphere, while all the time good old matter-of-fact Mother Nature smiles and says:

"Go on, my dears; be as romantic and ridiculous as you please, only in the end marry, have children and keep the world going just as it always has gone."

Prosaic individuals there are in the world, principally among those so-called ascetics, around with the gross things of this earth that they have very little freedom of individual action, that they recognize this simple law of nature and follow it without self-deception or sentimental pretense. Kings, queens and their families; nobles concerned in the transmission of their titles; very wealthy persons who have the ambition of founding a family and perpetuating a name; all these marry just as nature intended for the sake of the children likely to come of such marriage, and they choose their partners with the deliberate consideration of their fitness for the position they have to fill.

Once in awhile a poor little prosaic rebel and claims her privilege of dress and birds and stars and moon and all the other pretty adornments of courtship, and once in awhile some self-willed young duke or prince asserts his will by marrying quite the wrong person for his duchess or princess, but on the whole these highborn unfortunate are pretty submissive to their hereditary destiny and follow out their appointed law with stolid submissiveness.

In this country few citizens feel themselves under these hereditary obligations, and as a general thing an American of either sex marries from pure inclination, and not with any special obligation to posterity. From this independent social condition arises far more freedom of choice than is dreamed of by our unfortunate titled brethren across the seas, and not only freedom of choice among various candidates, but freedom of choice between the two states of matrimony and celibacy.

Nobody here in America need marry if he doesn't want to, and consequently most marriages are those of inclination. Now the question is, Are these marriages likely to be happier than those contracted from motives of policy? Some persons will add, is any marriage likely to be happier than no marriage?

It is a common saying that marriage is a lottery, and, like most other trite sayings, it is so true that it has been worn to rags by the constant usage of those who found the coat so well fitted to their own backs that they could not resist putting it on.

Marriage is a lottery, and when we ask, is it better to marry or to remain single? it is as if we asked, is it better to give all that we possess for a ticket which may entitle us to a splendid fortune, and which may turn up—blank? Every one knows in buying the lottery ticket that the most likely chance is of the blank; but yet the possibility of the fortune is so alluring that lotteries drive a thriving business all over the world, and many a man who cannot buy a coat will manage to pay for at least the fraction of a ticket.

Just so with marriage. One cannot take up a newspaper without reading of divorces, of wife murders, of domestic treachery and wild revenges, of all sorts of misery and sin and shame that in one way or another have resulted from marriage. Without going to the public prints one looks through the list of their own acquaintance, and for one happy marriage does not one find two that con-

duce more to the misery than the bliss of one or the other of the parties? And yet the lottery tickets sell a great deal better than Bibles, and yet the churches, the offices of justices or registrars—every place where people may be married or marry themselves—are thronged with impatient applicants for the means of self-destruction, and if you capture any one of these devoted couples and point out to them the fate of two-thirds of their predecessors they wave you aside and blantly declare:

"Ours is an entirely different case, and nothing of the kind you mention will ever befall us."
And would it be better if the cynical philosopher supposed to thus address them succeeded in convincing them of their mistake? Suppose they turn back from the road where they are standing and leave the expectant person to wait for them in vain? As life goes on and man and maid shrivel into middle-aged celibacy, do they bless that kind friend who stood in their way or do they curse him for a meddling fool?

Probably the latter, for there is no proverb so pregnant with melancholy truth as that "there is no cream so rich as that which rises on spilled milk." Mr. Whittier put the same idea into prettier phrase when he wrote:
Of all sad words of tongue or pen
The saddest have these—
"I wish I were never married."

But the idea is the same, and there is no truer one afloat. Whatever you do, you will wish you had done the other thing. Suppose, for instance, that you are a sensible man and have chosen your wife as the Vicar of Wakefield says he did his partner, and she did her wedding gown, not so much for the present attractiveness as for its likelihood of wearing well, or suppose you are a sensible girl and accepted from among your many suitors the one most likely to become wealthy and to make for you and himself such a name and place in the world as your ambition led you to desire.

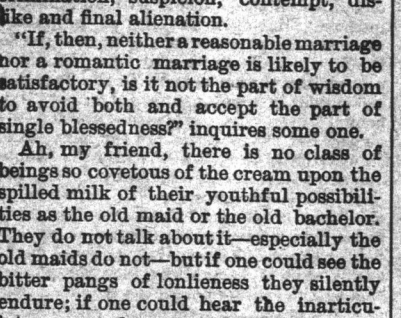
Her, what is the result? Why, you are both pining or grumbling or scolding, and your temperament suggests, because, having all that you bargained for in your matrimonial venture, you have not also secured quite another set of advantages which you had no right to expect. The more time with regard to his day among his fellow men, comes home with a feeling that here is, or should be, a refuge from the selfishness, the hardness, the indifference to his interests or pleasure, which have all day surrounded him and kept his wits upon the stretch lest some one should catch him out. He is, however, very ungraciously and unconsciously expects to find sympathy, tact, sweetness, forbearance and tenderness enshrined within the precincts of the place he calls home, even though it be but a room in a boarding house. Well, he does not find them, and he is cruelly, bitterly disappointed, even though he may not know just how much he has gained by his bargain.

He finds what he bargained for—a shrewd, capable partner of his purse and prospects, not at all of his heart and soul. She inquires how his business has gone; gives her opinion as to what he has done; find nothing or ought to have done; puts her finger unshrinkingly upon the weak spot which he has vainly tried to hide from her, and when he confesses that the man he trusted has disappointed and cheated him she calmly replies:
"I told you so! Really I wonder you will not take my advice sometimes about these things."

PHYSICAL CULTURE.

FANNIE EDGAR THOMAS GIVES SOME PRACTICAL HINTS TO WOMEN.

It is the Trained Complexity of Motion That Makes Grace—All Women Should Set Aside a Portion of Each Day to the "Training" of the Body.
(Copyright, 1892, by American Press Association.)



ANY woman hesitates to adopt physical culture through a false idea that naturalness means grace. "We do want to be graceful, but we hate affectation," they say. "What is natural and easy must be graceful. We become conscious, stiff and stilted once we meddle with nature and attempt to train ourselves into grace."

Nature was hackneyed expressions more utterly false than these. The many unfortunate surprises from mirror and photograph cameras ought to prove that to any intelligent person. Thought may imagine a position of great dignity and elegance. The reflection discloses one of extreme awkwardness that is frequently ludicrous. While thought must make the grace, it is not able to speak through stiff, untrained muscles.

Some people are born with natural grace and need little or no suggestion in this regard. With some a little thought and effort works marked improvement, while others, in order to attain any sort of satisfactory symmetry, must go into a regular course of training for development. Any one who would develop all her latent charm must pass through more or less of this.

Pleasing expression of the body is similar to harmony on a carefully tuned piano. When one portion of the body is keyed too high and another too low the result must be discord to the observer. This on all the time with regard to the proportional tension or laxity of the body produces its music, which is graceful. Among women there is the comfortable clumsiness of ignorance, the lissom indolence of the skilled muscle and the great crowded middle land of effort and strain, of training, showing stiff, awkward angularity, self-consciousness and nervousness, as displeasing to the eye as uncomfortable to the owner.

Were thought upon the subject all that were necessary, one lecture, with illustrations from everyday life, would be sufficient to produce an audience of absolutely graceful women, but unfortunately muscle must be obedient to brain before it can fully represent it.

By nature large minded, independent, enthusiastic, honest, sensible and dignified, American women as a class utterly misrepresent themselves to foreigners by untrained gaucheries of personal expression. Observe in the next company of which you are a member the hunching of shoulders to ears, chests hollowed into furrows, contracted brows, turned in toes, spasmodic contortions of the face, supposed to be expressive; incessant jerking of hands, arms and head; stiffening of limbs joints into supposed graceful positions; all outward incongruities due to neglect of the laws of grace; bad habits of sitting, riding, walking, which distort or leave unaccented the shapely line of carriage, sleeve or limb, and which are chiefly the result of a nervousness born of the desire to please.

Skilled grace is always easy and comfortable. It makes a Bernhardt, a Salvini, a Lotte. Looking upon it each one imagines it easily attainable—all one trial. Unskilled grace is painful awkwardness. Half trained skill is conscious affectation—the most displeasing of all.

THE WOMAN'S YEAR.

The snow wreaths sparkle in the grass. The night waits in the sky. The year waits in the sky. Turn, Time, thy glass, and then, year, pass. Thine hour has come to die.

The noise of bells goes sweeping past
And wakes the world to hear—
The whole world wakes to hear.
Oh, bells, is past the old at last?
Is dawn we wait for near?



Oh, womanhood (the bells reply),
Lift up thine eyes and see;
Look through the night and see
The shadows die, the light is high
And full day waiteth thee.

What time thou lookest, lo! the dawn
Lights all the gleaming shore—
Lights mountain, plain and shore.
Take up thy crown—the cause is won!
Thy long watchnight is o'er.

RUTH LOUISE CHILTON.
An Earnest Woman Editor.
Mrs. Harriot Holt Cahoon, editor of the woman's page of the New York Recorder, has come to the top in journalism in a most unprecedented manner. Her literary career commenced in the Chicago Herald, and in America, the weekly journal of Chicago, her articles appeared side by side with those of Joseph Howard. Her short stories and novel-

ettes have been translated into French and appeared in the Parisian journals. In all her writings there is discernible a vein of sentiment that marks her ever as a staunch advocate for women. An earnest lover of home, her Sunday evenings, when she receives her friends, are crowded with welcome guests, children and elderly people being common in the number. "My first duty," she said, "lies in my home, and it is here I find strength to enable me successfully to combat with life's hard work. I have found my work and will follow it."

C. M. W.
Women Travelers.
It is remarkable what travelers women are becoming, and how many of them travel alone. No longer do they need a protector—they can assume the role themselves if need be. Railway conductors say they travel about almost as freely as drummers do, and everybody must admit that this is making the sex more independent and self-assertive than our grandparents would have dreamed possible. It is not so certain, however, that its members will therefore make better wives and mothers.

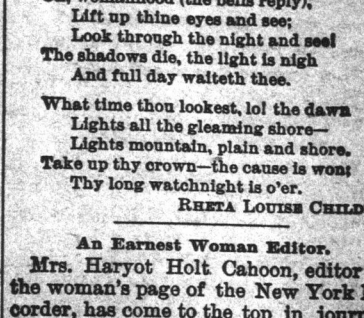
In her enlarged sphere woman has in some instances become a shrewd dealer and capable of driving a sharp bargain with the best of men. Yet what will this sharp practice culminate in, transmitted to a son or daughter? Should one be considered an alarmist, who would look forward to the penitentiary for the young man by whom this feeling is inherited, and in whom it has been cultivated through several generations? In the present age, and with our present environments, it is a painful necessity for many of our girls and young women to struggle with the world and fight their way.

They are forced to give and take hard knocks. Each one must take the place of some man or be pushed aside by him. When such girls become shrewd dealers, driving hard bargains for a dollar or a dime, every one recognizes that it is necessity. But if this capacity for making close bargains is to become a national characteristic of our girls and women, one of the sex's greatest charms will have disappeared.
R. B.

A Crescent City Beauty.

One of the most beautiful and accomplished of the many belles of New Orleans is Miss Helen Pitkin, daughter of Hon. J. R. G. Pitkin, United States envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Argentine Republic.

Miss Pitkin is a decided blond. She is stately, dignified and particularly graceful. Besides conversing fluently in French, Italian and Spanish, Miss Pitkin performs beautifully upon several musical instruments. She is also not unknown to fame as a writer, her contributions having graced the pages of several prominent magazines. Miss Pitkin has dabbled in amateur theatricals, and several comedies which she has written have received favorable mention from competent critics.



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