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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1892.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

JIM CORBETT, the prize fighter, had an ardent admirer in Pennsylvania. He wanted to see the champion but his wife refused to let him go, therefore, to spite his better half, he took a gun and blew the top of his head off.

EVERY man has something of the visionary in him. If you don't believe it, just begin asking questions of men that you meet and you will find nine out of ten are cherishing a pet scheme by which they expect to amass a fortune. Some want to build railroads, others would build cities at points without railroads or other natural advantages.

A MEETING will be held on the evening of November 1, in Pioneer Hall, for the purpose of organizing an Irish society. It is desired that all citizens who are Irish or of Irish descent should be present. Those who are interesting themselves in bringing about this organization have no hesitation in saying that it will be the largest national organization in the city.

THE dismissal of E. A. McDonald, the officer who lectured on annexation in Boston, from the militia of Canada by the Hon. the Minister of Militia will be undoubtedly endorsed by every member of the service from the Major-General down to the drummer boy. No volunteer will deny the right of free speech to any man, but there is a time when free speech ends and insult, if not treason, begins. The dismissed officer when he joined the service, like all others, was sworn in to uphold the honor of his country and flag, not to belittle it, but to give loyal and true service. This he has not done, for while holding Her Majesty's commission he has repeatedly in public delivered speeches that would bring into contempt that country and that flag which he had sworn to support. Mr. McDonald's course should have been to first resign his commission, and then he could talk annexation until he was blue in the face, and no one would have cared a jot. As it is, he has no one but himself to blame for the consequences.

NEXT Monday evening is Halloween, or Allhallow Even. It is the eve, or virgil, of All Saints' Day, which is the 1st of November. It is still customary in some parts of England to crack nuts, duck for apples in a tub of water, or to catch at them when stuck upon one end of a kind of hanging beam, at the other extremity of which is a lighted candle, and that with

their mouths only, their hands being tied behind their backs. In Scotland and certain parts of Ireland, these ceremonies are of a more superstitious character, and though not now so common as formerly, they are still practised in some parts of the country. They burn nuts in the fire with some sweetheart's name, in order to ascertain the nature of their courtship, and if they are to be married together; and the young women draw stocks of cabbage blindfolded, in order to determine the figure and size of their future husbands. Of these and other ceremonies observed on that night, an excellent account is to be found in Burns' well known poem of "Halloween."

"CASTOROLOGIA, or the History and Traditions of the Canadian Beaver," is a work recently issued by Horace T. Martin, F. Z. S., etc. It is an exhaustive monograph, showing signs of deep study of the subject discussed, and fully illustrated. As the author remarks in the preface, Canada has been known for nearly three centuries as "the home of the beaver," and for over two hundred years this animal has contributed to Canada's most substantial advancement; inspiring adventures, stimulating enterprise, and laying the strong foundations of our commercial development. Thus has the beaver played in the romance of our early history; the central figure round which waged the wars of nations, while powerful corporations and petty adventurers fought for monopolies few were unable to control. Anything so closely identified with the early history of Canada as the beaver, must naturally interest people of our country, therefore we have no hesitation in recommending "Castorologia, or the History and Traditions of the Canadian Beaver," to the attention of our readers. The book is neatly bound, and would be a valuable addition to any library. Wm. Drysdale & Co., 232 St. James street, Montreal, and Ed. Stanford, Charing Cross, London.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Chas. M. Gray is with Cordray's Portland stock company.

Manager Cort is arranging for the appearance here of the Duff Opera company.

Comedian John T. Kelly, who, with his really excellent company, will be seen at The Victoria on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday next, is as much of a fun-maker off the stage as he is on it. He was being continually pestered last summer by many applicants for positions in his "McFee of Dublin" company, all of whom he of course referred to Manager Welty. On several occasions he was prevailed upon to introduce divers engagement seekers personally to Welty, and in every case he did it in a cipher, as for instance: "Mr. Welty this is Miss Leadinglady. You will excuse me now, but I have a date in Brooklyn." The word Brooklyn, informed the manager, that the lady's salary was \$100 per week and that the artistic abilities were good. If Mr. Kelly said in making an intro-

duction anything about Syracuse, he meant the salary was \$25 weekly and the applicant decidedly no good. If he expected a telegram from Albany the



JOHN T. KELLY.

weekly stipend of the applicant was \$50 and she was fair, and if he spoke about some diamonds he was going to look at, the intelligence was conveyed that the aspirant for histrionic honors was an artist, had plenty of the precious stones herself, and that she would be worth \$150 every seven days.

CHAS. HAYWARD
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