

THE VICTORIA  
HOME JOURNAL.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1892.

## SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

The *Colonist* has declared war against Chief Sheppard, and the world awaits the outcome in breathless silence.

JAPANESE doctors never present bills to their patients. They await the patient's inclination to pay, and then thankfully accept whatever sum is offered. Here is a lesson in good manners for Victorian physicians.

At the last meeting of the James Bay Flats Germ Club, Smallpox Germ proposed a vote of thanks to Mayor Beaven, which was seconded by Cholera Germ, a recent arrival from Hamburg, and adopted unanimously by the whole family of germs.

RECENTLY a San Francisco citizen armed himself with a butcher knife and, while thus equipped, chased his wife in a manner not deemed to be wholly friendly. For this he was arrested, but discharged. The right that a man has to chase his better half with a knife has heretofore lacked the sanction of the United States courts. The precise limit of the right, provided the woman be overtaken, still awaits definition.

IT is not generally known that Edison received in one instance a fee of \$40,000 for his opinion as an electrical expert. He was employed by the company organized to bore the Niagara power tunnel to examine the ground, study conditions and plans, and give an opinion as to the feasibility and practicability of the work. He received the fee named. Other experts from various parts of the world were also consulted, and there was concentrated upon the plans an amount of expert knowledge such as has rarely been invoked for any one undertaking.

A NEW YORKER and his wife who have been spending a holiday on the north shore of Lake Superior, are now edifying the readers of a native magazine with blood curdling accounts of their perilous doings in "Darkest America." The lady declares she is the first white woman to set foot on these wild regions. The *Manitoba Liberal* says: "This will be news to the thousand and one white women and children who came to Manitoba and the Northwest via Port Arthur, Rainy River and Lake of the Woods in the sixties and seventies." It is rather surprising that the New York tourists did not plant the Stars and Stripes on the north shore and pre-empt all the country west to the Pacific in the name

of the President of the United States. American enterprise and travel are astounding, truly.

IN Ottawa, electricity has probably been more fully developed than in any other city in the world. Power for the generation of electricity is obtained from the Chaudiere Falls. The streets and houses are thoroughly lighted, and in the city of from 44,000 to 45,000 population, there are in use 700,000 lamps of various kinds, with power for a million more. The cost of lighting is hardly more than nominal. Electricity is to be extensively used for heating and cooking purposes. Already one hotel, the Windsor, uses it exclusively for cooking. It is to be used the coming winter for heating the electric street cars, and it is said an even temperature of 70 degrees can be obtained with the weather at 40 degrees below zero. Heating and cooking facilities are obtained by a device patented by two young Canadians. Tailors use the fluid for heating their flat-irons, which are simply connected with the current by a small wire, with thumb screws, and the irons can be, under full force, made so hot as to set fire to paper or cloth. Great are the uses of electricity.

AS THE season of warm weather is rapidly passing away, and as it is very rational to think that the appearance of frost will drive from our beautiful city all possibility of any contagious disease, it seems fitting that we should, before cold weather reaches us, prepare for what may come when the warm and balmy breezes of spring appear. One of the most attractive features of our city is the beautiful lawns, the unbroken soft and velvety touch of nature, adorned by costly and magnificent dwellings, the clean and tidy front yards. The superior advantages, the commercial activity, the social and industrial attractions, have been hurled all over the country, and to-day Victoria stands as one of the leading cities on the Coasts. Now with all this apparent grandeur and cleanliness, will our back yards stand inspection? We have been casting away refuse all summer. Where has it gone? Many of us by stepping around into the back yard, into the woodshed and outbuildings, can see what should imperatively be removed at once before snow flies. Let the front yard alone for a while and invite our health-seeking friends into the back door. Have our cisterns and wells cleaned, remove all rubbish from the stable, in fact prepare for a scourge which our neglect may hasten. Not only should our dwelling houses be cleaned up but our business houses as well. By riding around over the city one can not help receiving the impression that there are a good many dumping holes which are positive conductors of disease, and if we are to perpetuate the prestige of our city, these and all like places must have attention. Throw away the lawn mower and take the back door refuse by the throat, and 1893 will find Victoria healthful and marching on to commercial greatness that shall increase her capital, her population and prosperity.

John T. Kelly, will be the next attraction at The Victoria.

## AN IRISH SOCIETY.

To Editor of THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL:

SIR: I have read with pleasure the articles in your last two issues, relating to the formation of an Irish society in Victoria. Why the Scotch and English have societies here and Irishmen have not, is an enigma to me. Such a society would be of great benefit to Irishmen and their descendants. It should not alone help to keep alive the memory of some of the very many great men which our small and not over productive country has sent forth, but tend to make Irishmen of the present day try and copy the many great and notable examples set by our countrymen. That the society be non-political and non-sectarian should be made a *sine qua non*. Perhaps a few Irish Victorians will be patriotic enough to give some time and attention to the matter, and bring it to a successful issue.

R. E. SPROULE, M. D.

## GAMBLING.

To the Editor of the VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

SIR—As the daily papers of your fair city appear to be muzzled when attention is directed to the morals of the city, I feel in duty bound to come out and say something respecting the gambling that is carried on in your midst. While visiting Victoria recently, I was being shown around town by an old friend, and, to my surprise, I beheld gambling on all sides, particularly in saloons and hotels, so-called. What amazed me most was the presence of mere boys or youths betting their (?) money on the turn of a card or the rolling of balls on a billiard table. The above houses were running wide open during the exhibition week both in Victoria and New Westminster, and my friend informed me such was the case almost every week. Surely the law does not permit gambling in your Dominion.

I am sorry to say that gambling is carried on openly in this city and, in fact, all the cities of the Sound with no apparent attempt to stop it. The respectable portion of your city should insist on the law being enforced in every particular. Who knows but that your father, son or brother might bring ruin upon your household by first looking on and afterwards being enticed to run the chance of being robbed.

WATCHMAN.

Port Townsend, Oct. 8th, 1892.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Mous. Albini, with his troupe of Mountebanks, tortured a small audience at The Victoria, Monday night.

The Junior Partner Company arrived too late last Saturday night to give the performance announced at The Victoria.

A late issue of *Stage Sparks*, Portland, contains a portrait of Frank Armstrong, who was leading man for the Belmour-Gray combination.

Manager Goldamid of the Vancouver Opera House is endeavoring to make arrangements for a performance in that City by the Duff Opera Company.

The San Francisco *Call* says: "Miss Kate Dalgleish is a pretty, versatile and accomplished young actress, and was thoroughly enthused with the part of Chispa. Her rendering of the rollicking thoughtless California mountain girl was well appreciated."