

case. Removed at such distance from the regular theatrical circuits, it is a pretty difficult matter for a manager, no matter how well posted he may be, to judge of the merits of many of the attractions applying to him for dates. A poor company injures a manager's reputation, injures the chances of his succeeding attractions and costs him directly and indirectly hundreds of dollars. It is a fact though that in many instances the only means a manager has of judging of the excellence of a company or play is by the press notices. It is a fact, too, that some of the vilest shows are able to secure the most laudatory mention in many of the American papers. The notices of these papers, as effusive as they are untruthful, are employed by the managers of these vile shows to secure dates in the various cities and towns, and frequently with success even in the larger centres. Manager Jamieson does the best he can to secure first-class attractions, and if he is imposed upon by companies of "The Laughing Girl" stamp it is scarcely his fault.

Victoria is not the only place in which the highwayman is permitted to pursue his avocation unmolested by the police. In Minneapolis the highwayman and burglar both have reaped a rich harvest this autumn from the pedestrian and the suburban resident. So numerous have these hold-ups and burglaries become in Minneapolis, that the Mayor of that city is now urging the police department to secure bloodhounds to track the law-breakers. The idea of the men who have suggested blood hounds to the mayor is that the dogs shall be muzzled and only used in case of emergency, or when the city is infested with petty crooks. The dogs are to be kept at police headquarters, and when there is a call for them the patrol wagon is to take them to the scene of trouble and the drivers put them on the scent.

The dogs may not in all cases succeed, but they will pay for themselves in many ways, and the moral effect upon the community would be startling.

It is believed by many that most of the crimes now being committed in Victoria are the work of young men, residents, who operate quickly and within an hour following the crimes are at home in bed. From the localities that are being visited and the manner in which a great deal of the work is being done, it is thought that professional thieves cannot be at the back of it. They would operate differently and would not display the knowledge of the localities that is displayed by the people who are now operating. As it is the same in Minneapolis, it is suggested that the whole matter could be brought to an end in a very short time. Of course there will be a prejudice against the use of the bloodhound, but that prejudice is largely a matter of sentiment. If it were proposed that a setter dog should be used nobody would say a word against it, and why should anything be said if bloodhounds are suggested? Matters in this city are not improving, and if there should be a few more outbreaks the people will rise up and demand that something be done. They may be even willing to take the bloodhounds. Yet, in the light of all that has been said in favor of the plan, we are not sure that it is the best thing to do in Victoria.

During the course of a conversation with a gentleman from Chicago the other day, it was remarked that Victoria had all the natural advantages to make it a great city. The Chicago man said: "You lack enterprise. Take Chicago," he continued, "from a small hamlet fifty years ago, and being almost erased from the map thirty years later, she has become one of the greatest cities in the world. To-day she has a popu-

lation of 1,600,000 of the most aggressive, enterprising people in the world. Situated on the west bank of a vast unsalted sea, it has the most delightful summer climate in the country, being fanned by the cooling breezes from the great lake, which stretches away for hundreds of miles to the east, north, and south. Its water and railway transportation is not only unexcelled but unequaled by any great city in the world. It is the typical city of America, illustrating the most marvelous growth, phenomenal energy and enterprise of any city, ancient or modern, in all the world, and its growth and achievements are emblematic of American industry, energy, and progress. It is the living example and crowning triumph of the American principle of free unrestricted commerce; and being a central mart for the exchange of the products of our vast country it represents more completely than any other the glory of American civilization." If it had not been for the enterprise of her citizens, Chicago would never have amounted to anything, with all her natural advantages. It is enterprise which makes a city, and Victorians should learn the lesson, and put it into practical effect.

PERE GRINATOR.

LADIES,

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