

**Briefacts.**

REV. E. ROXSON has been away for several days. He is visiting Mission Stations along the coast, performing duties incumbent upon him as President of the British Columbia Conference.

"HOME CHEER," a paper conducted by Miss BOWES, the President of the W.C.T.U., will shortly make its appearance. Under the able management of this well-known lady, this paper should be the means of doing a vast amount of good among the people of the city.

THE Methodists of Nanaimo are just about erecting a handsome Church. The plans of T. HOOPER, the well-known architect of this city, have been accepted and work is to be proceeded with at once.

THE Baptists and Congregationalists are making good headway with their new Churches. It is expected both will be completed by June.

THE Ladies' Aid Social in the basement of the Church, on Homer Street, on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., was a most decided success. MR. W. J. TRYTHALL occupied the chair. An excellent programme was rendered.

REV. E. D. Mc LAREN, of Brampton, Ontario, has arrived in Vancouver and has been inducted into the charge of the Presbyterian Church, Georgia Street.

REV. MR. WADMAN, of the Gorge Road Methodist Church, Victoria, preached in the Methodist Church, Homer Street, on Sunday, March 10th. He took for his text Heb. ii. 6 v.: "What is man that Thou art mindful of him?" The discourse throughout was a most eloquent one and was listened to with rapt attention by the large congregation. He also preached in the East end at 7 p.m.

**THE "PEN" OR THE "SWORD."**

THERE was a large attendance of the members of the Young People's Institute on the night of March 19th to listen to the debate on the question "Which is Mightier the "Pen" or the "Sword."

The following gentlemen took part in the discussion which provided a very interesting one, the arguments being well sustained on both sides:—Messrs. Wood, Stevers and Stark for the "Pen," and Messrs. Grant, Hicks and Beckett for the "Sword."

On the question being put to the meeting the vote stood 18 to 8 in favor of the "Pen."

The next meeting of the Institute is in the hands of the social Committee and an interesting programme may be expected.

**THE NEW FORM OF PROPOSAL.**

"Do you believe marriage is a failure Miss Phyllis?" he asked, as he leaned over the back of her chair, watching her lily hand ply to and fro through the bright-colored wool.

"Really, Mr. Dukes," was the hesitating reply. "I have never had an adequate opportunity of testing—that is—I prefer not to express an opinion until—"

"Miss Phyllis," he kindly interrupted her, "you express my own opinion exactly. When shall we enter upon the experiment?"

"Whenever you like, Mr. Dukes," was the demure reply.

**WILL SHE?**

Won't it be funny when women vote.  
If they act as silly as the men?  
The barrels of flour they'll have to "tote,"  
The wheelbarrows they'll trundle then.  
Will she pay her bills like a little man,  
Or hedge with a pretty pink-hued note?  
Will it be a game of catch-as-catch-can  
When women vote?

Won't it be funny to have it said  
Of some political sweet girl-brid,  
She's actually gone and shaved her head—  
Made a bet on the losing side?  
Will they bet their boots and their chewing  
gum,  
And the pretty bonnets on which they dote?  
Will we think the millennium has come  
When women vote?

WHY SHE LOVED HIS PREACHING.—One Sunday as a certain Scottish minister was returning homeward, he was accosted by an old woman who said, "Oh, sir! well do I like the day that you preach." The minister was aware that he was not very popular, and he answered: "My good woman, I am glad to hear it. There are too few like you. And why do you like the day I preach?" "Oh, sir," she replied, "when you preach I always get a good seat."

"Luck is waiting for something to turn up; labor, with keen eyes and strong will, will turn up something. Luck lies in bed, and wishes the postman would bring him news of a legacy; labor turns out at six o'clock, and, with busy pen or ringing hammer, lays the foundation of a competence. Luck whines; labor whistles. Luck relies on chance; labor on character. Luck strides down to indigence; labor strides upwards to independence.

"THE Arab has a custom of thanking God that things are no worse. If he loses an eye, he is thankful that it was not both eyes; if he loses a hand, he thanks God it was not both hands; if he breaks his leg, he thanks God it was not his neck. Dr. Johnson used to say that a habit of looking at the best side of every event is better than a thousand wounds a year. When Fenelon's library was on fire, 'God be praised,' he exclaimed, 'that it is not the dwelling of some poor man!'"

"FRIENDSHIP is true in proportion as the tenderness which underlies it is unselfish. He who measures our feelings, exacting a full return for all he gives, jealous of what he deems his due, craving the beloved object for his own pleasure and resenting other claims upon it, is not worthy the name of friend. The true friend is ever generous, pouring out his love without measure or stint, finding his chief delight in the good or pleasure of the loved one, and is ever willing to work for this end, even though he share not in the results."

It is not architecture nor upholstery that goes much to make a pleasant home; taste is good in a home, but charity, content, and geniality are better, and these the owner must have himself. The real soul of home is love, which can oven enchant lowliness and sweeten sacrifice; there can be no home without this ancient and simple virtue, and nothing has a better effect upon housekeeping than pleasant changes by which the housekeeper is able to turn the current of her thoughts and to throw off for a time the burden of care."

**LORD SALISBURY AT A WESLEYAN CHURCH.**

SO much has been said of late, says the *Liverpool Courier*, respecting the Premier of England and the Wesleyans, that the following incident, which is given on the authority of the Rev. Wallace M'Mullen, vice-president of the Irish Wesleyan Conference, will be of interest. Some time ago a friend of his, a gentleman in legal practice, was spending a brief holiday at Tunbridge Wells, and on a certain Sabbath, whilst attending the Wesleyan Church, was surprised to see the Marquis of Salisbury present. Meeting his lordship afterwards on board a Continental steamer, and entering into conversation, that gentleman remarked that he had the pleasure of seeing his lordship as a worshipper at the Wesleyan Church at Tunbridge Wells. The Marquis said he was there; he was passing along the road, and seeing the people flocking in, supposing it was an Episcopalian Church, he followed. However, he quickly found out his mistake, but was very much pleased with the service throughout. The service over, he was at once accosted by a benevolent old gentleman, an official of the church, who, shaking hands with his lordship, inquired if he was a stranger. The Marquis having replied in the affirmative, his interrogator said, "Have you joined class yet?" "No," said the Marquis. "not yet." Whereupon the old gentleman invited him to a society class, which met weekly at his own private residence, and said how glad he would be to see him there. "Well," said the Marquis, "I have not made up my mind to join a Wesleyan class yet." The old gentleman, still in ignorance whom he was addressing, invited him to remain to the administration of the Lord's Supper, which was to follow the service, but Lord Salisbury said he had another engagement. Turning to the gentleman on board the steamer he said, "If that is the way you Wesleyans look after strangers, I do not wonder you get on as you do."

We have not been able to solicit advertisements from all our friends for this issue, but hope to be favoured with their patronage for later numbers.

**THE CITY CLOTHING STORE.**

The management of this well-known establishment has recently changed hands. Messrs. G. S. Stirtan & Co. are now the proprietors, having bought out the stock from the former owners, Messrs. Abrams & McLean. Under the able management of Mr. T. Matthews, the City Clothing Store has won a name among the Vancouver public and its reputation is now established. We wish the young and enterprising firm every success and bespeak for them a continued share of the public patronage.