

in arrear for a period of more than three months, then he only retains his right to distrain for the three months' rent due immediately prior to distress and loses his right as to the balance, thereby becoming an ordinary creditor for such balance. I would respectfully suggest that an act be introduced at the coming session providing for such a limit, and also in cases of distress that the tenant be allowed certain articles of furniture as an exemption, thereby preventing a landlord from dispossessing of the ordinary necessities of life and turning his tenant out on the street destitute. There is an exemption of \$500 allowed an ordinary creditor, and why should a landlord be preferred in this respect?

The appearance of Madeline Merli and her talented combination of artists, at The Victoria last Thursday night, marked an epoch in the history of the drama in this city. This is the highest salaried company which has ever visited Victoria, not one person in it drawing less than \$65 per week, and in two or three cases \$150 is the salary. It might be expected, therefore, that such an organization would be accorded at least the treatment due ordinary travelling combinations; but such, I regret to say, was not the case. What was intended as a potent and healthy lesson in morality was rendered worthless by the clattering tongues and boisterous laughter of a dozen or so persons, who, not possessing intelligence enough to appreciate the performance themselves, were determined that no one else should profit by it. The most vivid and artistically arranged stage pictures were completely shorn of their beauty by these same individuals. But it was the pathetic scenes that brought forth all their porcine instincts. They grunted their disapprobation when the mother of the murdered Gaston was stricken with paralysis in the climax scene

of the second act, which, by the way, was an intensely dramatic situation. But there is no use particularizing; the conduct of the persons referred to was a striking illustration throughout of the oft repeated aphorism of throwing pearls before swine. When really first class companies visit this city, Manager Jamieson should call in the services of the police force to maintain order.

There is another Richmond in the field. The People's Progressive Party, within the last few days, has advanced beyond the incipient stages of organization and it is said will put a municipal ticket in the field. I am informed that a broad and liberal platform, tending in the direction of improvement in the management of civic affairs is in process of incubation, and that the promoters will announce themselves in a day or so. With the candidates of the People's Progressive Party and the Board of Trade ticket, not to say anything of the threat of the Single Tax men to turn loose a half dozen or so fully qualified contestants for municipal honors, the coming civic elections give promise of being of an exceedingly lively character.

One thing is generally admitted that any ticket which puts forth as its platform the improvement of the city in the direction of better streets and a complete system of sewerage is entitled to the support of the ratepayers. Victoria must derive a great portion of her revenue in future from tourists, and if the city is not beautified and made inviting, it is not likely that the expectations of the people as to the extent of the trade from this source will ever be realized. Those who are interesting themselves in the matter of bringing out good men for the council should see to it that every candidate is pledged to support street and park improvements and an efficient system of sewerage.

The announcement that Capt. Clives Phillips Wolley has induced a large number of English hunters to visit this province next summer will be read with feelings akin to consternation by those who have cows, horses and other domestic animals. It may not have occurred to Capt. Wolley, as it certainly has to nearly every person living in this province, that the average Old Country hunter is a dangerous man to turn loose in British Columbia. Very few of them can distinguish the difference between an "antlored dweller of the wilds" and a hybrid ox. Within the past few years, the herds of ranchers have suffered from the unsportsman-like proclivities of would be huntsmen, and now Capt. Wolley, who has met with much kindness in this province, admits that he has encouraged a number more of these men to come out here and add to the already too large parasitical population of British Columbia. If the Captain had encouraged a dozen or so *bona fide* capitalists to settle and invest in this country, he would have received the gratitude of every resident of the province.

PERE GRINATOR.

"Canada" is the subject which Rev. M. Macleod has chosen for his discourse at Central Church next Sunday evening

LADIES,
ASK YOUR
DEALER
FOR THE
GRANBY
STORM
RUBBER.