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Victoria, British Columbia.

SPECIAL ITEMS FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 1901.

Chinese Immigration. (No. 4.)

LONDON CHATTER.

TOMMY'S SUBTERFUGE.

AMERICAN OPINION OF THE BOERS.

MINING IN ONTARIO.

TWAIN CHEERED THEM UP.

MUSIC.

DRAMA.

WOMEN AS IMMIGRANTS.

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February 12th, 1901. **35 FORT STREET.**

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ment for the special care of all female immigrants.

"Some cases to prove this have lately come under the notice of the committee. Young women are engaged in England as lady helps by employers in the Northwest, but find too late that the term 'lady help' is only another name for general servant, and that they are required to do the hardest and most menial work. The result is that health gives way, and they are unable to return to Eastern Canada, having spent all their available means in reaching the remote districts to which they have been sent by the United British Women's Emigration Association. Greatly reduced fares are arranged for such immigrants going West, but the full fare must be paid for the return journey, and this is much beyond the means of the ordinary immigrant. It may be mentioned that the Women's National Immigration Society could arrange for the reduced fare to immigrants going West without difficulty. The Women's National Immigration Society would gladly send an agent home to collect and bring over desirable immigrants to supply the different needs of the country, but it is impossible to carry out any such scheme without a special grant from government to cover the extra expense. The free passages offered by other colonies seriously affect the emigration of women servants to Canada, and without some effort of this kind it cannot be expected that the numbers will increase.

Mr. Marquette, the government agent in Montreal, addressed the gathering on the subject of immigration generally. He had lately visited the Old Country, and had been informed by ladies there that plenty of domestic servants would be willing to come to Canada if they could be guaranteed by responsible persons the same advantages as were offered by other Colonies. The Hon. Mrs. Joyce had said that she and her friends could procure as many as 160 a month, but could send them to other Colonies three times as far away as Canada for a guinea apiece. The system in England was as perfect as it could be, the material being drawn from good, healthy families in country parishes, and who were quite respectable, and had a little money saved, giving fair promise of becoming good workers and industrious colonists. Mr. Marquette pointed out the advisability of continuing to look after them, even when they had been provided with situations, and of watching them until they had attained independent positions. There were still plenty of good places and opportunities to be found in Canada, and if a lady representative could be sent to England, there were many ladies and gentlemen who would be found ready to aid in the work.

Mr. Loenguist spoke at some length on the subject of assisted passages. He knew of cases where some four hundred boys and girls had been received, and no one had lost a single cent by any of them. Yet many of them would only stop in their first situations for four or five months, because they were then offered better wages in the United States. He thought that many people were apt to be unreasonable because they expected to retain a good servant by paying him or her the same wages on the eighth month as they did on the first. No wonder many of them got married, and quickly too. He added that there would be no difficulty in getting good Swedish servants if the proper methods of persuasion as to guaranteed wages and treatment were adopted. It was well known that every centre of population was short

of domestic servants only on this account. Mr. Gillespie pointed out that Swedish girls had been found very satisfactory in the past, and the society would gladly encourage them.

Miss Laidlaw said that the better class servants settled down readily, and always seemed bright and happy in their occupations.

The Protective Emigration Society, she said, had been a complete failure, since Montreal demanded as good servants in its establishments as any to be found in England, although people in the Old Country did not appear to think so. When the subject had been mentioned to Lord Strathcona by a Canadian lady in London, he had agreed that such was the case. Yet the superior class of girls demanded by Montreal would be able to ask fifty pounds a year in England, and would then have two kitchen-maids to work under them.

EATING AND DRINKING WITH EXERCISE.

By A. S. Atkinson, M.D., in Physical Culture.

The man who wearies himself with overwork or exercise, and then proceeds to eat heartily, is in a fair way to invite an attack of acute indigestion. One of the first lessons that the track athlete has to learn is to regulate his diet so as to produce certain desired results. The food selected for a man training for a severe test of physical powers is always of such a character that there is the least amount of waste through indigestion possible. The time for taking this food is also regulated by a trainer, who knows pretty accurately when the athlete should be fed and when not.

One of the greatest troubles that hard workers have comes directly from this indiscretion. Wearied out with their physical or mental labors of the day, they sit down immediately to a hearty meal. It is a common idea that a good meal when one is tired will revive the drooping spirits and make him feel better. Possibly during the progress of the early part of the meal he will feel better, for the mere act of eating when one is hungry is bound to stimulate the brain and mind. But the body is thoroughly tired out and the stomach suffers from the general low condition of the physical energies. That organ is suddenly called upon to do a work that is difficult, and in many cases it ends in acute or chronic indigestion.



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If one is only slightly tired, probably the hearty meal will not cause trouble. But even in this case it is much better to rest after the day's hard work if one feels at all wearied. A few moments stretched at full length on a bed, with eyes closed and muscles relaxed, will give the whole system a chance to recover itself, and the stomach, relieved with the rest of the body, will soon gain its normal condition. This rest just before eating is an excellent plan for all workers, either mental or physical.

The value of a liquid diet under certain conditions is not generally appreciated. Take the hard bicycle rider and follow him through his course of training and progress in a trip across country. If he indulges in heavy dinners or meals immediately after a hard day's ride he will soon be compelled to abandon the trip. On the other hand, a hard rider can perform tremendous exertions ten hours a day on a careful diet in which liquids occupy the chief place on the bill of fare. For refreshments on the way nothing is taken but milk.

The person suffering from nervous dyspepsia and kindred disorders needs, probably, more than anything else, new tone and strength to the whole system. How best to accomplish this is oftentimes a problem that a physician must meet in different ways. Sometimes physical exercise, especially in the open air, is the best cure, and if prescribed and followed intelligently it works wonders. But there is another point that cannot be overlooked, and in nine cases out of ten it is the rock on which most of the dyspeptics get wrecked. They think the outdoor exercise is going to cure them and they pay no heed whatever to their diet. The result is often disastrous. The stomach is in a weak, nervous state, ready to respond to the slightest abuse.

His hope of recovery is to look upon his diet as important as his exercise. The latter will undoubtedly stimulate an appetite, but to eat all we want whenever hungry is not the sure way to build up health. In ordinary healthy condition one might follow Nature's inclination and eat heartily whenever hunger demanded it. But we are dealing with a

chronic dyspeptic, whose nerves have as much to do in causing his disorder as his stomach. Let that patient get a little overtired and then return to the house and eat a breakfast or dinner, and nerves and stomach will combine to make life miserable, and counteract all the good obtained. The only safe rule to follow is to take the exercise to the point of weariness, and then rest. Do not be afraid of tiring the body with exercise, for that is what we take it for, and, provided we stop this side of exhaustion, we will be pretty sure to improve after rest and sleep.

London Chatter.

"St. Agnes' Eve—Ah! bitter chill it was,
"The owl for all his feathers was acold."

Just such another night might have been now, the far greater part of a century since those lines were penned by the immortal, but ill-fated Keats. In England it is a well established rule, with few exceptions, that our coldest weather comes with the New Year; and the new century, evidently, intends to keep up the custom. I hear the snow fall has been universal in Europe, even where it is but a memory of by-gone years, a phenomena, truly. Wiseacres are scratching their polls and talking mysteriously concerning old century portends of new century calamities. But grey-heads smile, remembering the things that were, and the clouds that overshadowed England in the dawn of 1800. Then as now, trouble seemed everywhere, and England, not the mighty Empire of to-day, viewing the revolutions in America and France,—England trembled in the balance. The tales of bloodshed and horror brought over by French refugees from the continent, doubtless helped to check the flood then threatening to overwhelm the country, and some years later the pent-up feelings of the British people found a healthy vent in helping to rid Europe and the world at large of a ruthless devastator. The century which opened its eyes on Bonaparte's greatness, has closed them on St. Helena re-inhabited with other prisoners of war.

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General Roberts is amongst us again, no longer "lord," but "earl," nevertheless always "Bobs." His work of reorganization has begun, and I hear he has commenced with the War Office.

The Princess of Wales has again sent forth an appeal in aid of the families of our soldiers at the front. She says: "I cannot contemplate the effect, not only upon the families but upon the men themselves, of the withdrawal of our aid." But, as a contemporary truly says, "When Mr. Brodrick asked the other day for sixteen millions to carry on the war, why did he not ask for an extra million for the soldiers and sailors' wives and families?"

If what is said concerning the latest war ship be true, then the Admiralty must come in for a share of the greatest blame. This ship, which it has cost the nation three-quarters of a million to build, needs re-building, so they say, from stem to stern. Our old friend, Harry Furniss, has hit the nail on the head in two most delightful caricatures, the one in which "Dr. Bobs" gives his cure to the War Office officials for swelled head, and the other wherein "Daddy Neptune" has somewhat to say on the subject of "figure heads."

The suggestion that Lipton or Whiteley or one or other of the great representatives of flourishing firms should bring the business head to deal with the unbusiness-like state of affairs generally, seems worth consideration, and it is to be hoped that the newly belted earl will not consider the feelings of those whose sluggishness has cost too much already both in blood and bullion.

Canada to the fore again! It had been broiling hot indeed but for the welcome shade of the maple tree. In a charming account of Canadian life headed "Our Western Chivalry," the writer says: "To live for a year or two in Western Canada is to learn the essential meaning of a man's manhood." And if the army has benefited so much by the help of the Canadians abroad, why should not the navy feel the advantage at home.

Speaking of the Navy, the Duke of York has just been raised to the dignity of Rear-Admiral; he had possessed his captaincy for eight years.

Business is depressingly dull, owing to the illness of our beloved Queen, and even hard-headed members of the Stock Exchange seem to have turned their attention away for the time being from the all-absorbing theme of £ s. d.

Contemporary with the illness of the head of the greatest of all earthly empires is that of the King of modern Italian opera, the venerable Giuseppe Verdi. It is said that the Wagnerian school has latterly influenced the musician's style and many prefer the later works of the maestro in consequence, but to my mind, Verdi will always be Verdi, just as Mozart will always be Mozart.

There has been a sensational case just concluded in one of the London law courts in the affair of Benjamin Lake, an aged solicitor of high position in his profession. This was a serious charge of misappropriating certain trusts. The judge himself was so overcome that he delivered the sentence in husky tones, imposing a term of penal servitude for twelve years. The prisoner still adhered to his declaration of innocence, while his unhappy son sat in court with drawn face and compressed lips.

One of the two convicts, Soar and King, who escaped two months ago, from Bristol prison, has been re-captured in London in the person of the latter. He has given no account of Soar, who is still at large. King treats the matter as a huge joke, and relates with gusto how he and Soar dined off rump-steaks in a restaurant, and heard themselves discussed. It is supposed that they were assisted in their eluding the detectives by a dangerous gang of burglars known to the police as the "Forty Thieves."

I have just heard that, owing to Her Majesty's illness, the Duchess of York has stopped the work on her colonial outfit which was being prepared for her trip to Australia.

There are, evidently, to be many revisions in minor matters in the Army. At Calcutta, the men are no longer to be allowed to wear "fringes or forelocks" as they are considered unmilitary appendages. One London regiment has had the lives of its members made almost unbearable by a fussy little adjutant, too conscientious to be comfortable, who has failed to discover the perpendicular crease of the tailor's goose in the men's nether garments. I also understand that military trimmings are no longer to be looked upon as "perks" by the bandsmen, but when discarded must be delivered up. This law (though I do not know how this can be) is to be retrospective. Possibly the band-sergeants have something to do with it.

Since writing the above few lines the mournful news has reached me "The Queen is dead." Is it possible? Will the sun that sank beneath the sea, while the most loved being in all the Empire slept, never rise upon her more? Stay! We are not infidels. From the inanimate form the spirit has arisen, and is brooding even now in loving watchfulness o'er those, who, guided by her lived and died to make her empire great. Had our Mother Queen left us without an heir we might indeed have mourned more than we are mourning now, but in the person of her illustrious son and his beloved consort, we may feel assured Her Majesty will continue to reign.

The public loyalty is indeed both steadfast and universal, and nothing can give a better instance than what I heard this morning: "Your Queen is dead," said a gentleman in foreign accents to a stalwart soldier. "Who will you now serve?" The English man bent for an instant over the little foreigner, then baring his head, with a look of mingled reverence and pride he answered "I serve the King!"

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BADEN-POWELL AS A CHESS PLAYER.

The following amusing story is culled from an English magazine:

The versatile Baden-Powell, when returning from India, had, for a fellow passenger, a Dr. Higgins, now of Huddersfield. The Doctor had lived in India a number of years, and, in leaving for his native land, was presented, by the Maharajah of Jeroochabad with a beautiful set of ivory chessmen. In fine weather the Doctor spent the time very agreeably in solving problems from some back numbers of the Illustrated London News, but if the steamer rolled at all the chessmen had an aggravating way of deserting their stations on the board, and capering about the deck; then the language used about them, their dusky donor, and the ivory carvers of Jeroochabad, was worth hearing. All the available problems were mastered, with one exception, which defied the Doctor's skill. With the assistance of the steward, Baden-Powell obtained possession of the paper containing this problem, and tried in vain to solve it privately. Then the services of the chief officer were called into requisition; but as neither of them knew much about the game, their combined efforts proved futile. But help came from an unexpected quarter. The steward found a later copy of the Illustrated London News with the full solution of the problem. The published answer was carefully committed to memory. Next day, when Dr. Higgins fixed up the problem for another trial, Baden-Powell strolled up and commenced to chaff him about the difficulty experienced in solving a simple chess problem, and made a bet that he could find the answer in ten minutes. The wager was readily accepted by the Doctor, who had spent twelve hours over the chess-nut without getting at the kernel. A time-keeper was appointed, and Baden-Powell went to work, apparently plunged in the deepest thought. Several unavailing key-moves were intentionally tried, the correct defence being promptly shown by Dr. Higgins. A group of passengers and deck hands were now gathered round, and bets upon the result were freely made. After nine minutes' intense study, Baden-Powell demonstrated the correct solution of the problem, to the intense surprise of Dr. Higgins and the amusement of the onlookers.

"THE RIGHT DREAM TO COME TRUE."

A Vancouver despatch to the Montreal Star says: "It having been found impossible to profitably can salmon in British Columbia under present conditions, owing to the class of Japanese and white fishermen and ruinous strikes, English capitalists are striving to buy up the canneries, 73 in all, with the object of running the industry on the co-operative plan, excluding Japanese and giving the white employees good wage and a share of the profits."

Mick Murphy's Yarns.

The Woin' iv Tammy O'Neill.

Whin wan begins prophesyin', he niver knows where it'll end, an' the owld gipsy sayin' fortunes that towld Tammy he'd niver coort a woman forgot to rinimber that a woman might coort Tammy.

Sally McTaggart wuz a brave slip iv a colleen, an' niver axed nobody's lave about doin' things. To tell the truth, Sally cud do as much work champin' turf as any two men, an' wan day Tammy wuz passin' the bog, sez he to himself: "Shure, she's a mighty fine worker, so she is; an' no wondher, fur she's as big as any man that iver ate mate, or dhrew breath in hez body, an' that's no lie."

"Orra bliss me sowl, child, what are ye doin' here widout yer mother?" sez Sally, lookin' down frum her work.

"Begg'in' yer pardon, ma'm, but I'm able to look after meself widout any wan's mother a-helpin' me, so I am. But shure an' it's yerself wud take heaps iv lookin' afther, so it wud, fur wan iv yer size," sez Tammy, hittin' back at her.

"Am sayin', me boyld little fellow, if ye go makin' fun iv me size, I'll put ye in a snuff-box till ye sneeze the impertinence out iv yer smal' countenance, or me name's not Sally M'Taggart."

"Sally M'Taggart, orra bliss us an' save us, shure ye're thruly not 'Fightin' M'Taggart's' own daughter?"

"I'm that same daughter, so I am; an' may I be bowld to axe ye who's yer father, child dear?"

"Child, d'ye say? When did ye iver see a child wid hair growin' on its face?"

"Most sartinly, sor, I can imagine a thrace iv suspicion iv a beard growin' on yer upper lip. But tell me, as I've already axed ye, who's yer father?"

"Gorra, I'm towld owld Paddy O'Neill wuz me father, but I know fur sartin who me own mother is."

"Then you's Tammy O'Neill, the cobbler?"

"The same, that's me, shure enough," replied O'eill. "Does yer shoes want fixin'?"

"What wud ye charge me fur half-solein' an' heelin'?"

"Well," sez O'Neill, "I ginerally charge eighteen pence, but begorra, I'm afraid ye wud need a mortal size iv leather fur shoes that'll fit the likes iv you. I'm thinkin' it wud take half a crown to buy leather that wud keep the likes iv you frum touchin' the flure wid yer bare feet."

"Half a crown, d'ye say? Troth, that's more nor I am worth meself, shoes an' all."

"Is it jokin' ye are wid me, Sally M'Taggart? Shure wan look iv them eyes is worth its weight in golden coin."

"Now, Tammy, only ye're a smal' matther in the way iv a man, I'd bay afther thinkin' ye're throwin' out hooks to catch the cockles iv me heart, so I wud;

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MISSING

nine days' drill in the military recruiting camp at the Cape Town suburb of Rosebank, we started for the front amid the usual scene of enthusiasm which marked the departure of all troops. My service with D Squadron was to bring me some very actual acquaintance with practical warfare; I took part in twenty-eight engagements, and was present at the siege and ultimate capture of Cronje's laager at Paardeberg, receiving there a disabling wound in the knee. But as the present writing is mainly concerned with my impressions of the Boer, I will not describe battles, nor go over ground already amply covered by others in the newspapers and in recent books on the war.

The native or Transvaal Boer as I saw him—and I saw him as any one else must see him who goes to South Africa—is, morally and physically, one of the most undesirable, unprepossessing personalities I have anywhere met with. His uncleanness, which can scarcely be exaggerated, is as characteristic of his person and his household arrangements alike. A Boer who is neat or clean, a Boer establishment in which the ordinary decencies of any average American household are not totally disregarded, are discoveries which I was unable to make. Honesty is not one of his virtues, and he is suspicious and distrustful of any one who tries to approach him in a friendly spirit. The Boer certainly has a confirmed habit of Bible-reading, but apparently this is merely perfunctory, for it has no visible effect upon his attitude toward the stranger within his gates. I failed to see anything to justify me in concluding that the Boer's study of the Bible induces him to reduce its teachings to practice. It does not teach him humil-

ity, above all things, for self-sufficiency, arrogance, and conceit are distinguishing Boer traits. And all that I have said of him applies with equal force to his better half, who invariably has more than the better half of his unlovely qualities. I met many good people—the equal of the best people to be met with anywhere—in South Africa, but they were not of the native or Transvaal Boers.

Let any one who thinks the present war one of mere aggression on England's part contrast the American method of admitting immigrants to citizenship with that in vogue under the government of the late Transvaal Republic, which denied citizenship to foreign-born residents under twenty-one years of probation, and, when it became evident that the demand for the reduction of this probation to a period of five years could no longer be resisted, declared war against England sooner than create a body of voters whose creation must inevitably have led to the destruction of Krugerism and its enriching of chronic office-holders at the expense of ignorant native Boers and unrepresented Uitlander taxpayers.

England has behind her a grave record of unjustifiable conquests and aggression, but as an American, who lived in the Transvaal during times both of peace and war, I assert that in this campaign she has figured as the champion of right against wrong.

FACTS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.

Brought to Light at a Victoria, B. C., School Examination.

- 1.—A hemisphere is a thing which gives us the different kinds of heat.
- 2.—The axis is that spear that the earth turns round on.
- 3.—A channel is a railway tunnel.
- 4.—Steppes means little holes in the sides of a mountain.
- 5.—Geography is round like an orange, slightly flattened at the poles and bulging out in the centre.
- 6.—Three biggest deserts in the world are Sarah Nevada and desert of Eden and Desert of Schara.
- 7.—A clause is little commas and like that.
- 8.—Inflexion is when you don't want to.
- 9.—Possessive plural of ox is cow.
- 10.—Possessive plural of sheep is ain't got none.
- 11.—Possessive plural of which is witches's.
- 12.—The active voice is when you speak out loud and clear.
- 12.—A sentence with the subject modified by a noun in apposition is King the milkman sells milk-with a broken measure.
- 14.—Magna Charta was a man who signed the provisions of Oxford,—but when King Magna Charta went home, he fell down in his rage and chewed sticks and straws and shortly after died of a fever.
- 15.—Capital of Germany is Pearlinc.
- 16.—In analysis we put the interjection outside the diaphragm.
- 17.—A tendon is a bicycle built for two.

A. D. C.

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TOMMY AND HIS FORELOCK.

A yarn, which may be new to civilians, though, perhaps, a chestnut to Mr. Thomas A. and friends, is told of a certain regiment whose colonel decided that the time-honored forelock, should, in his regiment, become conspicuous by its absence. But, alas! even colonels are not always able to enforce the spirit as well as the letter of the law, as the following will show. Out come the order: "Every man must have his hair cropped close all over his head." Mr. Atkins' remark to his comrades and friends anent this order may be best described by a series of blanks— — — However, Thomas, who is hard to beat at any kind of a game, whether of war or otherwise, saw a solution of the difficulty. He dutifully paraded at the barber's, had his beloved lock shorn off, close to the head, in one fell swoop; then carefully collected the discarded ornament and had the same stitched onto a piece of elastic. Regiment paraded next morning minus its forelocks. In the evening, to Colonel's astonishment, he observed several of his men out with their girls with, each, a beautifully pomaded curl coyly peeping from under the forage caps. Colonel's language may likewise be summed up in a series of blanks. Next morning regiment paraded, "bare-headed." "No forelocks! Why, what the ——— where the ——— Well, I'm blessed! Must have had a touch of sun." * * * A few nights afterwards, two old chums go out for a stroll, 'one dark, 'tother fair, get a trifle mixed towards ten o'clock, likewise the toupes. Hard time getting home, but as barrack gate looms into view, sudden transformation, both sober as statues, and as stiff. Rap-rap-rap-gate! Hansom cab drives up, and Colonel jumps out ere the portals of refuge can open, and two gentlemen in red spring to attention, and salute, the right hand of "Black Tommy" indicating a golden fringe glistening on his manly, if swarthy brow, and "Sandy Bill's" left hand demonstrating a raven-hued patch in the forefront of his cranium. Colonel stops, gasps, "Eh! What! Oh! Ah!" chuckles and passes on. Sotto voce—"Why didn't I think of that before?" Colonel has a good story that might well do duty under various forms until a new one crops up.

F. F. S.

Musical Jottings

During the past fortnight, three concerts of note have taken place—the second Philharmonic, the sixth concert of the Douglas Mandolin Club, and the Arion concert. In this issue the first alone will be dealt with, the last two taking place after this column had been set up. The second Philharmonic was a pronounced success in every way. The programme was an excellent one of acceptable variety, and while the concert was given in aid of the Burns Memorial Fund, it did not necessarily follow that every number had to be Scotch in character. In a certain quarter exception was taken to the fact that there was a fulsome absence of Scotch ballads from the programme, but an interview with leading members of the Society disclosed the fact that the Philharmonic organization had been simply asked to put on a concert and were not limited in any way as far as their

selections were concerned. The orchestra on this occasion was decidedly smaller than usual, a fact which only tended to enhance the value of their work. Mr. Austin was wise in cutting down his orchestra to smaller dimensions. Quantity does not necessarily mean quality, and a small aggregation of useful instrumentalists are worth considerably more than a lot of incompetent performers. A properly equipped amateur orchestra should be an organization that would prove a goal for an ambitious youngster to look forward to, something that should be so select that it would be worth getting into. As it turned out, the orchestra was under admirable control. For good work, their rendition of Mozart's Zauberflote Overture would be hard to beat. In the lighter numbers, such as the Robin Hood Overture, and Gungl's Concert Waltzes, pieces which may be said to carry themselves, they were equal to the occasion, but the delicate fugue effects of the Zauberflote Overture were splendidly worked out.

The soloists were Mr. F. W. Dyke, of Vancouver; Mrs. W. E. Green, Miss G. Loewen, Mr. J. G. Brown, and Mr. F. Victor Austin, the well known violinist. Mr. Dyke's debut in Victoria had been looked forward to with considerable interest, and the result was fully up to expectations. While the soloists did not attempt anything prodigious as far as digital dexterity was concerned, he plainly showed that he is a musician of taste and in his rendition of Godard's Berceuse from Jocelyn, he produced an excellent tone, and played exceedingly well. Mrs. Green was in splendid voice, and her rendering of Schira's Sognai with quartette accompaniment was delicious. In the second part she was also responsible for effective singing in two Scotch ballads. Miss Gertrude Loewen is deserving of high praise for her rendering of the difficult allegro movement from Hiller's Piano Concerto. It would hardly be fair to say that the quintette accompaniment afforded the support this talented pianist deserved, the strings sounding uncertain at times, but for all that it was a creditable performance. Mr. F. Victor Austin, to whom great credit is due for the successful carrying out of the programme, was heard to great advantage in Vieuxtemp's Fantasia Appassionata. This composition is one that calls for considerable technique, and the soloist was equal to its demands. The slow movement was particularly well rendered. In response to an encore, Mr. Austin played a Fantasia on Scottish airs. Mr. J. G. Brown contributed that stirring song

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"Scots Wha Hae" which proved highly acceptable to the audience. Mr. Brown inaugurated the first concert in aid of the Burns Memorial Fund, and it was but fitting that his name should have been included in the programme. And now a word as to the quartette. Messrs. Austin, Nash, Powell and Dyke formed an excellent combination and when they get more used to one another, it may be safely averred that they could be responsible for most artistic work. Schumann's Trauerei was given with rare finish, and if Boccherini's famous Minuet was given a rather mechanical rendering, it could easily be excused on the ground that the members of the quartette were not used to one another. The presentation of the Balcony Scene from "Romeo and Juli.:" was a pleasing innovation, and Miss Bayliss-Newling's winsome girlishness formed an excellent support to Mr. Finch-Smiles' acceptable portrayal of the ardent Romeo. And so ended the best concert the Philharmonic Society have yet given us, for which all praise should be extended to Mr. Austin, their indefatigable conductor.

Drama.

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY.

The Victoria Dramatic Club repeated their successful production of W. H. Hawtrey's farcical comedy on February 6th to a fairly large audience. Some new members were in the cast, and did creditable work. Dimples had a cold, so I went alone.

THE CHRISTIAN.

Hall Caine's dramatic version of his own novel was well acted, and remarkably well staged, by Liebler & Co.'s company on the 8th inst., and drew a large audience.

My aunt went with me, but, like her nephew, was sorry afterwards. Lionel Adams was good as the Hon. John Storm, and was ably supported by Julia Stuart as Glory Quayle. But the plot, if such there be, the tout ensemble, of the piece, was maudlin and wearisome. Its run in London, England, was short—naturally. I was glad to see a gentleman who sat two rows in front of me, turn round to two ladies (sic) who sat behind him, and just in front of me, and request them to stop talking, as he, like many others, wished to follow the play, and without audible hints as to who was who, and what she would do, and what he was going to say. One of these ladies (sic) had read the book, and, with bad breeding, was explaining to her neighbor its contents. Adjective bad form. What!

'WAY DOWN EAST.

I sat next to a gentleman who, in the middle of the first act, whispered, excitedly in my ear that he had a feeding bottle in his overcoat pocket, hung upside down over the back of his chair, bought that evening to take to his baby girl, and expected every minute to hear it drop. He asked we what he should do were it to fall. I said: "Ask my maiden aunt; she understands these things." So, when the curtain went down after the first act, I introduced him, and went out and forgot to return to my seat, preferring

to see the performance from the back of the gallery, for the rest of the evening. My aunt now says she's insulted, and the man walks along Government street with a face on him like a railroad track. I think my aunt switched him with her fingers.

Anna Moore was feeble in the hands of Beryl Hope. Well, I don't Beryl feeling, but I do Hope there are not Anna More like her. Thank you, I will, just one. Robert Fisher was excellent as the Squire. The chore boy was much overdrawn; the rest of the characters were fair. It may be that I am wrong about this play, but my aunt had forbidden Dimples to go skating with me on Saturday afternoon, and won't let me take her to Richard & Pringle's Minstrels, so, d'you know, I feel cross.

Mr. Bronson Howard, the American playwright, has re-written his drama "Shenandoah." The action of the story has been transferred to South Africa, and the play now appeals to the patriotic sentiment of the British. It is understood that the title of the reconstructed drama will be "Ladysmith," and the scene of the second and third acts is laid around that now famous place. The two principal characters are a young British officer and a beautiful Boer girl, who, it is allowed to be inferred, is a grand-daughter of General Joubert. The motive of the play is the obstacle presented to the union of the couple by the conflicting patriotism with which each is inspired. The comedy element has not been lost sight of, and many humorous situations are, it is said, introduced.

MARMADUKE.

"PECULIARITIES OF ACTORS."

Lenore White in "Songs and Stories."

"Is the actor intellectual?" Yes. He has an active brain and keen perception; but his mind is rarely a powerful one, and his knowledge, while general, is apt to be very superficial. He never encumbers his mind with serious thought; he dislikes the labor of acquisition only in so far as it relates to his work on the stage. He takes little or no interest in governmental affairs, politics, economics, religion or the philosophy of life and death. He is quite content to live and die in the dreamy atmosphere of the theatre, and leave to others the work of solving the knotty problems of invention, social conditions and progression. He is, however, much given to introspection, always seeing himself in a magnifying light, and the result is, he becomes so greatly enamored

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of self that Ego is developed into his strongest and often his most despicable characteristics.

"Is he educated?" Yes, but not within the high scholastic meaning of the term (there are of course notable exceptions), but he is glazed over with a pretty coating of stage erudition, which answers every purpose of his calling. The theatre is the actor's alma mater, and as a finishing school it has no superior. Ease, grace, elegance of speech and manner are embraced in the curriculum of a stage education, and when the college graduate enters for dramatic honors, he finds that he has much to learn from the less erudite but more finished man of the theatre.

"Is he refined?" On the stage, yes. The atmosphere of poetry, romance and music which surrounds him should exert a refining influence upon his mind, and, indeed, his face and manner bear their imprint and, while in the glare of the footlights, he is all that he appears to be; but when the play is over, and he retires to his dressing room, he is very apt to discard his refinement along with his vested garments, and the elegant Sir Percy of an hour ago degenerates into the commonplace and, sometimes, the vulgar Tim Jones.

The greater portion of his existence is a fiction, wherein light, color, harmony, excitement, and—that which is prized more than all—applause exalt him to the highest heaven only to drop him to prosaic earth again with the fall of the last curtain, and he realizes then that he is merely a lump of common clay, with all the desires and appetites of the animal. All the fictitious elegance of his surroundings, the mockery of champagne and ambrosia, have aroused his appetite for beer and sandwiches. But if he makes a hit—*magna caput*—then comes the inflation, and away he floats upon the air till the gaseous vapor of his vanity finds outlet through his proclamation of the great I am.

This, of course, applies only to the juniors; the reserved seniors are immune, having had, but outlived, the young actor's most grievous malady.

"Is he true to his friends?" Temporarily. His itinerant mode of life precludes the formation of lasting friendship. His associates to-day are forgotten to-morrow, but he is capable of strong attachments and intense dislikes. He will share his last dollar with an impecunious companion, and expends the full force of a very profane vocabulary upon the critic who has given him a well deserved "roast." Praise him, and he is happy. He accepts flattery as his just due, and never for a moment doubts his own worthiness.

"Is he courageous?" Yes: often to heroism, as exemplified by his conduct during the destruction of many theatres by fire. He has saved the lives of others, and endangered and lost his own life on many such occasions.

"Is he charitable?" The answer to that is echoed round the world. There was never a time

when he failed to respond to the appeal of the suffering or distressed. He was never known to refuse his services for the amelioration of the condition of the poor. Charity is pre-eminently the actor's most conspicuous virtue; were he deficient in every other noble quality (which he is not) the possession of this, the divinest of all attributes of the human heart, would cancel every fault, supply every deficiency, and leave a balance of blessings to his everlasting credit. His faults, follies, vanities, idiosyncrasies are all forgotten and forgiven in the contemplation of his big, generous heart, wherein the white winged angel has ever found a sympathetic lodgment. Yes, the gay, flippant and frivolous, and sometimes thoughtless, actor is always charitable.

To sum up. The peculiarities of the actor are not the outgrowth of association or environment, but they are the innate and essential qualities of mind and temperament that fit him for the histrionic profession. Did he not believe that he was especially created to outshine every star in the theatrical firmament, if Ego was not so largely developed, if he was devoid of vanity and conceit, in short, had he not a fictitious and imaginative nature, he could never become an actor. The qualities may not appear admirable, but they are the necessary mental equipment to the artistic temperament, and if a touch of genius be added thereto, they are apt to evolve into greatness. Painters, sculptors and creative musicians are given to the same self-inflation, and they never seem to notice the enormous developments of their heads. Well, they are all dear, good fellows, who add more than their share to the pleasures of life, and the world is better because they have lived in it, and with all their foibles they have many virtues, and we'll continue to love and bless them for the pleasures they give us.

WINSTON CHURCHILL.

Mr. Winston Churchill has not set the St. Lawrence on fire. Describing the famous war correspondent's first lecture in Montreal, a local journal says: "Most of those present went away pleased, but disappointed. This was a tribute to Mr. Churchill's ability as an entertaining speaker rather than to his so-called lecture, which at best was nothing more than a breezy talk principally about himself, illustrated by a few very ordinary limelight views. Nor can it be said that the man who won a seat in the British House of Commons through the reputation gained as a war correspondent for the London Morning Post has a pleasing personality. His stage appearance was distinctly disappointing, as he slouched on to the stage in a manner strangely incompatible with the gallant bearing of a hero. His voice, though well modulated, was rendered a little indistinct by a lisp and a rather pronounced English accent. But he lacked nothing in assurance, and easily caught the interest of his audience almost at the beginning by his easy, facile manner and the ability with which he played with his subject." Incidentally Mr. Churchill paid a high tribute to the soldierly qualities of the Canadians, and said there was not a regiment in the British service which was not proud to serve side by side with the men from Canada.

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MORE ABOUT WINSTON.

Mr. Winston Churchill, M.P., failed to keep an appointment to lecture on Friday at Brantford, Ont. Mr. Churchill and his agent, says the Ottawa correspondent of the Daily Mail, have issued contradictory statements on the point, the agent making a charge of breach of faith in money matters. Mr. Churchill issues a statement to the effect that he was unable, through overwork, to face an all-night journey after Thursday night's lecture in Ottawa, and instructed his agent to endeavor to arrange another date at Brantford.

Major Pond, his lecture agent, had previously told interviewers that Mr. Churchill agreed to receive \$250 for a lecture at Montreal House, which proved worth \$1,300. Mr. Churchill threatened to cancel the engagement unless Major Pond doubled the contract price.

Major Pond represented that he had to face the possibility of poor houses elsewhere, and explained the details of his expenditure. Mr. Churchill, he said, finally refused at less than double the rate to carry out his engagement. Major Pond notified him that he must keep to his contract, or face the consequence.

LOOK ON THIS PICTURE.

The suicide of Mrs. Kopsacker, who lived on Ludlow street, New York, was pathetic in the extreme. Her husband was unable to earn much. She did sewing, by which her two children were provided for. Although consumption had reached an advanced stage she did not become discouraged until she was told by a dispensary physician that she would be blind if she attempted to sew any more. Then she went home, gave the children a penny for candy and when they had left the room hanged herself to the transom by a rope. She was willing to work so long as she was able, but could not bear the thought of being a burden to others.

AND NOW ON THIS.

A very original and picturesque fete was recently celebrated at Budapest. Count Paul Szapary, president of the Park Club, the most distinguished club in the Hungarian capital, arranged a rose festival in honor of the many aristocratic strangers gathered at Budapest for the racing season. The whole suite of rooms belonging to the club was decorated with La France roses. The wall was covered with them. Every corner was utilized for the display of these lovely flowers. Rose-colored glasses softened the electric lights, etc., etc., etc.

MINING IN ONTARIO.

The annual report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines for 1899 shows a satisfactory state of affairs in the province, and a wider interest in the development of this element of the country's natural resources. Most of the figures contained in the report have been made public through bulletins. This is, however, a synopsis of the statistics of mineral production for the first half of the year 1900, which affords evidence of steady progress.

Several gold mills have been idle pending development of the mines, enlargement of machinery capacity and other causes, says the report. Returns have been received from eight, which show that during the six months 22,177 tons of ore were treated. The yield was 9,983.37 ounces, worth \$156,269.84 gold and \$141.54 silver. The silver mines show a product of 12,000 tons ore, with a yield of 85,000 ounces, valued at \$51,000. The arsenic product was 268,000 pounds, worth \$8,981.

The output of zinc was only 150 tons, estimated at \$900.

Seven iron mines in the eastern parts of the province report a yield of 9,668 tons, worth at the selling price at the mines \$19,532. One mine in the Michipicoton Mining Division, which began to produce in July, will probably show a larger output than this total for each fortnight until navigation closes. At two blast furnaces there were smelted during the first half of the year 50,538 tons of ore and 8,155 tons mill cinder. The proportion of Ontario ore used was a little more than one-fourth of the whole, being 13,252 tons; but the second half of the year will no doubt show better results in this respect. The quantity of pig iron produced was 32,279 tons, the value of which is \$511,209, computed at the selling price at the furnaces.

Open hearth steel begins for the first time to figure in the metallic industries of the province. The production for the first six months was 945 tons, valued at \$25,515.

The quantity of nickel-copper ore raised was 87,808 tons, and the quantity of roasted ore smelted was 100,073 tons, which yielded a matte product of 12,323 tons. The estimated metallic contents of the matte is 1,925 tons of nickel valued at \$413,771, and 1,784 tons of copper valued at \$165,908. The total value of metal products for the six months was \$1,353,287, or two-thirds as much as for the whole of last year.

HOW BISMARCK COULD EAT.

In an enterprising collection of anecdotal history regarding the life and times of Bismarck, published by Harper & Bros., occurs the following:

Bismarck and Bancroft, the American historian and at that time minister to the court of Berlin, were one day dining with Herr von der Heydt, who prided himself on the quantity and quality of the food which he furnished to his guests, and of that dinner the following story is told:

"In those days (1888) Bismarck was still in possession of his wonderful appetite. Bancroft, at first amazed, became at last anxious on seeing his friend twice partake largely of the first course. 'Dear Count,' he remarked with a world of anxiety in his voice, 'I believe there is more to come.' 'I should hope so,' replied Bismarck, joyfully, and renewed his terrifying practice at the next course."

SIR HIRAM MAXIM.

Although Sir Hiram Maxim is of French origin and American born, he recalls with pride that some members of the family held commissions in the colonial forces and were present with Wolfe at Quebec, fighting on the British side, while later on others

were taken prisoners when serving under Montgomery in a vain attempt to wrest Quebec from the British. Sir Hiram has lived in England for sixteen years.

The new knight is a great favorite with royalty, and the Duke of York has on more than one occasion visited the Maxim works. At a dinner at which the Prince of Wales and the Marquis of Salisbury were present, the latter, addressing His Royal Highness, said: "I was just telling Mr. Maxim that he has prevented more men from dying of old age than any other man who ever lived." It may be recalled that when the Transvaal Government, early in 1899, sent a big order to the firm for "pom-poms," the matter was submitted to the War Office. The answer ran somewhat as follows: "By all means carry out the order, for if you do not sell to them they will undoubtedly manage to get what they want somewhere or other."

Current Literature.

"The Slave of the Lamp," by H. Seton Merriman.

Always an enjoyable writer, Mr. Merriman has in this book given us a very fascinating modern romance. The subject dealt with is the present attitude of the Jesuit church towards the republican form of government in France. The writer seems to know whereof he speaks, and the book opens up a somewhat wide field of thought for the student of contemporaneous history in the eccentric republic across the English Channel. Some of the statements are so bold, some of the accusations so definite, that one might almost think Mr. Merriman may have reason to fear such a fate as befalls his hero.

For sale by Victoria Book and Stationery Co.

* * * *

"Groynett of Thornhaugh," by E. W. Hayes.

There are few more interesting periods in the history of France than that covered by the closing days of Louis IV., "Le Grand Monarque," and the early part of the regency of Philip, Duke of Orleans. Taking this time for his stage, Mr. Hayes has woven a most interesting drama, wherein priests and politicians, courtiers and courtesans, pirates and poisoners, hidden treasure and open truculence, all have their appointed parts. The book sparkles with wit as well as with the clash of steel; and the characters are very well drawn, notably that of the Regent Orleans. You see in him at once the man of unbridled profligacy and license, yet also the far-seeing resourceful statesman, hampered only by the ignorance and jealousy of those around him. You see the natural and kindly instincts of the man breaking through the outer crust of affectation formed by what was then the most artificial court in Europe. There is not a dull page in the book, and it is long since we took up so interesting a work on that interesting period.

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* * * *

"That Invisible Man," by H. G. Wells.

Mr. Wells is the Jules Verne of English fiction. This semi-scientific story—half comic, half tragic—is the history of an enquiring gentleman who discovered a means of rendering himself invisible by means of an arrangement somewhat analogous in

principle to the Roentgen rays. Unfortunately, he cannot render his clothes invisible, and from this source springs numberless woes, culminating in a deplorable tragedy.

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CANADA.

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VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, QUEEN, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c. &c.

To Our faithful the Members elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia at Our City of Victoria—GREETING.

A PROCLAMATION,

H. A. MACLEAN, } WHEREAS We are desirous and resolved, as Deputy Attorney General } soon as may be, to meet Our people of Our Province of British Columbia, and to have their advice in Our Legislature.

NOW KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations, and taking into consideration the ease and convenience of Our loving subjects We have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Executive Council do hereby convoke, and by these presents enjoin you, and each of you, that on Thursday, the twenty-first day of February, one thousand nine hundred and one, you meet Us in Our said Legislature or Parliament of Our said Province, at Our City of Victoria, FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, to treat, do, act, and conclude upon those things which in Our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, by the Common Council of Our said Province may, by the favour of God, be ordained.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of the said Province to be hereunto affixed: WITNESS, the Honourable Sir HENRI GUSTAVE JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, K. C. M. G., Lieutenant-Governor of our said Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our said Province, this seventeenth day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one, and in the sixty-fourth year of Our Reign.

By Command.

J. D. PRENTICE,

Provincial Secretary.

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