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# THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

Devoted to Social, Political, Literary, Musical and Dramatic Gossip.

VOL. III., No. 9.

VICTORIA, B. C., DECEMBER 9, 1893.

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## TALES OF THE TOWN.

"I must have liberty,  
Withal as large a charter as the wind—  
To blow on whom I please."

THE love of gew gaws and trinkets is not confined to women alone, as is so often stated by members of the other sex, but appears now and then in the most plain appearing men. I noticed in a case the recently that would have been laughable had it not been pitiful in some respects. He was a man well past his prime, with long, grey whiskers, unkempt and untrimmed, and with apparel so little cared for that one would never imagine that he cared for any kind of ornament. The night was dark and cold, and everybody was only too willing to keep on his gloves and bury his hands in his pockets as well. But he held his gloves in one grimy hand and ostentatiously flourished the other which bore on the third finger a wide, new ring of gold, on which was emblazoned some secret order design. The hand was rough, dirty and misshapen by toil, and the ring with its glitter and its newness only served to call attention to its roughness. But in that man's face you could see the pride of possession, as he waved his hand in needless gestures, and cast covert glances at the incongruous bauble. That man, if he has a family, probably limits the household expenses to the smallest possible amount, and denies his wife or daughter every request for any little articles of feminine adornment, and yet he probably bought that ring to indulge his own pitiful and unnatural love of finery. When you think of it, it was pitiful, and more a subject for moralizing than of laughter.

I see that some of the citizens are beginning to take an interest in the coming municipal elections, with a view to introducing better material into our City Council. I wish them all success in their efforts and trust that they may be successful next January in completely snowing under that set of windbags and general bunglers known as the Mayor and aldermen of the city of Victoria, for 1893.

Barring the aldermen from the North Ward, there is no greater clog to the municipal machinery of this city than Mayor Beaven. I have found no one in the city to disagree with this sentiment, and yet such is the apathy of the citizens in municipal matters that it is just possible that Honorable Robert Beaven will have the pleasure of drawing another \$2,000 from the city treasury. As a Mayor Mr. Beaven is a dismal failure. In civic matters he has one object in view, and one only. His mind does not seem capacious enough to contain more than one idea at a time. His hobby is to have a cash balance on hand at the end of the year. This, it will be admitted, is a noble purpose on the part of any mayor, but should be combined with others, none of which does Mr. Beaven possess.

Whilst Mr. Beaven is not qualified to be mayor, still nature has endowed him with abilities which, if directed in their proper channel, might attain distinction for that great gentleman, and at the same time confer lasting benefits on his fellow citizens. If the present incumbent cannot be otherwise provided for, I would respectfully suggest that the Hon.

Robert Beaven be tendered the position of auditor. That he would make a capital auditor there can be no doubt; that he would accept the situation I see no reason to doubt—there is a salary attached to it.

Amongst the nine aldermen who have assisted the Mayor to transact the business of the city during the present year, Alderman Belyea seems to be the only one that has been a particular success, and unfortunately he has been absent from the city a considerable portion of the year. Of the other eight I shall only say that four of them have displayed but indifferent ability, whilst the remaining four are about as *cultus* as they make them on the Canadian side of the international boundary line.

Perhaps I may be pardoned for giving the citizens who are moving in the direction of municipal reform a few pointers. First, organize thoroughly; second, draw up a platform broad and comprehensive enough to allow of something like unanimity; third, select and support good, substantial business men for the several civic chairs.

In the carrying out of my third suggestion it is essential that men be chosen who are willing to allow professional men (civil engineers, lawyers, surveyors, etc.) to know their own business, and for that reason, and considering past experience, the contracting element should be carefully avoided.

I feel obliged to return again to the conference between the Government and the representatives of organized labor, and be it

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remembered that in discussing labor questions, I do so as one who has interested himself in trades union organization in Canada and the United States for nearly twenty years, and also as a member of the committee which drafted the first Bureau of Labor Bill on this continent. I am free to confess, however, that the result of the conference has not been at all satisfactory to the conservative element in trades unions. They realize the disastrous effect which must result to organized labor from the unreasonable demands made upon the Government at this conference.

My personal knowledge of union matters in this city permit of my stating that organized labor was most outrageously misrepresented. Trade unionists are like municipal voters—they sometimes grow apathetic and allow their affairs for the time being to drift into the hands of irresponsible persons. Such is the reason ascribed by good union men for the late labor conference being manipulated by extremists and would-be labor politicians.

I attended the meeting, the other evening of what was supposed to be a gathering of unorganized labor, but which was in reality composed principally of labor unionists. The most interesting feature of the meeting was the amusing attempt of Hon. Mr. Baker to discuss intelligently

a subject of which he knew nought whatever. After repeated failures on the part of the Provincial Secretary, the Attorney-General came to the rescue, and really I was surprised to find that the latter possessed a thorough knowledge of the subject. After being bored to death with the outrageous and absurd statements of men of the Keith stamp, it is refreshing to hear a politician discussing labor topics with the intelligence of Mr. Davie.

The passage-at-arms between the Attorney-General and Arthur Dutton might be referred to as an extra number on a tolerably interesting programme. It was Mr. Dutton's first attempt at platform speaking, and certainly he has no reason to feel ashamed of his maiden effort; and, by the way, I am convinced that the Government could adopt many of the labor leader's suggestions with profit. Before leaving this subject, I would candidly confess that no matter what the shortcomings of the Labor Bill may be, and they are many, the Government are entitled to much credit for evincing their sincere desire to meet labor half way, and I believe that Mr. Davie and his colleagues would be only too happy to amend the bill to meet the views of intelligent and reasonable advocates of the rights of labor.

In common with most of the

newspaper readers of Victoria, I could not help noticing the almost daily regularity with which the *Colonist* has proclaimed its admiration of the President of the United States during the past few weeks. Personally, I have nothing against Grover; in fact, I consider him the right man in the right place, but there does seem to me to be an incongruity about this constant lauding to the skies of the President of a Republic by a journal that prides itself on being an ultra royalist and devout believer in blue blood. Various opinions have been expressed as to the cause of this admiration for the head of the American nation. Personal friendship on the part of the editor for Grover—school-day recollections, possibly—has been suggested. Again, it has been hinted that the *Colonist* was pandering to the American residents in British Columbia with a view to capturing their votes and influence at the coming Provincial elections. However, the public may congratulate themselves that the spell has been broken. Municipal questions have come to the front, and Grover, with all his virtues, has been retired, as it were, to the gray matter in the *Colonist* editor's cranium.

Aggressive Christianity from the standpoint of the professing Christian may be all right; but there are times when, it occurs to me, the workers in the Lord's vineyard carry matters just a little too far. Bearing on this point, here is something that occurred at one of a series of revival meetings held in a Victoria church. A woman who is not in the habit of making confidants of even her most intimate friends, much less strangers, while attending one of these meetings, was approached by a clergyman, who familiarly asked her: "Sister, do you love the Lord?" To this she replied rather evasively. He then handed her a card and pencil and asked her to write her name



hereon if she wanted to be saved. This was most respectfully but determinedly cast aside, as the woman considered questions of such a personal nature from a total stranger impertinent, and finally he got down on his knees and so framed his prayers as to draw the attention of the congregation to the benighted state of his visitor. Now, I should like to know why a person's religious belief is not as much their own personal property as their financial condition, and it would be considered the midsummer madness of vulgarity to ask an individual how much money he was worth. But after all, it is strange how far enthusiasm will carry some people. James, Duke of York, often whiled away the time witnessing the infliction of the boot and thumbscrew, and what a savage the people of the present day regard him. I remember reading a story once of a host who placed a guest near a roaring fire and insisted upon his remaining there. No doubt the intention was good, but the victim failed to see it. How far manners go to making a man is worth considering.

If there still exists a doubt in the mind of any one as to the glorious possibilities of agriculture in this Province, I would advise such a person to visit the office of Messrs. Winnett & Cooper, the Trounce Avenue real estate men. These gentlemen have gathered together a large collection of the products of British Columbia soil, so that when any old eastern farmer drops in and tells them that British Columbia can never become an agricultural country, they simply refute his statement by directing attention to their grand display. There is a lesson to be learned from all this. In a Province where it is possible to grow fruit, vegetables, etc., larger and of greater variety than in any other part of the Dominion, why is there not more attention de-

voted to developing the resources of the soil? At the present time British Columbia does not produce enough to supply the local demand, and yet she could export largely if farming and dairying were engaged in as extensive as in other provinces.

A great many people affect contempt for a minstrel show, and yet no other kind of travelling organization possesses the same drawing powers as an aggregation of burnt-cork artists. This fact was brought forcibly to my mind the other evening, at Barlow Bros.' show. In the audience I observed some men, not often to be seen at high-class dramatic attractions, who laughed and shouted uproariously at the somewhat aged jokes of the end man. Old men became young once more, and seemed to enjoy the perplexity of the interlocutor, who was unable to tell the difference between a donkey and a lemon. Truly, "a little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men."

Every now and then the papers contain accounts of remarkable instances of presence of mind on the part of persons, who are so constituted as to be able to collect all their senses on the spur of the moment. Not infrequently does it occur that loss of life, or at least a horrible accident, is averted by the exercise of the mental faculties in the manner indicated above. It becomes my duty this week to place on record the circumstances attending a display of this commendable quality, which had it occurred in any place but Victoria, would have gained for the young hero honors of no inconsiderable value. People belonging to first-class society appreciate the many valuable qualities of Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney's brilliant young private secretary, but few, I regret to say, give him credit for the bravery which he displayed during communion ser-

vice at the Cathedral, last Sunday. Mr. Jacobs was in a devotional attitude when all at once he felt something moving slowly up his leg inside his trousers. He knew that the animal could not be a lion, nor yet a bull-dog, for he reasoned, and rightly so, that his aristocratic pantaloons could not accommodate an animal as large as a lion, or a bull-dog for that matter. Most people, especially women, and I say so without any desire to reflect on the fair sex, would have created a scene, but not so Mr. Jacobs. He simply responded more loudly than ever, "Good Lord Deliver Us," and crushed in his vice-like hand the terrible monster, which, when released, fell to the floor with a dull, sickening thud. When the service was concluded Mr. Jacobs turned his eyes to the floor, where lying on the ground, he beheld a fully developed church mouse. Supposing Mr. Jacobs had screamed, there would have been a panic in the church, the result of which is even horrible to contemplate. All honor to Mr. Jacobs, and would that we had more heroes of the same mould.

PERE GRINATOR.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1893.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Subscribers ordering address of their papers changed must always give their former as well as present address.

CONTINUED.

All papers are continued until an explicit order is received for discontinuance, and until all arrearages are paid.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Frank M. Cryderman left for Bowmanville, Ont., Friday morning.

J. R. Denneny, formerly of this city, has opened a business college at Nanaimo.

The engagement of a young manufacturer to the daughter of a civic official is announced.

Mr. Batchelor, of Grand Prairie, will be married during the holidays to Miss J. M. Bradley, of Yates Street.

The marriage of Miss Grace Seabrooks, daughter of Capt. Brown of the schooner W. P. Hall, to Frank Healey, of Pasadena, Cal., is announced.

The anniversary Christmas festival at Victoria West Methodist church will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 19th, in Temperance hall, Victoria West.

Mr. F. G. Moody and Miss Mary W. Stock were married last week by the Rev. S. Cleaver. They have taken up their residence at 89 Pandora Avenue.

The bans were called in Christ Church Cathedral last Sunday

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morning for a well-known young barrister and a Spring Ridge lady. The event will take place a few days before Christmas.

Mr. W. H. Pegram, teller at the Bank of B. C., and Miss Kate Pierce, neice of Mrs. F. H. Worlock were married in Christ Church Cathedral on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Pegram are both popular with a large circle of friends. They will make their home at 29 Harrison Street.

David Stevens, of Westford Lake district, and Miss Laura Hill were married at Christ Church Cathedral last Wednesday morning by Canon Beanlands. R. H. Swinerton was best man and Miss Hill, sister of the bride, bridesmaid. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens will make their wedding tour through the Sound country and Oregon.

The concert to be given in Institute Hall the 12th inst. will be under the direction of Clement Rowlands. The following will take part: Mrs. McCandless, Miss Heathfield, Mrs. Rowlands, Mrs. W. W. Clarke, Miss Humber, Miss McMicking. Messrs. Shedden, Thomas, Wolff, Rhodes, Brownlie, Rowlands and Richardson

The following is the programme for the concert in the Metropolitan Methodist Church, Wednesday, Dec. 13: Part I—Organ solo, Poet and Peasant, Mr. George Pauline; contralto solo chorus, Hark! Hark! my Soul, Metropolitan Choir; double quartet, Only Waiting, by members of the choir; duet, Maying, Mrs. Dennis Harris, Mr. W. E.

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At this season of the year the attention of housekeepers is directed to the necessity of warmth and comfort. W. H. Perry, 94 Johnson Street, is showing the largest line of heating stoves in the city, which are marked at reasonable figures. The I. X. L. cooking range constructed of steel and malleable iron is commanding the attention of housekeepers and owners of sealing schooners.



ALL THE WORLD OVER.

A CERTAIN English magazine has been printing a series of articles on etiquette, and, after disposing of the treacherous knife, fork and spoon, elevating and lowering the hats of mankind for all possible occasions, and providing rules for every possible emergency, from tipping over your neighbor's coffee to coming to life your own funeral, this accommodating journal gives one really interesting paragraph on the pronunciation of English names. Of course every one knows the old catch names of Cholmondely (Chumley), Beauchamp (Beecham), Derby (Darby), and Marjoribanks (Marchbanks). But it may not have occurred to this benighted people to call Lord Southven "Lord Riven," or to speak of the St. Maurs as the "Semurs"; the Moleyns is Demolins; Beaucherc is Anglicized; the letter "t" in Johnstone might better have never been born for all the attention it receives; Cowper might be written "Cooper" and be less elusive; Montgomery is called Mungumry; Blount, of course, is Blunt; equally, of course, Brougham is Broome; Trafalgar has the accent of the last syllable; Villiers is called Villers by all but the uninitiated; St. John and St. Clair are pronounced Singin and Sinclair; the two surnames Knollys and Knowles are alike; Dalziel is Deel; Glamis is Glarms, and Leveson Gower (the Sutherland name) is called Lewson Gor.

Among the new species of mammals which have been discovered by explorers in recent years, next to the tree kangaroo of Australia, discovered by Dr. Carl Lumholtz, and which takes its name after that distinguished explorer (*Dendrolagus Lumholtzii*) is a new kind of omnivorous goat which has been found in the central part of the island of Hawaii. It is called *capricornus Hawaiianis*, and is noted for its long and heavy horns, and the two rows of

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teeth set in both jaws, one directly back of the other. The outer row is composed of incisors, while the inner row contains nothing but molars, and the animal is thus equipped in order to be able to eat anything from which sustenance can be derived.

With its enormous appetite and its power of assimilating matter which would be indigestible to any other animal which is subject to domestication, it has a value to man in some lines greater even than that of the Assyrian Pup which was used for many years in the office of a large journal in New York for the consumption of rejected and unclaimed manuscripts. Several specimens of the animal have been shipped to this country for this purpose, and after a short period of training, they will be tried in some of the leading newspaper offices in the country. An animal of this kind has been needed for a long time, ever since the extinction of the breed of Assyrian Pups, and if it proves to be as much of a success as its discoverers hope, the raising and breeding of Hawaiian goats will form a new and profitable industry, and enterprising newspapers will have a want supplied which formerly money was unable to purchase.

Anything concerning the new Australian steamer Arawa, will be read with interest at this time. As to the origin of the name of the ship the story goes that the Maories, the natives of New Zealand, are the descendants of a canoe-full of Australian natives, who were once upon a time blown out of their course and wrecked upon the New Zealand coast, and that the name of that canoe was "Arawa."

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**CHINA TRAINING FOR WAR.**

A correspondent of the *Paris Figaro*, traveling in China, is sending very sensational reports to his paper, relative to the huge preparations China is making to meet foreign nations in the event of war. Her rulers and statesmen feel convinced that war with Russia, France, England or the United States, may be precipitated any day, and they are making arrangements to meet the possible foes on terms of equality, at least as far as armament, forts, ships and drill may be concerned.

The humiliating wars had with civilized countries during the past fifty years have opened the eyes of the governing classes. They have become convinced that antiquated arms and tactics must be replaced by modern methods and modern weapons and evolution. The Frenchman cited expresses his astonishment at the activity displayed. At Tien-Tsin he saw an arsenal and manufacturing plant of astonishing dimensions, and at Port Arthur there are splendid cruisers, battle-ships without number, built with all the modern improvements. This fleet has been created in less than six years. The army is being drilled by European officers and the movements chiefly impressed the observer with the staunch and solid character of the regiments on the ground. China's present aim appears to be to find within herself the military resources and war material that she was formerly compelled to procure elsewhere. The arsenals, workshops and foundries completely change the national character, modifying it in the European sense.

Of course there is no estimate as to the fighting qualities of Chinese soldiers and sailors under these conditions; that can only be a matter of actual experience. At any rate, the resources of the empire are so vast that no nation will lightly undertake the task of discovering the exact value of all these preparations. Even this cautious feeling is a great gain to the Flowery Kingdom.

**MAYORALTY.**

TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA :

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