# THE VIETORIA HOME JOURNAL 

Devoted to Social, Poithcal, Literary, Musical and Dramatic Gosstp.

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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."

A
writer in an eaatern paper believes that every woman in her seeret heart knows that the theatre' is no place for a hat. and the same writer attributes her adherence to this custom to the fear that some one may think leer action in removing the otjectionable headwear is unfeminine. This hat problem impressed itself forcibly upon my mind Curing the opera season which closed last Thursday night. I attended the performance of Suid Pasha, and a woman in front of me wore a hat of such enormous dimensions that it was utterly impossible for thnse sitting immediately behind her to see the stage. Of course nearly every other lady in the audience wore her hat, but I was pleased to observe that many of them were considerate enough to have the objectionable head-piece reduced to its lowest possible size, consistent, of course, with feminine delicacy. I realize the fact that many women object to removing their hats becuuse the process rumples up their hair. This objection would be removed if every theatre possessed couvenient cloak rooms.

A gentleman connected with The Victoria informs me that managers qenerally would do anything if ladies would only take off their hats. They need not feel that full dress is necessary, but simply do as men do, take off their ha s and keep their other wraps with them if they so desire. What prettier sight is there than a foreign audience, where not a hat is to be seen. For my part, I sincerely hope that the custom will soon be established.

In the past complaints have been num. erous as to the inefficiency of the orchestra of the Victoria Theatre. But there are extenuating circumstances in this connection which I would speak of at this time. The:principal one Is, that Manager Cort is afraid the mashing propensities of certein Victoria females might utterly disorganize any orchestra he could bring to his house. I was amused at the antics of a couple of these female mashers during the engagement of the Calhoun company. The clarionet player, a Minneapolis young man, is something of a masher himself. The two fomales referred to spotted him early the first night, and for over two hours the air was filled with alghs and inviaible kisses, varied with slight movements of the eye, generally spoken of as winking. The last night was a repetition of the first night, with a few additional features, With all these things taken into consider.
ation, Manager Cort should not be blamed for the rather "ordinary" orchestra which holds forth at The Victoria.

By the way, I was nearly forgetting to remind my readers that the great "gnow under" predicted by The Home Journal last week for Mayor Beaven did not materialize. Just now, I could eite fity five reasons why Mr. Dalby ẃas not elected, but I shall content myself by stating the most important one, viz., he did not get enough votes. Mr, Beaven is a hard man to beat, and no one knows this better than the men who worked so hard against him. Victoria could have a worse mayor than the present incumbent, although it was exceedingly difficult to see the matter in that light last week.

The gentlemen composing the Citizen's Association have no reason to grumble at the result of their work. I am greatly mistaken if the six men elected or that ticket do not make themselves felt during the coming year. Victoria requires men with progressive ideas at the present time, and in Messrs. Miller, Belyea, Munn, McKillican, McTavish and Henderson, I believe such men hare been found. The defeat of Mr. McCandless I regret, believ. ing, an I do, that he would have worked hard to advance the interests of Victoria. Altogether, the present efty councll is a great improvement on the previous one.

There was one thing in connection with the municipal contest, which I must refer to while I am on the subject. A few days previous to the election an emmissary of the Morat Reform Association called on Mr. McCandless and sounded him con. cerning certain matters, in which the members of the association have inter ested themselves recently. Mr. McCand. less gave straightforward and manly answers to the questions put to him, but it transpires that on one or two points he was at variance with the society. For this reason they "knifed" him, and to this fact alone the friends of Mr. McOandless attribute his defeat. I do not object to the Moral Reform Association, or any other body of men, for that matter, having a full understanding as to what any candidate may work for in case of election, bitt I do object to asking one man to commit him self and allowing others to go without pledges. Such a policy does not reflect credit on the society from a moral standpoint. Mr. MiCandless possesses a reputation that will compare favorably with any man belonging to the Moral Reform Association, and I reaily believe that very faw of lis memhers would be willing to submit their records to as close a serutiny as would the gentlemen they so bitterly antagonized on election day.

The result of the municipal elections proves conclusively that the element in this elty in favor of tax reform is by no means inconsiderable. Mr. West came out squarely on a single tax platform, and he polled 191 votes in the North Ward. It Is safe to say all who votéd for Mr. West were single tax men. During the campalgn he created a favorable impres. sion on account of his honest desire to avold anything that would reflect on the cause he espoused, and no one can blame him for the idiotic actions of one or two of his followers at several of the public meetings.

Mr. West not only discussed intelligently the ills borne by tax payers, but, unlike many other reformers, he explained what measures were required to remedy the evll of an unequal and bungling taxing system. His conclusions may be accepted as the result of the mature deliberations of the tax reform party. The primary principle put forth by Mr. West and by all single tax reformers is that it is a palpable injustice to tax a man who improves his property, while the speculative holder of unimproved land is permitted to shoulder acomparatively insignificant burden. This, they claim, and not without reason, is not in keeping with the boasted civilization of the nineteenth century and should be abolished.

So far as taxing unused rallroad lands is concerned, I contend that the railroads should be taxed for the large body of unused wild lands they hold, together with the gross earnings tax. The tax reformers demand such taxation to gether with taxation of land at terminals and stations. The inclusion of wild, unused land would be sufficient, so long as the tax on gross earnings is levied, Otherwise double taxation will result. Would it not be well to have a government tax commission appointed. The intelligent work of ad expert commission would greately enlighten the public, and surely lead to the actualization of needed reforms in taxing methods.
I think it would increase public confl. dence somewhat in the medical profession of this community if a very good practice followed in many, if not all; blg centres, were also adopted here. I refer to the fact that, when a patient enters a public or private honpltal, suffering from some complaint which requires such patient to undergo a surgical operation, and when that patient dies during or from the effects of the operation, there should be held an Inquest, or independent medical testimony should be given as to the proximate or approximate cause of death. There may be some delfeacy on the part of the friends of the person in submitting to any publiefty
of this kind, but the anfety of the publle han to be consldered, and must not be sacrificed even In the Interents of sclence. Doctorn are but buman ; a knife, lance or nelsnorn may alip in the courne of an operation, and the life of a patient is acne In a aecond. The public do not know what goen on In the seclusion of the operating room, and it would be a wholesome check, as well as strong Incentive to the greatest care, if the thought of public enquiry hung over such proceedinge.

There is no charge of carelessnesm advanced agalnst any one in these few remarks, but, In making this statement, I am not at all excusing my expressions. It is a matter that ham long engaged my attention, and which I will investigate shortly; but I have always thought it was not proper for the public merely to learn that such and such a person had succumbed from the effectu of an operation. The fact of a person dying under or from suraical experimentm, for they are nothing else, in not sufficient for the public ; and I conslder it is not good form on the part of the medical profession that they should per. mit a patient to be carried frora the operating table to the cemetery without some enquiry belng made, and the direct caune of death belng entablished. Several cases have occurred within the past year where scarcely forty elght hours have elapsed between the time of operation and burlal. I shall look closely into thls nubject with a vlow to throwing more light on It, and I whall be grateful if some medical gentlemen will communlcate to me thelr Ideas on the matter.

Pehe Grinator.
Ex-Chiof Justice Lilley to a Sydney ne wapaper reporter: "I should be pre. pared even now to accept the responsibillty of Independence, If Great Britaln attempth to Itsterfere with us at any time it will smap the link or break the cord, or whatever eley you like to call It. My advice to her is to let well alone. I don't belleve that I shall IIve to see Independence."

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*     * A. A. FARONSON. * *

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## KASLO CITY

Situated on the west phore of Kootenay Lake, has unequalled natural advantages, and this city, to-day, has a brighter future before it than was ever predicted for Denver, Col., for there is more rich silver ore in sight in the Kaslo-Slocan district immediately tributary to Kaslo than was ever seen before on any continent or in any country.

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## PERSONAL GOSSIP

Mrs．M．H，Cowan lett for Callfornia Wednesday evening．

G．Lelser and wife will leave for a two monthn＇vielt to Callfornia to－morrow

Lleut．Col，Andrew Haggard and Mrs． Haggard returned from Okanagan Wed nesday night．

The Grand Annual Ball of the Knights of Pythias，will be held on Friday even－ Ing， 27 th In It ．，In the Asuembly Hall．

Mr．and Mrs，M．King，of 30 Caledonia Avenue，gave an enjoyable reception to a number of friends，Tuesday evening last．

Misn Lizzle Watkins gave a pleasant party Monday evening，at the hume of her uncle Sheriff McMilisan， 138 Vor morant street．

Mr，J，G．Brown，the popular Scotch vocalist，has been Invited to sing at the Burns＇Anniversary concert on the 25th Inst．，at Vancouver．

The Sunday school teachern，and cholr of the First Presbyterian church，Pandora Avenue，held a very enjoyable conver． zalone in the setiool room，Wednesday evening．The evening was a muslea success，and refreshments were served．

The Y，M．C．A．will give a reception to the Christian Endeavor Socleties，Ep－ worth Leagues，and all Y．P．Socleties of Protestant churches of the clty，on Wednesday evening， 25 th Inst．All of the Societies have been invited and a large attendance in expected．

The residence of $\mathbf{M r}$ ，and $\mathbf{M r s}$ ．Wm， Smith，Hillaide Avenue，was surprised by about forty young people last evening． The evening was spent in a pleasañt manner．The company were entertained by music，games and dancing，which con－ tinued untll a late hour．

Mr．Wm．A．Murray，who has been for some time past been acting manager of the Victoria branch of the Bank of British Columbla，went to Vancouver，Monday evening，to take the management of the branch in that clty．During his stay in Victoria，Mr．Murray has made many friends with whom he had to transact business．

An effort is being made to organize a canoe club in this city．A meeting with this object in view was held last evening， and everything points to an early realiza． tion of the desire to form such a club．In this connection，it might be mentioned that the favorite Peterboro canoe can now be purchased on the instalment plan from Messrs．Page \＆Winnett， 18 Trounce Avenue．The superiority of the Peterboro canoe has long been acknowledged，and the easy terms on which they are now offered will no doubt result in the certain organi－ zation of a canoe club．It might further
be mentloned that several salling canoes have already been ordered from this firm．

The Burns Anniversary concert，on Tuesday evening，24th inat．，in the school－ room of the First Presbyterian Church， promises to be a rich treat to all lovers of Scotch musle Mr．J，G．Brown has charge of the programme，which contains the names of most Scottish alngers in the elty．Messrs．Grant，KInnaird and Brown will contribute in character and costume representing a scene common in Scotland a century ago the trio，＂Willie Brew＇d a Peek o＇Malt．＂Miss O＇Nelll and Mr Brown will alng the duett＂Come Under My Plaidie．＂The following well known soloists will contribute：Madame Laird， Miss O＇Neill and Messrs．Brown，Kinnaird， Watson and Grant．Mrs，John Ooclirane and Mr．E．H．Russell will favor with instrumental selections．The concertn given by the First Church cholr are alwaye popular，and on the evening of the 24th the hall is sure to be crowded by those eager for a treat of the mood old Scotch songs．

The Gold Cure fs ，without doubt，the most marvelous discovary of the age，and the worid is beginning to realize this fact． That the remedy is no experiment is be－ yond dispute．It is restoring vietims to their familles and to the world day by day， Wives and mothers are beginning to realize the difference between a cheerlens fireside and that over which a redeemed， sober father，husband and son prealde． The baneful hablt once shaken off，the patient goes out into the world to make it the better for his living in it．The very amell of the noxious drugs are distasteful to him，and his debauchery and the shame and sorrow of over－Indulgence are but memories of the past．He enters a brighter world，filled with sunshine，happiness end contentment．

## Brownlee＇s Map．

Withold your patronage pending the publica tion of Brownlee＇s New Commercial Map of British Columbla，Blze $34 \times 4$ inchee；colored Indexed up to date．Mounted ready for use． Price，\＄8．50．A home production，carefully complled and complete．

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－－BY－
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THE VICTORIA

## HOME JOURNALL

## amugi Kikht mathiday at Vigtomia, B, (9) SUBSCRIPTION - - \$1.00 PER YIAR.

 Aifvortiolng llitom on Application.Addrom all communilcationis to
fing Vigtoma homb Jounala
Vletorin, H1, $\mathrm{O}_{4}$
WTUHIIAY, JANUAllY 14, 1802

## NOTICE.

Owling to unumual pressure on our adver tluing columnn, we are compelled to hold over a large quantliy of reading matter.

SOUNDS AND EUHOES

Levt un have peace.
It in Ald, Miller now, If any one mhould ank yous.

Count pert eh Romanort foughta duel with an American. The undertakerak! has carrled IRomunoff.

Whin Adam wan 1 year old he was the mmartest baby in Anla. If he had not dealt In ribs he would have been all right.

Tus report clrculated by Tus Home Journal lant week to the effect that Mayor Beaven was sure of belng defeated was cauned by a "typographlcal orror."
"Etiquerte wiwhes to usk "what to do with one's overshoes when Invited out to dinner." Put them bealde your plate. dear boy, so thleves can not break through and steal.

## THE RICHEST ACTRESS.

I saw on the ntreet the other day that marvellous IIttle woman, Charlotte Crab tree, known professionally an Lotta. She is resting this season. Her permanent reaidence is at Lake Hopatcong, and her home there in a marvel of elegance. She comes to town to visit her friend, Mre, Doremun, Lotta must be nomewhere near forty elght years of age. She was a bright little dramatle star In Callfornia before the war. Barring a few wrinkles about her oyen, which are only revealed on close Inrpection, whe looks as fresh as she did twenty yeark ago. She is just an vivacloun and fully an magnetic.
Lotta in not given to boasting about her wealth. She told an Intimate friend not long amo that her fortune was not less than $82,500,000$. This makes her the richest actress, undoubtedly in the world. She owns seversal apartment houses in this elty, the Park Theatre in Boston, and real entate in nearly every large elty In the country. Her mother, who man. ages all her affulrs, is a woman of great business sagacity. She has an eye open tor a bargaln always. Lotta, who is


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A large consignment of Holiday Goods and Novelties on the way.

## 58 GOVERNMENT BT.

FIVE SISTERS BLOCK.
absolutely devoted to the old lady, says that but for her great tact and judgment she would not to day be worth 85,000 . It Is not at all likely that Lotta will do much more stage work, though she says that her profts last season were as great an thev have been of late yearn. In other words, her drawing capacity in btill good.
Lotta is domentic in her tastes. She cares Ilttle for social Ilfe In a gay nenne. She in religlounly inelined. She is a bright conversationalist and can tell good storien. Hor favorite Jewel is the turquilse I wnw her one night at a Ilttle dinner given to Billy|Flurence in the St. James Hotel, when she must have had $\$ 10,000$ worth of these gems on her pernon. She fathers them from all parta of the world, Lotta has bad several narrow escapes from matilmony, but there is Ilttle probabllity now that the

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will ever enter the divine state. The man whom she truly loved died several years ago, and her attachment to her mother In such that she in not llkely to allow her affeetlons to stray aguln.--ChloagoTrlbune.

## WEALTH OF THE UNITFD STATES.



Peterboro Open, Sailing, Paddling and Hunting Canoes, For Sale
on the Instalment Plan.
Page \& Winnett, 18 Trounce Ave.

In dark blue Ruasian leather and old gold, that of the other In green and old mold silk. Wach saloon is fitted with bronged arate and tlled hearth and carved wainut chimney plece and overmantel, and coal fires can be burned. Heavy allk and plush curtains hang over all the doors, and the decorations throughout are of Oriental magnifficence.

## THE GLOVE.

Though alove is one of the small articles of attire, It ranks with the mout Important and among the oldent mentioned In history, an we read of the anclent Hebrews and Perelans wearing gloves when engaged in manual labor, and in the Anglo Saxon writings, gloves are mentloned as early as the seventh century. St. Anne is known as the patron salnt of clovers, and in some of the old world pletures of this saint she in represented an knitting a alove.
Butler, In his "Lives of the Soints," relates a miracle in which Saint Gudula and gloven figure. The ancient Romans wore gloves when they feasted, in order to keep thelr hands clean, as this was a time when forks were unkrown. In Greece and Rome for mopy years in the early centuries only high ecolesiastics wore gloven, as one mark of official dignity, The Norse of glove is glaut ; the Baxon, glof ; the Belgic, gheloare ; and In some parts of Germany it Is still called handschuh (hand shoe). Peets have not dis. dained to sing its praises, and painters consider a glove in many cases a valuable accessory to the finish of a painting.
In these latter days, so devold of romance, a glove represents a practical and dainty covering for the hands to protect them from cold, sunburn and injury, or to add a finishing touch to an otherwise complete tollette. In bygone days, aloves formed aulft between falthful lovers, hence the expression gage d'amour, They have also agured in battle, as to throw a glove at the feet of an enemy was a deflance to fight until the best man won.

## QUARANTINE AND HOSPITAI.

We are well satlefled that the Board of Trade, at its last meeting, took up the questions of quarantine and marine hospltal accommodations and adopted coment resolutions with respect to them. Time and again have there been denunel ations of the exinting condition of thinge which ought to have had some effeet ; but the deafness and obtuseness of the Deputy MInister of MarIne, Mr. Willian Smilthwhom even his subordinates think so Hittle of as to speak of as "Billy"have prevented any action belng taken. Mr. Prior, too, has had sufficient courage to talk out against Mr. Smith who belonge to an age when the people were well satis. fled with supplies of rain water lor their slek, with fish of their own taking to live upon and with driftwood-saturated with water and salt-as their fuel. Moreover, this same Mr, Smith has Ideas regarding the value of money and its purchasing power that are a long way off, otherwise he would not hold that $\$ 40$ per month was a munifficent salary for a hospltal caretaker and his wifo, who have not only to flad themuelves but to run all the risks that are Inseparable from the care of the sick.
Then as to the quarantine atation and murine hospltals themselves, it is notorlous that they possess no accommodations worth calling such and thls although British Columblans and the seamen who come here pay more money per head Into the treasury than those of any part of Canada. The resolutions of urgency for Increased and Improved faclities at both the ingtitutions of whleh we speak are In the right direction; but they do not ao far enough-for Instance one of them should demand, and that wlthout delay, the Immediate chopping off of the head of the Deputy Minister of Marine and such of the officials as belong to the same eateqory as that to which he appertains. We want men of progrese at Ottawa as well as elsewhere, -B, C, Comp mereial Journal.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

LATEL.Y, says a Vienna correspondent, the goodnatured Queen of Saxony, who dotes upon litele children-she has nev.r had any of her own-was walking in the park at Dresden, where she is well known. Meeting a nurse in charge of two little children she stopped to admire the rosy babies. The flluwing dialogue was then heard

The Queen--"They are Iwins, are they not?"

Nurse--" Yes, please your Majesty."
"I suppose their papa is very*proud of them?"
"This little boy's papa ie, but that little boy's papa died a munth ago."
"But I thought you said they were twins?"
"Your Majesty said they were, and I don't think it riglat to contradict the Queen."
"My dear," said a Mormon wite to her husbard, "I think that you should be ashamed of yourself, flirting as you did with Miss B. in church to-day."
"Flirting with her," he replied, in astonishment: "Why, we've been engaged the last three months. It's all over the town."
"Oh, I beg pardon," answered his wife, indifferently: "if you are regularly engaged, I suppose it's all right. When docs the happy event lake place?"

One stormy night, 18 years ago, so runs the story, a young girl, living in the town of B——, expressed her determination to attend a "pound" party at a neighoor's house. But her parents said her nay. She, however, persisted in her determination, and finally her father "said, "you are no longer a child mine if you go." She went. She never returned home. Years rolled by and naught was heard from her. A tew weeks ago a hack drove up to the house where she had spent her youth, and the brokenhearted father-for he had long repented of his harshness-saw with joy his missing child.
"Father," she said in sebbing accents, "father, I've been gone a long time, but I've come home to stay with you and be a faithful daughter hereafter." The old man said nothing, but the glad light that beamed from his eycs and the warmth of his embrace
he gave her told her she was forgiven. And then she turned toward the hack and said "Come." And lol six children got out and came, "These are all mine, too, father," she said, "and how happy we will all be together." And the old man sat down on the steps and sobbed like a child.

The joung women of Eigland are taking up physical cuiture with an enthusiasm which will carry them far ahead of their American sisters if the latter do not look to their laurels. Recently the pupils of the Young Women's Christian Institute connected with the Polytechnic gave a remarkable gymnastic performance. Fencing, vaulting horses, figure marching and other evolutions ware gone through with much energy and skill to the accompaniment of a full brass band. The pupils of the Regent Street In. stitute for Young Men looked on and were much impressed.

The glad tidings come over the sea that Queen Victoria is making great progress in her Hindustani studies. Further proof of this is furnished in a recent issue of the Strand Magazine, where two pages of Her Majesty's Diary are given as copied hy herself expressly for the article. The article itself, by the way, is written by an eminent Indian scholar, Moulvie Raffiuddín Ahmad, whose enthusiasm over the acquirements of his sovereign is very naive. Everybody, however, will agree with him in considering it interesting that the Queen at her age should have shown her ability to "master a new language entirely alien to the people of Europe, acquaint herself with the philosophy of the East, read the sentiments of her Eastern subjects in their vernacular, and keep a daily account of her wcrk in her new language."
minds herself of social and other engagements by writing them out on a postal card and mailing it to herself twenty-four hours in advance. She has invented a system af abbreviated notes intelligible to nobody clse, and as a result of her unique plan she never fails to meet her appoin.tment.
"Mrs. Noble, of Washington," re-
The English newspapers say that
not to say furious, advocacy of tem. perance principles is, well-known, is herself the owner of four een-public hou_es. Lady Henry is accused by one writer of beind "void of con. scientiousness and morality to her cause" because she is alleged to have utilized the proceeds of the sale of "that cursed drink" to defray the ex. penses of her tour as an lifinerant denouncer of alcohol.

## JERUSALEM MODERNIZED.

66 ERUSALEM, the railroad cen-
ter of Palestine."
The words have an unnatural sound to most people, as with the mention of Jerusalem and Palestine is generally associated some fact of sacred history or the events of the crusades in the Middle Ages.
But since Baron Rothchild has begun to carry out his gigantic colonization schemes Palestine has experienced an awakening, the Holy City has found itself moved by the mighty machine of progress and the destiny once predicted for Jerusalem by Napoleon seems not impossible of accomplishment. The Corsican's prediction was that Jerusalem would one day be the capital of the world. The last few months have worked a great change in the city so long regarded as having few attractions beyondits religious and historical associations.
A letter just received from Mrs. A. E. Davis, a woman missionary who has spent in years of her life in Jerusalem, gives a strikıng picture of the changes now under way.
"Palestine," says the writer, under date of Aug. 16, "will soon assume an appearance truly European. Its principal cities are fast being connected by modern railroads, and before long the toot of the American locomutive whistle, so familiar to your readers' ears and yet no novel to the native Syrian, will be heard every hour in Jerusalem, which will be the railroad centre.
"Our Juppa railway is about fisished, connecting us directly with the Mediterranean coast. A branch line is contemplated to Halfa and one to Jordan. The passenger depot has just been completed. To look at it one would hardly realize that he is still in Jerusalem-it is so thoroughly modern. The freight house is in
racy of tem. ill-known, is ir een-public accused by oid of con. lity to her aged to have the sale of ray the ex. ifinerant de.

RNIZED, railroad cena mention of is generally icred history sades in the ticic coloniza. experienced ty has found I machine of $y$ once preNapoleon accomplish:diction was d day be the The last few at change in L as having eligious and
from Mrs. sionary who life in Jeructure of the
riter, under oon assume opean. Its g connected before long locomutive our readers' 0 the native ery hour in the railroad out fivished, h the Medich line is ad one to pot has just s, at it one he is still thoroughly use is in
course of trection, In seven days from now the first train will be run from Joppa and we are arranging for a celebration of the event, which is of no small import to us.
"The Akka-Damascus railway is progressing rapidly. Startling at the great fortress of Acre it will run down the plain of Acre along the coast of the Mediterranean and branch out to Halta. Thence across the famed plain of Esdraelon, with the hills of Galies to the north, and passing near Nazareth the road reaches the Jordan by way of Shunem or Jezreel. At this point the banks of the Jordon are of solid rock, and in the center of the st eam stunds a natural pier of the same material.
" From this pier east and west will be erected suspension spans, connecting the west bank of the river with the slopes of the Jordan piateau on the east. The road will extend from the Jordan over the slope of this plateau and along the crest overlooking and inclosing the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Reaching the plateau proper near El'all and thence north to Damascus direct it 'passes through the most fertile and beautiful plains of Palestine.
"An English company has mapped out a road to connect Damascus on the north with Gaza in the extreme southwestern portion of Palestine, in the plain of Philistia. The distance is almost two hundred miles.
"It will be seen that ere long our little country will be covered with a network of railways. In the last few months, a wonderful change has been wrought in the city of Jerusalem. Several hundred new buildings have been erected. including residences, shops, hotels and hospitals. The old residents are all surprised and know not what to think of it, because there does not seem business enough to warrant all this expense.
"The reason for this outlay and building activity is to be found in Baron Rothschild's purchase lately of a large tract of land, comprising some thousands of acres east of the River Jordan and near the Damascus railway. This year he will send 1,000 Jewish families to the tract. Near Acre he has also purchased a large tract on which will be located three large colunies.
" About three weeks ago, the baron
gained control of the land by paying what he calls 'hand money' to the owner of the plain of Evdraelon. By this he has bound himsclf never to sell the plain to any one but Jews, At present tho Turkish government refuses to allow the Jews a deed to the plain. However, it is expected the government's consent, will soon be gained to the transaction. It is only recently that the restrictions preventing the Jews coming to Palestine have been removed.
"A number of his colonists will be located in the houses being built for them in this city. A Mr. Scheick has heen given the contract to build houses along the line of the Joppa road for some miles, A large institution is under construction which will be dedicated for the use of the Jews having no one to care for th m . Houses for the accommodation of 100 tamilies will be built on the Bethlehem road, near the depot."

## MUSIO AND THE DRAMA.

ASEATTLE paper has the following to say concerning Siberia, whieh will be produced in this city for the first three nights of next week: " Mr. Bert Coote, to whose painstaking supervis on such satisfactory results were produced from practically raw material, deserves more than passing mention for his work. The special teatures introduced in the third act won plaudits from all parts of the house. These included the ballet evolutions just referred to, the extre nely gracetul serpentine dance by Miss Julie Kingsley, the laughable appearance of Mr . Coote as the manipulator of the Ca mencita skirt and the clever feats of Miss Laura Asbby, Miss Kingsley is known all over the country tor her proficiency in this pecufiar skirt gyration, and she certainly has no cause to feel dissatisfied with her reception last night. Miss Ashby performed several difficult balancing feat dextrously and cleverly and did some wonderful jug. gling tricks. Mr. Coote's Carmencita dance convulsed the house. The enaction was all that could be desired and every part was presented with greater or less merit. Mr Osborne portrayed Nicholai Neigoff, a lover of the people, with much force, and Mr. Frank Jamison made an accomplished villain as Sparta. Miss alice Sheppard was a beautiful figure
as Sara and her personation showed both art and skill. Miss Julie Kingsley rendered the pathetic scenes in which Marie appears distracted with considerable power, and was warmly applauded. Peter Trolsky, the dispenser of samovar, was crisply presented by Mr. Coote, who amused the audience by the rendition of his lines as well as by his ludicrous make up and appearance. His scenes with Vera, a part cleverly rendered by Miss Bertie May, provoked much merriment. Mr. Thomas Quinn represent. ed the Governor-Genersl with true official dignity and Mr, Walter Hale depicted the crafty, dissolute Jaracoff very creditably. Mr, Lipman sustained the part of Ivan with good taste as did Mr, J. A. Nunn the character of the landlord."

The Calhoun Opera Company gave general satisfuction during their three nights' engagement in this city. This organization did not "blow their born" quite so much as the Duff company, yet they gave a more pleasing and more artistic performance. The Calhouns can rest assured that they will be well received if they ever again visit Victoria.

E A. McD well is still confined in the Bloomingdale asylum and is hopelessly insane. Mrs. McDowell is now travelling wih a company headed by E. D. Lyons. The fate of her husband has caused the poor lady greaf suffering, which is said to have told on her greatly.

Fred Bryton is now said to have lost his voice ecmpletely. During the month he played with the Rankip party he was bardly able to speak above a whisper. Excessive smoking is largely the cause attributed for his loss of voice.

U and I, with John T. Kclly in the cast, is underlined for an early production at The Victoria.

The Calhoun company played to over $\$ 1600$ in the three nights.

Katie Putnam will be seen at The Victoria in the near future.

Schilling's minstrels will be an early attraction at The Victoria.

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