

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

VOL. I., No. 3.

VICTORIA, B. C., OCTOBER 31, 1891.

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TRUTH AND FICTION.

NOT MANY YEARS have passed since the New Mexico frontier was the abiding place of numerous odd characters, and amusing stories are yet told about them. In those days any man was considered a doctor who put out a shingle and doosed and cauterized and mangled the sick and wounded. Sometimes these doctors were caught in court and forced to show their ignorance.

On one occasion the judge asked the doctor:

"How many ribs are there in the human body?"

"Sixteen, may the court please," promptly replied the doctor.

Soon after he quietly slipped into a back room and was seen with his coat and vest off feeling of his sides. He reappeared and addressed the court:

"May it please your honor, I desire to correct my testimony in regard to the number of ribs in the human body. There are twenty-four instead of sixteen."

When the Lemmon tragedy occurred in 1867 the fight took place in the street in front of the doctor's office. Chavez and Cleaver were on opposing tickets for delegate to Congress. Lemmon headed the Chavez procession and Kelly the Cleaver procession. When they met, Lemmon demanded the right of way, which was refused, and in the fight which ensued Lemmon, Kelly and some one else were killed and left on the ground, while the victorious procession pursued the vanquished. The doctor carried the bodies into his office for the purpose of, as he afterward declared, of holding a post mortem examination and refreshing his memory and knowledge of anatomy. Before beginning operations he went across the street to get a drink, and during his absence friends of the dead men entered the office and carried the bodies away. When he returned and missed the bodies the doctor became highly indignant. He declared that to enter his office and remove the bodies was a gross violation of courtesy, "and, more than that," he exclaimed, "it is the severest blow ever inflicted on the profession of New Mexico!"

DURING my last visit to England, says a newspaper contributor, the Queen visited Derby to open a charitable institution, and to show her appreciation of courtesies knighted the mayor, a very worthy man, who was married to a very worthy woman. The royal party, in the course of events, registered in the visitors' book at the town hall, a clean page being headed:

"Victoria."

Beneath this the wife of Henry of Battenberg, who was in the party, signed herself: "Beatrice."

The mayoress, whose turn it was to sign next, caused a gasp of astonishment from the royal party. She nervously nibbled her pen for a moment, deeply lost in thought, and then wrote:

"Jane."

She evidently thought that mayor's wife, and especially one whose husband had just been hit a clip on the shoulder with a sword, was entitled to due deference, and perhaps not so far removed from the privileges of the great ones who had signed before her.

YES," said the young man, as he threw himself at the feet of the pretty school teacher. "I love you, and would go to the world's end for you."

"You could not go to the world's end for me, George. The world, or the earth, as it is called, is round like a ball, slightly flattened at the poles. One of the first lessons in elementary geography is devoted to the shape of the globe. You must have studied it when you were a boy."

"Of course I did, but"—

"And it's no longer a theory. Circumstances have established the fact."

"I know; but what I meant was that I would do anything to please you. Ah, Angelina, if you but knew the aching void"—

"There is no such thing as a void, George. Nature abhors a vacuum. But admitting that there could be such a thing, how could the void you speak of be a void if there was an ache in it?"

"I meant to say that my life will be lonely without you; that you are my daily thought and nightly dream. I would go anywhere to be with you. If you were in darkest Africa or at the North Pole, I would fly to you. I—"

"Fly! It will be another century before man can fly. Even when the laws of gravitation are successfully overcome there still remains, says a late scientific authority, the difficulty of maintaining a balance—"

"Well, at all events," exclaimed the youth, "I've a pretty fair balance in the bank, and I want you to be my wife. There!"

"Well, George, since you put it in that light, I—"

CHAS. W. HANDSCOMB, writing to the Winnipeg Free Press, says that it is one of the most astonishing things in regard to the melodramas of the present day that those which pay the best are the ones which present the most realism in the way of scenery and effects, no matter how thin or uninteresting the plot or incidents may be. For some unexplained reason, people will rush to the box

office eager to pay for the privilege of seeing a horse shod or a cow milked on the stage, when they can see the same thing done a dozen times a day for nothing. Stage conflagrations and explosions have fallen into disrepute as attractions because they are only counterfeits. No matter how commonplace the alleged novelty may be, it must be real. A pump must discharge real water and thereby make the stage uncomfortable, even though the business requires nothing but the action. Real hogs, unpleasant as they may be, will make a farm-yard scene a success, even though the proprieties are violated by allowing a "piggy" to meander around on a green carpet and poke his nose in at the kitchen door. Real burglars cracking a real safe with real tools have been so successful that real pickpockets are now suggested to carry out the progressive realism by working the audience. There is no end to the enthusiasm that can be excited by a clever discoverer of novel effects in realism. Refined and educated people will witness with breathless attention stage effects in realism which, in actual every day life, they would scarcely turn their heads to notice; indeed, the more commonplace the effects, the greater the interest excited. Melodramatic playwrights are exhausting the field, and the next innovation will be the introduction of real trees, grass and flowers, stiffly set about the stage, instead of the artistic and beautifully painted counterfeit.

Advertise in THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL. It will pay you well.

The next Comus Club dance will be held in Philharmonic Hall about November 10th.

THE LACROSSE MATCH.

The championship lacrosse match, played at the Driving Park last Saturday, was one of the best that has been witnessed in the province. As predicted, the Vancouver team came out on top, owing to their hard and constant practice and training for two or three weeks previous to the match, while the Royal City team were unfortunate in not being able to play Stewart Campbell, and the accident to McKenna necessitating his retirement in the fourth game. There is no doubt the best team won on Saturday. Especially toward the end of the game did the Vancouverers show their training by several grand rushes and determined effort to score. It is reported on good authority that several players of the mainland teams have gone back East to spend their vacation and enjoy a Christmas dinner with their families. It is not expected they will return in time for next season's schedule. Tudhope and Frost, of the Vancouver team, are expected to reside in Victoria, and will assist the team of this city next season in regaining lost honors.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

[THE HOME JOURNAL would be pleased to receive the dates of parties and the names of persons attending social gatherings. To insure publication, this information would have to reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

"Why is it," is the complaint of many a woman, "that I have grown old before my husband has? We are not on an equal plane, as we were twenty years ago, when we were married. He has retained his youthful fire, and I have lost mine.

It is not necessarily hardship nor the bearing of children, nor is it a physiological fact that woman ages quicker than man. Fanny Edgar Thomas strikes the nail on the head when she says that mental activity is not the mother of haggard looks. It is in the country village, where the church meeting is the theatre, the mail the excitement, the days weeks, and one can hear the cows breathe in the deathly stillness, that the greatest number of sunken cheeks, wrinkled brows, leaden complexions and lifeless expressions are to be seen among the women yet in their thirties. In the large city, living three lives and enjoying two, are to be found scores of women—mothers, or perhaps grandmothers—possessing all the vitality, freshness, and much of the bloom of early youth.

The fact is, it is not activity, but drowsiness, the presence of sleeping or dead thought in the soul, that is aging. Unvaried scenes, the repetition to-morrow of to-day, to-day of yesterday, this week of the preceding one, the ability to calculate exactly what each neighbor is doing at each hour of the day—the inevitable clock-like routine of conception, the monotony of existence, the utter weariness of an empty brain, that snaps the vernal springs of life and creates decay in the face. And so it is not the country necessarily, but the mind itself that makes young or old. To be sure, the best conditions to develop premature age are in the isolation of the country, but who has not seen the above conditions exactly reversed?

Again, women who never grow old are the student women—those who daily drink in new chyle through memorizing, thoroughly analyzing, and perfectly assimilating subjects apart from themselves. Study is development—eternal youth. The student woman who makes wise use of her acquisitions has no time to corrugate her brow with dread thought of the beauty destroyer leaping fast behind her. Not considered or invited, old Age keeps his distance. Brain culture, based on noble motive, means sympathy, heart gentleness, charity, graciousness, enlargement of sense, feeling, power. It is a fountain of youth.

No less eminent authority than Sir William Guil, of Great Britain, has said that the benefit derived from a university education, such as girls get at Newnham and Girton, makes them and their children stronger and healthier. Also, that the percentage of childless marriages is less with the educated women, and the percen-

tage of children that survive infancy is larger.

The most elaborate social event of the past week was the Charity Ball, on Thursday night, given by the ladies of the Auxiliary Committee of the Jubilee Hospital. The ball was under the auspices of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Nelson, who, although not present, are well known in this city for their numerous acts of charity. The ladies who had charge of the arrangements are deserving of the many flattering congratulations of which they have been the recipients, for never in the history of Victoria has such an event been carried out with a greater degree of success. The decorations were simply gorgeous, being the combined efforts of several ladies, who demonstrated their artistic skill in the manner in which they performed the work entrusted to them. The walls of the old Assembly Hall were invisible, and the building itself was transformed into a palace. The supper, at midnight, was the generous offering of the ladies, and every delicacy of the season was to be found on the table. At the time of writing it is not known how much the hospital fund has been increased, but it must have been considerable. The committee of management were: Mrs. G. A. McTavish, president; Mrs. Hayward, secretary; Mrs. A. J. Smith, treasurer; Mrs. J. H. Turner, Mrs. R. B. McMicking, Miss Hyams, Mrs. Capt. Rudlin and Mrs. Bales. The stewards were: Thos. Earle, M. P.; D. M. Eberts, Esq., M. P. P.; Joshua Davies, Esq.; Lieut.-Col. Prior, M. P., A. D. C.; Major Nicholles; Capt. H. W. Jones; His Worship Mayor Grant; Dr. J. C. Davie; W. Dalby, Esq., J. P.; W. M. Chudley, Esq., and H. M. Yates, Esq. The dresses of the ladies were perfectly beautiful, and, as an old-country visitor remarked, could not be excelled even in London. The following is a brief description of a few of the dresses worn on the occasion: Miss M. Dunsmuir, pale pink satin, trimmed with tulle; Mrs. H. Croft, white brocade satin; Miss E. Dunsmuir, pale blue brocade satin; Mrs. Baillie Graham, green brocade velvet; Miss Annie Story, white nun's veiling; Miss E. McMicking, white silk; Miss Hyams, white nun's veiling; Miss Davie, drab satin. Other dresses that attracted attention were those of Mrs. Grant, Mrs. D. R. Harris, Mrs. G. A. McTavish, Mrs. A. J. Smith, Miss Munro, the Misses Sylvester, Miss Higgins, the Misses Spring, Miss George, Miss Withrow, Miss Ellis, Miss Burnes, Miss Beaven, Miss Denny, Mrs. Keon, Mrs. George Simpson, the Misses Finlayson, Miss Dollie Davie, Mrs. Wm. Dalby, Mrs. J. D. Helmcken, Miss Mouatt, Mrs. Foster and Mrs. W. Green, Victoria; Mrs. Langley, Ashcroft, and Miss Bates, Nanaimo. In fact, to give the names and describe all the pretty dresses worn would exhaust all the space of THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

Pandora Avenue Methodist Church was the scene of a happy event last Wednesday evening, when Mr. J. R. Kerr, of Kerr & Begg, the Government Street bookseilers and stationers, was married to Miss Ella E. Pope, a highly respected young lady of this city. The popularity of the contracting parties was evidenced by the large

number who were present to witness the ceremony. The bride was dressed in cream satin, with court train, long veil, and beautiful sprays of orange blossoms. She was followed up the aisle by her two bridesmaids, Miss Libbie Brown and the little daughter of Captain Roberts, both dressed in cream silk, trimmed with silver, and carrying beautiful bouquets of flowers, the gift of the bridegroom. Mr. R. N. Begg supported Mr. Kerr during the ceremony, and the bride was given away by Mr. J. H. Baker. Mr. Watson conducted the impressive service, and at its conclusion as the party left the building, everyone present bade the newly-wedded pair God-speed. At the residence of the bride's mother an elegant supper was awaiting the invited guests. They left by the steamer Isander the following day for the mainland, and after a few days' honeymoon at Banff will return to Victoria and start on their new life together. The presents were numerous and costly, which go to show that if good will and universal regard augur aught for the future, the one of Mr. and Mrs. Kerr will be very bright indeed.

LADIES, ATTENTION!

If you your friends now would meet,
And at the same time a luncheon eat,
Just at the Cafe Royal call and you'll agree
It is the finest place in town to see;
There Bon-Bons and Cakes you'll find,
Of finest make and varied kind.
Their Bill of Fare is beyond compare;
The best of goods they keep at prices fair.
The epicure to the Royal should go,
For well suited here he'll be, I know.
Theatre-goers should at the Royal call;
As a Cafe, it will suit you all;
So do not fail, when the Victoria you attend,
Across the street your way to wend,
And there a supper or a stew obtain.
Once at the Royal, you'll call again.
Remember the Cafe Royal is the place for you;
The location, Douglas street and View.

Having had experience for a number of years in the catering business, and having during that period furnished some of the best families of the Eastern cities with goods in our line is a sure guarantee of our reliability, and that we are fully competent to furnish Lunches, Afternoon Teas, Dinners, Weddings, Receptions, Balls, Germans, Excursions, etc. Our Candies and Creams are made of the purest fruit flavors and made fresh daily. All we ask is a trial, and we feel confident that you will give us your patronage in the future.

Respectfully yours,

JESSURUN & WORMSER,
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BLARNEY TWEEDS

G. R. JACKSON is the only Tailor in Victoria who is handling the celebrated Mahoney Blarney Tweeds and Serges. A full line in all the latest shades is now on hand.

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Royal Coll. of Physicians, Edinburgh, 1884.
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Manager for B. C. of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society of New York.

Life rates for \$1,000 with profits:
 Age—30, \$15.00; 35, \$16.04; 40, \$17.20;
 45, \$19.04; 50, \$22.04; 55, \$29.24; 60, \$41.50.

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Cloth Jackets from \$2.75 up.
 Cloth Ulsters from \$2.75 up.
 Sealette Jackets from \$7.00 up.
 Sealette Dolmans from \$17.50 up.
 Sealette Paletots \$32.50 up.
 Cloth Dolmans \$7.00 up.

Also Special Values in

Flannels, 17c, 20c, 30c, 35c, 45c, 50c, 75c.
 Cantons, 4 to 14 yards, for \$1.00.
 Cottons, 6 to 17 yards, for \$1.00.
 Sheetings, Bleached and unbleached, in full range.

HOSIERY DEPT.

Try our SPECIAL BLACK CASHMERE at 50c to 70c.
 Childrens' ribbed double knees and heels, 35c to 75c., etc., etc.

We do Sell All the Time

Josephine (especially Seamless) 4 Dome KID GLOVES; also the FOSTER 7-hook LACING GLOVE, in Black and Colors.

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Pomeroy and Greeno, Sparkling Saumu,
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 The Celebrated Lowenbrau Beer.
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THE VICTORIA
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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL,
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1891.

TO OUR READERS.

ENCOURAGED by the reception which THE HARBOR LIGHT has met from the people, the publishers have determined to still further enlarge their field, and to accomplish this it is believed that a name more significant than THE HARBOR LIGHT is desirable. Therefore, hereafter the name of this paper will be THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL. In the future this paper will publish a weekly retail market report. This will make the VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL an invaluable visitor to every household in this city. It might here be stated that nearly all the literary work of this paper will be by contribution, and is not supposed to voice wholly the sentiments of the editor, but rather those of the contributor. As has been intimated, the paper will be enlarged to twice its present size as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

IN OUR LAST ISSUE, we called attention to the fact that in Canada, as in every other of the great commonwealths into which the Anglo-Saxon race is divided, the people are turning their attention to the question of taxation, its effects upon commercial intercourse between ourselves and our Southern neighbors, its bearings upon the relations of the citizen to the State, and of one citizen in the State toward every other. Taxation in Canada, as in every other English-speaking country at this day, may be aptly described as a hybrid system, being a combination of two separate and distinct ideas, each representing opposing schools of economic thought. The Pitt system of indirect taxation collected upon imports, exports, excise and licenses, and the direct taxation

advocated by J. Stuart Mill, levied upon real and personal property. The first we have no hesitation in denouncing as pernicious and unjust, wherever and however applied, and the good effects of the latter are largely nullified because of a misconception as to when and how it should be applied. The system of indirect taxation we denounce because it was first called into existence, and is still maintained for the purpose of concealing from those who pay it the amount of their contributions to a revenue of such proportions as no intelligent people would submit to under the direct system without the clearest evidence that they received full value in return. Because of the enormous and unnecessary expense of its collection, of its necessitating the maintenance of an army of men in semi-idleness, or, what perhaps is worse, in espionage of their fellow-citizens, its placing at the disposal of partisan governments a patronage temptingly efficient for the purposes of corrupt politicians, its setting up a standard of justice which has no foundation in the higher ethical law, making that a crime which in itself is not only not a crime, but a virtue, its interfering with honest industry in its efforts to obtain a fair and equitable exchange for its products, because it begets in the minds even of its advocates a contempt for the law itself—where is the defender of the system who will not, when opportunity presents itself and self interest points the way, sneak some dutiable article through, in defiance of the customs regulations, with scarcely a twinge of conscience—and because it places before men in a peculiarly tempting form inducements to commit fraud and perjury.

And not only is the indirect system wrong in principle, but, as naturally must follow, it is unjust and hurtful in practice. It affords to those engaged in manufacturing an enhanced market by quite or nearly the amount of duty levied, by restricting competition from abroad, thus enabling them by combination at home to keep up prices to the tariff line. The advocates of the system claims for this arrangement that the manufacturer shares his increased prosperity with his employees, by paying better wages, which he is enabled to do solely on account of the tariff;

but the falsity of this contention appears in the fact that employers pay, not what they are able to pay, but what the labor market compels them to pay, and as importations of laborers are not subject to duty, gives employers a privilege in buying their services that is denied to those who must buy their productions.

This system of taxation operates adversely to men who begin business with small capital, increasing their difficulties at a time when they are least able to cope with them. The man who goes into business under any system of tariff taxation must have not only money to buy goods with, but money to pay duties with, and, as has been shown, this is true whether his goods are manufactured at home or abroad, and as small credits are limited to the limits of the law for their collection, the man lacking capital must buy at home. By thus limiting the power and opportunity of small capital, and as a consequence the number of those engaged in trade, the system tends to create a monopoly and its consequent effects. The advantages of this arrangement to business men of capital they clearly understand.

One of the speakers at the opera house in the last election campaign made the statement that Victoria was at one time a free port, and that during that time the city was flooded with cheap goods, people buying what they wanted almost at wholesale rates on board ship in the harbor even before they were landed. The speaker asked the question: "Who was it that kicked against this thing until it was done away with?" and answered it himself: "Why our own merchants circulated a petition praying that the duties be again imposed," with the result that the prayer of the petition was granted and the people of Victoria were no longer pestered with very cheap goods. This champion of tariff taxation, himself a merchant, made no claim that the authors of this petition were actuated by other than selfish motives. They saw in the imposition of duties an agency for placing the trade of the city in their hands at an enhanced profit, and of course were eager to employ it. But the merchants of Victoria form a very small

portion of the whole people of the city, and their increased gains on account of the duties represented so much loss to the rest of the community, with the cost of collection added, which in these days when such offices are made use of so largely as rewards for political party services are no inconsiderable part of the sum total. One of the worst features of tariff taxes is that they do not fall upon those who first pay them, but are shifted from one to another in the community, with added profits to each, to find their place at last, profits and all, in the pockets of the consumer. The wholesaler, in calculating the cost of his goods, must add to the cost of the goods themselves laid down in Victoria the amount of the duty on them. He sells to the retailer at a profit on the cost of the goods, and a profit on the taxes too. The retailer in turn sells with another profit added to the consumer, who pays for goods, profits on goods; taxes, and profits on taxes, twice over. Although Victoria is, without doubt, the wealthiest city per capita in the Dominion, yet the great majority of the people of this city are what might be called comparatively poor, and as the smaller a man's income the greater the proportion of it he must spend in goods, it follows that this system of taxation falls with crushing inequality upon the majority of our citizens.

AUSTRALIAN CREDIT.

THE Australian colonies are fast earning an unenviable reputation as borrowers of British gold. Recent events on the London money market show an altered state of Australian credit, and the assertion that our sister colonies in the Antipodes are not only heavily but hopelessly in debt appears to be gaining credence. Criticism of their monetary affairs, indeed, goes further, and it is even hinted that they have been living for years on British loans, the obligation to repay which they may some day repudiate. As an indication of this belief, and of the extreme care with which English investors now scrutinize the resources, financial position and political methods of a borrowing community, reference may be had to the recent placing of a £4,500,000 loan by the colony of New South Wales. Scarcely two years ago

a loan of £3,500,000 was successfully negotiated at an average price of 103, one point above the minimum fixed, while not later than a twelvemonth since a second issue was so successfully floated that a similar minimum was exceeded, on both of which occasions subscriptions were greatly in excess of the sums sought to be borrowed. To-day, however, when for the third time in as many years this colony presents itself on the London market, a minimum price of 95 is exceeded by a "beggarly fivepence," and Australian banks are compelled to unite in order to ensure the successful floating of the loan. In April last, when the colony of Victoria sought to place a 3½ per cent £3,500,000 loan on the market, the amount subscribed fell short of the sum required by a third, although offered at 97½, or 2½ per cent. less than the minimum of a year ago, when a loan of £4,000,000 was subscribed many times over at an average of 101½. This failure was attributed at the time to the disturbed state of the continental bourses and the distrust bred of South American reverses but no such cause can now be assigned for the slight success attendant upon the more recent loan. The monetary situation has resumed its normal condition, and is, withal, sound and stable, as recent events testify. To other and more potent causes, therefore, the altered condition of affairs must be ascribed. A group of colonies whose aggregate debt to-day exceeds £140,000,000, when but ten years since the figures stood at £63,792,300, cannot continue to add unceasingly to their indebtedness without being suddenly brought to a knowledge of their indiscretion. The British investor soon learns to view with a feeling of uneasiness any such exhibition of extravagant and reckless expenditure, and is not slow to take alarm at the slightest whisper of impending doom. That our own British Columbia loan of £200,000 sterling has met with a more becoming reception speaks volumes in favor of Canadian methods of self-government, and it is indeed matter of congratulation to learn that, not only was the sum subscribed greatly in excess of the amount sought, but transactions have since taken place at an advance of the price obtained three weeks ago. Canada has every reason

to be proud of such of her provinces as give evidence of being in the hands of prudent and truly patriotic statesmen, but, unhappily, it has still to view the base uses to which political power may be put by mere partisans whose prudence is based on self-interest and whose patriotism, being self-assertive, is the less to be regarded as sincere.

IN A Texas convention recently four men were killed. This convention could hardly be said to have adjourned sine die.

THE "Kangaroo" is the name by which the Republicans in the United States call the Australian ballot. But while they profess to prefer the antipodean marsupial to the Tammany "Tiger," they decline to admit their acknowledgments to the Canadian "Beaver."

THE Russian government has boycotted the Rothschilds, and the police of that country are notifying all bankers that no dealings with or through the house of Rothschild will be permitted in Russia. It is a contest of power against money with the odds in favor of the latter, for the wealth of the Rothschilds is mightier than the power of prince or potentate.

THE American press makes much of L'Electeur's hints and threats to annex Canada to the United States. L'Electeur is about as potent a factor in the cultivation of an annexation sentiment as Mr. Sol. White, of Windsor. If Messrs. Pacaud, White and Mercier were made up in one consignment and shipped across the border, there would be little concern in Canada over the first practical results of the so-called annexation movement.

ELECTRICITY.

In connection with his electrical treatment for all kinds of diseases, Prof. W. E. Bergman finds it necessary to secure more commodious quarters. He is fitting up apartments in the Moody block, 76 Yates street. A special feature of the Professor's treatment will be the electric-medicated and sweat baths, which will be fitted up as soon as the necessary apparatus arrives from San Francisco. Soapstone baths will be used with the electrical appliances.

*There is no use denying
THE FACT
that
London Hospital
Cough Cure
IS THE BEST
Remedy for Throat and
Lung Troubles.*
Get it from
Cochrane & Munn,
DRUGGISTS.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

A Turkish Bath was in Ellensburg last night.

Kate Castleton is in Council Bluffs, Ia., to-night.

Katie Putnam is doing Alabama towns this week.

Ovide Musin is travelling through New York State

Sam Morris, as Nicholas Nip, the detective, is said to be immense.

Patti-Rosa closes a three nights' engagement in Nashville, Tenn., to-night.

Kate Emmett has been drawing fair houses in Chicago during the week.

Madame Modjeska opened a week's engagement in Philadelphia last Monday night.

Ray L. Joyce, in Tom's Vacation, closes a two nights' engagement at Winnipeg to-night.

Walter Matthews, of the Keene Company, was robbed of a \$150 diamond stud in Spokane.

The President Company, which will be here on November 12 and 13, was in California during the past two weeks.

Ted Irving, well known throughout the West as a first-class comedian, is an inmate of a Chicago hospital, suffering from paralysis.

The Imperial Stock Company played *McLiss* to a small audience at New Westminster on Wednesday night. The company are said to be well up in their parts and deserving of better patronage than they have been receiving.

The series of concerts given in the Victoria by Miss Nora Clench, Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Mackelcan were not nearly so well patronized as their merit deserved. However, what was lacking in numbers was made up in enthusiasm. Miss Clench is an artist away above even the anticipation of the most exacting, and her mysterious performance on the viola places her in the same class as Ovide Musin and the greatest violinists the world has ever produced. Mrs. Mackelcan is another Canadian, and one that reflects honor on the land of her nativity. Her solos were delightfully rendered. Mrs. Hamilton was at her best in the singing of the "Waltz," which was enthusiastically received. Altogether, the entertainments were delightful and should have received better patronage than was given them.

The most notable event in dramatic

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TARIFF:

10 persons and under per hour. \$2.50	30 persons and under per hour. \$5
20 persons " " " 4.00	Over 30 persons, " " 6

T. NORQUAY, Manager.

circles this week was the appearance of Thomas W. Keene at The Victoria. There is a difference of opinion as to whether Mr. Keene is greater in *Louis XI.* or *Richard III.*, but those who have studied the plays and witnessed the performances of the greatest actors of the last two decades, are inclined to accept his conception of the wicked King Richard as the most faithful and artistic. *Richard III.* differs from all other Shakesperian plays inasmuch as it presents a wide field for the presentation of the various changes of nature which the deformed king assumed. A man who could murder the husband and dared to woo the widow within a few hours was certainly something more than a man. Yet history teaches us that such a person was Richard, and Keene makes it a possibility. At certain places in the play it must be admitted that the acting of Keene suggests rant, but altogether the portraiture is one that we need not hope to see excelled in this decade at least. The Victoria was well patronized, and the audiences were enthusiastic both nights.

The Hallowe'en concert, under the auspices of the Sir William Wallace Society, at their assembly rooms, last Thursday night, was a musical event of more than passing note. The best musical talent of the city was engaged, and called out a very fair audience. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental music and Scotch dances. Those taking part were: Prof. Hilliger, Miss O'Neill, Mr. F. B. Fenwick, Mrs. Turnbull, Mr. Firth, Miss B. Jameson and Mr. J. H. Simpson. Nearly all the music, as might have been expected, was Scotch. Miss Jameson's song, "Will Ye No Come Back Again?" was very sweetly rendered and called forth an encore. Miss O'Neill has a very good voice, and, if the expression may be used, an attractive stage presence, and her singing of "Coming Thro' the Rye," in response to an encore, was pleasing in the extreme. Mrs. Turnbull sang alto for the first time in this city, having hitherto been known as a soprano vocalist, and the transition to alto was indeed natural and agreeable. Under the tuition of Miss Kate MacGregor, of the Victoria Conservatory, this lady has developed her voice into a sweet and pure alto. All the gentlemen acquitted themselves creditably. The dancing of

Messrs. Davidson and D. Mackintosh MacKenzie, in Highland costume, was an agreeable feature of a most agreeable entertainment.

AT THE VICTORIA.

- Grismer-Davies, Nov. 2 and 3.
- Little Lord Fauntleroy—6 and 7.
- Cleveland Minstrels—9.
- The President—12 and 13.
- Nip and Tuck—23.
- Uncle Tom's Cabin—Dec. 4.
- McKee Rankin—16 and 17.
- Carleton Opera Company—22 and 23.
- Michael Strogoff—28 and 29.
- Midnight Alarm—Jan. 8 and 9.
- Kate Claxton—22 and 23.
- Devil's Auction—25 and 26.
- Katie Putnam—29 and 30.

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Opposite Five Sisters' Block.

LOCAL AND OTHERWISE.

McLennan & McFeely have rented the Wilson & Dalby block, and will open Dec. 1st with steam, mantels, grates, tiles, gas and electric fixtures.

Dixi H. Ross & Co. have a fine brand of fresh oysters which they are selling at 75c per can. This firm is also selling Italian laret at 25c per bottle.

Come in out of the rain and buy an umbrella at Samuel Reid's, 122 Government Street, from 75c to \$6.00. He also handles genuine Scotch lamb's-wool underwear at his clothing emporium.

Johnson's pure teas are being sold extensively throughout the city. Of his three brands—50c, 60c, and 75c; Darjeeling, 60c to 75c; and Assam, 60c—it is hard to say which is the most popular.

Prof. W. E. Bergman will remove superfluous hair by the electric process. The Professor guarantees that the operation will be painless, and that the hair will never grow again. If the Professor could make hair grow on bald heads, he would be twice a benefactor of the human race.

A ready reply was given the other day by a little Victoria boy. One of the elder members of the family had been repeating to him a few French words, amongst others being *Pere* for *father*. On being asked what he thought would be the French for mother, he exclaimed, "Why, Apple, of course."

A traveller from the East, who has been visiting the theatre and different places of amusement in this city, says Victoria must be a healthy place, as he has never as much as heard a person coughing at one of those places. The reason is plain. Cochrane & Munn's London Hospital Cough Cure—4 oz. bottle, 75c—is what keeps Victoria's death rate low.

"Ties, Human and Divine," by B. L. Fargeon, for 50c, is one of the most popular books of the day. London and New York have gone wild over it. Jamieson, the bookseller, says that it is the best selling book he has handled for some time. "As Ye Sow," by Leander Richardson, 60c, and "Salamambo," by Gustav Flaubert, 50c; are also popular. This is the first cheap edition of the latter book.

A MODEST REQUEST.

An enquiry came to hand the other day from the other side of the Atlantic for a city lot with the following advantages:—Water front, near post office, wharves and railway depot within easy reach of the tramcar, and not to exceed \$450. The recipients of this note, Messrs. Lee & Fraser, well known to readers, have always a good list with special advantages, but this was more than they could fill.

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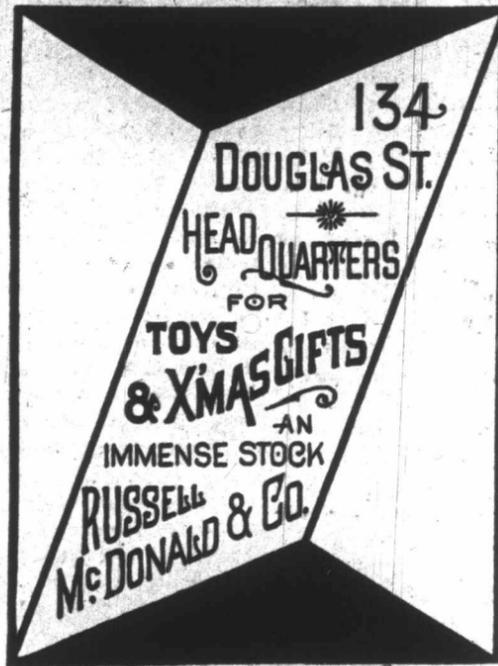
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THE AFFAIRS OF VICTORIA.

The *British Columbia Commercial Journal* thus discusses municipal matters in its last issue:

The appointment by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council of the Royal Commission to inquire into the administration of the affairs of the city of Victoria seems to have considerably exercised the minds of the municipal council of the provincial capital. While, no doubt, they have been reading with considerable astonishment the accounts of the remarkable developments in connection with public matters of the Dominion and in parts of the Province of Quebec, the idea does not seem to have occurred to them that there was even the possibility that—though things were not criminally wrong—it was possible that affairs were not just as they should be within their own jurisdiction. In consequence, when the idea of an inquiry was broached each of them took it as a personal matter, and began to denounce the "mossbacks" and reactionaries who were not content that Victoria should prosper in any way except after their own methods and modes of thought, and, in consequence, in their spite, were bound to put obstacles in the way and seek to discredit the representatives of an enterprising people. After their first outburst of indignation appears to have exhausted itself, the "venerable gentlemen" began to make a sort of personal application of the supposed allegations, and the inquiry went round among the individual members of the Board, "Is it I?" "Is it I?" Everyone professed the utmost readiness to have everything with which he had to do thoroughly looked into, but the old gall of bitterness continually came to the surface with the result of further denunciations of those who, in the exercise of their undoubted right, had called the Lieutenant-Governor to their assistance.

However, setting aside the personal aggravation of the members it might, in the first place, be asked why should not such an enquiry be undertaken, particularly by gentlemen so well and deservedly respected for their public qualities and devotion to duty? The Chief Justice has, in the past, done the city and Province service that in all probability no other man could have discharged, and his record gives assurance to the public that without fear, favor or affection, he will perform whatever duty is devolved upon him, while the members of the Council, knowing his strict sense of justice and his keenness to take hold of facts and appreciate them in the light, not alone of law, but of equity, are sufficient guarantee that, so far as he and his colleague or colleagues are concerned, the scales will be balanced fairly and evenly, with, however, if need be, an inclination to put the best construction upon errors that might have been committed in spite of the very best intentions.

That there have been and must be errors in the various ramifications of the city's extensive operations, there can be no reason to doubt. Opinions differ widely as to the policy that has been pursued in connection with Water Works matters and the disposition of the revenue that has been received from that source. Then there arises the great question of streets and sewers with

respect to which rumor has been more than once busy. The electric lighting of the city might be an interesting branch for the commissioners to look into, while the different civic contracts for a year or two past might, if turned over, develop something, the lessons of which might enure to the future benefit of the citizens. Indeed, there is no knowing how productive this—according to some unpromising field might prove to be. In connection with this inquiry, since the aldermen have, as they say, nothing to fear, let them co-operate heartily with the investigators. In that way they will be really doing the community some service. Despite the city's wealth and the apparent immense augmentation of the value of real estate, the city credit does not stand as high in the world's money markets as it should do, or why should it be impossible to negotiate a favorable loan abroad, in default of which our funds are obliged to be deposited in Banks as security for temporary advances to tide us over from time to time.

A first-class vindication of our financial standing might have the effect of materially appreciating the value of our securities; for certain is it that it cannot be mere prejudice that has made financiers try to steer clear of our bonds and have as little to do with them as possible. The moneyed men of the old world are only too anxious to discover profitable fields for investment. They have almost an infinite amount of money that they are anxious to turn to better account, and it might be that the result of the labors of the commission will be an immense blessing. Neither the government nor the petitioners ought to be blamed for their action in this respect. The latter, who have almost their all at stake, have a right to satisfy themselves that matters are as they should be and to learn that there has been—as we all expect to discover—far more smoke than fire, while the former are only doing their duty in acceding to the wishes of so largely and deeply interested a body of petitioners. It should be forgotten by no one that the right of petition is one which every British subject holds in the highest estimation, and he is bound to exercise it whenever he deems it necessary.

D. CAMPBELL & CO.

88 Government Street,

ARE telling a good story of a young man around town who, until recently, was not noted for wearing good clothes. The youth was badly smitten with the charms of a young lady and proposed. He was met with a blank refusal, so the story goes. The rejected lover told his woes to an intimate friend, who undertook to place him right with the young lady. He was told to secure one of Campbell's heavy Cheviot Suits, and try again. This he did, and was accepted. Campbell & Co. are now wondering whether the young lady married the man or the suit of clothes.

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