

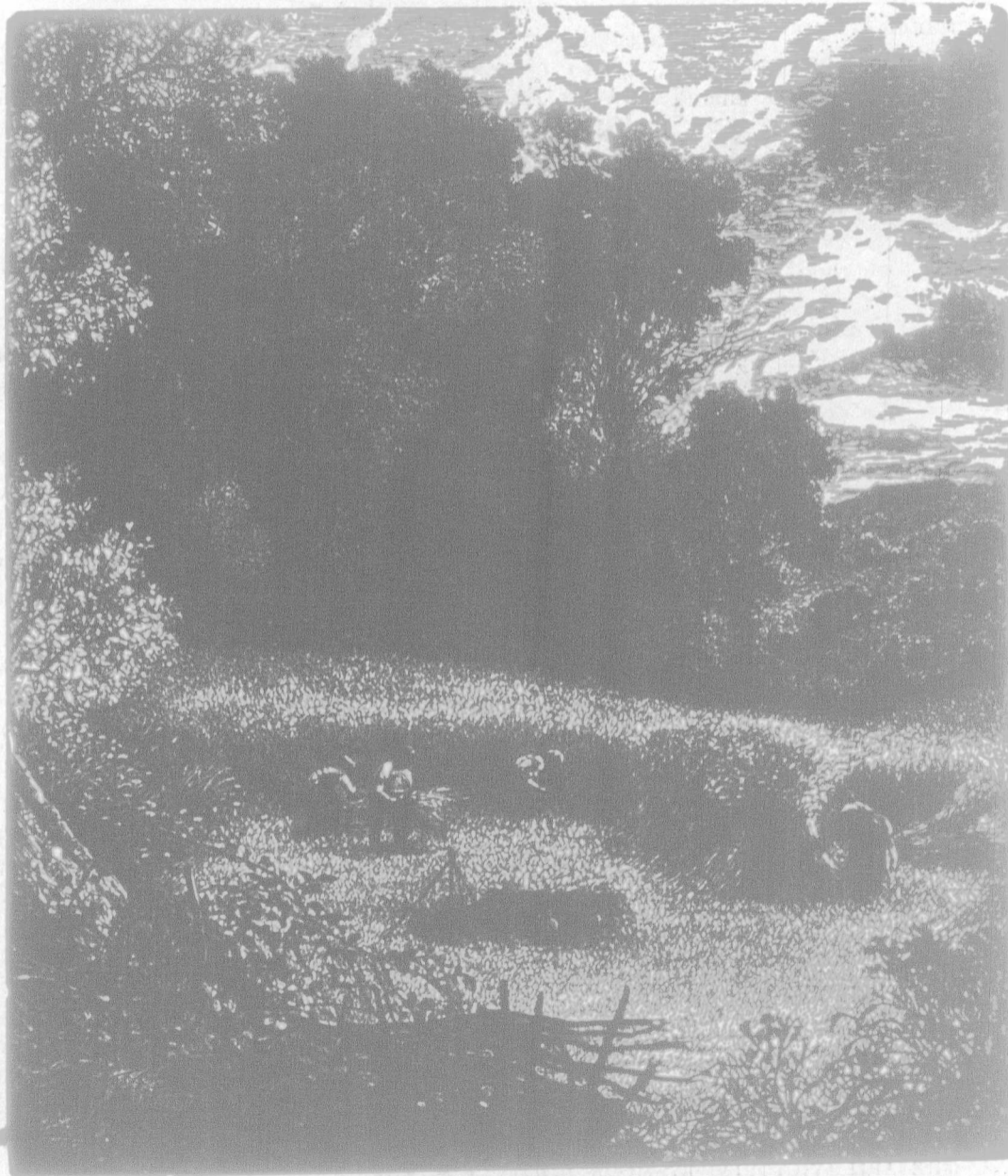
# THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

VOL. I., No. 17.

VICTORIA, B. C., FEBRUARY 6, 1892.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM



HARVESTING.

## TALES OF THE TOWN.



ON Sunday afternoon I strolled across the railway bridge, through the Indian Reserve, and on

the condition of their public thoroughfares, the latter being suggestive of a pig ranch. In the course of a conversation with a pioneer resident of the section referred to I learned that the people of Victoria West, like all other people, have a grievance. Briefly stated, it is as follows:—Last year's municipal council spent over \$10,000 on the new limits of the city, less than \$100 of which was spent in Victoria West. If my informant's statements are correct—and I have no reason to question his veracity—Victoria West has been unjustly dealt with. It certainly is the most thickly settled portion of the new additions to the city. From information thus learned, together with practical experience in wading through their so-called streets, I can conscientiously recommend the West Enders' grievances to

I would not advise the reduction of anyone's salary, but it is just possible that some superfluous officials may have crept into the municipal service. Take the street department, for instance. On an average, taking it all through the year round, I don't suppose much more than a dozen laborers are employed in each ward of the city; each ward has a foreman, and then over and above all these the Council had to appoint a street commissioner at \$125 per month.

The reader may think that our streets ought to be well managed with so many bosses, but a few minutes' walking along any of our principal thoroughfares will suffice to dispel any such idea. In this connection, I might state that the dispensing with the services of a street commissioner seems to meet with the approbation of the general public.

Besides economy there are many other important questions that need the consideration of the municipal board. The building by-law is defective, in fact it should be repealed and an entirely new one enacted. The city is rapidly building up, and requires more stringent building regulations than at present exist, especially in regard to matters pertaining to the prevention of fire. Overhanging and swinging signs, wooden verandahs, and all other unsightly and dangerous obstructions, should be strictly prohibited. The removal of the hack stand from Government Street would certainly improve the appearance of, and facilitate traffic on, our principal business thoroughfare.

Another matter which has often been referred to in the press of the city, but without any good results, is the congregating of crowds of men around certain corners and saloons, making it impossible for a lady to pass without having to elbow her way through the crowd and having to hold her skirts pretty high to avoid gathering up the accumulation of tobacco juice invariably to be found round about such quarters.

These and many other matters require attention. Alderman Humber has made the first move in the direction



THE ARM (VICTORIA) BY MOONLIGHT.

to that section of the city known as Victoria West. This community of churches and cottage residences is certainly keeping pace with the times, quite a large number of houses being in course of construction at the present time. This wet season leaves an appalling contrast between the building enterprise displayed by our West Enders and

the serious consideration of the new Council.

"Economy consistent with efficiency." This evidently is Alderman Humber's motto in municipal matters, and it is a good one, too. It does seem as though \$70,000 for municipal salaries was a little high for a city like Victoria.

of reform. Will he follow it up energetically? If so, Victorians will owe him a debt of gratitude that it will be hard to pay.

I'm a tough and a sport and a very bad man,  
And so I was built when my life first began,  
And you can just gamble, I'm out for the stuff,  
And I'll get all in sight when I can.

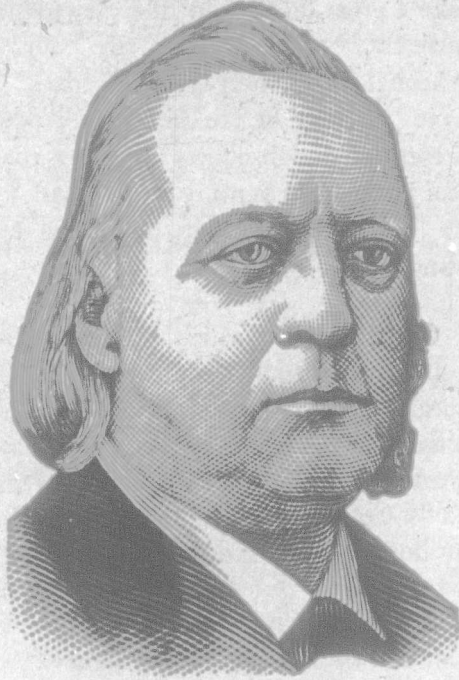
I can cold-deck a suoker or razzle a guy,  
And arrange a "top six" while a cat winks her  
eye.  
I will get all the scads the jays here possess,  
And you bet I will do it in style if I try.

I'm backed by a backer with plenty of "mun,"  
But to get all his stuff will be my best fun,  
For I think it not right for a man to be square,  
And for acts that are low down, why, I take the  
bun.

Now this may mean Jack or Harry or John,  
It's a marker for one man who hasn't yet gone  
It describes very well one man who is here,  
And if the coat fits you, why, you put it on.

It has come to light that children with accidental affections of the nostrils which grow chronic become stupid. An ill-working mucous membrane is enough to make a child a dunce. It may be that snuff became the rage in Europe towards the end of the seventeenth century because it stimulated this member in the noses of august and illustrious persons. Bonaparte, who was a man of keen and quick perception, never chose, if he could help it, a man with a poor nose for a place of great responsibility. He had remarked that when the nose was large enough to be a good ventilator to the lungs, elasticity in troublous circumstances, resource and general efficiency might be looked for. The man with insufficient nose ventilations was liable to get into the blues, to lose presence of mind, to have a heavy head, and to take brandy to keep himself up to the mark. Marshal Ney had a poor nose and a weak character. He was incapable of conceiving a plan, and needed the stimulus of battle to clear the cobwebs from his brain. Massena, the most resourceful of all Bonaparte's marshals, was large nosed. So was Bernadotte, the most clever in intrigue and the least given to hero-worship. Gambetta had a large nose and a small amount of brain. The same thing may be said of the greatest literary artist that France ever produced—Renan. Jules Ferry is small-brained and big-nosed. Jules Simon has a big brain and a big nose, and is, taken all in all, one of the ablest of living Frenchmen. The Princess Clementine, whom I look upon as a woman of great capacity, has the large hooked nose of the seventeenth-century

Bourbons and Condes. The ablest divines of the present age were and are



HENRY WARD BEECHER.

the possessors of large noses. Take for instance, Henry Ward Beecher.

A lady friend of THE HOME JOURNAL furnishes me with the following requirements for a beautiful woman:—"A pretty woman must first of all have clearly-cut, regular features. She must have full, clear eyes. She must have a skin that is above reproach, untouched

by rouge and powder. She must have glossy hair that has never known the touch of bleach or dye. She must have a white, expressive hand, preferably a small one, but not of necessity, if it is well kept and white. She must know how to put on her clothes, or she loses half her beauty. She must fully understand what best suits her in the way of hair dressing, and cling close to that. A woman may have all these attractions, and unless her own personality is charming, unless she has tact, it dawns on you, after you have seen her once or twice, that she is not a pretty woman. The most fascinating women to men usually have less than half these regulation charms." I wonder how many young ladies in this city of peerless beauties are fully up to the requirements.

The origin of the word jag as it is now used has always been a question of absorbing interest to all modern thinkers, and drinkers as well. In fact the interest has been so absorbing that it has taken a practical turn as regards those fluids that tend to make a jag. But a correspondent has discovered the primeval whenceness of the word. He says, as we all know, that according to



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the best lexicographers a "jag" means "a small load," although in this part of the country the term is applied to quite a large load. He then goes on and finds that Shelley the poet first gave the word its modern application in the touching story of Alpheus and Arethusa, where he writes—

"And thus arose  
From her couch of snows,  
In the Anoroceranean Mountains;  
From cloud and from crag,  
With many a jag,  
Shepherding her bright fountains."

And thus we learn that the fair Arethusa was not a member of the W. C. T. U., although it appears she should have been. Now that the origin of "jag" is known, people who speak the word again can do it with classical intelligence with a strong authority to prop them up.

If there is one thing more than another in this world that I enjoy it is a visit to the Parliament buildings when the House is in session. I like to see the members sit around with their feet on their desks, enjoying themselves, and some of them, in fact, monopolize the desks of the hon. members sitting to their right or to their left, all of which goes to show that the cares of state do not bear heavily upon them.

The debate on the reply to the Speech from the Throne was decidedly warm. My good friend, the hon. member for West Kootenay, was brought to task by the Crown Lands Commissioner, for alleged inconsistency in charging the Government with incapacity in its treatment of the land question. Notwithstanding the excuses offered by the hon. Commissioner, there are many people who incline to the belief that the circumstances of the case full justify Mr. Kellie, and instead of coming off second best in the encounter with the hon. member who claims historic Clontarf as his birthplace, he is credited with having sustained his side of the question with better logic than that of the Commissioner of Crown Lands. One thing is certain, he is upheld by many people, who do not hesitate in saying that the Government has made a muddle of the legislation affecting lands.

Victoria will soon be well supplied with newspapers, if it is not already. I know nothing about the circumstances which have led to the establishment of

another newspaper in this city, nor do I want to know. Somehow or other, I take a great interest in the newspaper business, and during my sojourn "through this lonely vale of tears," I have assisted at the birth and been present at the obsequies of more than one journalistic venture which had for its object the "filling of a long felt want."

Of the paper which will make its appearance next Tuesday, I cannot speak, but I desire to make a few remarks concerning those we have already with us. The success of the Daily Colonist and Victoria Times, has, no doubt, led to the establishment of a third paper. But the causes which produced success in their case may not be found in the Daily News—I believe that is the name of the new paper. Messrs Templeman and Ellis, managers of the Times and Colonist, are practical printers, and thoroughly understand their business. Should a leakage occur in their establishments, they could in a moment locate it. This gives them a great advantage over men who practically do not know anything whatever about the printing business. The consequence is that both gentlemen can produce papers at far less expense than a man who has to pay for this experience. Many people wonder why it is that two papers the size and excellence of the Colonist and Times can be produced in a city of our population, while other cities in the east of five times the population, have papers which are not the equals in any respect of the two named above.

During my newspaper experience, I have never yet known of a successful newspaper which did not have for its manager a practical man. Of the new paper in this city, I do not know who will control its destiny. I am favorably disposed towards the new venture, and for that reason I give it the results of my experience gratis.

Speaking of newspapers, I am told that the circulation of the Times has been growing so much of late that the management is now putting in a press that will print 4,000 an hour, and weighs at least ten tons. This press, which is a Wharfedale, is the first two-feeder ever brought into this province. A 10 horse power engine is

being placed in position, to run the press. I congratulate the Times on this evident sign of prosperity.

The Colonist has found its present quarters too small for its constantly growing business, and an addition, which will increase its accommodation, is now being built. The composing and editorial rooms will be on the third floor. Other improvements are being made in British Columbia's pioneer newspaper, which will make it more than ever a welcome visitor to every household.



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Age—30, \$15.00; 35, \$16.04; 40, \$17.20;  
45, \$19.04; 50, \$22.64; 55, \$29.24; 60, \$41.50.

Office—With Morrow, Holland & Co., 46 Broad Street.

# Society

[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.]

THE Victoria was filled last Tuesday evening by a most fashionable audience, the occasion being an exhibition by the Young Ladies' Drill Corps and the Toy Symphony. The practice and rehearsals for this entertainment took place under the immediate supervision of Mrs. Marvin, and she is to be congratulated on the proficiency attained by her pupils. The dumb-bell drill by the young ladies was most creditable. The ring and wand drills were also very pretty, and deserved every bit of applause they received. The marching figures, however, brought down the house. When Mrs. Marvin appeared on the stage at the head of the corps in this drill, the applause was loud and continued, but the audience still further showed its appreciation when the corps had gone through the different figures. The young lady soldiers were dressed in black close-fitting bodices, with ankle skirts of the same material. The skirts and bodices were trimmed with gold bands and a sash of orange-colored silk. Mortar boards trimmed with a tassel of gold rings completed the costume, which looked very pretty when the young ladies were going through the evolutions. Mr. Clement Rolands sang "Off to Philadelphia" and "Madaline" in a highly appreciative manner, both solos being encored. The toy symphony orchestra gave several selections during the evening. The financial result of the entertainment is not yet known, but no doubt both institutions will be handsomely benefitted as a result. Manager Collins deducted \$15 from the rent. Many people who had not an opportunity of witnessing the entertainment would be pleased to have it repeated at an early date.

The many friends of Mrs. Rhodes will regret to hear that she is seriously ill, and that fears are entertained as to her recovery. Mrs. Rhodes is a prominent member of St. John's Church.

Invitations are out for an "At home" at Mrs. F. W. Foster's, 93 Simcoe St.

The marriage of a well-known druggist to a fair young lady of this city is announced to take place in June.

A concert for the benefit of Mr. Thos. Thirkettle will be given in Trades Assembly Hall on the evening of February 13.

There will be a regular members' "At home" at the Y. M. C. A. Parlors on Wednesday evening, February 10th. A choice musical programme has been provided by Mr. J. G. Brown, who will be assisted by the Victoria Glee Club and others.

The Leap Year social given by the young ladies of the congregation of the Temple Emanuel last Wednesday night was a pronounced success. Over sixty couples, devotees of the terpsicorean art, enjoyed themselves to their hearts' delight, and went home in high good humor. The young ladies of the Hebrew Association in this city know how to entertain, and are to be congratulated at the manner in which they conducted this their first reception. The music was furnished by the Bantly family, and was everything that could be desired. The grand march was led by Mr. Eckstein and Mrs. Phillips. Eighteen numbers composed the programme, and comprised all the latest and most fashionable dances. Supper was served at 12 o'clock, and was in keeping with the excellence of the entertainment provided by the young ladies.

A very pleasant dance was given by Mrs. G. F. Matthews, on Wednesday last, at her residence on Dallas Road. Mrs. Matthews proved a charming hostess, her guests being delighted with the entertainment. There were present the Misses Foster, Pooley, Simpson, McLeod, Worlock, Brady, Wolfenden, Keenan, Gaudin, Lwason, Anderson, Boddington, Galley, Charles, Kitt, Arrowsmith, Mrs. Blakelock and Miss Bate of Nanaimo, Capts. Ogilvie and Palmer, Messrs. W. B. Smallfield, F. B. Gregory, A. Cameron, F. Higgins, W. W. Clifton, R. Jones, Cecil Ward, W. E. Fisher, H. B. Haynes, J. Wilson, G. Tiarks, Roberts, Cuppage, Langton, Holt and Bullen.

The choir of the First Presbyterian Church were entertained last Tuesday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Jackson at their residence, 22 Rithet Street.

O. C. Bass, for some time connected with the Times reportorial staff, has resigned his position, having been appointed official stenographer in the law courts. Mr. Bass is an expert shorthand writer, and will undoubtedly give satisfaction in his new sphere.

The Pandora Avenue Methodist Church will celebrate their Sunday School anniversary to-morrow. The Rev. Mr. Thompson, of New Westminster, will officiate. An open session of the school will be held in the afternoon, at which there will be special music by the children. The reading of the annual report and short addresses will be features at the Tuesday evening meeting, and a children's festival will be given in the schoolroom the same evening.

It is estimated that about 600 people were present at the Bachelors' Ball, held in Assembly Hall last Thursday evening. The hall was tastefully decorated with evergreens and flags of all nations, the Union Jack, of course, predominating. The committee in charge consisted of Sir Matthew R. Begbie, and Messrs. E. C. Carpenter, Joshua Davies, E. Hasell, H. Hayes, A. W. Vowell and Capt. A. W. Jones, with Mr. L. Napier Armit as honorary secretary. The music was the best that could be secured in the city.

Several junior members of the enterprising Scotch colony in Victoria are telling with pride of the successes of one of their school chums who still remains in the old land. A late paper to hand says:—"In Mr. Gilmour, Linlithgow has discovered a comedian of promise, and it is to be hoped he will come again, as it would be a thousand pities if an entertainer who bids so well were allowed 'to blush unseen.' Mr. Gilmour's songs took immensely. The piece, or pantomimic sketch, was a departure which tickled the fancy, and kept the audience in roars of laughter."

## SWEETHEARTS.

I found to-night, my darling,  
In the pages of an old, old book—  
A tiny faded violet  
That grew by a rippling brook,  
Once, long ago, my darling,  
When you and I were young,  
Ere the light from your eyes had faded,  
Ere your sweet life song was done.

Ah, me! this flower, my darling,  
It carries me back again  
To the sunlight athwart the meadow,  
When never a hint of rain  
Clouded our sky, my darling,  
When our life was one sweet love song,  
But it ended so soon, so sadly,  
And the years have been very long.

So long since then, my darling,  
And under the daisies white  
Your face has long been hidden,  
Though it seems to me to-night  
I can hear your voice, my darling,  
As I heard it long ago,  
Ere they laid you beneath the flowers  
Where the evening breezes blow.

MARION LISLE, in Saturday Night.

## PILOTAGE.

When Mr. Robert Ward undertakes anything, either in his own interest or that of the public, he always performs his duties not only intelligently but thoroughly, being ever ready to give a reason for following any particular course. In connection with the investigation into the loss of the SS. San Pedro, in the vicinity of the port of Victoria, into which he was appointed to inquire in conjunction with Captains Lewis and Gaudin, Mr. Ward has transmitted his report to the Board of Trade. Not only did the Board of Inquiry decide where the responsibility for the catastrophe lay, but they indicated that in no way was the approach to the harbor of Victoria dangerous, the accident having been caused by miscalculation and neglect on the part of Pilot Christensen, the captain of the steamer, to a certain extent, being entitled to blame. Mr. Ward has gone further than his associates in his special return to the Board of Trade, having undertaken to deal with the pilotage system of the province.

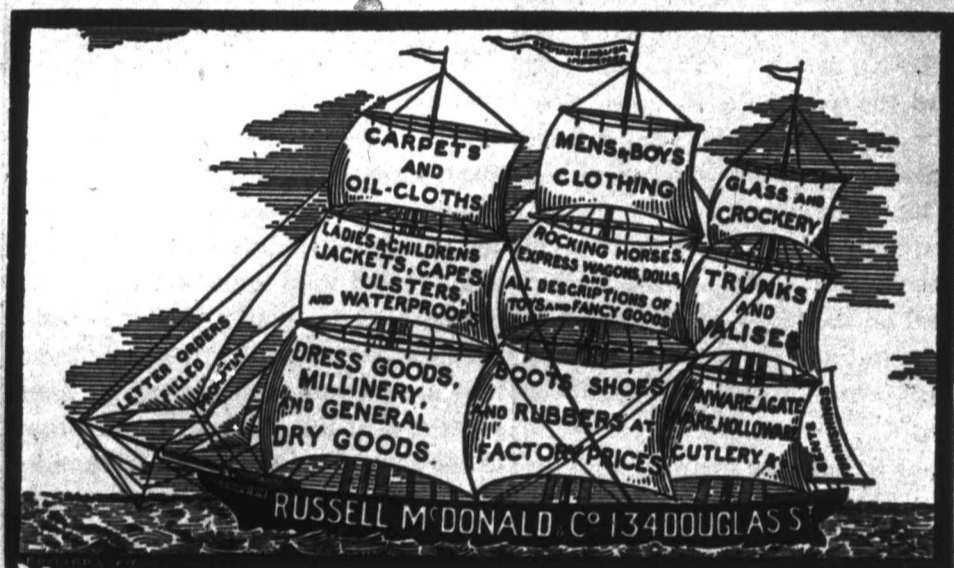
He showed that the system of licensing pilots was not what it ought to be, pointing out that although Captain Christensen held a license for British Columbia, he was at the time of the accident acting under a Nanaimo license, and, in consequence, the Victoria pilotage commissioners had no authority over him although the accident occurred in their district. Moreover, it was demonstrated that although the pilots are well paid for their services, they have no such thing as a schooner or sloop with which to reach vessels who may be in need of their services, masters being compelled to call off Victoria to take on a pilot from shore or to discharge one there. Vessel owners carrying and merchants trading with this port will be well satisfied that the British Columbia Board of Trade adopted Mr. Ward's report, which, moreover, recommended that the government be requested to look into the entire pilotage question, with a view to the adoption of an effective system applicable to all British Columbia waters.—*B. C. Commercial Journal.*

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Apples, evaporated.....	12½
"    sun dried.....	10
Apricots, evaporated.....	16
Asparagus, tin.....	40
Barley, Pearl.....	10
Bacon, breakfast.....	18
"    spiced roll.....	16
Beef, corned, tin.....	35
Bloaters.....	12½
Blacklead, best..... 3 for	25
"    French Polish.....	25
Bricks, bath.....	12½
Butter, creamery..... 35c or 3 for	1 00
"    dairy.....	25
"    fresh Island.....	50
Catsup, tomato..... 25 to	40
"    mushroom, pt.....	40
"    walnut, pt.....	40
Capers.....	25
Candles, Belmont.....	25
"    Ozokerit.....	50
Caviar.....	50
Celery, salt.....	25
Chocolate, Eagle.....	50
Cocoa, Fry.....	50
"    Epps.....	50
"    Van Houton's.....	1 50
Chutney..... 25 to	1 50
Cheese, Canadian.....	20
"    Roquefort.....	1 00
"    Swiss.....	50
"    English Stilton.....	50
"    Limburg.....	50
"    Brick Cream.....	50
"    Mellors Cream, pots.....	1 25
"    Parmasam.....	1 00
"    Pineapple.....	50
"    Edom.....	50
Clams..... 3 for	50
Cocanut.....	50
Coffee, Costa Rica, green.....	25
"    Java.....	40
"    Mocha.....	50
"    ground.....	40
Cream Tartar.....	50
Currants, Patras.....	12½
"    Vostizi.....	16
Corn, Ontario..... 3 for	50
Devilled meat.....	40
Eggs, fresh.....	50
"    packed.....	25
Extracts, flavoring, 2 oz..... 25 to	35
Farina..... 10 lb. sack	1 25
Figs..... per lb	25
"    10 lbs	2 00
Fish, cod, Pacific.....	12½
"    Eastern.....	16
"    black.....	12½
"    mackerel bloater.....	35
"    tins.....	1 00
Flour, Hungarian.....	6 75
"    Snowflake.....	6 50
"    Enderby.....	6 25
Fruits, assorted table, 3-lb. tins.....	40
"    2-lb. tins.....	25
"    pie, gallon.....	75
"    in Brandy.....	1 50
"    crystalized..... 25 to	75
Gelatine, Nelson's.....	25
Hams.....	20
Hops.....	40
Honey, gallon.....	1 75
"    1 lb, comb, in jars.....	1 00
"    2 lbs.....	75
Jams, assorted C & B..... 3 for	1 00
Knife Polish.....	25
Lard, pure, 10 lbs.....	1 75
"    5 lbs.....	1 00
Lentils.....	16
Lemons, Sicily.....	50
"    California.....	35
Lobster, Clover Leaf.....	35
Marmalade, pots.....	35
Maccaroni.....	25
Milk, Reindeer, tins.....	25
"    Eagle, tins.....	35
"    Highland Cream.....	25

Mince meat, jars.....	1 50
"    condensed.....	25
Mustard, Colman's, ½ lb.....	35
"    1 lb.....	65
Mushrooms.....	35
Nuts, assorted.....	25
Oil, Coal, tin.....	1 85
"    case.....	3 50
Olives, qt bottle.....	75
"    pt bottle.....	50
"    ½ pt bottle.....	25
Oysters, fresh, tin.....	75
"    Blue Point, 2-lb. tins.....	35
"    1-lb. tins.....	25
Onions.....	4
Pate de foie gras..... 1 25 to	1 75
Peel, mixed.....	40
Pearline.....	25
Pepper, ground.....	50
"    whole.....	35
Pickles, C & B, qt.....	65
"    pt.....	35
Potatoes.....	1 25
Prunes.....	12½
Plum pudding.....	75
Raisins, Dehesa.....	50
"    layers.....	25
"    Valencias off stalk.....	12½
"    layers.....	16
"    Sultanas.....	20
Rice, Japan.....	8
"    Sandwich Island.....	10
"    China.....	5
Sauce, Lea & Perrins, large.....	65
"    small.....	35
"    Yorkshire Relish.....	25
Spices, tins.....	25
Sugar, granulated, Vancouver, 14lbs	1 00
"    San Frisco, 18 ".....	1 00
"    Hong Kong, 15 ".....	1 00
"    cube, San Francisco, 10 lbs	1 00
"    Vancouver, 12 lbs	1 00
"    Extra C, 15 lbs	1 00
Syrup, 1-gal. tin.....	1 00
"    2-lb tin.....	25
"    Maple, gal.....	1 50
Tapioca.....	10
Tongue, Lunch, 2.....	75
"    1.....	50
"    Ox 3.....	1 00
Tea, S & B..... 50 to	75
"    Japanese..... 25 to	75
Tobacco, T & B.....	75
Vinegar, English Malt.....	1 00
"    White Wine.....	1 00

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Pure Malt Vinegar, per gal.....	75
Pure Tomato Catsup, bottle.....	35
Worcestershire Sauce, half pints.....	25
"    pints.....	35
Mushroom Catsup, pints.....	35
Quince Cider, per quart.....	25
Apple Cider.....	25
"    (Excellent for mince meat.)	
Extracts—Lemon and Vanilla, 2oz.....	25
"    8oz.....	70
Fruit Syrups, per quart bottles.....	50
"    (Strawberry, Lemon, Raspberry.)	

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Hats, Caps, Ties, Shirts, Braces, Umbrellas, Etc.  
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# THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL,  
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1892.

## RANDOM REFLECTIONS.



A SALUBRIOUS climate, advantages of location, the prosperity and development of a province having many and great natural resources, make the growth of Victoria to the status of a large city in the not far distant future a certainty. While cities come into existence and grow to metropolitan proportions because of such agencies; while it is not possible for any man or set of men to bring into existence or maintain the growth of a city independently of them; yet the character of its institutions, the advantages they afford for the development and perfecting of human powers both of body and mind, the influence they exert for the building up of character and habits of thought, must depend entirely upon the conceptions and efforts of its people.

Man is largely what his surroundings make him; more readily than any other species in the animal creation does he respond to cultivation, in fuller development and greater powers even in a purely physical sense. The spirited fleetness of the racer that very nearly matches within certain limits the highest achievements of science and mechanics combined in land travel, and the ponderous form, gigantic strength and patient docility of the lumbering cart horse, represent the result of a

long course of development from an original common stock in different directions. Man in comparison with any of the domesticated animals has been perpetuated from generation to generation with the least intelligent effort for the development of the range of his physical powers. Yet while it may truthfully be affirmed that man's physical development is as nothing to what it might be, do we not see in men an even greater difference of physical capacity than in horses?

But beyond the physical, comparison between man and animals ceases. Within a very narrow limit the fullest development of animal intelligence is gained, and of itself makes no effort to reach even thus far. The desires of the most cultivated animals, and the powers for their gratification, are confined to the same narrow limits as in the most neglected. Cultivation brings to man new desires and greater powers, under proper conditions for their gratification. To store man's mind with knowledge is to create a desire for acquiring more; cultivation of the powers of his mind in acquiring information fits it for greater achievements in the same direction.

To the progressive mind, with each ascending step new vistas open, new pleasures present themselves, new hopes spring up in the soul, the light of a fuller intelligence is shed upon its past gropings to make clear and simple what seemed clear and obscure; while to a mind of the same natural capacity without cultivation these powers, tastes and pleasures remain a sealed book. If knowledge is power in that which is speculative or philosophical, it is doubly so in the practical or commercial? If Victoria is to make the most of the advantages of her climate and situation in the future, it must be by cultivating and developing to the utmost the mental capacity of those who are to be its future citizens, the guardians and directors of its future destinies.

If her merchants are to rise to the highest place in competition with those of other cities that will share in the coming development of our province; if the mechanics who conduct our manufacturing enterprises are to gain for her a first place as a manufacturing centre, they must disabuse their minds

of the preconceived prejudice that birth or long residence in British Columbia, that family connections or alliances with local wealth, give them a pre-eminent claim to success: they must recognize that if success is to be attained, it must be by the development of superior mental power, by the acquisition and application of practical knowledge. Brain power, knowledge, intelligence are the requirements of success; the day when original strength and physical endurance were the first requisites for the satisfaction of human wants has gone by.

Look around the world for proof. See the laborer on this great Canadian and American prairie wheat fields who gets two dollars a day harvesting the crop at the antipodes, driving the Egyptian cultivator, whose wages are a few pence per day, from the English market almost at his door. Canadian operatives living in a country where a stalk of cotton never grew and where scarcely half a century ago the manufacture of cotton was scarcely dreamed of, selling manufactured cottons in China, the home of the cotton plant, and where the manufacture of the finest fabrics was carried on long before Canada was known to civilization, and receiving in return for each day's pay the wages of a dozen Chinamen; see the mighty engines of the Canadian and Northern Pacific crossing the great frozen plains of the Northwest and making possible, with comfort and safety, in two days, a journey that fifteen years ago required a month by dog train at peril of life and limb, amid discomforts before which the boldest might well quail; look at the canoe of the Siwash and the ocean-going iron ship in Victoria harbor, and estimate, if it be possible, the advance in knowledge which the staunch vessel represents.

The evidence of these truths is irresistible. If we are guided by it, we will see that the perfecting of the educational institutions of our city is the first duty we owe to its future. That our interest in the efficiency of our common schools will not permit us to descend to a low partizan squabble alike disgraceful to all participating in it and hurtful to our best interests for the possession of power and place in connection with them, and that we visit with the severest condemnation, irrespective of party or

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# DRINK JOHNSON'S PURE TEAS

national descent, any who dare to sacrifice the highest interest of our schools to partizan or personal ends. And we will see that our common schools are but a stepping stone to that higher education—that wider field of investigation, where science, engineering and art reach their grandest results through the advantages of cultivation offered by a good university, and that we cannot permit the narrow-minded selfishness of a few taxpayers who value present personal aggrandisement more than the true interest of our city that is to be, to prevent us from getting it and making it in efficiency worthy of our city and of the mission it is to accomplish.

CRESSET.

## TO OUR READERS.

THE HOME JOURNAL is greatly pleased at the many expressions of appreciation of its enterprise and fairness and cleanliness as a newspaper that come to it from all sides, and never so numerous as during the past few weeks. It is profoundly grateful and immensely stimulated by such pleasant encouragement to still greater effort to serve acceptably this appreciative public.

The bona-fide circulation of the paper is rapidly increasing. Hitherto, a large number of HOME JOURNALS have been distributed free, in the hope that those who would read the paper and judge of its merits would be induced to subscribe. A great number of people have already sent in their names, but, like Oliver Twist, we want more. We intend to discontinue free distribution, and would therefore ask all those who desire to take the paper to send in their names by postal card or otherwise, immediately. Many improvements in the paper are contemplated, and it is the earnest desire of the management that THE HOME JOURNAL may become indispensable to every household. The price will remain at \$1 per year. Send in your name at once, if you want the paper.

We have received from Mr. W. Waitt & Co., a collection of nation-

## MICKEL & GRICE, FAMILY GROCERS,

102 & 106 FORT ST., COR. BLANCHARD ST.

TELEPHONE No 403.



al songs, which should be read and sung by every patriot who can read and sing.

### SO HE WAS.

"I thought you advertised that you were selling out at cost," growled the customer, throwing down the required twenty-five cents for a small package of note paper.

"Yes sir," replied the stationer, briskly. "That's right. We referred to our postage stamps. Want any?"—New York Sunday Mercury.

## Victoria Marble Works.

Monuments,  
Tablets,  
Mantels,  
Furniture  
Work, Etc.

RED AND GRAY GRANITE  
MONUMENTS.

135 DOUGLAS ST.



# A. TOLLER & CO

## Real Estate Agents,

18 Broad Street,  
VICTORIA, B. C.

SOOKE DISTRICT—117 acres on the water front, close to railway terminus, \$1,000.

RANDALL ST., James Bay—60 x 115, corner, very cheap, overlooking the water, \$1,000.

VICTORIA WEST—Good large lot, 60 x 150, fenced, house, sheds, etc., \$950. Any reasonable term, rented for 8 per month, street on the back and front.

1-acre off CHARLES ST.—excellent garden land, \$1,000, easy terms.

MICHIGAN ST.—James Bay, one lot, \$800.

CADBORO BAY ROAD and Oak Bay Avenue—good corner store, fixtures and everything complete, \$1,900; or would lease.

JAMES BAY, Parry St.—10-roomed house, lot 50 x 140. \$3,500.

Four Room House with street on either side, partly fenced, beautiful garden land \$525.

PORT ANGELES—50 acres, \$30 per acre, short distance from town.

TWO LOTS—Victoria West, with two houses, 120 feet x 139, corner, all fenced, \$4000.

MONTRFAL ST., James Bay—Lot on front, 104 feet, good house, \$2600.

PINE ST., Victoria West—Lot 70 x 75, small house, all fenced, \$400; \$50 cash, balance \$10 per month.

SMALL HOUSE and lot on Oak St., Fernwood Road, \$525; \$50 cash and \$25 per month.

LOTS, NORTH PEMBROKE ST. off Fernwood estate, two large lots \$1000.

CHATHAM ST.—One lot and 7-room house, \$1700. \$500 or \$750 cash, balance in 2 years.

SOUTH TURNER ST., James Bay, next street to one to water, \$1,300.

FRONT ST., Esquimalt Road—12 to 14 fruit trees, \$500.

ESQUIMALT ROAD—Lot, 20 by switch of Tram Co.'s Line, \$700.

JAMES BAY—Lot and two houses, renting at \$25 per month, \$2,800.

MOSS ST.—Lot next to corner, very beautiful location for building, \$500.

One 13-room house, 2 acres of land, all fenced and cultivated, highest part of the city and overlooking everybody, \$13,000.

OAK BAY, on the water side—7-room house and beautifully situated for bathing facilities, this is an absolute bargain \$1,650.

Four and a half acres in Saanich District for \$13 per month without interest; also farm of 76 acres on Saanich Road.

ROCK BAY—Two beautiful lots, very suitable for a garden.

EDMONTON ROAD—Lot 18, Block 70, good garden soil, \$425.

JAMES BAY, Toronto St.—5-roomed house and lot, everything in first-class order, very pretty, \$2,100.

A number of Lots and houses on the Instalment plan. Houses to let.

Hotel to lease, doing a good business, with four acres of land, \$1,700.

Eighty acres of land all of first class quality, Saanich, 30 acres absolutely clear and 30 acres nearly so, \$6,500.

One acre beautiful garden land, \$1,700.

One acre, small house, on water front.

\$1,000 will buy a lease of 12 bedrooms suitably furnished, central, subject to rent of \$30, one room rented for \$15 per month.

5-roomed furnished house, \$35 per month.

FURNISHED HOUSE, James Bay, 5 rooms, bath and pantry, every convenience, \$35 per month.

### OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

MISS KATE DALGLEISH.

IT can well be said that the promising young actress, Miss Kate Dalglish, who is the leading lady of the Belmour-Gray Imperial Stock Company, has great possibilities and exceedingly bright prospects before her. With the advantages of natural genius, combined with beauty, a sweet voice and a desire to excel in everything she undertakes, the future of Miss Dalglish is assured. A short sketch of the early life and subsequent triumphs of this young lady will be perused with interest by the readers of THE HOME JOURNAL.

Miss Dalglish was born in Coupar, Fifeshire, Scotland, in February, 1868, and, like all Scotch people, glories in the traditions of her native land. And here it might be said that although it is several years since she bade good-bye to the "land o' the heather," she recalls with pleasure many of the incidents of her early childhood in Auld Scotia, and can recite every word of Scott's "Lady of the Lake," which she learned while yet a child. The father of Miss Dalglish was a designer of military costumes, and while the subject of our sketch was only a girl of ten years of age, he, with his wife and family, emigrated to Canada. He landed in Quebec, and here his daughter was placed at school, and made rapid progress in her studies. From Quebec, the Dalglish family removed to London, Ont., thence to Toronto, where Miss Dalglish was a pupil at the Elizabeth street school, and finally to San Francisco. Miss Dalglish, after three or four years study in the latter city, graduated at the Rincon Hill seminary with honors. The young lady was ambitious, and did not require much persuasion from her friends, who recognized her genius, to adopt the stage as a profession. But even as young as she was, she realized the fact that persistent study would be required before she could hope to reach the point to which her ambition was directed. With this end in view, she pursued studies which would be most useful in the profession she had concluded to adopt, and read works which are best calculated to give one a glimpse of the customs of other countries. The characters in the works of Scott and Dickens had a

particular fascination for Miss Dalglish, while none of the standard books were overlooked. She studied elocution under the best available teachers, and on the evening of February 3, 1886, she made her debut, as Blanche Sterling, the adventuress, in "Fate," at Portland. Her success was instantaneous, and she was offered engagements from every direction. Gus. Williams secured her as leading lady, and with this eminent comedian she made a tour of the eastern cities. In Chicago, she was received with open arms, and her reception in other cities was none the less enthusiastic. After concluding this engagement, she returned to the coast, and since that time has been associated with all of the best combinations and stock companies on the Pacific. Her success in this city is too well known to require comment. At every performance at the Imperial, she was greeted with applause the moment she appeared on the stage.

In private life, Miss Dalglish is a most entertaining person; her conversation naturally turns to the profession of which she is such a bright ornament. A good story loses none of its points in her hands, and, in short, she is everything which goes to make an ideal woman. Her favorite role is Pauline in the "Lady of Lyons." The dresses worn by this actress are models of the dressmakers' art, and cost what to some people would be a fortune, the costuming for the "Lady of Lyons" alone being worth something in the neighborhood of \$600. They number in all nearly 250.

Miss Dalglish will go over the Canadian Pacific with the Belmour-Gray company. At Winnipeg, the company will play a short engagement, and no doubt their success there will be a repetition of what it has been here. Winnipeggers will see much in Miss Dalglish to remind them of their old-time favorite, Miss Fanny Reeves.

The silk Roman sashes are the rage again. They come in all the tints of the rainbow and have a very deep silk fringe, making a graceful back drapery to a plain evening gown.

An original and effective trimming for an evening gown is a weaved pattern of feathers, the foundation of fine silk braid and

the feathers weaved in patterns to form flowers or odd designs. Rose buds of pink ostrich feathers are exquisite as a trimming for an evening gown of pink or pale gray tint. This Spring, fringes of all kinds are to head the trimming list.

The swell dress-reform young woman is wearing a Grecian robe gown. These robe dresses come in all the delicate shades of cashmere, and are deeply embroidered in silk the same color as the dress. One exquisite creation was of gray cashmere, with deep gray silk embroidery in the daisy pattern. Under the embroidery, was a flounce of pink chiffon embroidered in silver. On the waist, was a narrow chiffon trimming. A combination of green and violet made another very striking robe dress.

The silken petticoat is the special pride of every girl's heart. The most desirable ones are now being made of a new silk called the Amour. It is thicker and softer than the Tafetta and wears better. A pretty skirt is made of striped Amour silk, black and rose. There are two ruffles, a narrow one on the bottom and a wine inch ruffle with a pinked edge above.

The very newest thing for mourning wear is the crepe cloth, with its dull, crinkled effect. For half mourning, the satin in the sombre black bowknot pattern is much worn. Large black and white plaids are also very popular.

The latest Paris opera coat is a long garment of tan ladies' cloth, which has just a faint tinge of rose about it. There are three capes, graduated in length, each outlined with mink fur. The collar is a high Medici, just edged with mink. The garment is lined throughout with a changeable silk of a greenish pink hue.

There are wrappers and wrappers, but the ones that are the most popular just now are dainty, airy creations to be worn over the night robe. These are of India silk, accordion plaited from top to toe. A bow, made of wide satin ribbon with long ends, is tied at the collar, and the ends should fall to the bottom of the wrapper.

The armor of jet always gives a

style to any costume. Butterflies of jet constitute the sleeves. The front effect is in the shape of the pointed bodice.

Now that the bow-knot, has grown into startling prominence, such things as bow-knot dresses are being fashioned.

The material of the bow-knot dress on exhibition was pink crepe de Chine made over a foundation of pink silk.

The crepe de Chine was put on the skirt loosely, and all around the bottom was a flounce formed of bow-knots. Each bow knot was made of the material, and the effect of the bows made an unusually soft, pretty trimming.

The waist was cut V-shape, back and front, the corsage being formed of a large bow-knot. At the end of the waist in the back another bow-knot of the soft crepe acted as the finish.

The sleeves were made entirely of ribbon, and from the wrist to the shoulder were a succession of pink bow-knots.

Mary A. Livermore, aged seventy, tells a little joke which will bear repeating. "About four years ago," says she, "I was at a little gathering of people in which were Dr. Holmes and Mr. Whittier. They began to talk about ages, and Dr. Whittier and Dr. Holmes confessed to almost eighty. 'By the way,' said Whittier to me, 'you have not said how old you are.' I was then approaching sixty-seven, and when I told them Whittier said: 'Get thee along. Thou art but a giddy girl.'"

Cohasset, Mass., boasts a school-marm who has taught in the same school-room in that town for seventy-two consecutive terms. Almost every man and woman in the village has been to school to her. She is now taking her first vacation.

Annie Besant, who is in London again, has made the mistake of announcing that she prefers American to English audiences. Commenting upon this, an English periodical remarks, suggestively: "The explanation is simple. In Mrs. Besant's case the American audiences were the larger."

HOME JOURNAL, \$1 per year.

# NELSON,

Kootenay District.

## J. P. DAVIES & CO.

### AUCTIONEERS,

Will sell at salesroom, Wharf street  
Victoria.

## Tuesday, Feb. 16,

At noon a number of town  
lots in

### SUBDIVISIONS

## 58 A & 182, Group 1,

Of the net proceeds, Ten Thousand  
Dollars will be expended in im-  
provement on this property.

# NELSON,

The distributing point for the great SILVER KING and other valuable mines on TOAD MOUNTAIN. Distant only EIGHT MILES by wagon road. The Terminus and Headquarters of the COLUMBIA KOOTENAY RAILWAY, connecting NELSON with the COLUMBIA RIVER. The NATURAL DISTRIBUTING point for any road connecting with the American system of railways to the South. The COMMERCIAL CENTRE of the GREAT KOOTENAY DISTRICT. The Bank of Montreal has now established an agency at Nelson. The Bank of British Columbia has announced that it will open a branch early in the Spring. A most comprehensive map of the Kootenay country, containing full particulars, will be ready on February 1, 1892, for free distribution.

TERMS LIBERAL.

## Joshua Davies,

AUCTIONEER.



THE Imperial theatre will re-open, as originally announced, on the evening of Feb. 8th. During the time this theatre has been closed, Manager Ward has been corresponding with well-known specialty people, and has at last succeeded in securing a company of artists which will be a credit to his house. This popular place of amusement will be conducted on the same lines as the high class musee-theatres throughout the east and Europe, and every novelty which will please and amuse the people will be found on the Imperial stage. Changes will be made from time to time, so that the public can rest assured that they will always find something new at the Imperial. Manager Ward has secured for the opening week a list of attractions that will be sure to bring in the shekels, as well as add to the already wide-spread popularity of his house.

The many friends of Thomas Finlay were agreeably surprised when he appeared before them as a member of the Katie Putnam Co., in a leading role, during their short engagement here. Tom is making remarkable progress in his adopted profession, and will probably visit this city again, with a new company, after closing his season with Miss Putnam in Chicago on May 30.

On Thursday evening next Rice's Victoria Stock company will begin their engagement at The Victoria. The members of the new company are now here and rehearsals have begun. The opening play will be "Queenie," which by the way was seen here when Grace Hawthorne opened The Victoria.

The leading lady of the company is Miss Esther Lyons, of New York. Miss Lyons has starred for several seasons, and has received favorable notices from the eastern papers as to her ability as an actress. She is said to be a good dresser, and possesses an elaborate wardrobe. Lorimer Johnstone, the lead-

ing man, is also a New York man; but has been on the coast for some time. He has starred at the Alcazar, San Francisco, and also at the People's in Denver. Mr. Johnstone possesses a good voice, and is said to be a first-class man in every respect. Belle Inman, the accomplished soubrette, has been engaged by Mr. Rice. She is already well and favorably known in this city. Miss Inman has been connected with Cordray's Seattle Theatre for some time, and has, figuratively speaking, "turned the heads" of the people of that city. She

leading theatres of San Francisco, and is a hard-working actor. Mr. Lloyd is a gentleman of excellent physique, and is very popular with that portion of an audience which admires a handsome man. Messrs. James Morden and Eugene Kay are the character men, and are well up in their business. Lyola O'Connor, leading juvenile lady, has spent most of her professional life in eastern theatres, and a short time since she played a most successful engagement at Halifax, N. S. Miss Annie Inman, character woman, is from Chicago, and has played with



GEORGE BERRY.

is a decidedly good-looking lady, and has played parts with first-class companies throughout the east. She has starred for several seasons, and is popular wherever she is known. George Berry, the heavy man, has been stage manager at Cordray's Seattle and Portland theatres, and comes here well recommended. Mr. Berry is said to be a realistic actor, and commands a big salary wherever engaged. Of course everyone knows Sam Morris, the comedian. Sam's efforts in the direction of making people laugh have been more than once appreciated in Victoria. Mr. Morris is well known all along the coast and does not need an introduction to a Victoria audience. Mr. Edwin F. Lloyd, juvenile man, is from the

the best companies of that city. Little Annie Inman is one of the greatest child actresses on the stage. During this little girl's engagement at Seattle she received many presents from friends. Miss De Forrest plays juveniles and characters, and has been seen in this city before. Altogether the company is considered a good one, and will doubtless receive a favorable reception in this city.

The Imperial Stock Company opened at Vancouver last Thursday night, in Camille. The company will play one week at Vancouver and from there they will go to Nanaimo. They expect to reach Winnipeg in the course of a few weeks, where they will reproduce

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the plays which in the hands of this excellent company were so popular here.

## AT THE VICTORIA.

Sport McAllister.  
Bella Golden.  
Hanlon's Superba,  
Corinne Opera Company.  
Spider and the Fly.  
Casino Opera Company.  
Frank Daniels.  
Modjeska.  
Cora Tanner.  
Frederick Warde.  
Thatcher's Minstrels.  
Two Johns.  
Blue Jeans.  
Nat Goodwin.  
W. H. Crane.  
Kate Claxton.  
Ole Olson.  
Carl Johnson.  
Fast Mail.  
Natural Gas.  
Cruiskeen Lawn.  
McCarthy's Mishaps.  
Marie Hubert Frohman.  
Sol Smith Russell.  
Nellie McHenry.  
The Stowaway.  
Still Alarm.  
Margaret Mather.  
Frohman's Junior Partner Company.  
Joe Murphy.  
Yon Yonson.  
Brady's After Dark.

## AT THE VANCOUVER OPERA HOUSE.

Nanaimo Amateurs—Feb. 10.  
Sport McAllister—20.  
Hanlon's Superba—April 4 and 5.  
Frederick Warde—11, 12 and 13.  
Ole Olsen—15.  
Spider and Fly—18 and 19.  
Corinne Opera Company—20 and 21.  
Marie Wainwright—May 9 and 10.  
Frod Daniels—11 and 14.  
Cora Tanner—27 and 28.  
Lillian Lewis—June 1 and 2.  
Thatcher's Minstrels—10 and 11.  
Rhea—16 and 17.  
Two Johns—22 and 23.  
Natural Gas—July 20 and 21.

## HE HAD HIS PRICE.

Some men are blessed with a rare faculty of escaping the wrath of offended dignity. A Helena man was furiously accused of being a liar, his angry assailant exclaiming:

"You would tell a lie any time for twenty-five cents.

"I would not, sir," rejoined the Helena man with some spirit. I esteem my honor above everything I hold dear in this world. I would not."

At this juncture he saw his assailant get ready to strike from the shoulder, and he added:

"I would not tell one lie for a quarter, but am willing to tell four for a dollar."

A bottle of Kessler's nickel-plated champagne took the place of the fight.—Helena Journal.

## MUSIC.



There is an interesting review of "English Music in 1891" in the Illustrated London News. The writer points out that the musical harvest last year was not a particularly rich one. Such men as Frederick Cowen, Goring Tomas, and Hamish MacCunn did nothing more than bring out a few songs. Yet it was well known that each was more or less busily engaged upon a grand opera, while Mr. MacCunn was also writing his dramatic cantata "Queen Hynde of Caledon," which is to be produced at Glasgow towards the end of this month. Dr. A. C. Mackenzie's only production was "Veni, Creator Spiritus," and a "De Profundis" was the sole publication of Dr. Hubert Parry. "Ivanhoe" was undoubtedly the best work of the season, and Sir Arthur Sullivan can lay claim to the most brilliant triumph of the year, not excepting even the run of forty odd nights attained at the Shaftesbury theatre by Pietro Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana." "Ivanhoe" ran 160 nights, achieving a "best on record" in the annals of serious opera. Of choral music produced in '91, Villieres Stanford is to the fore with his oratorio "Eden" and his ballad "The Battle of the Baltic." A work of decided promise was Arthur Somervell's Mass in C minor. There were very few additions to the library of instrumental works, and nothing of very great interest or importance.

Rehearsals are being held every Monday night by the ladies and gentlemen who contemplate the early production of "Patience."

The cast is said to be a superior one, the places of those who took part in the original production of this opera having been strengthened considerably.

A very pleasing musicale was given at the Conservatory of Music Friday night of last week. A large number of invited guests were present and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

A dealer in musical instruments in Paris has just advertised that he has an undoubted "Stradivarius" for sale, in perfect condition, and the price is \$6000. To some it appears a fabulous fiddle price, but recently \$5000 was given for the Stradivarius presented by his friends to Mr. Waldemar Meyer. Three thousand dollars is now commonly given for a second rate Cremona violin, and some well-made copies, made about fifty years ago by a French manufacturer, sell readily for five hundred dollars. The Rev. H. R. Haweis has a "Strad" which, if he chose to sell it, would probably fetch five thousand or more. The Rev. amateur who used once to play upon the instrument very well, now keeps it under a glass case.

"He married a musician, I believe!"

"Yes, and she gives more attention to her music than she does to his comfort."

"In other words his cake is do."

Miss Ede, who will be much missed in musical circles here, leaves to-day by the Islander for Victoria, where she will reside in future. She was an active member of St. Andrew's church choir, having a beautiful and well-trained voice, and she will be a great loss to this institution. The choir and friends have presented her with a purse of money as a small token of their esteem and regard. The Telegram joins with the choir and her friends in wishing Miss Ede a future of much happiness and prosperity.—Vancouver Telegram, Feb. 3.

## Mr. Frank Bourne

PRACTICAL PIANO TUNER. Twenty years experience. Satisfaction guaranteed. Address 89 PANDORA AVENUE.

—The highest testimonials.

Pianos selected for purchasers.

## PROVINCIAL MATTERS.

The Provincial Parliament has been formally opened, and soon the representatives of the people will be up to the neck in business. The Speech from the Throne, with which they were set to work, began with a very fitting succession of regrets on account of the death of Sir John A. Macdonald and H. R. H. the Duke of Clarence. Then came an array of congratulations upon the past year of solid prosperity and the encouraging outlook for the future. More than once commercial travelers from the East have spoken to the writer of the solid and substantial appearance of the business prosperity of this province, where they discovered none of that stringency which was apparent almost everywhere else. And why has this been? we may ask. The comparative immunity of our people from business failures may be traced to the solid way in which they have done their trade. Our people do not indulge in that "kiteflying" that is so characteristic of those who do business on paper instead of as much cash as possible—and this is much aided by the old-fashioned, though none the less excellent, system of doing business if not upon cash by current account.—"Pay cash at a specified time, and in the meantime as often as you like!"

Moreover, there are few, if any, of those objectionable concerns that are termed "supply houses" in this community, and our retailers are not given to snapping at the baits which are so persistently held out by some Eastern wholesalers to stock up to an unlimited extent upon almost the purchaser's own terms. Our industries are all flourishing, while our coal output was last year almost 50 per cent. greater than the twelve months previous. Then, as to the future, our mineral prospects are of the best. Recent developments of new ledges, both of gold and silver, have been such as to attract general attention to them; the prospect being, as mentioned elsewhere, that they will have an impetus such as they have not previously received by the influx of capital and by improved means of transportation both by water and by rail. Financially, British Columbia has established itself upon the London market on a much more advantageous basis than it ever previously occupied, and for works of real benefit to the country is not likely to be handicapped for lack of resources. The trouble, however, is frequently that too much credit for a country is quite as bad as for the individual. Witness the case of some of the Australasian and other colonies.

The land law is, we are glad to know, to undergo further amendment, in order as much as possible to preserve agricultural lands for actual settlers. Albeit every number of the *Official Gazette* contains additions to the long list of those who are grabbing for the most eligible sections of country that are yet to be disposed of. Definite action is, it would appear, to be taken this session, looking to the actual settlement of the Scottish crofters, about which so much has already been said. It would, however, be well to see that their so-called friends have not too big a hand in the pie; and that it be made impossible for speculative deals to be made out of the departure.

The Speech tells us—what everybody is

supposed to concur in—that "there is reason to anticipate an early settlement of the vexed question of our rights in Behring Sea, and we can only hope that the terms may be such as will permit of our important sealing industry being prosecuted without further obstruction." We are none too sanguine as to the outcome, which will be as little to the advantage of British Columbia as the Americans can manage to make it.—*B. C. Commercial Journal.*

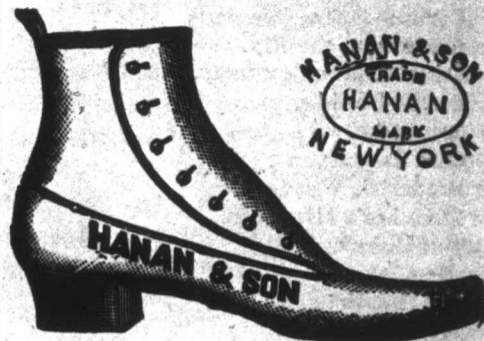
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**FIRE INSURANCE.**

Victoria has at length begun to wake up to the importance of ample fire protection. The late Council have made a necessary and not over extravagant number of recommendations to the present body elect now in council, and it only remains with the electors to see that they are supplied with sufficient funds to carry out those suggestions. The fire underwriters have urged again and again the purchase of a chemical engine, and, when we take into consideration the amount of tax they have to pay, we feel they are entitled to some attention, and it is to be hoped that the much needed engine and apparatus will be speedily secured. Its usefulness has been fully shown by the amount of loss sustained at recent fires through water, in fact, the loss at the Arcade fire would alone have purchased two such engines as are required.

Another source of danger to city property is at present troubling the minds of many who have the interests of our city at heart. We refer to the manner in which the electric wires are strung all over the city which doubtless affords the insurance companies just cause for complaint. The tramway wires have little or no protection, and some steps will have to be taken to prevent a general flare up at any time.

The insurance companies in London, Eng., now require answers to the following queries on the subject of electric light in buildings, before issuing any policies on such risks where it is used. It might be instructive to re-produce those questions here for the benefit of our readers:

1. By whom has the installation been fitted up?
2. How is the electricity generated?
3. Are incandescent or arc lights used?
4. Are the conductors insulated with india-rubber?
5. Have all the conductors sufficient sectional area to allow 100 per cent. more electricity being safely sent through them than will be required for the lights they supply?
6. Is there any ground circuit? Are gas or water pipes used as part of any circuit? Is any part of the fittings used as part of any circuit?
7. Are all fittings thoroughly insulated from earth and from gas pipes?
8. Are "cut outs" or "safety fuses" placed close to the source of supply, at the junction of every sub-main or branch with the main or sub-main? If from a high tension supply company on both primary and secondary mains? If primary or secondary batteries are used, has each regulating cell a "cut out" or "fuse"?
9. Are all switches, resistances and cut outs so placed that there is no danger of fire from heating or fusing?
10. If secondary generators, transformers or converters are used, are they placed inside the insured building, or where?

N.B.—The answers to above should be given by the electrical engineers who have fitted up the installation. In all cases the form must be signed by them.—*B. C. Commercial Journal.*

*The Home Journal is copied every week by over 100 papers in Canada and the United States.*

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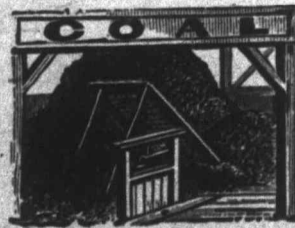
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