

# THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

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VICTORIA, B. C., JULY 22, 1893.

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## TALES OF THE TOWN.

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

IN winning the match at New Westminster last Saturday the Victoria lacrosse club appears to have been guilty of an unpardonable crime, and the aid of the strong arm of the law has been invoked to prevent a recurrence of the offense. The gentleman who feels constrained to redress this grievance is one Andrew Leamy, who is said to be deeply read in the law, and whose knowledge of Blackstone has been rewarded by the Provincial Premier by entrusting him with the preparation of Crown cases for New Westminster district. Now, it may occur to many that Mr. Leamy, the interpreter of the law, has proceeded on rather peculiar lines to manifest his usefulness in the way of working up business for the next Westminster assizes. Whether his employer will regard the arrest of Morton in this light or not remains to be seen. One thing is certain, and that is Mr. Leamy could not have struck on a better plan to earn the contempt of all lovers of the national game than the one adopted by him. I trust that the New Westminster lacrosse club has not confused the innocent game of lawn tennis with lacrosse. From what I can understand, Morton was by all means the worst used up man in the field, and Lewis, who it is claimed was wounded nigh unto death, was not half as badly bruised as the man who was arrested. It may transpire that it was something more than indignation which caused the arrest of Morton. In fact, some go so far as to attribute it to the fact that several Westminster people dropped money on the result.

On New Westminster's account, I regret exceedingly the circumstance of Morton's arrest. The club of that city has deservedly earned the reputation of playing a square game and taking their medicine, no matter in what form it was administered. If the trouble had occurred in Vancouver, I would not have given the matter a second thought; for there hoodlumism and thuggism, in their most virulent forms, are practised and encouraged under the seal and sanction of a certain newspaper, which is said to derive a considerable revenue from such sources. But that any man in New Westminster should have resorted to such unwarrantable conduct as to cause the arrest of a player and one who has submitted to the severest punishment all summer without a murmur, is certainly a matter of surprise. Mr. Lewis, the gentleman who is said to have been injured, has half-a-dozen or so scalps hanging to his belt; in fact, he has

always been noted for rough playing, as many Victoria players will testify. I understand that Mr. Lewis is opposed to the prosecution, but the fact will not relieve the club and the citizens generally from the odium which attaches to the arrest of a player for what a dozen or more are willing to prove was nothing more than an accident. If the Victoria club desires to maintain the support and respect of the citizens, they cannot play another game in Westminster. What guarantee have they that they will not all be arrested and imprisoned?

There are very few wealthy men who are not philanthropists and benefactors to a greater or less extent, according to their natures and their means. There have been some exceptions, it is true, among some of the excessively rich, but they are the exceptions which prove the rule. When a man acquires enough of the goods of this world to secure him immunity from future labor and anxiety, he generally begins to think of the wants and needs of those less fortunate, and if he is a wise man, does a great deal of good intelligently and with a freedom of ostentation. Some men are content to assist individuals and in a short time secure a long list of pensioners, who learn to look upon the largest of their benefactors as their just due.

That this kind of assistance is harmful to the individuals who receive the help, and to society as a whole, is well known, and many useful lives have been spoiled by those well-meaning lovers of their fellow men who give not wisely but too much. The other class looks upon the community and not the person. They look for collective wants; they perceive the necessity of broader and freer education; they realize the necessity for better hospitals and more skilled attendance for the sick and suffering poor; they are aware of the good accruing to the people as a whole from extensive parks and handsome buildings and desire that the riches of literature should be accessible to all as to the rich who can afford their private libraries. And these men do a great deal of good, and their good actions are appreciated. They found libraries, build churches, endow colleges, build hospitals, construct parks, encourage the love of the beautiful by establishing picture galleries, and in many other ways open to the public the avenues of education, health and æsthetic development, which since the beginning of time have been the exclusive highways of the plutocrats. But while these men deserve all praise for what they do, the question naturally arises whether they give for the love of giving and ameliorating general conditions, or

because they feel that fortune has given them more than they deserve, and their consciences prompt them to share some of their wealth with the rest of the less fortunate society. Does not a vague communistic sense, not formulated or understood, urge them to this division?

Is it genuine altruism, or justice? Is it generosity or an involuntary concession to the demands of communism? The communists demand that every man have his share of goods and property, but they want a division made on the basis of personal selfishness, and each considers himself and not his neighbors. The capitalist feels that he should give of his substance for the benefit of the rest of mankind, but he looks upon society collectively, and seeks to do the greatest good for the greatest number. The capitalist gives millions for schools, hospitals and countless other things which improve the conditions of those of the masses who are willing to take advantage of all that is freely offered, while the communist only wants to get hold of his fraction of those millions for the mere gratification of his personal desires in idleness. So it seems that the rich are actuated by motives of communism, which would not be active were it not for the inherent philanthropy which gives the material expression. Give a communist all he wants and he ceases to be a communist, but the philanthropic millionaire becomes more and more a practical communist as his wealth increases. It would seem, then, that all great charities are born of justice and that inborn love of man for his fellow; and while these two parents live extremes will diminish and rapid advance will be made towards the millennium of altruism.

Filial devotion is one of the most commendable as well as one of the most natural attributes of a youth. The child who does not love its father and mother, always providing that father and mother are worthy of the love of their child, lacks the elements of true manhood or womanhood. One of the saddest cases of the lack of this quality which has ever come to my knowledge, I heard the other day. It is of a woman who strove hard, worked night and day to rear her family, and is now thrown out on the cold world. The sons have all got work, but refuse to contribute towards the support of the mother who reared them. The poor unfortunate woman, who has been thus left to shift for herself in her old age, has, for the past year or so, been a tax on the resources of the British Columbia Benevolent Society. The president of that society has repeatedly assisted the mother, and, if it were not for his generous offerings, the mother



would probably have starved to death. In the meantime, the unnatural sons dress well, frequent the gaming tables, board at first-class restaurants and occasionally take a drive around the city behind a fast horse. My knowledge of the law is rather contracted, but I think it could be construed to apply to this one of many instances of inhumanity which exist in the city.

It has often been remarked that California could not possibly get along without its Chinese population. Especially was it pointed out that during the fruit harvest John Chinaman was almost indispensable. Recent events have demonstrated the unreliability of this statement, and, this year, in nearly all the fruit producing districts of California, women and children are found assisting in the fruit harvest. The work of peeling, slicing and preparing fruits, either for drying or canning, is well adapted to their nimble and skilful hands. They are always willing and anxious to do honest work for honest pay, and they do it without in any sense lowering themselves in their own esteem or that of any other right minded person. It is found, too, that in the packing of raisins and oranges women do as good work, if not the very best work. It is but just to the men to say, however, that women and children are seldom sent to the fields in the hot sun to gather fruit from the trees, but are carefully protected by roofs or in buildings where the aspect of outdoor drudgery does not present itself.

The skill and cleanliness with which such hands manipulate the fruit products are in marked contrast with that of many Chinese and other nationalities. The fact is that so long as the honest, self respecting women and girls of California are willing to go into the packing houses and canneries to work, fruit growers can very well dispense with the highbinder element among the Chinese, and the lazzaroni of other countries who have been heretofore too often employed to the exclusion of a good deal more desirable class of efficient American labor. Let the work of women and girls as well as of school boys be encouraged and properly rewarded and there need be no fear of the threat of the Chinese to abandon the fruit growers at harvest time.

Mrs. Mary E. Morrow, the matron of the Chinese home, writes me denying the statement contained in a late issue of THE HOME JOURNAL that she, in company with the girls of the Home, had attended a circus performance. Mrs. Morrow writes that she not only did not take the girls to the performance, but further that she has not witnessed a circus for nigh on to twenty years. I accept this correction, and, at the same time, I would add that Mrs. Morrow and her girls did not miss much by not attending the circus. It was a poor affair. In fact, it may occur to many that circuses are no longer what they used to be. Mrs. Morrow closes her note thus: "Other points in your article are equally unjust; but I will only say that I wish you knew and felt for yourself that there is a power to the Christian religion that does convert and change even Chinese women." With regard to

the latter statement, I might remark that the preponderance of evidence is strongly against the proposition of the most estimable Christian lady who presides over the destinies of the Chinese Home.

Mr. F. W. Teague, financial secretary of the Y. M. C. A., writes as follows concerning the muddle in the affairs of that institution: "I read with more than ordinary interest the very kind observations in last week's HOME JOURNAL relative to the Young Men's Christian Association of this city. I trust it may always be worthy of such hearty approval. As to the little suggestion of 'unbusinesslike methods,' I can only say that its management the last five years has been in the hands of such men as the late Hon. John Robson, A. J. McLellan, T. M. Henderson, R. P. McLennan, H. G. Waterson, J. Coltart, A. B. Erskine, J. E. Crane, W. H. Bone, R. Erskine, J. H. Baker, J. L. Beckwith and other well known business men. Whether they are worthy of the confidence of the public or not, we can only leave your readers to judge. A financial statement is presented at each annual meeting and contains a full account of all receipts and disbursements, and the treasurer, Mr. H. G. Waterson, 130½ Government street, is always pleased to open his books for the inspection of any business man or friend of the organization who may call. Your many readers will no doubt peruse with interest the article in the *Colonist* of July 19 on our work. Fearing I have already taken too much space, I will leave the Montreal building until later." In connection with Mr. Teague's letter, it should be stated that a considerable portion of the deficit has been traced back five or six years, and while many of the members are loath to attribute crookedness to one or two persons in office at that time, they believe that negligence has brought about the present condition of affairs.

The results of the several competitions amongst the architects cannot fail to be most unsatisfactory and disheartening, since fair play and rigid justice appears to have been an unknown quantity, so far, at least, as concerned those who had charge of the matter. Conditions of competition were distributed to the architects, and the different rules were laid down as being hard and fast, and the intimation was conveyed that any competitor deviating from those conditions would be immediately turned down. With these rules before them, the professional gentlemen addressed themselves to the task of preparing drawings, and in nearly every case considerable labor was expended in the effort to comply with some condition. Many of the architects were conscientious in their work, and succeeded in complying with the requirements. Their chagrin may be imagined when it was found that those who had ignored some of the strictest rules had been awarded the prize.

This is manifestly unfair, and is deserving of the strongest censure. Those who were honest enough to obey the rules were handicapped, giving those who ignored the same a decided advan-

tage. Much more could be said upon this particular competition, but I shall refrain from doing so at present, preferring to speak of the recent school competition, the outcome of which has apparently brought a hornets' nest about the heads of our respected trustees. We are told that Mr. Goddard's plan was placed second on the list, afterwards being placed third, and street gossip says that the reason Mr. Goddard was thrown out was because some of the trustees considered it wiser not to give it to him. In fact, I was told upon good authority that one of the trustees said, "We couldn't give it to Goddard."

Now, the point is, how did the trustees know whose plan No. 5 B, was? It is said that the award was originally given to this plan, but afterwards it was placed third—for what reason? If it had been chosen, why shouldn't it remain in that order? There appears to be only one solution to the question, and that is somebody opened the envelopes and found that Goddard had put in 5 B, and thereupon threw him out. Such an action is a mean and contemptible one, and from what I can learn was done because some of the Board had an axe to grind. This latter circumstance makes a great difference—at least in Victoria—but if these men are placed there for the good of the public, why can they not serve the public honestly? Can they not do justice, and leave out their little personal ends? When a public official falls so low as to break confidence reposed in him, as in the case of these competitors, it is time the community knew it, and the architects contend that their confidence has been betrayed in a most inexcusable manner. I do not go so far as to imply dishonesty, but I hope for the sake of their own reputations one or two of the trustees will explain away the apparent dishonorable motives which were at the bottom of the whole affair.

Nearly seven hundred persons participated in the excursion to Seattle under the auspices of the Victoria Knights of Pythias. I draw attention to this particular excursion for the reason that I wish to place myself on record as saying that I never attended an affair of this kind which was conducted with greater decorum or reflected more credit on the promoters. There was a noticeable absence of hoodlumism, and the officers were indefatigable in looking after the comfort of the excursionists. The reception which the visiting knights received from their Seattle brethren was a pleasing feature of the day's outing. The Uniformed Rank, to all intents and purposes, owned the city, and those outside of the order could not complain of lack of attention. Seattle people are thoroughly hospitable. This applies to the female portion of the population as well as the male. In fact, I could say a great deal in favor of the Seattle ladies, and no doubt many others could do the same.

Just now, absentee landlordism is demanding some attention in Victoria. It is claimed, with some degree of reason, that much injury is resulting from the



lack of spirit displayed by property owners who draw their rents from Victoria property and spend it in other places. Further, it is alleged that the absentee landlord does not do anything to improve his property and that many of the old shacks which disgrace our principal streets are the results of this ruinous policy. Many of these buildings endanger the safety of the public. Some are set up on piles which have long since survived their usefulness. If Victoria hopes to remain in the race for commercial supremacy, she must have these old buildings removed and new and more substantial structures should take their place.

Seattle is growing steadily, but I greatly fear that the city is over-built. Not that this is a great fault under certain conditions, but a great influx will be necessary before the buildings already completed and in progress of construction will be caught up with. Just now, there are a great many vacant houses and offices, and the prospects are that there will be more in future. The business houses complain of lack of trade; in fact the stores along the principal streets wore a rather deserted appearance. However, I think it is within the limit of possibility for the majority of us to live to see the day when Seattle shall become a great city.

"Times are hard" is the remark heard on all sides, and no doubt there is some ground for complaint. But there are many who grumble who have no reason to do so. I am convinced that if there were more optimists and fewer pessimists in the world the world would be all the better for it. We are the same in financial fears that we are in time of pestilence, when two-thirds of the cases of cholera come purely from cholera fear. We become nervous and fretful, and to worry over a difficulty, but increases the trouble, while to be cheerful and hopeful, wards off much dreaded danger. No matter if there is danger, a panic but increases it, as every one must have observed when in a frightened crowd. A cool head, clear judgment and a brave heart will often avert the danger and deliver the multitude. While in the financial world there has been some shaking of weak knees, yet there is no call whatever for a cry of unusual danger. It is only the shrinking of the timid and the tottering of the weak. The fittest will survive, as it always has done, according to Nature's law. There is any amount of money in Victoria, and the present stringency can only be temporary. Let business men keep their heads level and they need fear no disastrous termination. With a peaceful and prosperous country, it is the height of folly and absurdity to run pell-mell like sheep and bleat that the wolf is at the door of the sheepfold. Remember "half the ills we heard in life are ills because we heard them."

REBE GRANTOR

LONGEVITY OF MAN.

It was Prof. Hufeland's opinion that the limit of possible human life may be set at two hundred years—this on the general principle, says the St. Louis Republic, that

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the life of nearly all living creatures is eight times the years, months or weeks of its period of growth. That which quickly comes to maturity quickly perishes, and the earlier complete development is reached the sooner bodily decay ensues. More women reach old age than men, but more men attain remarkable longevity than women.

Horned animals are shorter lived than those without horns, fierce longer than timid, and amphibious creatures longer than those which inhabit the air. The pike will continue to live for one hundred and fifty or one hundred and seventy-five years, and the common turtle is good for at least a century. Passing up the scale of life to man and skipping the patriarchs, we find many recorded instances of extraordinary longevity.

The ancient Egyptians lived three times as long as the modern lotus eaters. Instances of surprising and authentic

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longevity among the classic Greeks and Romans are not at all rare. Pliny notes the fact that in the reign of Emperor Vespasian (73 A. D.) there were 124 men living in a limited area on the River Po who were 100 years old and upward. Three of these were 140, and seven others over 130. Cicero's wife lived to be 103, and the Roman actress Luceja played in public after she had celebrated her one hundred and twelfth birthday.

be said upon this but I shall refrain from comment, preferring to avoid competition, the apparently brought the heads of our are told that Mr. placed second on being placed third, that the reason turned out was because considered it wiser in fact, I was told that one of the couldn't give it to

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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

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SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1893.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

TEACHER—Where is the pole located? Johnnie—Poland.

THERE is a wild ry from Europe for hay. This is likely to create a boom in keep-off-the-grass signs.

PARSON REAMS is again at large. Parents should make a note of this and lock up their children and let the dog loose.

THE City Council wants a clerk for whom they will pay the extraordinary wage of \$15 per week. Economy is the motto of our city fathers.

IN detailing a certain biblical story the other day, little Johnnie spoke of "the killing of the fated calf." This comes near being an Irish "bull."

WOMAN is composed of two hundred and thirty-four bones, one hundred and eighty-nine muscles and three hundred and ninety-six pins. Fearfully and wonderfully made, and to be handled with great care to avoid scratches.

"WILLIE," said the young mother to her abject slave, "you must go to work and raise a beard right away."

"What for?" said the bewildered husband.

"To amuse the baby. His grandpa was here this afternoon and it would have done your heart good to see how the little darling did enjoy pulling the old man's whiskers. He pulled some of them clean out."

A SOCIETY has been formed in England to do away with what is called "the advertising horror." This horror consists of the frantic appeals, painted on the scenery and on prominent places, to the sluggish liver to try various brands of pills or appeals to the housewife to use Pluggly's Best Soap. The place for advertising is not on the landscape or across the face of Niagara Falls—not while the columns of THE HOME JOURNAL are still to be rented.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Dr. Robinson, of Alberni, is at the Oriental.

Miss McMullen, of Winnipeg, is a guest at the Hotel Victoria.



NOTICE.

The Paragon Oil Co. loan the Paragon oil can without charge. In no case do they sell the can, which always remains the property of the company. The company also keep the can in repair free of cost to the user. The Paragon oil can is a luxury to the home; you can fill the lamps with comfort; no waste of oil; no smell; no dirt; no trouble.

Ask your grocer for the Paragon oil can, it will cost no more than the old square can. The Paragon oil can is filled with the finest oil ever imported, and at the same price as the old square can. If your grocer does not supply you, send direct to the office.

PARAGON SAFETY OIL CO., YATES STREET.

Mr. Andrew R. Tufts, of Vancouver, was in town during the week.

Mrs. T. L. Briggs and Miss Briggs, of New Westminster, are in the city.

Mr. T. A. Cairns, assistant postmaster, has returned from a visit to his old home at Perth, Ont.

Mrs. Geo. Jay, of Sylvia street, James Bay, gave an enjoyable children's party, Wednesday afternoon.

F. W. Gurthrie and wife and H. L. Montgomery and wife, of Los Angeles, are at the Hotel Victoria.

Mr. F. Landsberg, who was recently severely scalded, is progressing nicely and will be around again shortly.

G. W. Girdlestone, Miss Girdlestone and Miss Patton, of Winnipeg, sailed by the Walla Walla on Tuesday for San Francisco.

Mr. George Gillespie, the popular manager of the Bank of British Columbia, and Mrs. Gillespie have returned from a trip to Europe.

Mrs. Jas. Helmcken entertained a large number of children, Wednesday afternoon, by giving a very pleasant picnic at Shoal Bay beach.

Mr. E. W. Matthews, late manager for R. G. Dun & Co., at Winnipeg, has entered the employ of the Canada General Electrical Co., at Winnipeg.

Mr. F. W. Nolte, optician, left Tuesday evening via the Sound, for a trip to St. Louis and other eastern cities. He will return in a month.

Dr. Xavier McPhillips, who has recently removed from Winnipeg to Vancouver, is visiting his brother, A. E. McPhillips, of McPhillips, Wooton & Barnard.

Walter Agnew, with A. McGregor & Sons, leaves for Winnipeg, next week. During his year's sojourn in Victoria, Mr. Agnew has made many friends.

Steve Jones, the popular host of the Dominion Hotel, has been making many improvements in his house of late. The diningroom of the Dominion has been

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fitted up in elegant style and is now equal to the best.

Frank C'ancy, of Seattle, was one of the persons who went to some trouble to make it pleasant for the visitors. He was untiring in his efforts to make everything agreeable for his Victoria friends, who visited Seattle last Saturday.

The camp of No. 4 Company, Garrison Artillery, at Rose Bay, was nicely decorated Thursday evening, and a large number of guests enjoyed the hospitality of the boys. A short programme of vocal and instrumental music added much to the pleasure of the evening.

The Victoria Cricket Club's annual "At Home" was held at the Mount Baker Hotel, Thursday evening. It was a very successful affair, there were nearly 300 guests present, and arrangements as carried out by the committee were about perfect for the pleasure of the guests. The Brown Richardson orchestra supplied the music.

York, Pa., is the leading town in the manufacture of rag carpet.



OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

HINTS ABOUT DRESS SILKS.

Primrose striped with pale green is a favorite in the latest gauzes.

A real Paris novelty is the new silk woven in puffed stripes alternating with flat stripes.

A new heavy silk fabric for walking gowns, in plain and glaze, is known as the "England."

Among the more recently introduced novelties are a variety of honeycomb and basket weaves.

Black satins are seeded with tiny silk spots and black silk, striped with fine lines of pale blue, attract attention.

A changeable satin may be combined with merveilleux, in shaded effect, figured with tiny stars in gold applique satin.

Satin finished peau de sole, in two changeable colors, as green and old rose, mauve and Nile, etc., is very effective in combination.

Extra widths in silk goods will be called for to make the new bell skirt. Felix is having special fabrics manufactured for this purpose, and the extra widths will certainly be called for.

Silks in changeable, ombre or other fancy effects are striped with heavy lines of satin or crossed in quadrille effects, while glaze, changeable satins show a stripe of white brocade and all-over figures of a color.

The corduroy silks, in various Oriental striped effects, and in rich and striking combinations of contrasting colors, are among the real novelties in the dress goods department. Green, gold and rose are favorite colors.

Black satin Duchesse and bengaline are looked upon as standard. A charming "harlequin" bengaline shows old rose, ecru, blue, green, yellow and tan in alternate cords; then one of a rosewood brown, and then comes a repetition of the "harlequin" stripes.

A heavy, glossy satin, figured with little set figures in plain silk which appear to be sunk in the satin surface and display three or four colors on a black or dark marine ground has been named "Vitieux." It is especially effective when used in combination with black satin.

Some magnificent brocades show a shot or changeable ground, having lace effects in a spray, serpentine stripe, set or wavy design, taken from a bit of old lace, while figured empire brocades usually show flowers, leaves and stems scattered sparingly over rich satin grounds.

LACES.

Brussels is the finest of all laces, and Belgium is the lace makers' home. In this art one-fourteenth of the city's population is engaged. Nine hundred lace schools are supported by the government and attended by children as young as five years. Brussels, like Honiton, is a pillow lace. The pattern is drawn on parchment and fixed firmly to the pillow. Pins are stuck along the outline and to them the lace is woven by crossing and twisting the threads, each of which ends in a bobbin.

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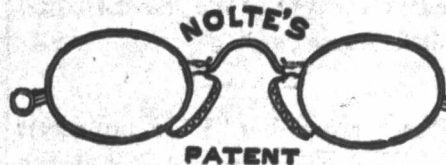
MANCHESTER HOUSE.

88 YATES STREET.

Two or three hundred bobbins are used in making lace two inches wide. A piece six inches wide uses sometimes as many as a thousand. Something in the natural surrounding of Brussels gives a ball mark that nothing else can attain, and though many other countries following the same mechanical processes have attempted to make Brussels lace the efforts have always proved failures. Point Duchesse is made by Bruges. Flanders makes the best Valenciennes, which is a pillow lace. Point d'Alencon is next to Brussels and is made with a needle. Spanish point, up to the suppression of the monasteries in 1830, was so much used by the churches that the world knew but little of it. The black and white silk laces sold in our stores are machine products, coming mostly from Lyons. The silk "Spanish lace" made by the peasant women of Spain and Portugal differs greatly from that used by us. A million lace workers find employment, notwithstanding the immense sales machine laces find. About 1847 lace making was revived in Ireland. Limerick, the most popular Irish lace, is tabour work upon net and muslin, and Irish point is made in exactly the same way. Lace making in America is only in the commencement of its career, although America can claim the only lace tree yet discovered. This is the lace tree of Jamaica, whose inner bark can be separated into layers of an exquisite mesh. Queen Victoria was presented with a dress of this from the people of that colony.

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

NEW.



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K O D A K



## A NICE GIRL'S CONFESSIONS.

I DO NOT desire it to be understood that there are no advantages connected with being a "nice girl." For nearly ten years—or to be absolutely correct, nine years and ten months, I have been a governess. It may have been natural inclinations or it may have been reverse of fortune that reduced me to it; that, of course, is my own affair, and personal experience has taught me the wisdom of being the sole custodian of my own secrets. But speaking of the advantages of my position, I candidly believe that the prosaic existence of a governess offers an unprecedented field for observation. To whom can Mrs. Cheerful confide that little *affaire du coeur*, which occurred now so many, many summers ago, but to her discreet governess? It is scarcely to be expected that a woman is going to tell her husband that once upon a time she confessed to Tom Jones that life without him would be a bleak, barren, malarial waste. Oh, no, the well-nursed and carefully watered little secret is reserved for the ever-willing ears of the "nice" girl, who smiles and says: "We have all had our little romances."

Please, remember, I do not assert that every married woman loved her Tom Jones, but I am convinced, and I think many of my married female friends will share my belief that not a few at some time or other in the happy days gone by worshipped at the shrine of Tom. The women who cannot boast of a proposal from some one other than the man they afterwards married are not numerous. This does not apply altogether to married women, for I know of one young lady who claims to have a dozen hearts hanging at her belt. When she was posing for her last one—she became absent-minded—even the best of us will be off our guard sometimes—and as the lover toyfully played with her yellow hair and inquired, "How do you know that you love me?" she replied, "Well I guess I know my business."

After all, I do not see why even the most exacting husband should object to the wife of his bosom now and then unveiling the past and contemplating

the pleasure of an early love. A recent writer, who has philosophized exhaustively the subject of love, computes that unrequited the extreme duration of the passion cannot exceed five years. He speaks with special reference to men, with whom, indeed, he demonstrates somewhat unnecessarily that such a thing as an only and engrossing love, to the exclusion of all lesser fancies in life, is by no means the rule. Goethe and Heine (theoretically) believed, to be sure, that first love only was the genuine passion that a man could love but once in a lifetime in the best way. How far their practical sentiments accorded with this high idealistic abstraction is matter of history. Other men of genius have loved multitudincously without much distinction as to which was the best and the only true passion, the first or the fifty-first. What confesseth a Spanish poet? "I loved once, twice, many times. The heart is a fountain whose waters ne'er run dry."

History and that consensus of public opinion which crystallizes in fiction seems to say that man chiefly suffers. A certain monarch who knew the gentle sex well (having foregone no opportunity to study it) wrote, to be sure with the indelible impress of a diamond on a frame, the immortal words: "Fickle is woman. A fool he who trusts her." Nevertheless and despite the poets, who found it more picturesque to bewail the infidelities of their mistresses rather than their own, there has ever been a feeling that if constancy were at a premium women would be leaders in the race. Men, at the bottom of their hearts, have always had this belief. They may say that women are not to be depended on. But it is not woman that is such a very uncertain quantity in man's mind after all. It is man himself.

—But are women more constant than men? Sad as it may be to dispel any illusion still afoot in this unstable world, it must be said that they are only more constant where circumstance, occasion, hemming them around, make them so, although I know of an instance right here in Victoria where a woman suffered years of untold torture. She had been bewitched into a marriage unsuitable with a fascinating villain, and pre-

ferred to endure her torture rather than acknowledge her mistake. Again if women love fewer men in the course of their life than men love women, have they the same opportunities of choice, the same freedom to look, to seek, to cultivate acquaintances of the opposite sex that promise unusual charm? Let us be impartial. Let us be just. All experience is against the myth of constancy in love. And were they as independent as men, women would be no more constant than they.

## A NICE GIRL.

(Written for THE HOME JOURNAL.)  
ESSAYS ON THE STAGE.

BY SAMUEL MOORE, B. A.

*First Rise of Drama.*

The theatre is an historic institution dating back to the primitive days of social activity in Greece.

The drama of the Greeks (which is the oldest) arose in prehistoric times and was connected with the religious worship of the people.

The Grecian divinities were the recipients of gratitude and veneration, and this was represented in some form of dramatic poetry.

Theatrical performances were a constituent part of their religious festivals, and, at these festivals, music and dancing formed the basis of their political and religious life. Some of the dramatic pieces in the classic authors contain specimens or snatches of moral teaching.

In so far as the plays portrayed the nobler sentiments of human character, in the same degree was the moral influence good. The Romans copied from the Greeks, in the way of dramatic art. The French stage was modelled very closely after both the Roman and the Grecian, and the unities time, place and action were rigidly observed.

The English drama is the Greek drama in an English dress without the religious element of the Greeks.

The dramatic bearing of the ancient classics was transferred by the Renaissance to England, where it revived and was fostered by the university wits, Marlowe, Peele, Nash, etc.

The English drama, like the Greek drama, was divided into two parts, viz., comedy and tragedy, and both are well



represented in our English literature, *vide*, writings of Shakespeare.

The drama is connected with action, and many of the theatrical pieces reflect the times in which they were written, such as the writings of the above dramatist and poet, which contain many historical references, *vide*, Merchant of Venice and Julius Caesar of William Shakespeare.

#### *Influences of Drama.*

Dramatic performances may be defined as a systematic representation of life, and the object of which is to give instruction and pleasure to the audience.

The function of the English drama is to give pleasure to individuals who have different tastes.

In ancient time and in the middle ages, dramatic art was closely associated with religious instruction, and it cannot be doubted but that many sublime lessons in morality were taught the people by such theatrical representation as to the miracle and mystery plays of the middle ages, which explained many scriptural stories and biographical sketches of character to the people generally.

At the present time, the drama is an entertainment for the purpose of giving pleasure. When the piece is ethically pure, moral lessons are often inculcated.

It is natural for individuals to mimic human gesture and speech. It is noticeable in pedagogy that "the early lessons in language are caught—not taught." Children acquire the accents and gestures of their intimate associates very readily.

All this shows us clearly that if the stage was properly conducted, it might become productive of much good to the community, but owing to the present bad management, the majority of our orthodox thinkers would be inclined to say that the influences of the stage have an immoral tendency.

It is said that many of the dramatic pieces presented nowadays contain little moral teaching, and, in some cases, the plays are morally impure. Again, the style of dress such as is seen on the nauseating placards and the clouds of suspicion which hang over the moral characters of the actors and actresses do not tend to produce a healthy moral tone or exercise an ethical influence on the audience. Moreover, from the standpoint of

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political economy, it is scarcely fair to class the modern stage players with those who are truly productive laborers, such as the farmer, merchant or teacher. The influence of the stage is certainly very great educationally, but its moral influence is not ethically praiseworthy.

If our nineteenth century stage would present masterpieces in literature, having a high moral tone, then it would be performing a noble educational work, but alas, too often there is little in the modern drama that has a refining influence on the audience, or any lessons in ethics that help people to live the higher life.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

The Toronto Ideal Concert Company did not receive the patronage that the merit of the entertainment deserved.

O'Dowd's Neighbors, an operatic comedy which has convulsed San Francisco theatre-goers with laughter, comes to The Victoria, Wednesday, July 16. The company has been selected to present the musical selections in the most artistic manner.

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