

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

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TALES OF THE TOWN.

THERE is every reason to believe that Summer is close at hand, and, while I rejoice over the fact, still my joy is tempered with sadness when I think of what Summer brings with it. It brings, among other things, the sailor-hat craze. Now, I am very fond of the sailor hat and I firmly believe that no self-respecting girl can get through the season without one, but I cannot understand why nearly every gray-haired old woman should perch one over her wrinkles. The contrast between the youthful, jaunty hat and the face beneath it is altogether too startling, isn't it? But they will do it.

Then there is the girl with big feet, who persists in wearing scarlet shoes, which make them look like mammoth blisters. Another feature of the season is the fat woman in the shirt-waist and blazer. Is there no law to prevent women from making guys of themselves? Why is it that the woman with a complexion like a robust milkmaid always wears red and lavender? Why is it that the woman with a short neck always wears a thick feather boa? Why is it that the girl with red elbows always short sleeves? Why is it that the stout woman wears a Russian blouse? Nobody knows that I know of. Do you?

For the information and entertainment of Hon. Marmaduke Wood, who is now, or was a few days ago, within our gates, I would say that the London Official Gazette has advertised his friend, the Earl of Clancarty, as a debtor who will not pay his bills. The advertiser is Sam Lewis, the famous bill-broker. Much of the money which His Lordship squandered upon Belle Bilton, who is now the Countess of Clancarty, was borrowed from Lewis. After vainly trying to serve his debtor Lewis now advertises in the Gazette as the legal alternative for personal service. He also announces that on a certain date he will apply to have the Earl declared a bankrupt unless he

settles in the meantime. The only chance for Clancarty to settle is to hand over to Sam Lewis the right to collect the meagre income which the former receives from the entailed property, and in the event of being declared a bankrupt he will also be deprived of this slender resource. This will leave the Earl penniless, and he will then have nothing to live on but the earnings of his wife. It is rumored that efforts are being made by aristocratic connections to have Clancarty appointed to some distant foreign post of little responsibility, which requires no exertion, as Clancarty is incapable of either. This would rid the aristocracy of the presence of the Countess of Clancarty. Should an effort be made to banish Clancarty by an official appointment abroad it is believed that the Countess, who is capable of earning considerable money on the stage in Great Britain, would object and keep the Earl at home.

Every sensible young man naturally enough looks forward to the time when he shall have a home of his own. He may well ask, in view of the frequent divorces and tragedies: Is domestic happiness a piece of sheer good luck? Is marriage a lottery in which only a few draw prizes? No, assuredly not. It is rather like a great university, where all share in the advantages offered according to their individual fitness and conduct. The family is a noble institution, but not all who enter its portals are in a condition to profit by this sacred relationship. Only those who are themselves virtuous can appreciate the sweet amenities and share in the unselfish love that go to make up the true home. The libertine cannot appreciate the music there is in the prattle of children, nor will he have the same tender regard for his wife that he would have felt had he always lived a chaste life. When only those who have a supreme affection for each other are married, no really unhappy marriages will occur. "When

once we have tasted the fruits of the upper Paradise, the lower becomes ashes to our lips." Other things being equal, it is always the man who during his bachelor days lived a chaste life that will be the happiest as a husband and father. I make these remarks in view of the startling revelations that have been made during the past few days, and which a paper conducted on the lines of THE HOME JOURNAL cannot discuss more minutely.

As illustrating how simple it is to be deceived in the value of diamonds, I might say that the thief, Ellis, who stole the diamond at Snobomish, went into a pawnshop in this city, and all the proprietor offered him on the stone was a dollar. As he was about to leave the shop Isaac offered him \$5, then \$10, and at last \$15; but this was as high as he would go. However, Ellis brought the ring to Uncle Aaronson, who loaned him two-thirds its value; all of which goes to show that Aaronson knows a diamond when he sees it.

A. A. AA. was a diamond expert in London, and from him I learn the following concerning the product and distribution of diamonds:—The Americans are the finest judges of diamonds in the world, and insist upon having the finest stones and the most perfect fitting. It is estimated that they will take three million pounds worth this year. India furnishes a market for large numbers of white stones, as well as for yellow or colored diamonds, or stones with flaws or specks in them. The natives invest their savings in them and in other precious gems as we do in stocks and shares. Russia's fancy is for large yellow diamonds. China is becoming a buyer, for very recently the Empress has broken through the old custom which prohibited women from wearing diamonds in her country. She could not resist the beauty of a superb diamond necklace presented to her. She wore it at court and set the fashion. Japan is also rapidly becoming a considerable consumer. With the opening

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UGLAS STREET

up of the world by railway and steamship communication the demand for diamonds has increased marvellously. The world now purchases about five million pounds worth per annum. Twenty years ago it was about half a million sterling.

The visit to our city on Thursday of the Seattle High School pupils and their friends must have convinced many that the residents of our neighboring city need not be ashamed of the rising generation, at least in so far as good looks are concerned. It is seldom a large party of prettier girls and as well-behaved young men can be gathered together, and we congratulate the Seattleites on their offspring. This event gives me an opportunity of introducing a subject which has occurred to me on several occasions. That is the matter of mental over-pressure.

The capacity of the child, the number and nature of the studies, and especially the length of the recitations, are features which ought not to be overlooked or be left to the discretion of educators. That much can be gained by experimental study of over-pressure is shown by a paper read by Dr. Bergenstein, of Vienna, before the Congress of Hygiene in London, upon "The Working Curve of an Hour." The writer had for his object the study of the mental power children, and he arranged his experiments with a view to demonstrating the fluctuations of brain power in children during one hour's occupation with a familiar subject. Simple addition and multiplication sums were given to two classes of girls, of an average age of eleven years and eleven months and ten months, and two classes of boys, of the average age of twelve years and two months and thirteen years and one month. After ten minutes' work the sums were taken away from the children; after a pause of ten minutes the work was resumed, the alternation continuing for an hour, so that there were three periods of work.

The results were interesting. During the whole experiment the 162 children worked out 135,010 figures, making 6,504 mistakes. It was found that the number of mistakes increased in the different periods, and that during the third period the quality of work was at the lowest. The general result showed,

according to the investigator, that "children of the ages stated become fatigued in three-quarters of an hour; that the organic material is gradually exhausted; that the power of work gradually diminishes to a certain point during the third quarter of the hour, returning with renewed force at the fourth quarter." The recommendation was made that no school lesson should last longer than three-quarters of an hour, and should be followed by a quarter of an hour's rest. Such a study is of especial benefit at the beginning of the school year. Children are often reprimanded for inattention when they are over-fatigued, and are spurred forward when their minds need rest. Mental over-pressure is the usual result.

Recent developments in connection with the Vancouver-Victoria lacrosse match have not changed the opinions of those most interested as to what should constitute the membership of an amateur club. The knowing ones claim that they have sufficient evidence to justify the action of the executive committee of the Victoria lacrosse club in suspending members of their team in the last match, and I really hope they will have proof sufficient to expel any or all who may be implicated. Certain well-known "sports," who roost not 100 miles from Yates street (north and south), are accused of "putting up the job," and the lacrosse club feel confident that they will be able to locate the guilty parties and expose the whole matter before the season is over.

The club has no sympathy with the men who lost their money on the game, because the rules strictly forbid betting by members; but for the honor and reputation of those who are innocent the club feels itself in duty bound to sift the affair to the bottom. They will leave no stone unturned to accomplish that end. The public should not be too hasty, and expect an immediate verdict, as these things are generally pretty well covered up by the guilty persons, and it is difficult to produce proof. If the club's suspicions are found to be correct, the players who "sold out" will be expelled from the Provincial Association, which will prevent them from playing on any team in Canada.

Are there any flies on Victoria? Not

that anybody knows about, of course. But still there are some kinds of vermin about which could very well be dispensed with. This city has long enjoyed the reputation of cleanliness and decency, and has always been known as a place particularly free from those parasites which live on the natural and vigorous growths of others. No city of the same size on the coast can show as clean a record regarding saloons, despite the fact that a certain "crusading" element has "crusaded" and discovered that, even if the town was not perfect, it was head and shoulders above its neighbors as regards obedience to ordinances and general propriety and decorum. But there are some things here which at any cost should be preserved in oil, or kept in some manner in a state of innocuous desuetude. Gamblers, as gamblers' have to be endured, but they form a class by themselves and can be avoided, for they are known to all, and one does not have to visit their resorts or associate with them unless so inclined. In brief, there are in our midst a class of men who do not belong to the gambling fraternity, but who in a greater degree menace the laws and well-being of the community. I am pleased to hear that an exposure of these men and their tricks will take place before long.

I observe that the Republican Convention at Minneapolis reaffirms its belief in the Monroe doctrine, by which, as the New York Sun would say, "Canadians would possess all the liberties that are the inheritance of the people of the United States." I have often wondered what constitutes the much-talked-of liberty of our neighbors over the way. Is lynch law a part of it? The Toronto Empire inquires: Is it to shoot down helpless negroes at will, and divorce at pleasure and marry as often as we please? The freedom of our constitution and the manner in which the opinions of the people act and re-act upon our legislation is a most wonderful evidence of popular freedom and of the power of the people.

PERE GRINATOR.

Subscribe for THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL. During the month of May nearly 400 hundred subscribers were added to the constantly increasing list.

PICKED UP AT RANDOM.

SPEAKING of the so-called disturbing speech which the British Prime Minister lately delivered, Mr. John J. Macdonald, the well-known contractor and President of the Temiscouata Railway Company, who has just returned from a trip to Great Britain and the continent, gave a Toronto Empire reporter a most interesting reminiscence of his social relations with Canada's lamented Premier, Sir John Macdonald. "Some three years before the late Premier's death I was out boating with him at Riviere du Loup, and the conversation turned upon Great Britain's trade policy. Sir John, who was in constant communication with the party leader in England, made this remark: 'England will in the near future adopt to a certain extent a protective policy. It will not come in my time, but the Conservative leaders of Great Britain will sooner or later advocate the change.' The old man's words were prophetic, were they not?" concluded Mr. Macdonald, who repeated Sir John's closing remark: "If Canada will have patience and stick to the British flag, she will become the first nation on the American continent."

Wealthy ladies who assemble at evening parties and soirees in magnificent costumes covered with fine pearls know little or absolutely nothing, perhaps, about the many dangers encountered in gathering these pearls from the sea, remarked J. G. Danvers, of London, Eng., recently. "I was on a trip along the coast of Zanzibar, Africa, a year ago, when I learned that sea pearl fishing is not a trade for men of weak hearts to follow. The pearls are gathered at the bottom of the sea by divers.

"The reason a man with a weak heart is not fit for the work is because the stopped breath and the pressure of 90 feet of sea water, with its weight of 62 pounds to the cubic foot, will bring on palpitation of the heart and burst the weaker vessels, causing distressing and often dangerous hemorrhages. But the divers are all stalwart savages, in such rugged health that the physical danger never occurs to them. Two dangers constantly menace the divers. Wherever the oyster grows there also thrives the giant tridachna, a monstrous

bivalve whose shell is from four to six feet in length, firmly anchored to the bottom.

"It lies with its scalloped shells yawning a foot or more apart. Immediately anything touches it the shells snap together, and once these large shells are closed not a dozen men out of water could get them apart, far less the single diver, fifteen fathoms deep, who may have dropped into the capacious mouth or may carelessly have put his hand within its shells while groping in the gloom.

"If such a fate befall a diver there is only one thing for him to do, and that is to amputate himself from the enormous mollusk and rise to the surface, fainting, bloody and mangled. The savages will fight anything from a lion to a python on land, but they haven't the courage to run against a bivalve under ninety feet of water and stand the chance of those yawning shells closing in on an arm or a leg and crushing the bones to splinters.

"If the monstrous mollusk should close down and catch the diver's head, of course he would never know what killed him. His head would be mashed to a pulp, and it would go off as if severed by a guillotine. I saw only one native who had been caught by the mollusk. It had closed down on his left hand and the only thing he could do, as the monster held him, was to cut off the left arm at the elbow."

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

TWO LOTS—Victoria West, with two houses 120 feet x 130, corner, all fenced, \$4000.

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

CRAIGFLOWER ROAD—Lot 120x80, small, new house, \$700, corner lot.

SOOKE DISTRICT—117 acres on the water front, close to railway terminus, \$1,200.

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 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.

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.

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 50 acres nearly so, facing salt water, \$6,500.

EARL STREET—Two 1-acre lots, \$800 each, partly fenced, well situated. Also one acre of land with house and improvements—\$3,200. Terms easy.

BELMOT AVENUE—One lot, beautifully situated, \$600; also one lot, \$550.

FERNWOOD ROAD and Johnson Street—A fine 3-story dwelling containing 8 rooms, closets, hot and cold water, \$3,600.

VICTORIA WEST—A new 5-roomed house on front street, fine, airy situation, \$1,200.

FAIRFIELD ESTATE—Dwelling house, seven rooms, rented at \$14 per month, \$1,300.

LAKE DISTRICT—6 acres partly cleared, situated near tram line, \$2,100.

CONSTANCE COVE—About one acre of land fronting on salt water, \$2,500. \$500 cash.

BEACON HILL—Beautiful house and lot, every convenience, 8 rooms, \$4,200.

PINE ST., Victoria West—Very good lot cleared, \$525.

ALBERNI, B. C.—152 acres of beautiful land, barn, stables and everything complete, capable of being made into a first class home for right party, \$3,200.

POWDERLEY AVENUE—Lot 21 113x118x120, \$525.

VICTORIA WEST—One house to sell, 5-rooms, bath and pantry, hot and cold water laid on all over the house, \$1,500 very easy terms. Two houses to let, \$12 and \$16 per month, respectively.

PINE ST., Victoria West.—Lot 60x150, fenced, cleared, small house (new), water laid on, \$1,200. Very easy terms.

OAK BAY AVENUE—2 lots 60x120, \$500 each.

ALFRED STREET—One lot, 30x175, \$175.

OAK BAY, Water Front—Large lot, 60 feet front on road and about 120 feet on water, \$1,000.

CADBORO BAY ROAD—Lot, 40x120, \$450.

CADBORO BAY ROAD—Two 7-room houses very easy terms, \$4,200.

CHAMBERS ST., cor. North Park St.—3 lots, \$2,650.

CHATHAM ST., cor. Stanley Avenue—Two beautiful lots, 108x120, \$2,000.

VICTORIA WEST, Powderley Avenue—A fine lot, 60x120, \$325. \$75 cash.

ESQUIMALT DISTRICT—100 acres excellent timber, all good land, no rock, adjoining Public School, \$3,000.

METCHOSIN DISTRICT—102 acres land, 4 acres cleared, 40 acres slashed, two log houses, two rooms each, \$30 per acre.

House of 5 rooms, bath and pantry, \$1,400. \$18 per month.

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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL,
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1892.

BOGUSBURG BUGLER BLASTS.

From the Bogusburg Bugler.

In order to encourage the sales of Bogusburg lots, each man purchasing a cigar from the syndicate will receive as a bonus a deed to a Bogusburg lot.

Among other things which the Natural History Society discovered while dredging Esquimalt harbor for marine curiosities, was the remains of the Bogusburg boom.

The assets of the merchant prince now doing business in Bogusburg, it is said by some, will run up as high as \$3.18. On the first day he opened up, he sold a pair of jean pants to an Indian.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

The egotist is in most cases the man who has the least reason to be one.

The desire for social supremacy is one of the most pitiable weaknesses in human nature.

The worst epitaph is this: He meant well. The deadliest praise: He is nobody's enemy but his own.

With nations as with individuals, there comes a time when the duty of allegiance may terminate, and the right of revolution begins.

Italy is now tasting all the bitterness of financial distress. Disarmament or bankruptcy constitute the two horns of the dilemma which King Humbert must face.

Doctor—Well, my friend, what seems to be the matter with you?

Grogan—Shure, docther, there's somethin' the matter with me jaw; I can't domesticate me food.

Before the introduction of iron tools, the making of a canoe was a

work of enormous difficulty. The hatchets used were of stone and the chisels were of mussel shells ground to a sharp edge.

It is said that President Van Horne has decided to have a store in the Vancouver Opera House block fitted up as a Japanese tea garden in which the waiters will be real geisha girls.

Many natives of Japan, it is said, are having the slant in their eyelids corrected by a slight surgical operation. The Japs are the most progressive of all the Oriental nations. Some day they will begin raising English side-whiskers and adopt American slang.

New York has a guest just arrived from Rome and acknowledges that he is "a fugitive from Rome," and has doubtless left there for Rome's good. He candidly tells a reporter of the Recorder: "I am here to make propaganda for my cause. My principle is the abolition of private property, of capitalism and government, which are all one—namely, the enemy of true civilization." He should be shipped home by the first boat with a notice to stay there.

The Vancouver Telegram, the mouthpiece of the royal family in this province, is free to confess that it does not approve of the title Duke of York being conferred upon the heir-apparent. The Telegram would have preferred to see the young prince remain plain, everyday Prince George and nothing more. We merely draw attention to this fact as showing the fallacy of the generally entertained belief that the Telegram people are consulted about everything that takes place around the court.

What interesting reading there must be in the notebook of that Washington detective who followed a bridal couple around the first week of the honeymoon under the impression that the young husband was Austin Corbin's absconding bank clerk! Think of a pair of cruelly watchful eyes noting every surreptitious pressure of the hands and every stolen caress which made bright the spring days the young couple were idling away! Who shall devise a punishment heavy enough to meet the requirements of this prying detective's case?

John is pouting. Deep down beneath the impenetrable mask of the stolid Asiatic peasant is a pride of race which has been deeply wounded. It is dimly dawning upon John that the Caucasian whom he inwardly despises has told him to pay \$50, or "get out." As he seeks the reason for this—pouting meantime most tremendously—he discovers that he is not wanted because he comes here to get and carry away, and not to contribute anything to the general wealth. He is neither useful as a citizen, nor as an investor of moneys, nor as anything save a laborer. Alien and pagan, he is marked "N. G. Return to China."

Is it not strange that we do not hear indignant protests from German citizens against the singular action of the Emperor in openly praising and promoting a sentinel who had killed one civilian and wounded another in time of peace? The press does not dare to speak out, and no private citizen wishes to be prosecuted for resenting this brutal slap in the face given by the "young War Lord" to the civilians. But such actions sometimes prompt tens of thousands of people to rise as one man, and if Germans should so rise Emperor Wilhelm would learn that there are bounds beyond which even a Kaiser cannot go. This little incident will immensely widen the breach between the civil and military party. It is one step further toward revolution.

A SHOEMAKER'S COURTSHIP.

A certain shoemaker in Melbourne, Australia, seriously thinks of indicting a well-to-do family for getting boots mended under false pretenses. He had fallen in love with one Mary Jane, a domestic servant, and he used to mend that fair enslaver's boots gratis. Mary Jane's mistress knew of his existence—in fact, she had met him in the kitchen, and been introduced to him when he was cornered and couldn't get away in time, and she also knew of the boot arrangement. After this introduction, the bootmaking youth found that Mary Jane's shoes came round to be repaired a good deal oftener than before, but he suspected no evil, and patched them without mumuring. Then they began to come faster still—in fact, Mary got a pair mended every second week, and it

occurred to him that she must be heavy about the feet and dreadfully rough on shoe leather. Still it was a delicate question, and he didn't like to hint to her that she would be an expensive girl to keep shod. The next thing that puzzled him was the strange discrepancies in the sizes—apparently Mary had feet that opened and shut like a telescope and could fit any size from three to eight. He stood that also, but it worried him a good deal. But when at last the usual small boy brought round a pair of men's No. 10s, he struck and fled to his sweetheart's kitchen in search of an explanation. And then, Mary Jane repudiated all the boots, and he discovered that he had been trepanned into repairing the footwear of the entire family without remuneration—and, as already mentioned, he wants to know whether he can have that family arrested on a charge of having boots repaired under false pretenses.

MEAN TO THE LAST.

An eminent lawyer was visited one day by a client who was credited with being the meanest man in the City of London.

"I want you to prepare my will, Mr. B. Here are full instructions, and you are to include a legacy of £1,000 to yourself," said the client.

The lawyer was astonished at this unexpected generosity, and the will (a very long and intricate one) was prepared, and duly executed by the client, who thereupon asked the lawyer the amount of his charges.

"Oh, I could not think of making any charge after the very handsome way in which you have remembered me in your will," replied the lawyer.

Some months after, the client died, and the lawyer was jubilant at his stroke of luck, but on the will being produced it was discovered that the client had, immediately after its preparation, recopied it himself, leaving out the legacy of £1,000 to the lawyer.

ODD BITS OF LIFE.

He was fresh from the dewy vales of Wayback, and, having come up to town for a ripsnorting time, the idea struck him that his cousin by marriage would be just the man to assist him in having it. He was received with open arms. During the conversation which ensued, the eyes of the rural gentle-

man landed upon the telephone which hung in one corner of his relative's office. A telephone was something new to him. He had heard of them in a general way, but he had never seen one in operation, so expressed a desire "t' see th' thing wuk." "Through this little instrument," remarked the city cousin after committing the customary verbal assault and battery upon central, "I am able to talk directly with my wife, who is at present in my house in Harlem and hear her replies distinctly." "Ah, hello! hello! is that you, dear? All right. I just wanted to tell you that Cousin George is here. Now, cousin," continued the cousin, handing him the receiver, "if you'll listen carefully you'll hear exactly what she answers." He listened. Then he backed away from the instrument with a pained expression. "Well," queried the broker with a friendly smile, "what did she say?" "She said 'I hope you won't bring th' old fool home to dinner.'" It will never be known exactly how the city cousin managed to explain things.

A DOUBLE CHILD.

There is living on a farm within five miles of this city, says a Forsythe (Mo.) despatch to the Cincinnati Enquirer, one of the strangest freaks that has ever been heard of. The freak is the son or daughter, or both, of James Howard, a farmer. There is a perfect double child of both sexes, but connected in such a way that no possible surgical operation can separate them.

The children are now seven years old. They are perfectly formed, with the exception that they have about eight inches of spinal column in common. They are back to back, and about ten inches above the end of the spinal columns the bones merge into one column, with a single spinal cord. The bodies separate again and the lower parts are entirely distinct.

Howard has been approached several times by museum men who have heard of the freak, but he steadily refuses all offers to exhibit the children. The children play and act as other children of their age do and seem in no wise affected by their singular situation. They have much difficulty in locomotion, but they have hit on a plan of their own whereby they get about.

They have an understanding and

when one wants to get forward the other is told and walks backward. They have done this so much that they can walk either way very readily. They have no thoughts in common and are apparently thoroughly distinct, with the exception of the slight connection of their spines.

HE WAS SUPERSTITIOUS.

He came into the office with his hat in his hand, and the man at the desk, knowing what he was after, steeled his heart against him.

"Good morning," he said, as if apologizing to the morning. "Can I negotiate a small loan here?"

"You cannot," said the man at the desk.

"You seem to be very positive about it."

"I don't seem, I am. Good morning."

"Thanks. I said that when I came in," all this very politely.

"You're sure I can't negotiate a loan?"

"Sure of it."

"Not for any amount?"

"No, not one cent."

"Thanks. You are not a superstitious man are you?" he said, changing the subject so suddenly that the man at the desk was startled.

"Not at all," he replied.

"Don't have any faith in signs?"

"Not the slightest."

"Wouldn't believe one if you saw it?"

"Of course not."

"That's what I thought" and he started out.

"Here," said the man at the desk, "what do you mean by asking me such questions?"

"Can't tell you for less than a quarter," said the tramp grinning.

"Here's your quarter. Now tell me."

"Thanks. Come out the door," and the man followed the tramp to the door. "Look at your window," and the man read there in fine gilt letters: "Loans negotiated for any amount," and when he turned to pay his respects to his visitor that suave and simple gentleman had disappeared somewhere in the crowd on the street.

Subscribe for THE HOME JOURNAL. This paper is now read from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and its circulation is daily growing larger.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Sol Smith Russell has closed his season and returned home to Minneapolis. His receipts since last August were very large, exceeding those of any American player for the same time, with the possible exception of W. H. Crane. Alfred Haven, who wrote "Josephine" for Rhea, has written a seven act play for Mr. Russell, called "An American." On account of the elaborate scenery required, the new play will probably be seen first in some of the larger Eastern cities, perhaps Chicago, where Mr. Russell will play for six months, beginning next May. On Aug. 8, the comedian will open the coming season in Denver. He retains only two members of his company, Miss Radcliffe, the leading lady, and Miss Lester.

The following are the dates for The Victoria, so far as billed: Jane, June 20-21; Carroll Johnson's Gossoon Co., 23-24; Blue Jeans, 28-30; Sam T. Jack's "Creole" Co., July 1-2; Midnight Alarm, 5; Gorton's Minstrels, 8; Fast Mail, 11-12; Police Patrol, 14-15; Natural Gas, 18-19; Duncan Clarke's Female Mastodons, 21; Cruikshank Lawn Co., 27-28; McCarthy's "Mishaps," 29-30.

Manager Goldsmid, of the Vancouver Opera House, has booked "Police Patrol," A. G. Pearson's play, for July 11th. The piece presents some realistic scenery, and two snow-white performing horses are among the attractions.

The Victoria is undergoing repairs of an elaborate character, and when completed it will present a very handsome appearance.

Jeannie Winston, an old Victoria favorite, sang convention week at Minneapolis, to good houses.

James Collins is stage director at the Standard Theatre, Seattle.

The Bandit King at The Victoria last night drew fairly well.

Esther Lyons has signed with the Siberia Company.

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PERSONAL GOSSIP.

A timely compilation has been made by Wm. Howard Hunter, B. A., barrister-at-law, of Toronto, of the "Insurance Corporations Act of 1892" recently passed by the Ontario Legislature, with which have been incorporated notes of very many recent cases both in the Canadian and United States courts under the various sections of the Act, which, with other annotations and specimen contracts illustrative of the provisions of the new law, makes a very valuable handbook for companies and agents. The book has an introductory chapter by J. Howard Hunter, M.A., Inspector of Insurance for Ontario, and is published by the Carswell Company of Toronto.—*Insurance Chronicle.*

The gentlemen mentioned above are brother and father of Gordon Hunter, Esq., B. A., barrister, of this city.

Following closely upon the Ashton-Davies wedding comes the announcement of the marriage of Miss Stella G. Sherman and Mr. Henry Young, of Victoria, B. C. The happy event will be celebrated June 22, at Trinity Church, at eight o'clock in the evening. The nuptial knot will be tied by the Rev. L. H. Wells, the uncle of Miss Sherman. After the wedding the young couple will go to Victoria, where a beautiful home has already been prepared for their reception.—*Tacoma Herald.*

About thirty persons attended the "At home" last Tuesday evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. William Brodrick, Menzies street. An enjoyable evening was spent in music, singing and dancing. Among those present were Mr. E. and Miss Carmichael, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Misses Cusack, Beaven, Pittock, George and Powell, and Messrs. R. Brodrick, Bales, T. M. Cairns, A. Fraser, J. White and Gordon McCann.

An appreciative audience crowded the St. John's Church schoolroom on Thursday evening, to the doors, the occasion being a grand concert in aid of the Cathedral organ fund. Much credit is due Miss Twiss and the other members of the management, who have by their endeavors cleared over \$50 for the organ fund.

E. J. O'Sullivan writes to THE HOME JOURNAL as follows:—"I wish you would be kind enough to put a notice in your paper to the effect that my father is still very dangerously ill, and as soon as he is better I will be back to my school in Victoria."

The marriage of Miss Kate Davis to Mr. Maurice Salmon was celebrated at Omineca Hall, last Wednesday evening. A large number of the friends of both bride and groom were present and the wedding gifts were numerous, expensive and useful.

Miss Lydia A. Ede, of Victoria, and Robert Martin, of Vancouver, were married in the latter city on Tuesday. The couple will spend their honeymoon at Banff. The bride was a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church choir.

Mr. Harvey Cathcart Simpson was married to Miss Della Irving at Virden, Manitoba, Wednesday of last week. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have gone to New York on a wedding trip. THE HOME JOURNAL sends congratulations.

Mrs. P. E. Mylius and family are on the way from Halifax to Victoria, to join her husband, Mr. Mylius, of Jackson & Mylius. She will stop over at Brandon to visit her sister, Mrs. Ingram Bill.

Mr. Ross Eckert, the well-known lacrosse player, formerly of Toronto, has taken up his residence in Victoria.

Mr. James Cowan, of Ottawa, Ont., is visiting his son, Mr. M. H. Cowan, wholesale grocer.

Miss Ethel Lemon, of Winnipeg, is visiting friends in the city.

R. Cassidy, a Winnipeg barrister, is in the city.

On Tuesday 14th inst., at Avelon Road, James Bay, James Mortimer, the auctioneer, will sell, without reserve, the furniture and furnishings of a large nine-roomed house. The furniture is said to be of superior quality and has only been in use for a short time.

The New York Hat and Gents' Furnishings House, Clarence block, has just received an importation of fine English manufactured trunks and valises. This house is winning a reputation for carrying only the finest goods in the furnishing line.

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