

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

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VICTORIA, B. C., JANUARY 13, 1894.

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TALES OF THE TOWN.

*I must have liberty,
And as large a charter as the wind—
Blow on whom I please."*

R. Beaven was greatly fa-teagued, as the *Colonist* would facetiously mark, Thursday; "that tired feeling" commenced early in the day, and culminated towards four o'clock in the afternoon, when he collapsed, the result being that he will not be able to perform the functions appertaining to the mayoralty for the year at least. It is said that misanthropy loves companionship, so that Ald. Egg, out of the great love he bore for his friend, felt that public life without Mayor Beaven was mustard without beef, and he accordingly decided to keep his name and company. Thus are two historical names removed from the public gaze. Mayor Beaven will devote his time to the study of the Municipal Act, and Ald. Egg will watch civic affairs from afar, study common English and how to lay traps. In a word, it may be said that the electors of Victoria have awakened to a sense of the stupid blunder they committed in putting such men in such prominent and important positions. The one had no much knowledge, so much that he became intolerant, over-bearing, and imbued with the idea that the existence of Victoria as a city was dependent on him alone; the other's knowledge was infinitesimally small, but still his great conceit made that little knowledge a terrible burden. Two of the greatest reproaches ever placed in the Victoria city council have been removed by the election of 1894. Ald. McKillican will also have a little leisure to study morals, compulsory Sabbath observance and general religious training. Ald. Belyea is a voluntary absentee, and one who will be greatly missed, as it is men of his intelligence and ability who are wanted in the council.

The material composing the new council is a vast improvement on the old. In the Mayor we have a man actively engaged in business; one in sympathy with the commercial and general progress of the city, instead of one who will quibble and talk over a trivial technicality when the time could be better employed in the despatch of public business. He is, besides being a practical man, one of modern ideas, and a man who will weigh with respectful consideration any suggestion made by the members of the council. Harry Munn has been returned by acclamation because the electors of James' Bay appreciate a good man when they get him, so Harry says. At all events, he has worked hard in the improvement of the park, of which he has been deservedly called the father; and his conduct in general public affairs has been

characterized by an earnest and honest interest. Ald. Harris, as has been remarked in these columns before, is one of the solid men of the city, whose only fault is that he stayed at home so long while things were being generally bungled. Mr. Keith Wilson will be an acquisition to the civic board from his financial and general business experience. The change in the Central ward will also no doubt prove beneficial, as it brings new blood into the council, a fact that is always an advantage; and the same may be said of the North ward, where the men are all citizens whose interests are identical with the welfare of the city. One element will be missing from the council of 1894 that was painfully and injuriously present in that of 1893, and that is the taint of politics. In short, the whole business promises to be an improvement, and to what is it due if not to the independent and fearless criticism of a Journal, the name of which modesty forbids my mentioning?

A correspondent complains that few men in this city appear to understand the art of dressing correctly, and further asserts that in no city in British Columbia can be seen such a variety of costumes as are found on the streets of Victoria. "Why will men with calves cut on the broom-handle design expose their miserable forms in knickerbockers and stockings?" interrogates my correspondent, and then he proceeds to remark on a few observations he made while waiting for a tram car a few days ago:

A gentleman with brick red hair, had on a bright blue necktie and yellow gloves. A tall, slim man wore a pink shirt front and cuffs, a necktie which reached from ear to ear, and a shirt stud almost as large as a silver dollar. A short, thick-set man with very little neck had a collar that reached half way up the back of his head, striking the brim of his hat. A man with a fur coat on, also wore a silk hat; he looked for "ear muffs" but presumes he had forgotten to put them on. On Sunday last (a very cold day) a man was seen over James' Bay wearing a straw hat, evidently to show his contempt for Jack Frost, or possibly he may at one time have been a "blue coat boy" and so accustomed to keeping his head cool. Everyone knows that "ladies" dress to please the men as much as to satisfy their own tastes, and I think the men of Victoria might return the compliment.

No question affecting the welfare and happiness of a man on earth can be of greater importance than the problem of carefully preserving the foundations of the social fabric. Jesus Christ, who comprehended in His divine wisdom all humanity's needs, took special care to

make plain and ample provision for preserving the sanctity of family life and the security of a dwelling place in which the tenderest human affections might center. He proposed no plan of civil government. He suggested no special design according to which men might organize civil society. He left men free to choose as they would their peculiar form of civil government. His teachings tend only to mercy, justice, kindness, and to extending the universal brotherhood of man. He is silent as to the peculiar form according to which men may enforce the necessary authority of order and law for the protection of the rights and liberties of all. But in unmistakable language He defines the essential elements of that compact by which one man is united with one woman, with one only and forever, for the preservation of the human race, and for fulfilling the designs of God. The Catholic Church, ever faithful to the sacred trust which Christ confided to her care, has steadfastly guarded the sacredness of the marriage bond. The teaching of our Divine Master is so unequivocal and clear that those who even respect His sacred character cannot but respect His divine command, "What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

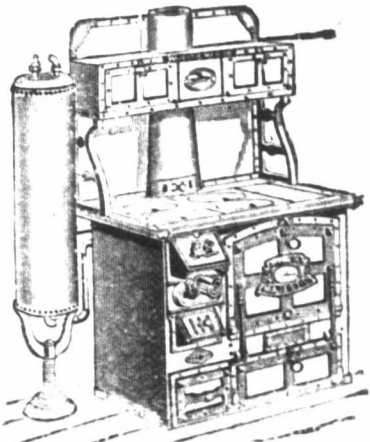
The Catholic Church, the holy spouse of Christ, could not for an instant be so disloyal to His plain commands as to attempt to sever the marriage tie, bound by God's hand. Men often labor under a false impression as to the attitude of the Catholic Church in relation to the bond of marriage. The Church as a well organized body defines and regulates its discipline and ceremonial. These are matters affected by time, custom and the varying needs of men. But the bond of marriage is of divine institution, has not been created by the Church, does not fall under the jurisdiction of either church or human government, and hence does not fall within the scope of church authority to sever. The Church has no discretion and no authority in the matter of undoing what God has done. "Whosoever shall put away his wife and marry another committeth adultery against her."

No Church discipline, no legal enactment, no long standing customs can blot out the "scarlet letter" inscribed on the soul of every man who ignores these solemn words of divine authority. The Catholic Church has been faithful to the instruction Christ gave her and has sustained to the utmost the inviolability of the marriage contract. It has not sacrificed principle for expediency, but it has preferred to please the living God rather than mortal man. Napoleon imprisoned the Pope because His Holiness refused to sanction the divorce of Josephine to

enable him to marry Marie Louise, the Austrian beauty. The great warrior was then in the zenith of his glory, but from that day forth his star declined, and he ultimately died a prisoner in the lonely isle of St. Helena. The mighty emperor had also urged his brother Jerome to repudiate his American Protestant wife, Miss Betsy Patterson, of Baltimore, and sought the good offices of the Pope to consent to his separation, but the Pontiff was inexorable and declared he had no power to dissolve the marriage bond between Prince Jerome and his wife, even though he was a Protestant. The Catholic church upholds the sanctity of the marriage bond and thus preserves and protects civil society by safe-guarding its source, the family and the home. The homes of the people are the safeguards of national stability, and there is no security for the home where the horrified spectre of divorce menaces its happiness.

If anyone imagines that because a young man attends church and takes a prominent part in religious matters that it is a certain guarantee of good behavior, such a one is greatly mistaken. In fact, I have heard of half-a-dozen or so "good living young men who read good books," who are behaving themselves in a most unchristianlike manner. On Sundays they carry huge Bibles under their arms to church and escort decent, respectable girls home; but under the shadow of darkness their conduct is quite the reverse of what might be expected from "good-living young men." In fact, it is alleged that these young men, the sons of respectable parents, are leading a perfect Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde existence. A few evenings ago they held a carousal in a lodging house and as a result of a fight between them a woman companion sustained a severe fracture of a limb. No amount of lecturing would benefit these young men, so I turn them over to police court officials to do with them as they seem fit.

The interruption of Mr. Daly's speech at the annual Board of Trade dinner in Toronto should be a warning to post-prandial orators all over Canada and more particularly in Victoria. As is remarked by the *Manitoba Free Press*, after-dinner speakers are apt to forget that at the best human endurance is limited, and that men are impatient of being addressed at length on prosaic subjects when gathered together with festive intent. And without meaning the remark to apply to Mr. Daly particularly, the incident will serve as a hint to that numerous body of men who care little about other possible speakers if only they can deliver their own remarks, no matter their length, before the reporters silently rebel or the night editor's basket opens for contributions. It is so hard to persuade a glib-tongued orator that the average audience would gladly boil him down, so to speak, to one-half; that those must be rare occasions when he can find anything new to say, and that the success of an after-dinner speech depends not so much on what is said as the way in which it is said and the shortness of the time occupied in saying it. Concerning the Daly episode, it may be answered that



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he was a minister of the crown and that he was imparting information concerning that portion of the Dominion that comes within his ken, and that everything he said must have been interesting. The Governor-General, it appears, rushed to his relief with some such plea. But admitting that he was a minister of the crown: after dinner every man is a king if he has dined well, and kings, the world over, are very impatient of being talked to at length. Moreover it is not difficult to understand that a body of dining gentlemen assembled in Toronto, having all the world to hear from, would be unlikely to suffer patiently an extended lecture about one part of the Dominion in which the majority of them had only a general interest. But many men, when they rise "to make a few remarks," are seized by a *cacoethes loquendi*, and cannot abandon the position of advantage which courtesy has given them for a limited period, not intending that it should be abused. Mr. Daly may have unwittingly conferred an inestimable boon upon a very great number of his fellow countrymen who suffer at intervals.

A young man in a neighboring city actually advertised recently for a position as second maid or under study in a nursery; claiming to be of good character but unable to find other employment. This is just about the situation our young men are coming to who are anxious to work. Chambermaids, or nurse maids, are the very last callings womankind seek nowadays. In fact, they can scarcely be found for love or money, so great is the demand for such. False pride, and false ambition has led them to despise "working out," even at high wages, but they are all ready to step in to clerical, and even to manual labor more fitted for males, whom they have fairly (or unfairly) crowded out of trades and professions. At the present rate of progress the men will soon not only come under closer petticoat government, but will have to don the petticoats and attend to women's work while the women put on the pants and attend to the men's work. "A fair exchange is no robbery," but we hardly consider this a fair exchange. There are big fields of reform right here, almost as important as the "ballot reform," worthy of all true womanly consideration.

PERE GRINATOR.

The presentation of Strife by an amateur company at The Victoria last evening was too late for a lengthy notice in this issue. The Bantly orchestra furnished the music.

NOT MUCH ACCOUNT.

A Canadian preacher says that he attended the funeral of a husband once, and when he returned to the house of mourning to console the wife the first opportunity she had she remarked:

"Well, Brother—, I'll give you a job that will pay you better before long."

And, sure enough, she got married soon after. Truly a man doesn't amount to much when his wife is a widow.

A FAITHFUL CLERK'S REWARD.

"James," he began, as the clerk entered the private office, "the new year's close at hand."

"Yes sir."

"How long have you been with us?"

"Twenty years, sir."

"Ah! Twenty years. You came in from the country with all your worldly possessions tied up in a cotton handkerchief?"

"I did, sir."

"You left home determined to achieve success?"

"Yes sir."

"You believed that honesty and integrity would be rewarded, and that faithful service would meet its reward?"

"That's the way I reasoned, sir."

"Ah! I remember the morning you applied for a situation. I liked your look and the way you talked."

"Thanks, sir."

"Now, James, my partner goes out with the new year, I've been thinking of you."

"Y-yes, sir."

"Of your long and faithful service,—"

"Yes, sir."

"And I'm going to reward you. I'm glad it's in my power to do so. I shall commence the new year alone."

"Exactly."

"With limited capital."

"Ah!"

"And it will therefore, be necessary to reduce all salaries. On all the others I shall make a cut of fifteen per cent. Owing to your long and faithful services I shall make the cut in your case only ten. That's all: James, and I hope you will try and get down half an hour earlier in the morning, and also to be a little more economical with the gas and fuel."

How large are some of the hydraulic mining ventures of this Province is exemplified by the fact that the Kootenay Hydraulic Mining Co., in 1893 expended nearly \$80,000 in development work and will this year spend a large additional sum in making a ditch nearly 4 miles long between Salmon River and Sixteen Mile Creek.

B. C. BOARD OF TRADE.

At the quarterly meeting of the B. C. Board of Trade, held on Friday, there was considerable amount of interesting business taken up. Among other matters was discussed the subject of lights and buoys on the British Columbia Coast. The inadequacy of the system was conclusively demonstrated by gentlemen who spoke on the subject and were in a position to know what they were talking about. Among the speakers who discussed the subject was Mr. Robert Ward, who made no hesitation in declaring that whereas it was stated that the Eastern Coast of Canada was the lighted coast in the world, the West Coast is, on the contrary, the worst. On this subject, with that of the necessity for a new Insolvency Act, was specially mentioned to the attention of the members of the Dominion Parliament, which is shortly to assemble at Ottawa, and in whom it is proposed to have a conference before their departure. It was also resolved to telegraph to Ottawa for a copy of the proposed Insolvency Bill, which, it is understood, had been drafted.

It was not at all surprising that a deliberative body of mercantile men, such as the British Columbia Board of Trade, should have paid a considerable amount of attention to the matter of transportation, the fact being that neither Victoria or Vancouver can supply certain British Columbia points on terms as favorable as those offered by Eastern cities. Winnipeg, it was said, could sell canned goods cheaper than Vancouver. It was also alleged that the Canadian Pacific railway is quite willing to so arrange matters that British Columbia's needs can be supplied by British Columbia merchants, and some such move was considered necessary for the appointment of a committee to study tariff rates, so as to put our cities in a better position to compete on equal terms with Eastern merchants. Particularly is this necessary if this Province is to retain trade with the Kootenay district, in by articles which can be imported from the East. The respective relationships of landlord and tenant were considered in their various phases, and a committee was appointed to draft a Bill to be submitted at the forthcoming meeting of the Legislature. As to the tax on mortgages, it was announced that Hon. J. H. Turner, Provincial Finance Minister, had promised to give full consideration to the representations of the Board, while Hon. Robert Beaven and Dr. Milne, M. P., had promised to support them in the House.

If brevity be the soul of wit, Mr. James Huddart, manager of the Canadian-Australian steamship company, may be considered to be the embodiment of that characteristic, for he replied to the Board on the subject of the Warrimoo difficulty and the dismissal of Capt. Arthur! "The subject matter received from the first my attention, though I have not answered you previously." It would appear from the summary action of Mr. Huddart that his wit or grim humor consisted in the fact that he, to use a familiar expression, "hanged" Capt. Arthur first, but was ready to try him afterwards. Mr. Huddart does not seem to have gained any-

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thing by this communication, as he has only intensified the feeling against him by his contemptuous treatment of the representations of the Board. There were other topics which the members had under consideration but those mentioned are among the most prominent.—*British Columbia Commercial Journal.*

WEAKNESS OF IRONCLADS.

Sir William Armstrong, at a meeting of the shareholders of his company, delivered himself of the following regarding the construction of big ironclads:

"The ram of the Camperdown, although striking with a restricted momentum, was buried deep into the side of the Victoria, and it cannot be doubted that while armor is in a great measure effective against projectiles, and netting against torpedoes, nothing can withstand the power of the ram. But although in the case of this dreadful accident the blow of the ram was inflicted with incomparably less force than that due to the full speed of the ship, the damage done to the ramming vessel was such as to place her in imminent danger of following her victim to the bottom. It appears, therefore, that the strength and stability of the prow and ram of the Camperdown are quite insufficient to enable her to deliver an effective stroke against an adversary without at the same time imperiling her own flotation. This is like having a great gun that can-

not be fired for fear it should burst, and I apprehend that what implies to the ram of the Camperdown would apply equally to the ram of every great battleship in the British service."

ALUMINUM.

The prospective decline in the market price of aluminum is likely to be followed by considerable increase in the use of that metal for various purposes. Improvements in the processes of manufacture are increasingly favorable to lessen cost, to which the bulk of product is more than likely to be in direct response. It is in the line of probabilities that this really valuable metal will soon be produced in comparatively enormous quantities and at prices likely to develop new uses. It is reported by a contemporary that a prominent producing plant in Switzerland will be ready in January next to place its aluminum on the market at forty-five cents per pound. This price, taking the low specific gravity of the metal into consideration, places it in matter of bulk as actually less than that of tin at the present time. Under the conditions stated, the prospects of aluminum in extended forms of service are considerably brightened.

The Behring Sea Arbitration Tribunal cost France \$9,000.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1894.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

HIS WORSHIP MAYOR TEAGUE, you should say, if anybody asks you.

ALD. BRAGG got it where the chicken is reported to have received the hatchet.

WE might be permitted to remark that His Worship Mayor Teague will bring considerable weight to the civic chair.

THE Sons of Rest of this city have perfected their organization and have applied for a charter. The order is composed of the very cream, as it were, of the anti-workers, heat absorbers and non-breathers.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Mrs. Thain, of 119 Fisguard street, entertained a number of young people Monday evening.

Fairall's Hall, Victoria West, was the scene of a rather pleasant social gathering Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dickinson gave a very enjoyable card party at their residence, Moss street, Thursday evening.

The Young Ladies Institute, No. 33, will give a social dance on Thursday, 18th. Richardson's orchestra will furnish the music.

Invitations are out for a masquerade party on Wednesday evening 17th, at the residence of Mrs. Spring, 72 Belleville street.

The Victoria Canoe Club are making arrangements to give a grand ball, probably at the Oak Bay Hotel, early in February. A strong working committee will be selected to carry the arrangements through.

At St. James Church, next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, Mr. J. H. Falconer the well-known manufacturer, will be married to Miss Orvilla Northcott. The ceremony will be performed by Archdeacon Scriven, after which the happy couple will depart for the Sound on a wedding trip, which will extend over a couple of weeks.

The Knights of Pythias of this city, composing three lodges have decided to give a grand charity ball at the Assembly Hall, in February, for the benefit of the poor. The Sir Knights are a popular

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organization and they will without doubt meet with the success in this charitable undertaking that their endeavors have hitherto received.

On Wednesday evening the senior members of Christ Church Cathedral choir gave a pleasant "At Home" at the school room on Quadra street. The hall was tastefully decorated with flags, evergreens and Chinese lanterns. The Bantly family supplied excellent music for dancing which lasted until a late hour. The choir are deserving of the thanks of their guests, numbering forty, for the enjoyable evening.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

The possibility of maintaining a stock organization in this city has advanced beyond the stage of possibility, as the overflowing houses which have greeted the Theatre Royal Company for three out of the first five nights of this week have conclusively demonstrated. There is one feature in connection with the venture which has not already been noticed in the press and that is the really gorgeous

scenery which has been placed in the house. This is the work of the well-known French artist, Monsieur Rene Quentin. It is the equal, if not superior, to anything ever seen in this city. Mr. Valentine Hall, the London stage carpenter, has charge of the mechanical appliances of the stage. The play for the last four nights of this week has been Jack o' Diamonds, and it is not too much to say that it has received an artistic rendition. Miss Blanche Brown, as Annie Dennison, acted her part to perfection, and received several curtain calls during the week. Miss Marshall gave a pleasing performance of Cordelia Dennison and Miss Underhill made the most of a small part. Little Maggie Copeland made her debut in a child's part and pleased everyone. Mr. Chapman played Jack o' Diamonds as the author intended it should be played. In fact it is a part which suits Mr. Chapman to a dot. Mr. Dunsdale kept everyone in laughter as Denver Dan, and Mr. McAllister was a typical villain. Mr. McKay brought out everything in his line. Messrs. Moore and Kiersky were important factors in the pleasure of the performance.

This afternoon at the matinee there will be a double bill. At 2 o'clock the world renowned Frank Hume will introduce his dog circus and celebrated fire-eating act, after which Jack o' Diamonds will be produced. To-night Jack o' Diamonds.

The Victoria Choral Society held their initial rehearsal as a society on Wednesday evening, Jan. 10th, which has been selected as their regular weekly practice night. "The Erl King's daughter," a finely written cantata for soprano, mezzo-soprano and baritone solos and chorus, was taken up and gave evident pleasure and satisfaction to the members present, who mustered in good force for a first meeting. About eighty of the leading amateur singers of the city have joined the Choral Society, thereby filling a long felt

in musical circles. Conductor W. Buck announced himself as highly pleased with the evening's work of the members.

The success of the subscription concert assured. The programme for the first series, next Thursday evening, in the Westers' hall, under the management of Kent, is as follows:

- Haydn
- Miss Dawson
- Quintet (from Die Zauberflöte)
- Mozart
- O. G. Evan-Thomas.
- Concert polonaise in A
- Weinlawski
- F. Victor Austin.
- Hatton
- Marzials
- O. G. Evans-Thomas.
- Miss Agnes Dawson
- Schumann
- Musini
- F. Victor Austin.

Mr. C. M. S. McLellan, one of the most famous dramatic critics of America, in reviewing the plays of the year in *Town Topics* (New York's society weekly) thus refers to "The Story of a Kiss" which was received with such disfavor and pronounced "utter rot" when produced here by Madame Merli and her company, the one who gave it to the New Yorkers: "An utter failure was one of the greatest dramas of the century, Zola's "Therese Raquin." The play was colossal in its strength and terrible in its moral, but not a handful of people understood it or wished it to live. It will remain among the classics of French dramatic literature, but this generation of Americans will never see it here again.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree, manager of the Haymarket theatre, recently received the following letter from one aspirant to operatic fame, which ran thus: "Venerated Sir, I wish to go on the stage, and I would like to join your valuable theatre. I have been a bricklayer for five years, but having failed in this branch I have decided to take on acting—it being easier work. I am not young, but I am six feet without any boots, I have studied Bell's system of elocution and am found of late hours."

A musical recital was given at the residence of Mrs. D. R. Harris, Burdette Avenue, last Tuesday evening by a number of the pupils of Mr. Ernest Wolff, L. C. M., at which prizes were awarded to the most proficient pupils. There were quite a number of invited guests to witness the competition.

A performance of "Maud Irving," a five act operetta was given in the Nanaimo Opera House, Tuesday evening, by the girls of Miss Lawson's division (girls' school). There was a large audience. The girls did remarkably well, performing their parts creditably throughout.

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It may well be doubted whether young men generally in this state appreciate the true condition of the law in respect of implied engagements of marriage. A recent breach of promise suit in Chenango county is an extreme case on this subject and furnishes a fresh illustration of the legal doctrine that no express promise or formal language is needed in order to constitute a contract to marry.

The plaintiff in the case to which we refer was introduced to the defendant in December, 1885. He told her he had long wished to make her acquaintance. He was in the habit of attending the same church and prayer meetings as she did and frequently escorted her home. He also took her to public entertainments occasionally. This went on for more than two years. In the spring of 1888, the defendant's attentions grew more marked, and he went home with the plaintiff from church nearly every Sunday and from prayer meeting nearly every Thursday evening and would often go into the house and remain with her, usually alone in the parlor, until 10 or 11 o'clock. On one occasion there was a conversation in reference to a trip to Europe. On another, the defendant talked to the plaintiff about building a house and asked her what building lot she preferred.

In May, 1888, the plaintiff told the defendant that she had heard somebody say that the only reason he went with her was to please himself and see how big a fool he could make of her. She asked the defendant whether this was true, and he declared that it was not, saying that he had admired her from his first acquaintance with her and that he had never met a young lady whom he regarded more highly; that he longed to make her happy and would always protect her. The plaintiff responded that she wanted to know whether he was true, and he replied that he had said all he could to show that he was true, adding as he was leaving, "If I live, I will make you happy."

It furthermore appeared on the trial that the defendant had more than once told the plaintiff that he did not believe in long engagements, and that the plaintiff received no attentions or visits from other young men during the period in which the defendant was in the habit of visiting her.

From these facts the trial court left it to the jury to say whether or not they would infer that there was an engagement of marriage between the plaintiff and the defendant. The jury found in favor of the plaintiff and awarded her a verdict of \$3,000, which has lately been affirmed by the general term of the supreme court in the fourth judicial department.

It will be observed that there was no suggestion or pretense on the part of the plaintiff that the defendant had ever in express words either promised to marry her or asked her to marry him. The intent of the parties was solely to be inferred from their language, not amounting to an express agreement to marry, and their conduct toward one another.

The leading case in this state on the same subject is *Homan against Earle*, which arose in Brooklyn 20 years ago, and went to the court of appeals, where the opinion was by Chief Judge Church.

That great judge laid down the true rule applicable to such questions as follows:

"Contracts of marriage are unlike all others. They concern the highest interests of human life and enlist the tenderest sympathies of the human heart, and the acts and declarations done and implied by

parties negotiating them are often correspondingly delicate and emotional. As a matter of law the learned judge was clearly right in holding that no formal language is necessary to constitute the contract of marriage. If the conduct and declarations of the parties clearly indicate that they regard themselves as engaged, it is not material by what means they have arrived at that state."

The application of this rule to the Chenango county case led the general term to affirm the judgment. A consideration of the facts upon which the jury found in favor of the plaintiff should suggest to young men that if they conduct themselves as though they were engaged they may become defendants in breach of promise suits whether they have ever actually said anything about marriage or not.—*New York Sun*.

A Royal Rainmaker.

King Lobengula has the reputation of being a remarkably good hand at making a thunderstorm, and in this he gives way to no man. I remember one day in June—the month in the whole year in which you least expect rain—some natives had brought a large python into camp and were singing some of their rain songs. It is sudden death to any native in Matabeleland who if he sees a python does not by some means or other manage to secure it and bring it in alive. The king took possession of the reptile and said he must go and make rain. I laughed at this and said I did not think he could do so, to which the king replied, "You will see."

The python was skinned alive, its liver taken out and cooked, and the usual rain-making rites performed. Curiously enough, just before sundown the sky clouded over, and soon afterward one of the heaviest thunderstorms I had ever seen broke over the place. Next morning the king asked me if a white man could make a thunderstorm like that? I said, "No, king, if we could get you down among the farmers in the Karoo, we could guarantee you a fortune."

Tunnel and Bridge to Copenhagen.

Copenhagen is often cut off from the mainland during a part of the winter by accumulations of ice in the great belt, and it is now proposed to make a tunnel between the islands of Seeland and Funen, and a bridge between Funen and the mainland. The termini of the tunnel will be at Italskov Pynt and Kunshaved, and its length about 11 miles. The construction will be easy, owing to the soft nature of the bottom, and the island of Spragal will be used for ventilation and other purposes. The cost of the tunnel is estimated at 20,000,000 Danish crowns (about £1,120,000), that of the bridge, 12,000,000 crowns (£680,000), and Copenhagen will be brought two hours nearer the continent.—*London Globe*.

The Hottest Spot In the East.

In the eastern hemisphere the hottest spot is on the borders of the Persian gulf on the southwestern coast of Persia. The thermometer during July and August never falls below 100 degrees during the night, while the temperature during the day rises to 128 or 129 degrees. Little or no rain falls, and yet, in spite of this terrific heat and other drawbacks, a comparatively numerous population contrive to live there, obtaining their water supply by divers from the copious springs of fresh water which burst forth from the bottom of the sea.—*Spare Moments*.

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English Slang.

There are fashions in speech as well as fashions in clothes. Everything in society just now is either "awfully ghastly" or "awfully charming, don't you know." If your new bonnet isn't awfully ghastly, it must be awfully charming, and if Miss Fourstars' singing at the local concert the other evening wasn't awfully charming then it must certainly have been awfully ghastly. Pretty is no longer pretty, but pooty. Y—, the famous man milliner, has caught the trick from his duchess customers. You hear him talk glibly of pooty gowns and pooty galls. Gorgeous or deadly are the correct adjectives to use when speaking of the weather. Nowadays it is quite customary for educated people to talk of the dook. In quite aristocratic circles the final g is dropped in many words. They talk of ridin, shootin, talkin, singin. I suppose the next thing we shall hear will be that they have ceased to aspirate their h's for the excellent reason that it has become so common for ordinary folks to do so.—*Pall Mall Budget*.

Tomatoes.

Tomatoes were used as food in the south of Europe three centuries since. A writer in Chambers' Encyclopedia (new edition) gives 1583 as the date of their introduction into Spain, but Dodonous, writing more than 20 years before that, speaks of them as even then to be found in the gardens of some European herbalists. Gerarde grew them in his garden in 1597 and earlier. He says in his "Herbal:"

"In Spaine and those hot Regions they used to eat the apples prepared and boiled with pepper, salt and oyle, but they yeeld very little nourishment to the body, and the same naught and corrupt. Likewise they doe eat the Apples with oyle, vinegre and pepper mixed together for sauce to their meat, even as we in these cold countries doe mustard."—*Notes and Queries*.

Glass Houses.

"You think you are bright," said the window pane to the mirror, "but you only give out some other one's reflections."

"It is easy enough to see through you," retorted the mirror. "You are envious of me because I have a coat to my back and you haven't."—*Indianapolis Journal*.

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HOW LONG CAN A POTTER WORK?

Interesting Statistics About His Average Age and Years of Labor.

How long can an operative in the potteries follow his usual occupation and yet continue to retain his health? is a question often asked. We have made a pretty rough investigation of the matter and gathered facts which will throw some light on the subject:

The average age of a moldmaker is 34 years, and the average years of work are 21. After working 13 years they begin to decline. Twenty-three per cent are American born.

Figgersmen live 32 years and work 18. They begin to fail after 11 years of work. Twenty-five per cent are American born.

Turners average 34 years and work an average of 17 years, and they begin to decline after 11 years of work. Thirty-four per cent of them are Americans by birth.

Glaziers average 28. They begin to decline after working 16, and 6 per cent of them commenced to decline at the age of 14. Statistics were compiled. Fifty per cent of them are of American birth.

Glaze and ware pressers reach the average age of 25 years. They begin to decline after spending 15 years in the dusty shop. Forty-nine per cent are American born.

Throwers average 42 years and begin to decline after spending 29 years upon the potter's wheel.

Sagger makers reach the average of 34 years, but begin to decline after spending 22 years of the trade. Thirty-five per cent of them are Americans.

Women enjoy an average age of 32. Twenty per cent of them begin to decline after spending 14 years in the cheerless kiln bed. Forty-five per cent are native Americans.

Trippers average 38 and spend 21 years of work before they commence to decline. Thirty-seven per cent of them are Americans.

Decorators average 29 years, but begin to decline after they have spent 13 years in the shop. Thirty-four per cent of them are Americans.

Stackers and warehouse men enjoy an average existence of 30 years. They begin to decline, however, after they have wrestled with the musty straw for 12 years. Sixty per cent are Americans.—Trenton Pottery Journal.

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persons' business or personal matters in this way and using it to their own advantage. It is a state of affairs which calls loudly for immediate reform.—Engineering Magazine.

Blackburn's Gallantry.

Senator Blackburn is known as a representative of southern chivalry, and he is entitled to the distinction. He was a prominent figure at a reception or fashionable "tea" in a house of a Kentucky host and hostess. There was present a young southern debutante. She was new to Washington. As the senator passed her a cup, a sort of dowager duchess, distinguished for her large figure and intrusive manners, pressed forward toward the senator. The little southern girl let the cup fall. Smash it went, and the contents spattered over the dowager's best gown. Before the latter could utter a word the senator said: "That's my fault. I'm too clumsy to wait on ladies. Madam," to the dowager, "I am ready to suffer any penalty you see fit to impose upon me." Subsequently Blackburn felt his arm gently squeezed. It was the timid southern beauty, and she said: "Oh, Mr. Blackburn, you're the nicest man in the world. I'd have just fainted if you hadn't said you dropped that cup." "Well, didn't I?" queried the senator. "You know you did not," with a grateful look. "Well, it's all the same," retorted the gallant senator.—Exchange.

The Behemoth.

The mammoth, or behemoth, is not yet universally regarded as extinct. According to Siberian and Chinese belief, the race is merely banished underground, its "blind life" being instantly terminated by a glimpse of the sun's or even of the moon's rays. The inference might almost be called a logical one from the state of the unearthed remains.

In several cases the great beast has emerged from his millennial retirement as completely arrayed as if death had only just overtaken him, his hide densely clothed with fulvous wool, and that again covered by long black hair, his mane falling over his shaggy shoulders, his antediluvian eyes actually staring from their sockets! Contemporary dogs and wolves find mammoth flesh appetizing, in spite of its semifossil character. Mammoth bones have been proved to contain a remunerative amount of gelatin, and in Kamchatka to this day mammoth fat is largely used for fuel.—Edinburgh Review.

Some Irish Bulls.

Some people were laughing at an Irishman who won a race for saying, "Well, I'm first at last." "You needn't laugh," said he; "sure wasn't I behind before?" The following conversation was heard in the Fenian times, some years ago. A cab driver named Tom begins the colloquy. "These are terrible times, Bill." "Bedad, they are, Tom; it's a wonder if we'll get out of the world alive." "I'm afeared we won't, even if we had as many lives as Plutarch." "If Oliver Cromwell could only come up out of hell, he'd soon settle it." "Bedad, maybe he'd rather stop where he is."—"Seventy Years of Irish Life."

CHRISTMAS : GREETINGS.

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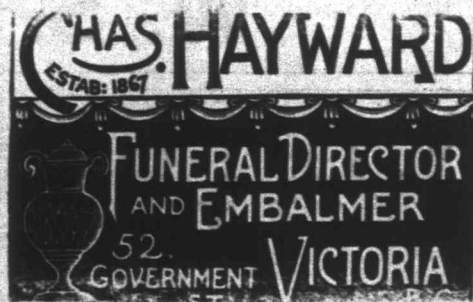
Folding Beds.

"Every few days we read about people being caught in folding beds and strangled or crushed to death or rendered cripples for life," said a mechanic. "It is easy to prevent this. Every folding bed can be easily fitted with hooks or bolts that will fasten into unobtrusive staples or sockets in the floor, and make it impossible to close the bed without unfastening them or pulling up the floor. Every one of them should have some protection of this nature.

"A friend of mine who travels a great deal and often stops at hotels where folding beds are used carries a strong nicked chain, like those used in hanging window weights, in his valise, and at either end there is a good stout screw eye. The chain is about 6 feet long and takes up scarcely any room. When he strikes a hotel with folding beds, he lets the bed down, screws one of the screw eyes in the floor on one side of the bed at the foot, carries the chain over the frame and under the mattress to the other side, draws the chain taut and sinks the other screw eye in the floor. This method would not be a good one to use in everyday practice, but my friend adopted it after he had had an adventure with one folding bed that nearly cost him his life. Nobody should purchase a folding bed that is not provided with some attachment that will lock it so that it cannot be closed by accident. They are as dangerous as unloaded guns."

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