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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

TREET.

Vol. III., No. 7.

VICTORIA, B. C., NOVEMBER 25, 1893.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM

PROBLEMS OF THE TOWN.

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

PROBABLY there is not another place in the Dominion so much in need of a branch of the Society for prevention of cruelty to animals as Victoria. This applies particularly to express horses, which in this city are most inhumanly treated. I have taken the trouble to watch the proceedings of some of the drivers, and, to my certain knowledge, I have known of some poor horses being left on the stand the entire day without a bite of food. Of course this does not show that the driver is empowered with business, or that the horse is overworked, but I have seen cases also where the horse has had quite a lot of work to do during the day, and has been left without any food, although its driver has taken care not to go hungry himself. An inspection of the express stands will reveal something more than starvation of horses; it will show them as being sore, dirty and neglected, faults for which there is no possible excuse. Most of this may be accounted for by the fact that the drivers are mainly boys who are more devoted to their cigarettes and filthy language than they are to the poor animals which have the misfortune to know them as masters.

It may be remarked, however, that this abuse of horses is only too common in every department of life here. I saw a young lady driving a horse the other day, the unfortunate animal hobbling along on a terribly sore leg, which, when allowed to stand, he held up tenderly from the ground. That

same young lady would probably have fainted with terror at the sight of blood on a human being, and yet she was murderously inhuman enough to cause that suffering horse the most exquisite torture. The butcher carts are terrible instruments of torture to horses, and the average butcher boy a fiend incarnate. I am only sorry that the present rotten state of the law has prevented my personally prosecuting a number of these individuals for wanton cruelty to horses. It is a matter to which the Legislature should turn attention, and enact a measure that will not be a farce to be laughed at and broken with impunity; a measure that will be a terror to brutes of boys and rascals of men, and also, to their shame be it said, unwomanly women.

One evening this week, I was standing on Johnson street, between Government and Broad, communing with my own thoughts as it were, when across the street I espied an apparently young looking woman who seemed to be laboring under some difficulty in preserving her equilibrium. It first occurred to me that she was ill, and I was about to offer her assistance, when she suddenly walked into the glare of an electric light and the fact became painfully apparent that she was in a beastly state of intoxication. In the person of this young woman, I recognized a girl who, a few years ago, was quite attractive; but evil attractions dragged her down to the lowest depths of degradation. True, the young man who caused her ruin is not much respected in this community, nevertheless he would be

admitted to a social circle that would spurn the presence of his poor unfortunate victim.

It is sometimes my lot to get the cold shoulder, but never has it been so effectually as on Tuesday evening by whoever has charge of the Institute Hall, on the occasion of the Y. M. C. A. concert. It was an ice-house—nothing less. The concert was otherwise a success, though if the association had confined the affair to their own building they would have reaped better results in every way. Miss Walker created a favorable impression, playing her way through difficult classical music to the sympathies of her hearers. Miss Sharp herself sang through the icy cold, and lost none of her popularity, and Mr. Fred Richardson maintained his reputation as a growing violinist and prevented his fingers from freezing at the same time. Miss Powell made her debut as a dramatic reader and reciter, in which roles she was well received.

In conversation with a lady music teacher, the other day, I learned that the school authorities of Belgium have decided that sight reading in music shall be taught in every school in the Kingdom according to the French system, which simplifies the science to the comprehension of a little child. In our public schools the children sing and sometimes sing well; but sight reading of music and musical notation are not generally a part of the curriculum. It is usually concluded that children of the public schools would find the science of notation too complicated; that few young minds could appreciate the difference between the brightness of

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the key G and the mournful tone of A flat or could be taught the power of two or four sharps or the infinite plaint of a C minor. But the children need not be oppressed with the dissertations on diatonic, chromatic and enharmonic intervals. Singing at sight can be acquired in a comparatively short time by some such plan as Jean Jacques Rousseau adopted after a terrible experience learning to read music by ancient methods. He marked the gamut by figures but found he had not caught the true idea exactly.

Letter notation has been tried, too, but it is only applicable to the simplest music. The French system simplifies staff notation so that a child may not be thunderstruck with 24 different keys to master, half major and half minor. The signs in the notation are easily acquired. If pupils learned not only to read music readily at sight, as they read their geographies and histories, and are enabled to write a score of any air they hear, that would be a valuable equipment when they go out to make their own living.

In German schools the children all sing superbly and the teachers are all musicians and capable teachers. Three and four-part music is frequently heard in the upper grades of the common schools. In some German schools the teacher writes some verses on the blackboard and a pupil is called upon to compose a new melody for it, which the teacher notes on the board. Then another pupil constructs the alto, another the tenor, and finally the whole class sings the new song. This certainly is not time wasted. It is far more useful than some of the exercises current in public schools.

The science of music can certainly be made intelligible to juvenile classes. The mere teaching to sing after a teacher with

piano accompaniment is good as far as it goes; but what a useful addition to a pupil's equipment would be a knowledge of musical notation, the ability to promptly write the music of any song heard.

Under ordinary circumstances, Mr. J. H. Brownlee, the reigning sovereign of Mount Tolmie, is a well disposed, peaceably inclined person, and it is only when the extraordinary happens or is about to happen that he merges from his pacific condition and becomes fierce as the lioness robbed of her young. Some one told Mr. Brownlee that the Garrison Artillery, inspired with the idea that it must do something to assert its military prowess, had resolved to attack Mount Tolmie, Thanksgiving Day. As the mountain has always been an object of King Brownlee's special solicitude, he felt that an attack upon it without official notification was carrying warfare just a trifle too far. He thereupon made up his mind to repel such an assault, and he immediately set about making preparations to resist the attempt of Major Irving's soldiers to capture the mountain, which, as is well known, is an important natural military fortification.

Long before the sun emerged from its nocturnal seclusion, the King of the Mount was out of bed, and with snow shovel in hand he proceeded to work. In an incredibly short space of time a wall of snow encircled the mountain, and other strategic points, which the military instincts of Major Irving might discover, were carefully attended to. Then the sovereign of Mount Tolmie waited for the onslaught of the attacking forces; but in vain.

It transpires that Major Irving's men would rather forego the "pomp and circumstance" attendant upon glorious war than get their feet wet, therefore they took upon themselves to cancel the order of their commanding

officer and postpone the attack upon the stronghold of Col. Brownlee. Of course it would have been better had they informed the Major of their determination, but he discovered the fact when he reached the drill hall, where he, it is related, "thanked the few members present for the military zeal which had prompted their attendance."

"Whereas Our faithful Members elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia will shortly meet for the despatch of business and to treat, do, act and conclude upon those things which in Our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia by the Common Council of Our said Province may by the favor of God be ordained," therefore I would respectfully call the attention of each and every member to an injustice which is done by reason of the present existing law in regard to distress for rent and ask that a remedy be supplied. As the law now is, a landlord is a preferred creditor, and his preference is unlimited. He can allow his tenant to run in arrear for rent for a year or two, which he frequently does, provided there is sufficient goods and chattels on the premises to satisfy his claim, and can then swoop down on everything contained on the premises and sell the same without the consent of the mortgagee or legal owner to satisfy his claim for rent. Cases have been brought to my notice where furniture dealers have furnished establishments on the usual monthly instalment plan, the tenants have allowed their rent to run in arrear, and the furniture dealer to protect his own furniture was compelled to pay a large sum for rent. Under these circumstances, there is no security in a bill of sale or chattel mortgage.

In some of the other provinces of the Dominion, there is a limit to the landlord's priority, and should he allow his tenant to run

in arrear for a period of more than three months, then he only retains his right to distrain for the three months' rent due immediately prior to distress and loses his right as to the balance, thereby becoming an ordinary creditor for such balance. I would respectfully suggest that an act be introduced at the coming session providing for such a limit, and also in cases of distress that the tenant be allowed certain articles of furniture as an exemption, thereby preventing a landlord from disposing of the ordinary necessaries of life and turning his tenant out on the street destitute. There is an exemption of \$500 allowed an ordinary creditor, and why should a landlord be preferred in this respect?

The appearance of Madeline Merli and her talented combination of artists, at The Victoria last Thursday night, marked an epoch in the history of the drama in this city. This is the highest salaried company which has ever visited Victoria, not one person in it drawing less than \$65 per week, and in two or three cases \$150 is the salary. It might be expected, therefore, that such an organization would be accorded at least the treatment due ordinary travelling combinations; but such, I regret to say, was not the case. What was intended as a potent and healthy lesson in morality was rendered worthless by the clattering tongues and boisterous laughter of a dozen or so persons, who, not possessing intelligence enough to appreciate the performance themselves, were determined that no one else should profit by it. The most vivid and artistically arranged stage pictures were completely shorn of their beauty by these same individuals. But it was the pathetic scenes that brought forth all their porcine instincts. They grunted their disapprobation when the mother of the murdered Gaston was stricken with paralysis in the climax scene

of the second act, which, by the way, was an intensely dramatic situation. But there is no use particularizing; the conduct of the persons referred to was a striking illustration throughout of the oft repeated aphorism of throwing pearls before swine. When really first class companies visit this city, Manager Jamieson should call in the services of the police force to maintain order.

There is another Richmond in the field. The People's Progressive Party, within the last few days, has advanced beyond the incipient stages of organization and it is said will put a municipal ticket in the field. I am informed that a broad and liberal platform, tending in the direction of improvement in the management of civic affairs is in process of incubation, and that the promoters will announce themselves in a day or so. With the candidates of the People's Progressive Party and the Board of Trade ticket, not to say anything of the threat of the Single Tax men to turn loose a half dozen or so fully qualified contestants for municipal honors, the coming civic elections give promise of being of an exceedingly lively character.

One thing is generally admitted that any ticket which puts forth as its platform the improvement of the city in the direction of better streets and a complete system of sewerage is entitled to the support of the ratepayers. Victoria must derive a great portion of her revenue in future from tourists, and if the city is not beautified and made inviting, it is not likely that the expectations of the people as to the extent of the trade from this source will ever be realized. Those who are interesting themselves in the matter of bringing out good men for the council should see to it that every candidate is pledged to support street and park improvements and an efficient system of sewerage.

The announcement that Capt. Clives Phillips Wolley has induced a large number of English hunters to visit this province next summer will be read with feelings akin to consternation by those who have cows, horses and other domestic animals. It may not have occurred to Capt. Wolley, as it certainly has to nearly every person living in this province, that the average Old Country hunter is a dangerous man to turn loose in British Columbia. Very few of them can distinguish the difference between an "antlored dweller of the wilds" and a hybrid ox. Within the past few years, the herds of ranchers have suffered from the unsportsman-like proclivities of would be huntsmen, and now Capt. Wolley, who has met with much kindness in this province, admits that he has encouraged a number more of these men to come out here and add to the already too large parasitical population of British Columbia. If the Captain had encouraged a dozen or so *bona fide* capitalists to settle and invest in this country, he would have received the gratitude of every resident of the province.

PERE GRINATOR.

"Canada" is the subject which Rev. M. Macleod has chosen for his discourse at Central Church next Sunday evening

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1893.

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Subscribers ordering address of their papers changed must always give their former as well as present address.

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All papers are continued until an explicit order is received for discontinuance, and until all arrearages are paid.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Mr. E. R. D. Applegarth, of the Bank of Montreal staff, left last Tuesday evening for Toronto.

The second concert by the Arion Club will be given in the Institute Hall, Wednesday evening Dec. 20th.

A grand concert will be given on the evening of Dec. 13, in the Metropolitan Methodist Church, Pandora Avenue.

The social under the auspices of the A. O. U. W. last Monday evening was an exceedingly pleasurable event. A well-arranged programme provided entertainment for those present.

Already a large number of tickets have been disposed of for the Albion Cricket Club's concert at Institute Hall, on the evening of the 29th inst. "The Strollers," who are all members of the Arion Club, have kindly consented to give six of their best part songs, and the names of Mr. Rowland, Mr. Thomas, Mrs. Schwengers, Miss Hutcheson, Miss Jameson, Miss Leitch, and Mr. Billingham, should go far to ensure a successful concert.

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A social event of much interest was the inauguration of the Diocesan Literary and Scientific Society last Thursday evening at the Temperance Hall, Pandora street. Bishop Perrin delivered the opening address, in which he explained the aims and objects of the society. The address was warmly applauded. The programme was excellent and varied, and consisted of instrumental selections by the Bantly family; a piano solo, by Mr. Lowenberg; Mr. Greig contributed several glees; Mr. Scaife gave a humorous recitation of his own composition; Mr. Keith and Mr. Kent each contributed songs, and Mr. Rudolph Wy-sman played a violin solo. Refreshments were provided by the Bishop.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

After having seen Rhea's dresses in Adrienne Lecouvreur, Camille, Josephine, etc., one would think that she had exhausted every dream of the modiste's art, but in the Queen of Sheba her costumes exceed in beauty anything that she has ever worn on the stage. Her first dress is of gold satin, fitting close to the figure and draped with white silk gauze embroidered with white silk and gold; a belt of diamonds is worn around the waist, and from the tight fitting sleeves embroidered with gold there are pendants of diamonds. From the shoulders fall a royal mantle of white satin embroidered in gold with Oriental birds, (a marvel of workmanship) lined with gold-colored satin. On her head Rhea wears a helmet in front of which a bird spreads its diamond

wings. The helmet is surmounted by a diamond crescent, the emblem of Ashtaroth, or Venus, the divinity of the Phoenicians. Gold sandals complete this gorgeous costume.

SECOND COSTUME.

Over a tight fitting dress is draped a pale blue crepe ornamented with silver lace, and around the hips a loose drapery meets in front and is brought together by a diamond buckle. Over this dress is worn a mantle of crimson satin brocaded with gold, the lapels are of pale blue satin embroidered with silver. On the head Rhea wears a simple band of gold with the diamond crescent. Pale blue sandals complete the costume.

THIRD COSTUME

This, although the simplest, is perhaps the most original and artistic of all. It is a dress of old rose crepe, Grecian in front but mantle-shaped in the back. Over the head and draped all over the dress is a silk olive-colored gauze veil that envelops nearly the whole figure and which produces a most striking effect. The sandals are of moss-colored leather and the entire dress is in harmony with the scene, which is thrilling and impressive.

Slush, Slush is the word now with every person. Some speak of a new mayor, others of aldermen, but practical people say let us go to Erskine's for Rubbers and Gum Boots, cor. Government and Johnson streets. Do you go there?

There appears to be no let-up to the popularity of Ogilvie's Hungarian brands. Throughout the province, Ogilvie's flour has become almost a household necessity. Those who once use it say they would not be without it.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Admitted to the Bar is an exceedingly humorous play, and is artistically presented by Mr. Dickson and his company.

Rob Roy, with a strong professional, and amateur cast, will be produced early next month under the auspices of the Sir William Wallace and Caledonian Societies.

Incog will no doubt test the full seating capacity of The Victoria to-night. The play has lost none of the humor which it possessed when here last year, and the company producing it is as clever in every way.

Cut off With a Shilling, with Messrs. Chapman and Sillman and Mrs. Chapman in the cast, was given at the A. O. U. W. concert last Monday night. Messrs. Chapman and Sillman won well merited applause for their acting. This was Mrs. Chapman's first appearance in this city, and those who saw her trust it will not be her last. She is an exceedingly handsome woman and her acting is away above the ordinary.



The above is an excellent portrait of Miss Margaret Marshall the talented character actress, now residing in this city. Miss Marshall is a native of England, but emigrated early in her youth to California. She made her dramatic debut at Baldwin's Theatre, San

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Francisco, since which time she has held extended engagements at every stock house on the coast. Miss Marshall's first visit to Victoria was with Alice Dunning Luyard's Company. She has held highly lucrative engagements with Webster & Brady's companies, travelling with them over a considerable portion of the continent. Miss Marshall's next engagement will be at Cordray's Seattle and Portland houses, in which places she will probably spend the entire winter season.

Mlle. Rhea will appear at The Victoria Theatre in her famous character of Tamar, Queen of Sheba, on Wednesday evening, Nov. 29th, when she will no doubt be welcomed by a large and enthusiastic audience. Of course Madame Rhea is the center of interest and her wonderful dramatic force and fire will be especially displayed in the title role. The Madame is too well known a favorite with theatre goers to need a special description. But it is evident that she is gifted with the perennial bloom of youth. Her step, though toned to the majesty of the august personage she represents has lost nothing of the freedom and elasticity of old. Altogether the presentation of the Queen of Sheba is said to be a triumph of dramatic art.

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THE GLOVE IN DAYS OF YORE.

If the science of knowing people by their clothes, whose claims are so eloquently urged by Balzac, ever come to be formulated, the chapter on the meaning of the glove will not be the least interesting portion of it. There is no article of clothing more diversified in its uses. Its apparent triviality disarms us, and we are inclined to toy with it lightly as one of the most agreeable ebullitions of feminine fancy and forget that anything more serious than adornment ever caused its use. Jean Godard, a French rhymester of the sixteenth century, wrote a poem, in which he told how Venus, running the Adonis, pricked her finger and ordered her maidens to get leather and make some gloves for her to protect her hands. But M. Godard's pretty fancy must give way before stern facts. The primary uses of the glove were strictly practical and unromantic.

English dames of early days never dreamed of such subtleties as gloves. They wore their sleeves long, with pointed flaps, that rested on the backs of their hands, or, when they went forth in winter, drew the loose drapery of their outer garment over their hands. It was not till near the close of the tenth century that they thought of gloves; then they wore them with only a thumb and no fingers, like the mittens of the present day, and they were wondrously embroidered and starred with jewels. No gloves were finer than those of the clergy. They were mostly of white silk, or linen cunningly embroidered, and sometimes fringed with pearls.

Later on, gloves became magnificent for common wear, and in contemporary pictures the nobility seemed to have carried them rather in their hands or in their girdles than on their fingers. It was by the fine gloves his page carried in his girdle that Coeur de Lion was betrayed on his way home from the crusade, and so fell into captivity.

But already the glove was more than a mere bit of foppery. The knight's mailed glove sheltered his hand. It became a sign of power, and when a gracious lord meant to signify his attention to protect a town he sent his glove as a sign of his willingness. The glove, too, was the token of defiance when one knight declared war against each other, and at the same time, as if to mark the difference between the strong right hand of man and the daintier hand of woman, he bound his mistress' delicate brodered glove to his helmet by way of showing his fealty. As the sign and test of love, gloves had been largely utilized.

By the sixteenth century gloves were common wear, together with farthingales, corsets and low gowns. Gloves were perfumed greatly. Autolycus sold the maids "gloves as sweet as damask roses." In Charles 11's time the shortening of the sleeves led to the lengthening of gloves.

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TWO BANK STORIES.

"In the early days before the telegraph extended to all parts of the world," said U. S. Secretary William B. Green, at the Bankers' Congress, "it was much easier to work confidence games on banks than it is now. I don't know that the history of banking in this country affords any more remarkable case than one which took place in New Orleans many years ago. A confidence man visited that city. By the use of skeleton keys he obtained access to one of the banks. Night after night he let himself in and examined the books and correspondence until he had familiarized himself thoroughly with the affairs and connections of the concern. He disturbed nothing, but when he knew as much as the bank officials did he prepared forged letters of introduction and papers of great apparent value. Then he presented himself at the bank as an English gentleman of wealth. His credentials were perfect. His letters of credit were without a flaw. There was no way of cabling to verify them, and if there had been it is doubtful if the bank would have distrusted a customer so completely equipped to deceive. This man carried out of New Orleans \$100,000. He passed on up the river, and was afterwards traced to various eastern cities. He crossed the ocean and lived to the end of his life on the proceeds of that New Orleans trick. His career abroad was entirely exemplary and he passed for a man of probity."

"My father," said an Eastern banker, "was one of the attorneys in the Rathbone case at Buffalo. In the course of his operations, which were very extensive for that period Rathbone fell in need of money. He was a pushing, energetic man, and the leading citizens of Buffalo didn't want to see him go to the wall. Ten or a dozen of them agreed to go on a note together for him. The amount was to be \$10,000 or something like that. Rathbone claimed that amount would carry him over, and the citizens thought they would risk that much as a matter of public spirit. Instead of contenting himself with a single note, Rathbone secretly prepared about ten. He went to the indorsers singly and got each one to sign a different note, on the supposition that it was the only one. This gave one genuine signature on each of the ten notes. He forged the other signatures, so that he had ten notes, each bearing all of the ten or twelve names. He raised by the notes about \$100,000 instead of one-tenth of that sum, and then the discovery came. Rathbone was sent to the penitentiary. After he got out he went to New York City, became a much respected business man, and was straight till he died."



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